

Tropical Times

June 8, 2012



Attendees at the Battle of Midway 70th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony stand at attention as the U.S. Navy Support Facility, Diego Garcia, honor guard parades the colors.



**Submitted By
Cmdr. (Sel.) Robert Spencer
Command Chaplain,
NAVSUPFAC Diego Garcia**

We have all probably heard the expression that a picture speaks a thousand words. If that's true, then how many words can 425 pictures evoke? Simple math tells us 425,000. But there's more than that concerning the 425 pictures that I have in mind. I'm thinking of the photos of the faces that were recently published in the Marine Corps Times newspaper.

Each year around the Memorial Day holiday, some of the newspapers that are published by Gannett Government Media (Marine Corps Times, Navy Times to name a few) publish a supplemental feature entitled "Faces of the Fallen." It's a tribute to those U.S. military personnel who have died since last Memorial Day. The tribute is a ¾ x 1 inch

photo of the deceased listed with their military service, rank, age, date and place of death. The youngest shown was 19 years old. I counted 12 warriors who were that same age. They were still teenagers which meant that last year they were still probably in high school. One year later and they were now deceased. It doesn't seem fair when today you hear how common it is for people to reach the century mark in age. Modern science sometimes allows this but it can't always allow a wounded 19 year old to survive a catastrophic wound. I can only imagine how many more photos would have been pictured without the miracles of modern day medicine.

Many of those pictured were also young in rank. I noticed numerous Private First Classes in the

Army and Lance Corporals in the Marine Corps. That's an E-3 on the pay scales. At the other end of the spectrum was a O-7 Army Brigadier General. He died of natural causes. He was only 49 years old which is less than half the age to 100. The oldest warrior that I saw pictured was 50 years old. Each of the uniformed services was represented with most from the Army and the Marine Corps. The Navy was represented mostly by Special Warfare Operators. If I remember correctly, most of their deaths came from a helicopter crash that had no survivors.

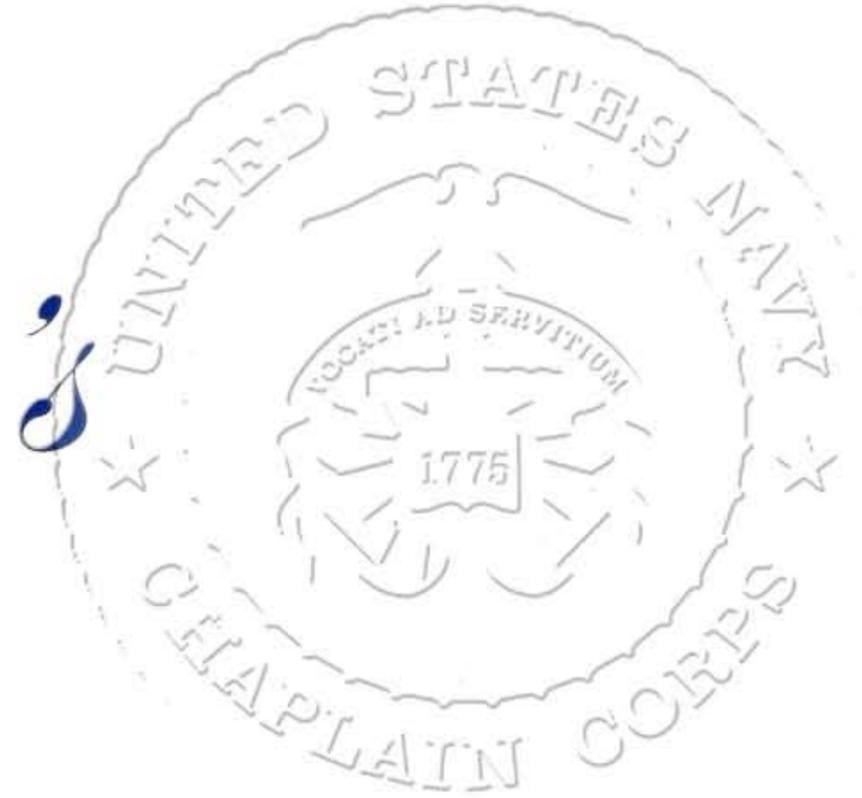
Now those 425 are no longer with us. For those who believe in the afterlife, our hope is that they are now with God. We pray that He will judge them mercifully because they sacrificed something very

valuable for the benefit of others. The recipients of this sacrifice will hopefully live and thrive in the freedom that God intended for all of us to have. While we wear this uniform we may be called upon to imitate one of the 425 of this past year. No one is guaranteed to live to 100. That is especially true if you are young and fight wars.

"Look to God that you may be radiant with joy and your faces may not blush for shame."

(Psalm 34:5)

C h a p l a i n ' s c o r n e r



"More Faces of the Fallen"

Diego Garcia Celebrates the Queen's Diamond Jubilee



Diego Garcia MEMOS

Remembering the Heroes from Yesterday

By Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Eric A. Pastor

DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory -- Sailors stationed at U.S. Navy Support Facility (NAVSUPFAC), Diego Garcia held a commemoration ceremony in honor of the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway June 4.

A wreath-laying ceremony was performed during the commemoration by Capt. David L. Tidwell, the NAVSUPFAC Commanding Officer, to honor the veterans who served at the Battle of Midway.

"The Battle of Midway has such great meaning, not only to the U.S. Navy, but to American history as well," said Tidwell. "In my opinion, it was the defining

moment for our Navy because it did change the course of the war in the Pacific. One only has to consider the risks that our nation and Navy faced, at that point in time, to understand the significance of the outcome." In a recent message, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert, spoke on the importance of remembering service members and the feats they overcame. "As we mark the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Midway, we should never forget the significance of this conflict to our legacy," said Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert. "With countless self-sacrificing efforts, skill, and the fighting spirit of our Sailors, our



Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory (June 4, 2012) - Capt. David L. Tidwell, Commanding Officer, U.S. Navy Support Facility , Diego Garcia, and Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Ramon Go perform a wreath-laying during the Battle of Midway 70th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony. Sailors stationed on Diego Garcia attended the commemoration ceremony in honor of the veterans who served during the Battle of Midway. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Eric A. Pastor)

U.S. Navy won the Battle of Midway, despite being at a numerical disadvantage to a formidable opponent. "Let us never forget these brave veterans and their legacy," said Greenert. "They shaped world events for many years to come and we will continue to do so, for it is in our DNA. As Navy professionals, it is up to us to preserve and celebrate our rich history, knowing that understanding our past will empower us to overcome future challenges."

Today's legacy of the Navy connects back to the achievements made at the Battle of Midway.

"Their [Sailors] fighting spirit and perseverance is one to be admired and emulated," said Culinary Specialist 1st Class (SW) Patrick Dixon. "They paved the way for today's Navy-one of superiority and agility."

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

Diego Garcia NEWS

Diego Garcia Celebrates Queen's Diamond Jubilee

By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class April Adams

DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory - British Forces stationed on Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, celebrated the Queen of England's Diamond Jubilee by lighting a Beacon June 4.

Held at Jake's Place, the lighting of a torch was done as part of the celebration for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II-commemorating her reign for 60 years.

"We had an evening of activities at Jake's Place," said Cmdr. Richard Marshall, Diego Garcia's British Representative. "The night started with a 5k fun run sponsored by the British Party, followed by entertain-

ment from the island's local band, Brown Inc. "At the appropriate time, 10 p.m., we gathered on the beach and I had the honor of setting fire to the beacon," said Marshall.

Diego Garcia was one of 4,000 beacons across the globe. The first being lit at the northern most tip of New Zealand's South Island and the last lit by the Queen outside of Buckingham Palace, the official London residence of the British Monarch.

"The Queen is the head of our armed forces so it's a link back to what our families are doing at home in the UK and it is to honor our Commander in Chief," said Mar-



DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory (June 4, 2012) – Cmdr. Richard Marshall, Diego Garcia's British Representative, prepares to light a beacon during the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, commemorating the Queen's 60th year on the throne. Residents of Diego Garcia joined Marshall to celebrate the Jubilee. (Photo provided by DG 21)

shall. Marshall said it was great to have a Beacon and to be acknowledged as part of the celebrations around the world. "It's nice to have a little bit of culture from our side and to be able to share things with the other people on the island, be it contractors or be it U.S. forces," said Marshall. "The event was absolutely fabulous; I thought it was a great success." Diego Garcia's Morale Welfare and Recreation provided cake and T-shirts with the events official logo designed by a 6 year old girl in the UK.



Diego Garcia NEWS

DG Environmental Management System: Robust

By NAVSUPPFAC Diego Garcia Public Affairs Office

DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory – U.S. Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, Public Works Department (PWD) Environmental Division recently completed its annual External Environmental Audit and declared conformance with applicable Diego Garcia Final Governing Standards and regional instructions.

“This significant accomplishment demonstrates the island dedication in keeping the environment free from pollution and ensuring the protection of natural resources we have,” said Nestor Guzman, PWD Environmental Specialist.

Home to several protected terrestrial and aquatic species, Diego Garcia ensures the best industrial practices are enforced, when dealing with wastewater, solid waste, spill response, natural resources and mission accomplishment.

Diego Garcia showed noteworthy practices such as excellent management control and upkeep of environmental records, reduction of the use of pesticides and enhancing habitats for turtles.

“Our staffs dedication and pro-activeness has paid dividends to our continued success,” said Guzman.

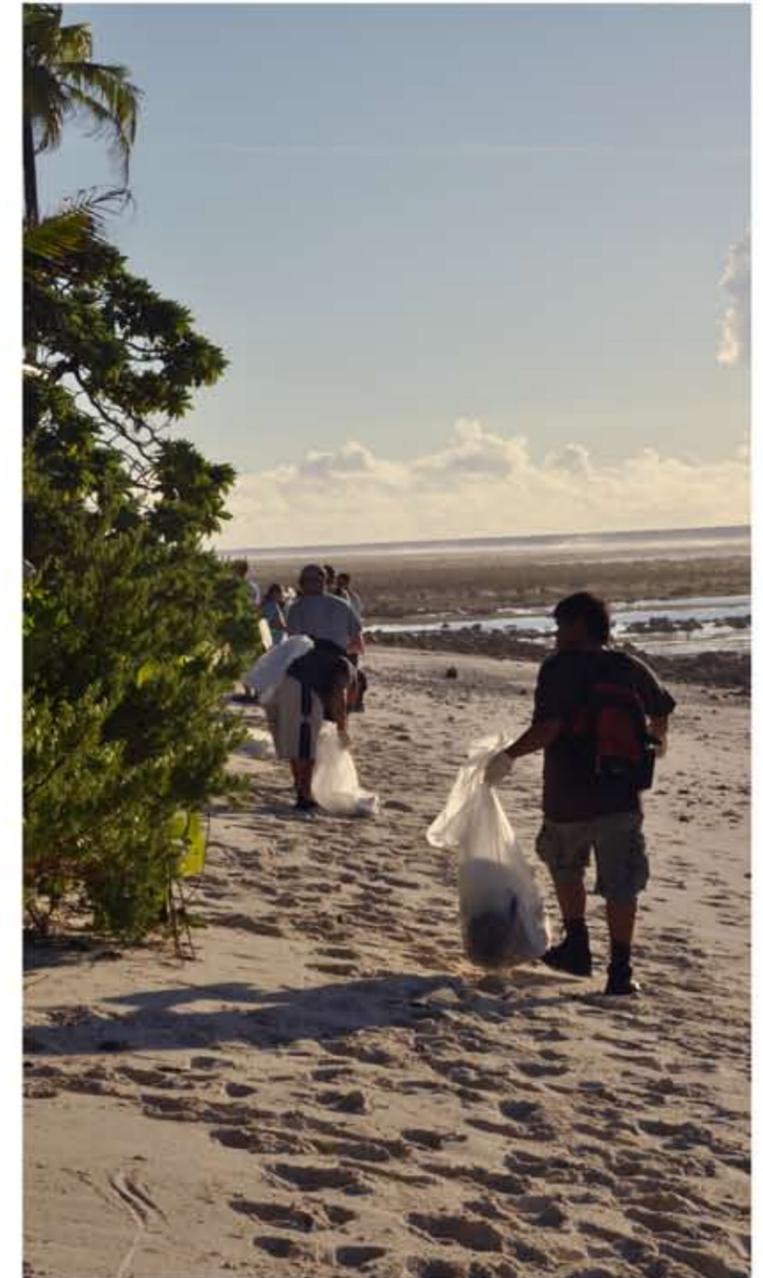
“Through continued innovations and support we have

improved on past deficiencies.

“We have a few things they [auditors] have concerns on and we will work on creating a plan of action to send up for review,” added Guzman.

Overall, Diego Garcia’s Environmental Management System was deemed “healthy and robust.”

“Environmental protection is everyone’s responsibility,” said Guzman. “We engaged every single person on the island—from DG-21 personnel, service members and our host nation counterparts, promoting an atmosphere devoted to environmental excellence.”



DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory (April 6, 2012) – U.S. Navy Sailors and DG21 civilian contractors at Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, pick up trash as part of a beach cleanup April 6, during Earth Day Fest 2012. More than 3,600 lbs. of trash was collected from the beaches of Diego Garcia during the cleanup. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Eric A. Pastor)

What's happening in Diego Garcia

ACT and CLEP Tests

ACT AND CLEP TESTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO ORDER AND TAKE ON ISLAND THROUGH DANTE'S. ONCE TESTS ARE ORDERED, IT TAKES APPROXIMATELY 30 DAYS TO RECEIVE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE HAVE AN EXAM ORDERED, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDUCATION SERVICES OFFICER, LT NOBLE. ONCE THE EXAMS ARE RECEIVED, YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED AND WILL NEED TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO HAVE THE TEST ADMINISTERED.

Blood Donations

THE BLOOD BANK IS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF ALL BLOOD TYPES. ALL HANDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO GET SCREENED FOR ELIGIBILITY. TO DONATE PLEASE CONTACT THE BRANCH HEALTH CLINIC AT 370-4211.

NKO E-Library

THE NAVY GENERAL LIBRARY PROGRAM (NGLP), THROUGH A NEAR SEVEN-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH OVERDRIVE, THE LARGEST PROVIDER OF EBOOKS AND DOWNLOADABLE AUDIO BOOKS TO LIBRARIES WORLDWIDE, NOW OFFERS MORE THAN 50,000 TITLES THROUGH NAVY KNOWLEDGE ONLINE. NAVY LIBRARY PATRONS MAY REGISTER FOR THESE SERVICES BY LOGGING INTO NKO AT [HTTPS://WWA.NKO.NAVY.MIL](https://wwa.nko.navy.mil). CLICK ON THE "REFERENCE" HEADING IN THE UPPER LEFT PART OF THE SCREEN. THEN CLICK ON "E-LIBRARY - AUDIO & EBOOKS". ONCE ON THIS NKO PAGE SAILORS AND THEIR FAMILIES CAN EXPLORE THE ARRAY OF E-BOOK AND AUDIO BOOK SERVICES.

Household Goods:

NAVSUP GLOBAL LOGISTICS SUPPORT (GLS) HOUSEHOLD GOODS (HHG) SERVICES INITIATED A SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN JUNE 4, IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE HOUSEHOLD MOVES EASIER ON FAMILIES. VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION:
[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/USER/NAVYHHG](http://www.youtube.com/user/navyhhg)

[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NAVYHHG](http://www.facebook.com/navyhhg)

[HTTPS://WWW.NAVSUP.NAVY.MIL/NAV SUP/OURTEAM/NAV SUPGLS/PROD_SERV/HOUSEHOLD](https://www.navsup.navy.mil/navsup/ourteam/navsupgl/PROD_SERV/HOUSEHOLD)

IN ADDITION TO LEAVING COMMENTS ON THE SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES, CUSTOMERS CAN E-MAIL HHG AT HOUSEHOLDGOODS@NAVY.MIL

Ombudsman Search

DIEGO GARCIA WILL NEED A NEW OMBUDSMAN AS OF JUNE 2012. IF YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER OR SPOUSE IS INTERESTED IN BECOMING THE NEW OMBUDSMAN PLEASE CONTACT THE CMC.

Philippine Independence Day Closures

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY JUNE 9:

SHIP'S STORE, OFFICER'S CLUB, CPO CLUB, MEAN GEAN'S BURGERS, PACK & WRAP, GIFT SHOP/ T-SHIRT SHOP, BIKE SHOP, FOOD COURT DELIVERY, BEAUTY SHOP, BARBER SHOP, TAILOR SHOP, LAUNDRY MAIN AND LAUNDRY DROP-OFF

Friday
8

Saturday
9

Sunday
10

Monday
11

Tuesday
12

Wednesday
13

Thursday
14

Powerboat Class
Basic Boating
Marina
4:30 to 6 p.m.

Philippine
Independence Day
Island Wide Picnic
Fleet Rec Area
4 p.m.

Pacquiao Vs. Bradley
Fight
Island Room
5 a.m.

Horseshoe
Tournament
Fitness Center
6 p.m.
Military Only

Bingo Banaza
Island Room
7 p.m.

Change of Command
Jakes Place
10 a.m.

TBA

Hugo
Mystery
R
8 p.m.

We Bought A Zoo
Comedy
PG
8 p.m.

The Artist
Action
R
8 p.m.

**Adventures of
Tintin**
Animation
PG
8 p.m.

**Twilight:
The Breaking Dawn**
Horror
R
8 p.m.

John Carter
Action
PG 13
7 p.m.
Island Room

Shark Night
Comedy
PG 13
8 p.m.

The Darkest Hour
Action
PG 13
10 p.m.

**Sherlock Holmes:
Games**
Adventure
PG 13
10 p.m.

Tropical Times

United States Navy Support Facility
Diego Garcia British Indian Ocean
Territory

Commanding Officer
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Executive Officer
Cmdr. Stephen E. Petras

Command Master Chief
CMDM(SW/AW) Robert L. Johnson

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SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Anyone can be a victim of sexual assault.

Resources are available if you need someone to talk to confidentially.
Contact the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) at 370-4421

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Pager 370-9300, ext. 1826 - 24/7

Page the on-call SAPR Victim Advocate at 370-9300 ext. 1825.

