

Tropical Times

May 03, 2012



More than 80 U.S. Service members and civilian contractors biked from the most eastern point to the most western point of the island, totaling 35 miles of jungle wilderness and over Diego Garcia's longest paved road on April 29.



Submitted By
Lt. Cmdr. Robert Spencer
Command Chaplain, NSF Diego Garcia

In the Indiana Jones movies, we see Professor Jones tracking down priceless treasures that will eventually be stored in museums for everyone to enjoy. Meanwhile, the bad guys are trying to get to them first to use them for their own selfish reasons. These Hollywood movies always have a great outcome because the good guys always win. They make great family entertainment.

Today in our modern world a treasure trove has been discovered underneath a Hindu temple in India. People have described it as Indiana Jonesesque. It is a horde of priceless gems, solid gold figurines, 18 foot gold chains, and hundreds of thousands of gold and silver coins that date back to the 16th century. Estimated value? A cool \$20

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Priceless

billion.

Where did this wealth come from? It was given to the temple over a period of hundreds of years by people hoping to gain favor with the gods and the ruling class. These vaults were last opened 130 years ago. Since then, it has sat undisturbed until recently. What will be done with all this wealth? That's to be determined. Some have wisely recommended that it be used to alleviate poverty. Others suggested that it should be handed over to a national trust and used for the welfare of the poor. Until a decision is made it remains the property of the temple.

Have you often wondered what it would be like to have that type of wealth? To have something that

is of value that is beyond comprehension? There are a few people in the world today who have personal wealth that exceeds \$20 billion. But they are few and far between.

What if I was to tell you that each person possesses a value that exceeds \$20 billion? It's true. All people regardless of our class, status, nationality, or personal wealth have a salvation that is offered to us that is beyond monetary value. The price of this salvation was paid for us by Christ on that first Good Friday 2000 years ago. What we do with it is up to us. We can either accept it or reject it. To accept means that we accept His teachings and do the best we can to follow them. To reject Him means that we have placed something else of



supposedly greater value than what He has offered us. That would not be wise because what He has offered us is absolutely priceless and that is to spend all eternity in heaven. I think that's a price and a value that we should not take lightly.

“You have been purchased at a price. Do not become slaves to human beings.”
(1 Corinthians 7:23)

Trip to Trip



Diego Garcia NEWS

Cyclist Ride Diego Garcia-Tip to Tip

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Ryan B. Tabios

DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory (April 29, 2012) – Service members and civilians competed in U.S. Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, Tip-To-Tip Bike Ride, April 29.

Tip-to-Tip is a biannual event sponsored by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), which gives service members a chance to test their physical endurance and the opportunity to experience parts of the island rarely seen. The event involves the coordination of various base facilities and a few months of preparation.

"Tip to Tip is one our biggest events on the island," said Enrico Eugenio, MWR Recreation Facilities Manager. "We begin advertisements and preparations two months prior to the event, that way everyone is aware of what the event entails and gives likely participants a chance to condition themselves

physically.

"Working together with various departments we cleared the course of branches, weeds and other potential hazards," added Eugenio. "I personally want to thank everyone involved, from medical to port ops, in helping make this event successful."

Cycle enthusiast biked from the most eastern point to the most western point of the island, totaling 35 miles of jungle wilderness and over DG-21, Diego Garcia's longest paved road. After 2:08:51, Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Kiley, a native of Pittsburgh, Pa. crossed the finish line first out of 82 participants.

"There were a few obstacles along the way such as the rain and a few birds, but all in all it was fun," said Kiley.

"I been training for awhile and this event gave me a chance to prepare for another competition I plan on doing.

"I advise future participants to train their bodies to ride



DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory (April 29, 2012) - U.S. Navy Support Facility's Legal Officer, Lt. Amy L. Freyermuth makes her way down a dirt road while taking part in the Tip-To-Tip Bike Ride, on Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, April 29. More than 80 Service members and civilian contractors biked from the most eastern point to the most western point of the island, totaling 35 miles of jungle wilderness and over Diego Garcia's longest paved road. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ryan B. Tabios)

long distance, at least a minimum of 35 miles," added Kiley.

While many competed for time, merely finishing the race was motivation enough for some Sailors who took on the challenge.

"This is my first and possibly last chance to do this," said Personnel Specialist Seaman Apprentice Shadine Fyne.

"I stopped a few times, refreshing myself by getting in the water and exploring areas I never seen before. The rocks, mud and roots complicated things a little more, but my goal was not to quit. I had too much pride to give up-I wanted to challenge myself."

Fyne added that she was also motivated by her peers, whom she finished the race with.

"I haven't ridden a bike, since I was five years old, and growing up in New York we took the subways most of the time," said Fyne, a native of Jamaica. "Coming to this island made me enjoy cycling.

"We fed off each others drive and kept going till we saw the finish line," said Fyne. "If I had a chance I'd do it all over again-it's an experience I recommend everyone to take on. You'd be amazed at what you can do if you have the drive to go all the way."

Captain's Cup



Service members stationed at U.S. Navy Support Facility, Diego Garcia, competed in a Captain's Cup April 27. The April Captain's Cup was hosted by the previous winners of the cup, Security, along with the Public Works Department from Diego Garcia. This Captain's Cup had an environmental theme to help promote Earth Day as well as environmental awareness. The Captain's Cup consisted of four events, the team with the most points at the end



was awarded with the Captain's Cup trophy. Congratulations to the Supply team for taking home the Cup this month!

NEWS *from around the fleet*

2012 Warrior Games Open

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Katherine Hofman,
Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. -- United States servicemembers and British armed forces members totaling more than 200, opened the 2012 Warrior Games at the U.S. Olympics Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., April 30.

The 2012 Warrior Games opening ceremony began with the presentation of colors by NORAD-USNORTHCOM Joint Color Guard followed by the athlete procession. The warrior athletes walked the Olympic path while family and friends cheered. Following the procession was the symbolic tradition of carrying the Olympic flame.

Representing team Navy/Coast Guard as torchbearers were retired Coast Guard Lt. Sancho Johnson and retired Navy Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Nathan DeWalt.

Johnson, a three-time competitor in the Warrior Games, understands the honor and commitment it is to himself and his teammates to represent the team and the Coast Guard as torch-bearer.

"[The Warrior Games] provides a platform to give your best," said Johnson. "Because I'm representing the team I'm going to give a bit more."

Having participated in the Warrior Games since the inaugural year, DeWalt has seen the games grow in popularity and has realized the impact being part of the 2012 Team Navy/Coast Guard had on the community and families.

"I felt honored and privileged to represent the team," said DeWalt. "It is a big event for the families with all the media attention."

Each of the military branches and Special Operations Command were given the honor of participating in the torch relay. Culminating the presentation were the honorary torchbearers Melissa Stockwell, U.S. Army Veteran and Paralympian, and Simon Maxwell, Captain, Royal Marines, United Kingdom, who lit the cauldron above the visitor's center.

Among the honored guests was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff U.S. Army General Martin E. Dempsey,

who commended the warrior athletes for their service to country and their ability to inspire each other.

"For me, the [Warrior Games] embodies the enduring resilience of our profession," said Dempsey, during a speech to the contributors. "Your commitment to teamwork and determination to persevere, are the very same qualities that led you to serve your nation, and make our military great. These qualities don't go away. You have the desire to be part of something larger than yourself and that is now a desire that is fulfilled in these games."

Recognition of the athlete's dedication and accomplishments was reiterated by special guest speaker, First Lady Michelle Obama, who commended the athletes as

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (April 30, 2012) Retired Army veteran Melissa Stockwell, from Chicago, lights the cauldron to start the 2012 Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Colo. More than 200 wounded, ill or injured service members from the U.S. and British armed forces are scheduled to compete in the Paralympics-style competition, May 1-5. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class David Danals)



the athletes as a source of inspiration for all Americans.

"No matter how seriously you are injured, no matter what obstacles or setbacks you face, you just keep moving forward," said Obama. "You just keep pushing yourselves to succeed in ways that mystify and leave us in awe."

The Warrior Games will continue through May 5, with competitions in cycling, archery, shooting, wheelchair basketball, volleyball, swimming, and track and field events.

For more information about Navy Safe Harbor, visit <http://safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil>.

What's happening in Diego Garcia

Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD)

IS NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS. POSITIONS NEEDED ARE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, AND SECRETARY. TO SUBMIT NOMINEES OR TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON JOINING CSADD PLEASE CONTACT MA2 VINCENT AT 370-4610.

Enlisted Commissioning Fair

THE NSF WARDROOM WILL BE SPONSORING AN ENLISTED COMMISSIONING FAIR ON MAY 4, 8-12 A.M. AT THE LIBERTY CENTER. THE WORKSHOP WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION ON A VARIETY OF METHODS THAT ENLISTED SAILORS CAN PURSUE A COMMISSIONING AS A NAVAL OFFICER.

Return and Reunion Class Note

ALCON:
DUE TO LACK OF PARTICIPATION IN THE RETURN AND REUNION CLASS GROUP SESSIONS, AND INCREASED PARTICIPATION IN INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS, GROUP SESSIONS WILL NO LONGER BE OFFERED ON THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AND WILL BE OFFERED AS NEEDED VIA INDIVIDUAL REQUEST. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FFSO OR THE CHAPLAIN FOR SUPPORT SERVICES.

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.

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.

MWR Flea Market

WHEN: SATURDAY, MAY 12, 10-2 P.M.
WHERE: MULTI-PURPOSE COURT
OPEN TO ALL HANDS, GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL SELLERS WELCOME.
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT 370-2982/2792.

Green Bags

EXCHANGE EMPTY PLASTIC BOTTLES, SODA CANS AND GLASS BOTTLES FOR A GREEN BAG, WHILE SUPPLY LASTS.

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Basic Sailing Class
Session 1 and 2
Marina
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Basic Sailing Class
Session 2 and 3
Marina
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

MWR Sailing Regatta
Marina
2 p.m.

Wiffle Ball
Tournament
Field 1
6 p.m.
Military Only

6 on 6 Dodgeball
Tournament
Fitness Center
6 p.m.
Military Only

Individual Medley Swim
Competition
Marina
5 p.m.

DG Tennis
Tournament
(singles)
Court A
5 p.m.

The Big Year
Comedy
PG
8 p.m.

J. Edgar
Crime
R
8 p.m.

**Johnny English:
Reborn**
Comedy
PG
8 p.m.

**Sherlock Holmes:
Games of Shadow**
Action
PG 13
8 p.m.

**Mission Impossible:
Ghost Protocol**
Action
R
8 p.m.

The Grey
Adventure
R
7 p.m.
Island Room

The Artist
Comedy
PG 13
8 p.m.

Moneyball
Drama
PG 13
10 p.m.

The Hangover 2
Comedy
R
10 p.m.

Tropical Times

United States Navy Support Facility
Diego Garcia British Indian Ocean
Territory

Commanding Officer
Capt. David L. Tidwell

Executive Officer
Cmdr. Stephen E. Petras

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

Public Affairs Officer
MC1(SW/AW) Ryan B. Tabios

Tropical Times Editor
MC3 April D. Adams

Command Journalists
MC2 (AW/EXW) Emmanuel Rios
MCSN Eric A. Pastor

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due to the editor no later than close of
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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.

