

SLAPTON SANDS (EXERCISE TIGER) LYRICS

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VERSE 1

The villagers learned their fate in late November forty-three, just 6 weeks, to leave their farms and homes
The South Hams never felt so cold when the animals all were sold, the war had plans, for Slapton Sands

VERSE 2

In the USA they waved goodbye to family, 30,000 came to help the Allies cause,
Some were green as England`s fields, just imagine their ordeal, now their future plans, were Slapton Sands

CHORUS 1

When they got the call, then they stood tall
They worked and trained, and gave their all
So far from home, were England`s shores

VERSE-3

The Devon coast was just like Utah beach, Normandy, golden sand and dunes with crashing waves and sea
It must have felt like paradise, when the soldiers first arrived, with boats to land, on Slapton Sands

VERSE-4

The D-Day mission needed Exercise Tiger, boats and brave young men trained ready for the fight
They wanted ammo to be live, for soldiers to survive, what war demands, on Slapton Sands

CHORUS 2

But the plans went wrong, when stakes were high,
200 lost, in friendly fire
So far from home, on England`s shores

VERSE-5

A second convoy was in place in early morning, landing craft with soldiers, sailors, trucks and tanks
But one protection ship was gone, & radio frequencies went wrong, with E boats on hand, near Slapton Sands

CHORUS 3

Torpedo`s strike, the boats recoil,
The freezing sea, men, fire and oil
So many drowned, upside down

CHORUS 4

And some could swim, some called for Mum,
Some prayed to God, that help would come
So far from home, and England`s shores

VERSE 6

Nearly 5 fold lost at Slapton than at Utah, nine hundred men who gave their lives for peace and good
But the need for secrecy was high, as Overlord was nigh, all talk was banned, about Slapton Sands

VERSE 7

For 40 years the brave young men were not remembered
But just one man was not prepared to let them go
He saved a Sherman from the tide where paradise met genocide,

ENDING

For heroes it stands, at Slapton Sands (repeat 3 times)