

## **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)