



City of New Bedford
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CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

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For Immediate Release

P R E S S R E L E A S E

New Bedford Veterans' Advisory Board to hold ceremony honoring U.S. soldiers, sailors lost in WWII's Exercise Tiger

75th Anniversary of Exercise Tiger

New Bedford, Massachusetts– The City of New Bedford Veterans' Advisory Board and the Fort Rodman-Fort Taber Historical Association will honor the 749 United States sailors and soldiers who lost their lives during the devastating April 28, 1944 attack on the United States military training operation, Exercise Tiger.

Exercise Tiger was a D-Day dry run which was ambushed by a German E-boat flotilla and resulted in America's costliest incident of World War II, second only to Pearl Harbor. The surprise attack sank two American vessels and severely damaged a third. This year marks the 75th Anniversary of Exercise Tiger. It is the 30th annual commemoration in New Bedford.

A memorial ceremony is planned to honor the service members who perished in this incident on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Fort Rodman – Fort Taber Military Museum, 1000 Rodney French Boulevard in New Bedford.

The ceremony will include remarks by Mayor Jon Mitchell and guest speaker, Col. Don Cupple, Chief of Staff of the Massachusetts Army National Guard. Families of the late Louis Souza, Vincent Ricciardi, and William O'Connor, Exercise Tiger participants, will be recognized.

Additional participants will include the United States Army Brotherhood of Tankers, WWII re-enactors and local veterans organizations.

All veterans are invited to attend and are asked to proudly display their service insignia. Refreshments will be available inside the Military Museum following the service. For more information about the ceremony, contact Peter Clark, Chairman of the Exercise Tiger Service at peter.clark@newbedford-ma.gov.

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