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向海巡署海上勇士致敬

台灣阿甘遠征東沙島感言



Salutation to
Coast Guard
sea warriors
Reflecting the long-
range Dong Sha Is-
land escort by the un-
wavering Forrest
Gump of Taiwan

- 台灣阿甘林明德手持「台灣阿甘扁夾」拜會海巡署署長許惠祐
Lin Ming-der, the Forrest Gump of Taiwan, meets minister Syu Huei-you, the
Coast Guard director, while holding a Forrest Gump of Taiwan snap



- 「認養台灣、全民起動」運動發起人台灣阿甘（左2）與指揮官李文傑（左3）於東沙島立碑前合影

Founder of the "Adopting Taiwan - a national campaign" Lin Ming-der, aka the Forrest Gump of Taiwan, (2nd from left) poses for photo with command Lee Wen-jeh (3rd from left) in front of the monument

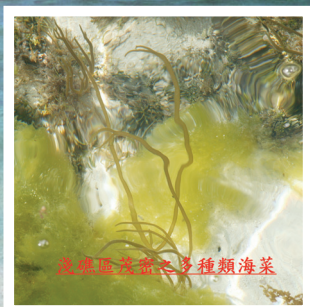


去（93）年11月1日，明德第五度環台發起「認養台灣 全民起動」活動由金門縣起步，我從台中港搭乘海巡署欽星艦到烏坵進行環保之旅，親身體驗海巡署海上勇士在東北季風的吹襲下，頂著橫浪乘風破浪橫渡台灣海峽的艱辛歷程，40年前我是海軍醫務士，曾經在PC113及LST201軍艦服役從來不暈船，或許是歲月不饒人，從烏坵回台中港的航程竟然渾身不舒服而嘔吐，欽星艦朱成財艦長說：連我這個身經百戰的艦長都覺得不舒服，您不吐那才怪！另一任務指揮官說：讓您感受行船人的辛酸，以後到菜市場買魚不要跟人家任意殺價！說的也是，有的人可能一輩子才能搭這麼一次船，但以行船為職志的人，必須不畏寒暑與惡劣氣候的肆虐隨時聽命出任務，因此每一個人都應該向執行任務的海上勇士致敬。

有感於海巡署的支持與協助，明德於完成烏坵環保之旅後專程拜會許署長表達謝忱，署長對我的環保義行多加讚譽，除了在活動旗幟上簽名表示支持之外，並願意協助我前往東沙群島及南沙群島繼續進行環保之旅，原本依照海巡署的資訊，計畫今（94）年5月先遠征南沙群島，於是我將玉山行程安排在4月22日至24日攀登台灣最高峰，舉行「玉山登峰淨山活動」，不料海巡署南沙運補行程提前於4月啓程，恰好與「玉山登峰淨山活動」日程撞期，因此改變計畫配合海巡署巡弋東沙海域宣示主權及維護漁業資源擇期待命出發，由於海巡署護漁作業任務繁重原本敲定的日程被迫延宕，更由於

On November 1 of last year (2003) as I, Ming-der, kicked off the fifth "adopting Taiwan, a nationwide movement" campaign disembarking from Kinmen County, I disembarked from the Taichung Port aboard Coast Guard's vessel SS Chin Hsing to call on Wu Chu for an eco-tour, experiencing the hardship of Coast Guard sea warrior's endurance amid the relentless northeast trade winds and the unforgiving tides in the Taiwan Strait. Forty years ago I was a naval medical staff, never getting seasick aboard military vessels, SS PC113 and SS LST201. Yet perhaps time can be unforgiving, I did become uncomfortable and threw up on my way back from Wu Chu to the Taichung Port, to which captain Ju Cheng-tsai of SS Chin Hsing said, "Even I as an experienced captain making a living at sea feel uncomfortable, it would be amazing if you did not throw up". Another commander said, "It gives you a lesson, so you would refrain from haggling from the fish vendor when you go to the produce market". There is certainly true of that. Some may manage to get on a ship once in their lifetime, but people that rely on the sea would need to endure the rough seas and the vicious weather, and be ready to make a move when the duty calls; therefore, we need to hail to our brave sea warriors conducting their missions at sea.

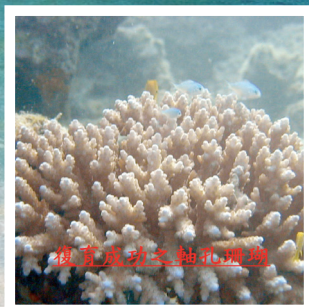
In appreciation of the Coast Guard Administration's support and assistance, I am able to complete the Wu Chu eco tour, and soon after returning, I called on the Minister Syu to submit my gratitude; he has commanded highly of my environmental conservation move, not only signing my campaign banner to render his support, but also be willing to assist me to call on the Dong Shan archipelagoes and Nan Sha archipelagoes for continuing my eco-conservation tour. By Coast Guard's initial plan, which calls for conquering the Nan Sha archipelagoes in May this year (2005), I have schedule my Yu Shan trip from April 22 to 24 for scaling Taiwan's highest peak for staging a "Yuan Shan Summit Mountain Cleanup Campaign", yet little than expected, the Coast Guard's Nan Sha supply shipping schedule has been brought up to April that happens to collide with the dates of the original Campaign. As a result, my plans are changed to coordinate with Coast Guard frigate's sovereignty declaration and fishery escort at the Dong Shan waters, pending final departure date. Yet in light of the Coast Guard's hectic fishery escort duties that nearly force the finalized date to be postponed, coupled with



淺礁區淺水之多種類海藻



淺礁區之角菊珊瑚



復育成功之軸孔珊瑚



淺礁區之鹿角珊瑚



淺礁區之角星珊瑚

總統臨時決定前往東沙，使得原先的行程計畫幾乎停擺，最後海巡署重新擬定東沙生態參訪活動廣邀媒體參加，並蒙老天幫忙閃過颱風得以順利成行。

9月5日一行人包含媒體記者共27人，於傍晚會聚高雄港淺水11號碼頭，由海巡署秘書室主任林永芳博士領軍，登上偉星艦展開15小時航程，向240海浬遠的東沙島前進，原偉星艦敖曼偉艦長調陞南機隊隊長，由大副黃州豐代艦長，先集合大家於餐廳講解船上及航行時注意事項，明德起居被安置於駕駛艙下的貴賓室與林主任鄰居，其餘官員與記者分別安置各等艙房，任務艦不比客輪，原住民挪出艙房供我們住宿，他們可能必須與值更同袍輪流使用艙房，這是我們參與東沙之旅的所有人員感到歉疚的地方。

擁擠的高雄港船隻進出港頻繁，偉星艦進出港部署花了40分鐘才得以出港，以前在海軍有一段口語：方位303屁股朝壽山，可一直航向澎湖。現在我們的地點是240海浬外的東沙島，天公作美，海上風平浪靜，艦長說：很難得碰到這樣好的航行氣候，晚餐我與艦長對面而坐享受菜餚美食及歡唱卡拉OK、有的不習慣航海悄悄躲入艙房一覺到天明…………。

the president's sudden decision to call on the Dong Sha, the initial travel plan has nearly been put to a halt, and at least, the Coast Guard has redrafted the Dong Sha eco tour by extending the press to partake the event, and the trip has finally disembarked successfully thanks to a narrowly escaped typhoon.

On September 5, an entourage of 27 including media reporters, led by Dr. Lon Yung-fang, the director of the Coast Guard Secretariat Office, boards the vessel SS Wei Hsing from the Kaohsiung Port's #11 shadow water dock, boarding the vessel and sailing toward the Dong Sha Island 240 nautical miles away in the 15-hour journal. With the previous captain Ao Mun-wei of SS Wei hsing being promoted to command the southern mobile platoon, first officer Huang Zhou-fong serves as acting captain, who gathers the visitors at the cafeteria to explain cautions aboard the ship and throughout the navigation. I have been placed to the VIP room under the bridge, next door to director Lin, and the rest of the officials and reporters are placed in cabins of different classes. As the mission vessels differ from passenger cruise ships, we do feel apologetic for taking up the rooms vacated by the occupants, who would now need to share the cabins with their colleagues in rotation.

At the Kaohsiung Port where ships come in and out frequently, SS Wei Hsing disembarks from the port after a 40 minute maneuver, reflecting an old navy adage that one can get to Penghu by navigating at 303 direction leaving the Shou Shan mountain. Now out destination is the Dong Sha Island 240 nautical miles away, and the weather has been a blessing, to which the captain says, "It is rare that we get such a nice day to set sail". At dinner, I sit facing the captain enjoying the feast and taking in a few rounds of karaoke, and some who are ill adjusted to sailing have retired to their cabins until dawn.

Made up of a series of coral reef plates, measured approx. 150km in length and 30km in width, comprised of three circular reefs spanning



● 台灣阿甘林明德與海巡署秘書室主任林永芳（左）合影於偉星艦尾

Lin Ming-der, the Forrest Gump of Taiwan, poses for photo with director of Coast Guard Administration secretarial office Lin Yung-fang (left) at the bow of SS Wei Hsing

清晨，偉星艦以 16 節的航速逐漸駛入東沙海域，東沙群島是由一連串礁盤組成，長約 150 公里，寬約 30 公里，包括三個環礁，由北向南，分別為北衛灘環礁、南衛灘環礁及東沙環礁，群島中唯一突出海面之島嶼就是東沙島。清澈的水面直接透視海底礁石景色令人驚嘆不已！為了安全考量海巡署未安排水上活動，東沙島四周水位低，大船無法靠岸，必須錨泊再以小艇接駁上岸，電視台記者攝影器材繁重，接駁過程驚險刺激令人回味無窮，東沙巡防指揮部指揮官李文傑等親自到浮動碼頭迎接，一行人分乘三輛車（其中一輛是高雄市公車）先到接待室聽取簡報，隨即由指揮官全程陪同親自導覽：介紹大王廟關聖帝君的典故、淡水機房、發電廠、醫院、氣象台、機場、漁民服務站、潟湖、果園等各個景點，尤其是在水源不足的東沙島，李指揮官用心種植樹木、培育果園真是難得，他愛護環境維護島上自然生態優美景色的精神令人敬佩，林主任、李指揮官及我三人手持「台灣阿甘扁夾」竟然撿不到垃圾，也是我多年來全國走透透，五度環台唯一撿不到垃圾的地方，使我感受到東沙真正是一片淨土。

東沙之行島上停留八小時，媒體記者採訪題材各有所需，相信他們會將東沙島的美景與光輝傳播給國內觀眾，尤其是駐守在 1.74 平方公里島上的海巡弟兄，為宣示國家主權他們奉命堅守崗位，我們應該向他們表達最崇高的敬意。

如果有機會我還會再度登島，長住多日作深度生態之旅並與島上弟兄暢談環保理念。感謝許署長的恩准，林主任、李指揮官及許專員嵐翔等在此次東沙行程妥善細緻的規劃與安排，尤其是對我的禮遇實感榮幸，謹致萬分謝忱。

north-southward, the north flanking circular beach reef, south flanking circular beach reef and circular Dong Sha reef, the Dong Sha Island is the only islet standing out at sea, where SS Wei Hsing sails in her territories at a 16-knot speed. It is simply fantastic how one is able to see the reefs at the seabed for the crystal clear water. For security concern, the Coast Guard Administration has not scheduled any water activities; with low-lying waters around the Dong Sha Island that prevent large ships from mooring, the ship needs to be anchored first and the passengers brought to the shore by small boats, where TV reporters' heavy equipment add to a touch of excitement in the transport process. Dong Sha patrol command headquarter commander, Lee Wen-jeh, greets the visitor at the buoyant dock in person, where the entourage rides in three vehicles, one of which being a Kaohsiung city bus, to arrive at the briefing room to take in briefings, before a guided tour provided by the commander, who narrates the history of Guan Gong at the Celestial Temple, the scenic attractions of the Tamsui equipment room, power generator, hospital, weather station, airport, fishermen's service station, lagoons, fruit orchards and the like. What is rear is how commander Lee has had trees planted and orchard raised on the Dong Sha Island that is hard pressed for water source, and his natural ecological take in caring for the environment of the island is something that impresses all. Director Lin, commander Lee and I hold the Taiwan Forrest Gump flat pickup clamps but find no refuse to be picked up, which makes me realize how Dong Sha Island remains an untainted ecological paradise in being the only place that I could not manage to find garbage in my fifth cross-island excursion.

With the eight-hour trip spend on the Dong Sha island, the press corps find their own subjects to cover, and I believe they would be in the position to bring to the national audience the true beauty and legacy of the Dong Sha Island, particularly of the Coast Guard men that station at this 1.74 square kilometer island for declaring the national sovereignty that they hold firm to the posts, to which we need to pay them the highest tribute.

Given the chance, I would definitely revisit the island gearing for a longer stay to carry out an eco-tour and exchange with the men stationing on the island thoughts of environmental conservation. Allow me to submit my gratitude for min-ister Syu's approval, for director Lin, commander Lee and specialist Syu others' throughout and delicate planning and arrangement for our Dong Sha excursion, particularly of the courtesies extended to me, which I am eternally grateful.

Lang-shiang among

