

Diego Garcia

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Diego Garcia Latest News

Iran recently fired two ballistic missiles toward the joint U.S.-U.K. military base at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean.

About Diego Garcia

- **Location:** It is a **coral atoll** located in the central **Indian Ocean**.
- It is the largest and southernmost member of the **Chagos Archipelago**.
- It is part of the **British Indian Ocean Territory** (BIOT) and accounts for more than half the land area.
- It was **discovered by the Portuguese** in the early 16th century, it was for most of its history a dependency of Mauritius.
- In 1965 it **was separated from Mauritius** as part of the newly created BIOT.
- In 1966, the **UK leased Diego Garcia to the US** to create an air and naval base. For constructing the defence installation, the inhabitants of the island were forcibly removed.
- Diego Garcia is the **United States' major geostrategic and logistics support** base in the Indian Ocean.

- A non-binding 2019 UN General Assembly vote demanded that Britain end its “colonial administration” of the Chagos Archipelago and that it be returned to Mauritius.

Source: TH

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