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PRESS RELEASE

**U.S. AMBASSADOR ATTENDS GRADUATION
CEREMONY FOR BANGLADESH'S
NEW NAVAL COMMANDOS**

CHITTAGONG, MAY 25 -- U.S. Ambassador James F. Moriarty attended the graduation of 40 new Naval Commando instructors at the Bangladesh Navy Special Warfare and Diving Salvage Center (BN SWADS) at the BNS Issa Khan Naval Base in Chittagong. These instructors will train future generations of elite Naval Commandos in the spirit of the "Nau Commandos" who fought bravely during Bangladesh's 1971 Liberation War. The Ambassador reaffirmed the United States Government's support to the Government of Bangladesh's efforts to counter terrorism, piracy, and maritime and coastal crime.

A strong Bangladesh Naval Commando unit will protect the people of Bangladesh as well as help ensure regional stability, deter terrorists, and contribute to international maritime security and peacekeeping in the future. The United States Government will assist the Government of Bangladesh develop this professional, elite force. This training demonstrates United States Government's commitment to Bangladesh and to regional security by promoting military-to-military relationships throughout Asia and the Pacific.

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Note: A Bangla translation of this press release is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: <http://dhaka.usembassy.gov>