



MEDIA ALERT:
Jan. 23, 2013

CONTACT: Phil Zimmerman, 310-975-5975
Phil_Zimmerman@discovery.com

Record-Breaking 48 Tons of Silver Recovered From World War II Shipwreck

***Discovery Channel captures the historic finding in SILVER RUSH, premiering
Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 10 PM E/P***

(Los Angeles, Calif.) – This past summer, Discovery Channel cameras rolled as the world’s best-known deep-sea recovery team, Odyssey Marine Exploration (OME), successfully recovered approximately 48 tons of silver bullion from the SS *Gairsoppa* – making it the deepest and heaviest cargo recovery in history.

SILVER RUSH, a new three-part series narrated by Mike Rowe, premieres Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 10 PM E/P and tells the story of one of the greatest deep-sea treasure quests of all time. The series will take viewers on board Odyssey’s flagship, the *Odyssey Explorer*, as it launches its most audacious operation ever -- locate and excavate three shipwrecks worth as much as a billion dollars all in one season.

In 2007, Discovery Channel was there as OME hit the jackpot with the discovery of the “Black Swan,” a Colonial-era site with 17 tons of silver and gold worth hundreds of millions of dollars. However, after a five-year legal battle, *Odyssey* was forced to hand over the treasure to Spain, one of the nations that claimed the treasure. The ruling delivered a devastating blow for OME founder/CEO Greg Stemm and the company’s anxious investors. “You have to be willing to go through years of very difficult situations with your eye on the prize long term,” Stemm said.

Undaunted by the “Black Swan” outcome, the Odyssey team sets their sights on three new projects including:

- SS *Mantola*, an ocean liner sunk in 1917 in 8,000 feet of water off the Irish coast, with a silver cargo worth an estimated \$20 million.

- HMS *Victory*, the flagship of the royal navy located in the English Channel, that was lost in 1744 and may have carried a billion dollar load of gold.
- SS *Gairsoppa*, a freighter that was torpedoed in 1941 off the coast of Ireland, purported to have silver bars potentially worth \$200 million dollars. The catch? This shipwreck lies deeper than the *Titanic* at nearly three miles below the surface of the North Atlantic.

If the historical records are right, and *Odyssey* can find and recover the valuable cargoes in extreme conditions, the payoff could make the “Black Swan” loss look like pocket change. But will they be able to complete the entire recovery effort in just 90 days before punishing storms roll in?

SILVER RUSH is produced for Discovery Channel by JWM Productions, LLC. Craig Coffman serves as executive producer for Discovery. For JWM Productions, LLC, Executive Producers are Philippe Denham, Jason Williams and William Morgan. To learn more, go to www.discovery.com, on Facebook at Facebook.com/discovery and on Twitter @Discovery.

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