

Nioke.

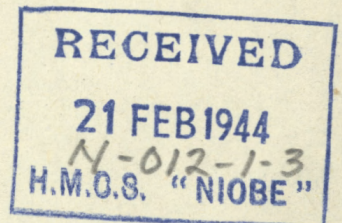
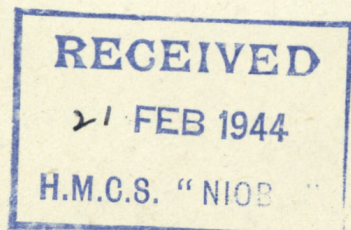
From: Commanding Officer, H.M.S. Armadillo, c/o. Post Office,
Ardentinny, Argyll.
Date: 15th May 1943. Ref: B/1016.
To: All Beach Masters.

BEACH COMMANDO MONTHLY MEMORANDA.

It is proposed to issue on the 15th of each month a series of R.N. Beach Commando Monthly Memoranda (short title B.C.M.M.). Items will be serially numbered and will contain information and summaries of regulations affecting Royal Naval Beach Commandos.

2. The first series, B.C.M.M.'s 1 - 9, is attached.
3. Any suggestions as to items which might usefully be included in these Memoranda should be forwarded to Commanding Officer, H.M.S. Armadillo.

(E. A. DAVIS)
COMMANDER IN COMMAND



*Recd. B.C.M.M.'s 1-58
C.O. Pamphlet #17 (3 copies)*

FEB 1944

H.M.C.S. "NIOBE."

BEACH COMMANDO MONTHLY MEMORANDA.

15th MAY 1943.

SECRET

66-3

File

19.5

1. Clothing. Under present regulations battle dress and Army boots are issued as personal kit and must be kept up by K.U.A. All other Army kit issued is loan clothing and can be replaced when worn out.
2. Coloured Lanyards. Certain Commandos are now wearing coloured lanyards on the right shoulder. It is desired to standardise this as part of the Beach Commando uniform. In order to prevent duplication, the following list of all colours is promulgated:-

C	Not known	K	Not Known
E	" "	L	Green
F	" "	M	Not Known
G	Green	N	Red
H	Old Gold	O	Not Known
J	Black	P	Light Blue

Any information received as to colours at present not known will be promulgated next month. Application for colours other than those shown above should be co-ordinated through H.M.S. Armadillo before a final decision is made.

3. Steaming Kits for drafts embarking. A complaint has been received from Maintenance Captain, Liverpool, on this subject. Beach Commandos have arrived at ports for passage in Merchant vessels with their small kit bags stowed inside their large kit bags. Bags and hammocks are normally stowed in the holds on arrival and are not seen again until the end of the voyage. The small kit bags must be packed with the necessities for the voyage, change of clothing, etc. Drafts have on occasions had to re-pack their gear on the jetty. Ratings should take their small kit bag in the railway carriage with them as small baggage.

- over -

4. Ratings' letters to family. It is suggested that Beach Masters should make periodical enquiries as to which, if any, of their ratings have not written home for some time. It has been found in the past that considerable distress has been caused to ratings' families through their slackness in correspondence.
5. Next of Kin. It has been noticed that when copy Service Certificates of ratings have been received from H.M.S. Quebec, the next of kin do not agree with those on our records. It is requested that on receipt of Service documents, Beach Masters will bring these up to date in all cases.
6. Beach Commando personnel - unsuitability. The following extract from a letter from Chief of Combined Operations is given for your information:-

"It is necessary that Beach Commandos, in common with other branches of the Combined Operations Command, should accept a certain percentage of unsuitable ratings. If this percentage exceeds 10% in any Commando, a report should be forwarded by the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. Armadillo, to the Chief of Combined Operations, copy to the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. Quebec, so that consideration may be given to the replacement of a certain number of the unsuitable personnel. It is emphasised that under no circumstances must the impression be given that a man has only to misbehave himself in Beach Commandos to get out of them. Progressively heavier punishment should be given to chronic offenders."

When circumstances make it difficult for Beach Masters to give the necessary personal attention and disciplinary drills to ratings who are not of the necessary standard, application should be made to H.M.S. Armadillo for these ratings to undergo a disciplinary course in Armadillo.

This step should only be adopted for ratings who are a continual nuisance, as the course will be run on the strictest disciplinary lines.

RECEIVED

- 3 -

21 FEB 1944

H.M.C.S. "NIOR"

7. Monthly Return of Personnel and General Information. It is requested that Beach Masters of ~~all~~ Commandos serving outside the United Kingdom will render a monthly return on the 1st of every month, giving the names of officers and men and their party and whereabouts (if possible) and any alterations since the previous return. Any advancements, pay queries, etc. should be included. These returns should be numbered serially in order that any break in sequence may be detected. This return is intended to replace Form PR/1 for any Commandos serving outside the United Kingdom. It will also eliminate unnecessary correspondence.
8. German Buried Charges. The following signal has been sent from Admiralty to C-in-C. Mediterranean:-

"For setting off buried charges Germans using clockwork fuse contained in brown plastic casing with setting from 10 mins. to 21 days, may be used for detonating charges in ports evacuated by them or to sabotage. Rough dimensions top half $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, bottom half 1 inch diameter. Clock winding and setting device in head and covered by plastic cap. Anti-withdrawal booby trap may be fitted. To stop clock, revolve the thin plastic knurled ring in head in clockwise direction, placing red arrow in line with white arrows. Further details follow."
9. A.F.O's. List of A.F.O's and C.A.F.O's of use to Beach Masters is attached.

A.F.O's 1940 - 1942.

C.A.F.O.s Marked X

ADVANCEMENT:

Ratings Combined Operations Advancement	6116/42
Examination for Advancement L/Sea & P.O's (G.S.)	3911/39
V.G. Conduct Qualification	4323/40 1770/41
Advancement to permanent rate	1770/41
General Service Sea Service Qualifications	3015/40 2352/41
Re-advancement after dis-rating	2663/40
Gunnery Non Sub Rates in the C.O. Organisation	1544/43

DISCIPLINE ETC.

Punishment Warrants	1236/42
Subversive tendencies - Disposal of Suspects	X 10/41
Summary Punishments Leave breaking - Reduction of milots and Stoppage of Leave	4256/42
Desertion and recovery	5131/42
Deserters and Absentees Warrants for Arrest	1651/42
Desertion and Leave breaking, reduction 2nd class for conduct	4492/41
Saluting and dress ashore	6003/42
Stoppage of Leave (Maximum)	5260/42

PAY, ALLOWANCES, KIT.

Kit, Special Combined Operations	X 1674/42
	X 8824/41
	X 15084/42
Marriage Allowance - Ratings	4138/40
	2613/42
	4499/42
	4310/40
Children's Allowance - Lower Deck	1115/40
	3817/40
Pay and Allowances - Overpayments	426/40
Casual payments to ratings	3593/39
Kit Upkeep Allowance	3922/42
	5081/42
Supply of cash to tenders	3360/42
Compensation - Loss or damage to uniforms (Ratings)	1714/40
	3917/41
Clothing for men invalided having lost their kits by casualty of the Service.	4376/41
Clothing, Soap and Tobacco - Prices. K.U.A.	2000/40
	2422/41
Tropical Clothing for Ratings	2122/40
	3916/41
Quarterly statements of salary	2444/41
Personnel - pay - badges - kit, etc.	X 511/42
	X 15084/42
	1631/42
	4366/42
	X 1631/42
	X 1931/42
	X 1933/42
	2029/42
	X 2079/42
	X 2334/42
	2396/42
Combined Operations Personnel - Allowances	X 1993/42
Dependent's Allowance	1277/40
	1774/40
	3200/40
	5377/41
Kit - Ratings	1674/42
Marriage Allowances	1500/40
Illegitimate children	1914/40
Payment to Combined Operations Personnel	X 1534/42
- over -	

PAY, ALLOWANCES, KIT (cont.)

Combined Operations Personnel - Allowances	448/43
C.O. Personnel - Quarterly Settlement and Fortnightly Payments	793/43
C.O. Personnel - Maintenance of Army and Tropical Kits	989/43
Clothing - Rope-soled shoes for Beach Parties and A.T. kit for C.O. Personnel	1127/43
Uniform - Khaki Tropical Kit for certain C.O. personnel	1309/43

GENERAL

Deceased Naval Ratings - disposal of effects	1693/41
	17/42
Lewis Guns - accidental firing of	5128/41
Stripped Lewis - Care in handling	2827/41
Combined Training function of Naval Staff	1684/42
Billeting Regulations	2511/39
	2118/40
	821/41
	5463/41
	5639/41
	3836/42
Food Rationing	1519/40
	4267/41
	4268/41
	4847/41
	4936/41
	5045/41
	125/42
	240/42
	1108/42
	1363/42
	1761/42
	2859/42
	3072/42
	3506/42
	3631/42
	4860/42
	4861/42
	6123/42
Encouragement of interest in current affairs	2206/42
Air Raids - damage - casualties - inform	1217/42
Marriage Act 1941	5047/41
Official Numbers - C.O. Personnel	1171/43
Sentries in War time	4602/41
Secret Documents	876/40
C.O. Gunnery Instruction B.R. 765)	
C.O. Signal Book B.R. 766	873/43
Uniform - Wearing of Unauthorised Badges.	1051/43
Temporary Commissions - Selection of Ratings	1163/43
Naval Ratings' Official Number - Revised System	1170/43
C.O. Personnel - Official Numbers	1171/43
Naval Ratings' Official Numbers - Revised System	1300/43
Docking Information - Landing Craft	X 297/43
Grants of Compassionate Leave	X 312/43
Temporary Commission - Reserve Rating eligibility	X 424/43
C.O. Small Arms - Allowances	X 531/43
Combined Operations - Personnel Overseas	X 577/43
Identity and other documents - Retention by personnel going abroad in C.O.	X 648/43
Administration of British and American C.O. Bases, Craft and Personnel	X 689/43