

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

No. 66 Naval Beach Commandos - Arrangements for Supply of
and Accounting for Naval Stores and Other Equipment - REPORT
(A.F.O. 2266/44)

(N.S./C.O.D. 0119/44 - 27 Apr. 1944)

The allowances of Naval, victualling and medical stores and stationery for each Naval Beach Commando are detailed in the appendices hereto.

2. Total requirements for one Commando are termed an outfit and comprise the quantities shown in both column 4 and column 5 of the appendices; allowances under the latter column are for the Principal Beach Master.

3. Supply will be made on the scale of two outfits per Naval Beach Commando, i.e. one outfit (on a limited scale - see paragraph 5(a) below) for training and exercises and one complete outfit for operational use. In addition, there will be an operational reserve of one complete outfit for every two Naval Beach Commandos.

4. Eight spare outfits are to be permanently maintained by H.M.S. "MONCK" and two outfits are allocated to H.M.S. "ARMADILLO" for training purposes.

SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS IN UNITED KINGDOM.

5. (a) Training Requirements. - The two outfits held by H.M.S. "ARMADILLO" should be used for initial training of Naval Beach Commandos.

For training and exercises elsewhere, Naval Beach Commandos are to be limited to essential requirements, within the scale of a full equipment. The first supply quantities should be demanded from H.M.S. "MONCK" by Accountant Officer of the base to which the Naval Beach Commando is allocated and should be retained until the operational outfit (see (b) below) is issued.

Replenishments of Naval.....

Replenishments of Naval stores should be demanded by the Commanding Officer of the Naval Beach Commando from the Accountant Officer of the base, requirements of common stores being met from base stocks and the remainder (i.e. special items unobtainable locally) by demand on H.M.S. "MONCK".

(b) Operational Requirements - When a Naval Beach Commando is transferred to the command of a Force Commander, a complete outfit for operational use is to be demanded from H.M.S. "MONCK" and is to be held (in the custody of the Accountant Officer) at a base selected by the Force Commander, who will order its subsequent transfer to other bases as necessary to meet operational requirements. These outfits are not to be used for training or exercises and should be issued to Naval Beach Commandos only on direct orders of the Force Commander concerned.

Operational reserve outfits (one per two Naval Beach Commandos) will normally be held at H.M.S. "MONCK"; they may be brought forward to a suitable forward base or Naval store depot by orders from the Admiralty, but should be returned to H.M.S. "MONCK" for replenishment and retention when no longer required.

Replenishments of stores comprising operational outfits should be obtained from reserve outfits and from outfits of stores issued for training (see sub-paragraph (c) below).

(c) Disposal of outfits no longer required - Outfits issued for training or exercises are to be returned to the Accountant Officers of bases concerned when the latter are authorized to issue operational outfits in their place. All serviceable items should be transferred to the Accountant Officer of the nearest base holding operational reserve outfits or to H.M.S. "MONCK". Unserviceable items should be dealt with in accordance with normal storekeeping procedure.

Operational outfits when no longer required for use should be returned to H.M. "MONCK" through the local Accountant Officer subject to any special arrangements which may be made for the recovery and salvage of operational equipment generally.

SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS.....

..... 20th May, 1944.

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS ON FOREIGN STATIONS.

6. (a) Initial Supplies and Replenishments. -Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean; Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Fleet (S.E.A.C.), and Force Commanders concerned are requested -

- (i) to report to Admiralty as necessary when any further complete outfits are required to be shipped from United Kingdom to complete to the scale authorized in paragraph 3 above, stating where they should be consigned;
- (ii) to arrange for periodical reports to be made to Admiralty of requirements, not obtainable locally, to adjust outfits to the scale laid down in the appendices and to replenish the outfits to be maintained on the station stating where the stores are to be consigned;
- (iii) to issue the necessary local orders regarding the allocation, issue to and return by Naval Beach Commandos of outfits supplied for training, operations and operational reserve.

(b) Transfer of Outfits between Stations. -When Naval Beach Commandos are transferred abroad from United Kingdom or from one station or theatre of operations to another, their administrative authority at the time is responsible that two outfits (i.e. one training and one operational outfit) are shipped for each Naval Beach Commando transferred making application to H.M.S. "Monck" (at home) and to Admiralty (from abroad) if the necessary outfits or part thereof cannot be obtained from local resources.

Admiralty at home and Commanders-in-Chief abroad will be responsible that the operational reserve of one outfit per two Naval Beach Commandos is also shipped. No operational reserve outfit will be transferred where only one Naval Beach Commando is involved.

7. Arrangements for the initial distribution of new pattern beach signs and lights have been made at Admiralty and authorities concerned have been informed. When the new equipment is issued all obsolete items should be withdrawn and returned through the local Accountant Officer to the nearest dockyard or Naval Store Depot for disposal.

ACCOUNTING ARRANGEMENTS.

8. The following accounting procedure will be adopted for the Naval

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

stores included in the outfit:-

(a) Accounting for Permanent Naval Stores-

- (i) Permanent stores are to be accounted for in Naval store account prepared in duplicate on Forms S.1099D (inside) enclosed in covers S.1099D (outside). The accounts will be prepared by H.M.S. "Monck" in respect of new outfits and handed over with the stores.
- (ii) The original copy of the account will be held by the Accountant Officer of the base to which the Naval Beach Commando is allocated. The duplicate copy of the account is to be held by the Commanding Officer of the Naval Beach Commando. In the case of unissued outfits both copies will be held by the Accountant Officer (or (S) N.S.O.) holding the stores.
- (iii) Unserviceable articles returned to a base and replaced by serviceable articles are to be dealt with as "Exchange" transactions on Forms S.1091, and as no change in the number held is involved, the transactions are not required to be recorded in the S.1099D account.
- (iv) The only changes to be made in the quantities shown in the S.1099D account will be when an article is returned or lost and is not replaced, or when an article is supplied as an authorized addition to the established allowance.
- (v) Form S.549 will be used for supplies of articles in lieu of those lost by accident or neglect and for the issue of any authorized additions to the established allowances.
- (vi) Naval stores returned to a base when a Naval Beach Commando no longer requires them or when the articles are in excess of the established allowances are to be dealt with on Forms S.549.
- (vii) On each occasion of drawing or returning stores, the Naval Beach Commando's copy of the S.1099D account is to be presented for amendment if necessary.

(viii) If the issuing.....

20th May, 1944.

(viii) If the issuing or receiving base is not that through which the Naval Beach Commando normally draws stores, it is important that a copy of the Form S.549 be forwarded to the latter base for correction of the base copy of the Naval Beach Commando's Naval store account.

(ix) The stores are to be mustered and S.1099D accounts signed on each occasion of transfer of responsibility.

(x) All differences found at transfer of responsibility for the stores in the S.1099D account, or at any other muster, are to be reported forthwith to the Accountant Officer of the base, who is to take appropriate action and raise Forms S.1096 (losses by accident), Forms S.126 (losses by neglect) or Forms S.148, for adjustment of the S.1099D account.

(xi) The Officer-in-Charge of the Naval Beach Commando is responsible for acquainting the Accounting Officer when a muster, other than the six monthly musters arranged by the latter, is considered necessary.

(b) Accounting for consumable Naval Stores-

(i) A separate account of the expenditure of consumable stores is not required to be kept, but they will be recorded on Form S.1099D (inside) for information only.

(ii) The Accountant Officer of the base will normally control the issue of consumable stores to a Naval Beach Commando to ensure that no waste or extravagance occurs. The Commanding Officer is responsible for ensuring that expenditure is kept to a minimum compatible with the efficient functioning of the unit, and that the quantities of consumable stores demanded from time to time are reasonable.

(iii) Forms S.549 will be used for the return of consumable stores in the same circumstances stated in paragraph 8 (a)(vi) above.

(c) Accounting for Medical and Victualling Stores. -A record of receipt and disposal of victualling and medical stores should be kept for convenience in Form S.1099D in the same manner as permanent Naval stores, but on separate sheets with appropriate headings.

20th May, 1944.

9. To assist in.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

9. To assist in ready identification of stores for Naval Beach Commandos, the marking "N.B.C." will be shown on every case and loose article comprising the outfit in addition to any normal markings. Stores for the Principal Beach Master should be packed and marked separately with the letters "P.B.M."
10. Authorised establishment of light machine-guns and small arms is laid down in C.A.F.O.490/44; details of C.O. kits are contained in A.F.O. 488/44 (Appendix No.3).
11. Provisions of Chief of Combined Operations' letter No.ALB.3230/43, dated 16th April, 1943, are cancelled.
12. The appendices are as follows:-

Appendix A - Allowances of Permanent Naval Stores.

Appendix B - Allowances of Consumable Naval Stores.

Appendix C - Allowances of Victualling and Medical Stores and Stationery.

APPENDIX "A"

Naval Beach Commandos - Allowance of Permanent Naval Stores.

SEE OVER.....

APPENDIX "A"

Naval Beach Commandos - Allowance of Permanent Naval Stores.

Pattern No.		Description.	Denomi- nation.	Allowance per Naval Beach Commando	Allowance per Principal Beach Master.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	
	<u>Subhead B.3</u>		<u>Out-</u>			
	Beach Signs and Equipment		<u>fit. Spares.</u>			
	-one set as follows:-					
-	Shapes, horizontal, white	No. 3	6	-) Dockyard manu- facture.	
-	Shapes, horizontal, red..	No. 1	2	-		
-	Shapes, horizontal, green	No. 1	2	-		
	Shapes, vertical, white..	No. 3	6	-		
	Shapes, vertical, red ..	No. 1	2	-		
-	Shapes, vertical, green..	No. 1	2	-		
-	Signs, sector, red ..	No. 1.	2	-		
-	Signs, sector, white ..	No. 1	2	-		
-	Signs, sector, green ..	No. 1	2	-		
-	Triangles, transit, white (5ft. equilateral).	No. 18	6	-		
-	Pickets (obtained from W.O.).	No. 58	22	-) Consum- able Stores.	
403	Screws, 1 in. (Subhead B.10).	Gross -	3	-		
604	Hammer, sledge (Subhead B.11).	No. 6	-	-		
-	Guys... ..	No. 52	26	-) Dockyard manufacture.	
-	Poles, 16ft. (Subhead E.12)	No. 26	13	-		
	Poles, transit, 12ft. (Sub- head E.12) ¹ / ₂	No. 18	-	-) Con- sumable stores.	
43	Helve, for sledge (Sub- head E.12).	No. 6	-	-		
<u>Note.</u> -No alphabetical letters will be marked on the sector signs when sup- plied. These will be painted on by Naval Beach Com- mandos at a later date. 20th May, 1944.				Subhead B.5.....		

APPENDIX "A" (Contd.)

20th May, 1944.

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

APPENDIX "A" (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
	<u>Subhead F. 2A.</u>				
5110E	Aldis lanterns ...	No.	3	1	
8979A	Boxes, transport for ...	No.	3	1	
5344	Boxes, battery ...	No.	6	2	
1842	Plug for Aldis lantern..	No.	3	1	
1843	Socket for Aldis lantern	No.	3	1	
16001	Torches, signalling ...	No.	9	-	
	Lights, Beach, one set as follows:-	Out-fit.	Spares.		
	Stadium storm lanterns, Type 999G:-				
	Red, fitted with red top light dome.	No. 4	1	-	
	White, fitted with red-top light dome.	No. 2	1	-	
	White, fitted with green top light dome.	No. 2	-	-	
	Green, fitted with green top light dome.	No. 4	1	-	
	Amber, fitted with red top light dome.	No. 9	3	-	
	Amber, fitted with green top light dome.	No. 9	3	-	
	Red, danger, with wire handles fitted with red top light dome.	No. 12	-	-	
	Stadium storm lanterns, Type 996, fitted with morse flashing relay-				
	with red front coloured discs.	No. 1	1	-	
	with green front coloured discs.	No. 1	1	-	
	with white front coloured discs.	No. 1	1	-	
	20th May, 1944.				
					Discs, front,.....

APPENDIX "A" (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
-	Discs, front, spare, red ...	No.	- 16	-	
-	Discs, front, spare, white..	No.	- 4	-	
-	Discs, front, spare, green..	No.	- 4	-	
-	Discs, front, spare, amber..	No.	- 18	-	
-	Domes, top light, spare, red.	No.	- 3	-	
-	Domes, top light, spare, green.	No.	- 4	-	
14092	Batteries, Ever-Ready, 6- volt, Type R. 99.	No.	45 225	-	
16223	Bulbs, m.f., 5 volt, 0.15- amp. m.e.s. cap.	No.	87 261	-	
<hr/>					
	<u>Subhead F.3.</u>				
-	Watches, wristlet... ..	No.	6	2	Army Cat.No. V.S.7471.
-	Compass, prismatic, liquid, Mark 11.	No.	3	2	Army Cat.No. V.S.0710.
-	Cases, compass, prismatic,A	No.	3	2	Army Cat.No. V.S.0220.

APPENDIX "B"

Allowances of Consumable Naval Stores.

	<u>Subhead B.7</u>				
2270	Leads, fishing, large, 5½ lb. (boat's lead).	No.	3	1	
	<u>Subhead B.10</u>				
2052	Shackles, rigging	No.	6	-	
109	Nails, S.W., round, 2 in. ...	Lb.	9	-	
126	Nails, steel clasp, 1 in. ...	Lb.	9	-	
<hr/>					
	20th May, 1944.		Subhead B.11.....		

NAVY COMMAND MEMORANDA

APPENDIX "B" (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
	<u>Subhead B.11</u>				
C759B	Shovels, steel pointed ...	No.	6	-	
650	Spades, steeled ...	No.	6	-	
198B	Chisels, cold rod, 1 in. ...	No.	3	-	
C631	Hammers, carpenters ...	No.	3	-	
2432	Marline spikes, 12 in. ...	No.	3	-	
4313	Frames, hacksaw, 9 in. ...	No.	3	-	
C789	Blades, hacksaw, 18 t.p.i. ...	Doz.	1	-	
468	Pliers, 7 in. ...	Pairs	3	-	
C762	Saws, compass ...	No.	3	-	
700	Needles, sail ...	Doz.	3	-	
2392	Palms, seaming ...	No.	9	-	
659	Screwdrivers ...	No.	6	-	
	Shovels, G.S. ...	No.	12	-	
	Cutters, wire, folding Mk. I	No.	30	-	Army Cat.No. J.A.1320.
	<u>Subhead D.1.</u>				Army Cat.No. W.A.1020.
	Canvas squares, 9ft.x 9ft.	No.	12	-	
	<u>Subhead D.3</u>				
T818A	Bunting, red, 19in.wide....	Yds.	30	-	
T820	Bunting, yellow, 19 in.wide	Yds.	30	-	
C1514	Twine seaming, extra fine..	Lb.	6	-	
	<u>Subhead D.4.</u>				
1056	Bags, tool, with wooden bottom.	No.	3	-	
019	Flags, hand, semaphore, on staves.	Pairs	4	1	
514	Flags "W" (Naval Code)	No.	12	-	
23	Flags, rectangular, red, 3ft. x 2ft.	No.	12	-	
	Buckets, water, canvas, Mark V.	No.	9	-	Army Cat.No. J.A.0243.
	Subhead D.5.....				
	20th May, 1944.				

APPENDIX "B" (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
	<u>Subhead D.5.</u>				
C3207	Cordage, sisal, 2in... ..	Fms.	90	-	
C1563	Lines, codfish (for guys)...	No.	9	-	
C3241	Lines, heaving, 1½in x 15 fms.	No.	6	-	
C3375	Lines, hand lead	No.	3	1	
	<u>Subhead E.6</u>				
	Paint mixed in 4 lb.tins:-				
533	Red	Tins	3	-	
376	White, titanium ordinary	Tins	3	-	
504 or subst.- fute	Green	Tins	3	-	
501	Black, ordinary	Tins	3	-	
	<u>Subhead E.11</u>				
C270	Brushes, paint, ½ in... ..	No.	12	-	
C275	Brushes, paint, 1 knot 4/0..	No.	9	-	
	<u>Subhead E.12</u>				
907	Helves for pick axe, Pattern 90A.	No.	6	-	
-	Staves for flags, hand, 4 ft. 6 in. or 5ft.6in. for "W" flag.	No.	12	-	
-	Staves for hand flags, 3 ft. 6 in.	No.	12	-	
2A	Handspikes, 6ft.iron shod	No.	3	-	
C668A	Helves for axe, Pattern 668	No.	12	-	
-	Pole, sounding, 15ft.paint- ed green and white in alternate 1ft.lengths.	No.	6	-	
	Megaphones, 12 in, Mark I	No.	15	-	Army Cat.No. Y.A.1066.
	Helves for mauls, Mark11....	No.	3	-	Army Cat.No. J.A.1056.
20th May, 1944.			Subhead F.1A.....		

APPENDIX "B" (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
W2044	<u>Subhead F.1A.</u> Batteries, spare, for loud hailing equipment.	No.	6	2	
3361	<u>Subhead F.2A</u> Cells for Aldis lantern ..	No.	36	12	
5111	Lamps for Aldis lantern ..	No.	6	2	
3364	Connections, cell for Aldis lantern.	No.	30	10	
55	Batteries for torches ...	No.	27	-	
56A	Bulbs for torches... ..	No.	27	-	

APPENDIX "C"

Allowances of Victualling and Medical Stores and Stationery.

	<u>Victualling Stores.</u>						
9	Mess kettles, 4 gal..	...	No.	3	-		
123	Mess kettles, 1½ gal.	...	No.	3	-		
-	Mess kettles, 1 gal..	...	No.	3	-		
C.933	Pans, frying, large..	...	No.	6	-		
	<u>Medical Stores</u>						
-	Medical haversacks, complete	No.	3	-			To be made up by H.M.S. "Monck."
	<u>Stationery.</u>						
-	Pads, signal, S.1330.	...	No.	-	6		
-	Logs, signal (daily log) S329.		No.	-	2		
-	Logs, signal (current "A" messages), S.329 (a).		No.	-	2		
-	Paper, carbon, quarto.	...	Sheets	-	12	}	To be stowed in fitted box which should be made up from local resources.
-	Bulldog grips	...	No.	-	6		
-	Pencils, H.B.	...	No.	-	12		
-	Envelopes	...	No.	-	100		
-	Economy labels	...	No.	-	150		
20th May, 1944.							

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

No. 67. Establishment of Stores.

Though there is now a Commanding Officer/D.P.B.M. in addition to the P.B.M. and the Administrative Officer, it is not proposed to ask for any increase in the number of watches binoculars and compasses allocated in accordance with A.F.O. 2266/44.

No. 68. C.O. Kit - R.N.B.C. Officers.

Admiralty has authorised coupon free sale, from Service stocks, of such articles of khaki clothing and Army boots as are required to complete and maintain essential outfits of R.N.B.C. officers. (Admiralty letter No.V.11/2072 of 5th April, refers.)

Officers of R.N. Beach Commandos attached to Forces are reminded that they should demand clothing and kit replacements under A.F.O. 488/44 from the Local Accountant Officer, the Force Accountant Officer being informed if there is any difficulty.

No. 69. C.O. Kit - R.N. Beach Commando Officers -
Loss of on Operation Husky.

The following is a re-print of Admiralty Message 820A of 8th April.

"C.O. Officers who took part in Sicilian Landings and subsequently became separated from their kits and have not since recovered them should now render to Admiralty through the normal service channels, if not already done, claims for compensation in accordance with normal regulations.

2. Claims should be accompanied by full statement of

circumstances and.....

20th May, 1944.

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

circumstances and of any steps taken for recovery, and should include a statement of any advances that may have been made under A.F.O. 106/42. Each claim will be considered strictly on its merits."

No. 70.

Correspondence.

After extensive research it has been ascertained that "Copra" divide their ledgers etc. into 5 sections, namely,

A - D E - J K - Q R - Z and officers.

2. Each section deals with ratings whose surnames are from A-D E-J etc., and correspondence involving lists should, therefore, be made out in a similar manner.

No. 71.

B.C.M's Themselves.

In view of the fact that it is not always possible to collect enough material to warrant monthly editions of these Memoranda, the title is hereby changed to:-

Beach Commando Memoranda.

2. Beach Commando Memoranda were not issued for:

October, December, March
and April.

No. 72.

A.F.O. 2186/44.

Travelling - Free Warrant when granted
Compassionate Leave.

The grant of an additional free travel warrant for use when compassionate leave is granted has been approved subject to the following conditions.

20th May, 1944.

2. The concession.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

2. The concession is limited to ratings and ranks below Lieutenant-Commander, including mobile W.R.N.S. below First Officer, serving in the United Kingdom, who have already exhausted their year's entitlement to free leave travel warrants.

3. An officer not below the rank of Captain must be satisfied that if the officer, rating or other rank were required to pay his or her own fare, hardship would be incurred.

4. The concession is effective as from 4th March, 1944.

No. 73.

A.F.O. 2304/44.

Short Service R.N.(A) and Reserve Officers -
Transfer to Permanent Executive
Commissions in the Royal Navy.

Their Lordships have decided to invite applications for permanent executive commissions in the Royal Navy from the following categories of officers who fulfil the conditions laid down in this order:-

- (a) Short Service R.N.(A) and permanent and temporary R.N.V.R.(A) officers who are qualified as pilot or observer.
- (b) Permanent and temporary R.N.R. and R.N.V.R. executive officers.

2. The number of permanent commissions granted at this stage of the war will necessarily be limited since total requirements for permanent officers will depend upon the size and composition of the post-war Navy and cannot yet be finally determined.

3. The introduction of similar schemes for other branches of the Reserves will be considered later, the decision being dependent upon requirements. It is necessary, however, to introduce the present scheme now in order to enable those pilots and observers who are not executive officers to qualify in their

20th May, 1944.

executive duties.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

executive duties and obtain some experience of an executive officer's duties in war conditions.

4. It is probable also that at a later date a scheme will be introduced to enable officers qualified as pilot or observer to apply for short service commissions in the Air Branch of the Royal Navy.

5. Qualifications for transfer. - Permanent and temporary R.N.R. and R.N.V.R. executive officers, short service R.N.(A) and permanent and temporary R.N.V.R.(A) officers who are qualified as pilot or observer are eligible to apply for permanent executive commissions provided that:-

- (a) they are of the rank of Acting Sub-Lieutenant or above;
- (b) have carried out at least one year's mobilized service as naval officers in the war if under the age of 27 and at least two years' mobilized service as naval officers in the war if over the age of 27.
- (c) in the case of R.N.R. and R.N.V.R. executive officers this minimum qualifying period of service must include at least six months' service in a seagoing appointment.
- (d) in the case of R.N.(A) and R.N.V.R.(A) officers this minimum qualifying period of service must include either:-
 - (i) six months' service in a seagoing appointment after qualification as pilot or observer, or
 - (ii) six months' service as pilot or observer in a First Line Squadron.
- (e) R.N.R. and R.N.V.R. executive officers who are qualified as pilot or observer may qualify under either (c) or (d).
- (f) all candidates must be up to the medical standards laid down in this order.

6. Age limits. - Short service R.N.(A) officers and permanent R.N.R., R.N.V.R. and R.N.V.R.(A) officers must have

20th May, 1944.

been under.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

been under the age of 30 on the first April, 1944.

Temporary R.N.R., R.N.V.R. and R.N.V.R. (A) officers must have been under the age of 28 on the first April, 1944.

Officers who are above these age limits may apply but will only be considered if they are specially suitable for transfer.

7. Rank on transfer. - Acting Sub.Lieutenants will transfer as Sub.Lieutenants, R.N., with seniority of date of transfer.

8. Sub.Lieutenants will transfer as Sub.Lieutenants, R.N., with their seniority as Sub.Lieutenants. Where, however, these officers have more than one year's service as naval officers, their seniority as Sub.Lieutenants R.N. will be antedated by half the time served as officers in excess of the minimum one year's qualifying service. Sub.Lieutenants who under the above rules attain one and a half years' or more seniority as Sub.Lieutenant will be transferred in the rank of Lieutenant or Acting Lieutenant R.N. (according to whether they have a full naval watchkeeping certificate or not.) Their seniority on confirmation as Lieutenant will be that of date of transfer antedated up to a maximum of one year by half the amount of seniority as Sub.Lieutenant (calculated on the above basis) in excess of one and a half years. For example, a Sub.Lieutenant of six months' seniority who has a total of eighteen months' officer's service will transfer as Sub.Lieutenant R.N. of nine months' seniority. A Sub.Lieutenant of one and a half years' seniority who has a total of two years' officer service will on confirmation as Lieutenant become a Lieutenant of three months' seniority. A Sub.Lieutenant of two years' seniority who has a total of two and a half years' officer service will on confirmation as Lieutenant become a Lieutenant of seven and a half months' seniority.

20th May, 1944.

9. Sub.Lieutenants over.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

9. Sub.Lieutenants over 24, who under the rules in paragraph 8 above, would not qualify for the rank of Lieutenant on transfer, will transfer as Lieutenant or Acting Lieutenant R.N. with seniority of date of transfer antedated on confirmation as Lieutenant so that they will attain eight years' seniority as Lieutenant at the age of 32.

10. Lieutenants will transfer as Lieutenant or Acting Lieutenant (according to whether they have a full naval watch-keeping certificate or not), and will be confirmed with their original seniority as Lieutenant antedated either:-

- (a) by half the time served as officers, up to a maximum of one year, in excess of the minimum qualifying period of one year laid down in paragraph 5 (b) above. For example, a Lieutenant of three months' seniority with two years' officer's service would be confirmed as a Lieutenant of nine months' seniority. A Lieutenant of six months' seniority with two and a half years' officer's service would be confirmed as a Lieutenant of fifteen months' seniority; or
- (b) so that they will attain eight years' seniority as Lieutenant on reaching the age of 32, whichever is more favourable to the officer.

11. Lieutenant Commanders will transfer as Lieutenant Commanders, R.N., with their existing seniority.

12. Any acting higher rank held will be disregarded in determining rank on transfer.

13. Promotion. - Officers transferred as Sub.Lieutenants will be eligible for promotion to the rank of Lieutenant or Acting Lieutenant (according to whether they have obtained a full naval watchkeeping certificate or not) on attaining the age of 24 or one and a half years' seniority as Sub.Lieutenant, whichever is the earlier. Lieutenants will be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander on attaining eight years' seniority as Lieutenant.

20th May, 1944.

Officers will.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA

Officers will be considered for promotion to higher rank under the same rules as govern the promotion of other R.N. executive officers, and will be liable to be retired under the same conditions as are applied to other R.N. executive officers.

14. Service as R.N. Executive Officers. - On transfer to the permanent list officers will be required to obtain a full naval watchkeeping certificate, if they are not already in possession of one. Until they have obtained this certificate they will not be confirmed as Lieutenants. Their appointments will be so arranged that they are given the earliest possible opportunity of obtaining one; they will be required to undergo any courses considered necessary by the Admiralty.

15. Should any officer who has been given the opportunity to obtain a watchkeeping certificate fail to do so within one year of being given the opportunity, or should otherwise prove unsuitable, consideration will be given to reverting him to his short service or reserve commission.

16. As R.N. Executive Officers, officers transferred will be liable to be employed in such appointments and be required to specialize, as the Admiralty may decide. Officers who are already specialists will continue as specialists in the executive branch of the Royal Navy and will normally be employed on their specialist duties under the same conditions as apply to ex-Cadet R.N. Officers. All officers transferred will receive the pay and other benefits applicable to officers of their rank and seniority.

Retired pay conditions will be promulgated later, as it has not at present been decided that all officers will receive the same conditions as ex-Cadet officers in view of the more limited service which will be given by the older officers transferred; no officer who applies for transfer will be finally bound to the acceptance of a permanent commission until he has seen and accepted the retired pay conditions.

20th May, 1944.

17. Applications.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

17. Applications to transfer. - Applications from officers desiring to be considered for transfer should be made to their Commanding Officers who are to forward them to the Admiralty (C.W.Branch) through Administrative authorities, accompanied by a completed S.206 which should state whether, in the Commanding Officer's opinion, the officer is considered suitable for transfer and should be as full as possible.

18. Applications must reach the Admiralty by the 19th August, 1944.

19. Officers will be selected for transfer on their records at the Admiralty but should there be any doubt about a particular officer he may be required to appear in person before the officers making the selection.

20. Instructions for the medical examination of officers will be issued when they are provisionally selected.

21. Uniform. - Those officers transferred who have received a uniform grant of less than £55, will receive after the war a grant to make their total grants up to that amount.

22. Medical standards. - (a) Candidates must be physically fit for service in the Royal Navy. They must be in good health and free from any physical defect of body, impediment of speech, defective hearing and also from any predisposition to constitutional or hereditary disease or weakness of any kind.

(b) Pilots or Observers whether Short Service R.N. (A) permanent or temporary R.N.R., R.N.V.R., or R.N.V.R. (A) officers, require to have a current medical category for full flying duties, i.e., A.1.B and A.3.B, and in addition must be fit for General Service.

(c) Permanent and temporary R.N.R. and R.N.V.R. Executive Officers must be fit for General Service.

20th May, 1944.

(d) Visual.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

(d) Visual Standards R.V.6/9 L.V.6/12 D.O.6 each eye without glasses; any defective vision should not be such as to entail the use of glasses for distance and any defect must be of a refractive error only and capable of correction by glasses to 6/6 6/6. Colour Vision - Grade 1.

23. Dominion Officers serving on loan to the R.N. - Reserve officers of the South African Naval Forces serving on loan to the Royal Navy are eligible to apply for permanent commissions in the R.N. under the same conditions as Imperial Reserve Officers.

Officers of the R.C.N.R. and R.C.N.V.R. serving on loan to the Royal Navy are also eligible to apply for permanent R.N. commissions provided they have not and do not intend to apply for permanent commissions in the R.C.N. which they are eligible to do under Canadian Naval General Order 3314.

A further announcement will be made concerning officers of other Dominion Navies.

No. 74.

Colonial Allowance.

Authority has been given to "Copra" for the payment of Colonial allowance in respect of

- (a) Sicily from 10th July, 1943.
- (b) Italy from day individual parties landed on Italian soil.

2. Parties who have not "staked their claims" to the allowance should do so on Forms S.9 and forward them to "Copra".

No. 75.

A.F.O. 1653/44.

Combined Operations Personnel and Royal Marine Landing Craft - Definition.

Officers and ratings who are allocated permanently to

20th May, 1944.

Combined.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

Combined Operations for manning the following will be known as "C.O. personnel":-

- (a) All types of landing craft and landing barges (but not landing ships).
- (b) Staffs of landing craft and landing barge squadrons and flotillas.
- (c) Naval beach commandos, naval beach signal sections, support and reconnaissance units, and other special parties allotted by the Admiralty e.g., L.C.O.C.U., C.O.P.P., L.C.R.U., etc.

2. Officers of the Naval Reserves and H.O. ratings who have undergone C.O. training will not normally be reverted to general service during the present war, and requests for transfer to general service should only be forwarded in exceptional circumstances.

4. C.O. naval ratings as defined above can be identified by the suffix "C.O." to their official number. This suffix is to appear on their identity discs and Service certificates and in their pay books.

5. Details of the centralised drafting, records and accountant organization for C.O. and R.M.L.C. personnel and the functions of H.M.S. "Copra" are laid down in A.F.O. 5941/43.

A.F.O. 2490/44.

No. 76. Small Arms - Lanchester Machine Carbines -
Cleaning of Magazines.

Stoppages have occurred in the Service with newly issued or new magazines due to sand or dust on the interior surfaces.

20th May, 1944.

2. Owing.....

BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

2. Owing to the impracticability of ensuring that magazines are free from dust prior to issue or that magazines already issued are clean internally; all users are advised to strip and clean all magazines now held and to take steps to see that they are stowed under reasonably clean conditions free from sand and dust.

No. 77.

Service Certificates and Correspondence.

Administrative Officers may send Service Certificates and correspondence to Captain's Secretary, H.M.S. "Armadillo" for safe keeping. Documents should be locked up in a stationery box and must be clearly marked with the name of the Administrative Officer, no mention of the party being made. They will be kept in H.M.S. "Armadillo" until such time as parties have facilities for keeping papers in comparative safety themselves.

Keys of stationery boxes should be forwarded under separate cover.

20th May, 1944.

AMENDMENTS TO BEACH COMMANDO MEMORANDA.

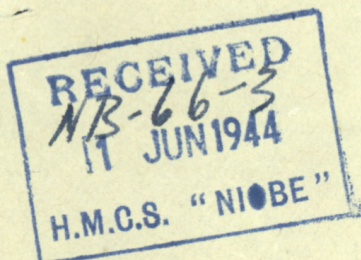
B.C.M. No. 74, paragraph 2, ADD:-

in accordance with instructions contained
in A.F.O. 6308/43.

B.C.M. No. 77, ADD:-

Keys of stationery boxes should be forwarded
under separate cover.

2/6/44



E. A. Davis
(E. A. DAVIS)
COMMANDER-IN-COMMAND.