

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commando Brigade** (1)

Headquarters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Commando Brigade & Signal Section

No. 1 (Army) Commando (2)

No. 5 (Army) Commando (3)

42 (Royal Marine) Commando (4)

44 (Royal Marine) Commando (5)

No. 3 Troop, Royal Marine Engineer Commando (6)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Special Service Brigade** (October 1944)**Commander**

Brigadier (Temporary) Wilfrid Ivan NONWEILER, R.M.

**Brigade Major**

Acting Major D. B. DRYSDALE,

**Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quarter-Master General**

Major P. W. MARTIN, D.C.L.I.

Major J. E. G. SOOBY, Foresters – to H.Q. Special Service Group before leaving for Far East

**G.S.O. 3**

Acting Temporary Captain P. S. B. BAXTER,

**Staff Captain Q**

*Vacant*

Was – Captain V. R. MILLS, Essex

**Staff Captain A**

*Post Abolished?*

Was – Captain B. R. TOZER, R.M. – To H.Q. Royal Marines

**Staff Officer, Royal Engineers**

Acting Temporary Captain V. A. BARNES, R.M.

**Brigade Intelligence Officer**

Acting Temporary Captain C. C. SCARTH, R.M.

**Brigade Transport Officer**

*Vacant*

**Liaison Officer**

Temporary Lieutenant D. E. CLILVERD,

**Brigade Signal Officer**

Acting Temporary Captain S. S. RICHARDSON, R.M.

**Assistant Brigade Signal Officers**

Temporary Lieutenant J. E. G. HOWARTH,

Lieutenant A. J. LEGG, R. Sigs.

**Camp Commandant (not in October 1944)**

Captain R. A. St. QUENTIN, R.M.

**E.M.E. (not in October 1944)**

Captain S. C. CRAGGIL, R.E.M.E.

**Officer Commanding, No. 3 Troop, R.M. Engineer Commando**

Lieutenant F. E. HAWDON, R.M.

**Chaplains**

Reverend H. KENNEN, B.A., R.N.V.R.

Reverend R. KIRKLAND, R.N.

**R.C. Chaplain**

Reverend R. CLARKE, R.N.

**Schoolmaster**

*Vacant*

**Sergeant Major**

Acting Sergeant Major E. BOURKE, R.M.

**Waiting Disposal**

Temporary Lieutenant R. G. ACTON, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant G. D. STUART, R.M.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Special Service Brigade** (April 1945)**Commander**

Temporary Brigadier Campbell Richard HARDY, D.S.O., R.M.

**Deputy Commander**

Colonel P. YOUNG, D.S.O., M.C., Beds & Herts

**Brigade Major**

Acting Major D. B. DRYSDALE,

**Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quarter-Master General**

Major P. W. MARTIN, D.C.L.I.

**G.S.O. 3**

Acting Temporary Captain P. S. B. BAXTER,

**Staff Captain**

*Vacant*

**Staff Officer, Royal Engineers**

Acting Temporary Captain F. E. HAWDON,

**Brigade Intelligence Officer**

Acting Temporary Captain J. P. TRIPP,

**Brigade Transport Officer**

*Vacant*

**Liaison Officer**

Temporary Lieutenant D. E. CLILVERD,

**Brigade Signal Officer**

Acting Temporary Captain S. S. RICHARDSON,

**Assistant Brigade Signal Officers**

Temporary Lieutenant J. E. G. HOWARTH,

Lieutenant A. J. LEGG, R. Sigs.

**Chaplains**

Reverend H. KENNEN, B.A., R.N.V.R.

Reverend R. KIRKLAND, R.N.

**R.C. Chaplain**

Reverend R. CLARKE, R.N.

**Schoolmaster**

*Vacant*

**Sergeant Major**

Acting Sergeant Major E. BOURKE, R.M.

**Waiting Disposal**

Acting Major J. L. A. MacAFEE

Acting Temporary Major H. R. BURTON

Acting Captain P. H. LLOYD,

Acting Temporary Captain J. A. ALLEN

Acting Temporary Captain J. E. F. CODRINGTON,

Acting Temporary Captain C. C. SCARTH,

Acting Temporary Captain R. G. ACTON, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant M. E. BORG-BANKS,

Temporary Lieutenant P. H. RIDER,

Temporary Lieutenant J. G. M. GROVER,

Lieutenant (Temporary) S. BRYANT, R.U.R.

**42 Commando** (October 1944)**Commanding Officer**

Acting Lieutenant Colonel H. D. FELLOWES, R.M.

**Second-in-Command**

Acting Temporary Major P. N. CUNNINGHAM, R.M.

**Major**

Acting Major M. H. DAVIS, R.M.

**Captains**

Acting Captain F. R. A. D. TAYLOR, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain H. H. DALES, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain R. P. STONER, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain E. LANGLEY, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain B. H. FOWKE, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain J. F. SHOWELL-ROGERS, R.M.

**Adjutants**

Acting Temporary Captain J. P. TRIPP, R.M.

Lieutenant P. H. LLOYD, R.M.

**Lieutenants**

Temporary Lieutenant M. J. COTTON, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant D. B. KATER, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant J. W. MACKENZIE, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant J. D. G. PEGRUM, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant J. O. STREET, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant R. HALL, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant A. G. SMITH, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant C. B. WARD, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant R. J. E. BAVIN, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant M. F. A. WILSON, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant P. FRIZELL, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant J. W. POTTS, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant D. K. HARDY, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant N. J. WINTER, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant J. G. JONES, R.M.

Temporary Lieutenant K. MARTIN, R.M.

**Quartermaster**

*Vacant*

**Signal Officer**

Temporary Lieutenant (*Vacant*)

**Medical Officer**

(*Vacant*)

**Chaplains**

Reverend F. W. CORNELL, M.A., R.N.V.R.

Reverend H. C. W. MANGER, B.A.

**No 44 Commando** (October 1944)**Commanding Officer**

Acting Lieutenant Colonel F. C. HORTON, R.M.

**Second-in-Command**

Acting Major J. L. A. MacAFEE, R.M.

**Major**

Acting Temporary Major H. G. S. SAUNDERS, R.M.

**Captains**

Acting Captain A. V. MACAN, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain K. P. PARISH, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain E. M. STURGES, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain R. C. STEELE, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain O. St. T-HAMLIN, M.B.E., R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain C. A. WATKINS, R.M.

Acting Temporary Captain S. C. HELLIS, R.M.

**Adjutant**

Acting Temporary Captain (*Vacant*)

**LieutenantsOctober 1944)**

Temporary Lieutenant P. H. RIDER,

Temporary Lieutenant J. I. H. OWEN,

Temporary Lieutenant A. R. WHITE,

Temporary Lieutenant A. E. BARRETT,

Temporary Lieutenant C. N. C. CARRYER,

Temporary Lieutenant S. HENSHALL,

Temporary Lieutenant S. G. WINTGENS,

Temporary Lieutenant G. P. A. BLEASEDELL,

Temporary Lieutenant A. K. POWRIE,

Temporary Lieutenant D. H. LEWIS,

Temporary Lieutenant P. T. A. MUSTERS,

Temporary Lieutenant P. SHEFFORD

Temporary Lieutenant W. W. H. BRYDON,

**Quarter-Master**

*Vacant*

**Signal Officer**

Acting Temporary Captain A. MARTIN,



**Medical Officer**

Captain C. A. McCLEARY, R.A.M.C.

**Chaplain**

Reverend R. S. HOOK, R.N.V.R.

**Sergeant Major**

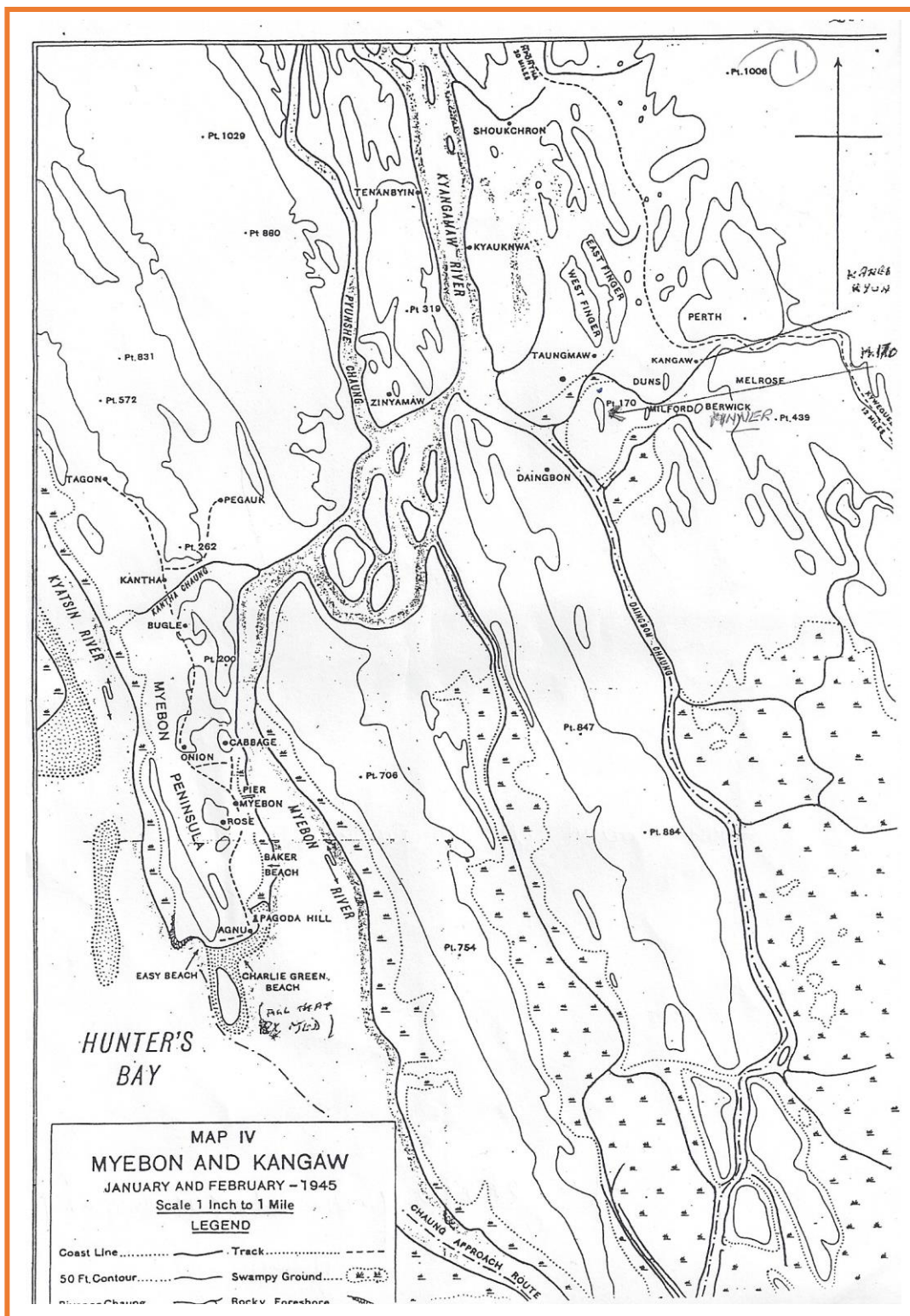
Acting Sergeant Major H. F. MARTIN,

## NOTES:

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Service Brigade was formed in Dorchester, England on 1 September 1943, as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Service Brigade. The Headquarters was formed using the personnel of 102<sup>nd</sup> Royal Marine Brigade H.Q., which disbanded on the same date. The original intention was for the brigade to comprise 42 Commando, 43 Commando and 44 Commando, all Royal Marines units. It was decided, however, to provide this brigade, and the other three Special Service brigades, with a mix of Army Commando and Royal Marine Commando units, hence the brigade had the establishment as shown. Brigadier (Temporary) Wilfrid Ivan NONWEILER, R.M., commanded the brigade from 7 December 1943 until 26 November 1944, when he was posted back to the United Kingdom, although he officially remained in command until 14 January 1945. Brigadier P. G. YOUNG officiated as the Brigade commander from 27 November until 18 December 1944, when Temporary Brigadier Campbell Richard HARDY, D.S.O., assumed command. He remained the brigade commander until 29 April 1946. The Brigade was based in and around Canterbury in late 1943, travelling to Egypt where it arrived on 12 December 1943. It embarked again on 9 January 1944, and it landed in India on 21 January 1944. The Brigade concentrated at Poona, under the command of XXXIII Indian Corps, which was intended for amphibious landings in Burma. The Brigade moved to Maungdaw in March and April 1944, then moving to the Silchar Valley, and then on 13 August 1944, it arrived on the island of Ceylon. In early October, the Brigade was deployed to Teknaf and then Maungdaw. In January 1945, the Brigade was deployed in landings at Myebon and Kangaw, which included the fierce battle for Hill 170. On 16 March, the Brigade sailed for Madras, and it concentrated at Poona. Although earmarked for Operation 'Zipper', the invasion of Malaya, the Japanese cessation of hostilities led to it being diverted to Hong Kong, where it arrived on 12 September 1945. The Brigade remained in operation post-war, and it remains today (2023) as the main formation in the Royal Marines.
2. This unit was formed on 13 June 1940 with personnel from No. 6 and No. 8 Independent Companies (which had seen service in Norway), as No. 11 Independent Company. On 14 June 1940, it was redesignated as No. 1 Commando, and on 27 July 1940, it was absorbed into No. 1 Special Service Battalion. No. 1 (Army) Commando reformed at Dartmouth on 5 March 1941, and it began raiding operations on the French coast. A small detachment from this unit was attached to No. 2 Commando for Operation 'Chariot', the raid on St. Nazaire. Sgt Tom DURRANT was a member of that detachment, and he was killed in action, and posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross. No. 1 Commando then began preparations for deployment to French North Africa as part of Operation 'Torch'. The unit conducted several operations in Algeria and Tunisia, and as such, it became the first Commando unit to wear the Green Beret in battle. On 15 November 1943, the unit embarked on H.M.T. Ranchi bound for India, where it joined 3 Commando Brigade. The unit saw action at Akyab, Myebon and on Hill 170 at Kangaw. It was at this latter location, that Lieutenant George KNOWLAND was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross. In March 1945, together with the Brigade, the unit was withdrawn to India to rest and refit. It was earmarked for landing in Malaya as part of Operation 'Zipper', but it was diverted to Hong Kong in September 1945. It merged with No. 5 Commando as 1/5 Commando, and it was disbanded in October 1946. 63586 Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Rowland Swetenham TREVOR, was a Regular Army officer in the Cheshire Regiment. He was born on 15 April 1914, and he joined No. 1 Commando in 1941 as a Troop Captain. He received a Mention in Despatches for his actions in North Africa. He assumed command in 1943 from his cousin Lieutenant Colonel Tom TREVOR, and he led No. 1 Commando throughout the campaign in Burma, being made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order in 1945.

He later served in Korea and retired in 1966 as Brigadier K. R. S. TREVOR, C.B.E., D.S.O.. He died on 10 February 2003, with a memorial service being held at Chester Cathedral.

3. No. 5 Commando was raised in Bridlington on 18 July 1940, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel S. P. WOOD. After being raised, the commando moved to Dover, and then up to Scotland at Helensburgh. For a short period, it was reorganised as the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Service Battalion, but it soon reverted to No. 5 Commando on 26 February 1941. The first raid undertaken by this commando occurred overnight on 30/31 August 1941, with two raids in the French coast near Boulogne. On 28 March 1942, three demolition teams from No. 5 Commando took part in the St Nazaire raid. On 23 March 1942, No. 5 Commando was embarked for Madagascar, taking part in the landings to secure the Vichy French island. After that campaign, No. 5 Commando returned to the U.K., where Lieutenant Colonel D. M. SHAW, M.C. was now in command. In November 1943, now part of 3 Commando Brigade, No. 5 Commando sailed from Gourock for India. Lieutenant Colonel C. J. B. POLLITT assumed command of No. 5 Commando in September 1944. The unit was involved in the operations in the Arakan, and Myebon, where Lt. Col. POLLITT was wounded. The Second-in-Command, Major C. R. M. STUART, assumed command and he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Again, earmarked for Operation 'Zipper', the unit went to Hong Kong, where due to demobilisation, it was merged with No. 1 Commando with effect from 23 March 1946.
4. This unit was formed on 1 August 1943, from the disbanded 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Marine Battalion. Those men not considered suitable for commando duties were posted to landing craft duties, while new members were brought in. The unit undertook commando training commencing on 5 October 1943, after which, it was posted to the Herne Bay area in Kent. It travelled by train to Gourock, where it embarked for India as part of the Brigade. The ship on which they were embarked was attacked by enemy aircraft, and it had to put into port in Egypt. The unit travelled to Port Tewfik by train, and then embarked for Bombay, where they arrived on 20 January 1944. It undertook training, and it spent a period at Trincomalee on Ceylon. They moved to Teknaf to relieve the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry in the line at Maungdaw. On 2 January 1945, the unit embarked on the destroyers Napier and Nepal for Akyab, with the landings taking place on 3 January. A few days later, the unit moved to land on the Myebon peninsula. It moved by landing craft to Kangaw, participating in the major battle on and around Hill 170. Lieutenant Colonel Halford David FELLOWES, R.M., was in command from May 1944, until he was wounded at Myebon. On 13 January 1943, Major H. H. DALES was promoted to assume command of the unit. He was hospitalised with dysentery in April 1945, to be succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel Peter William Cradock HELTINGS, D.S.O., M.C., who remained in command for the rest of the war. 42 Commando, RM, is still in existence in 2023.
5. 44 (Royal Marines) Commando was formed on 1 August 1943, from the disbanded 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. Royal Marines. Lieutenant Colonel F. C. HORTON, R.M., commanded the commando from its formation through to the end of its campaign in Burma. The specialist training commenced at Ashurst, and it continued at Achnacarry. Thirty-three officers and five-hundred and thirty-two Marines commenced the commando training, but only twenty-eight officers, and four-hundred and eleven Marines completed the course. The unit served with 3 Commando Brigade throughout the Second World War.
6. The Royal Marine Engineers provided one troop to serve with 3 Commando Brigade throughout the campaign in South-East Asia.



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Return to the Arakan

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