

1	2	cms	The National Archives	ins	1	2
Ref.:		DEFE 2 1987		337880		
Please note that this copy is supplied subject to the National Archives' terms and conditions and that your use of it may be subject to copyright restrictions. Further information is given in the 'Terms and Conditions of supply of the National Archives' leaflets						

'A' and 'B' COMMANDO

It is not known when the first beach parties were formed, but up till the time the Madagascar expedition sailed in March 1942, the parties appear to have been associated with the particular troop transport to which they were more or less permanently attached. It is believed that the five or six parties which proceeded to Madagascar were known as "Keren" party, "Karanga" party etc., and that subsequently they were named A and B by C.O.H.Q., though in actual fact there was by that time only sufficient personnel to complete one Commando which was known as 'A'. As such it formed part of Force P in India in the Autumn of 1943 under command of Commander DUNCAN, R.N. and Lt.Cdr. J.B. Scott-Wilson, D.S.C., R.N.V.R. afterwards moving in January 1944 to the Mediterranean where they participated in the Anzio Landing.

Thereafter the Unit moved to Corsica where it remained until 17th June when 'A' 1 participated in the attack on ELBA, with OBOE, in which two Officers and eighteen ratings were killed.

The balance of 'A' returned to Corsica where they were relieved by DOG before they returned to the U.K. in September 1944. The Unit reached ARMADILLO on 28th October, 1944 where it was disbanded in December in view of the casualties sustained and the long service of the majority of the Officers and men in Beach Parties.

Naval Beach Commando BAKER never had any real existence in fact, though on paper it was counted as a formed unit for a long period.

- Lt. W. Bentham, R.N.V.R.
- Cdr. Duncan, R.N.
- Lt. P. Greenland, R.N.V.R.
- S.Lt. W.R. Godwin, R.N.V.R.
- S.Lt. Hodgson, R.N.V.R.
- S.Lt. Lock, R.N.V.R.
- Lt. J.B. Luckin, R.N.V.R.
- S.Lt. MacDonald, R.N.V.R.
- Lt. Notley, R.N.V.R.
- Lt. Phibbs, R.N.V.R.
- Lt. Power, R.N.V.R.
- Lt.Cdr. Scott-Wilson, R.N.