

## **DUNSMORE, HAROLD**

**RANK:** WARRANT OFFICER II

**DECORATIONS:**

**YEARS OF SERVICE:** 1942-1965

**SHIPS:**

**OPERATIONAL SERVICE:** WWII, FAR EAST & MIDDLE EAST, ITALY, GREECE

**UNITS:** COMMANDO TRAINING

Back to days before joining up – experience of German bombing of Plymouth.

From Glasgow (see part 1), moved to West Kilbride where Battalion was disbanded. His section to Achnacarry for Commando course. V poor food and leaky tents in wet weather, several deaths in training. After 3 weeks Col Sankey called for him to join 40 Commando in Italy, at Bari.

As part of a small force (Capt RM + 9) sent on a recce to Greece to check out a possible landing area. Met up with SAS elements. Patras area observed Germans withdrawing via Corinth canal. Dealing with German deserters, and partisans settling scores with collaborators. Germans withdrawing from Athens, witnessed mass Brit para drop (with many injuries on landing). Liberation of Athens, section given freedom of city. This adventure happened during the time the time of the 40 Commando operation in Albania (Sarande). Boat to Poros, Spetses rounding up Italians and their families for repatriation to Italy. No official record exists of this 40 Commando section's exploits, thus did not qualify for appropriate medal. Mention of Bucket Force – no details.

Joined 40 Commando now in Corfu. V pleasant stay. Then Molfetta, (Italy). North to Comacchio, by now he is TQ (*responsible for admin & logistics for his troop*). Description of fighting in lead up to Comacchio, close friend killed.