

## **SYNOTT, JOHN**

**RANK:** FLEET RSM, COMMISSIONED, MAJOR

**DECORATIONS:** BEM

**YEARS OF SERVICE:** 1936-1970s

**SHIPS:** HMS RAMILLIES

**OPERATIONAL SERVICE:** PRE-WAR II, WWII, POST WAR, MEDITERRANEAN, BORNEO, CTCRM

**UNITS:** MNDBO 2, 41 COMMANDO (BICKLEIGH REFORMED), 40 COMMANDO

Enlisted in 1936. Describes selection process at Deal and infantry training. To Eastney – 6” turret, small arms course, field training. Qualified Marksman. Served in HMS *Ramillies*, (AA guns/secondary armament) also *Resolution*.

WW2: To Holland as Section Commander; one patrol before returning two days later. To MNBDO2, qualified MTI. Instructor at Chatham, then MNBDO, Hayling Island, for two years.

Temporary Sergeant until 1947. Royal Tour of South Africa. Promoted Colour Sergeant/1<sup>st</sup> Drill at Chatham then 1<sup>st</sup> Drill, Deal. Promoted QMS. 1950: Fleet RSM at Ghajn Tuffieha Small Arms School for 2-3 years, awarded BEM. Commissioned (in Malta) as Commissioned Sergeant Major.

To Chatham P&R Office in 1953 then Assistant Military Secretary in CGRMs Office, London. Discusses role/duties. Joined 41 Commando (when reformed in 1961) with John Waters, Ted Potts and Hugh Walton. One year later, now Captain, to Gunnery School, Eastney, as Records Officer then to MGRM’s Staff as Corps Records Officer.

Joined 40 Commando at Jahore, as QM. Completed four operational tours. Was at Kuching, Tawau, Sabah, etc., during 1960s. Recalls RAM Seeger’s raid.

Promoted Local Major as ITCRM Admin Officer. Then to CGRMs Staff as Dep Asst QMG. Left the Corps and became Purser of a Girls School.

NB The second audio recording is a repeat of the content of the first.