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# Scouts and Raiders: The Navy's First Special Warfare Commandos

*John B. Dwyer*

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## SCOUTS AND RAIDERS

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*The Navy's First  
Special Warfare Commandos*

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**John B. Dwyer : Scouts and Raiders: The Navy's First Special Warfare Commandos** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Scouts and Raiders: The Navy's First Special Warfare Commandos:

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looks at early evolution of Naval Special Warfare within the United States Navy. It is an academic review of the joint army/navy Scouts and Raiders which evolved from the joint army/marine unit called the Observer Group; which is considered the precursor to, with direct lineage to the Marine Amphibious Units (i.e. Force Recon, Battalion Recon) and the OSS Martine Unit of WWII. The Army/Navy Scouts and Raiders were the precursor to the Navy Combat Demolition Unit, and the Army Alamo Scouts. This book details some of the early methods of projecting covert and clandestine operations over-the-horizon from the sea, using submarines, surface boats, and surface swimming (dive equipment was still in its infancy at this time). As you read this book you will realize just how much influence the army and to a lesser extent the marines had on the development of the Scouts Raiders program. This is where "Hell Week" was first developed and instituted. Today most associate this to the modern day Basic Underwater Demolitions/SEALs (BUD/S) training, but this concept was born in mud by the army with a lot of other concepts that are still evident today within the SEAL community. Overall this is a very good book and I highly recommend it to anyone interested in Special Warfare history.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Naval Special Warfare... Born from MudBy T.A.L. DozerThis book looks at early evolution of Naval Special Warfare within the United States Navy. It is an academic review of the joint army/navy Scouts and Raiders which evolved from the joint army/marine unit called the Observer Group; which is considered the precursor to, with direct lineage to the Marine Amphibious Units (i.e. Force Recon, Battalion Recon) and the OSS Martine Unit of WWII. The Army/Navy Scouts and Raiders were the precursor to the Navy Combat Demolition Unit, and the Army Alamo Scouts. This book details some of the early methods of projecting covert and clandestine operations over-the-horizon from the sea, using submarines, surface boats, and surface swimming (dive equipment was still in its infancy at this time). As you read this book you will realize just how much influence the army and to a lesser extent the marines had on the development of the Scouts Raiders program. This is where "Hell Week" was first developed and instituted. Today most associate this to the modern day Basic Underwater Demolitions/SEALs (BUD/S) training, but this concept was born in mud by the army with a lot of other concepts that are still evident today within the SEAL community. Overall this is a very good book and I highly recommend it to anyone interested in Special Warfare history.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It was a great explanation of the early Scouts and RaidersBy CustomerIt was a great explanation of the early Scouts and Raiders; I feel they never got credit for all the did Mr Dwyer finally got it out. I am so proud of this book.My brother is mentioned and his picture with his group are in this book. His children are buying the book.He was seventeen when his enlisted.

The history of the Scouts Raiders of World War II is the story of the original ancestors of today's elite SEAL teams. As the Navy's first special warfare commandos these highly trained and skilled officer/enlisted boat crews conducted pre-assault recons of landing beaches, hydrographic recons, marked assault beaches, and guided in assault waves from 36-foot Scout boats, rubber boats, and kayaks at North Africa, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, Southern France, and Normandy, earning numerous decorations for heroism, including 8 Navy Crosses. In the Mediterranean, SRs trained elite units such as Rangers and the 1st Special Service Force, and were assigned to Special Operations Task Group 80.4 and the Adriatic Special Operations Group, working with Allied units supporting Tito's partisans.In the Pacific, SRs served as Scout Intelligence Officers, Amphibious Scouts, Beachmasters, and with Underwater Demolition Teams with 5th and 7th Amphibious Forces from Kwajalein to Okinawa and in the Philippines campaign. They served in Admiral Milton Miles' U.S. Naval Group, China, training Nationalist Chinese guerrillas, participating in raids and ambushes and conducting behind-the-lines overland recons, disguised as coolies to escape detection by Japanese forces. Highly trained, skilled and brave, the Scouts Raiders were the Navy's first special warfare commandos. This book will be useful for anyone interested in military/naval history, amphibious operations and special warfare. It tells, for the first time, the story of the Scouts Raiders, a unique World War II unit.

"Rating: Excellent This account of thearte of operations in the North Africa, Elba, the Adriatic, France, Okinawa and SACO(sino-American Cooperative Orangation) in China, Pacific, China, Korea at Normandy and the Mederaian during WWII is the best account to provide essential historical information."- The Bookseller's Network"Scouts and Raiders' of World War II. . . . Their development, training and actions in both theaters of war are recounted in detail in this well-researched history."-Proceedings"For those interested in small units and their activities during the war, this book fills a useful niche. The firm focus on individuals and careful attention to personal histories and anecdotes make this book interesting to read."-The Northern Mariner?Scouts and Raiders' of World War II. . . . Their development, training and actions in both theaters of war are recounted in detail in this well-researched history.?-Proceedings?For those interested in small units and their activities during the war, this book fills a useful niche. The firm focus on individuals and careful attention to personal histories and anecdotes make this book interesting to read.?-The Northern Mariner?Rating: Excellent This account of thearte of operations in the North Africa, Elba, the Adriatic, France, Okinawa and SACO(sino-American Cooperative Orangation) in China, Pacific, China, Korea at Normandy and the Mederaian during WWII is the best account to provide essential historical information.?- The Bookseller's NetworkAbout the AuthorJOHN B. DWYER is a professional naval/military writer and historian. He is the author of

Seaborne Deception: The History of U.S. Navy Beach Jumpers (Praeger, 1992). He also has published numerous articles on the military, and especially on naval topics, in journals devoted to military operations and history.