A historical feature length documentary exploring No. 10 Commando Unit through the personal story of Colonel George Lane. A personal history that opens the door to a larger narrative discussing the top-secret unit of commandos that spoke German and were from Nazi occupied countries. Colonel Lane believed to his death that Field Marshal Rommel saved his live, we hope to answer that question.

Captain George Lane was conducting a reconnaissance mission for 21 Army Group at the beaches that the Allies would be landing on. He was captured and interrogated for hours before being led to his biggest interview yet. Field Marshall Rommel spoke with Lane for over two hours and finally turned him over to the gestapo, but by happenstance he was not summarily shot because he had been interrogated by the Field Marshall. This historical documentary film project with tell his story as a means to shine light on the lesser known 10 Commando Unit which he was a part of.

As a military historian my specialty is the Second World War. The issue of course with that time period is that historians have written many volumes about the period. There is a saying that the victor writes the history. While that is certainly true, unfortunately most of the writing is of the American contribution to the war, and less so for the British contribution. At least in the United States. With this documentary I hope to change that, or at least begin to move the narrative among the average person to want to know more about the subject. One aspect of history that I have always been fascinated by is the personal history. The impetus for this can be directed at my great-grandmother who was 95 when she died, and I was 12 years old. Growing up I would visit her, for she lived just down the block from us, and she would tell me stories of her growing up. She was born in 1903 and lived a very interesting life. That impetus for a personal history has stuck with me ever since.

This film will serve two purposes, one is the personal history of Colonel Georg Lane, and the other is the story of No. 10 Commando Unit. I hope to be able to achieve a film that weaves in and out of his story while also sharing the not so known story of the No. 10 Commando Unit during the Second World War. That by the end of the film, I have inspired someone else to go out and find a personal history during a subject of history that they like and learn something they never knew. To give to a student of history the same sort of lessons that my great-grandmother gave me as a boy.

The goal is to interact with the community involved in the story as heavy handedly as we can. While there will be stock footage and third-person narration, the goal is to use not only experts in the field, but actual surviving members of No. 10 Commando that are still alive or their relatives as key figures in the film. The Commando community is very proud of their history, and it is the hope that we can connect and conduct research with them once we have the funding for the research period.

Zane is a military historian who specializes in the Second World War. He holds two bachelor’s degrees (BFA in Theatre/Performance, BA in History), soon to be master’s degree in World War II Studies (expected Dec. 2020), as well as a PTP Certificate from Dell’Arte International School of Physical Theatre. He has worked in the professional technical theatre industry for over 9 years. His research focus in the Second World War is the Holocaust and the Invasion of Normandy otherwise known as OPERATION OVERLORD. He resides in Fairplay, CO with his wife and soon to be (May 2020) twin children.