



THE MINISTRY OF  
**UNGENTLEMANLY  
WARFARE**



This film took over 3 years to become funded, we finally got the greenlight in October 2022 and I started working with 2 crews, one in London and another in Istanbul.

The main set, the Harbour in Fernando Po, a West African Spanish colonial port town was by far the biggest challenge, we found an unused newly built harbour in Demre and I designed the harbour front buildings and German army town based on historic photographs and research.

The waterfront was 500m in length and the site itself was over 1.2km from one breakwater to the other. My initial visual was presented to the Turkish Government and once they approved it we started technical drawings in both art departments.

Sadly we couldn't afford the original scheme and so a number of taller structures were cut and it was agreed to the harbour being outside the town and it was built around the army barracks I designed a port masters building, a number of warehouses and depots with barracks and a fuel depot.

We started work on site and in 12 weeks the set was complete, 50x palm trees, 250 shrubs, 3000 tonnes of aggregate and the Port of Fernando Po was created.

We also built a U boat submarine, 2x S boats and brought in 3 tugs, patrol boats, fishing boats and the Duchessa daosta a 75m trading ship into the harbour for filming the end sequence over 3 weeks of night shoots.

Prior to this sequence we took all of these boats to sea and filmed realtime sailing sequences in the bay of Antalya with the hero Brixham trawler, a German all timber period correct boat. These sequences took over 3 weeks to film and under some extreme weather conditions the real life effect was awesome.

We also built sets in our production base studio prior to the harbour set being finished, a 1930 African train carriage set was built and the interior below decks of the Brixham trawler. The below decks of the Duchessa daosta required a long stunt sequence so we created a multifunctional set where explosions gunfire could be rigged over and again as the action was required.

Another set was the Nazi camp, located on Las Palmas where a lot of action and explosions happened, this was built in the back garden of the production base, other buildings were dressed as power stations and plantation house.

We couldn't find a 1930s ballroom for a party sequence so I found an ancient Caravanserai and we built a swinging nightclub in an atmospheric stone vaulted room with jazz band themed party. We bought nearly all of the period vehicles from the UK as well as period props and created many props with our Turkish prop making team. We used Alamo Arms to supply all the air soft weapons and built numerous anti aircraft guns for the boats, harbour and camp sets.

We then moved to London and filmed for 2 weeks at a country house for Checkers, a library for the SOE headquarters and filmed on HMS Belfast. What a hoot on this job, we all had the winter and spring of our lives re-creating some magical period environments for the film crew to enjoy.





































