



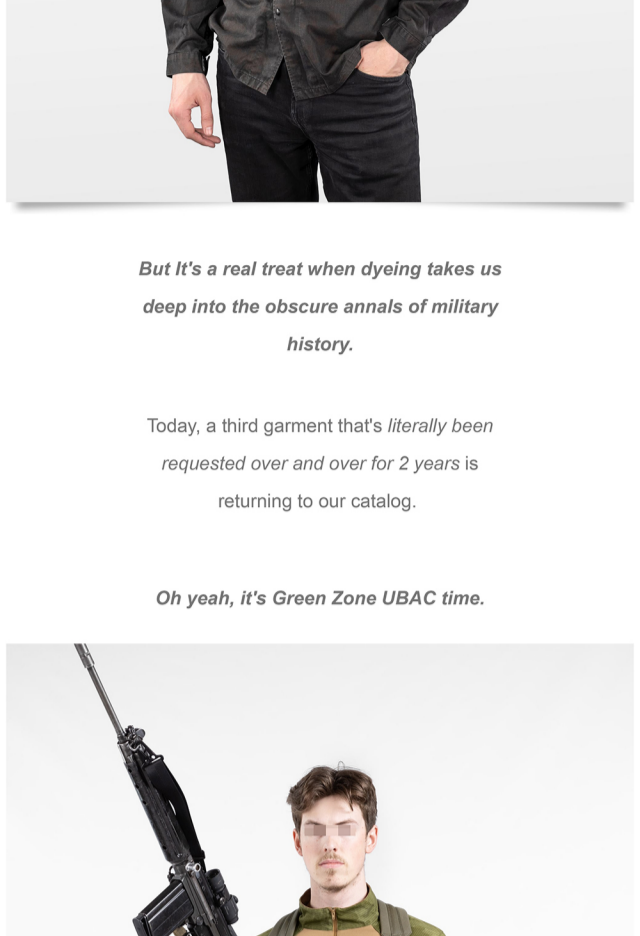
KOMMANDOSTORE

A good dye project can breathe new life into ordinary surplus — It's been a once-in-a-while thing we've been doing for years.

To rip the band-aid off right away, **Versengtarn & Acidtarn** field shirts are back in stock

*So we don't blame you if you click off **now** to check them out...*

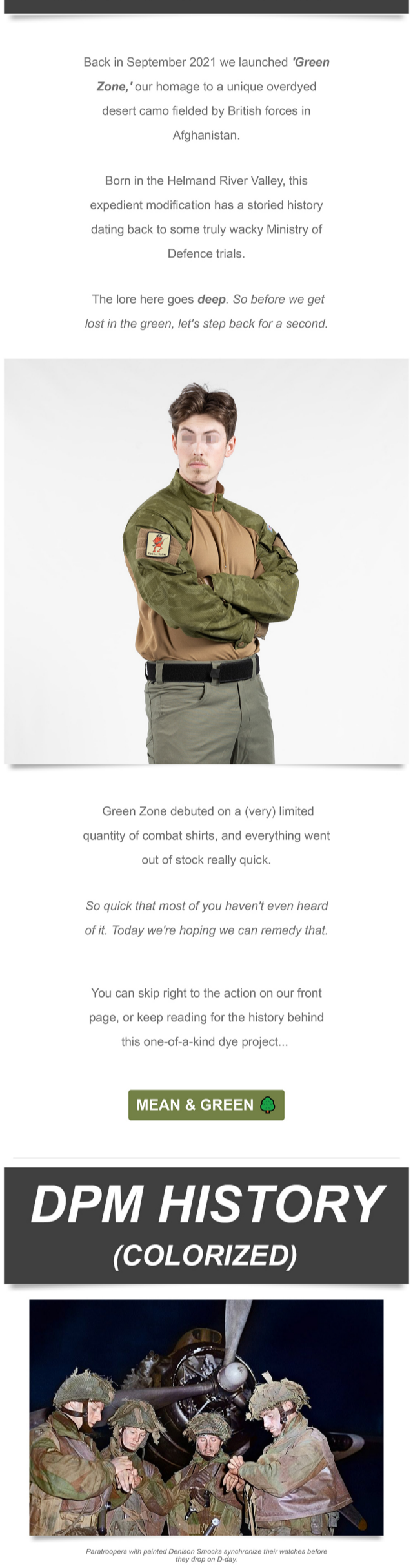
What In 'Tarnation? 🔥



But it's a real treat when dyeing takes us deep into the obscure annals of military history.

Today, a third garment that's *literally* been requested over and over for 2 years is returning to our catalog.

Oh yeah, it's Green Zone UBAC time.

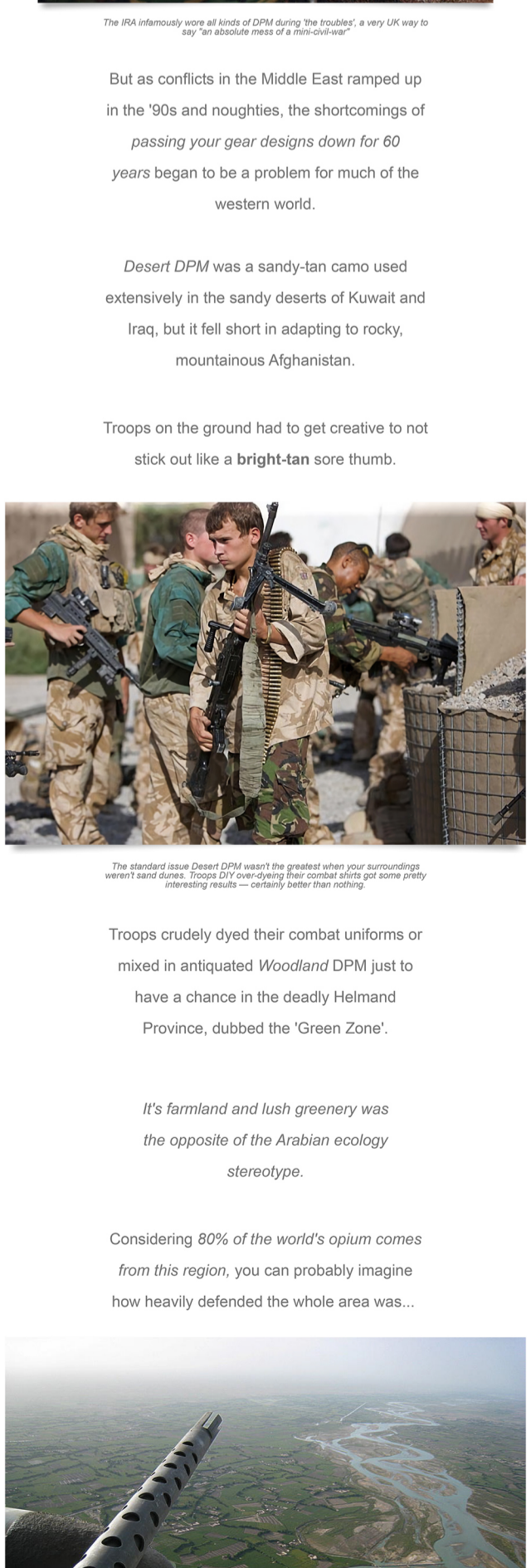


ENTER THE GREEN ZONE

Back in September 2021 we launched 'Green Zone,' our homage to a unique overdyed desert camo fielded by British forces in Afghanistan.

Born in the Helmand River Valley, this expedient modification has a storied history dating back to some truly wacky Ministry of Defence trials.

The lore here goes **deep**. So before we get lost in the green, let's step back for a second.



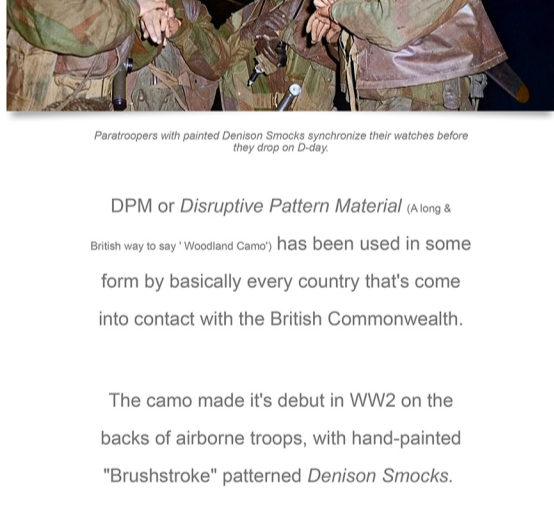
Green Zone debuted on a (very) limited quantity of combat shirts, and everything went out of stock really quick.

So quick that most of you haven't even heard of it. Today we're hoping we can remedy that.

You can skip right to the action on our front page, or keep reading for the history behind this one-of-a-kind dye project...

MEAN & GREEN 🌲

DPM HISTORY (COLORIZED)

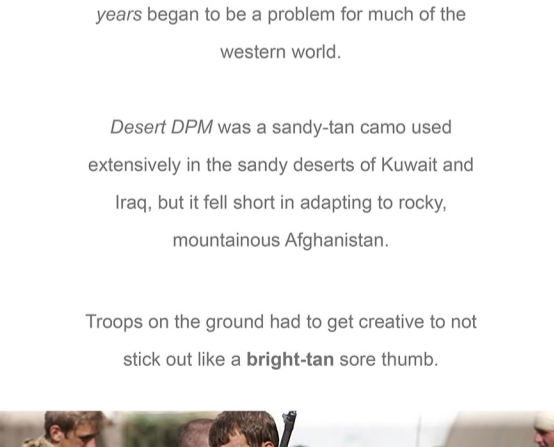


Paratroopers with painted Denison Smocks synchronize their watches before they drop on D-day.

DPM or *Disruptive Pattern Material* (A long & British way to say 'Woodland Camo') has been used in some form by basically every country that's come into contact with the British Commonwealth.

The camo made it's debut in WW2 on the backs of airborne troops, with hand-painted "Brushstroke" patterned *Denison Smocks*.

Eventually turning into an actual patterned fabric, *it's massive acclaim went even further than the military...*

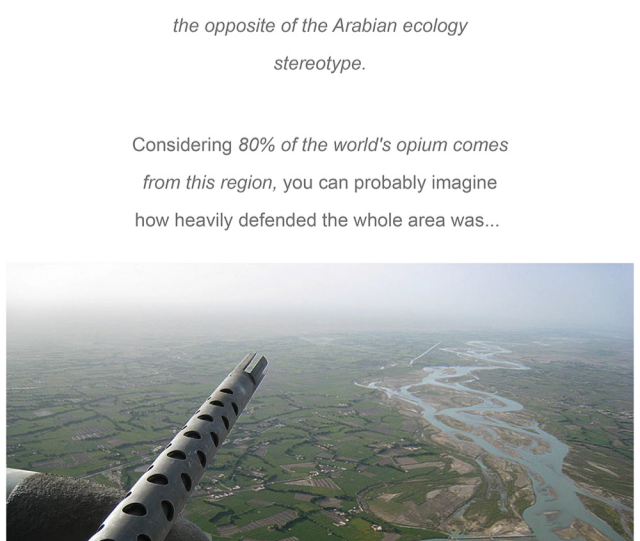


The IRA infamously wore all kinds of DPM during 'the troubles', a very UK way to say "an absolute mess of a mini-civil-war"

But as conflicts in the Middle East ramped up in the '90s and noughties, the shortcomings of *passing your gear designs down for 60 years* began to be a problem for much of the western world.

Desert DPM was a sandy-tan camo used extensively in the sandy deserts of Kuwait and Iraq, but it fell short in adapting to rocky, mountainous Afghanistan.

Troops on the ground had to get creative to not stick out like a **bright-tan** sore thumb.



The standard issue Desert DPM wasn't the greatest when your surroundings weren't sand dunes. Troops DIY over-dyeing their combat shirts got some pretty interesting results — certainly better than nothing.

Troops crudely dyed their combat uniforms or mixed in antiquated *Woodland DPM* just to have a chance in the deadly Helmand Province, dubbed the 'Green Zone'.

It's farmland and lush greenery was the opposite of the Arabian ecology stereotype.

Considering *80% of the world's opium comes from this region*, you can probably imagine how heavily defended the whole area was...

The Helmand River Valley from the air, note the terrain and how green it is compared to the rest of Afghanistan's color palette.

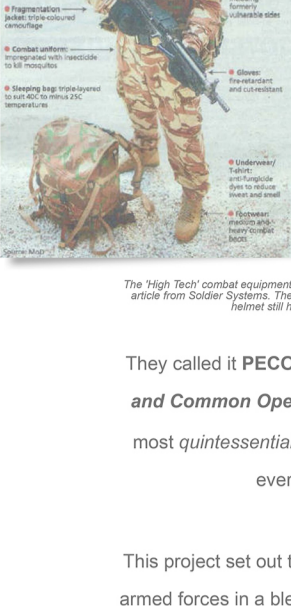
In short, DPM was slowly becoming **Deficient Pattern Material**.

In response to this and other equipment needs, the Ministry of Defence (yes, with a 'c') started developing a replacement.

THE PECOC TRIALS



New all-integrated soldier



The 'High Tech' combat equipment the Brits showed off, courtesy of an ancient article from Soldier Systems. The ballistic visor straight off of Master Chief's helmet still hasn't caught on... Yet.

They called it PECOC - *Personal Equipment and Common Operational Clothing* — the most quintessentially British acronym we've ever heard of.

This project set out to put the entire kit of their armed forces in a blender and keep iterating to see what would come out.

What resulted was a *ton* of DPMs. They just couldn't let it go...



These experimental tops & trousers are all but extinct on the surplus market. Collectors go nuts over 'em.

The MoD would have to work with all of their uniform suppliers to make a billion new duds to play with and test. That meant a *ton* of development time and money.

(but also a bunch of cool prototype camos)

The end result was *Multi-Terrain Pattern* — a "copy my homework" edition of Crye's Multicam with roots in the Brit's best blobs.

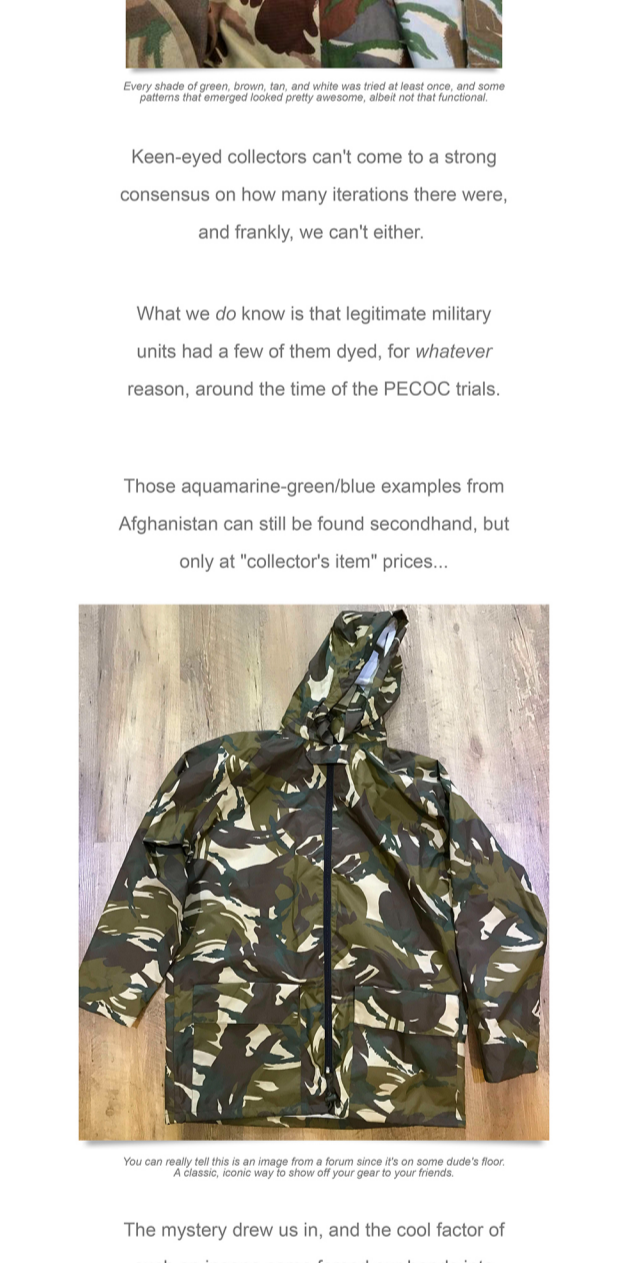


All that time & money, and they just re-did *Multicam*? We'd be kinda mad, too.

We wanted to pay homage to the troops who saved some *shillings* by getting their hands dirty and solving the same problem themselves in the field.

So we broke out the Dye.

Go Green 🍀



MAKE IT... GREENER

This is where the *real* mystery begins. And why we became so intrigued.

After Multi-Terrain Pattern was adopted by the MoD, exceptionally rare PECOC surplus & field-dyed garments quietly showed up on the market...

The more time goes on, the more patterns collectors seem to find.

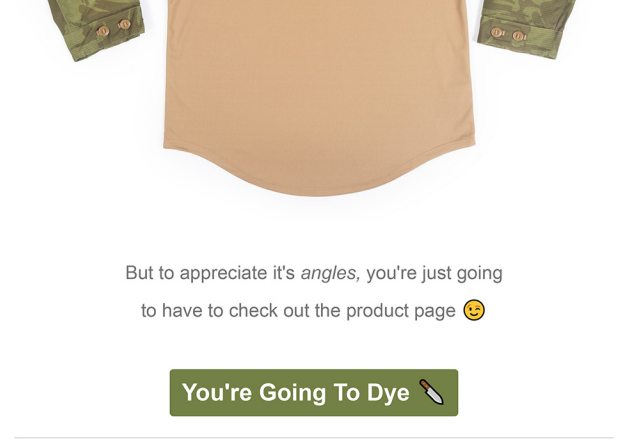


Every shade of green, brown, tan, and white was tried at least once, and some patterns that emerged pretty awesome, albeit not that functional.

Keen-eyed collectors can't come to a strong consensus on how many iterations there were, and frankly, we can't either.

What we *do* know is that legitimate military units had a few of them dyed, for *whatever* reason, around the time of the PECOC trials.

Those aquamarine-green/blue examples from Afghanistan can still be found secondhand, but only at "collector's item" prices...



You can really tell this is an image from a forum since it's on some dude's floor. A classic, iconic way to show off your gear to your friends.

The mystery drew us in, and the cool factor of such an insane camo forced our hands into making these a reality again.

It's a proper homage to an era of experimentation, mysterious under-the-table dye deals, and to DPM's legacy.

You can see how gaudy of an in-between option the green dyed Desert DPM is — Someone in the ranks of the MoD previously did the same thing we just did on a field shirt.

Our super-secret formula we used to dye UBACs is without a doubt, exactly what those guys would have wanted to achieve on their own:

A small range of military-matching greens that goes with any other shade of brown or tan, too.

In other words, *these shirts look badass with all your gear.*

Yes, even chicom rig chads can enjoy the green we got in this batch. It's cursed, but in the most blessed way possible.

Outside of DIY one-offs, *you just can't find this stuff anywhere else but here.*

Our DMs have were overflowing for a year and a half to bring 'em back.

The UBAC is already a fantastic combat shirt without the Crye tax, and it's in a totally unique pattern. How much bigger of a flex does it get?

But to appreciate it's *angles*, you're just going to have to check out the product page 😊

You're Going To Dye 🍷

ONE MORE THING

We're not *completely* blowing off how cool *Versengtarn* & *Acidtarn* are.

While not as historically significant as 'Green Zone', it's been one of our trademarks for years, and started our dyed surplus obsession.



The long and short of it is that we dyed them in honor of a *rather unique situation* years ago when the *pre-conflict* in Ukraine was just heating up.

A lot of Flecktarn Surplus was also, well, *heated up per se*.

You can read a short excerpt of how it all started on the '*Versengtarn*' product page.



But just like *Green Zone*, the taste we get of it about once a year is bittersweet.

It pretty much can't happen more often than it does.

So if you're ready to **DYE** — er, check out these unique garments, head to our front

page.

I see some flecktarn and I want to dye it black 

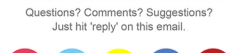
*F**king replicants keep threatening to break into my loft in Cyberdine™ tower, guy at the protection store said this would suit me fine for residential defense but my AI*

thinks it's too old.

What do you guys think?



Questions? Comments? Suggestions?
Just hit 'reply' on this email.



Want to dump us and make Ivan sob quietly in his parking spot before work?
[Unsubscribe.](#)*

*Alternatively, you can bug me directly and tell me what you don't like:
ivan@kommandostore.com

11 New York St Rapid City, SD 57701