

Originated 8 November 1944

40/P & B/1420 (5918) OPA 1

5 Cdn Inf Brigade 2 Cdn Inf Division 2 Cdn Corps

Schedule No. (to be left blank) Unit C.I.C. (The Calgary Highlanders)

Army No. and Rank C-121731 Private

Name FIELD, Norman George Victor (Christian names must be stated)

Date recommendation passed forward Received Passed
Brigade 8 Nov 44 12 Nov 44
Division NOV 12 1944 NOV 14 1944
Corps NOV 15 NOV 19
Army 21 NOV 1944 1 DEC 1944

Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)

Recommended by Honour or Reward (To be left blank)

On 14 September The Calgary Highlanders were holding a very extended portion of the perimeter containing the German defences of DUNKERQUE.

(R.I. Ellis) Lt. Col C.I.C. - Calg Highrs

Many reports of German infiltration had been received. On the morning of 14 September 1944 it was reported that a Pole, wearing civilian clothes and formerly in the German Army, was living in a house near the perimeter. "A" Company of the Calgary Highlanders being in the vicinity was instructed to send out a detail to verify the report and if necessary apprehend the Pole. The Company called for volunteers and Private Field, a recent reinforcement stepped forward and volunteered along with another reinforcement.

Recommended by (R.I. Ellis) Lt. Col C.I.C. - Calg Highrs Brig. COMD. 5 CDN INF BDE. Maj-Gen Comd 2 Cdn Inf Div (G.G. Simonds) Lt-Gen Comd 2 Cdn Corps 18. Nov 44

The house itself was several hundred yards beyond the Battalion's recognized perimeter in an area that had been patrolled but was not secure, and although dominated by us it was considered "No man's land".

H. D. G. Greer, Gen. G.O.C.-in-C. First Canadian Army

B. H. Ross, Major, FIELD HOSPITAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF 21 ARMY GROUP

PTO

Private Field and Acting Corporal MacDonald, the other volunteer had moved cautiously to within 400 yards of the farmhouse when they observed a man in German uniform in the yard. At this point the two soldiers would have been quite justified in stopping due to the discrepancy in what they saw and the information given to them. Instead they elected to go on. After a careful study of the ground and building they decided to separate and approach the building from opposite sides. When within twenty yards from their objective a machine gun opened up thirty yards to the right of MacDonald. Field on the left very deliberately and coolly took careful aim and killed the machine gunner. A rifleman fired from the door of the house MacDonald snapped a quick shot and killed him. Field gave cover to MacDonald as he rushed the house. MacDonald dashed into the house and Field searched the surroundings and located a machine gunner and 13 riflemen positioned in front of the house. Without hesitation and although aware of the odds against him he charged the position and brandishing his rifle demanded the enemy to surrender. So overwhelming was the surprise effect that the enemy dropped their arms and surrendered. In the meantime MacDonald captured 8 prisoners in the house.

After searching the prisoners for weapons they were lined up and marched to battalion headquarters. On the way a German mortar opened fire on them and they took cover in a railway ditch. Some of the prisoners attempted to escape but Field fired over their heads causing them to return. As

If a casualty as under, fill in date

Nature of Casualty	Date
Killed in action	
Died of Wounds	
Died	
Missing	
Prisoner of War	

the mortaring showed no signs of lessening they assembled their prisoners and doubled them through the mortar fire without sustaining casualties.

It is considered that this soldier went far beyond the call of duty in this instance and showed a very high degree of initiative and aggressiveness as well as great valour and gallantry.