

Originated 4 Mar 45

CFA 1
40/P & S/1420 (5918)

Date recommendation
passed forward

5th Cdn Inf Brigade
2nd Cdn Inf Division
2nd Cdn Corps

Received	Passed
MAR 5 1945	MAR 7 1945
MAR 7 1945	MAR 12 1945
MAR 12 1945	MAR 21 1945
MAR 23 1945	APR 1 1945

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

Army No. and Rank M-10712 Company Sergeant Major

Name LARSON, Harold Omar (Christian names must be stated)

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

Recommended
by

Honour
or
Reward

(To be
left blank)

On 27 February 1945 during the attack on the HOCHWALD FOREST "C" COMPANY of the Calgary Highlanders had fought its way to its first two objectives. To reach the final position the company had to advance over approximately 600 yards of open fields in which were enemy crawl-trenches and barbed wire entanglements. Intense enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire swept the area and the company commander was one of many casualties.

Company Sergeant Major Larson immediately took command of the company and by skilful deployment of the company and fearless leadership brought them forward to a group of buildings about 400 yards from their final objective. Quickly regrouping the platoons he made an artillery fire plan and called for a tank shoot. Then, led by Company Sergeant Major Larson, "C" Company advanced the remaining 400 yards to the enemy

Harold L. Ellis
(R L Ellis) Lt-Col
The Calg Highrs
M.C
COMD 5 CDN. INF. BDE.
Maj-Gen
Comd 2 Cdn Inf Div
(G G Simonds) Lt Gen
Comd 2 Cdn Corps
17. Mar 45
H. D. G. Creer, Gen.
G.O.C.-in-C.
First Canadian Army. PTO

positions which was overrun and soon cleared of the enemy. Consolidation was completed in spite of heavy enemy fire and a determined enemy counter attack which developed during the night was beaten off.

As the left flank of the company position was open due to another company experiencing difficulty in taking its objective Company Sergeant Major Larson set out with three men to make contact with the company on his left and tie in arrangements for all-round defence. Leading the group he crawled down a communication trench until he ran into an enemy machine gun post. Throwing a hand grenade he killed two of the Germans and captured three prisoners. He returned to his company and after reporting to battalion headquarters that the enemy had infiltrated between "C" Company and the company on the left, set out again to attempt to make contact.

Passing the spot at which they had found the machine gun post he and his ~~three~~ men worked their way along the trench until they observed members of the enemy in dugouts, heavily armed with automatic weapons. Returning to his Company he reported this information to his battalion commander and a company was sent in to clear the area.

This Warrant Officer by his initiative, good judgment and complete disregard for his personal safety not only was directly responsible for the capture and consolidation of his Company's position but also the information he obtained of the enemy's movements between the company positions made possible the securing of the entire battalion locality.

If a casualty as under, fill in date

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

B. H. Rondeau

FIELD MARSHAL
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
FIRST ARMY GROUP