

Originated 8 November 1944

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

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 P-44768 Acting Corporal

Name MAC DONALD, John ^{RUSSEL} ~~Malcolm~~
(Christian names must be stated)

Date recommendation passed forward

Received Passed

Brigade 10 Nov 44 12 Nov 44
Division NOV 12 1944 NOV 14 1944
Corps NOV 15
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.

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 Acting Corporal MacDonald, a recent reinforcement stepped forward and volunteered along with another reinforcement.

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

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

(Handwritten signature)

(Handwritten signature) Maj-Gen
Comd - 2 Cdn Inf Div

(Handwritten signature)
(G.G. Simonds) Lt-Gen
Comd 2 Cdn Corps
18 Nov 44

(Handwritten signature)
H. D. G. Crerar, Gen.
C.C.C.-in-C.
First Canadian Army

PTO

man's land",

Corporal MacDonald and Private Field, 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 they 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 attack the house from opposite sides. When within twenty yards from the objective a machine gun opened up thirty yards to the right of MacDonald. Field on the left 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. Then covered by Field he rushed into the house armed with only his rifle and captured eight Germans before they realized what had happened.

In the meantime Field had taken 14 prisoners outside the house. The two soldiers lined up their 22 prisoners and after searching them for weapons marched them back to battalion headquarters. On the way a German mortar opened fire on them and they took cover in a railway ditch. As the mortaring showed no signs of lessening they assembled their prisoners and doubled them through the mortar fire without sustaining casualties.

If a casualty as under, fill in date

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

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 valor and gallantry.

B. H. Randomey

FIELD, MARGARET
COMMANDER, LANCE
21 ARMY GROUP