

Originated 3 Mar 45

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

Date recommendation  
passed forward

Received Passed

5 Cdn Inf Brigade 20 Cdn Inf Division 2nd Cdn Corps

Brigade 1045 MAR 5 1945  
Division 1945 MAR 12 1945  
Corps MAR 12  
Army 22 MAR 1945 1 APR 1945

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

Army No. and Rank M-56983 Sergeant

Name WILLIAMS, Roland Williams

(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, "C" Company of the Calgary Highlanders launched an attack to seize and hold a portion of the HOCHWALD FOREST. The leading platoon was commanded by Sergeant Williams.

(R L Ellis) Lt-Col  
The Calg. Highrs

M.M.  
IMMEDIATE

COMD 5 CDN. INF BDE.

The attack was stubbornly resisted by the enemy and the intense fire caused many casualties in the platoon. Skilfully deploying his remaining men Sergeant Williams led a rush on the enemy position and captured it. Ten men reached the objective with him. They immediately dug in, maintaining a constant watch as they realized that they were responsible for a large territory and greatly under strength.

Maj-Gen  
Comd 2 Cdn Inf Div

(G G Simonds) Lt Gen  
Comd 2 Cdn Corps

17 Mar 45

Although under continuous heavy fire from enemy artillery and mortars and without sleep for 36 hours, Sergeant Williams kept his men on the alert and in good spirits.

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

PTO

At five o'clock in the afternoon on 28 February 1945, Sergeant Williams reported that the enemy were coming in for an attack. He informed his company commander and prepared his depleted platoon to meet this threat. Perfectly controlled, his men held their fire until the enemy were within six yards. The defenders' fire was then so effective and so demoralized the attacking Germans that they were forced to withdraw and "C" Company was able to complete its consolidation without further delay.

After the attack had been broken up, Sergeant Williams, taking two men with him, went out in front of his position and brought back eight prisoners from whom valuable information was obtained.

It was directly due to this NCO's outstanding leadership and good judgment and his complete disregard for his own safety that the initial objective was taken without delay, and an attack which threatened the consolidation of "C" Company's positions was beaten off. His actions have earned for him the respect and admiration of all ranks of his company.

If a casualty as under, fill in date

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

*Don Fruey*  
*B. H. ...*

FIELD MARSHAL  
 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
 21 ARMY GROUP