

5 Cdn Inf Brigade 2 Cdn Inf Division 2 Cdn Corps

Date recommendation passed forward

Received  
 MAY 9 1945  
 MAY 18 1945  
 MAY 26  
 27 MAY 1945  
 1 JUN 1945

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

Army No. and Rank Lt-Col

Name Ross Laird ELLIS  
 (Christian names must be stated)

*C.I.E*

Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
<p>During the months of February, March and April 1945 the Calgary Highlanders successfully fought many difficult battles under the command of Lt-Col Ross Laird ELLIS.</p> <p>On 8 February 1945 the battalion was one of the first to attack in the final assault to breach the Siegfried defences seizing WYLER GERMANY a key position in the hinge of the enemy line. During this attack which was opposed by a determined enemy in considerable strength one of the forward companies became heavily engaged, suffering many casualties including the company commander, one platoon commander and several senior Non Commissioned Officers. As a second company which was making some progress was also meeting extremely heavy opposition Lt-Col ELLIS went forward through a heavily mined area, which was covered by a devastating small arms fire, to get first hand information and reorganize. Finding that no further progress could be made by the first company he went forward and cleared a start line for the reserve company to pass through, then moved to the second company on the left to coordinate the plan. To deal with</p>	<p><i>R. Thomson</i>                      Lt-Col DSO                      A/Comd 5 Cdn Inf Bde.</p> <p><i>Matthews</i>                      Maj-Gen                      Comd 2 Cdn Inf Div</p> <p><i>P.P. Simonds</i>                      (G.G. Simonds) Lt Gen                      GOC 2 Cdn Corps                      25 May 45</p> <p><i>H.D.G. Crerar</i>                      H. D. G. Crerar, Gen.                      G.O.C.-in-C.                      First Canadian Army.</p>	<p>Periodic</p>	<p></p>

the exceedingly heavy mortar, machine gun and small arms fire which constantly swept the entire area he drew up a fire plan for a creeping barrage and personally supervised the advance onto the objective, his battalion capturing 287 prisoners including the regimental commander and his staff with some very valuable information, and clearing the main route into the REICHSWALD Forest.

The courage, clear appreciation and prompt decisive action demonstrated by Lt-Col ELLIS in this operation is typical of this officer who has served with distinction with the Calgary Highlanders since it landed in FRANCE, as second in command of a company, adjutant, company commander and, since October 1944, as commanding officer. His enthusiasm and complete disregard for his personal safety, coupled with sound judgment and tactics, and his exceptional leadership are reflected in the aggressive proud spirit of the men of his battalion, and its record of achievement.

If a casualty as under, fill in date.

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