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Recommended

71 Inf Brigade 53 (W) Division 30 Corps

Received Brigade 8 Mar 10 Mar 45

Schedule No. Unit1st Bn The HLI
(to be left blank)

Army No. and Rank Capt. (A/Major) CDN/4

Army 26 Apr 7 May 45

Name HEMELRYK, Joseph (Can Loan)

Action for which commended

or by left blank) (Date and place of action must be stated) Reward This officer was in command of the right forward Immediate company of 1st HLI when the battalion was ordered MC on the night of March 4th to gain part of a bridgehead astride the main roads in the woods N.E. of ISSUM (0926) in order to cover a bridging operation to allow the armour to advance towards the RHINE. In order to reach this objective he had to advance uphill over open ground swept by MG fire from spandau posts in the forward edge of the wood. In spite of the fact that both flanks of his Company were exposed to heavy and accurate MG fire, the Company on the left having been held up short of the wood, he put in a well organized assault on the enemy positions in the wood and succeeded in breaking through to his objective. "Ithough this position became almost untenable by daylight as a result of an enemy counter attack astride the road on his left, Major HEMELRYK kept his company in good heart by his personal coolness and disregard for his own P.T.O.

safety. Throughout the day of 5 Mar from exposed position under continuous mortar and small arms fire he accurately directed artillery and S.A. fire on enemy SP guns, MG posts and a tank which was little more than 200 yds from where he was.

It was largely due to his tenacity in holding such an isolated position, fine leadership and skill in directing fire under most difficult and dangerous conditions, that the bridghead achieved its purpose and the

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left, Major William XX Rept Mix company in reco

armour was able to get through.

If a casualty as under, fill in date.

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