

The Mention in Dispatches



1991–2016

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Canada

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1991–2016

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada,
wearing her insignia of Sovereign of the Order of
Canada and of the Order of Military Merit, in the
Tent Room at Rideau Hall, Canada Day 2010

Photo: Canadian Heritage, 1 July 2010



Dedication



*To those Canadians whose names have been published in the
Canada Gazette as having been Mentioned in Dispatches
in recognition of gallant and distinguished service.*



General Jonathan Holbert Vance,
CMM, MSC, CD, Chief of the
Defence Staff, wearing his chain of
office as the Principal Commander of
the Order of Military Merit, Rideau
Hall, 25 September 2015



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After having served as a Major in Croatia in 1994, I was informed that I was to be Mentioned in Dispatches. I was greatly honoured, more so perhaps than if I had been told I was going to receive a decoration, for I knew the long tradition behind this special honour from the Crown, and especially that it was strictly limited to operational achievements.

Today, as Chief of the Defence Staff, it is with great pride that I note 2016 marks the 25th anniversary of the modern Canadian Mention in Dispatches.

I am delighted that this publication not only recounts the rich history of this honour going back to its British roots, where to be mentioned in a report from “the front” or “at sea” was a tremendous honour but, more importantly, that it provides a permanent record of the nearly 400 Canadians who have been Mentioned in Dispatches since 1991, along with the achievement which earned them the honour.

From the Gulf War to Afghanistan through to the Balkans, Somalia and various United Nations missions, these members of Her Majesty’s Canadian Armed Forces have been recognized for being the embodiment of our military virtues of valiant conduct, devotion to duty and distinguished service while serving in deployed operations.

Do not be misled by the humble appearance of the bronze oak leaf, for the deeds it honours are significant and sometimes daring, as recounted in the citations recorded in this book. To those who wear the bronze oak leaf, I am pleased to reiterate the closing words of the certificate: “I am charged to record Her Majesty’s high appreciation”.



J.H. Vance
General



National
Defence

Défense
nationale

Canada

Table of Contents

Dedication	.....	v
Message – General Jonathan Holbert Vance, CMM, MSC, CD, Chief of the Defence Staff	.....	vii
Introduction	.....	ix
Chapter One	The Mention in Dispatches in the British Honours System.....	1
Chapter Two	The Mention in Dispatches in the Modern Canadian Honours System.....	43
Chapter Three	Statistical Analysis 1991–2016.....	57
Chapter Four	Certificates and Insignia.....	69
Conclusion	.....	81
Appendix One	Letters Patent	83
Appendix Two	Regulations	87
Appendix Three	Administrative Guidelines	91
Appendix Four	Register of Those Mentioned in Dispatches 1991–2016	95
Notes	.....	208
Glossary of Post-nominals	.....	214
Bibliography	.....	217
Acknowledgements	.....	220

Introduction

This historical project was undertaken to mark the 25th anniversary of the creation of the modern Mention in Dispatches (MID) in the Canadian honours system.

Although it is not an actual decoration or medal, the MID is a very significant form of recognition because it is a national honour, emanating from the Head of State, but perhaps more importantly because its eligibility is limited to operational service in the field. It is in many ways a junior version of the Military Valour Decorations (MVDs) and this direct relation to combat in active operations gives this honour all its prestige.

The nearly 400 persons who have been Mentioned in Dispatches in the first quarter century of history of this unique distinction have demonstrated gallantry and devotion to duty

in active operations. Unlike other honours which recognize strategic and operational leadership or distinguished service and where a significant portion of the awards naturally concentrate on senior ranks, the MID, like the MVDs, is a soldier's distinction, awarded to the most junior ranks who distinguish themselves in the art of war at the very tip of the sword.

This work provides a historical review of the MID, a statistical analysis of the Mentions made since 1991, information about the insignia as well as the Regulations for the honour. The heart of this publication however is the register containing the names and citations of those Mentioned in Dispatches during those first 25 years.

While the spelling 'despatches' was used in the past, the modern spelling 'dispatches' has been used throughout this document other than in quotes.

Although it is not an actual decoration or medal, the MID is a very significant form of recognition because it is a national honour, emanating from the Head of State, but perhaps more importantly because its eligibility is limited to operational service in the field.



Chapter One

The Mention in Dispatches in the British Honours System

The fact that the Mentions in Dispatches were officially published in the London Gazette like other honours and now that it was associated with an official insignia approved by the King meant that the MID was considered an official state honour granted on behalf of the King and formally took its place in the framework of gallantry recognition.



Origins

Before the introduction of official gallantry decorations, it became customary to mention in dispatches those individuals who had distinguished themselves in the course of operations whether through gallant actions or other distinguished service. While the practice may go back to Roman times, the 'modern' British practice as we understand it now originated in the 18th century. The dispatches were reports that were sent by the commanders in the field or at sea to the Sovereign, Parliament or higher military authorities to inform them of the progress in the campaign. To be Mentioned in the dispatches was the honour itself, it did not originally come with any certificate or outward form of recognition. Initially, the practice of bringing the services of deserving officers to the attention of high authority was largely confined to formation or unit commanders or senior staff officers, only later was it extended to junior officers. Being so Mentioned could be useful for career progression with promotions and appointments sometimes being granted as a result of these accounts. Mentions could also occasionally influence how much prize money people received. Non-commissioned members were included for the first time in the 2 March 1843 dispatch of General Sir Charles James Napier, GCB, during the Scinde Campaign in India.¹ In those days, the entire dispatch was often officially published in the *London Gazette*, the British Government's official newspaper.



General Sir Charles James Napier, GCB

Photo: PD

The *Gazette* entries sometime included a mere list of names and other times described in detail the actions being recognized. As the MID could be used for either gallantry or devotion to duty and other distinguished service in the field, it has been said that when only a name was published, it implied that the award recognized valiant action under conditions where all served bravely and well but a few are singled out for special Mention. Those recognized for devoted or distinguished service would include a citation to explain the honour.²

The following are a few extracts from dispatches from the Azoff Campaign, a naval campaign part of the Crimean War, which illustrate the general form of the original Mentions:



The French squadron
during the Crimean War

Photo: PD



The Crimea
Medal

Photo: PD

**Rear Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons,
HMS Royal Albert, near Kertch, 22 June 1855.**

To the Admiralty:

“... I beg leave to recommend to their Lordships’ immediate notice the mention which Captain Lyons makes of the very important services rendered by the boats of the squadron on several occasions, under the command of that active, zealous and excellent officer, Lieutenant J.F.C. MacKenzie, of the *Miranda*, as well as of the gallant and successful exploit of Lieutenant Cecil W. Buckley of the *Miranda*, Lieutenant Hugh T. Burgoyne of the *Swallow* and Mr. John Roberts, Gunner, of the *Ardent*, which was productive of the most important results ”.³

**Captain Edmund Moubray Lyons,
HMS *Miranda*, off Genitchi, 29 May 1855.**

To Rear Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons:

“... The ships accordingly resumed their fire upon the town, and the boats proceeded. Lieutenant Cecil W. Buckley of this ship; Lieutenant Hugh T. Burgoyne, of the *Swallow*; and Mr. John Roberts, Gunner of the *Ardent*, volunteered to land alone and fire the stores; this offer I accepted, knowing



Admiral Edmund Lyons,
1st Baron Lyons, GCB, KCH

Photo: PD



HMS *Miranda*

Photo: PD

that the imminent risk there would be in landing a party in presence of such a superior force, and out of the gunshot of the ships. This very dangerous service they most gallantly performed, narrowly escaping the Cossacks, who all but cut them off from their boats; at the same time, Lieutenant MacKenzie pushed on and burned the remaining vessels, the enemy opening a fire from four field guns and musketry, placed almost within point blank range of the boats. Everything being now effectually accomplished, the boats returned. Although several of them were struck by grape and case shot, most fortunately only one man was slightly wounded. Lieutenant MacKenzie speaks in high terms of the coolness and excellent behaviour of all employed under his orders; and I trust I may be allowed to bring to your notice the conspicuous merit of Lieutenant MacKenzie himself on this occasion, when more than 90 vessels, and also corn for the Russian army of the value of £100,000 were destroyed, owing to his gallantry and ability, with so trifling a loss as one man slightly wounded. ..."⁴

Captain Sherard Osborn, HMS *Vesuvius*, Azoff Sea, 30 September 1855.

To Rear Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons:

"I have much pleasure in forwarding...the report of Lieutenant Day, commanding Her Majesty's Ship *Recruit*. His enterprise and gallantry in risking and successfully carrying out single-handed a reconnaissance which on a former occasion failed and caused the death of the Commander of the *Mouette*, deserves to be called to your favourable notice.

His escape from the vedettes and sentinels of the enemy was most fortunate and it is a source of great regret to me that his health should have suffered so much as it appears to have done from the exposure to which he was subjected."⁵

Captain Sherard Osborn, HMS *Vesuvius*, at Sea, 25 October 1855.

To Rear Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons:

"... This report is closed at Genitchi, where I had the satisfaction of learning, as the inclosed letter from Lieutenant Commerell will show, that he had succeeded in destroying a large collection of forage and corn at the entrance of the Salgir or Karasu rivers. The zeal and enterprise displayed by Lieutenant Commerell on this occasion, as well as whenever any service has to be performed, is most conspicuous and his judgement in seizing the only good opportunity that has occurred for some time to cross the Arabat Spit and traverse the Putrid Sea deserves to be particularly called to your notice.

The Quartermaster, William Rickard, praised so highly by Lieutenant Commerell, was one of my boat's crew in our former expedition to the Putrid Sea. I fully concur in the high character given of him. ..."⁶

The following extract from a dispatch from General Wolseley at the conclusion of the Egypt Campaign in 1882 highlights the challenge posed to the commander in equitably rewarding worthy service, a challenge still familiar to commanders:

**General Garnet Wolseley, Cairo,
24 September 1882.**

To the War Office:

"In my despatch of the 16th inst., I promised to forward for your information at a future date the names of those who, in my opinion, should be specially brought to your favourable notice for the good work they have done during the campaign.

It is usual to make a report of this nature at the termination of a war and to do this justly and fairly is one of the most difficult tasks that devolves a



Field Marshal Garnet Wolseley,
1st Viscount Wolseley, KP, GCB,
OM, GCMG, VD, PC

Photo: PD



The Moonlight Charge of Kassassin by the Household Cavalry Regiment, Egypt, 28 August 1882

Photo: PD



The Egypt Medal 1882-89

Photo: PD

General Commanding the Field, especially when, as in the present instance, almost all those employed in any other regimental positions have been carefully selected, either on account of the ability they have displayed in former wars or because they have passed the prescribed courses of study at the Staff College.

...

Before passing on to those who rendered good service in less prominent positions, I would wish to avail myself of this opportunity of expressing how deeply I have been indebted, from the beginning to the termination of this war, to General Sir John Adye, my Chief of the Staff, for his cordial, loyal and efficient assistance I have at all times received from him. His ability as an administrator is well known to you and the highest praise I can give is to say that his soldier like qualities are fully on par with his administrative capacity.

Sir John Adye brings to my notice the able manner in which Major the Honorable N.G. Lyttelton, Rifle Brigade, who acted as his secretary, has done his work, a fact to which I have great pleasure in bearing testimony. His Aide-de-Camp was Lieutenant The Honorable F.W. Stipford, Grenadier Guards...".⁷

During the Crimean War (1854–1856) and later conflicts, the Mention was often used as the basis for the award



Crimean War battle scene

Photo: PD



The Victoria Cross

Photo: DND



The Distinguished Conduct Medal (George VI version)

Photo: DND



Insignia of the Distinguished Service Order

Photo: DND

of higher honours such as the Victoria Cross, the Distinguished Conduct Medal or the Distinguished Service Order.⁸ In fact, from these early days until the First World War, having been MID was a condition to be considered for the award of a decoration.⁹

The following example from the Azoff Campaign illustrates a case where being MID eventually led to the award of a decoration. Lieutenant Cecil William Buckley of HMS *Miranda* was present in the operations against Genitchi on 29 May 1855. Raiding parties made landfall in that location in order to destroy Russian stores by setting them on fire. Unfortunately, a shift in the wind resulted in some stores remaining intact. As we saw previously, Captain Edmund Moubray Lyons wrote a dispatch on 2 June 1855 stating:

“Lieutenant Cecil William Buckley, Lieutenant Hugh T. Burgoyne and Mr. John Roberts, Gunner, volunteered to land alone and set fire to the stores, which offer I accepted, knowing the imminent risk there would be in landing a party in presence of such superior force, and out of gun-shot of our ships. This very dangerous service they most gallantly performed, narrowly escaping the Cossacks who all but cut them off from their boat.”

Lieutenant Buckley once again impressed his superiors on 3 June 1855 as he took part in a similar raid to destroy stores at Taganrog. On 6 June, Captain Lyons’ dispatch noted:

“Lieutenant Cecil William Buckley in a four-oared gig, accompanied by Mr. Henry Cooper, Boatswain, and manned by volunteers, repeatedly landed and fired the different stores and Government buildings. This dangerous, not to say desperate service (carried out in a town containing upwards of 3,000 Russian troops constantly endeavouring to prevent it, and only checked by the fire of the boats’ guns) was most efficiently performed.”



Captain Cecil William Buckley, VC, RN, then lieutenant in the Royal Navy, earned the VC during the Crimean War for his brave actions on 29 May 1855

Photo: PD

As a result of these two gallant acts, Lieutenant Buckley became the very first recipient of the Victoria Cross when it was created the following year.¹⁰

During the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902 in South Africa a number of Canadians were MID, several of whom also received higher decorations including four Victoria Crosses (VC), five appointments as Companions of the Order of the Bath (CB), 20 Distinguished Service Orders (DSO) and 16 Distinguished Conduct Medals (DCM).¹¹ The Mentions for that conflict are often limited to lists of names but there are many instances where additional details, usually brief, are provided.



Troops of the Royal Canadian Regiment crossing Paardeberg Drift, South Africa, February 1900

Photo: LAC, C-014923



The Queen's South Africa Medal with the TRANSVAAL, ORANGE FREE STATE and CAPE COLONY clasp

Photo: DND

The King's South Africa Medal with the SOUTH AFRICA 1901 clasp

Photo: DND



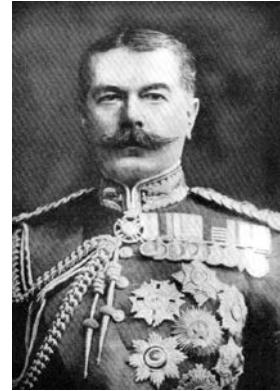
Insignia of Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath (Military Division)

Photo: LAC



Major General Sir Samuel Benfield Steele, KCMG, CB, MVO

Photo: LAC, C-017553



Field Marshal Horatio Herbert Kitchener, 1st Earl Kitchener, KG, KP, GCB, OM, GCSI, GCMG, GCIE, ADC, PC

Photo: PD

For example, General Sir Redvers Henry Buller, VC, GCB, GCMG Mentioned famous Canadian Lieutenant-Colonel Sam Steele, commanding the Lord Strathcona's Horse stating he 'has great influence with all ranks; having a thorough knowledge of frontier work, his services have been most valuable'.¹² Lord Kitchener posthumously Mentioned Major A.L. Howard of the Canadian Scouts who 'has been repeatedly brought to my notice for acts of gallantry'.¹³ He also Mentioned Corporal Morden of the Canadian Mounted Rifles who was 'killed on outpost duty whilst with 5 men holding off a large body of enemy' and Trooper George of the Canadian Scouts who 'at Zusterhock Oct. 21 [1901], returned for a wounded man under close fire and brought him back safely'.¹⁴ A longer citation for a Canadian appears in Lord Kitchener's 8 April 1902 dispatch from Pretoria:

"Canadian Mounted Rifles. – The heaviest loss at Brakspruit, March 3, 1902 fell upon this regiment, who, in this their first fight of importance since landing, displayed the utmost bravery and determination. Lieutenant Bruce Carruthers especially distinguished himself. Being in command of a detachment of the rear guard when coming into camp, he remained out in a position of observation, in which he eventually found himself isolated and surrounded by a large body of the enemy. Rejecting all idea of surrender, however, this small patrol of 21 men fought stubbornly on to the end, no less than six of their number (including Lieutenant Carruthers) being killed and 12 wounded. There have been fewer finer instances of heroism in the whole course of the campaign."¹⁵

In his dispatch of 1 June 1902, Lord Kitchener Mentions Carruthers again and adds details about other members of the party including Private C.N. Evans (killed) who 'after being mortally wounded fired two bandoliers of ammunition, and then broke his rifle to prevent it falling into enemy's hands'.¹⁶

One of Canada's nurses, the famous Nursing Sister Miss Georgina Pope, was also Mentioned in that conflict and later became the first Canadian to receive the Royal Red Cross.¹⁷

Further to a recommendation of the Interdepartmental Rewards Committee, from 1902, publication in the *London Gazette* was a prerequisite for a Mention to be considered a state award.¹⁸

The Great War

During the First World War, 141,082 MIDs were published for the entire British Empire but many felt that a more tangible form of recognition should be provided to those Mentioned.¹⁹ In fact, military authorities, including the Canadian Expeditionary Force, did not favour the MID specifically because it did not include a material reward. The vast array of newly created gallantry decorations was more enticing than the 'invisible' MID. More Canadians were awarded the Military Medal (12,345 MMs, 838 first bars and 37 second bars) than were Mentioned in Dispatches (5,467) during the War.²⁰



Photo of Nursing Sister Georgina Pope and her medals which include the Royal Red Cross, the Queen's South Africa Medal, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal

Photo: PD



Canadian troops advancing with a British Mark II tank at the Battle of Vimy Ridge, 1917

Photo: LAC, PA-004388



The 1914-15 Star

Photo: DND

The British War Medal

Photo: DND

The Victory Medal

Photo: DND



The medals of Nursing Sister Mary Meta Hodge, MM, showing a rare Military Medal to a female recipient and the MID insignia on the Victory Medal. She was awarded her MM for gallantry during an enemy air raid

Photo: CWM, 19910117-001, Tilsto Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals

Table 1: British Gallantry Recognition Structure at the end of the Great War

Gallantry Level	Ranks	Royal Navy	British Army	Royal Air Force
Level 1	All ranks	Victoria Cross VC 1856		
Level 2	Officers	Distinguished Service Order (when for gallantry*) DSO 1886		
	Other ranks	Conspicuous Gallantry Medal CGM 1855	Distinguished Conduct Medal DCM 1854	Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying) CGM 1943
Level 3	Officers	Distinguished Service Cross DSC 1901, renamed 1914	Military Cross MC 1914	Distinguished Flying Cross DFC 1918
	Other ranks	Distinguished Service Medal DSM 1914	Military Medal MM 1916	Distinguished Flying Medal DFM 1918
Level 4	All ranks	Mention in Dispatches		

*Note that while the Distinguished Service Order was primarily used to recognize operational leadership and other military distinguished service in time of war by officers below field rank (limited to service 'in action' with the enemy from 1 January 1917²³), it could also be used to recognize Level 2 gallantry by officers.

Despite what appears to be vast numbers of MIDs, in fact only a small fraction, 2.3%, of all British Imperial troops were Mentioned during the Great War.²¹ While the MID's standing may have suffered in the eyes of the chain of command and of the troops as a result of the lack of visible recognition associated with it, it nevertheless remained a rare and prestigious honour, even compared to many of the new decorations. Because of the numbers involved, most MIDs in wartime, especially during both World Wars, were bereft of any citation when published, although the naval ones sometimes did include some description of the action or service which led to the award.²² In the examples provided in the rest of this document, the citation is provided when available but most details come from the full recommendation for the award.

Interestingly, the MID was, along with the VC, the only combat gallantry distinction which could be awarded posthumously.²⁴ This meant that a great many brave actions which would have warranted a DSO, DCM, MC, etc. were recognized by a MID because the recipient did not survive the action itself or died before the award could be approved. Essentially any degree of gallantry short of the very highest standards, which qualified for the VC, would be reduced down to a MID for fallen soldiers. This quirk of the British Honours System was only corrected in 1979 when amendments to the Royal Warrants for the various British gallantry decorations were made to make them available posthumously. This was the result of a similar change to the non-combat gallantry decorations (George Medal and Queen's Gallantry Medal) made in 1977 as a result of the posthumous 'gap' being highlighted by several incidents during the Northern Ireland Campaign and the related acts of terrorism throughout the United Kingdom.²⁵



The George
Medal

Photo: DND



Queen's
Gallantry
Medal

Photo: PD

The VC and the MID were also the only two combat distinctions to be service and rank neutral. It is really the level of gallantry demonstrated as opposed to the colour of the uniform or the rank of the recipient that governed those awards. Canada would use this principle when it created its own honours system from the 1960s where people are recognize for what they do as opposed to who they are. It is only in 1993 that the British system of gallantry recognition would be completely reformed to become rank neutral and mostly (except at Level 3) service neutral.²⁶

The increased desire to see those who had been Mentioned provided with a physical representation of the honour may have been inspired by the practice of some of our allies in the Great War.²⁷

The French also had a '*Citation à l'ordre*', their equivalent to a Mention in Dispatches. They appeared in the 19th century and became official in 1883, consisting of a Mention of the person made by the commander-in-chief of an expeditionary force.²⁸ It was duly recorded in the military record of the individual and was sometimes accompanied by a description of the acts which warranted the Mention.²⁹ Like the British, the French '*Citation*' was not accompanied by any material representation of the distinction.³⁰ After months of gruelling fighting since the start of the Great War in August 1914 and in light of reports of large numbers of acts of bravery going unrecognized besides a '*Citation*', there was a growing feeling that such actions should be acknowledged in a tangible fashion. The challenge lay in honouring the many brave acts without diluting the value of France's premier order, the famous *Légion d'honneur*, or the also prestigious *Médaille militaire*, through an overly generous number of awards.³¹ A new solution was needed. It is the writer and member of the French Parliament Maurice Barrès who proposed and vigorously promoted the idea to create a decoration to recognize those who had been '*cités à l'ordre*'.³² The idea was quickly taken up by member of Parliament Bonnefous and several of his colleagues, not to mention the public, and a bill proposing the creation of such a decoration was debated in Parliament from 23 December 1914.³³ Interestingly, another French legislator named Driant, in a February 1915 report to Parliament, highlighted the fact that many of France's allies had several gallantry decorations, making notable mention of the British Army which, besides the Victoria Cross and the Distinguished Service Order, had recently instituted the Military Cross (created on 31 December 1914, which would be complemented with the Military Medal in 1916) but missing the fact that the British



The French *Légion d'honneur* (*Chevalier*)

Photo: DND



The French *Médaille Militaire*

Photo: PD



Auguste-Maurice Barrès, member of the French parliament

Photo: PD

also had no method to visually represent its Mention in Dispatches.³⁴ The debate proceeded apace, gaining support from the Minister of War, but generating much discussion on which '*citations*' would carry the right to the new decoration and on which form and name it should take.³⁵

The *Croix de Guerre* was created through an act of 8 April 1915 and formally came into being through its implementation decree of 23 April 1915.³⁶ In the French military, one could be Mentioned at several different levels and all those who had been cited at least at the regiment level would be entitled to the new decoration, always bearing on its ribbon a distinctive insignia identifying the level of the Mention as follows³⁷:

Citation à l'ordre du régiment ou de la brigade : bronze star

Citation à l'ordre de la division : silver star

Citation à l'ordre du corps d'armée : gilt star

Citation à l'ordre de l'armée : bronze palme



The French *Croix de Guerre* 1914-18 with one bronze star

Photo: PD



The medals of Major Joseph Gobeil, MC, who was awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* with bronze palm and bronze star, in addition to the *Légion d'honneur*

Photo: CWM, 19950114-022, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals

The recipient could wear on the ribbon a number of insignias corresponding to the number of times they had been '*cités*' making for very crowded and long ribbons. While from 8 January 1917 a silver palm could be worn in place of five bronze ones, it appears most recipients preferred to wear multiple bronze palms.³⁸ In addition to those formally Mentioned, those awarded the *Légion d'honneur* or the *Médaille militaire* for gallantry, whether they were military or civilians, without being '*cités à l'ordre*' but where their award was accompanied in the *Journal Officiel* (the French equivalent to the *London Gazette*) by a description of the act corresponding to a *citation* at the army level would also be entitled to the *Croix de Guerre*.³⁹ During the Great War, there were 2,055,000 French *citations* awarded, taking into account the multiple *citations* awarded to the same person. To this however must be added the posthumous *citations* representing about one third of all *citations*, as well as those related to awards of the *Légion d'honneur* or the *Médaille militaire* for gallantry.⁴⁰

The Belgians soon followed suit with their own *Croix de Guerre*, created through a decree by King Albert on 25 October 1915. While it was awarded to all those '*cités*' like its French equivalent, its criteria was much broader and covered all those wounded and those having demonstrated continuous devotion to military duty for at least a year, among other criteria.⁴¹ Initially worn without any insignia on its ribbon, a small bronze lion insignia was authorized on 15 December 1917 only for those '*cités à l'ordre de l'armée*'. In 1919, this would be replaced by a system of lion insignias in different metals and bronze palms to denote the various levels of *citations* following the French example.⁴²



The medals of Major-General the Honourable George Randolph Pearkes, VC, PC, CC, CB, DSO, MC, CD, showing a French *Croix de Guerre* and the MID insignia on the Victory Medal. He earned his Victoria Cross at Passchendaele. He was wounded five times and MID four times during the Great War, served through the Second World War and eventually became Minister of National Defense and Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

Photo: CWM, 19940034-001, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals



The Belgian *Croix de Guerre* 1914–18

Photo: DND



The medals of Sergeant Joseph Hawkey, MM, showing the Belgian *Croix de Guerre*

Photo: CWM, 19780679-001, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals

Several other countries on both sides of the conflict emulated this formal recognition of those Mentioned by the award of decorations including Portugal with its War Cross created in 1916, Greece with its War Cross created in 1917 and Italy with its War Merit Cross created in 1918, among others.⁴³

Many British and Imperial troops fighting in Flanders were decorated with the French and Belgian *Croix de Guerre* during the War and this may have played a role in the growing call to provide a tangible evidence for the Mention in Dispatches.



The Portuguese War Cross with example of First World War version of the centre (inset)

Photo: PD



The Greek War Cross

Photo: PD



The Italian War Merit Cross

Photo: DND



The medals of Canadian air ace Air Vice Marshal Raymond Collishaw, CB, DSO, OBE, DSC, DFC as he wore them in the late 1930's, showing a French *Croix de Guerre* with two bronze palms and the MID insignia. He was officially credited with 60 kills during the Great War and he went on to earn more honours during the Second World War

Photo: CWM, 19770669-046, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals

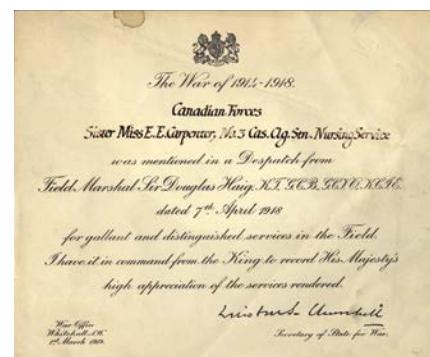
Therefore, in 1919, King George V authorized the creation of a special certificate to be given to those Mentioned in the First World War. This 'concession' was announced in British Army Order 166/1919 in May 1919.⁴⁴ This measure however was not deemed sufficient by those lobbying for recognition as it still lacked a wearable representation of the honour.

Consequently, on 12 January 1920, British Army Order 3/1920 announced that, with the approval of The King, a special bronze insignia consisting of a small branch of oak leaves was created to be worn on the ribbon of the Victory Medal by all those Mentioned in the War between 4 August 1914 and 10 August 1920.⁴⁵ While the First World War officially ended on 11 November 1918, the later end date is explained by the desire to cover the Siberian Expedition and post-war demining operations. In the few rare cases where those entitled to the insignia did not have the Victory Medal (which was limited to those on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war), they could wear the emblem on the British War Medal, this included a number of naval personnel.⁴⁶ This practice had no formal sanction until it was approved in 1947.⁴⁷ If no medal had been issued to the person at all, as in the case of some civilians, the emblem could be worn directly on the coat lapel.



His Majesty King George V

Photo: PD



Certificate of Nursing Sister Ellen Emerson Carpenter who was MID during the First World War for her work in the dressing station of her future husband, Victoria Cross recipient, Captain Francis Alexander Caron Scrimger

Photo: CWM, 20060015-001, George Metcalf Archival Collection



First World War MID insignia

Photo: DND



First World War Victory Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



First World War British War Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND

If the certificate was considered a 'concession', the insignia was deemed a 'special concession' by the authorities, strictly linked to the Great War. Neither certificate nor insignia were made retroactive to cover Mentions of previous conflicts. With the closing of eligibility in 1920 and given the tone of the officials in relation to these 'concessions' it seems clear this was done as a result of much pressure and that it was sincerely hoped it would not recur in future conflicts.⁴⁸



Medals group, certificate and photo of Private Louis Joseph Pageau who served at the 3rd Stationary Hospital, Canadian Army Medical Corps, France

Photo: Pageau Family Collection



While it was not rare for persons to be MID several times during a conflict, only one insignia could be worn on any single medal ribbon regardless of the number of Mentions. This tradition continues to this day.⁴⁹ Our own General Sir Arthur William Currie, GCMG, KCB, VD, along with Australian General Sir Henry George Chauvel, GCMG, KCB, share the rare distinction of having been Mentioned nine times during the Great War.⁵⁰ The all-time record for number of MIDs across several campaigns is held by Field Marshal Frederick Sleigh Roberts, 1st Earl Roberts, VC, KG, KP, GCB, OM, GCSI, GCIE, VD, who, by January 1914, had been mentioned 20 or 23 times depending on the source.⁵¹



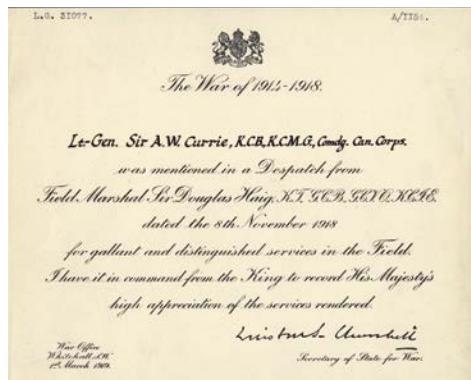
Field Marshal Frederick Sleigh Roberts, 1st Earl Roberts, VC, KG, KP, GCB, OM, GCSI, GCIE, VD, PC

Photo: PD



Photo of General Sir Arthur William Currie, GCMG, KCB, VD. One of his nine MID certificates and his medals showing a MID insignia as well as both a French and Belgian *Croix de Guerre*

Photos: LAC, PA-001370; CWM, 19801226-288, George Metcalf Archival Collection; CWM, 19810831-004, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals



The fact that the Mentions in Dispatches were officially published in the *London Gazette* like other honours and now that it was associated with an official insignia approved by the King meant that the MID was considered an official state honour granted on behalf of The King and formally took its place in the framework of gallantry recognition.

In addition to the traditional MID, a new form of Mention was introduced in January 1917. These were individuals who were 'brought to the attention of the Secretary of State for War for distinguished services in connection with the war'. This type of Mention mostly recognized service away from combat, such as while a Prisoner of War or on the home front. These Mentions, referred to as A List, were equivalent to a MID, the names were published in the *London Gazette*, they received a certificate and were entitled to the MID insignia. Moreover, there was a B List which was intended to recognize people brought to notice for 'valuable' rather than 'distinguished' service, it was not equal to a MID; recipients were neither entitled to a certificate nor the wear of the MID insignia. Their names were published in the *London Times* as opposed to the *London Gazette* like official honours. The Mention was however duly recorded on their personnel file.⁵²

Naval forces

While the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) was officially created in 1910, it did not see action in the Great War, its small fleet being dedicated to patrolling North American West and East coasts to deter the German naval threat. However, many RCN members served with the Royal Navy (RN) (on secondment) while countless other Canadians joined and served directly in the British naval service (serving in the Royal Navy and its reserves and also including those in the Royal Naval Air Service); and 24 were MID including the following examples⁵³:

Chief Engine Room Artificer 1st Class Eric Sydney Brand was in the RCN and served with the RN at Jutland for which action he was Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 16 September 1916 "He was of the very greatest assistance



First World War certificate of Corporal Robert Colborne Miller

Photo: CWM, 20110042-003, George Metcalf Archival Collection

to the gunnery officer throughout the action." He also received the Royal Naval Meritorious Service Medal.

Lieutenant Frank Aton MacCallum joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve and was Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 11 April 1919 "For Services in Motor Launches".

Wireman Stanley Woodison joined the RN and was Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 23 March 1917."He was serving in HMS *Farnbourough* which had its name changed to HMS Q.5, when she sank the German submarine U-83 on 17 February 1917, but was herself badly damaged by torpedoes and had to be beached". Her commanding officer, Commander Gordon Campbell, was awarded the Victoria Cross for this action, and many crew members received decorations or Mentions, including Woodison. Woodison later earned a DSM for the action of HMS *Dunraven* with the UC.71 on 8 August 1917.

Army

A total of 5,467 members of the Canadian Army were MID during the Great War.⁵⁴ The following are examples of citations for three officers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who were Mentioned in Dispatches for distinguished services in the field and devotion to duty by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, Commander-in-Chief, British Army in France as per the *London Gazette* of 1 June 1917⁵⁵:



Medals group of Canon Frederick George Scott, CMG, DSO
who served as chaplain of the Canadian First Division

Photo: CWM, 20100059-001, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals

Captain Ernest George Fosbery (Evacuated to England):

“For gallant and determined conduct near Courcelette on October 21st, 1916. As Acting-Adjutant of the 87th Canadian Battalion he showed a spirit that overcame all obstacles, and acted as an inspiration to the men. In the captured position he rendered invaluable assistance to Major Lewis, and throughout the action kept the Brigade well informed of the situation.”

Major George Gordon Lewis (Evacuated to England):

“Was in charge of consolidating waves at the taking of Regina Trench on October 21st, 1916. He handled the attack with complete success and consolidated in an able manner. Set a wonderful spirit of optimism. Later severely wounded.”

A/Major Harry Frank Sare (Killed in Action):

“In attack on Desire Support Trench November 18th, 1916 moved his platoon over under very heavy sniping and machine gun fire so as to get in touch with the 54th Battalion who were too far to right. Slightly wounded on first going over he continued for two days to keep his section of the line intact and handled the situation in a most satisfactory manner.”



Medals group and certificate of Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Alderson Anderson, DSO, ED who was MID three times

Photos: CWM, 19890313-001, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals; and CWM, 19890275-034, George Metcalf Archival Collection

Another Army example is the following for a stretcher bearer:

Sergeant Alfred Shaw, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 1 June 1917:

“In the attack by the 54th Battalion Infantry Battalion against Vimy Ridge (Berthonval Sector) on April 9th, 1917, displayed great devotion to duty in attending to wounded under heavy rifle and machine gun fire throughout the attack. His prompt attendance to serious cases saved many lives”.⁵⁶

Air forces

The RCAF was not created until 1924 but many Canadians served in the British air services; the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS), the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) and the Royal Air Force (RAF) created in 1918 from the combination of the two former services. While those MIDs for the RNAS are included in the numbers for the Navy above, 109 Canadians serving in the RFC and RAF were also MID.⁵⁷ The following are a few examples of such Canadians who were MID⁵⁸:

Lieutenant George Carman Atkins went missing while serving with the RFC and became a prisoner of war in 1917. He was Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 18 December 1919 for “valuable services in captivity”. It appears he made several attempts to escape but was recaptured every time.

Lieutenant William Eric Bottrill served with the RFC and was Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 3 June 1919. While no formal citation exists, the recommendation reads:

‘Lieutenant Bottrill has shown himself a most valuable Observer when flying with the formation leader helping his pilot to keep in touch with the other machines of the formation. He has at all times shown great skill and coolness in action. He has taken part in 20 bomb raids including attacks on Ludwigshafen and Karlsruhe’. Bottrill went on to earn a DFC.

Lieutenant Frederick Elliott Brown served with the RFC and was Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 18 May 1917 the recommendation for which reads:

‘For gallantry and devotion to duty, as Observer in No.2 Squadron, since August 29th, 1916. On 22nd October 1916 he brought down a hostile machine near Ecurie, and on 25th February 1917 he brought down a hostile machine in flames over Lens.’ He later earned a Military Cross and bar as well as a French *Croix de Guerre*.

Captain Carleton Main Clement of the RFC was Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 15 May 1917:

'For good work, especially in taking photographs of the Army area. This officer was responsible for the taking of nearly all the photographs of the Hindenburg Line in this area.' He was killed three months later when his aircraft went down out of control over Langemarck.

The Inter-War Years and the Second World War

From the end date of the original emblem in 1920 until the middle of the Second World War, personnel continued to be MID but the award was no longer accompanied by an emblem, the original one being limited to the Great War only.



Platoon Commander Lieutenant I. Macdonald of the 48th Highlanders (with binoculars) preparing to give attack orders in San Leonardo di Ortona, Italy, 10 December 1943

Photo: LAC, PA-136332



The Canadian Volunteer Service Medal
Photo: DND



The War Medal 1939-1945
Photo: DND

From the beginning of the Second Word War, The King approved all Mentions, emulating the practice followed for other honours.⁵⁹

The Sovereign could delegate the approval of the MIDs to a Commander-in-Chief in an operational area but these awards remained subject to confirmation by the Sovereign before they were published in the *London Gazette*.⁶⁰

In August 1943 King George VI authorized a new emblem in the form of a single bronze oak leaf to be worn by those mentioned after 10 August 1920 (the end of eligibility of the original emblem) to cover operations between the Wars, during the Second World War and subsequently.⁶¹

The new MID emblem was accompanied by a certificate similar to that of the Great War.



Second World War MID insignia

Photo: DND



The 1939–1945 War Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



Medals group with MID insignia on the 1939–1945 War Medal and certificate of Warrant Officer 1st Class William John Watson, MBE. He was made an MBE for his work as Quartermaster of the 3rd Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, from the beaches of Normandy to the plains of North Germany

Photos: CWM, 19970080-004, George Metcalf Archival Collection; and CWM, 19800895-001, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals



His Majesty King George VI

Photo: PD – by Yousuf Karsh



By the KING'S Order the name of
Regimental Sergeant-Major W.J. Watson,
The Royal Canadian Artillery,
was published in the London Gazette on
1st February 1945,
as mentioned in a Despatch for distinguished service.
I am charged to record
His Majesty's high appreciation.

186-11
Secretary of State for War

This new insignia was also worn by military personnel who had been awarded a King's (later Queen's) Commendation for Brave Conduct or King's (later Queen's) Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air, both created in 1942. Civilian recipients of those awards however wore different badges as lapel badges. The civilian badge for the King's Commendation for Brave Conduct was initially a gold colour plastic badge (40 mm high by 21 mm wide) displaying an upright sword in a wreath of laurel leaves topped by a Crown and bearing a scroll across the centre displaying the words 'FOR BRAVE CONDUCT'. This was quickly changed in 1945 to a silver insignia in the form of a branch of laurel leaves to be worn on the ribbon of the Defence Medal or directly on the coat in the absence of this medal. The civilian badge for the King's (later Queen's) Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air was an oval silver badge (27 mm high by 17 mm wide) displaying a pair of upturned wings topped by a Crown over which appears a label with the words 'FOR VALUABLE SERVICE'. This badge remained in use until the reform of British commendations in the 1990s.⁶²



The plastic insignia for the civilian recipients of the King's Commendation for Brave Conduct (1942–45)

Photo: Dix Noonan Webb Ltd



Civilian insignia for the King's (later Queen's) Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air

Photo: DND



The civilian insignia for the King's Commendation for Brave Conduct (since 1945)

Photo: DND



The Defence Medal with the civilian insignia for the King's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Photo: DND

While several MIDs would result in wearing only one insignia on any medal, it was later decided that, because the same insignia was also used for the Commendations mentioned previously, if one was MID and awarded a Commendation, then the person was allowed to wear two insignias, one to represent each type of honour.⁶³

The MID was classified as a periodic award which means that lists of deserving individuals would be drawn up every six months, however, it could also be treated as an immediate award when the circumstances justified it.⁶⁴ Immediate awards were processed expeditiously, outside the normal stream of recommendations, when there was a requirement, for the morale of the troops, to provide swift recognition of a particularly gallant or daring action.

Only those serving in an operational command in a theatre of operations were eligible to be Mentioned. While the basic criteria and principles for the award were consistent across the services, the procedures and selection methods varied slightly between them.⁶⁵

As with most decorations in time of war, there were allocations devised for the MID and the limit stood at one per 100 on strength in theatre for every six months period, whereas decorations were limited to one per 250.⁶⁶

The total number of MIDs for the British Empire was 115,000 for the Second World War.⁶⁷ Approximately 9,666 Canadian were Mentioned in Dispatches during the War as follows⁶⁸:

Canadian Army: 6,432

Royal Canadian Air Force: 2,197

(of these 50 were from the RCAF's Women Division)

Royal Canadian Navy: 1,037

Second World War and subsequent MIDs to Canadians were generally published in the *Canada Gazette* in addition to the *London Gazette*.⁶⁹

Below are a few examples of MIDs to Canadians for the Second World War⁷⁰:

Royal Canadian Navy

Commander Henry George De Wolf,
Mentioned in Dispatches as per the
London Gazette of 1 January 1941:

“For outstanding zeal, patience and cheerfulness and for never failing to set an example of wholehearted devotion to duty without which the high tradition of the Royal Canadian Navy could not have been upheld.”

This was merely the first of four MIDs for this naval officer who would rise to the rank of Vice Admiral and further receive the CBE, DSO and DSC along with several foreign honours for his wartime service.



Vice-Admiral Harry George De Wolf, CBE, DSO, DSC, CD

Photo: DND

Ordinary Seaman Joseph Antonio

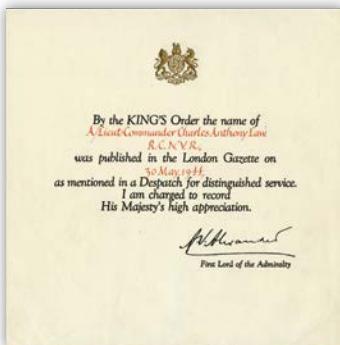
Rene Guersette, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 8 January 1944 and *London Gazette* of 1 January 1944:

“This rating was responsible for getting several semi-stunned ratings over the side of HMCS *Louisburg*, after she had been torpedoed. He took off one rating’s sea boots and saw to it that two others’ life belts were inflated, then led them over the side to a Carley float.”

Sub-Lieutenant Louis Henry Howard, Mentioned in Dispatches as per *Canada Gazette* of 5 January 1946 and *London Gazette* of 1 January 1946:

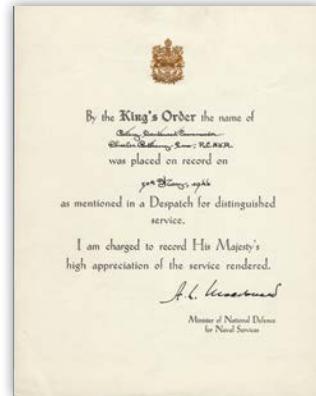
“For displaying initiative and resourcefulness in assisting survivors after the sinking of HMCS *Esquimalt*. This Officer, who was serving in HMCS *Sarnia*, went over the ship’s side to help bring men aboard, and supervised the artificial respiration to the dying on the quarterdeck prior to their being moved to Sick Bay. He was personally responsible for saving a life after applying artificial respiration for over an hour. Sub-Lieutenant Howard’s conduct during this time was a credit to his ship, and aided greatly in helping the wounded and the dying.”

HMCS *Esquimalt* was torpedoed by U-190 in the Halifax approaches on 16 April 1945 and was the last Canadian warship lost in the Second World War. She sank in less than five minutes and 44 of her crew of 71 died in the sinking or as a result of exposure awaiting rescue.



The medals of Commander Charles Anthony Law, DSC, who was twice MID. The first was "for daring and resolution while serving in His Majesty's torpedo boats in daylight attacks at close range, and against odds, upon the German Battle Cruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau and the cruiser Prinz Eugen". The second was for night action off the Dutch coast where he was engaged in battle with four heavily armed German trawlers, sinking one and forcing the three others to flee. His DSC was for 15 successive actions during the Normandy Landings. Interestingly, in addition to the standard British certificate, he was presented a Canadian certificate for the same MID

Photos: CWM, 20020115-116, 20020115-117, George Metcalf Archival Collection; and CWM, 20020115-002, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals



Leading Telegraphist Walter Frederick Sutherland, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 12 December 1942 and *London Gazette* of 3 December 1942.

"When the main W/T aerials were damaged in action with an enemy U-Boat, this Rating was instrumental in rigging a jury aerial whilst under fire, completely disregarding his own safety."



The medals of Captain John George Becker, MBE, CD, showing the MID insignia on the 1939-1945 War Medal. He was wounded at Falaise in August 1944 and MID in 1946. He was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for his "outstanding service with the Royal Marine Commandos in the difficult crossing of the Scheldt Estuary."

Photo: CWM, 20140287-001, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals

Canadian Army

Honorary Captain Joseph Armand Sabourin, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 10 October 1942:

“In recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the combined attack on Dieppe.”

The full recommendation reads:

“Prior to embarking for the raid on Dieppe, 19 August 1942, Honorary Captain Sabourin, Canadian Chaplain Service, addressed the battalion, making the men realize not only the greatness of their task but also the price that might have to be paid for its successful accomplishment. During the actual crossing of the Channel his own attitude and words of encouragement kept the men alert and keyed up for the task ahead. Arriving at the beach in an R-Boat, the padre started to go ashore but the wounded claimed his attention and he remained aboard to render what assistance he could. Whilst thus attending to the wounded, petrol cans on the side of the craft caught fire but Captain Sabourin, undaunted, continued with his work. Subsequently he assisted in removing the wounded to a neighbouring Landing Craft Tank where he had them placed under what cover was available. In addition he tended wounded men on the beach despite heavy fire. During the return trip to England Captain Sabourin paced up and down the boat encouraging and cheering the wounded.”

Sergeant Charles John Sharp (killed in action), Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 6 April 1946:

“Sergeant Sharp was a member of a signals detachment at Hong Kong in December 1941. On 13 December he was ordered to evacuate a group of men and vehicles from the mainland Headquarters at Kowloon. In order to do this, he drove with a convoy of four vehicles through Kowloon in the face of guerilla opposition. He then attempted to return with one vehicle to extricate his officer and certain signals personnel, but was prevented by enemy action. He then tried to return on foot but was driven back. He stayed on the waterfront until nightfall engaging enemy patrols and eventually crossed to Hong Kong Island on a sampan, whose crew he intimidated with a sub-machine gun. Later, on the island on 19 December, he and a signals party held an important road position on their own initiative, holding up the Japanese advance in that sector until he was relieved. His men were greatly outnumbered. His courage and leadership were exemplary, unflinching devotion to duty taking him into dangerous positions, and he performed his duties without a thought for his personal safety. Unfortunately on or about 23rd December he was killed by a shell striking the building in which he was billeted.”

Captain Paul Émile Thibeault, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 10 November 1945:

“This officer was parachuted into France in June 1944 as arms instructor to Maquis groups in the Aube department. He carried out this task for three months in an area thick with enemy troops and took part in several guerilla engagements. At all times he conducted himself with courage and devotion to duty.”

Sergeant Redmond Francis Torpy, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 25 March 1944:

“During the advance of Canadian troops from Palazollo to Regalbuto, Sicily in July 1943, this Non-Commissioned Officer, always working under difficult battle conditions and without special tools or equipment, was a major factor in keeping a detached platoon of urgently needed supply lorries of 1 Canadian Army Tank Brigade Company (83 Company), Royal Canadian Army Service Corps in operation. On several occasions during hours of darkness and under enemy shell fire, he displayed the utmost ingenuity in achieving major repairs of a Workshop nature. In organizing all this difficult and complicated work, he responded to a degree far in excess of the normal demands of a mechanist Non-Commissioned Officer. As a result, the forward flow of supplies was maintained at a critical time when transport was stretched to the limit and the provision of supplies was a vital factor in the successful prosecution of the operation.”

Royal Canadian Air Force

Flight Sergeant Loranger André LaFlèche, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 1 January 1945:

“Shortly after the explosion of a number of bombs on a burning aircraft, at RCAF Station Tholthorpe, in the early hours of 28th June 1944, Sergeant LaFlèche, though not on duty at the time, reported on the scene. In the darkness he searched around the burning wreckage of two aircraft for unexploded bombs in order that they might be removed before they exploded and caused further damage and possible loss of life. He ably assisted the Armament Officer in locating and removing two bombs fuzed long delay which were hot from the fire and in a very dangerous condition. Shortly afterwards, when a misfire occurred in demolishing these two bombs, Sergeant LaFlèche again showed commendable courage and devotion to duty in preparing these bombs for a second demolition charge. His skill and courage in the face of known danger, together with his characteristic coolness and presence of mind, materially assisted in disposing of these bombs, thereby safeguarding lives and clearing the aerodrome for further operations without delay.”

Sergeant (later Flying Officer) Kenneth Edward Lussier, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 14 June 1945:

“This officer has participated in 31 operational sorties which included some very heavily defended targets such as Schweinfurt, Augsburg, Karlsruhe, Hanover, Saarbrucken, Magdeburg, Essen, Cologne, Hamburg, Munster and Chemnitz. While on his second trip to Augsburg, February 25th, 1944, his crew ran into trouble near the target. One engine failed going into the target, one failed coming out and when over France, the third engine failed. This officer bailed out with the other members of the crew and evaded the enemy for some days, finally making contact with the Marquis, returning to England after a month in enemy territory. He was crewed up again and completed his tour of operations with 420 Squadron.”

Warrant Officer Class 2 Henry Arthur Pain, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 1 January 1946:

“While carrying out his duties as Warrant Officer in charge of Headquarters Armament Section in an exemplary manner, this airman has never failed to volunteer as a leader or member of land rescue parties. Many of these searches have been carried out under very trying conditions and over hazardous country. He has consistently shown greater initiative, leadership and endurance than that normally required.”

Flying Officer Edmund Rupert Patrick, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *London Gazette* of 14 June 1945:

“Flying Officer Patrick was a member of the crew of a Wellington aircraft which crash-landed near Sidi Barani on the 20th October 1942. For six days the crew succeeded in evading capture but at the end of this time Flying Officer Patrick was too weak and ill to keep up with the party and persuaded the other five crew members to go on without him. Some two hours later the party was captured and Flying Officer Patrick, who was too ill to move, attracted their attention and was also taken prisoner. They were eventually imprisoned in a camp at Sulmona. Shortly after the Italian Armistice the camp was taken over by a South African officer, and on the 12th September the camp was evacuated owing to the approach of the Germans. Flying Officer Patrick, suffering great privations and after enduring many vicissitudes, succeeded in reaching the 22nd Royal Montreal Regiment [sic] on the 23rd October 1943. After establishing his identity, he was sent to the

Canadian Headquarters. Flying Officer Patrick left Cairo on the 28th October and arrived at Gibraltar on 29th October 1943. Throughout he displayed courage of a high standard."

In 1947, British Army Order 109/1947 established that the MID and the aforementioned commendations had been firmly established as state honours and were subject to forfeiture like other decorations.⁷¹

Korea and modern era

The MID continued to be used, along with the rest of the British gallantry system, by Canada during the Korean conflict in 1950–1953 during which 279 Canadians were MID, 246 in the Canadian Army and 33 in the Royal Canadian Navy.⁷²



A company of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry moves in single file across rice paddies as it advances on enemy positions across the valley during the Korean War

Photo: LAC, PA-171228



The Korea Medal

Photo: DND

The United Nations Service Medal (Korea)

Photo: DND

Below are a few examples of MIDs to Canadians for Korea:

Royal Canadian Navy

Lieutenant Gerald Joseph Giroux, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 20 February 1954:

“Throughout the tour of duty of HMCS *Athabaskan* in Korean Waters commencing December, 1952, the ship has been plagued by fire control maintenance problems. By constant devotion to duty and unremitting hard work, Lt Giroux has set an inspiring personal example to his department which resulted in the guns being kept in operational condition. Specifically, HMCS *Athabaskan* sailed for East Coast patrol in June 1953, with defective fire control equipment which was considered unrepairable without Dockyard assistance. Lt Giroux and his department worked for 72 hours without rest and successfully overcame the defects in time for HMCS *Athabaskan* to destroy two enemy trains carrying important supplies to the North Korean Army front line.”

Chief Petty Officer First Class John Thornton Shea, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 6 February 1954:

“In the action at Chop-To on the 31st March, 1953, during which the ship came under enemy gunfire, CPO Shea, at his action station in the engine room, demonstrated remarkable qualities of leadership, quick thinking, resourcefulness and initiative, which materially helped the Engine Room Department to respond promptly to the many urgent demands made on them. These qualities, which he has shown at all times in this ship, were again most noticeable during the all night inshore actions of June 24th and 30th, which resulted in the destruction of two trains.”

Canadian Army

Warrant Officer (2nd Class) Richard McNally, BEM,
Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 17 January 1953:

“On 21 October 1952, “D” Company, the Royal Canadian Regiment, had been subjected to its seventh day of continuous enemy shelling. WO2 McNally, the Company Sergeant-Major, was in a bunker which received a direct hit. The bunker collapsed and he was injured and rendered unconscious. On recovering consciousness this determined warrant officer



The Canadian version of the Korea Medal with MID insignia on it

Photo: DND

remained and carried out his duties in spite of his injuries. On the night 22/23 October "D" Company was relieved by "B" Company. "D" Company occupied the reserve position, and was sorely in need of being re-organized and re-equipped. Company Sergeant-Major McNally attacked this task with great vigour and full attention to even the smallest details. On the night 22/23 October "B" Company was attacked and it was necessary to counter-attack and restore the position. "D" Company was called upon for the counter-attack and during the approach march the company was under continuous enemy artillery and mortar fire. WO2 McNally directed company headquarters personnel and organized protection for company headquarters in a most capable manner. On the successful capture of the enemy held positions he organized work parties to strengthen the defences and ammunition carrying parties. His initiative and energy despite the fact that he was still suffering from the effects of the collapse of the bunker was an example to all the men in his company. This display of courage and devotion to duty did much to bolster morale and strengthen his company's position."

Corporal Robert Ronald McNulty, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 17 January 1953:

"On the evening of 23 October 1952, at 1830 hours, "B" Company of 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, was attacked. The company area had been subjected to continual artillery and mortar fire throughout the day and the attack was supported by a most vicious concentration of artillery and mortar fire of three thousand rounds in ten minutes. Corporal McNulty, a section leader of No. 4 Platoon, kept complete control of his men during the attack. He and his section formed a rearguard to cover the successful withdrawal of the remainder of No. 5 Platoon, under command of Lieutenant Clark. On the successful completion of the withdrawal Corporal McNulty joined No. 5 Platoon under Lieutenant Clark. This non-commissioned officer's utter disregard for his personal safety and outstanding leadership and courage inspired his men to do their utmost and contributed greatly to the successful withdrawal of his platoon. His section was an example to all ranks of the regiment."

Acting Corporal Daniel Prud'homme, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 9 February 1952:

"During the night of 24–25 November, 1951, Corporal Prud'homme, 2nd Battalion, Royal 22^c Regiment, was commanding a section of the Scout and Sniper Platoon in the area of Kowang-Hiy, Korea. The platoon was ordered to attack and recapture 11 Platoon's position two hundred yards distant. During the attack Corporal Prud'homme displayed outstanding courage and excellent leadership. Firing his

Sten machine gun and hurling grenades he led his section against a vastly superior enemy force and was the first to penetrate to the centre of the enemy's position. Advancing against the small arms fire from at least two enemy machine guns, overcoming natural obstacles and urging his section forward, he put the enemy to flight and inflicted heavy casualties. His drive, determination and courage were an inspiration to his men and a deciding factor in the successful outcome of the counter-attack."

Gunner George Henry Snow, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 17 January 1953:

"Gunner Snow was employed as a signaller at 55 Observation Post on a feature known as Hill 210 during the attack on 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, on his immediate right. During and before the attack, the area of Hill 210 was subjected to heavy bombardment, and all lines forward of battalion headquarters of the 1st Battalion, Royal 22^e Regiment were out in several places. Without waiting for instructions from the Observation Post Officer, Gunner Snow twice within a short period repaired the lines, under shellfire. As a result of Gunner Snow's initiative and disregard for his own safety, the line to 55 Observation Post was, for two hours, the only line communication to the forward companies."

Sergeant George Herbert Thwaites, Mentioned in Dispatches as per the *Canada Gazette* of 15 March 1952:

"Sergeant Thwaites, "C" Squadron, Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), displayed extreme courage and a high sense of duty in engaging an enemy force on the night of 17/18 November 1951. This non-commissioned officer was Troop Sergeant of No. 4 Troop which was in support of "D" Company, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, positioned on Point 159. During the evening the enemy attacked the company position but were driven off after suffering severe casualties. The enemy then changed the direction of their attack towards Point 227 across the valley and on the right flank. Sergeant Thwaites' position, which had been under shell fire during the first attack, again came under heavy enemy fire, increasing in tempo to coincide with the attack upon Point 227. Realizing that the situation on his right flank was serious, Sergeant Thwaites placed his tank so that it could support the King's Shropshire Light Infantry who were defending Hill 227. His tank was sited in such a way that he was unable to bring his master gun to bear upon the attacking enemy. The tank could not be moved in the darkness without great risk to our own troops who occupied fire trenches nearby. Sergeant Thwaites climbed upon the back deck of his tank and using his anti-aircraft .50 Browning as a ground defence machine gun, fired belt after belt of ammunition upon the Chinese assaulting the hill, until the attack was driven off with the enemy suffering many casualties. He remained in this fully exposed situation for over an hour. His tank was repeatedly

hit by flying fragments of shrapnel but he continued to man the gun. His actions were an inspiration to his men and a contributing factor to the successful defence of Point 227.”



The medals of Major Yvan C.G.E. Bernier, CD, showing the MID insignia on the Korea Medal

Photo: R22R

After the Korean War, no more Canadians were Mentioned in Dispatches under the British system for service under Canadian command as the honour fell into disuse in this country with the creation of the modern Canadian Honours System.

In the United Kingdom, the MID was used in its Second World War form until it was modified on 3 September 1993. At this time, the criteria became restricted to gallantry only, removing the ‘distinguished service’ aspect from its scope and transferring it to the new Queen’s Commendations for Valuable Service. At this time the oak leaf insignia for the MID was changed from bronze to silver to bring it in line with the other emblems used for commendations in the British system.⁷³ Further to the changes of the MID and the creation of the Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service, the other British commendations were amended on 26 April 1994 and the change was announced on 12 August 1994. The Queen’s Commendation for Bravery replaced the Queen’s Commendation for Brave Conduct and the Queen’s Commendation for Bravery in the Air replaced the bravery aspect of the former Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air. The ‘merit’ aspect for the Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air was transferred to the Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service created the year before.⁷⁴ While the MID insignia (single bronze oak leaf) also used to be worn by military personnel to denote the old commendations whereas civilian recipients wore different insignias or badges to denote

the same awards, all recipients would now wear the same insignia, distinct for each award, under the new system:

Evolution of Insignia Used in the British System

Mention in Dispatches

Year	Insignia
1914–1920	Bronze branch of oak leaves
1920–1993	Bronze single oak leaf
Since 1993	Silver single oak leaf (limited to gallantry only)

King's/Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Year	Insignia
1942–1994	Bronze single oak leaf for military recipients
1942–1945	Gold coloured plastic lapel badge for civilian recipients
1945–1994	Silver spray of laurel leaves for civilian recipients
Since 1994	Renamed Queen's Commendation for Bravery Silver spray of laurel leaves for all recipients

King's/Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air

Year	Insignia
1942–1994	Bronze single oak leaf for military recipients
1942–1994	Silver lapel badge for civilian recipients
Since 1994	Renamed Queen's Commendation for Bravery in the Air (limited to bravery only) Silver eagle for all recipients

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service

Year	Insignia
Since 1993	Incorporating the former 'distinguished service' aspect of the MID and of the QCVSA Silver spray of oak leaves for all recipients

Two Canadian Armed Forces members were MID in its amended form by the British authorities. Captain Bryan Joseph Bédard and Master Warrant Officer Derek Sinclair Ingersoll, CD, were deployed to Bosnia with the British-led Multi Nation Division (South-West) and recognized for their courageous and determined actions, which saved lives during a riot in Drvar on 24 April 1998. On this occasion, 500 Croats staged a violent and destructive riot, assaulted the Serb mayor and attacked a complex housing Serb refugees. The Canadians were instrumental in defusing the situation and protecting the victims, directing their troops to establish a defensive perimeter and constantly interposing themselves in the most threatened areas facing the angry and violent mob, having to fire warning shots to contain them. Their courage and resolve served as a power example to their troops in a critical situation.⁷⁵ Both received congratulatory messages from HRH The Duke of Edinburgh as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Canadian Regiment. These MIDs were approved for wear as Commonwealth honours by the Government of Canada and published in the *Canada Gazette* on 30 October 1999.⁷⁶

While Canada did not make use of the MID after Korea, it continued to use the various Queen's Commendations, which share the same insignia as the MID for military personnel, into the late 1960s. The last Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct was published in the *Canada Gazette* on 29 June 1968 for Sergeant Léandre Joseph Finnigan for courage while fighting a fierce and unpredictable fire, which resulted in multiple explosions at RCAF Station Uplands, Ottawa, Ontario, on 6 December 1967.



The medals of Master Warrant Officer Derek Sinclair Ingersoll, CD showing the NATO Medal for the Former Yugoslavia with the British post 1993 Silver MID insignia

Photo: Ingersoll Family Collection



Example of certificate for the modern British MID.

Photo: Ingersoll Family Collection

The last Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air to be awarded based on a Canadian recommendation was published in the *Canada Gazette* on 16 September 1967 for Flying Officer Joseph Thomas Serge Lorrain Gagnon. This was accompanied by a Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct to Flying Officer Robert John Veitch Simpson for the same incident. While flying a Caribou aircraft for the United Nations Emergency Force from El Arish to Gaza on 17 May 1967, Flying Officers Simpson and Gagnon were the pilot and co-pilot respectively. After entering the Gaza Strip, they were harassed on three occasions by two Israeli fighter aircraft who, coming dangerously close, attempted to make the United Nations aircraft follow them into Israeli-held territory. On one occasion several warning shots were fired. This harassment did not deter these officers who remained calm and determined, displaying sound judgement and professionalism, placing the safety of the aircraft and passengers foremost at all times. Although still followed by the two fighter aircraft, the United Nations aircraft was able to make a safe landing at the Gaza airstrip.

The use of the Queen's Commendations as Canadian honours officially ended with the creation of the Canadian Honours System. After 1972, when the British authorities awarded them to Canadian citizens, they were approved as Commonwealth honours in the same fashion as the two MIDs mentioned above. Only four such awards of Queen's Commendations have been approved for Canadians since 1972. The first was a Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air awarded to Major Robert MacPherson Auld published in the *Canada Gazette* on 15 March 1986. The other three are for the revised commendations after the 1993–1994 reform: a Queen's Commendation for Bravery in the Air to Captain Stephen Marshall Roberts (*Canada Gazette* 16 March 1996) and two Queen's Commendations for Valuable Service to Major Gregory Robert MacCallum, CD (*Canada Gazette* 30 October 1999) and Major-General Rick John Hillier, CMM, CD (*Canada Gazette* 17 August 2002), later to become a General and the Chief of the Defence Staff.



General Rickey John Hillier, OC, CMM, ONL, MSC, CD, showing the insignia of the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service insignia on the undress ribbon of the NATO Medal for the Former Yugoslavia

Photo: DND

Chapter Two

The Mention in Dispatches in the Modern Canadian Honours System

... the MID is not limited to combat with an 'armed enemy' recognized as such by Canada, which means it can be used in situations other than war or armed conflict such as during peacekeeping missions. The requirement is that the action or service must be performed while 'in active operations', specifically the MID is restricted 'for war-like conditions in an active theatre of operations.'



Creation

With the establishment of the modern Canadian Honours System in 1967 and its expansion from 1972, the Mention in Dispatches fell into disuse but eventually it was deemed necessary to revive this tradition to recognize valiant conduct, devotion to duty or other distinguished service.

As the project to create what would become the new Military Valour Decorations was slowly moving forward in the summer of 1990, it was felt that a Canadian version of the Mention in Dispatches should also be created to provide a fourth level of military valour recognition as had been the case in the British system. A paper to that effect was prepared by the Directorate of Ceremonial at DND on 15 August

1990.⁷⁷ A fortnight before this document was signed, Iraq had invaded Kuwait and before the end of the month, the Government had committed the Canadian Armed Forces to join the international coalition in the Gulf War. In the following months, a Naval Task Force, a contingent of CF-18s and Sea King helicopters as well as a



Canadian version of the
Mention in Dispatches

Photo: DND



Aerial view of Canadian Naval Task Group fuelling at sea in the Persian Gulf during Op FRICITION (HMCS *Terra Nova*, *Protecteur* and *Athabaskan*)

Photo: DND



The Gulf and
Kuwait Medal

Photo: DND

Field Hospital and other support elements would join the effort, which was the first offensive combat operation the Canadian military had participated in since the Korea War forty years earlier. This new conflict increased the pressure to establish formal forms of recognition for gallantry in combat. The draft regulations for the Mention in Dispatches insignia were ready by November 1990. This was presented as seeking authorization for the 'continued traditional use of the Mention in Dispatches (MID) insignia' in the Canadian context and not as an entirely new Canadian creation. However, the entire issue was delayed when the plans for the new Military Valour Decorations were leaked, leading a public outcry.

The Victoria Cross, the Commonwealth's highest honour, had been earned by several Canadians since its creation during the Crimean War and earned world-wide respect as the pre-eminent gallantry decoration. This decoration with its rich history, prestige and mystique was highly important in the eyes of veterans and many of their fellow Canadians. As the new Canadian Honours System developed in the 1960s, 70s and 80s, the Government avoided the issue of gallantry decorations as there was no pressing need for them. Prime Minister Trudeau had stated on several occasions he believed Canadian soldiers should receive a 'Canadian' decoration but no formal decision was ever made. On the other hand, Prime Minister Mulroney had stated in a *Legion Magazine* interview in 1987 that 'there was a special place for the Victoria Cross, which would be the cornerstone of Canadian gallantry awards', a view which, at that time, was supported by all parties in Parliament. Despite this reassurance, and as our forces were engaged in Operation DESERT STORM, the 7 February 1991 front page of the *Globe and Mail* revealed that the government intended to replace the Victoria Cross with a purely Canadian decoration.⁷⁸ The plan under review called for a 'Cross of Canada'. The reaction among veterans and organizations such as the Monarchist League of Canada forced the Government to reconsider its plans.

While the creation of the Military Valour Decorations, now to include a Canadian version of the Victoria Cross, was delayed until early 1993, the project to create a Canadian version of the Mention in Dispatches was only temporarily halted by the Victoria Cross controversy. The Government Honours Policy Committee approved the proposal at its meeting of 16 April 1991.⁷⁹ The Governor General signed the Order-in-Council on 13 May 1991 and on 21 May the Prime Minister wrote to The Queen to obtain Her Majesty's formal approval.⁸⁰



The Canadian Victoria Cross (VC)

Photo: DND



Queen Elizabeth II inspects the Guard of Honour, escorted by Lieutenant-Commander J.J.C.M. Matte, the Guard Commander

Photo: DND

Her Majesty duly apposed her signature on the Letters Patent on 3 June 1991 thereby creating the Mention in Dispatches insignia as an official honour from the Canadian Crown. The regulations were then published in the *Canada Gazette* on 20 July 1991 and the first 20 recipients where Mentioned in Dispatches on 30 August 1991, in connection with the Gulf War.⁸¹

Like its Commonwealth counterpart, the Canadian Mention in Dispatches, created in 1991, is a national honour awarded on behalf of The Queen and the names of those Mentioned are published in the *Canada Gazette*. The insignia used during the Second World War and the Korean conflict was retained and is worn on the ribbon of the appropriate campaign or service medal.



The Gulf and Kuwait Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND

The first MIDs in connection with the Gulf War, along with a few subsequent Mentions for the Balkans, were published in the *Canada Gazette* of 12 June 1993.⁸² These initial Gulf War MIDs only had very brief citations (not included in the *Gazette* itself), especially for junior officers and non-commissioned members, several of them being limited to a general statement such as 'for outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War'.

In theory, citations, however brief they may be, are only required for those MIDs related to 'devotion to duty or other distinguished service', no citations being necessary in the case of valour other than a brief mention such as 'for valour in battle' or something similar. Nevertheless, aside from the secret MIDs, citations have been written for all post-1991 MIDs as they make for a more meaningful reward for the recipient and highlight their achievements and the purpose of the honour to other observers.

Unlike the Military Valour Decorations, the MID is not limited to combat with an 'armed enemy' recognized as such by Canada, which means it can be used in situations other than war or armed conflict such as during peacekeeping missions. The requirement is that the action or service must be performed while 'in active operations', specifically the MID is restricted 'for war-like conditions in an active theatre of operations.'

The scope of the award has been the topic of some discussions between the Chancellery of Honours and National Defence in the early years of its existence. On 20 July 1993, Lieutenant-General James Cyrille Gervais, CMM, CD, (Retired) then Deputy Secretary, Chancellery of Honours, wrote to the Assistant Deputy Minister (Personnel), then Lieutenant-General Paul Addy, CMM, CD, to express his concern that the MID was being used in situations when Canada was not 'at war' in light of Mentions made in relation to operation in the Balkans. The correspondence and discussions which transpired over the following few months, along with a review of the background documents and Regulations and after obtaining legal advice, clarified that Canada did not formally have to be 'at war' but rather the action had to take place in 'war-like conditions'.⁸³

Table 2: Modern Canadian Gallantry Recognition Framework

Category	Gallantry Level (all ranks)	Canadian Armed Forces (all elements)	Replacing British Gallantry Honours from Table 1
National Honours from the Crown	Level 1	Victoria Cross (VC) 1993 	VC
	Level 2	Star of Military Valour (SMV) 1993 	DSO, CGM, DCM
	Level 3	Medal of Military Valour (MMV) 1993 	DSC, MC, DFC, DSM, MM, and DFM
	Level 4	Mention in Dispatches 1991 	MID
Departmental Awards	Level 5	Chief of the Defence Staff Commendation 1974 	–
	Level 6	Command Commendation 1995 	–

Another topic of discussion has been the ‘distinguished service’ element of the criteria. Like the original British MID, the Canadian Regulations made it possible for the MID to be used for either gallantry or devotion to duty and distinguished service in active military operations in the field. Indeed many citations reflect such distinguished service, not in combat, being recognized. Questions arose

from the Chancellery of Honours especially after the United Kingdom changed their MID in 1993 to restrict its eligibility to gallantry. In the absence of Canadian equivalents to the new Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service and its parent Queen's Commendations for Bravery and Bravery in the Air, the Canadian MID was not amended and retains its flexibility to recognize 'distinguished service' in a theatre of operations in addition to pure gallantry.⁸⁴ This in essence means that the Canadian MID constitutes not only a fourth level to the Military Valour Decorations but can also serve as a fourth level for the Decorations for Bravery and as a third level for the Meritorious Service Decorations, albeit only for actions in a theatre of operations in war-like conditions. This being said, as time progressed, the MID has increasingly been limited to gallantry just short of meeting the criteria for Military Valour Decorations, while other distinguished service in operations increasingly tend to be recognized by the Military Division of the Meritorious Service Decorations (MSDs, including the Meritorious Service Cross (MSC) and Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)), the Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) Commendation and Command Commendation. This shift may be explained in part by the Chancellery's intervention in 1993-1994 as a result of the changes to the British MID to make gallantry its sole focus, to reaffirm the MID as the fourth level of military valour recognition and an award to be limited to action 'on the battlefield'. However, other factors may explain the gradual change. The limited numbers of Military Valour Decorations and MIDs available, especially during the Afghanistan Campaign, have meant that the gallantry cases took up an increasing proportion of the MIDs allowed under the quotas, forcing other deserving service in theatre to be recognized through other means such as the MSDs and CDS and Command Commendations. Regardless of the causes and whether this was by design or accident, this gradual shift has greatly contributed to the increasing prestige of the honour as a 'combat award' as clearly illustrated by many of the Afghanistan citations, many of which are only slightly below the standard required for a Medal of Military Valour.

Considering the fact that the majority of modern MIDs are for gallantry and that even if it is still possible to use the MID for bravery and meritorious service, this is limited to those actions in a theatre of operations, whereas these actions also take place in other locations, it appears that there may be a gap in national recognition at Level 4. It has been suggested before that this gap could be filled, following the British example, by Queen's Commendations, namely a Queen's Commendation for Bravery (QCB) and a Queen's Commendation for Meritorious Service (QCMS). This proposal may someday come to fruition if the need for a solution becomes more acute.

Table 3: Modern Canadian Recognition Framework in the CAF Context

Category	Level	Military Valour	Bravery	Merit
National Honours from the Crown	Level 1	Victoria Cross (VC) 	Cross of Valour (CV) 	Order of Military Merit (CMM, OMM, MMM) 
	Level 2	Star of Military Valour (SMV) 	Star of Courage (SC) 	Meritorious Service Cross (MSC) 
	Level 3	Medal of Military Valour (MMV) 	Medal of Bravery (MB) 	Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) 
	Level 4	Mention in Dispatches 	–	–
Departmental Awards	Level 5	Chief of the Defence Staff Commendation 		
	Level 6	Command Commendation 		

The aforementioned quotas for the MID are specified to ensure the value and respect for the honour is maintained in addition to ensuring an appropriate balance between the various honours granted in a theatre of operations. The modern Canadian MID retained the 1 per 100 ratio used during the Second World War and in Korea. The table below details the various quotas available for every 100 persons under command in a six month period in a theatre of operations depending on the nature and intensity of the mission:

Table 4: Number of Honours and Awards per every 100 persons under command in an active theatre of operation for a six month period

Honour/Award	Military Valour Decorations	Meritorious Service Decorations	Mentions in Dispatches	CDS Commendations	Command Commendations
War	0.4:100	MSC: 0.2:100 MSM: 0.7:100	1:100	2:100	3:100
Hostilities	0.2:100	MSC: 0.1:100 MSM: 0.35:100	0.5:100	1:100	2:100
Field Operations	None	MSC: 0.05:100 MSM: 0.18:100	None	0.5:100	1:100
Peacetime Activity	None	See Note 1	None	See Note 1	See Note 1

Note 1: Considerably fewer, depending on activity intensity.

The criteria for the MID does not limit eligibility to military personnel but includes any person 'working with or in conjunction with the Canadian Forces'. This means that not only allied military personnel but also civilians could be MID. Thus far, the only two MIDs that have been granted to persons who were not members of the CAF were those granted to two Royal Canadian Mounted Police members, Constable W.M. Eubank and Constable R.R. Watson for brave actions while serving as Police Monitors with the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1993.



The United Nations Protection Force (Yugoslavia) medal with the MID insignia

Photo: DND

The Regulations allow for the Governor General to delegate the award to Field Commanders, subject to subsequent ratification of such awards by the Governor General. It is also possible, as with decorations, to recommend persons for an Immediate Award of a MID when the circumstances justify it. Like in the British system, this accelerated process would be for those rare and clear cases where swift recognition is warranted and necessary for the morale of the troops. This only applies in the case of MIDs for gallantry, which would have no citation, and cannot exceed one third of the allocated MIDs for a six month period. These provisions have yet to be used, most commanders preferring to consider all honours at the end of a rotation or mission to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of all awards.

As of 1 January 2016, 396 Mentions in Dispatches had been made since the creation of this honour in the Canadian context in 1991.

Administration and approval process

The nomination process for the MID is similar to that used for decorations. The recommendations emanating from the mission commander made their way through the chain of command to NDHQ. The directorate responsible for the management of honours has evolved since 1991 from the Directorate of Ceremonial to the Honours and Awards Section of the Directorate of History and Heritage and finally, since 2006, the Directorate of Honours and Recognition (DH&R). This directorate reviewed the submissions and arranged to have them considered by the CF Decorations and Commendation Advisory Committee (CFDCAC), then chaired by a brigadier-general or major-general (various positions over time) under the Assistant Deputy Minister (Personnel) (ADM(PER)), later the Assistant Deputy Minister (Human Resources - Military) (ADM(HR-Mil)) and then the Chief Military Personnel (CMP), with a membership at the lieutenant-colonel/colonel level. The CDS signed a letter to the Governor General recommending the award and the Governor General signed an Instrument to approve the MIDs on behalf of The Queen. Those Mentioned had their names published in the *Canada Gazette*.

During the Afghanistan Campaign, there was an intent from the chain of command to reduce the delays for the approval and announcement of honours and awards. Several steps were taken in this regard and one of those included the simplification of the approval process and administration of the MID. It was decided that the nominations for MIDs and departmental awards such as the CDS Commendation would no longer be considered by the CF Decorations and Commendation Advisory Committee (CFDCAC). This body was renamed the CF Decorations Advisory Committee (CFDAC) on 5 April 2007, its membership was amended so that



Light Armored Vehicles (LAV's) provide continuous perimeter security for Canadian soldiers patrolling in and around the Panjwayi District approximately 30 kilometers west of Kandahar City, Afghanistan, as part of Operation MEDUSA

Photo: DND, AR2006-P008 0006



The South-West Asia Service Medal

Photo: DND



The General Campaign Star –
SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Photo: DND

the CDS himself would chair it and the members would be Level 1s. It would meet monthly (except in summer) to consider the increased volume of Military Valour, Bravery and Meritorious Service Decorations nominations. From this point onwards, the MID nominations, having already been carefully reviewed by the chain of command in theatre, approved by the theatre honours and awards committee and the theatre commander, further approved by the honours and awards committee of the Canadian Expeditionary Force Command (CEFCOM), later reformed as the Canadian Joint Operations Command (CJOC), was staffed to DH&R where its experienced team of staff officers reviewed the file. This review was to ensure the criteria was met, the case compared with historical precedents and the numbers were within established targets. If that was the case, DH&R would send the recommendation to the CDS for concurrence and onwards transmission to the Governor General for final approval through an Instrument.

As part of the same initiative, the administration of the MID was delegated to DH&R from September 2008.⁸⁵ The Chancellery of Honour's responsibility was from then limited to obtaining the approval from the Governor General, publishing the awards in the *Canada Gazette* and in a press release and recording the awards on their searchable website. DH&R is now responsible to prepare the citations (as these are produced by DH&R, they no longer appear in Rideau Hall documents from September 2008, only the lists of names are recorded), announce the awards through a CANFORGEN, produce the certificate, now signed by the CDS, procure the insignia and provide them to the office of the CDS for presentation. This opportunity was taken to restore the design and text of the MID certificate to reflect those presented to Canadians in previous conflicts.

While respecting the existing MID Regulations, these measures allowed the simplification and acceleration of the award process as well as the restoration of the appearance of the certificate. When the discussion about the acceleration of the process began in the spring of 2007, one of the intents was to delegate the awards to commanders in the field or, at least, to be able to swiftly process requests for Immediate MIDs. Although the Regulations allow the delegation of award to Field Commanders, subject to subsequent ratification by the Governor General, Government House preferred that, in line with other honours, the presentation only occur after the signature of the Instrument by the Governor General. As previously mentioned, no Immediate nominations were submitted during the Afghanistan Campaign, the mission commanders preferring to make all recommendations at the end of each tour to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of the honours available to them.

Presentations

Unlike the insignia of orders and decorations, the MID insignia has never been presented by the Sovereign or the Governor General. In the modern Canadian context, the presentation of the insignia has been delegated to the CDS. Usually the CDS presents these, along with departmental awards, at small periodic presentations or on the occasion of regular travel to locations where recipients are located. Those presentations are often informal in nature. When this is not possible, the CDS may delegate the presentation to a subordinate commander. Given the higher number of MIDs during the Afghanistan Campaign, DH&R organized five major investitures hosted by the CDS in locations convenient for a majority of the recipients. Those presentations were modelled on the investitures at Rideau Hall: after the recipients were piped in, the dignitaries were similarly piped in and the ceremony began with the National Anthem followed by remarks by the CDS, the presentation of the



Private David Blier receives his MID insignia from Chief of Defence Staff, General Walter John Natynczyk, CMM, MSC, CD, at a ceremony held at the Officer's Mess, Canadian Forces Base Valcartier, 2 December 2006

Photo: DND



View of the typical layout of the room for a MID investiture

Photo: DND

insignia as the citations were read, and concluded with the Royal Anthem. The dignitaries, recipients and guests then enjoyed a reception. A program with a deep blue cover with the Royal Arms of Canada embossed in gold and containing the citations was produced for each event. The investitures took place on:

2 December 2008,

Valcartier, Quebec:

- 57 MIDs;
- nine CDS Commendations;
- and
- one Canadian Forces Medallion for Distinguished Service.



Example of a program produced for a MID presentation ceremony

Photo: DND

25 March 2010, Edmonton, Alberta:

- 31 MIDs;
- 27 CDS Commendations; and
- two Canadian Forces Medallions for Distinguished Service.

30 June 2010, Petawawa, Ontario:

- 39 MIDs;
- 16 CDS Commendations; and
- one Canadian Forces Unit Commendation.

30 May 2011, Valcartier, Quebec:

- 31 MIDs; and
- 20 CDS Commendations

3 October 2012, Valcartier, Quebec:

- 23 MIDs;
- five Sacrifice Medals
- two Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medals; and
- nine CDS Commendations.

After 2012, as the numbers of MIDs declined, the former arrangement of small presentations during regular travel of the CDS or delegations of presentations was resumed.

Chapter Three

Statistical Analysis 1991–2016

In the 25 years since the institution of the modern Canadian MID in 1991, 396 Mentions in Dispatches have been made to 391 different individuals.



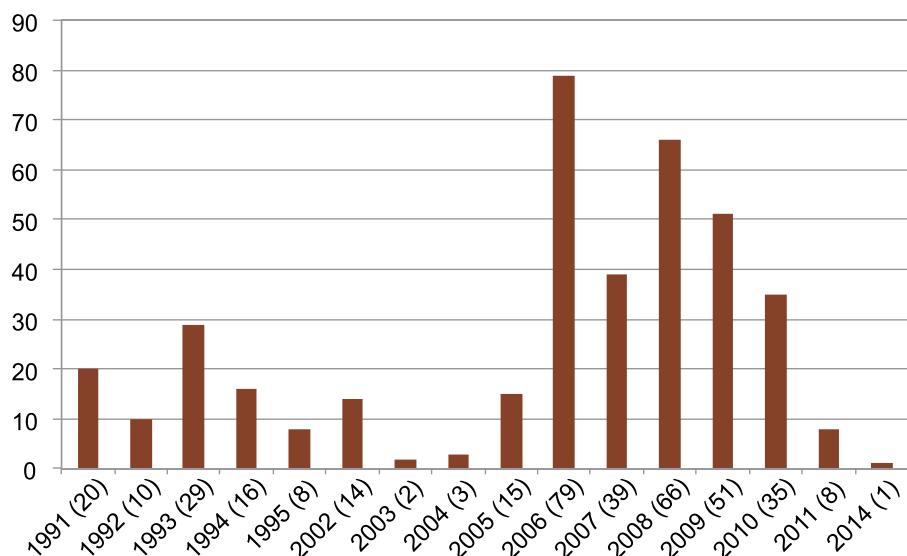
Number of awards

In the 25 years since the institution of the modern Canadian MID in 1991, 396 Mentions in Dispatches have been made to 391 different individuals. The number of Mentions over time varies considerably in direct consequence of the operational tempo of the armed forces. The numbers are also limited by the quota set in the Regulations as discussed in Chapter Two. No awards are recorded for the years 1996 to 2001 inclusive, nor for 2012 and 2013. In other years, the number fluctuates from one to 79 MIDs with peaks in 1991 for the Gulf War, 1993 and 1994 for the Balkans, Somalia and Rwanda, and from 2005 to 2010 for Afghanistan.

While multiple MIDs were common in past conflicts, only five individuals have been MID twice since 1991:

- Master Corporal T.W. Fletcher, CD, for incidents in two distinct tours in Afghanistan in 2006 and 2008 respectively;
- Captain D.C. Holt, for two distinct incidents only four days apart in Bosnia in 1992;
- Master Corporal D.E. Presley, for two distinct incidents twelve days apart in Afghanistan in 2006;
- Sergeant P.D. Sprenger, MB, CD, once in Somalia in 1993 and again in Afghanistan in 2008; and
- One member of CANSOFCOM, on both occasions for actions in Afghanistan.

Mentioned in Dispatches Awarded by Year (date of incident)



Some individuals who have been Mentioned in Dispatches either previously or subsequently received other honours, in several cases making very rare award combinations. The following is not an exhaustive list but provides some examples of interesting such combinations. Warrant Officer R.J. Crane, MMM, MMV, CD and Corporal T.B. Myroniuk, MMV are two individuals who received a Medal of Military Valour in addition to being MID for the Afghanistan Campaign. Master Corporal M.B. Decaire, MB and Sergeant P.D. Sprenger, MB, CD, both received a Medal of Bravery in addition to being MID. Decaire earned his MB for a Search and Rescue mission in the Northwest Territories in 2005, he also earned a Chief of the Defence Staff Commendation for providing lifesaving first aid to a stabbing victim in Manitoba in 2004 and was MID for his actions as a result of the infamous Tarnak Farm friendly fire incident in Afghanistan in 2002. Sprenger earned his MB for participating in the rescue of a woman victim of a shark attack while off duty in Somalia and was MID twice as

we saw above, once in Somalia and again in Afghanistan. Col P.B. Stogran, MSC, CD was MID as a Major in Bosnia in the mid-1990s and later earned the Meritorious Service Cross in Afghanistan.

General J.H. Vance, CMM, MSC, CD was MID as a Major in Croatia, was appointed an Officer of the Order of Military Merit in 2008 as a Colonel (later promoted to Commander as a Lieutenant-General in 2013) and went on to become one of only five persons to earn two MSCs for two separate tours as Commander of Joint Task Force Afghanistan (at the rank of Brigadier-General).

He later became CDS. People who earned both a MSM as well as being MID include Chief Warrant Officer J.O.M.P. Leblanc, MMM, MSM, CD, who was MID as a Master Warrant Officer in Bosnia, made a MMM in 2003 and later received a MSM for ceremonial



Medals of General Jonathan Holbert Vance CMM, MSC, CD, who was MID in Yugoslavia

Photo: DND



Medals of Chief Warrant Officer Joseph Oswald Maurice Paul Leblanc, MMM, MSM, CD, who was MID in Bosnia

Photo: DND

duties, notably in relation to the 60th anniversary of Victory in the Second World War and the Year of the Veteran; Warrant Officer J.G. Pickard, MSM, CD, who was MID and received the MSM in relation to Afghanistan; Major P. Metaxas-Mariatos, MSM, CD, who earned his MSM in Macedonia in 2003 before being MID in Afghanistan; Lieutenant-Colonel, The Honourable H.S.

Sajjan, PC, OMM, MSM, CD, was

MID for Afghanistan in 2006, received the MSM for a subsequent tour in 2010-11 and was made an OMM in 2012 before becoming the Minister of National Defence in 2015. Besides those previously mentioned, others who had been MID and were later admitted to the Order of Military Merit include Major D.S.P. Groves, MMM, CD, Warrant Officer J.C. Hryniw, MMM, CD, Master Warrant Officer R.J. Montague, MMM, CD, and Warrant Officer D.A. Thompson, MMM, CD, among others.

Lieutenant-Colonel J.N. Stuart, OMM, CD was the only person to be a member of the Order of Military Merit prior to being MID.

From the earliest times, it has been possible to MID individuals posthumously and four such awards have been made since 1991, all in relation to Afghanistan:

- Private K. Dallaire, Killed in Action on 3 August 2006;
- Sergeant C.P. Gillam, CD, Killed in Action on 3 October 2006;
- Corporal N. Hornburg, Killed in Action on 24 February 2007; and
- Sergeant V. Ingram, CD, Killed in Action on 3 August 2006.

A posthumous award means that the person was killed while performing the act or service recognized by the award or died as a direct result of it (died of wounds sustained during the act). When a person dies after the award-earning act or service, either during another incident or of unrelated cause (like a heart attack), but before the award is approved and announced, the recipient is identified as 'deceased'. This is the case of Corporal C.J. Reid who was MID for an action on 27 July 2006 and was killed a few days later, on 3 August 2006, when his armoured vehicle struck an improvised explosive device near Kandahar.



Medals of Major Douglas Shawn Patrick Groves, MMM, CD, who was a sergeant when MID in Somalia

Photo: DND

The vast majority of the MIDs awarded have been in connection with the Afghanistan campaign which saw 311 MIDs making up 79% of all MIDs since 1991. This is perfectly normal given that this was the longest, largest and most intense combat operation the Canadian Armed Forces have experienced since the Korean War. The Balkans operations make up the next largest group with 44 MIDs followed by the Gulf War and Somalia. Smaller numbers of MIDs have been granted in relation with United Nations missions in Rwanda, Cambodia and Sudan as well as the coalition intervention in Iraq. The latter three missions only generating one MID each; Petty Officer 2nd Class M.J. Mollison, CD, Major G.A. Penner, CD, and a member of CANSOFCOM respectively.



The Gulf and Kuwait Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



The Somalia Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



The United Nations Protection Force (Yugoslavia) medal with the MID insignia

Photo: DND



The NATO Medal for Former Yugoslavia with MID insignia

Photo: DND



The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



The United Nations Assistance Mission For Rwanda medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



The South-West Asia Service Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



The General Campaign Star – SOUTH-WEST ASIA with MID insignia

Photo: DND



The United Nations Mission in Sudan medal with MID insignia

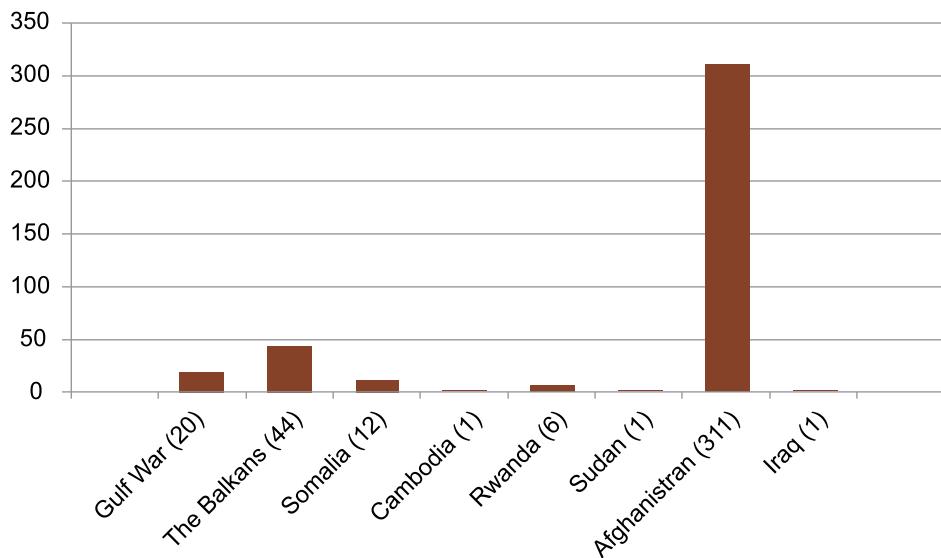
Photo: DND



The General Campaign Star – EXPEDITION with MID insignia

Photo: DND

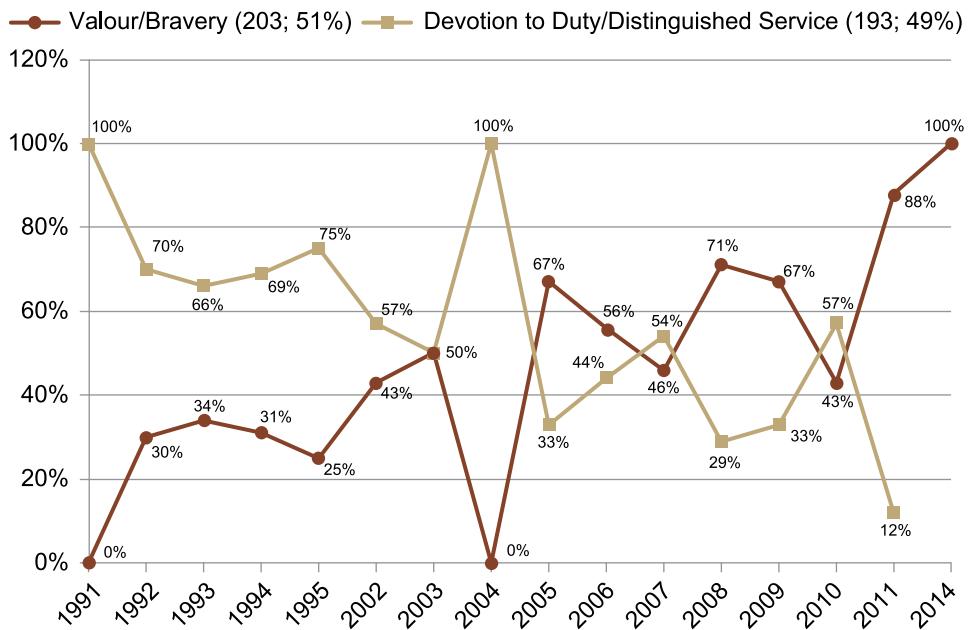
Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Operation



Type of Service Recognized

As explained in Chapter Two, the modern Canadian MID, like its British predecessor, can recognize either valiant conduct, devotion to duty or other distinguished service. MIDs have been awarded under all three criteria and in fact most early awards were under the 'distinguished service' clause. As it was seen however, given the numerical pressures during the Afghanistan Campaign and other considerations, the MIDs have gradually been increasingly concentrated in the 'valiant conduct' sector. Overall the split between valiant conduct (203 awards) and devotion to duty and distinguished service (193 awards) is balanced but the proportion evolved over time from a majority of awards for distinguished service in the early days to a majority for gallantry in the latter period. Based on the citations available, determining under which of the three criteria a MID may fall is a matter of subjective judgement but for this exercise, the following statistics have been drawn based on the year of incident:

Proportion of Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Criteria



Uniform and Branch Representation

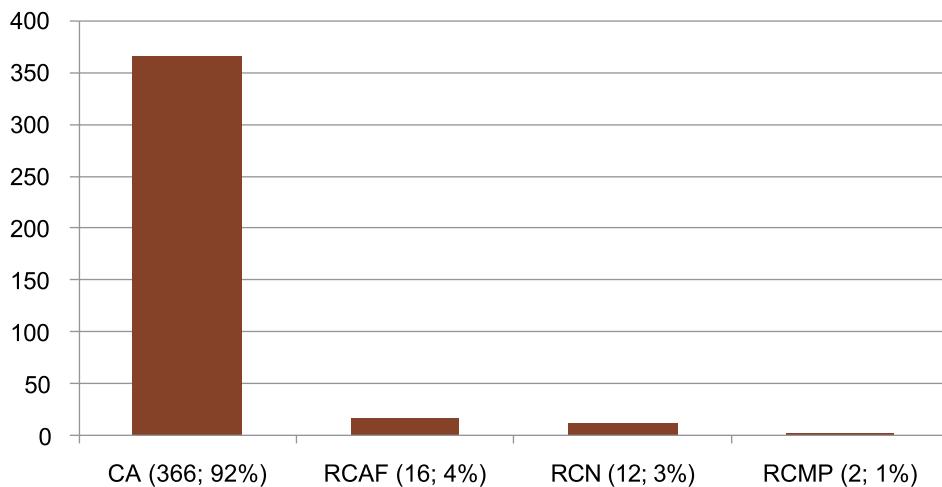
Given that most operations which have generated MIDs have been led by the Army and given the criteria which means that mostly front-line units and trades are so recognized, it is not surprising to find that the vast majority of the awards, 92%, have gone to the Army, with 4% to the RCAF, 3% to the RCN and 1% to the RCMP.



Medals of Lieutenant-Commander Peter John Clifford, CD, who was MID in Afghanistan

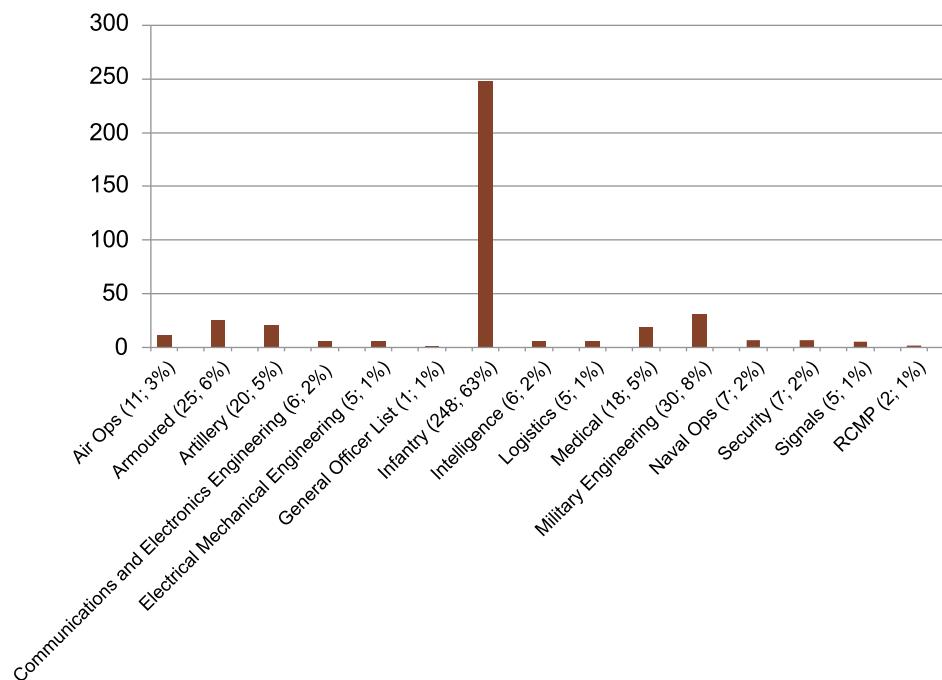
Photo: DND

Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Uniform



Similarly, the infantry garnered the majority of the awards with 63% of the total, followed by military engineers (8%), armoured (6%) and artillery and medical (both at 5%).

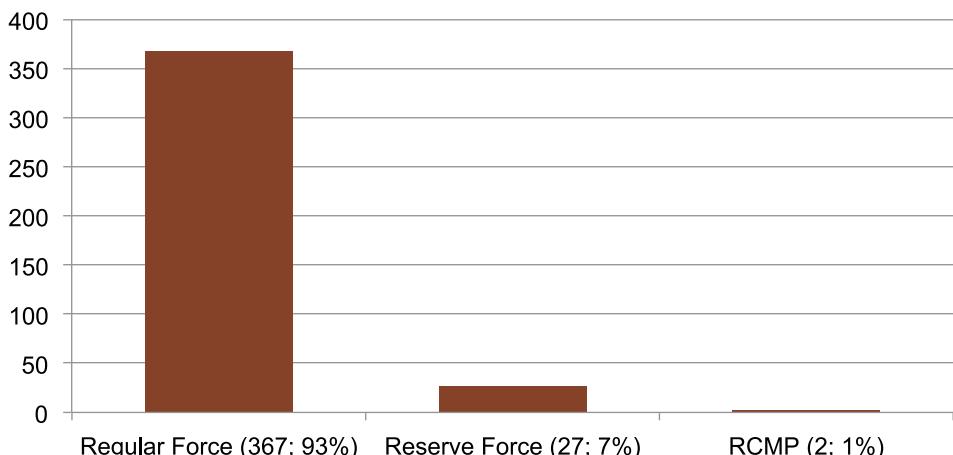
Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Branch



Component Representation

The Reserve Force component plays an important role in operations and many reservists volunteer to deploy on various missions. During the Afghanistan Campaign, when the Regular Forces' strength was under stress, the Reserve made up close to a third of deployed personnel on some rotations. Twenty-seven MIDs (7%) have been granted to reservists and another 2 (1%) to members of the RCMP.

Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Component



Rank Representation

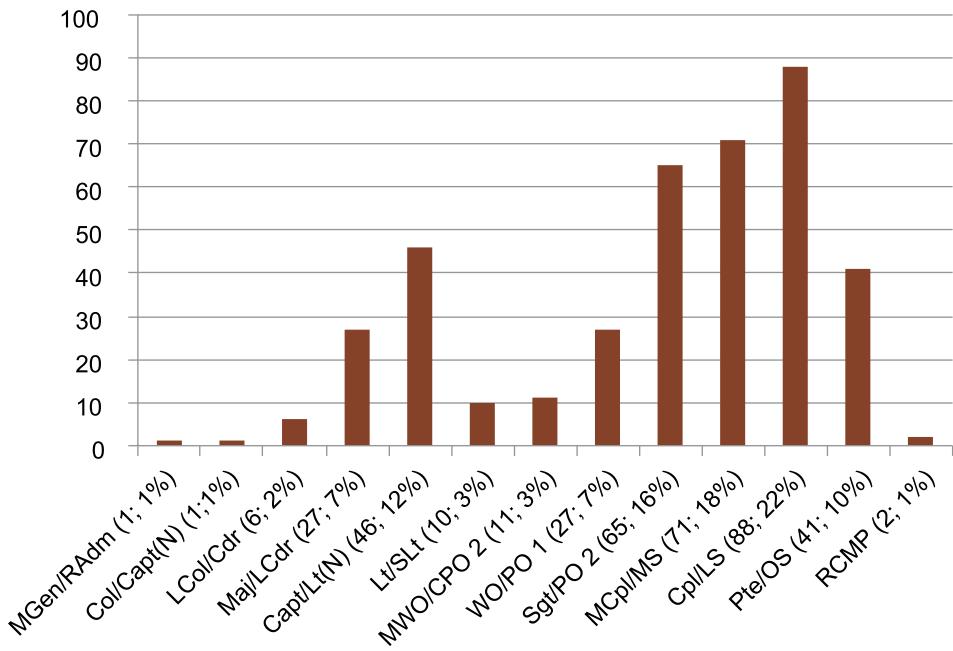
Unlike the Order of Military Merit and the Meritorious Service Cross, which have been the subject of similar studies and where the awards tend to concentrate with senior ranks, the MID is a soldier's honour and the ranks represented are in sharp contrast with those previously presented. The most represented rank is that of corporal with 88 awards representing 22% of the total, closely followed by master corporals with 71 awards (18%) and sergeants with 65 awards (16%). The ranks of sergeant and below represent two thirds of all awards. Officers make up 23% of the awards while the remaining 77% are non-commissioned members (including the two RCMP members).



Medals of Warrant Officer Daniel William Bouchie, MSM, CD, who was MID in Afghanistan

Photo: DND

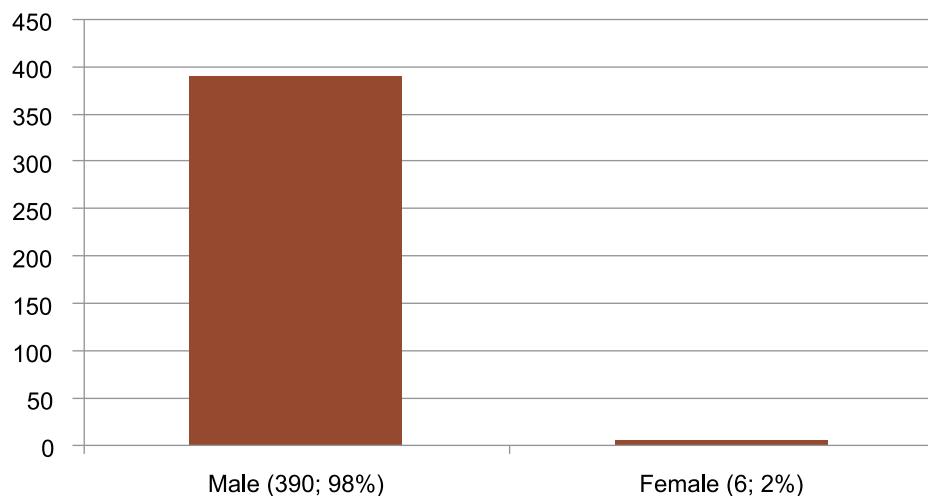
Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Rank



Gender Representation

Inasmuch as the female representation remains low in the combat arms, it is not surprising that there are few females who have been MID, representing only 6 (2%) of the 396 MIDs. As female representation gradually increases in those trades most susceptible to receive MIDs, this new reality will be reflected in MIDs over time.

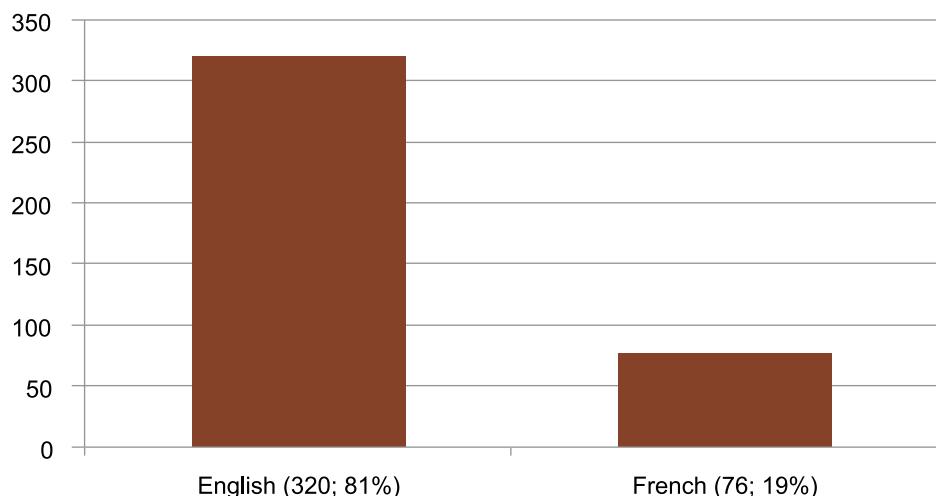
Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Gender



Linguistic Representation

The linguistic repartition of the MIDs is close to the related representation in the Armed Forces with 76 or 19% of the MIDs going to French speaking recipients with the remaining 320, or 81% going to English-speaking recipients.

Mention in Dispatches Awarded by Language





Chapter Four

Certificates and Insignia

Those who have been mentioned have demonstrated the most important virtues of the military profession while participating in active operations and have earned our respect. They join a legion of other Canadians who, before them, during a century marked by conflict, have been Mentioned in Dispatches in recognition of gallant and distinguished service and thus earned the high appreciation of their Sovereign and their fellow Canadians.



The Great War MID Emblem 1914–1920

As outlined in Chapter One, King George V approved the creation of a bronze insignia consisting of a small branch of oak leaves to be worn on the ribbon of the Victory Medal by all those mentioned in the Great War between 4 August 1914 and 10 August 1920. This was formally announced in British Army Order 3/1920 of 12 January 1920. This insignia was also worn by those 'brought to the attention of the Secretary of State for War for distinguished services in connection with the war'.⁸⁶

The MID insignia existed in different sizes. The full size insignia was intended to be worn on the ribbon of the Victory Medal itself and was 34.5 mm long and 9.5 mm high. It was worn on the ribbon at a 60 degree angle with the stem pointing towards the left from the observer's point of view. The insignia was secured by two tabs on the reverse of the insignia, which would go through the medal ribbon and be bent over. A smaller insignia, 25.4 mm by 6.4 mm, was worn horizontally on the undress ribbon with a similar attachment method as the large insignia. A miniature version, 14.5 mm by 4 mm, was also available for wear on miniature medals. All three types were manufactured by different companies and the quality and details vary slightly.⁸⁷



First World War
MID insignia

Photo: DND



First World War
Victory Medal with
MID insignia

Photo: DND



Full-size (top) and medium-size (bottom) First World War MID insignia showing the reverse and two bendable tabs

Photo: DND



Group of First World War miniature medals showing the miniature version of the MID insignia

Photo: DND



Undress ribbon of Victory Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND

In the few rare cases where those entitled to the insignia did not have the Victory Medal (which was limited to those on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war) the emblem could be worn on the ribbon of the British War Medal, this included a number of naval personnel. This practice had no formal sanction until it was approved in 1947. If no medal had been issued to the person at all, as in the case of some civilians, the emblem could be worn directly on the left coat lapel.

The MID Emblem 1920–1993

In August 1943 King George VI authorized a new emblem in the form of a single bronze oak leaf to be worn by those mentioned from 11 August 1920 onwards. This insignia was also worn by military personnel who had been awarded a King's (later Queen's) Commendation for Brave Conduct or King's (later Queen's) Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air.

Like its predecessor, the new insignia was available in three different sizes for wear on full-size medals (27 mm long and 9.5 mm high), undress ribbons (22 mm long and 8 mm high) and miniatures (10 mm long and 4 mm high), and had the stalk pointing towards the centre of the chest of the wearer. Once again the full size insignia had tab attachments and was worn at a 60 degree angle on the ribbon. The undress ribbon version as well as most miniature versions were intended to be sewn on with a small hole at the tip of the leaf to facilitate this, along with thread spun around the stalk.



The ribbons of General the Honourable Henry Duncan Graham Crerar, PC, CH, CB, DSO, CD, showing the MID insignia for both World Wars and both the French and Belgian *Croix de Guerre*

Photo: DND



Second World War
MID insignia

Photo: DND



Full-size Second World War
MID insignia showing the
reverse and two bendable tabs

Photo: DND



Undress ribbon of
1939–1945 War Medal
with MID insignia

Photo: DND



Medium-size Second World
War MID insignia for undress
ribbon with hole for sewing

Photo: DND

When no ribbon was associated with the Mention, the insignia was worn sewn on a mock undress ribbon made of the same material as the tunic or shirt and ranked after all undress ribbons. If the recipient had no ribbon, the insignia was worn directly on the coat in the place where a single ribbon would have been worn. This initially applied to most Second World War recipients because it was only once the War Medal 1939–45 was created in 1945 that it was decided the MID insignia for this conflict would be worn on that ribbon.⁸⁸ A broach version was available for wear directly on the coat for those not wearing undress ribbons. For those Mentioned in Korea, the insignia was worn on the Queen's Korea Medal. Once again, the insignia was manufactured by a number of firms and the colour and details vary slightly.

From the outset, only one MID insignia could be worn on any single ribbon. However, a person who earned both a MID and one of the King's/Queen's Commendations (denoted by the same insignia) in connection with the same medal could wear two insignias to represent each type of award earned.⁸⁹

Canadians used this type of insignia for the Second World War and in Korea and it then fell into disuse with the creation of the modern Canadian Honours System in the 1960s.

This insignia was used in the UK until 1993 when it was changed to silver and its criteria were amended to be limited to gallantry only.

The Canadian MID Emblem since 1991

The insignia associated with the Canadian MID created in 1991 is identical to the 1943 version. It is still available in those same three sizes for full-size medals, undress ribbons and miniatures.



The 1939–1945 War Medal with MID insignia

Photo: DND



Medium-size Second World War MID insignia showing the reverse with broach

Photo: DND

The issue of precedence of the MID insignia in relation to bars on the medals and other devices on undress ribbons generated much discussion between National Defence and the Chancellery of Honours in 1991 and 1992.⁹⁰ Several options were considered but in the end the following was decided:

- While the original British MID emblem was worn at a 60 degree angle, the Canadian MID is worn horizontally, with the stalk pointing towards the centre of the chest of the wearer. This method is more visually consistent when the insignia is worn with bars and also takes less space on the ribbon, allowing for more bars.
- When the medal has bars, these bars are always worn in order earned with the first one earned worn closest to the medal itself. This fashion of adding new bars above previously awarded ones come from the days when campaign medals had their clasps riveted to the suspension of the medal. To avoid having to remove existing clasps, any new one would simply be riveted to and above the last one received. Consequently, any MID worn on such a medal could only be worn above the clasp(s), there being no alternative. The Canadian MID is therefore worn above any bars (which are now sewn on ribbons and not riveted to the suspension of the medal) and evenly spaced with them on the ribbon. The even spacing is often overlooked where the medal mounter centres a single bar on the ribbon as per normal and simply adds the MID above it, this makes for an unbalanced look. In such cases, the bar should be lowered so that the length of ribbon is divided in three even thirds by the bar and MID emblem.



First World War
Victory Medal
with MID insignia

Photo: DND



Example of the
South-West Asia
Service Medal with
AFGHANISTAN bar
and MID insignia

Photo: DND



An example of a MID insignia
on a medal with riveted clasps

Photo: DND

- On undress ribbons, the MID emblem takes precedence over other devices such as maple leaves or numerals meaning it is worn closest to the centre of the chest of the wearer, or to the left of the ribbon from the observer's perspective, with all devices being evenly spaced horizontally.
- When the MID is not awarded in a medal-earning context, the Canadian method of wearing differs from the British method.
 - In the British system, such a MID was worn either directly on the jacket in the place where a single ribbon would have been worn or, when other ribbons are worn, in the position where the last ribbon would be worn, here again directly on the jacket or sewn onto a mock undress ribbon made of the same fabric as that of the tunic or shirt depending on the order of dress.
 - In the Canadian context, a MID not worn on a ribbon is worn like other commendations, centred on the left breast pocket of the jacket or short-sleeve shirt. On the Navy service dress jacket, it is worn 11.5 cm below the pocket opening. On tunics where there is no pocket, it is worn centred 1.3 cm below any badge or medals. It is worn 1.3 cm centred below miniature medals on the mess dress jacket. In the absence of miniatures, it is worn 10 cm from the shoulder seam on Army and Air Force mess dress jackets, centred between the edge of the lapel and the sleeve. It is worn on the lapel, 1.3 cm below the notch on the Navy mess dress jacket. When the MID is worn with other commendations, they are worn in order of precedence from top to bottom with 2.6 cm between each. More details on the wear of the MID can be found in the Canadian Forces Dress Instructions.⁹¹ A broach reverse variant of the insignia exists for this purpose but it appears this situation has yet to arise.



Undress ribbon with MID and tour numeral
Photo: DND



Undress ribbon with MID and maple leaf
Photo: DND



Medium-size modern Canadian MID insignia showing the reverse with broach
Photo: DND

Presentation Case

MID insignia for the two World Wars were simply provided in a small brown envelope.

From 1991 to 2008, Rideau Hall was responsible for the procurement and provision of the insignia. Once a MID was approved, the Chancellery of Honours would forward a set of insignia to National Defence Headquarters for presentation arrangements to be made. The first 20 MID sets, all related to the Gulf War, were sent to NDHQ on 21 February 1992.⁹² The Rideau Hall insignia set contained six insignia, one large (for the medal), four medium (for undress ribbons) and one small (for miniature medals). These were attached with glue in that sequence one above the other in a standard Rideau Hall medal case which was of black, later blue, leatherette with the Vice-Regal lion impressed in gold on the lid. This case was the one used for Exemplary Service Medals with the small difference that the blue velvet insert was not perforated as there was no need to accommodate a medal mounting pin.⁹³

The insignia have been procured and prepared by the Directorate of Honours and Recognition at National Defence since August 2008. The insignia are affixed to a length of the appropriate ribbon displayed in the standard service medal presentation box. This box is a cardboard box covered in textured burgundy paper with the



Example of the lid of the Rideau Hall presentation case

Photo: DND



Example of the inside of the Rideau Hall presentation case containing six insignia

Photo: DND



Example of DND presentation case with three insignia

Photo: DND

Royal Arms of Canada embossed in gold on the lid, and a black felt insert. Initially the presentation included six insignia (one large, four medium and one small) as per the Rideau Hall practice but the miniature has since been dispensed with. It was interesting that the miniature has ever been included as miniature insignia for all other honours are not provided by the Crown but rather privately purchased by the recipient. Moreover, most recipients are non-commissioned members of junior ranks who do not usually wear mess dress and so have no miniatures. The removal of the miniature emblem from the presentation cases aligns the MID with other honours. Later on the number of medium size insignia was reduced to two in the formal presentation box as two are now sent to the nominating command to be given to the recipient upon notification of the award as described below.

As in the case of other individual honours such as appointments to orders and the award of decorations, the recipient is entitled to all privileges related to the award, except for the wear of the full-size insignia, as soon as they are formally informed of the award. When the responsible command is informed of a MID for one of their members, they are sent two medium size emblems from immediate wear by the member on undress ribbons. These two insignia, affixed on the appropriate undress ribbon slide-on bar, are inserted in a small clear plastic case with a blue foam insert. It is the same case used for CDS Commendation insignia. The recipient may also add a miniature emblem to their miniature medals where applicable. The full-size insignia along with two additional medium size insignia and the certificate are formally presented at a later date by the CDS or his representative.



Insignia affixed on the appropriate undress ribbon and presented in a small clear plastic case

Photo: DND

Certificate

As discussed in Chapter One, the MID certificate was actually created before the insignia. The certificate was authorized by King George V in 1919 and was announced in British Army Order 166/1919 in May 1919.⁹⁴ The Army Order specifies that one certificate would be issued for each Mention and this is confirmed by the fact that the Canadian War Museum holds multiple certificates for individuals Mentioned on more than one occasion. This includes the three certificates for the Mentions to Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Alderson Alexander, DSO, ED and seven of the nine certificates for General Sir Arthur William Currie, GCMG, KCB, VD.⁹⁵

The certificate displayed the Royal Arms, it stated the date of the dispatch in which the recipient's name appeared as well as the name of the commander who authored it. The rank, initials, name, decorations (if any) and unit of the person Mentioned was calligraphied by hand in black ink. The majority of Great War MID certificates are dated 1 March 1919 and bear the facsimile signature of the Secretary of State for War at the time, Winston Churchill.⁹⁶

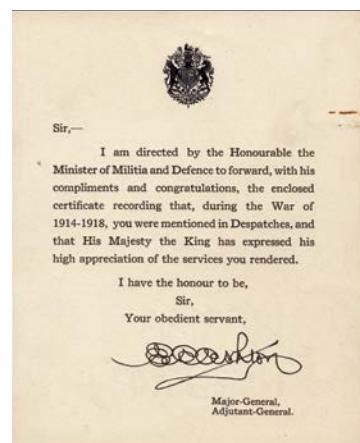
The new MID emblem created in 1943 was accompanied by a certificate similar in format and text to that of the Great War.

Interestingly, while the certificate for the MID was created before the emblem at the end of the Great War, the Canadian MID insignia was not initially awarded with a certificate. Those MID for the Gulf War, Somalia and the



First World War certificate of Sergeant Theodore Loiselle

Photo: CWM, 19810040-001, George Metcalf Archival Collection



Note from the Government of Canada which accompanied MID certificates sent to Canadian recipients after the Great War

Photo: CWM, 19780095-009, George Metcalf Archival Collection

early Balkans operations only received their emblems with no formal bestowal document. Some recipients were not even aware of the specific reason or act which led to them being Mentioned. It is only at the 20 June 1995 meeting of the Government Honours Policy Sub-Committee that it was decided, further to a recommendation by National Defence, that a certificate should be created to accompany the MID.⁹⁷ The design of the certificate was completed in early 1996 and started to be used shortly thereafter.⁹⁸ This MID certificate was more closely related in design and text to those issued with other modern Canadian honours, like the Exemplary Service Medals, than to its British precursor.

The Rideau Hall certificate used from 1996 to 2008 was printed on letter size white card stock in landscape configuration. Details varied slightly over time. For example, the border changed from a double border to a single one later on. The Vice-Regal lion was initially displayed in full colours. During the LeBlanc mandate the lion was in gold outline and had temporarily lost its tongue and claws, which were restored under Clarkson. The text however remained consistent throughout this period with a header stating 'Mention in Dispatches awarded to' followed by the rank and full



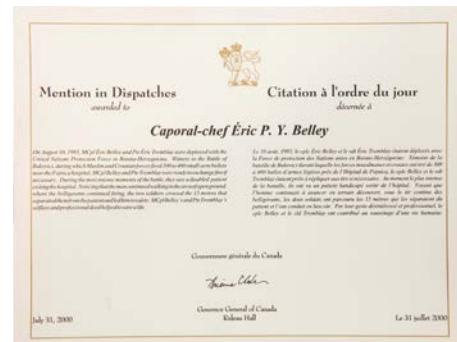
Second World War certificate of Sergeant Alexander Morris Henning Robertson

Photo: CWM, 19930131-006, George Metcalf Archival Collection



Rideau Hall certificate of Corporal Joseph Roger Dominic Lapointe who was MID in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Photo: DND



Rideau Hall certificate of Master Corporal Joseph Paul Yves Éric Belley who was MID in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Photo: DND

name of the recipient, the citation, the signature block of the Governor General and the date, the whole document being bilingual.

As previously stated, the Department of National Defence (DND) assumed responsibility for the administration of the MID, including the creation of the certificate, in 2008. The opportunity was taken to restore the design and text of the MID certificate to reflect those used in previous conflicts. The certificates issued from DND from September 2008 bear the Royal Arms of Canada embossed in gold on a thick cream coloured card paper printed in portrait format. It bears a text inspired by the original text, highlighting the fact the MID is an honour granted



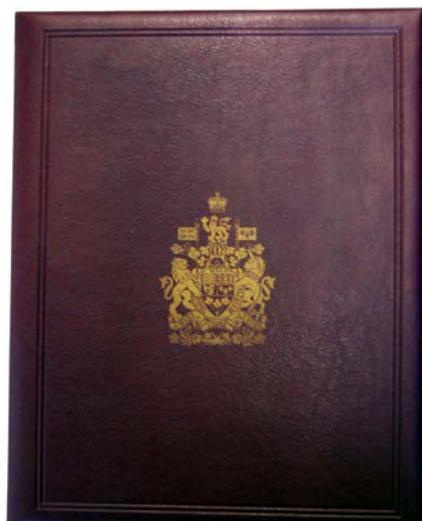
DND Certificate in French of Captain David Lacombe who was MID in Afghanistan

Photo: DND



DND Certificate in English of Master Corporal Tyler Latta who was MID in Afghanistan

Photo: DND



Presentation folder for DND Certificate

Photo: DND

on behalf of the Sovereign, the citation, the date of award and the signature of the CDS. The certificate is produced in the first official language of the recipient and is presented in a burgundy folder bearing the Royal Arms of Canada impressed in gold on the cover.

Post-nominals

Only appointments to orders and the award of decorations confer the use of post-nominal letters and therefore there are no post-nominals associated with the MID.

Conclusion



CONCLUSION

After just 25 years of history, the Canadian Mention in Dispatches has earned its rightful place in our honours system and the esteem of members of Her Majesty's Canadian Armed Forces and of Canadians alike. Those who have been mentioned have demonstrated the most important virtues of the military profession while participating in active operations and have earned our respect. They join a legion of other Canadians who, before them, during a century marked by conflict, have been Mentioned in Dispatches in recognition of gallant and distinguished service and thus earned the high appreciation of their Sovereign and their fellow Canadians. May this proud tradition continue long into the future.

Appendix One

Letters Patent



LETTERS PATENT

instituting and creating

in Canada

the Insignia for

Mention in Dispatches.

DATED 3rd June, 1991

RECORDED 12th June, 1991

Film 654

Document 53

DAVID D. KIRCHMAYER



Deputy Registrar General of Canada

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Realms and Territories QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

TO ALL TO WHOM these Presents shall come or whom the same may in any way concern,

Greeting:

WHEREAS it is desirable and Our Privy Council for Canada has advised that Letters Patent do issue instituting and creating in Canada the Insignia for Mention in Dispatches for the purpose of according recognition to members of the Canadian Forces on active service and other individuals working with or in conjunction with the Canadian Forces for valiant conduct, devotion to duty or other distinguished service.

NOW KNOW YOU that We, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council for Canada, do by these Presents institute and create the Insignia to be designated and styled as the Insignia for Mention in Dispatches.

AND WE DO ordain, direct and appoint that the award of the said Insignia shall be governed by the annexed Regulations governing the award of the Insignia for Mention in Dispatches, as the Regulations may from time to time be amended, revoked or revised by Letters Patent issued by Us, Our Heirs and Successors or Our Governor General of Canada on Our behalf.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and We have caused Our Great Seal of Canada to be affixed to these Presents, which We have signed with Our Royal Hand.

GIVEN this third day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-one and in the fortieth year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Mulroney".

BRIAN MULRONEY
Prime Minister of Canada



Appendix Two

Regulations



REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE INSIGNIA FOR MENTION IN DISPATCHES

(Reprint of Regulations annexed to Letters Patent Instituting and Creating in Canada the Insignia for Mention in Dispatches, 3 June 1991)

Short Title

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Insignia for Mention in Dispatches Regulations.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations, "Insignia" means the Insignia for Mention in Dispatches (MIDs) awarded pursuant to subsection 3(1) (Insigne)

Insignia for Mention in Dispatches

3. (1) The Insignia for MIDs shall be awarded for valiant conduct, devotion to duty or other distinguished service that is recognized MIDs.
(2) The Insignia shall consist of a bronze oak leaf.

Eligibility

4. Members of the Canadian Forces on active service and other individuals working with or in conjunction with the Canadian Forces on or after November 1, 1990 are eligible for the award of the Insignia.

Recommendations

5. The Chief of the Defence Staff shall forward to the Governor-General the names of those persons who have been mentioned in dispatches and whom the Chief of the Defence Staff recommends for an award of the Insignia.
6. Recommendations made under section 5 shall be supported by brief citations.

Awards

7. (1) An award of the Insignia shall be made on behalf of Her Majesty by Instrument signed by the Governor-General.
 - (2) The Governor-General may, under any circumstances considered appropriate, allocate Insignia to Field Commanders but the award of any Insignia so allocated shall be subject to ratification by the Governor-General.
 - (3) The Insignia may be awarded posthumously.

Wearing of the Insignia

8. (1) Subject to subsection (3), the Insignia shall be worn horizontally on the designated ribbon, with the stalk of the oak leaf furthest from the left shoulder.
 - (2) Only one Insignia shall be worn on any one ribbon.
 - (3) Where the Insignia is awarded in circumstances where there is no designated ribbon, the Insignia shall be worn immediately below any medals, with the stalk of the oak leaf furthest from the left shoulder.

Administration

9. The Director, Honours, The Chancellery shall:
 - a. prepare the Instruments of Award in respect of the Insignia for signature by the Governor-General;
 - b. procure the Insignia; and
 - c. arrange for the names of recipients to be published in the Canada Gazette.



Appendix Three

Administrative Guidelines



MENTION IN DISPATCHES – GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

Mention in Dispatches (MID) are national honours awarded for valiant conduct, devotion to duty or other distinguished service to members of the CAF on active service and other individuals working with or in conjunction with the CAF on or after 1 November 1990.

A citation certificate accompanies the award.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The senior Canadian officer involved in active operations may recommend that subordinate individuals receive public recognition for valiant conduct, devotion to duty or other distinguished service by formally mentioning them in dispatches.

If approved, public recognition is granted by the award of a Mention in Dispatches (MID) insignia and the publication of appropriate details in the *Canada Gazette*.

Normally, MID recommendations are restricted to war-like conditions in an active theatre of operations. Exceptions must be clearly and individually justified.

Service beyond the normal call of duty that does not qualify for a MID may be considered for the Chief of the Defence Staff or Command Commendation.

Recommendations shall be prepared and forwarded to National Defence Headquarters (NDHQ)/Directorate of Honours and Recognition (DH&R) through the chain of command.

A MID for devotion to duty or other distinguished service requires a 60-80 words citation to explain the honour.

In order to maintain the established standard and integrity of this award, recommendations shall not be submitted or accepted if they total more than one for every 100 persons under command in the theatre of operations for a six month period. The maximum is one for 200 in other operations.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

As a guide, no more than one third of the potential total number of MIDs in a six month period should be recommended for immediate award. These should be exclusively for valour.

Care should be taken to search actively for the most deserving individuals.

As with Military Valour Decorations, the commander should balance recommendations among the forces under command to reflect such factors as severity of combat and closeness of contact with the enemy. In general, units and formations that faced the hardest missions should receive the preponderance of recognition. This consideration need not be related to victory or success. Determined action in the face of overwhelming odds is equally worthy of recognition.

The test should always be to protect the prestige and integrity of the award in the eyes of all CAF members.

PRESENTATION

MID recipients are informed of their award through their chain of command and given two MID Oak leaves for immediate wear on undress ribbons. The MID insignia and certificate are forwarded to the CDS's office who will arrange for formal presentation. The CDS may also delegate presentation of MIDs to appropriate authorities.

WEARING

No more than one insignia is worn on the ribbon of any one medal; two or more MIDs for duty during service recognized by the same medal are marked by the wearing of one insignia only.

Refer to Paragraph 8 of the Regulations concerning the Insignia for Mention in Dispatches and to the Canadian Forces Dress Instructions (A-AD-265-000/AG-001) for regulations on the wearing of the MID.



Appendix Four

Register of Those Mentioned in Dispatches 1991–2016

This register includes the names and citations (other than those which are classified) of all those Mentioned in Dispatches between the creation of the Canadian insignia, on 3 June 1991, and the beginning of its 25th anniversary year on 1 January 2016. The rank, name and post-nominals displayed are those held by the person at the time of the action or service recognized by the Mention. The recipients are presented in alphabetical order and those who have been Mentioned twice have both citations listed together, in chronological order.



MENTION IN DISPATCHES



Sergeant Brian Vince ADAMS, CD

Sergeant Adams, who was deployed with Alpha Company, 1st Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group in Afghanistan,

is recognized for his leadership and courage under fire. On 19 August 2006, during an intense 12 hour firefight with the Taliban insurgents in Masum Ghar, he implemented effective perimeter security and coordinated the extraction and recovery of an overturned light armoured vehicle as well as the subsequent withdrawal of his platoon. His composure and personal efforts under hostile conditions instilled the utmost confidence in his platoon, which contributed to the success of the operation.



Warrant Officer Colin AFFLECK, CD

Warrant Officer Affleck provided outstanding imagery analysis and intelligence during the Gulf War.



Corporal Daniel ALBRECHT

While deployed to Afghanistan with a Police Operational Mentor and Liaison Team from May 2010 to January 2011, Corporal Albrecht performed exceptionally well under fire during multiple enemy engagements. Providing outstanding medical treatment amidst chaotic and demanding circumstances, he calmly and expertly applied the same professional care

whether working on an Afghan police officer or a wounded insurgent while under attack. Corporal Albrecht's exceptional courage and soldiering ability saved lives on the battlefield and contributed directly to operational success.



Master Corporal Martin AMYOT

From October 2009 to May 2010, Master Corporal Amyot performed decisively in the face of the enemy during high-intensity combat operations in Afghanistan. On several occasions, he disregarded his personal safety, exposing himself to extreme threats to neutralize the enemy and protect the lives of his comrades. Master Corporal Amyot's courage and composure under fire inspired his fellow soldiers, prevented coalition force casualties and ensured the success of his platoon.



Private John ANDERSEN

For outstanding devotion to duty in Afghanistan, on 15 September 2007. Under intense enemy fire, he broke cover to move a wounded comrade to a casualty collection point, and returned to complete his task. His selfless actions permitted the immediate evacuation and treatment of a fellow soldier.



Commander Stuart ANDREWS, CD

While deployed as Commanding Officer of Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Terra Nova*, Commander Andrews displayed outstanding leadership and dedication to duty during the Gulf War.



Master Corporal Niall Baird ANTHONY

On 15 January 2006, Master Corporal Anthony was the second-in-command of a patrol that was the target of a suicide attack carried out with a vehicle rigged with improvised explosive devices, the largest attack of its type ever seen in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Through the chaos and carnage, and without concern for his own safety, Master Corporal Anthony took actions that ensured the survival of two wounded Afghan children and two fellow soldiers trapped in a burning vehicle. His clarity of thought and ability to perform steadfastly in a tragic and hazardous situation brought great credit to him, to his unit and to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Corporal Joshua ANTONIO

On 23 March 2010, Corporal Antonio was deployed to Patrol Base Panjsher in Afghanistan when it was attacked by insurgents. Demonstrating outstanding leadership and composure under fire, he took charge of the platoon's general-purpose machine gun and provided effective fire. His actions suppressed the enemy and ensured his section had time to occupy fighting positions and repel the attack. Corporal Antonio's decisive reaction, outstanding soldiering ability and clear direction amidst the chaos of battle contributed to defeating the enemy.



Master Corporal Dwayne William ATKINSON

Master Corporal Atkinson was repairing a generator at Belet Uen Hospital, Somalia, on 17 February 1993, when a violent demonstration erupted outside the hospital gates. Shots were fired and a grenade thrown. Master Corporal Atkinson intervened to help disarm the Somalis, control the crowd, and assist in defusing the volatile situation, undoubtedly preventing considerable loss of life.



Private Jeffrey ATLEE

On 3 October 2008, Private Atlee's platoon was ambushed in Afghanistan. As part of the primary machine gun team, he immediately moved through intense enemy fire to a more effective position. Despite drawing the brunt of the attack for over two hours, he remained in this position and provided a steady volume of accurate fire that hindered the insurgents' ability to reinforce their position. Private Atlee's courageous actions helped his platoon break initial contact, regroup and ultimately defeat the enemy ambush.



Captain Hugh ATWELL

Captain Atwell was deployed to Afghanistan in command of 7 Platoon, 'C' Company of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, 1st Battle Group. On 27 March 2006, Captain Atwell's platoon received multiple and significant casualties when Forward Operating Base Robinson came under sustained attack from a numerically superior enemy force. Despite the traumatic losses, Captain Atwell led his platoon throughout the intense and sustained attack and directly contributed to the coalition victory. A month later, on 28 April, his platoon engaged and defeated an approaching enemy force, and prevented the ambush of a combat logistics patrol.



Master Corporal Étienne AUBÉ

On 17 July 2009, Master Corporal Aubé was conducting compound searches in Afghanistan when he came upon a heavily booby-trapped structure. After ordering his section out of the building, he entered alone to investigate and struck an improvised explosive device. Despite being gravely wounded, he calmed the soldiers who had rushed to his aid, guided them through his immediate care requirements and briefed them on what to expect inside. Amidst these extremely dire circumstances, Master Corporal Aubé never wavered from his responsibilities, inspiring his soldiers and ensuring they remained confident.



Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Michael AUSTDAL, CD

Lieutenant-Colonel Austdal was the Chief of Operational Plans for the United Nations mission in Rwanda from May 1994 to June 1995. He represented the mission in discussions with all combatants, including the Interahamwe Death Squads, Gendarmerie and senior army officials on both sides. Lieutenant-Colonel Austdal often acted as a personal courier for the Force Commander, passing through the civil war's front lines daily, sometimes under mortar, artillery and small arms fire. His courage, devotion to duty, and disregard for his own safety produced outstanding operational results and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Sergeant Sjirk Ruurds BAJEMA

Sergeant Bajema was an infantry section commander in a platoon that stood firm during fifteen hours of intense, indirect fire during a Croatian attack in the Medak Pocket, Croatia, in September 1993. The next day, in the face of objections from the local Serbian military authorities and despite threats against his own life, he established an observation post to monitor the conflict. The post later proved to be the only direct source of information available to the United Nations, and was used by both military observers and senior staff officers of the United Nations Protection Force.



Private David BANKS

On 6 May 2008, a patrol from the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. While holding the patrol's rearward position, Private Banks maintained the suppressive fire necessary to evacuate the casualties despite dwindling ammunition, a significant explosion nearby and being exposed to intense enemy fire. Private Banks' courage, dedication and selflessness helped repel the insurgent ambush.



Captain Robert Edward BARKER

On 18 June 2008, two Afghan National Army companies were patrolling in Arghandab District, Afghanistan, when the lead platoon was pinned down by insurgents. Under intense enemy fire, Captain Barker instinctively moved forward to the beleaguered Afghans and rallied them to fight. Recognizing their dire situation, he made the tactically sound decision to execute a fighting withdrawal under the cover of aviation assets and smokescreens. Captain Barker's outstanding leadership and courage ensured the extraction of both companies and prevented further casualties.



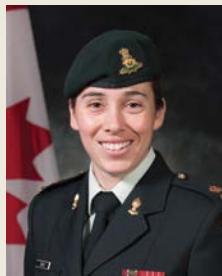
Colonel David Watson BARTRAM, CD

While employed as the Chief of Staff and Deputy Commander of the Canadian Forces Middle East, Colonel Bartram displayed dedication to duty and outstanding leadership during the Gulf War.



Corporal Jean-François BEC

In Bosnia-Herzegovina Croatia, between 23 June and 16 July 1995, Corporal Bec demonstrated an extraordinary sense of duty and self-sacrifice while guarding his observation post during a period of food and water rationing and under repeated artillery fire. Following an attack and attempted incursion by a warring faction, Corporal Bec ensured the safety of his fellow soldiers and, on several occasions, advanced to a dangerous position where he could observe the movements of the faction and secure valuable information for his section commander. Throughout this period, he was a constant source of motivation and served as a model of outstanding conduct to his peers.



Captain Isabelle Marie-Ève BÉGIN

For exceptional dedication and professionalism, in Afghanistan, on 17 November 2007. Her technical ability to effectively coordinate and call artillery fire allowed Reconnaissance Platoon to safely withdraw from a deadly insurgent ambush. Her quick actions saved the lives of Canadian soldiers and helped ensure mission success.



Master Corporal Joseph Paul Yves Éric BELLEY
Private Joseph Éric Tremblay

On 10 August 1993, Master Corporal Belley and Private Tremblay were deployed with the United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Witness to the Battle of Bakovici, during which Muslim and Croatian forces fired 300 to 400 small-arm bullets near the Fojnica hospital, Master Corporal Belley and Private Tremblay were ready to exchange fire if necessary. During the most intense moments of the battle, they saw a disabled patient exiting the hospital. Noticing that the man continued walking in the area of open ground, where the belligerents continued firing, the two soldiers crossed the 15 metres that separated them from the patient and led him to safety. Master Corporal Belley's and Private Tremblay's selfless and professional deed helped to save a life.



Sergeant Sébastien Joseph Yves BELVAL
Sergeant Joseph André Jacques Sylvain Énault, CD

When their company was attacked in Afghanistan on 4 June 2009, Sergeant Belval and Sergeant Énault fearlessly moved to the roof of their fortification to determine the enemy's location and to direct artillery fire. Remaining in this exposed position throughout the battle, they braved intense enemy fire to provide information that was critical to delivering decisive fire support. Their outstanding composure, technical skill and courage under fire were instrumental in repelling the attack and defending their position.



Sergeant Sean Eldon BENEDICT, CD

On 3 September 2006, members of 7 Platoon, Charles Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, engaged in a violent firefight in the Pashmul area of Afghanistan. At a critical moment in the battle, an anti-tank weapon struck one of the lead vehicles, killing several soldiers and wounding others. Sergeant Benedict immediately left the security of his own vehicle, exposing himself to intense small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire, and ran to the other vehicle to provide support until the firefight was won. His actions and leadership under fire were an inspiration to his fellow soldiers.



Master Warrant Officer Timothy Alfred BENNETT, CD

On 24 August 2010, Master Warrant Officer Bennett was stationed at combat outpost *Terra Nova* in Afghanistan when insurgents attacked with effective mortar fire. Despite being wounded by shrapnel during the initial attack, his frontline leadership kept American and Afghan soldiers focused and cohesive, ultimately enabling them to repel the attack. Throughout the engagement, Master Warrant Officer Bennett displayed exceptional tactical acumen and soldiering ability, maintained total control of the situation and effectively organized the defence of the position.



Sergeant Jos Jean Éric BERGERON

For outstanding leadership and courage in Afghanistan, on 12 September 2007. He selflessly braved heavy insurgent fire to throw smoke grenades and help cover the movement of his fellow soldiers. His actions ensured the protection of his platoon and allowed the clearance of an Improvised Explosive Device.



Corporal Philippe BERTHIAUME

For outstanding courage, poise and combat skills while deployed in Afghanistan. On 14 September 2007, while targeted at close range by insurgents, he selflessly exposed himself to danger in order to fire a rocket inside a building, saving the lives of his comrades and enabling their withdrawal.



Master Corporal Marie Sylvie Annie BILODEAU

For outstanding dedication under enemy fire in Afghanistan, on 22 August and 6 November 2007. She quickly rehabilitated heat stress casualties, allowing them to rejoin the battle, and she contributed to the treatment and evacuation of over one hundred wounded coalition force soldiers, thereby increasing their chances of survival.



Captain John BINNS

Captain Binns was the crew commander of a Sea King Helicopter whose task was to attempt to evacuate a critically wounded Somali and a surgical team to HMCS *Preserver* on 22 February 1993. An ongoing battle was raging in the city, and the site proposed for the evacuation, while safe from enemy fire, was surrounded by obstacles hidden in the darkness. Because of the danger Belgian and American forces refused to undertake the mission, but Captain Binns elected to attempt the evacuation. Assisted by his co-pilot, he managed to land his aircraft and conducted a flawless departure, despite the darkness, to deliver the patient and surgical team safely to the ship.



Leading Seaman Stephen Franklin BIRKS

Corporal Glenn Andrew King

Private James Shannon Troy Sinclair

On 21 June 1994, Leading Seaman Birks, Corporal King and Private Sinclair were supporting a mine clearing operation near Kakma, Croatia, when two anti-personnel mines suddenly detonated, seriously wounding three soldiers. Leading Seaman Birks, Corporal King and Private Sinclair entered the minefield after it had been roughly cleared by a colleague to assist in the rescue of the victims. Their actions, despite the difficult circumstances, were in the very best traditions of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Private David BLIER

For exceptional courage and professionalism in Afghanistan, on 15 September 2007. Despite personal injury, he continued to assist in an eleven-hour route clearance, under intense enemy rocket and small arms fire. His actions inspired his section and helped ensure the security of the Combat Team.



Warrant Officer Joseph Gaston André Michel BOLDUC, CD

While deployed with 1st Battalion, Royal 22^e Régiment, Warrant Officer Bolduc provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Captain Ross William BONNELL

From 11 to 16 January 2009, Captain Bonnell led his Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team through multiple contacts against a well-trained and aggressive insurgent force during a lengthy combat operation in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He repeatedly exposed himself to heavy insurgent fire to maintain situational awareness and fix insurgents in place, ensuring they could be engaged with artillery. Captain Bonnell's courage under fire and leadership by example inspired and empowered those he was mentoring to achieve operational success.



Warrant Officer Daniel William BOUCHIE, CD

On 7 August 2008, a vehicle in Warrant Officer Bouchie's patrol was destroyed by an improvised explosive device in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Immediately after the initial blast, the enemy engaged them with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. Taking charge amidst the chaos, he led a search for secondary devices, established a casualty collection point, personally extracted the casualties and coordinated a helicopter evacuation. Warrant Officer Bouchie's composure and leadership under fire ensured the successful evacuation of the casualties.



Corporal Guillaume BOULAY

Corporal Boulay displayed great courage and poise as a section signaller in an intense and sustained attack, in Afghanistan, on 17 November 2007. He provided detailed situation reports and directed fire missions, all while personally engaging the enemy, helping his section to hold their position and take the initiative in the battle.



Master Corporal Jason James BOYES

For outstanding courage and professionalism in Afghanistan, on 8 July 2006. Despite being pinned down, Master Corporal Bowes selflessly exposed himself to enemy fire to launch an anti-tank weapon into the insurgent position in order to permit his trapped comrades to safely withdraw.



Sergeant Jamie BRADLEY

On 12 December 2005, Sergeant Bradley's patrol convoy sustained an improvised explosive device attack in Ghorak, Afghanistan. As the patrol commander was seriously injured, Sergeant Bradley assumed command of the scene. He cordoned off the area, cleared a lane to the damaged vehicle and directed the Afghanistan National Security to apprehend two suspects. Despite the threat of subsequent attacks, the loss of a quarter of the convoy's fire power and the distance separating them from potential reinforcements, the casualties were rescued and evacuated thanks to Sergeant Bradley's sound judgment and vigilance.



Corporal Joshua BROPHY

On 14 October 2006, Corporal Brophy, a member of the Commander's tactical group, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, dismounted from his vehicle under intense enemy fire to assist in the extraction of his vehicle that had become stuck in an irrigation ditch while countering an intense enemy attack near Ma'sum Ghar, in Afghanistan. Under heavy enemy fire, which threatened him, the vehicle and its occupants, Corporal Brophy worked diligently to rig towing cables to extract the exposed vehicle. His selfless and courageous actions helped save the crew and the vehicle, and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Major Steven Gary BROWN, CD

As Officer Commanding Oscar Company in Afghanistan from April to November 2010, Major Brown distinguished himself as an exceptional combat leader. Sharing the risks with his soldiers during a difficult fighting season, he delivered an excellent battlefield performance through courageous leadership and expert tactics. His shining example enhanced the Canadian Armed Forces' partnering relationship with Afghan National Security Forces and proved critical to achieving success in defeating insurgent forces. Major Brown's outstanding leadership under fire brought great credit to Canada.



Corporal Christopher Robert BUSCHE

On 28 July 2008, the lead element of a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol was pinned down by insurgents in Zhari District, Afghanistan. With the squad in danger of becoming encircled, Corporal Busche moved through intense enemy fire to reinforce the isolated Afghans. Despite fierce enemy resistance, he continued to aggressively and decisively move forward, returning a heavy volume of fire to suppress the insurgent position. Corporal Busche's courage and selflessness prevented the patrol from being surrounded by a numerically superior enemy.



Corporal Paul CAMPITELLI

In Sarajevo, on 10 July 1992, Corporal Campitelli assisted in the evacuation of two civilian casualties under very dangerous conditions. Despite sniper fire, he left his personnel carrier, rendered first aid, placed one casualty on a stretcher and provided protection during the evacuation of the casualties.



Captain Breen CARSON

On 12 November 2009, Captain Carson displayed outstanding frontline leadership after an improvised explosive device seriously wounded a Canadian soldier. Despite the inherent confusion, he established security before clearing a safe path to the casualty and providing first aid. With the casualty stabilized, he brought the medic forward and immediately transitioned to coordinating inbound ground and aviation assets. Captain Carson's exceptional performance saved the soldier's life and kept his team operationally focused throughout the incident.



Private Ryan CARTER

Private Carter was deployed with 5 Platoon, B Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER in Afghanistan. On 24 May 2006, during Operation YADGAR, his platoon was ambushed and came under intense enemy fire, which isolated his vehicle from the remainder of his platoon. Despite the evident danger and the vulnerability of his position as gunner on a light utility vehicle, Private Carter laid down continuous fire, suppressing the enemy and allowing the remainder of his platoon to safely break contact. His fearlessness and composure throughout this attack were exemplary and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Captain Christopher Walter Crawford CARTHEW

On 3 September 2008, a vehicle from Captain Carthew's patrol was destroyed during a complex ambush in Zhari District, Afghanistan. As the Platoon Commander, he instilled a sense of order and control amidst the shock and chaos of this unexpected and devastating attack. He expertly began coordinating his platoon's response to the attack while simultaneously calling for artillery support. Captain Carthew's calm leadership and decisive actions were vital to winning the firefight and evacuating the casualties.



Master Corporal Mathieu CHARETTE

On 17 April 2011, Master Corporal Charette, Forward Observation Officer, displayed boundless courage and professionalism when his patrol came under a crossfire attack in Afghanistan. He repeatedly exposed himself to fire in order to confirm the attacking positions and relayed this accurate intelligence to his commanding officer and the artillery support centre. Master Corporal Charette's composure permitted laying the artillery pieces extremely quickly and making them available to the platoon commander to support his retreat.



Private Michael Robert CHARLISH

For outstanding courage and dedication while serving in Afghanistan, on 9 July 2006. While engaged by insurgents from the roof of a compound, he exposed himself to fire to extract a wounded comrade and his equipment, all while successfully engaging the enemy with his own weapon.



Christopher Allen Robert CHARRON

Captain Thomas Nicholas Mykytiuk

Corporal Charron and Captain Mykytiuk were deployed in Srebrenica, Bosnia-Hercegovina, when the town was shelled by a greater than normal concentration of fire on 12 April 1994. During a lull, they drove out to search for two missing soldiers and assist where possible. They came upon a site that had taken several direct hits, with many casualties. Despite renewed shelling, they were determined to assist the wounded civilians, and made several trips to bring them to the nearest hospital. These actions in dangerous circumstances were in the finest spirit of the United Nation's mandate.



Warrant Officer Joseph André Dominic CHENARD, CD

On 24 November 2006, while serving with the Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan, Warrant Officer Chenard's skilful leadership contributed to saving the lives of allied soldiers. He led his quick reaction force into a decisive firefight to assist American Special Forces engaged by an overwhelming enemy force. He positioned his platoon vehicles into effective fire positions, provided cover for the removal of casualties, and used his own vehicle to recover the disabled vehicles. Warrant Officer Chenard's decisive actions under fire contributed to saving the lives of numerous soldiers and directly resulted in the successful withdrawal of the Americans.



Lieutenant-Colonel Marcel CHEVARIE, CD

Lieutenant-Colonel Chevarie was the deputy commanding officer of the Battle Group of the 2nd Battalion Royal 22^e Regiment in Bosnia-Herzegovina, on 23 July 1993. He learned that two soldiers from a reconnaissance patrol had been caught in an ambush, near the village of Pravoslavna Pecsta. One of the soldiers had managed to escape unscathed while the other had injuries to both legs from a grenade explosion. As soon as he learned this, Lieutenant-Colonel Chevarie went to the scene. Undeterred by light arms fire and anti-personnel mines, he asked Company A to provide support fire, for himself and the company commander at his side, and the two crawled to the injured man, dodging bullets. They calmly examined the soldier's injuries and began to move him to a safe place where the stretcher-bearers could finally tend to him. Through his leadership and composure during a very tense period, Lieutenant-Colonel Chevarie helped save a soldier's life. He acted in the finest tradition of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Sergeant Darrell Louis CHIASSON

While deployed with 1 Forward Surgical Hospital, Sergeant Chiasson provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Master Corporal Joel Douglas CHIDLEY

On 14 June 2010, Master Corporal Chidley's combat logistics patrol was ambushed by insurgents in Afghanistan. Hearing of a casualty across the road, he moved to the position under fire to provide first aid and regroup his section. Faced with machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire, Master Corporal Chidley's outstanding combat leadership and composure throughout the attack ensured the defeat of the ambush, saved the life of a fellow soldier and prevented further casualties.



Master Warrant Officer Frank Winfield CHURCHILL, CD

While deployed with the Canadian Air Task Group Middle East, Master Warrant Officer Churchill provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Corporal Erkin CICEKCI

On 31 January 2009, an Afghan National Police (ANP) officer in Corporal Cicekci's patrol was seriously wounded during the initial stages of a firefight in Zhari District, Afghanistan. With the casualty caught in the open, Corporal Cicekci selflessly moved through heavy enemy fire to reach his position and began medical treatment. He remained with the ANP officer to dress his wounds and stabilized him even as bullets landed inches from their heads. Corporal Cicekci's courageous and selfless actions undoubtedly saved the life of a comrade-in-arms.



Master Corporal Jason CLARK, CD

On 9 July 2010, Master Corporal Clark's platoon was ambushed in Afghanistan. With two wounded, he rushed to their position, moved them to safety and established the casualty collection point under heavy enemy fire. With the attack intensifying, he took up another soldier's light machine gun and suppressed the enemy while continuing to issue fire orders to his section. Master Corporal Clark's remarkable composure and frontline leadership enabled immediate medical treatment, facilitated evacuation and contributed to defeating the attack.



Warrant Officer Robert Joseph CLARKE, CD

For courageous leadership in Afghanistan, on 24 September 2007, when he coordinated the recovery of a tank under sustained enemy attacks. His actions minimized the number of casualties suffered that day, and inspired his soldiers to prevent a vital piece of equipment from falling into enemy hands.



Lieutenant-Commander Peter John CLIFFORD, CD

From February to August 2006, while serving as the chief medical advisor and primary care commander for the Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit, Lieutenant-Commander Clifford displayed uncommon dedication and tenacity, greatly contributing to the hospital's medical support mission. Using exceptional leadership, he supervised the clinic staff through significant mass casualty events, carried out uncompromised patient care and assisted with mortuary affairs for all coalition forces casualties. Lieutenant-Commander Clifford is a talented physician whose initiative and foresight ensured the welfare and survival of numerous ill and injured soldiers.



Private Joshua CLOUSTON

On 6 June 2010, Private Clouston's dismounted patrol was dispatched to investigate a suspected weapons cache in Afghanistan when his Sergeant was fatally wounded by an improvised explosive device. Without hesitation, he rushed forward, issued clear direction to other soldiers who had commenced first aid and then personally provided treatment with the utmost compassion and professionalism. Private Clouston's outstanding leadership and selfless actions ensured the provision of the best possible medical care and provided comfort to his comrade.



Captain Jeffrey CODE

On 15 April 2008, Captain Code was leading a mounted patrol in Zhari District, Afghanistan, when his vehicle was destroyed by an improvised explosive device. After ensuring his soldiers were not injured, he crawled from the vehicle and ordered the teams to fight through the ensuing ambush. Despite his serious wounds, he provided accurate situational reports that enabled the Quick Reaction Force's timely and appropriate response. Captain Code's inspirational leadership under fire ensured the quick evacuation of casualties.



Captain Robert COLBOURNE, CD

For outstanding courage while mentoring Afghan soldiers in battle in Afghanistan, on 23 October 2007. Under continuous fire, he selflessly exposed himself to great danger to issue fire control orders and to administer first aid, thereby enabling a safe tactical withdrawal and the evacuation of two wounded soldiers.



Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Harold COOPER

While deployed on Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Athabaskan*, Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Cooper provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Corporal Shaun David COPELAND

On 25 March 2008, a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol was returning from operations in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan, when an insurgent ambush pinned down the rear section. Corporal Copeland led Afghan soldiers to a flanking position to support the section's fighting withdrawal. He then used accurate fire from his grenade launcher to mark the insurgents' location, enabling aviation assets to engage. Corporal Copeland's courageous and decisive actions helped ensure the extraction of the soldiers and the defeat of the enemy.



Master Corporal Isabelle CORBEIL

On 23 August 2009, Master Corporal Corbeil's company was conducting an operation in Afghanistan when they were surprised by a group of insurgents who immediately unleashed a heavy weight of fire on their position. Despite being under direct enemy fire, Master Corporal Corbeil coordinated multiple artillery strikes that enabled the capture of the enemy position. Her ability to remain composed under intense fire and adjust artillery orders in response to the changing battle conditions were instrumental to the operational success of her company.



Captain Raymond Jean-Claude CORBY

Captain Corby's Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team mentored an Afghan National Army company at an isolated outpost in Afghanistan from September 2008 to April 2009. Faced with almost daily attacks, his outstanding coordination of Canadian and Afghan soldiers and fire support assets enabled the outpost to consistently repel a determined enemy and subsequently take the fight to the insurgents. Captain Corby's courageous leadership and tenacity saved lives, inspired soldiers and enabled the expansion of the outpost's area of influence.



Sergeant Steven Alan CORCORAN

On 2 June 2008, Sergeant Corcoran commanded the lead section of a patrol during an ambush in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Despite injuries from having been shot twice by an insurgent lying in wait, he returned fire that helped disrupt the ambush and dragged himself to a position of cover for medical attention. He continued to direct his soldiers from his stretcher, providing reassurance and instilling confidence in the face of a significant threat. Sergeant Corcoran's outstanding leadership and professionalism inspired his section throughout the engagement.



Lieutenant Aaron Edward COREY

On 12 November 2008, Lieutenant Corey's platoon fought through relentless enemy attacks while conducting a lengthy combat patrol in Zhari District, Afghanistan. His frontline leadership ensured his platoon achieved its multiple objectives and returned to safety despite being under near constant attack by machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire. Lieutenant Corey's courage, tenacity and tactical acumen inspired his soldiers and ensured the defeat of a determined enemy.



Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Ivan Douglas CORKUM, CD

While deployed on Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Terra Nova*, Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Corkum provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Warrant Officer Joseph Jean Denis Justin CÔTÉ, CD

From 23 June to 14 July 2009, Warrant Officer Côté's efforts as company sergeant-major ensured the success of numerous combat operations in Afghanistan. Whether under intense enemy fire or operating in close proximity to civilians, his experience and composure provided a calming influence on the company's junior members and ensured the combat team was fully prepared to meet all challenges. Sharing the risk with his soldiers throughout the operations, Warrant Officer Côté's frontline leadership was instrumental to the company's combat success.



Sergeant Joseph Michel CÔTÉ, CD

On 8 June 2009, a soldier in Sergeant Côté's platoon was wounded by an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan. As section commander, Sergeant Côté was instrumental in establishing security, treating the casualty and calling for medical evacuation. Approximately 45 minutes later, the platoon was ambushed by insurgents as it continued its operation. Despite the recent medical evacuation of their comrade, Sergeant Côté's outstanding frontline leadership and precise direction kept his soldiers focused and enabled them to win the firefight and defeat the ambush.



Private Samuel CÔTÉ

On 8 June 2009, Private Côté's platoon was ambushed by insurgents in Afghanistan as it returned from the scene of an improvised explosive device attack. Immediately engaging the enemy with his rifle and grenade launcher, his decisive actions allowed other members of the platoon to advance toward the enemy position. Despite intense fire and a lack of cover, he continued to aggressively and fearlessly engage the enemy throughout the engagement. Private Côté's courageous and decisive actions were critical to winning the firefight and defeating the ambush.



Major James Frederick COTTINGHAM, CD

On 15 January 1993, Major Cottingham, the crew commander of a Sea King helicopter, responded to a report that the Merchant Vessel Free Trader and its landed cargo of relief supplies were being hijacked by a group of 150 to 200 bandits in Somalia. Major Cottingham intervened with a series of extremely low passes forcing the gunmen to disperse until armed assistance arrived.



Master Corporal Russell Wayne COUGHLIN, CD

On 26 May 2007, the 2nd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment urgently sortied to support the extraction of Afghan National Police who were ambushed by Taliban insurgents. An Engineer Light Armoured Vehicle became immobilized in a highly exposed kill zone. Without hesitation, Master Corporal Coughlin dismounted, leaving the safety of his vehicle to effect repairs. He led his team of vehicle technicians through several other vehicle repairs and recoveries at great personal risk. Master Corporal Coughlin's performance of his duties while exposed to sustained enemy fire was vital to the maintenance of the convoy and the successful completion of the mission.



Captain Simon COX

On 28 July 2008, the lead element of a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol was pinned down by insurgents in Zhari District, Afghanistan. With the squad in danger of becoming encircled, Captain Cox moved through intense enemy fire to reinforce the isolated Afghans. Despite fierce enemy resistance, he persistently continued to move forward, returning a heavy volume of fire to suppress the insurgent position. Captain Cox's courage and selflessness prevented the patrol from being surrounded by a numerically superior enemy.



Warrant Officer Robin John CRANE, CD

On 30 May 2008, an Afghan National Army (ANA) patrol, mentored by Warrant Officer Crane, was attacked while supporting a Battle Group operation in Zhari District, Afghanistan. After being forced to take protection from intense enemy fire, the patrol received Battle Group orders to move forward. Despite daunting risks, he personally led the advance, inspiring the remainder of the patrol to follow.

Warrant Officer Crane's courage and leadership by example enabled ANA support that contributed to the Battle Group's operational success.



Corporal Sheldon CRAWFORD

On 8 July 2008, an insurgent ambush in Zhari District, Afghanistan, forced a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol to split into two elements. Cut off from the rest of the patrol and pinned down by intense enemy fire, Corporal Crawford's mentorship of Afghan police and aggressive engagement of the enemy were essential to defending the patrols' flanks and preventing encirclement. Corporal Crawford's courage and decisiveness fixed the enemy in place until they could be defeated by fire support assets.



Leading Seaman Bruce CREWS

For outstanding initiative and resourcefulness, in Afghanistan, on 27 August 2007. In addition to providing counter-battery intelligence while under a lengthy, intense mortar attack, he assembled a critical defensive system that significantly decreased the effectiveness of the enemy fire.



Corporal Clark CUMMINGS

Corporal Cummings served with 1st Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery on Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 18 July 2006, while engaged in a firefight at the Garmser District Centre, his light armoured vehicle's main gun jammed. Despite continuous direct and indirect fire from rocket-propelled grenades, small arms and mortar rounds, Corporal Cummings left his vehicle to secure a hand crank from another vehicle to repair the main gun. His actions were instrumental in allowing his team to remedy the misfire and carry on with the firefight. Corporal Cummings's dedication, resolve, and willingness to put himself in harm's way for the good of the mission reflect exceptionally well on him as well as on the Canadian Armed Forces.



Master Corporal Jason John CUPPAGE

Master Corporal Cuppage was deployed with 5 Platoon, B Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 17 May 2006, during Operation BRAVO GUARDIAN, his platoon came under intense enemy fire during an ambush. Despite hits on his vehicle by six rocket-propelled grenade rounds, Master Corporal Cuppage manoeuvred his light armoured vehicle to cover the remainder of his platoon's withdrawal and took control of the cannon to engage the enemy. His decisive and selfless actions under fire undoubtedly prevented casualties. Master Corporal Cuppage's leadership, fortitude, and devotion to duty were exemplary and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Warrant Officer Darcy Dean CYR, CD

Warrant Officer Cyr was deployed with A-Battery, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, 1st Battle Group, during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 28 March 2006, while serving as the forward air controller for the Quick Reaction Force at Forward Operating Base Robinson, he left the compound under enemy fire to assess the tactical situation. Having difficulty relaying the casualty evacuation request to headquarters, Warrant Officer Cyr ran back inside the compound at great personal risk. His success in transmitting the casualty removal request contributed to the safe evacuation of three seriously wounded soldiers. His courage and dedication to duty were exemplary and brought honour to Canada.



Private Kevin DALLAIRE (Posthumous)

Private Dallaire was deployed with 9 Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 3 August 2006, during combat operations in the Pashmul region of Afghanistan, he exposed himself to great personal risk to provide cover fire for his section. Traversing an open field under enemy fire, Private Dallaire directed his section to keep moving until it reached its destination safely while he provided cover fire. His actions reflect the highest standard of his regiment and the Canadian Armed Forces.



Corporal Neil DANCER

From 13 to 18 February 2010, Corporal Dancer demonstrated composure and professionalism during repeated enemy engagements in Afghanistan. As a mentor to the Afghan National Army, his frontline leadership inspired his Afghan subordinates to remain calm and perform exceptionally well despite being under sustained enemy fire. Corporal Dancer's outstanding actions, particularly in the establishment of casualty collection points, saved the lives of numerous American and Afghan soldiers, bringing great credit to the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team and the Canadian Armed Forces.



Sergeant Gareth DAVEY, CD

On 5 June 2010, Sergeant Davey risked his life to expedite the medical evacuation of a fellow soldier who had stepped on an improvised explosive device. With another device blocking the path to the casualty, Sergeant Davey quickly moved forward to dismantle it. Realizing the casualty required immediate assistance, he, at great risk to himself, conducted a hasty pull of the main charge. Sergeant Davey's selfless and courageous actions enabled the immediate provision of care to a wounded Canadian soldier.



Sergeant James Robert George DAVIDSON, CD

From 30 May to 19 June 2008, Sergeant Davidson's section repelled nine separate insurgent attacks on a combat outpost in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan. He constantly moved between defensive positions to coordinate fire support and provide clear direction to the soldiers, ensuring that all available weapons systems were brought to bear on the enemy. Sergeant Davidson's courageous leadership and outstanding tactical control of his section ensured that the outpost was defended without incurring any friendly force casualties.



Corporal Guillaume DE CELLES

On 7 May 2009, Corporal De Celles displayed exceptional leadership and courage under fire when his platoon was surrounded by insurgents during a well-planned ambush in Afghanistan. With the enemy attacking from three sides, he willingly exposed himself to intense fire to identify their position and provided counter-attack direction to his fellow soldiers. Corporal De Celles' effort ensured a heavy weight of accurate fire was directed at the enemy and contributed to winning the firefight.



Warrant Officer Joseph Louis Henri Dany de CHANTAL, CD

For outstanding leadership and determination, in Afghanistan, on 8 September 2007. He guided Afghan Forces on a tactical movement through a combat zone and personally retrieved three Afghan soldiers that were left behind. His actions saved lives and contributed to the trust and respect between Canadian and Afghan soldiers.



Sergeant Rodney Albert DEARING

Sergeant Dearing was an infantry section commander during operations between Croatian and Serbian forces in the Medak Pocket, Croatia, in September 1993. On the 15th and 16th, his section bore the brunt of five separate fire fights and two attacks by indirect fire from Croatian forces. His steady and professional performance motivated and set an example for those under his command.



Corporal Michael Brian DECAIRE

On 17 April 2002, Corporal Decaire displayed outstanding professionalism following the Tarnak Farm incident in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Corporal Decaire remained calm in the chaotic and uncertain environment despite a shrapnel wound. He not only assisted in securing the area and directed medical personnel as they arrived, but he also searched for injured soldiers and provided them with first aid. Corporal Decaire continued to play a crucial role until he was medically evacuated from the area. His actions have brought credit both to himself and to his unit.



Captain Pierre Frédéric André DEMERS

As a team member in the Humanitarian Cell of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda during the civil war in 1994, Captain Demers participated in all the evacuation missions in the sectors occupied by the Rwandan government military forces. He was personally threatened on several occasions, often by inebriated soldiers, but he persisted in his negotiations. On 26 June 1994, although he was trapped in a Red Cross Hospital for four hours under mortar attack and machine-gun and small-arms fire, he continued to provide aid and comfort to two hundred Tutsis displaced by the war. His effective actions during his tour of duty in Rwanda resulted in the transfer of thousands of displaced persons.



Sergeant Joseph Gaétan Philippe DESSUREAULT Jr., CD

On 26 May 2009, Sergeant Dessureault was protecting his patrol's extraction route during an operation in Afghanistan when the forward element was ambushed, pinned down and suffered a casualty. Realizing the soldiers were in danger of being overwhelmed, Sergeant Dessureault repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire to reach their position, stabilized the casualty and helped them win the firefight. His decisive actions and selfless disregard for his personal safety were instrumental in reinforcing the isolated element and ensuring the effective provision of medical treatment under fire.



Corporal Jean-Guy Ross DINELLE

On 16 November 2008, soldiers from Corporal Dinelle's patrol were pinned down and suffered a serious casualty in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Despite the relentless attack and artillery rounds falling nearby, he manoeuvred toward the enemy to provide suppressive fire. As first aid was provided and the casualty extracted, he continued to adjust his position, ensuring a continuous stream of suppressive fire was directed toward the enemy. Corporal Dinelle's courageous determination enabled the patrol to successfully extract the wounded without suffering further casualties.



Sergeant Bjorn Ivo DITTMAR

On 10 June 2009, while Sergeant Dittmar's platoon was involved in a firefight in Afghanistan, a soldier in a separate element triggered an improvised explosive device, causing two casualties. Despite heavy enemy fire, Sergeant Dittmar crossed open ground to reach the blast site where he coordinated the fire support necessary to treat and extract the casualties. With the enemy firing from three sides and attempting to surround them, Sergeant Dittmar displayed great leadership and composure, which were critical to saving lives.



Master Corporal Hugh DIXON

On 15 October 2008, while in Zhari District Afghanistan, an improvised explosive device struck Master Corporal Dixon's patrol, severely wounding three soldiers. Despite heavy and effective enemy fire, he rushed across an open field to provide care to a Canadian soldier who lay in a highly exposed position. Oblivious to the peril from the continuing fire and dangerous possibility of secondary explosive devices, his focus on providing treatment never wavered. Master Corporal Dixon's courageous actions under fire saved the life of a fellow Canadian soldier.



Private Aaron DODGE

On 7 October 2008, Private Dodge's combat outpost in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, was attacked by insurgents. Facing effective fire from several directions, he remained composed while in an exposed position in order to engage the enemy. While directing the efforts of his Afghan Army counterpart, he summoned his Section Commander to provide indirect fire, ultimately permitting access and much needed treatment to another fallen comrade. Private Dodge's courage under fire inspired those around him and ensured the defence of the combat outpost.



Captain Frederick Joseph DOUCETTE, CD

While serving with the United Nations Military Observer Force in Sarajevo, Captain Doucette was thrown 10 meters by the blast of a mortar bomb explosion on 17 July 1995. Under continuous shelling and despite injuries, he rushed to the aid of another wounded soldier and moved him to the safety of a protected area. Captain Doucette's actions in dangerous circumstances were of the highest form of dedication and courage expected of a Canadian Officer and reflects great credit on the Canadian Armed Forces and Canada.



Master Warrant Officer Donald William DOWNARD

While deployed with 119th Air Defence Battery, Master Warrant Officer Downard provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Corporal Andrew Paul DOWNER

On 23 March 2010, Corporal Downer's actions were instrumental in the defeat of the sustained insurgent attack on Patrol Base Panjsher in Afghanistan. Alone in the observation post and facing rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire, he remained calm, maintained his position and aggressively engaged the enemy. Throughout the attack, Corporal Downer's outstanding composure under fire ensured the enemy was suppressed, gave time to his section to occupy fighting positions and provided his command post with timely and accurate reporting.



Captain Simon Patrick DRAY

In Sarajevo, on 10 July 1992, Captain Dray stopped his personnel carrier beside a civilian casualty, protecting him from small arms fire, dismounted, rendered first aid and evacuated the casualty. He demonstrated exceptional poise and courage.



Major Daniel Reginald DREW, CD

Major Drew established an observation post in a dangerous location overlooking the Maslenicia Bridge, Croatia, in August 1993. His company was repeatedly shelled during a four-day period, even while building a bunker for protection, culminating in a barrage of over 200 shells within a radius of 250 metres during a two-hour period on the fourth day. While soldiers under his command moved to relative safety, Major Drew remained throughout, setting an example of leadership and calm resolve.



Master Corporal Evan DUFF

On 23 November 2009, Master Corporal Duff demonstrated outstanding frontline leadership following an improvised explosive device attack in Afghanistan and the ensuing enemy ambush. Remaining composed, he immediately returned fire and rallied a group of Afghan soldiers to engage and repel the enemy. Once contact was broken, he directed the soldiers to perform a sweep that uncovered two additional devices. Master Corporal Duff's fearless and decisive actions won the firefight, secured the scene and minimized friendly casualties.



Corporal Daniel Joseph DULONG, CD

For courage under fire while recovering an armoured vehicle in Afghanistan, on 24 September 2007. He worked tirelessly through hours of enemy attacks, showing more concern for his comrades despite being wounded himself. His actions helped prevent a vital piece of equipment from falling into enemy hands.



Captain Shawn Christopher DUMBRECK

On 20 March 2009, Captain Dumbreck's joint Canadian-Afghan patrol suffered a catastrophic improvised explosive device attack in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. With the Company Commander seriously wounded, Captain Dumbreck assumed command and immediately instilled order within the company. After ensuring the evacuation of casualties, he regrouped his soldiers, completed the original objective, defeated an enemy ambush and returned to base without suffering further casualties. Captain Dumbreck's tactical acumen, soldiering skills and outstanding frontline leadership ensured his company's operational success.



Sergeant Wayne Bernard DUNPHY, CD

On 6 May 2008, a patrol from the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Surrounded on three sides, Sergeant Dunphy executed a plan that enabled the patrol to effectively return fire and withdraw from the initial contact. Even after receiving a gunshot wound to the leg, he maintained control of his section and inspired his soldiers to persevere. Sergeant Dunphy's outstanding leadership, courage and devotion helped repel the insurgent ambush.



Master Corporal Shain Roy DUSENBURY

For outstanding courage and initiative in Afghanistan on 14 July 2006. While engaged by insurgent forces, he selflessly positioned his unarmed vehicle as a shield between the enemy position and his comrades. His prompt action allowed the neutralization of insurgent fire and the safe withdrawal of his fellow patrol members.



Corporal Brian Michael Raymond DUVAL

Corporal Duval was deployed with the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, on Operation ATHENA, Task Force Kabul, Afghanistan. On 2 October 2003, as a member of the Initial Response Team, he witnessed a deadly mine strike on a Canadian vehicle patrol near Kabul. Despite the dangers of exploding ammunition and fire, he cautiously entered the dangerous minefield to assist in the rescue of a fallen comrade. In the face of imminent danger throughout the ordeal, Corporal Duval remained calm and distinguished himself in a manner befitting the highest standards of his Regiment and of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Corporal Dennis Edmund EASON

During Operation ANACONDA in South East Afghanistan, Corporal Eason was air assaulted into the Shahi-Khot valley as part of the alternate Task Force Tactical Command Post, 2nd Battalion, 187 Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne. From 2 through 11 March 2002, he operated his sniper team from the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group through extreme weather conditions. Corporal Eason demonstrated impressive professionalism and dedication to duty through his valiant conduct while under direct and indirect fire and his actions helped ensure the success of the mission.



Corporal William ELLIOTT

On 19 August 2006, Corporal Elliott of Alpha Company, 1st Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, was a crew member of a light armoured vehicle during an engagement with numerically superior Taliban forces in Masum Ghar. During the three hour firefight, he successfully engaged the enemy, skillfully conducted ammunition uploads and prevented a potential "friendly fire" incident with an Afghan National Security Force vehicle. Under enemy fire, he subsequently dismounted his vehicle to assist in the recovery of another light armoured vehicle. His courageous and skillful actions helped to prevent Taliban forces from outflanking the remainder of the Company and undoubtedly saved numerous lives.



Sergeant Joseph André Jacques Sylvain ÉNAULT, CD

Sergeant Sébastien Joseph Yves Belval

When their company was attacked in Afghanistan on 4 June 2009, Sergeant Belval and Sergeant Énault fearlessly moved to the roof of their fortification to determine the enemy's location and to direct artillery fire. Remaining in this exposed position throughout the battle, they braved intense enemy fire to provide information that was critical to delivering decisive fire support. Their outstanding composure, technical skill and courage under fire were instrumental in repelling the attack and defending their position.



Master Seaman Marc Robert ESSERTAIZE, CD

On 20 August 2010, Master Seaman Essertaize was conducting a forensic analysis of an improvised explosive device detonation when he discovered another device. As he dismantled it, friendly forces moving to establish a perimeter struck a third device and were ambushed by insurgents. Realizing the immediate need for an evacuation route, he decided to continue defusing the device despite the attack.

Master Seaman Essertaize's selfless and courageous actions under fire allowed friendly forces to safely extract from this bomb-laden area.



Constable William Marshall EUBANK

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Eubank served with the UN Protection Force Civilian Police as Commander at the Plaski Station in the former Yugoslavia. On 30 August 1993, under heavy artillery shelling, he calmed several station monitors who were on the verge of hysteria and ensured the protection of all the monitors by evacuating them to safety. Constable Eubank distinguished himself by his professionalism in the face of great danger.



Master Corporal James EVANS

Master Corporal Evans was deployed with the Health Services Support Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan. On 4 September 2006, his company's position was mistakenly attacked by a coalition aircraft resulting in more than 30 casualties. Despite being seriously wounded himself, he continued to provide first aid to his fellow soldiers. When his own injury was assessed as severe, he selflessly let other casualties move ahead of himself for evacuation. Master Corporal Evans' professionalism, devotion to duty and altruism following the devastating events of that day are inspiring examples of the strength of the members of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Private Kirk FARRELL

On 3 August 2010, Private Farrell and two fellow soldiers were conducting an exercise within Kandahar Airfield with a group of civilians when insurgents blew a hole in the perimeter fence and tried to force their way inside. Despite being under heavy fire and armed only with a pistol, he ran over exposed ground, occupied a nearby vehicle and engaged the enemy. Without regard for his personal safety, his courageous and decisive actions were vital to winning the firefight and saving numerous lives.



Sergeant Patrick Michael FARRELL, CD

From 13 to 18 February 2010, Sergeant Farrell displayed composure and professionalism when his joint patrol came under numerous small fire engagements during operations in Afghanistan. During three separate casualty incidents, he took command of the multinational patrol, providing the necessary leadership to conduct rapid and efficient casualty evacuations while simultaneously providing exceptional mentorship to Afghan commanders and soldiers. Sergeant Farrell's outstanding frontline leadership and decisive actions saved lives and ensured the patrol's success during difficult counter-insurgency operations.



Corporal Jeffrey Allan FEHR

Corporal Fehr's Forward Observation Officer Detachment was attached to 5 Platoon, B Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry during Operation ARCHER in Afghanistan. On 17 May 2006, during Operation BRAVO GUARDIAN, his platoon came under enemy fire in an ambush. When his commander was fatally wounded, he assumed command of the light armoured vehicle, successfully egressing out of the area under a barrage of rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire. He continued to command the crew effectively, coordinating fire support and managing the engagement. Corporal Fehr's decisive actions under enemy fire undoubtedly prevented more casualties and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Master Corporal Christopher FERNANDEZ-LEDON

Master Corporal Fernandez-Ledon was serving as second-in-command of 2 Section, 7 Platoon, C Company when it was deployed as the Divisional Quick Reaction Force to the Forward Operating Base Robinson, Afghanistan. On the evening of 27 March 2006, a large enemy force launched an intense attack on the base. His section manoeuvred into a tactical position to reinforce the base and was able to hold off repeated attacks. In addition, on April 28, he led his platoon to engage and successfully defeat an enemy force preparing an ambush, while escorting a re-supply convoy. Master Corporal Fernandez-Ledon showed great professionalism and leadership and has become a source of inspiration for his soldiers.



Corporal Jean-François FILION

For outstanding initiative and courage in Afghanistan, on 22 August 2007. In the chaotic aftermath of multiple roadside bomb explosions, he selflessly exposed himself to danger to secure a casualty collection point, administer first aid to wounded personnel, and facilitate the safe evacuation of wounded soldiers, thereby saving lives.



Master Corporal Timothy Wayne FLETCHER, CD

For outstanding initiative and courage in Afghanistan, on 24 June 2006. Under intense fire, he selflessly took command of the Company Mortar Crew, supplied them with ammunition and quickly suppressed an enemy attack, thus safeguarding the lives of his comrades.



Sergeant Timothy Wayne FLETCHER, CD

On 3 June 2008, Sergeant Fletcher's platoon was conducting a dismounted patrol near an isolated combat outpost in Afghanistan when they were ambushed by well-armed and unyielding insurgents. With his platoon commander mortally wounded, he effectively assumed command under intense enemy fire and led Canadian and Afghan soldiers in a successful fighting withdrawal. Sergeant Fletcher's courage and leadership rallied those around him, ensuring the extraction of casualties and the defence of the outpost.

This is the second MID award.



Master Corporal Joseph Daniel François FLIBOTTE

For outstanding courage and leadership, in Afghanistan, on 23 October 2007. His selfless actions inspired Afghan National soldiers to engage insurgent forces in intense combat to secure a vital position and extract a wounded Afghan soldier.



Corporal Kevin FOLEY

On 6 May 2008, a patrol from the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Corporal Foley provided covering fire that enabled part of the patrol to move into a flanking position and neutralize the initial threat. While waiting for reinforcements, a burst of gunfire impacted inches from his head as the patrol again came under attack. Heedless of the incoming fire, he instinctively manoeuvred to locations where he could best contribute to the battle. Corporal Foley's courageous actions helped repel the insurgent ambush.



Commander Jean-Yves FORCIER, CD

As the Combat Officer of Canadian Task Group 302.3 at sea and as the Operations Officer of the Headquarters of the Canadian Forces Middle East on shore, Commander Forcier displayed dedication to duty and outstanding leadership during the Gulf War.



Lieutenant Nicolas FORSYTH

Lieutenant Forsyth was deployed with the Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan. On 3 October 2006, his observation post was attacked by small arms fire, rocket-propelled grenades and rockets, killing and wounding many soldiers. Lieutenant Forsyth, himself debilitated by shrapnel wounds and flash burns, crawled headlong into effective enemy fire to report the ambush and to request reinforcements. Maintaining command, he assisted with the treatment of casualties and ensured the perimeter security was maintained. Lieutenant Forsyth's leadership under fire helped save the lives of his fellow soldiers and repel the enemy attack.



Private Phillip FRANK

On 20 October 2008, Private Frank's patrol was attacked at close range by insurgents in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Despite being shot in the chest plate of his body armour during the initial stages of the battle, he provided a heavy weight of machine gun fire that effectively suppressed the enemy throughout the engagement. Private Frank's courage and tenacity greatly contributed to his patrol's successful fighting withdrawal from an aggressive and complex enemy ambush.



Master Corporal Francis FRÉCHETTE

On 4 June 2009, Master Corporal Fréchette's company was attacked by insurgents in Afghanistan. Realizing their communication system had failed, he exited the safety of his armoured vehicle to investigate. As bullets landed around him, he verified each of the company's 12 vehicles, identified the problem and executed the repair. Master Corporal Fréchette's courage under fire and outstanding technical ability ensured the company had the command and control capabilities necessary to execute a successful withdrawal.



Master Corporal Jason Neil FROUDE, CD

Master Corporal Froude was deployed with the Headquarter Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry during Operation ARCHER in Afghanistan. On 28 April 2006, during Operation GAIA THRUST, the tactical command post vehicle became stuck in sand as the convoy came under intense small arms fire. At significant personal risk, Master Corporal Froude lept over the back of the light armoured vehicle to recover the stuck vehicle while the remaining members in the convoy engaged the enemy. Master Corporal Froude maintained his composure through the situation, despite insurgent fire hindering his efforts. His actions reflect his selflessness, fortitude, and dedication.



Corporal Lucus John FULLER

On 14 June 2008, Corporal Fuller's section was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. With the section pinned down and partially surrounded, he courageously moved into heavier enemy fire in order to pull a seriously wounded comrade to safety. Corporal Fuller's decisive action and disregard for his personal safety saved the life of a fellow soldier.



Corporal Robert FURLONG

During Operation ANACONDA in South East Afghanistan, Corporal Furlong was air assaulted into the Shahi-Khot valley as part of the alternate Task Force Tactical Command Post, 1st Battalion, 187 Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne. From 2 through 11 March 2002, he operated his sniper team from the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group through extreme weather conditions. Corporal Furlong demonstrated impressive professionalism and dedication to duty through his valiant conduct while under direct and indirect fire and his actions helped ensure the success of the mission.



Major Steve GAGNON, CD

For valour under fire, while leading a group of hostages and carrying out other duties with the United Nations Protection Force in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina in May 1992.



Sergeant Joseph Michel GAUTHIER

While deployed with the Canadian Maritime Logistics Detachment, Sergeant Gauthier provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Private William Alan GEERNAERT

On 4 August 2009, Private Geernaert was wounded when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan. As he was being evacuated, his ambulance was targeted by an insurgent ambush. With the ambulance gunner wounded in the attack, Private Geernaert immediately took up the gunner's position despite his own injuries and began pouring a heavy weight of fire toward the enemy position. Private

Geernaert's courageous and decisive actions were instrumental in repelling the attack and safeguarding his fellow soldiers.



Corporal David GILES

On 2 August 2008, an Afghan National Army vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Maywand District, Afghanistan, seriously wounding an Afghan soldier. Disregarding his own personal safety, Corporal Giles ran through a suspected minefield to reach the soldier and carry him back to his vehicle. He then provided life saving treatment for over an hour and a half until the medical evacuation helicopter arrived. Corporal Giles' courage, selflessness and medical skill saved the Afghan soldier's life.



Sergeant Craig Paul GILLAM, CD (Posthumous)

On 3 October 2006, Sergeant Gillam's observation post in Pashmul, Afghanistan, was attacked by enemy fighters firing small arms and rocket-propelled grenades from an unidentified location. Without regard to his own safety, Sergeant Gillam immediately moved to a position from which he could identify and indicate the enemy position to the remainder of his patrol. He valiantly stood his ground and maintained suppressing fire until he fell to the enemy's fire. Sergeant Gillam's courageous actions and personal sacrifice during a devastating enemy attack contributed to saving the lives of his fellow soldiers through the rapid identification of the enemy position.



Corporal Gregory GILSON

Corporal Gilson was deployed to Afghanistan with the Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group. On 3 October 2006, his observation post, located in the Pashmul region, was attacked with small arms fire, rocket-propelled grenades and rockets. In the face of this devastating attack, Corporal Gilson maintained his composure while calming the wounded. Ignoring his own injuries, he continued to provide radio situation reports and adopted a fire position to repel further attacks. Corporal Gilson's actions and composure under fire reflect the highest standards of professionalism in combat.



Corporal Dustin GIRARD

On 18 July 2008, a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol in Zhari District, Afghanistan, was outnumbered and partially surrounded during an insurgent ambush. Leading the defence of the patrol's west flank, Corporal Girard issued clear and immediate direction to Canadian and Afghan soldiers while simultaneously engaging the enemy with highly accurate fire. Corporal Girard's decisive combat leadership and aggressive engagement of the enemy fixed them in place until they could be defeated by fire support assets.



Sergeant Michael GIRARD, CD

For outstanding courage and professionalism in Afghanistan, from August to November 2007. Under countless enemy attacks, he selflessly exposed himself to great danger to lead his section as they cleared roads of Improvised Explosive Devices, instilling confidence in his troops and contributing to the saving of lives.



Master Corporal Simon GIRARD

On 8 June 2009, Master Corporal Girard's platoon was ambushed by insurgents in Afghanistan as it returned from the scene of an improvised explosive device attack. Despite intense fire and a lack of cover, he quickly moved forward under his own initiative to engage the enemy with his machinegun. Master Corporal Girard demonstrated courage by aggressively and fearlessly engaging the enemy. His decisive actions were critical to winning the firefight and defeating the enemy.



Lieutenant Michel GODIN

In August 1995, Lieutenant Godin was platoon commander of C Company, 1st Canadian Battalion, in Pristeg, in the former Yugoslavia. Despite heavy artillery fire, he led the defence of a United Nations observation post that was under mortar fire, providing assistance to his men, who were threatened by Croatian forces, which on several occasions had attempted to seize the post. The leadership, determination and calm Lieutenant Godin displayed in an extremely tense situation enabled him to ensure the safety of his personnel and retain control of the observation post.



Private Casey GRAY

On 18 December 2008, Private Gray was conducting a route clearance operation in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan, when his vehicle was rendered immobile by an improvised explosive device. Seconds after the detonation, the stricken vehicle came under small arms fire from insurgents. With his remote weapon system malfunctioning, he exposed himself to direct enemy fire to manually fire the weapon from on top of the vehicle. Private Gray's courageous and decisive actions suppressed the enemy and enabled the defeat of the ambush.



Lieutenant Andrew Tyrone Coulman GREEN

Lieutenant Green commanded an infantry platoon during an attack by Croatian forces in the Medak Pocket, Croatia, in September 1993. On 9 September, the platoon was subjected to fifteen hours of intense, direct fire. During this period and throughout the following week, Lieutenant Green led by example and ensured that his platoon not only stood firm, but actively established observation posts and subsequent positions to secure control over the area.



Corporal Nigel GREGG

On 19 August 2006, Corporal Gregg of Alpha Company, 1st Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, was a crew member of a light armoured vehicle during an engagement with numerically superior Taliban forces in Masum Ghar. During the three hour firefight, he continuously and effectively engaged the enemy with his personal weapon, while at the same time acting as loader for the vehicle's primary ammunition bin. Under enemy fire, he subsequently dismounted his vehicle to assist in the recovery of another light armoured vehicle. Corporal Gregg's courageous and skillful actions helped to prevent Taliban forces from outflanking the remainder of the Company and undoubtedly saved numerous lives.



Sergeant Douglas Shawn Patrick GROVES

Sergeant Groves fostered cooperation with two rival Somali factions in and around the town of Matabaan in 1993. Gaining their trust, he learned the exact location of a large quantity of land mines. He subsequently neutralized the mines, reducing the risk to coalition troops and enabling non-governmental organizations to deliver greatly-needed relief supplies to previously inaccessible areas.



Warrant Officer Guevens GUIMONT, CD

For outstanding professionalism and leadership in Afghanistan, from September 2007 to February 2008. As a mentor, he skilfully directed fire and defended against a direct enemy attack while extracting two wounded Afghan policemen. His actions contributed to the heightened respect of the local population for the Afghan police.



Master Corporal Luke Matthew HALL

On 25 May 2011, Master Corporal Hall's foot patrol was attacked near the village of Lakani, Afghanistan. With a fellow soldier wounded by enemy fire and lying exposed in the kill zone, he immediately rushed to his position and dragged him to safety as bullets landed at their feet. With the casualty secure, he joined the firefight and helped repel the attack.

Master Corporal Hall's courageous and selfless actions under fire saved a life and contributed to defeating the enemy.



Captain Jonathan Hewson HAMILTON

For outstanding courage and perseverance while commanding Reconnaissance Platoon in Afghanistan, on 3 August 2006. His professionalism and selfless determination was key to an exemplary assault he led under heavy enemy fire. Although wounded, his dedication to his soldiers during their withdrawal resulted in a safe evacuation.



Master Corporal Kelly HARDING, CD

On 20 March 2009, Master Corporal Harding's patrol suffered a devastating improvised explosive device attack in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Despite being seriously injured, she crawled through the cloud of smoke and debris to ensure the entire patrol was accounted for and provided treatment to the most seriously injured. Heedless of her own injuries, she controlled the scene, treated the rest of the soldiers and expertly directed the newly arriving medics. Master Corporal Harding's selfless and courageous actions were instrumental in saving several Canadian soldiers.



Private Ryan HARDING

On 3 October 2008, Private Harding's platoon was ambushed in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. As part of the primary machine gun team, he immediately moved through intense enemy fire to a more effective position. Despite drawing the brunt of the attack for over two hours, he remained in this position and provided a steady volume of accurate fire that hindered the insurgents' ability to reinforce their position.

Private Harding's courageous actions helped his platoon break initial contact, regroup and ultimately defeat the enemy ambush.



Master Corporal Richard HARRIS, CD

Master Corporal Harris is mentioned in dispatches for service while deployed in support of the 1st Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group in Afghanistan. On 3 October 2006, while called to reinforce a Canadian observation post under attack, he manoeuvred his Bison recovery vehicle to shield the evacuation and treatment of casualties. Continuously exposed to enemy fire, Master Corporal Harris provided suppressive machine gunfire, which forced the enemy to take cover and reduced the accuracy of their fire. The decisive and courageous actions of Master Corporal Harris undoubtedly saved the lives of his fellow soldiers.



Master Corporal Devon HATCHER

On 4 August 2010, Master Corporal Hatcher was stationed at combat outpost Zoomaray in Afghanistan when insurgents attacked. With friendly forces unable to identify the location of the attackers, he voluntarily moved to an exposed position to gain better observation. Taking effective fire throughout, he was able to identify and engage the insurgent position. Displaying exceptional courage and composure under fire,

Master Corporal Hatcher's remarkable actions were single-handedly responsible for repelling the attack.



Corporal Christopher Vaughn HENDERSON

For outstanding courage and dedication, in Afghanistan. On 12 September 2007, he dismounted his vehicle under heavy insurgent fire to repair the excavator arm of his Armoured Engineer Vehicle during a mechanical malfunction. His selflessness helped eliminate a potentially deadly hazard to the local civilian population.



Corporal Joseph Don HENRY

On 3 August 2010, Corporal Henry and two fellow soldiers were conducting an exercise within Kandahar Airfield with a group of civilians when insurgents blew a hole in the perimeter fence and tried to force their way inside. Despite being under heavy fire and armed only with a pistol, he moved over exposed ground, occupied a nearby vehicle and aggressively engaged the enemy. Without regard for

his personal safety, his courageous and decisive actions were vital to winning the firefight and saving numerous lives.



Sergeant Darren Daniel HERMISTON, CD

On 3 October 2006, Sergeant Hermiston, serving with the Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and

Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan, was among the first to come to the assistance of an observation post which had been attacked and was still under effective and sustained enemy fire. Without concern for his own safety, he quickly dismounted from his vehicle to assist in the treatment and extraction of the wounded. Sergeant Hermiston's completely selfless act under fire, imbued by quick thinking, courage and dedication, contributed to saving the lives of many of his fellow soldiers.



Warrant Officer Darren John HESSELL, CD

For outstanding professionalism and leadership as a Platoon Commander, in Afghanistan, on 17 May 2006. His actions during an intense engagement saved both the lives of a stricken platoon and local civilians, and inflicted heavy enemy casualties.



Lieutenant-Commander James Terrance HEWITT

Lieutenant-Commander Hewitt displayed outstanding military service in mine warfare and mine countermeasures during the Gulf War.



Captain Stephen HILL

While deployed with 439 Tactical Fighter Squadron, Captain Hill provided distinguished service to the air operations during the Gulf War.



Corporal Christopher HINDS

On 5 August 2010, Corporal Hinds' Chinook helicopter was struck by enemy fire, causing the fuel tank to explode and engulfing the helicopter in flames. As the pilots attempted an emergency landing, he stayed calm and worked to clear two emergency exits. Once on the ground, he fearlessly stayed beside the burning aircraft, directing passengers away from the deadly rotors. Corporal Hinds' quick thinking, composure and exceptional soldiering ability contributed to saving the lives of all crew and passengers.



Corporal Jason HOEKSTRA

For outstanding professionalism and leadership in Afghanistan on 3 August 2006. His courageous actions during heavy fighting were instrumental in suppressing the enemy and extracting wounded soldiers. His selfless and valiant conduct under fire saved the lives of fellow soldiers during this long and difficult engagement.



Corporal Shaun HOFER

On 1 March 2010, Corporal Hofer was part of a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol in Afghanistan when insurgents unleashed a complex ambush. Despite being cut off from the forward element, he remained in the kill zone, fearlessly and relentlessly engaging the enemy and inspiring his fellow soldiers. Corporal Hofer's courage, selflessness and composure under intense fire helped suppress the enemy and enabled the patrol to defeat the ambush without sustaining casualties.



Sergeant James Daniel HOLLEY

Sergeant Holley is mentioned in dispatches for service with Alpha Company, 1st Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan. On 19 August 2006, during an engagement with Taliban forces in Masum Ghar, the light armoured vehicle in which he was the gunner came under intense fire from a numerically superior enemy force. During a three hour battle, he effectively engaged the enemy with his vehicle's weapons systems, while providing strong leadership and encouragement to his less experienced crew. His actions enabled them to successfully defend the rear flank of a friendly position, saving the lives of numerous Canadian and Afghan soldiers.



Captain David Christopher HOLT

Captain Holt is recognized for valour under fire, while rescuing a group of blind children and their attendants, and while carrying out other duties with the European Community Monitor Mission in Yugoslavia (Bosnia-Hercegovina) on 22 April 1992.



Captain David Christopher HOLT

Captain Holt, a Monitor with the European Community Monitoring Mission in Northern Bosnia, on 26 April 1992, was asked to rescue Serbian villagers trapped in two enclaves by Croatian forces. When doing reconnaissance under fire, he discovered dead and wounded, including women and children suffering unspeakable agony. He negotiated a cease-fire and evacuation for the following day, but on his return, found the civilians attacked and killed or captured. Nonetheless, his personal dedication and efforts to rescue others in such trying circumstances went beyond the normal call of duty.

This is the second MID award.



Warrant Officer Paul Justin HOLWELL, CD

On 2 June 2008, while deployed in Southern Afghanistan, Warrant Officer Holwell shook off the effects of an improvised explosive device attack and ensured the extraction of all casualties before leading a fighting withdrawal. On 18 June 2008, he exposed himself to enemy fire to pull a wounded Afghan squad leader to cover, taking command of the squad and inspiring them to win the firefight. During these two intense combat operations, Warrant Officer Holwell's outstanding courage and leadership saved Canadian and Afghan lives.



Corporal Nathan HORNBURG (Posthumous)

For courage under fire in Afghanistan, on 24 September 2007, when he worked tirelessly through sustained insurgent attacks to recover a disabled tank. Corporal Hornburg prevented vital equipment from falling into enemy hands and contributed to the safe extraction of his comrades.



Warrant Officer John Charles HRYNIW, CD

From May to December 2010, Warrant Officer Hryniw's remarkable soldiering ability and tactical acumen were critical to his soldiers' success during many direct fire engagements and improvised explosive devices incidents in the vicinity of combat outpost Ballpeen. Operating with speed, knowledge and precision, his consistently outstanding leadership under demanding and dangerous circumstances protected the lives of his soldiers and disrupted all insurgent attempts to re-occupy Nakhonay, a key village in the fight for Kandahar City.



Sergeant Teddy Raymond HUGHSON, CD

Sergeant Hughson was deployed with the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, on Operation ATHENA, Task Force Kabul, Afghanistan. On 2 October 2003, as the Initial Response Team commander, he witnessed a deadly mine strike on a Canadian vehicle patrol near Kabul. Although aware of the dangers of exploding ammunition, he coordinated and provided first aid to the casualties. His calm demeanour and leadership inspired his subordinates to follow him in the removal of the victims from the minefield. In the face of imminent danger, Sergeant Hughson distinguished himself in a manner befitting the highest standards of his Regiment and of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Major Robert Mathew HUME, CD

On 25 November 2009, Major Hume led the exfiltration of the Battle Group from a strongly held objective area in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan. Despite great risk, he positioned himself well forward and led the advance with courage and conviction. His selfless actions and steadfast determination ensured key terrain was swiftly seized, a pivotal action for the success of coalition and Afghan forces. Major Hume's valiant and courageous actions under fire forever changed the nature of the fight in the district.



Private Ryan HUNT

Private Hunt of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, is recognized for his courageous and distinguished service in Afghanistan. On 21 November 2006, Private Hunt's dismounted foot patrol triggered a pressure-plate-improvised explosive device, injuring the section commander and another soldier. Private Hunt immediately organized the section into a defensive perimeter, began applying first aid to the casualties and requested assistance from higher command. Private Hunt's initiative, which far exceeded what was expected of him, directly contributed to saving the lives of his fellow soldiers.



Lieutenant Roger John ILIFFE

In Sarajevo, on 10 July 1992, Lieutenant Iliffe rendered medical assistance to two civilian casualties under very hazardous conditions. Without regard to his own safety, he moved into an area under constant threat of small arms fire and coordinated the evacuation of the casualties.



Sergeant Vaughan INGRAM, CD (Posthumous)

For outstanding leadership and professionalism, in Afghanistan, on 3 August 2006. His determination in the face of an overwhelming and aggressive enemy was an example to all his soldiers, and his actions were key to motivating his troops to carry on under extremely perilous circumstances.



Master Corporal Jordan Russell JANTZ, CD

Master Corporal Jantz was the engineering section commander attached to the infantry company during operations to establish a buffer zone between Croatian and Serbian forces in the Medak Pocket, Croatia, in September 1993. He led the section in completing defensive works while under harassing fire, was instrumental in clearing an anti-personnel minefield to support battalion deployment and assisted in clearing a route to a new observation post in the Njegovani area. His calm professionalism, courage and leadership were paramount reasons for success throughout.



Corporal Jason JOE

Corporal Joe was deployed with 9 Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 3 August 2006, during combat operations in the Pashmul region of Afghanistan, he exposed himself to great personal risk to ensure the safety of his crew after a mine strike against his light armoured vehicle. Although wounded in the leg and burned on the arms, he climbed from the turret to the rear compartment to help the commander evacuate and then returned to the vehicle to rescue the driver. Corporal Joe's actions under difficult conditions were befitting the highest standards of his regiment and the Canadian Armed Forces.



Private Bradley JOHNSTON

From 11 to 16 January 2009, Private Johnston's Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team fought through multiple contacts against a well-trained and aggressive insurgent force during a lengthy combat operation in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He repeatedly exposed himself to heavy insurgent fire to maintain situational awareness and fix insurgents in place, ensuring they could be engaged with artillery. Private Johnston's courage under enemy fire contributed to the operation's success while avoiding Afghan and Canadian casualties.



Rear-Admiral Bruce JOHNSTON, CD

Rear-Admiral Johnston provided key operational coordination and distinguished service for the establishment and control of Canadian Armed Forces operations during the Gulf War.



Warrant Officer Robert Kevin JONES, CD

On 10 April 2002, Warrant Officer Jones was second in command of 1 Platoon, A Company, 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, deployed as part of Operation APOLLO to Afghanistan to secure the crash site of a United States AH-64 Attack Helicopter. Upon arriving in the suspected area and with darkness approaching, he quickly organized the search, located the crashed helicopter some 2500 metres from the landing zone and established a defensive perimeter around it. Warrant Officer Jones' exceptional leadership and technical expertise under difficult and chaotic circumstances played a critical role in the overall success of the mission.



Warrant Officer Terry Thomas JONES, CD

On 19 October 2008, Warrant Officer Jones was mentoring an Afghan National Army platoon during a combat operation in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, when they were ambushed from three sides by insurgents. Despite being thrown off his feet by a rocket-propelled grenade blast, he led his injured fire-team partner to safety and returned alone to mentor and fight alongside his Afghan platoon. Warrant Officer Jones' courageous leadership under fire ensured the Afghan platoon's operational success and helped save Canadian and Afghan lives.



Captain Ryan Edward JURKOWSKI, CD

For outstanding determination and leadership as a Company Commander, in Afghanistan, from May to June 2006. He selflessly led his soldiers in a dismounted advance, under extremely demanding conditions, and successfully assaulted insurgent positions, causing numerous enemy casualties and with no loss of Canadian lives.



Corporal Stephen James Myers KEEBLE, CD

For his outstanding courage and selfless dedication, on 12 October 2006, when he volunteered to join a Quick Reaction Force sent to assist an ambushed Afghan National Army company. As the lead-vehicle machine gunner, he laid down suppressing fire and saved many lives.



Major Richard Daniel KELLY, CD

Major Kelly provided distinguished service in the development of operational accommodation and infrastructure for the Canadian Air Task Group Middle East during the Gulf War.



Major David William KENDALL, CD

While deployed with 439 Tactical Fighter Squadron, Major Kendall provided distinguished service to the air operations during the Gulf War.



Master Warrant Officer Rene KIENS, CD

On 6 May 2008, a patrol from the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Master Warrant Officer Kiens immediately moved with a group of soldiers to a flanking position and neutralized the initial threat. Upon hearing that the remainder of the patrol had taken casualties, he pushed through fierce resistance into the area of heaviest fire to repel the enemy and extract the casualties. Master Warrant Officer Kiens' courageous leadership and unflinching composure inspired the soldiers to persevere throughout this deadly ambush.



*Corporal Glenn Andrew KING
Leading Seaman Stephen Franklin Birks
Private James Shannon Troy Sinclair*

On 21 June 1994, Leading Seaman Birks, Corporal King and Private Sinclair were supporting a mine clearing operation near Kakma, Croatia, when two anti-personnel mines suddenly detonated, seriously wounding three soldiers. Leading Seaman Birks, Corporal King and Private Sinclair entered the minefield after it had been roughly cleared by a colleague to assist in the rescue of the victims. Their actions, despite the difficult circumstances, were in the very best traditions of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Corporal Michael KINSEY

On October 3, 2006, an observation post in the Pashmul region of Panjwayi, in Afghanistan, came under effective and sustained enemy fire. In close proximity to the attack, Corporal Kinsey, a member of the responding mobile repair team, Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, immediately launched his vehicle into the enemy's kill zone in order to provide protective cover for the wounded. While under fire, he assisted in the removal and care of the most critically injured soldiers. Corporal Kinsey's quick thinking, courage and dedication contributed to saving the lives of many of his fellow soldiers.



Corporal Carl KRIWEZ

On 14 June 2008, Corporal Kriwez' section was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. What was initially light contact quickly became a concentrated amount of small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire, splitting the section in two. Without guidance, he shook off the effects of a nearby explosion and exposed himself to heavy fire to locate the enemy and direct effective fire onto their position. Corporal Kriwez' courage and leadership under fire ensured his section's success during this intense three hour engagement.



Private Cody KULUSKI

During an insurgent ambush in Zhari District, Afghanistan, on 3 September 2008, an anti-tank round destroyed a light armoured vehicle, creating a mass casualty situation. Exposed to sustained enemy fire and the exploding ordnance from the burning vehicle, Private Kuluski helped move and treat the wounded soldiers. With insurgents targeting the casualty collection points, Private Kuluski's courageous and selfless

efforts were vital to the treatment and evacuation of casualties.



Corporal André Michel LABERGE

On 2 April 2011 during a combat reconnaissance patrol in Afghanistan, Corporal Laberge was thrown by an improvised explosive device blast. With the enemy readying for an attack, he cleared a path to all casualties enabling life saving aid. Under imminent insurgent threat, he provided route clearance and security until link up with friendly forces. Subsequently while under enemy fire, he helped load the wounded. Corporal Laberge's valiant actions enabled the extraction of the patrol.



Captain David LACOMBE

From March to October 2009, Captain Lacombe greatly improved the capacity of the Afghan Uniform Police (AUP) in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan. His constant mentorship of the Deputy Chief of Police and his staff was instrumental in strengthening the AUP leadership and legitimizing their policing activities. Despite being frequently under fire and suffering two improvised explosive device attacks, Captain Lacombe's dedicated efforts enabled the destruction of enemy supply caches, disrupted insurgent freedom of movement and contributed to the acquisition of valuable intelligence.



Corporal Antonin LADET

On 23 August 2009, Corporal Ladet was part of a joint Canadian-Afghan force that was attacked by insurgents in Afghanistan. As the battle began to rage, Corporal Ladet noticed that two Afghan children were caught in the crossfire. With bullets flying from both sides and an artillery mission on the way, Corporal Ladet courageously exposed himself to enemy fire while rushing to the children's position and escorting them to safety. Corporal Ladet's courageous and selfless actions saved the lives of these children.



Sergeant Jedd Michael LAFLECHE

On 4 March 2010, Sergeant Lafleche was commanding a sniper detachment during a combat operation in Afghanistan. Positioning his detachment to provide optimal support to Reconnaissance Platoon, his soldiers effectively engaged and neutralized insurgents on multiple occasions. Regularly drawing fire away from his team, his selfless actions allowed them to complete their operations without casualties.

Despite being under constant fire, Sergeant Lafleche displayed exceptional frontline leadership, unwavering composure and remarkable tactical acumen.



Warrant Officer André LAMARRE, CD

For outstanding leadership as the reconnaissance platoon commander in Afghanistan, on 17 November 2007. With all of his sections dispersed and under intense and sustained enemy attack, he coordinated fire support and orchestrated a difficult withdrawal, under fire without suffering any serious casualties.



Private Alexandre LAMPRON

During a reconnaissance patrol in Afghanistan on 17 April 2011, Private Lampron's section was ambushed by insurgents and suddenly came under effective small arms fire. On two occasions, he showed exemplary selflessness in leading Afghan children to cover before and during a return of enemy fire. The swift reaction of Private Lampron and his ability to change posture instantaneously saved the lives of the children and significantly improved the Afghani population's feelings of security with respect to the insurgents.



Major Philip Charles LANCASTER, CD

Military Assistant to the United Nations Force Commander in Rwanda from May 1994 to May 1995, Major Lancaster was often thrust into coordinating the operations. After two military observers were badly hurt by a rifle grenade on 17 June 1994, approximately 20 km north of Kigali, Major Lancaster quickly and calmly directed the rescue by radio, deploying a Canadian transport aircraft from Nairobi and negotiating the cease-fire needed for the aircraft to land. During his tour of duty, he passed through the civil war's front lines daily, often under mortar, artillery and small arms fire. Throughout, his outstanding work brought great credit to himself and the Canadian Armed Forces.



Captain Marc-André LANGEIER

For outstanding initiative and devotion to duty under effective enemy fire, in Afghanistan, on 5 October and 10 November 2007. He skillfully directed novice Afghan police to fend off an ambush, then coordinated the use of smoke screens to facilitate a tactical withdraw, thereby saving the team members' lives.



Corporal Joseph Roger Dominic LAPOINTE

Corporal Lapointe was shot in the right foot while driving a 10-tonne truck in a supply convoy destined for the hospitals in Drin and Bakovici in Bosnia-Herzegovina on 10 January 1994. Despite the wound, he insisted on driving his vehicle out of the danger zone using his left foot, thus allowing the other members of the convoy to get out of the area.



Corporal Joseph Luc Richard Dominique LAREAU

In 2009, Corporal Lareau displayed outstanding composure and courage under fire during two separate enemy engagements in Afghanistan. On 20 May, despite being pinned down during his patrol's fighting withdrawal, he remained calm and aggressively returned fire as bullets landed inches from his position. On 12 July, he rallied a group of Afghan soldiers and led them in the successful defence of their forward operating base. Corporal Lareau's combat ability, courage and unwavering calm enabled the defeat of the enemy.



Corporal Simon-Pierre LAROCHELLE

On 8 June 2009, Corporal Larochelle's platoon was ambushed by insurgents in Afghanistan as it returned from the scene of an improvised explosive device attack. Despite intense fire and a lack of cover, he immediately moved towards the enemy position to provide fire support for the platoon. Corporal Larochelle demonstrated courage by aggressively and fearlessly engaging the enemy. His decisive actions were critical to winning the firefight and defeating the enemy.



Master Corporal Tyler LATTA

On 13 September 2011, Master Corporal Latta had completed a routine convoy from Camp Phoenix to International Security Assistance Force Headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan, when insurgents unleashed a coordinated attack on several coalition positions. Under sustained rocket-propelled grenade and machine gun fire, he remained composed, took immediate control of the situation and organized the local response to the attack. During the ensuing 16-hour firefight, Master Corporal Latta's remarkable frontline leadership and outstanding combat ability were critical to repelling the attack.



Master Corporal Simon LAVOIE

Between 28 June and 25 September 2009, Master Corporal Lavoie's composure under fire was instrumental to the success of three separate combat operations in Afghanistan. As section commander within a reconnaissance platoon, his outstanding tactical acumen and ability to lead his soldiers through intense enemy resistance enabled them to provide key situational awareness and fire support to the entire platoon. Master Corporal Lavoie's outstanding frontline leadership ensured his section played a decisive role in the success of these operations.



Master Warrant Officer Joseph Oswald Maurice Paul LEBLANC, CD

Master Warrant Officer Leblanc was in charge of Company A of the Battle Group of the 2nd Battalion Royal 22^e Regiment in Bosnia-Herzegovina, when he learned that two soldiers from a reconnaissance patrol had been caught in an ambush, near the village of Pravoslavna Pecsta, on 23 July 1993. One of the soldiers had managed to escape unscathed while the other had injuries to both legs from a grenade explosion. As soon as he learned this, Master Warrant Officer Leblanc went to the scene with his deputy commanding officer. Undeterred by light arms fire and anti-personnel mines, and under support fire provided by his company, Master Warrant Officer Leblanc and his deputy commanding officer crawled to the injured man, dodging bullets. They calmly examined the soldier's injuries and began to move him to a safe place where the stretcher-bearers could finally tend to him. Thanks to his composure during a very tense period and incredible courage in the face of the enemy, Master Warrant Officer Leblanc helped save the life of a fellow soldier. He acted in the finest tradition of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Private Scott Simon Gerald LEBLANC

Private Leblanc was a member of the infantry section deployed during operations to establish a buffer zone between Croatian and Serbian forces in the Medak Pocket, Croatia. The section came under accurate, aimed Croatian fire on 15 September 1993. As one of two section light machine gunners, he became involved in five fire-fights, impressing his fellow soldiers with his calm and methodical reaction under fire, as he followed his section commander's fire control orders. His actions directly contributed to the rapid suppression of the Croatian attack and, therefore, to the success of the operation.



Corporal Stephan LEBLANC, CD

On 5 August 2010, Corporal Leblanc's Chinook helicopter was struck by enemy fire, causing the fuel tank to explode and engulfing the helicopter in flames. As the individual nearest the impact, he suffered burns to his face and hands. Despite his injuries and the chaos around him, he provided thorough information to the pilots and helped control passenger movements. Never wavering from his responsibilities,

Corporal Leblanc's remarkable actions and composure contributed to saving the lives of all crew and passengers.



Sergeant Joseph Yvan Richard LECAVALIER, CD

On 29 May 2009, Sergeant Lecavalier was on patrol in Afghanistan when an insurgent attack caused three casualties and cut off six Canadian soldiers from the rest of the patrol. Realizing the isolated soldiers were in a vulnerable position and unable to break contact, he led another group of soldiers through intense enemy fire to reach their position and ensured their extraction. Sergeant Lecavalier's decisive and courageous actions saved the lives of six Canadian soldiers who were in danger of being overwhelmed by the enemy.



Master Corporal Denis LEDUC

On 25 February 2008, in Zhari District, Afghanistan, Master Corporal Leduc's compound was attacked with heavy guns, small arms fire, and rocket-propelled grenades. During the initial barrage, a large round penetrated the compound, severing the leg of an Afghan soldier. Despite effective and sustained enemy fire, Master Corporal Leduc left cover to provide first aid and bring the soldier to the casualty collection point. Master Corporal Leduc's selfless actions saved the life of the Afghan soldier, enhancing Canadian-Afghan relations.



Sergeant Oliver Lim Fet LEE

Sergeant Lee demonstrated outstanding courage and decisiveness during two separate ambushes in Afghanistan. On 29 May 2009, he braved intense insurgent fire to secure a critical defensive position. On 29 June 2009, he provided immediate first aid to a wounded soldier while under enemy fire. His skill and dedication inspired his team and contributed to the operational success. Sergeant Lee's selfless actions in such a dangerous and unforgiving environment saved lives and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Master Corporal Joseph LEGER

During a major Battle Group operation in Zhari District, Afghanistan, elements of C Company were ambushed by insurgent forces on 14 June 2008. Heavy insurgent fire seriously injured one soldier and split the company's reconnaissance platoon. Master Corporal Leger's calm composure and clear direction enabled his beleaguered section to regroup with the platoon without further casualties. Master Corporal Leger's inspirational leadership, determination and courage inspired his section to persevere through the three hour engagement.



Master Warrant Officer Steven LEHMAN, CD

On October 3, 2006, while serving with the Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan, Master Warrant Officer Lehman responded with great élan to an attack on an observation post in Pashmul that left numerous dead and wounded. Arriving shortly after the initial attack, Master Warrant Officer Lehman, while exposed in the hatch of his vehicle, immediately engaged the enemy with his pintle-mounted machine gun and directed the repositioning of the accompanying vehicles to shelter the wounded. Master Warrant Officer Lehman's quick and decisive actions under fire helped repel the enemy and contributed to saving the lives of many soldiers.



Major Wayne Terry LELIÈVRE, CD

During 1993 emergency relief operations in Somalia, Major Lelièvre provided outstanding personnel services for the entire Canadian contingent, while simultaneously coordinating Canadian Armed Forces humanitarian activity with United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and the Somali people. The effectiveness of Canadian humanitarian initiatives in dangerous and difficult circumstances was, in large part, the result of his efforts.



Private Mykel-Joey LÉVESQUE

During a reconnaissance patrol in Afghanistan on 17 April 2011, Private Lévesque's section was ambushed by insurgents and suddenly came under effective small arms fire. On two occasions, he showed exemplary selflessness in leading Afghan children to cover before and during a return of enemy fire. The swift reaction of Private Lévesque and his ability to change posture instantaneously saved the lives of the children and significantly improved the Afghani population's feelings of security with respect to the insurgents.



Sergeant Kevin Lee LEWIS

Sergeant Lewis, acting as pointsman for a patrol during operations to secure a buffer zone between Croatian and Serbian forces in the Medak Pocket, Croatia, on 20 September 1993, came across evidence of anti-personnel mines. Warning the patrol to stop, he found a mine six inches from his foot and several more on and near the trail. Despite four days of continuous operations, the stress of harassing fire and lack of sleep, Sergeant Lewis demonstrated confidence and soldierly skill which undoubtedly prevented others' injury or death.



Sergeant David L'HEUREUX, CD

For outstanding professionalism and leadership in Afghanistan, on 17 November 2007. He commanded his section in intense close quarters combat with insurgent forces and neutralized an enemy machine gun position. His dedication inspired his soldiers and ensured success.



Major Christian Donald LILLINGTON, CD

On 5 August 2010, Major Lillington's Chinook helicopter was struck by enemy fire, causing the fuel tank to explode and engulfing the helicopter in flames. During and after the harrowing emergency landing, he was instrumental in the safe evacuation and continued security of all passengers until the arrival of friendly forces. Amidst harassing enemy fire and in the presence of a burning aircraft, Major Lillington maintained the utmost composure and provided the leadership necessary to prevent loss of life.



Master Corporal John LOUGHEED

As an infantry section second-in-command in Afghanistan from April to November 2010, Master Corporal Lougheed displayed exceptional leadership and composure under fire throughout numerous counter-insurgency operations. Whether leading his section in combat, tending to a wounded colleague or interacting with the local population, his soldiering ability and unwavering professionalism set an example for his fellow soldiers to follow. Master Corporal Lougheed's remarkable efforts were critical to the success of his section and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Captain Mark James LUBINIECKI, CD

For exemplary leadership and tactical acumen in combat when he directed tank fire that neutralized the enemy in Afghanistan, on 3 and 7 December 2007. His actions saved many lives and enabled a combined Canadian-Afghan force to repel a large attack.



Corporal Nicolae LUPU

For outstanding initiative and resourcefulness, in Afghanistan, on 27 August 2007. In addition to providing counter-battery intelligence while under a lengthy, intense mortar attack, he assembled a critical defensive system that significantly decreased the effectiveness of the enemy fire.



Corporal Darren LYNCH

Corporal Lynch served with 7 Platoon, C Company, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, 1st Battle Group, when

it was deployed as the Divisional Quick Reaction Force to the Forward Operating Base Robinson, Afghanistan. On the evening of 27 March 2006, while under enemy fire and with no ground cover, his section manoeuvred into a tactical position to reinforce the North gate. Despite sustaining a bullet wound to his leg, Corporal Lynch continued to engage the enemy. After the enemy was successfully repelled, and with total disregard for his own injuries, he assisted with casualty care and evacuation. Corporal Lynch's selflessness, courage and dedication to duty have garnered great respect for himself and for the Canadian Armed Forces.



Corporal David MacDONALD

Corporal MacDonald deployed to Afghanistan with the Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team from February to September 2008. Whether providing first aid to a wounded colleague, effectively controlling his subordinates in battle or aggressively engaging the enemy with a variety of weaponry, his tenacity, combat ability and willingness to expose himself to enemy fire played a key role in the success of combat operations. Corporal MacDonald further distinguished himself by providing outstanding leadership and skilled mentoring to Afghan soldiers by increasing their soldiering abilities and helping them succeed during stressful combat situations.



Corporal Michael MacDONALD

On January 18, 2006, Corporal MacDonald, a member of the improvised explosive device disposal team, responded to the threat posed by a vehicle loaded with improvised explosive devices in Afghanistan. In a very dangerous environment, he worked over 14 hours under difficult conditions to avert the potential death or injury of coalition forces members and civilians. His exceptional stamina and determination exceeded what is expected of improvised explosive device operators. Corporal MacDonald's perseverance and his devotion to duty resulted in the largest recovery of an operational device by Canadians.



Sergeant Robert Scott MACHAN, CD

On 12 December 2005, Sergeant Machan's patrol convoy incurred an improvised explosive device attack in Ghorak, Afghanistan, which injured four soldiers. Guided by Sergeant Machan's calm and strong leadership, the remainder of the patrol secured the area, conducted clearance drills and breached a lane to the wounded soldiers. Realizing the seriousness of their injuries, Sergeant Machan provided direction to his team to safely extract, treat and evacuate the soldiers despite the potential risk to him and to his patrol.



Warrant Officer Justin Christopher MACKAY, CD

Warrant Officer Mackay was the second-in-command of 1 Platoon, A Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 14 July 2006, his platoon reinforced a US Company fighting near Pasab, Afghanistan. Despite heavy small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire, Warrant Officer Mackay helped coordinate light armoured vehicle fire support, enabling the platoon's firepower to be rapidly and effectively employed. After winning the firefight, he coordinated the successful assault crossing of an enemy bridge, securing the far bank and allowing a safe withdrawal to a patrol base east of the village. Warrant Officer Mackay's outstanding leadership and fortitude allowed coalition forces to retake the initiative.



Corporal Clayton MacLEAN

From 11 to 16 January 2009, Corporal MacLean's Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team fought through multiple contacts against a well-trained and aggressive insurgent force during a lengthy combat operation in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He repeatedly exposed himself to heavy insurgent fire to maintain situational awareness and fix insurgents in place, ensuring they could be engaged with artillery. Corporal MacLean's courage under enemy fire contributed to the operation's success while avoiding Afghan and Canadian casualties.



Sergeant Malcom MACLEAN, CD

On 7 and 8 May 2011, Sergeant Maclean showed great courage and devotion to duty while mentoring an assault element from the Provincial Response Company fighting insurgents within Kandahar City. Throughout a difficult operation and under effective enemy fire, he actively mentored and provided cover fire, security and directed the movement of an injured Afghan soldier to the casualty collection point. Sergeant Maclean's skills and dedication have brought credit to the Provincial Response Company and the Canadian Forces.



Major Donald James MacNEIL, CD

Major MacNeil served as a team leader in the Humanitarian Cell of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda during the civil war in 1994. On 3 May 1994, he was evacuating sixty Tutsis from their hotel to the Kigali Airport, when they and their UN escort were surrounded. After several hours of negotiations under threat, including by inebriated militiamen, Major MacNeil succeeded in extricating the vehicles, thus saving the lives of the Tutsis. Throughout his tour of duty, he was responsible for the successful transfer of nearly four thousand displaced persons.



Private Justin MacPHERSON

On 7 August 2008, an armoured vehicle in Private MacPherson's patrol struck an improvised explosive device. While clearing a path to the scene, he found an additional device. As he began to disarm it, the patrol was ambushed by insurgents with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. As rounds landed around him, he selflessly remained exposed until the device was disarmed. Private MacPherson's courage and composure under direct enemy fire ensured that this potentially deadly trap did not harm coalition soldiers.



Private Michael MacWHIRTER

On 16 May 2007, an insurgent force numbering more than 30 ambushed Private MacWhirter's Platoon in Sangsar, Afghanistan. The insurgents were dispersed in multiple well-sited positions and were focussing their effective, coordinated fire on the lead Section. On the Platoon Commander's orders and with no regard for his personal safety, Private MacWhirter exposed himself to heavy small arms fire as he dashed across a 40 metre fire-swept field to take up a position to identify and neutralize the enemy. Private MacWhirter's skill and courage under fire enabled the pinned down rifle Section to withdraw unharmed from this extremely perilous situation.



Captain Christian MARANDA

On 28 May 2009, Captain Maranda and his joint Canadian-Afghan patrol came under fire from three directions that isolated the forward element and caused three casualties. He quickly directed his soldiers to establish the security necessary to care for the casualties and then attempted to define the enemy position. Realizing the forward element's precarious situation, he ordered one of his sections to move to their position and help them break contact. Captain Maranda's frontline leadership, composure under fire and tactical acumen enabled his patrol's successful withdraw.



Sergeant James Ray Brent MARTIN

On 3 December 2009, Sergeant Martin was injured when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan. With the vehicle immobilized and the gunner unable to return fire, Sergeant Martin moved to the top of the vehicle to man the machinegun. From this exposed position, he provided suppressive fire to repel the attack, which allowed dismounted soldiers to break contact. Despite being injured, Sergeant Martin put his fellow soldiers first and his actions were critical to defeating the enemy.



Corporal Martin MATTE

When his company was attacked in Afghanistan on 4 June 2009, Corporal Matte fearlessly moved to the roof of their fortification to provide close protection for two forward observation officers. Remaining in this exposed position throughout the battle, he braved intense fire while decisively and relentlessly engaging the enemy position. His outstanding composure, combat ability and courage under fire enabled the delivery of decisive fire support and were instrumental in repelling the attack and defending their position.



Master Corporal Ian MATTHEWS-PESTANA

On 28 October 2009, Master Corporal Matthews-Pestana displayed extraordinary professionalism and calmness following an improvised explosive device that killed his patrol commander in the Panjwai District, Afghanistan. Despite being wounded in the blast, under enemy fire and without communications, he demonstrated outstanding initiative and composure by deploying smoke to signal his patrol's presence and their need for assistance to nearby friendly forces. Master Corporal Matthews-Pestana's decisive actions prevented additional casualties and enabled the safe extraction of the remainder of his team.



Major Michael MAURER

Major Maurer, the first Canadian soldier stationed in Somalia, demonstrated remarkable courage while moving throughout the city of Mogadishu day and night, often unaccompanied, to ensure the communications and liaison necessary to keep operations running smoothly. As the staff officer in J3 Operations, he earned the admiration of the Allied Chiefs by developing the plan for the transition from the allied forces to the United Nations operation force. He also designed the weapons distribution policy used by the guards employed by the humanitarian assistance agencies and played a significant role in the preparation of the talks that led to the Addis Abbaba accord and the peace talks.



Master Corporal Walter David Shane McALEER

In Sarajevo, on 10 July 1992, Master Corporal McAleer assisted in the evacuation of two civilian casualties. Without regard to his own safety, he moved into a very dangerous area and helped to place one of the casualties onto a stretcher and provided protection during the evacuation.



Major John Scott McCOMBER, CD

On 24 June 1994, Major McComber was the Chief Logistics Officer for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) when he received a distress call from the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC). Heavy fighting in Kigali had resulted in the Red Cross receiving more than 600 casualties and the hospital generator was out of diesel fuel, making it impossible for the doctors to continue with surgery. Major McComber volunteered to deliver the necessary fuel. When he arrived at the hospital, he found access to the generator blocked by wounded civilians and two truckloads of Tutsis waiting for authority to move through the front lines. During the following four hours, while under mortar, small arms and machine gun fire, Major McComber helped move the wounded and completed the refuelling of the generator. Once the shelling and small arms fire ended, he helped escort the Tutsis through the front lines to safety. Major McComber's dedication and disregard for his own safety resulted in the saving of countless lives.



Captain David McKILLOP

Captain McKillop commanded an infantry platoon that bore the brunt of seven, separate, direct and indirect fire attacks on 15 and 16 September 1993, during operations to secure a buffer zone between Croatian and Serbian forces in the Medak Pocket, Croatia. Under his leadership, his platoon endured the most intense and severe of the attacks in the area, demonstrating the United Nations resolve to complete its mission.



Corporal Matthew McLEAN

On 14 June 2008, Corporal McLean's section came under heavy fire in Zhari District, Afghanistan. With the section pinned down and partially surrounded, he courageously moved into heavier enemy fire in order to pull a seriously wounded comrade to safety. Corporal McLean's disregard for his personal safety and decisive actions saved the life of a fellow soldier.



Master Corporal Timothy James McMEEKIN, CD

During Operation ANACONDA in South East Afghanistan, Master Corporal McMeekin was air assaulted into the Shahi-Khot valley as part of the Reconnaissance Platoon, 1st Battalion, 187 Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne. From 2 through 11 March 2002, he operated his sniper team from the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group through extreme weather conditions. Master Corporal McMeekin demonstrated impressive professionalism and dedication to duty through his valiant conduct while under direct and indirect fire and his actions helped ensure the success of the mission.



Captain Blair McNAUGHT

For his exceptional leadership and professionalism, in Afghanistan, on 8 December 2007. After a dangerous night insertion, Captain McNaught and his team held an over-watch position in enemy territory, allowing for the provision of tactical intelligence to the operations centre and the forces engaged in combat.



Master Corporal Hector McPHAIL, CD

On 29 August 2006, Master Corporal McPhail's patrol was ambushed near Kandahar, Afghanistan. Despite suffering two gunshot wounds, he provided suppressive fire while exposed to hostile fire so as to allow the patrol to push through the ambush. With remarkable concern for his crew, he refused medical attention so that he could remain focused on his vehicle command responsibilities. Master Corporal McPhail's courageous and valiant efforts inspired his subordinates and ensured their safety in extremely stressful circumstances.



Sergeant Joseph Réal Roger MEILLEUR

In May 1995, Sergeant Meilleur was deployed in Kasic, in the Croatian republic of Krajina, when a Serbian Army troop dangerously approached and attempted to gain control of the observation post under his command. Sergeant Meilleur quickly ordered his troops to the protective bunkers and organized their defence. In the obscurity, and without an interpreter, he singlehandedly faced the Serbs in order to negotiate their retreat and to defuse the situation. By his calmness, quick-thinking and coolheadedness, Sergeant Meilleur preserved the lives of the men under his command and maintained the safety of the sector.



Captain Joseph Louis François MESSIER

During the deployment of the Canadian combined armed forces in Somalia, Captain Messier consistently demonstrated perseverance and courage, qualities that were noted by the senior allied officers. His work often required him to take serious risks and to cross areas that were mined and controlled by bandits. Between 13 and 17 March 1993, Captain Messier conducted reconnaissance of the Galcaio region, contributing directly to the deployment of humanitarian assistance organizations in this previously neglected region. In addition, he constantly attempted to bring the rival factions to the conference table.



Major Pericles METAXAS-MARIATOS, MSM, CD

Major Metaxas-Mariatos is recognized for his outstanding performance as Deputy Chief Operations Officer in the Intelligence Division of Headquarters International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kabul, Afghanistan. Recognizing that the successful execution of Commander ISAF's campaign plan relied on the conduct of intelligence-driven operations at the tactical level, he assertively pursued all possible avenues to provide the required support. As the central operations officer, he personally placed himself in harm's way, demonstrating uncommon fortitude in the conduct of his duty. His performance under demanding and hazardous operational conditions was exemplary and brought great honour to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Captain Samuel Michel MICHAUD

Between December 1992 and February 1993, during emergency UN intervention in Somalia, Captain Michaud's astuteness and quick reaction to four separate calls for casualty evacuation were instrumental in saving several lives. In each case, he was conducting other tactical missions when he spotted the situations on the ground and made his aircraft available to provide assistance.



Corporal Lee Allan MILLER

On 6 May 2008, a patrol from the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team came under attack in Zhari District, Afghanistan. While providing rear security, Corporal Miller's rapid identification and reaction fixed an insurgent in place, enabling the patrol to flank the position and neutralize the threat. While waiting for reinforcements, the patrol again came under attack. Heedless of the incoming fire, he instinctively manoeuvred to locations where he could best influence the battle. Corporal Miller's courageous actions helped repel the insurgent ambush.



Master Corporal Christopher Michael MISZTAL

For outstanding initiative and resourcefulness, in Afghanistan, on 27 August 2007. In addition to providing counter-battery intelligence while under a lengthy, intense mortar attack, he assembled a critical defensive system that significantly decreased the effectiveness of the enemy fire.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Martin Joseph MOLLISON, CD

Petty Officer 2nd Class Mollison was one of three United Nations personnel returning from a river patrol on the Tonle Tuch, a tributary of the Mekong River, Cambodia, on 10 August 1993, when five heavily-armed Khmer Rouge soldiers unexpectedly opened fire on the vessel from the river bank. The helmsman froze, but Petty Officer 2nd Class Mollison immediately responded by taking control of the rigid inflatable boat and commencing a series of high-speed, evasive manoeuvres while heading for the opposite bank. Though fire struck the boat, his quick thinking and calm professionalism minimized damage and prevented harm to others.



*Master Warrant Officer Robert Joseph MONTAGUE,
MMM, CD*

Master Warrant Officer Montague, a member of the Commander's tactical group, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan, is recognized for outstanding and valiant actions carried out on 14 October 2006, during operations in Pashmul. While under enemy fire, he left his own vehicle to assist in the extraction of an immobilized light armoured vehicle that was exposed to enemy fire. His leadership and courageous actions secured the safety of the vehicle and its crew and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Captain Joseph Maurice Richard MOREAU

While head of security and defence for the Canadian combined armed forces headquarters in Somalia, Captain Moreau and his troops were harassed daily by groups hostile to the presence of the guards protecting the international humanitarian assistance convoys. On 27 April 1993, his troop was attacked by an angry mob and came under small arms fire from a group of bandits. Captain Moreau re-established calm and successfully dispersed the crowd without incident. His actions demonstrated a skill and calmness that are in keeping with the best traditions of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Captain Joseph Julien Daniel MORIN

For exceptional leadership and professionalism in Afghanistan, on 17 November 2007. He skilfully coordinated artillery fire at very close range, inflicting great enemy losses and forcing their withdrawal. His decisive actions saved the lives of Canadian and Afghan soldiers and helped ensure mission success.



Captain Lee James MOSSOP

Captain Mossop was deployed as the mentor to the company commander of the 3rd Company, 2nd Kandak, 1st Brigade, 205th Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA). On 10 October 2006, his company was assigned to secure Route Summit in the Pashmul region of Afghanistan. For the next two weeks, the company endured repeated insurgent attacks, during which Captain Mossop demonstrated outstanding leadership, composure and resilience under fire that inspired the ANA soldiers to successfully ward off all enemy action. Captain Mossop's leadership directly contributed to the professional development of the ANA Company, and to Canada's mission in Afghanistan.



Captain Adam MRAMOR

On 5 August 2010, Captain Mramor's Chinook helicopter was struck by enemy fire, causing the fuel tank to explode, engulfing the helicopter in flames and rendering it nearly unflyable. With the cockpit rapidly filling with smoke, he maintained control of the aircraft and, when the Aircraft Captain took over, provided precise guidance to facilitate an emergency landing. Amidst these chaotic and life-threatening conditions, Captain Mramor's remarkable composure, professionalism and airmanship contributed to saving the lives of all crew and passengers.



Sergeant Christopher John Michael MURDY

Sergeant Murdy was deployed with the Force Protection Platoon of the National Support Element in Afghanistan. On 29 August 2006, he led his patrol through three consecutive enemy engagements including an ambush by a suicide bomber in a vehicle armed with improvised explosive devices. Exhibiting exceptional judgement and tactical expertise in each of the events, he successfully led his troops to safety. Sergeant Murdy's steadfast composure and combat leadership inspired his soldiers to confidently carry out their mission.



Master Corporal Stuart Douglas MURRAY, CD

On 28 October 2009, Master Corporal Murray seamlessly assumed command of his joint Canadian-Afghan patrol when his commander was killed by an improvised explosive device during an operation in Afghanistan. With the patrol's radio destroyed in the blast and while under enemy fire, he calmly took control of the situation, established defensive positions and managed to report his position and situation via his interpreter's cell phone. Master Corporal Murray's outstanding composure and leadership ensured the successful extraction of his patrol.



Captain Thomas Nicholas MYKYTIUK

Corporal Christopher Allen Robert Charron

Corporal Charron and Captain Mykytiuk were deployed in Srebrenica, Bosnia-Hercegovina, when the town was shelled by a greater than normal concentration of fire on 12 April 1994. During a lull, they drove out to search for two missing soldiers and assist where possible. They came upon a site that had taken several direct hits, with many casualties. Despite renewed shelling, they were determined to assist the wounded civilians, and made several trips to bring them to the nearest hospital. These actions in dangerous circumstances were in the finest spirit of the United Nation's mandate.



Corporal Tyler Brian MYRONIUK

On 25 March 2008, a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol was returning from operations in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan, when an insurgent ambush pinned down the rear section. Corporal Myroniuk immediately and instinctively moved towards the enemy to provide sustained and accurate suppressive fire from multiple locations to secure the patrol's flanks. Corporal Myroniuk's courageous and decisive action enabled the section to effectively break contact without suffering casualties.



Corporal Jona NLANDU

On 29 June 2009, Corporal Nlandu's company was attacked by approximately 40 insurgents in a small village in Afghanistan. Despite being injured and evacuated in the early stages of the battle, he courageously returned to the frontline and actively engaged the enemy for the remainder of the firefight. His outstanding composure and determination inspired his fellow soldiers and played a decisive role in winning the engagement.



Private Valerie NOEL

While deployed to Afghanistan, Private Noel consistently provided exceptional frontline medical care throughout the months of May to December 2010. Even while under fire, she remained composed, took control of the situation and calmly directed the treatment of casualties. On her own accord, she provided constant mentoring to an Afghan medic, greatly improving his ability to provide care on the battlefield. Private Noel's medical ability, selfless actions and natural leadership saved lives and instilled confidence in the soldiers around her.



Master Corporal Brent Simon NOLASCO, CD

On 15 October 2008, an improvised explosive device struck Master Corporal Nolasco's patrol, severely wounding three soldiers. He quickly assessed the situation and took control of his section and the remaining personnel in the vicinity of the blast. He then established a firebase that suppressed the enemy sufficiently to allow a search for secondary devices. With the scene secure, he directed his section in the treatment and evacuation of the wounded. Master Corporal Nolasco's decisive leadership greatly contributed to the survival of the casualties.



Private Christopher Joseph NOVAK

On 3 November 2009, Private Novak was conducting a route opening patrol in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, when his vehicle was struck by an 82 mm recoilless rifle round, penetrating the armour, spraying shrapnel inside and causing numerous casualties. Despite sustaining severe injuries, he bravely remained in the turret and unleashed heavy fire onto the enemy. Private Novak's selfless and courageous actions effectively suppressed the enemy, providing his comrades with the protection required to treat casualties and fight through the ambush.



Private Matthew Douglas O'MEARA

Private O'Meara was deployed to Afghanistan with the Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group. On 3 October 2006, his observation post, located in the Pashmul region, was attacked with small arms fire, rocket-propelled grenades and rockets. Despite being seriously hurt and exposed to continuous enemy fire, Private O'Meara maintained his composure while calming the injured and providing first aid. After confirming the security of the wounded, he adopted a fire position to repel further attacks. Private O'Meara's actions reflect the highest standards of professionalism in combat.



Master Corporal Dwayne Robert Alvin ORVIS, CD

Master Corporal Orvis was a member of Charles Company, 1st Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Rotation 2 of Operation ARCHER, in Afghanistan. On 3 September 2006, during Operation MEDUSA, his section came under intense enemy attack, resulting in the death of his section leader and the wounding of numerous others. Without hesitation, Master Corporal Orvis took charge of the section, gave sound tactical direction regarding casualty care and led his team to safety. His courage and strong leadership under extreme stress exemplified the finest traditions of his profession and brought great honour to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Master Warrant Officer John Randy PALMER, CD

While deployed with 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, Master Warrant Palmer provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Private Christopher PALUBICKI

On 30 May 2010, Private Palubicki was ambushed by insurgents and took multiple rounds to his body armour while walking point during a patrol in Afghanistan. After fighting off the ambush, his section responded to two separate improvised explosive incidents, forcing them to stay on scene and provide security overnight. Despite being shot and on patrol for over 24 hours, Private Palubicki's dedication to his comrades never wavered and he continued to voluntarily walk point.



Corporal Joseph Robert Donald PAQUIN

In August 1995, while serving in the former Yugoslavia, Corporal Paquin displayed outstanding leadership in the defence of a United Nations observation post subject to mortar fire. Despite heavy artillery fire, he provided inspiration and assistance to those under his command, who were threatened by Croatian forces that on several occasions had attempted to seize the post. The determination and calm displayed by Corporal Paquin in a very tense situation helped keep his personnel safe and retain control of the observation post.



Master Corporal Matthew PARSONS

For outstanding courage and leadership in Afghanistan on 3 August 2006. His determination in selflessly manoeuvring his vehicle as a shield and establishing a defensive position around the casualty collection point was vital in the successful extraction of friendly casualties.



Captain Andrew PATERSON

As a platoon commander in Afghanistan from April to November 2010, Captain Paterson's sound tactical acumen and decisive actions under fire consistently set the example for his soldiers to follow. During numerous high-intensity combat engagements, he displayed exceptional frontline leadership that was critical to repeatedly defeating a determined enemy.

Whether battling insurgents alongside coalition and Afghan partners or interacting with the local population, Captain Paterson displayed the utmost leadership, diplomacy and professionalism while representing Canada admirably.



Corporal Benjamin Joel PEACH

On 17 March 2007, a suicide vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device attacked Corporal Peach's vehicle in the Zhari district of Khandahar, Afghanistan. After realigning his own dislocated shoulder, he extinguished the fire on his unconscious Crew Commander and provided first aid. When his Crew Commander regained consciousness, Corporal Peach dismounted the vehicle, conducted a reconnaissance of the

blast site to identify any unexploded ordnance and established a security cordon. His immediate actions enabled the rapid evacuation of injured personnel and contributed to the timely exploitation of the blast site. Corporal Peach's selfless actions reflect the highest standards of professionalism.



Captain Trevor Joseph PELLERINE, CD

On 4 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. Despite the intensity of fire, Captain Pellerine skilfully controlled multiple air and aviation assets that enabled the withdrawal of the entrapped and beleaguered Company. His tactical skill and courage under fire

as the Forward Air Controller saved Canadian and Afghan lives and are testament to his resolve and training.



Captain Manuel PELLETIER-BÉDARD

On 8 August 2009, Captain Pelletier-Bédard was mentoring an Afghan National Army company during an operation when an insurgent attack isolated one of his platoons and threatened to cut off the company's exit route. Realizing he had lost communications with the platoon, he courageously sprinted across 300 metres of open ground to reach their position and lead their extraction. Captain Pelletier-Bédard's outstanding leadership, composure and courage under fire ensured the company was able to break contact, regroup and adopt a better defensive position.



Major Gregory Allan PENNER, CD

Major Penner is mentioned in dispatches for his courageous and selfless actions while serving as a United Nations (UN) military observer in Sudan. In November 2006, serious firefights in Malakal left 200 civilians dead and another 500 injured. Throughout the crisis, Major Penner volunteered to lead dangerous patrols and medical evacuations, with complete disregard for his own safety. During several volatile situations, his negotiation skills and calm demeanour helped prevent further escalations in the conflict. Major Penner's leadership and courage under fire throughout the Malakal crisis were critical to the effectiveness of the crisis action team and to the sustained UN presence in the region.



Captain Mark James PEREGO, CD

From 23 June to 16 July 1995, Captain Perego commanded the Forward Air Control Party co-located with an Observation Post at CV 4 on the line separating warring factions in the Visoko district of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Bosnian forces launched a series of offensives along the front of the Observation Post, placing its occupants in serious danger and under siege for 23 days. In an attempt to reduce the fire, and with little regard for his own safety, Captain Perego covered a distance of 200 meters on open ground to help replace the United Nations flag on the Observation Post. He also displayed inspiring self-control and professionalism while negotiating with armed and hostile belligerents, which resulted in decreasing the tension and securing valuable food and water supplies for members of the Observation Post. Throughout the siege, Captain Perego displayed devotion to duty and self-sacrifice, which helped maintain a United Nations presence on the front line during the heaviest fighting of the Bosnian summer offensive. His actions brought credit to himself and to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Master Corporal Arron Carlos PERRY

During Operation ANACONDA in South East Afghanistan, Master Corporal Perry was air assaulted into the Shahi-Khot valley as part of the alternate Task Force Tactical Command Post, 2nd Battalion, 187 Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne. From 2 through 11 March 2002, he operated his sniper team from the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group through extreme weather conditions. Master Corporal Perry demonstrated impressive professionalism and dedication to duty through his valiant conduct while under direct and indirect fire and his actions helped ensure the success of the mission.



Corporal Brett Robert PERRY

On 17 April 2002, Corporal Perry's actions immediately following the Tarnak Farm incident in Kandahar, Afghanistan, were highly commendable. He remained calm in a very chaotic environment, despite a shrapnel wound. He assisted in securing the area and in deploying medical personnel as they arrived. He searched for injured soldiers and provided them with vital first aid. Through these actions, which continued until he was medically evacuated from the area, Corporal Perry demonstrated selflessness, personal commitment and devotion to his comrades.



Master Corporal Tony PERRY

Master Corporal Perry was deployed with 9 Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 3 August 2006, during combat operations in the Pashmul region of Afghanistan, he exposed himself to great personal risk to extract his comrades stranded in the open by sustained fire from a numerically superior enemy. Without prompting, and ignoring the threat from possible improvised explosive devices, he manoeuvred his light armoured vehicle to shield the casualties and those providing first aid and suppressed the enemy with coax machine-gun fire. Master Corporal Perry's actions under difficult conditions were befitting of the highest standards of his regiment and the Canadian Armed Forces.



Corporal Vincent Jacques PETERS

On 30 March 2008, insurgents initiated a fierce and persistent attack on a police sub-station in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Corporal Peters immediately climbed into an armoured vehicle to provide suppressive fire from the turret. Although not qualified as an armoured vehicle gunner, he effectively engaged the enemy with accurate and aggressive fire, allowing remaining members of the police sub-station to adopt defensive positions and repel the attack. Corporal Peters' decisive action undoubtedly saved numerous Canadian and Afghan lives.



Corporal Sébastien PICARD

On 18 December 2008, Corporal Picard's armoured vehicle struck an improvised explosive device during a route clearance operation in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan. Seconds after the detonation, the stricken vehicle was ambushed by insurgents with small arms fire. With no cover available and under direct enemy fire, he exited the vehicle without hesitation and engaged the enemy position. Corporal Picard's decisive and courageous actions were instrumental in suppressing the insurgents, winning the firefight and saving the lives of the vehicle's occupants.



Master Warrant Officer Kenneth Thomas Joseph PICHIE, CD

On 5 August 2010, Master Warrant Officer Pichie's Chinook helicopter was struck by enemy fire, causing the fuel tank to explode and engulfing the helicopter in flames. During and after the harrowing emergency landing, he was instrumental in the safe evacuation and continued security of all passengers until the arrival of friendly forces. Amidst harassing enemy fire and in the presence of a burning aircraft, Master Warrant Officer Pichie maintained the utmost composure and provided the leadership necessary to prevent loss of life.



Warrant Officer Jason Guy PICKARD, CD

On 2 June 2008, the lead section of a Canadian platoon was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Warrant Officer Pickard pushed through intense enemy fire to drag his wounded section commander to safety and coordinated his extraction. Upon hearing that another patrol had taken casualties in their vicinity, he delayed his platoon's withdrawal and moved to extract the remaining casualties. Warrant

Officer Pickard's decisive and composed leadership ensured the successful extraction of multiple casualties under fire.



Corporal Billy PILOTE-JOBIN

On 27 April 2009, Corporal Pilote-Jobin's multinational patrol base was attacked by insurgents in Afghanistan. Under fire, he manoeuvred an armoured vehicle to provide overwatch for an allied force that was advancing on the enemy. Upon hearing of a civilian casualty, he rushed to the scene to render first aid while the platoon medic tended to another casualty. Corporal Pilote-Jobin's selfless act and willingness to risk his own life

enhanced the effectiveness of allied forces and saved a life.



Corporal Adam Kenneth PIZIO

Corporal Pizio of the Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The

Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, is mentioned in dispatches for outstanding bravery and professionalism during combat operations in Afghanistan. On 11 January 2007, in response to a mine strike on another detachment, he rapidly led his section through dangerous terrain in complete darkness to secure the scene and enable timely medical intervention to save a wounded comrade's life. His selfless bravery in the face of danger and his skilful application of complex navigation knowledge under extreme pressure reflect the highest standards of professionalism.



Master Corporal Cécil David PLAMONDON, CD

For outstanding professionalism and selfless dedication, as a medical technician in Afghanistan, from September to October 2007. On multiple occasions, under sustained enemy fire, he calmly rendered first aid to wounded soldiers, thereby permitting their rapid and effective evacuation and the saving of many lives.



Corporal Walter James POSTMA

Master Corporal Gregory William Tate

Corporal Postma and Master Corporal Tate were members of a team tasked with water resupply within Srebrenica, Bosnia-Hercegovina, on 12 April 1994, when the city was shelled by a mortar and rocket barrage. The team passed a site that had taken several direct hits, with many casualties. Despite the continuous and extreme danger, as rounds landed nearby, several trips were made to bring civilians to the nearest hospital. These actions in dangerous circumstances were in the finest spirit of the United Nation's mandate.



Private Dave POTVIN

On 22 August 2009, Private Potvin's foot patrol was ambushed by insurgents in Afghanistan. Despite heavy fire and his proximity to the enemy, he immediately moved forward to establish a defensive position. While returning fire, he provided information to the section commander that enabled their effective fighting withdrawal. As they returned to base, they were again ambushed by insurgents. Despite the surprise of the second attack, Private Potvin's fearless and relentless engagement of the enemy enabled them to once again effectively break contact.



Private Kirk POWELL

On 14 August 2010, Private Powell was manning a vehicle checkpoint in Afghanistan with three other soldiers when they were attacked with rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire. Despite being wounded in the arm, he returned fire to suppress the insurgents and dragged a wounded comrade out of the line of fire. With his rifle held in one hand, Private Powell continued to engage the enemy, ensuring the defeat of the attack and the safety of his fellow soldiers.



Master Corporal Daryl Edward PRESLEY

Master Corporal Presley was deployed with C Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER. On 15 July 2006, while conducting operations in Sangin District, Afghanistan, dismounted elements of Master Corporal Presley's company were the target of an intense and sustained ambush by a significantly greater enemy force. With a portion of his company cut off, he maintained his exposed position on his light armoured vehicle, at great personal risk, to control the fire of the main cannon while simultaneously engaging the enemy with the mounted machine gun. Master Corporal Presley's fortitude and selfless actions were instrumental in repelling the enemy and permitted his company to break contact with the enemy.



Master Corporal Daryl Edward PRESLEY

For outstanding courage and determination, in Afghanistan, on 27 July 2006. He voluntarily dismounted under heavy enemy fire to extract a stuck vehicle. His selfless actions directly contributed to saving the lives of his comrades and helped neutralize an enemy attack.

This is the second MID award.



Master Corporal Tracy Wavell PRICE

On 26 March 2007, Master Corporal Price's patrol was traveling from Patrol Base Wilson to Forward Operating Base Sperwan Ghar, Afghanistan when insurgent forces ambushed his patrol with rocket propelled grenades and machine gun fire. Under effective enemy fire, he immediately engaged and suppressed the enemy position with the pintle-mounted machine gun. The convoy continued its patrol only to be struck by a suicide vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device. Despite being injured in the blast, he continued to command his vehicle and ensured the safety of his crew and the integrity of the patrol. Master Corporal Price's courageous and immediate actions reflect the highest standards of professionalism.



Warrant Officer Paul Maurice PRIMEAU, CD

On 21 May 2010, Warrant Officer Primeau was constructing a guard tower in Afghanistan when an insurgent attack severely wounded his American colleague. Realizing they were without fire support, he returned fire with his pistol to suppress the attack long enough to move the wounded soldier and lower him to the ground. Ignoring the renewed enemy attack, he provided first aid that saved the soldier's life. Warrant Officer Primeau's selfless courage under fire brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Master Corporal Keith Howard PRODONICK, CD

Master Corporal Prodonick was deployed with A Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group, Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 21 June 2006, while traveling with a supply convoy, one of the vehicles struck an improvised explosive device. Master Corporal Prodonick quickly attended to the wounded. Once assured that they were being provided adequate care, he shifted his attention to securing the area and took the initiative to patrol the immediate vicinity. His timely actions permitted the capture of the individuals responsible for the attack. Throughout, Master Corporal Prodonick remained calm and decisive. His outstanding professionalism, self-assurance and stellar leadership won great respect for him and the Canadian Armed Forces.



Sergeant Matthew Timothy PRONK, CD

From February to September 2008, Sergeant Pronk provided outstanding combat leadership to the Armoured Engineering Vehicle Section in Afghanistan. He played a critical role in more than ten major operations, completing tasks including breaching difficult terrain under direct enemy fire, building tactical infrastructure and conducting counter improvised explosive device operations. Sergeant Pronk's innovative approach, extraordinary work ethic and technical knowledge provided the battle group with increased mobility, force protection and flexibility.



Corporal Paul RACHYNSKI

Corporal Rachynski was deployed with 9 Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER. On 29 May 2006, while employed as the air sentry in a light armoured vehicle, a determined enemy ambushed his convoy using rocket-propelled grenades, as well as small arms and machine gun fire. Since the close proximity of the enemy precluded the use of the light armoured vehicle's main armament, Corporal Rachynski stood exposed in the air sentry hatch and maintained a constant rate of fire, despite his vehicle being struck repeatedly by grenades and small arms fire. His generous actions contributed to the suppression of the enemy fire and enabled the convoy to escape the ambush.



Major Joseph Luc-André RACINE, CD

While serving on the team in the Humanitarian Cell of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda during the civil war in 1994, Major Racine escorted a journalist and a member of *Médecins sans frontières* across the front lines to visit an orphanage on 8 June 1994. The orphanage was quickly surrounded by hostile militiamen who fired on the building, wounding the journalist. Despite the personal risk, Major Racine evacuated him by negotiating his passage through fifteen roadblocks to a safe destination. His actions undoubtedly saved the journalist's life.



Master Corporal Graham RAGSDALE

During Operation ANACONDA in South East Afghanistan, Master Corporal Ragsdale was air assaulted into the Shahi-Khot valley as part of the alternate Task Force Tactical Command Post, 2nd Battalion, 187 Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne. From 2 through 11 March 2002, he operated his sniper team from the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group through extreme weather conditions. Master Corporal Ragsdale demonstrated impressive professionalism and dedication to duty through his valiant conduct while under direct and indirect fire and his actions helped ensure the success of the mission.



Sergeant Charles Leonard Allan RALPH, CD

While deployed with the Explosives Ordnance Team, Sergeant Ralph provided outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War.



Corporal Patrick RANGER

On 7 July 2008, Corporal Ranger was part of an Afghan National Army foot patrol that was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Despite being wounded, he provided first aid to a seriously wounded interpreter and extracted him to the vehicle while simultaneously returning fire. Once inside the vehicle, he continued to provide a heavy volume of turret fire that effectively suppressed the enemy. Corporal Ranger's decisive and courageous actions saved the interpreter's life and ensured the extraction of the patrol.



Private Benet Lance RASMUSSEN

On 14 June 2008, Private Rasmussen's section was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. He moved into heavier enemy fire to engage the enemy and speed up the evacuation of a casualty. With the casualty secured, he immediately took charge of the first aid, issuing firm direction to his fellow soldiers. Private Rasmussen's decisive and courageous actions under fire saved the life of a Canadian soldier.



Corporal Christopher Jonathan REID, CD (Deceased)

For outstanding courage and dedication to duty and his comrades in Afghanistan, on 27 July 2006. Under heavy enemy fire, he voluntarily dismounted to extract a stuck vehicle. His selfless actions enabled fire from the recovered vehicle to suppress the enemy.



Sergeant Éric Adolphe RENAUD, CD

On 23 August 2009, Sergeant Renaud's leadership and courage were instrumental to the success of an assault on an insurgent compound in Afghanistan. After taking fire and becoming partially surrounded, his section fought through the relentless attack in order to regroup with the rest of their platoon and enable artillery and air support to engage the enemy. Despite the threat of further resistance, he led his soldiers into the compound, seized a large cache of weapons and returned to base without suffering a single casualty.



Captain James Murray RETTIE

Captain Rettie was the second-in-command and principal engineer of a task force that cleared a minefield lane between United Nations positions in the presence of armed, belligerent Croat and Krajina-Serb forces in Croatia, in December 1994. He completed the detailed mine reconnaissance without the assistance of the warring engineers who had planted the mines and, on 20 December, the day of the breach, commanded the party clearing from the far side of the field, while the main force worked from the other. Captain Rettie's professional knowledge and skill were essential to the success of the mission.



Lieutenant Benjamin RICHARD

For outstanding courage and leadership as a Platoon Commander, in Afghanistan, on 3 August 2006. His selfless actions helped extract a group of soldiers pinned down by enemy fire and recover two immobilized vehicles. His dynamic leadership and perseverance inspired his soldiers to excel against a determined enemy.



Lieutenant Bryan RIDDELL

As a mentor to an Afghan company commander from September 2009 to April 2010, Lieutenant Riddell exhibited exceptional courage and inspirational leadership during numerous improvised explosive device attacks in the Arghandab District. With his team operating without the benefit of intimate support, he rallied his troops and enabled them to continue to be operationally effective despite suffering casualties and facing enemy fire. Lieutenant Riddell's unwavering resolve during these difficult and chaotic events saved lives, surpassed all expectations and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Major Robert Tennant RITCHIE, CD

On 4 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to provide reinforcement, Major Ritchie, the senior mentor of the Afghan Company, authorized the withdrawal of the entrapped and beleaguered Company and personally led the four-man extraction force that enabled the withdrawal. His decisiveness and courage under fire averted significant casualties among the Canadians and the Afghan Company.



Sergeant Joseph Hervé Mario Jean ROBERT

Sergeant Robert demonstrated outstanding courage and leadership as commander of two antitank detachments on an observation mission in Bucje, on the Kiseljak-Visoko road in the former Yugoslavia. On 18 June 1993, after coming under small arms fire during a tense situation, his M113 vehicle was hit by a rocket and the driver killed. Sergeant Robert immediately took control of the vehicle and led his detachment to safety. He then rejoined the second detachment under his command and brought it safely to the Kiseljak camp. His calmness, quick action and determination allowed Sergeant Robert to successfully withdraw his section from enemy fire.



Lieutenant-Colonel Dennis James ROBERTS, CD

While deployed as Chief of Staff and Acting Commander of the Canadian Air Task Group Middle East, Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts displayed outstanding professional leadership during the Gulf War.



Master Corporal Steven ROBERTSON, CD

Master Corporal Robertson's courage, decisiveness and combat ability enabled his platoon to successfully withdraw from two separate enemy attacks in Afghanistan without suffering casualties. In late April 2009, he fearlessly exposed himself to enemy fire to place his mortar in a position to repel an enemy attack. On 26 May 2009, with his platoon pinned down and in danger of being surrounded, he adopted an exposed position on the enemy's flank to deliver heavy machine gun fire that effectively suppressed their position.



Master Corporal Michel Gilles ROBITAILLE

In Sarajevo, on 10 July 1992, Master Corporal Robitaille rendered medical assistance to a civilian casualty under very dangerous conditions. Without regard to his own safety, he left his vehicle, applied field dressings and assisted in the evacuation of the wounded person.



Private Shawn Thomas ROONEY

Private Rooney was an armoured personnel carrier crewman at a traffic control point north-east of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, on 10 April 1993, when, without warning, his position came under mortar attack. After the first round, some nearby children scattered, looking for cover. However, two small children lay frozen on the ground. Without hesitation, as the barrage continued, Private Rooney left the carrier, ran in the open to the children, and brought them back to the protection of the vehicle.



Captain Danis ROULEAU, CD

For outstanding initiative and poise when his vehicle was destroyed by a roadside bomb, in Afghanistan, on 22 August 2007. He administered first aid and coordinated the extraction of wounded and deceased personnel, inspiring those around him to work through a demanding ordeal and save the lives of their comrades.



Corporal Kevin ROWLAND

From 29 July to 5 August 2009, Corporal Rowland played a critical role in establishing and maintaining command and control capabilities for a tank squadron in Afghanistan. On the last day of their operation, he distinguished himself during four separate enemy ambushes. Despite being under direct fire, he repeatedly exited his vehicle to assist in the medical evacuation of Afghan and coalition soldiers and the recovery of stricken vehicles. Corporal Rowland's technical skill and courage under fire contributed to the squadron's operational success.



Corporal Christopher ROY

On 14 August 2010, Corporal Roy was manning a vehicle checkpoint in Afghanistan with three other soldiers when they were attacked with rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire. Reacting immediately, he returned fire to suppress the insurgents, quickly relayed a situation report to higher headquarters and regrouped the soldiers into a hasty defensive position. Corporal Roy's outstanding leadership, composure and soldiering ability were critical to defeating the enemy attack and ensuring the safe withdrawal of his wounded comrades.



Warrant Officer Joseph André Daniel ROYER, CD

For outstanding professionalism and dedication as a Company Sergeant Major, in Afghanistan, on 22 and 23 August 2007, when he orchestrated medical evacuations during intense battles with the enemy. His actions saved many lives and were an inspiration to the soldiers during an extremely demanding ordeal.



Private Jonathan RUSTENBURG

Private Rustenburg was deployed with 9 Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group in Task Force ORION. On 29 May 2006, his convoy came under enemy fire at such close proximity that the light armoured vehicle's main armament could not be used. Private Rustenburg volunteered as air sentry to supplement the main armament. When the convoy was attacked again, he engaged the enemy with sustained fire, maintaining his exposed position despite small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire. His unselfish actions contributed to the convoy's safe egress. Private Rustenburg is to be commended for his decisiveness in the face of the enemy.



Sergeant David Donald RYALL

During the UN's emergency operations in Somalia in 1993, Sergeant Ryall was responsible for extensive and successful mine clearance in a heavily-mined region where Canadian humanitarian relief efforts were underway. His actions ensured the battle group was operationally effective, allowing the movement of other coalition members in the region and the delivery of badly-needed humanitarian supplies to an area that was previously inaccessible by non-governmental relief agencies.



Corporal Corey SAGSTUEN, CD

On 22 November 2009, a member of Corporal Sagstuen's foot patrol was severely wounded by an improvised explosive device. Immediately following the blast, insurgents unleashed a coordinated attack on the stunned patrol. Realizing the need to provide immediate assistance to his wounded colleague, Corporal Sagstuen moved through intense enemy fire to reach the position and provide first aid. Corporal Sagstuen's exceptional medical skill and selfless courage under fire saved the life of a fellow soldier.



Captain Matthieu SAIKALY

During a five-day combat operation in Afghanistan, Captain Saikaly demonstrated outstanding courage and tactical acumen during two separate enemy engagements. On 4 June 2009, he provided fire support that enabled an isolated element of his patrol to move to cover. On 8 June 2009, he led a group of armoured vehicles to ensure the enemy's attention was distracted from his dismounted colleagues, enabling them to attain their objectives. Captain Saikaly's decisiveness and composure under fire contributed to the success of the operation.



Major Harjit SAJJAN, CD

For outstanding professionalism and courage as the Special Advisor to American Coalition Forces in Afghanistan. In September 2006, his understanding of counter insurgency tactics assisted in the effective planning and execution of an operation to secure key terrain in the Panjwayi/Zhari District.



Private Mathieu SANSOUCY

On 8 June 2009, Private Sansoucy's platoon was ambushed by insurgents in Afghanistan as it returned from the scene of an improvised explosive device attack. Despite intense fire and a lack of cover, he immediately moved towards the enemy position to provide fire support for the platoon. Private Sansoucy demonstrated courage by aggressively and fearlessly engaging the enemy. His decisive actions were critical to winning the firefight and defeating the enemy.



Sergeant Scott Lee SCHALL, CD

For courage in combat while commanding the lone tank in an assault force, in Afghanistan, on 24 September 2007. He provided suppressing fire, including engaging the enemy with his carbine when his main armament became disabled. His actions saved lives and ensured the capture of the objective.



Master Corporal Johnathon SCHARF

From 11 to 16 January 2009, Master Corporal Scharf's Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team fought through multiple contacts against a well-trained and aggressive insurgent force during a lengthy combat operation in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He repeatedly exposed himself to heavy insurgent fire to maintain situational awareness and fix insurgents in place, ensuring they could be engaged with artillery. Master Corporal Scharf's courage under enemy fire contributed to the operation's success while avoiding Afghan and Canadian casualties.



Sergeant Christopher Marc SCHMIDT, CD

On 19 June 2006, Sergeant Schmidt was assisting a Romanian military unit conducting a perimeter patrol in Kandahar, Afghanistan, when the lead vehicle struck an anti-tank mine and was disabled. In the commotion that ensued, a Romanian soldier tripped over an anti-personnel mine. Despite the resulting confusion and disorder, the threat of more mines and the existing language barriers, Sergeant Schmidt remained calm, provided clear direction and facilitated emergency response. His rapid and professional intervention contributed directly to the survival of the seriously injured soldiers and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Warrant Officer Lawrence Jeffrey SCHNURR

On 16 March 2010, Warrant Officer Schnurr was second-in-command of Reconnaissance Platoon during an operation in Afghanistan when insurgents attacked from three sides. Despite being under direct fire, he quickly identified the greatest threat and acted decisively to neutralize it. Throughout the engagement, his selfless and courageous actions inspired the platoon to aggressively engage the enemy. Warrant Officer Schnurr's frontline leadership and remarkable combat ability were critical to repelling the attack and setting the conditions for the platoon's withdrawal.



Captain Kurt Evan SCHWEITZER

On 7 May 2009, Captain Schweitzer, a Hercules Aircraft Commander, demonstrated outstanding leadership and decisiveness while conducting an extremely demanding night departure from an austere runway in Afghanistan. Working without the aid of night-vision technology, his exceptional airmanship and tactical acumen mitigated effective insurgent ground fire during the takeoff and climb out. Captain Schweitzer's professionalism and outstanding composure prevented the potential destruction of the aircraft and enhanced the reputation of the Canadian Armed Forces with our allies.



Corporal Kyle SCOTT

Corporal Scott was deployed with 11 Field Squadron during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 22 July 2006, during an intense firefight near Garmser District Centre, he displayed selflessness and dedication to duty when he left his vehicle to provide first aid to a seriously wounded Afghan police officer. His calm and methodical application of the principles of first aid while under fire directly contributed to saving the police officer's life. Corporal Scott's actions at a critical moment contributed to the success of the mission and to the Canadian mandate to assist the Government of Afghanistan.



Captain Mark SHEPPARD

Captain Sheppard deployed to Afghanistan as a platoon commander with 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group from January to August 2007. Leading his platoon through many close-range engagements, he outflanked insurgent formations on several occasions through initiative and decisive actions. When his commander was injured in an improvised explosive device attack, he immediately took control of the company's defence and security. His inspirational leadership enabled his platoon to achieve victory in battle and greatly contributed to his company's success.



Sergeant Prescott SHIPWAY, CD

Sergeant Shipway was deployed with 3 Platoon, A Company, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in Afghanistan. While commanding his light armoured vehicle near Padah on 21 June 2006, another convoy vehicle struck an improvised explosive device, which grievously injured the crew. Disregarding his personal safety and the threat of more explosions, Sergeant Shipway immediately secured the area and began treating the casualties, one of whom had lost both of his legs. With the help of the chief surgeon, via radio, he successfully stopped the bleeding and transported the soldier to Kandahar. Sergeant Shipway's selfless actions in the face of the enemy saved a life and brought credit to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Private Alex SHULAEV

For outstanding courage and decisive action in Afghanistan, on 8 July 2006. Under intense enemy fire, he selflessly charged forward to engage an insurgent position. When one of his comrades was injured during the assault, he provided first aid and suppressive fire to facilitate the evacuation.



Sergeant Pascal Michel SIMONEAU, CD

On 7 May 2009, Sergeant Simoneau's platoon was on patrol in Afghanistan when insurgents initiated a well-planned ambush. Despite being pinned down during the ensuing firefight, he repeatedly exposed himself to intense fire to engage the enemy and ensure his fellow soldiers were optimally positioned. Sergeant Simoneau's selfless actions, tactical acumen and courage in the face of the enemy inspired his fellow soldiers and contributed to the defeat of a determined attack.



*Private James Shannon Troy SINCLAIR
Leading Seaman Stephen Franklin Birks
Corporal Glenn Andrew King*

On 21 June 1994, Leading Seaman Birks, Corporal King and Private Sinclair were supporting a mine clearing operation near Kakma, Croatia, when two anti-personnel mines suddenly detonated, seriously wounding three soldiers. Leading Seaman Birks, Corporal King and Private Sinclair entered the minefield after it had been roughly cleared by a colleague to assist in the rescue of the victims. Their actions, despite the difficult circumstances, were in the very best traditions of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Private Andrew Brett SMALLMAN

On 6 May 2008, a patrol from the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Private Smallman repeatedly exposed himself to intense enemy fire to assist with casualty evacuation and provide suppressive fire from multiple defensive positions. Even as the patrol was withdrawing, he took up a vulnerable firing position atop their vehicle in order to continue suppressing the enemy. Private Smallman's courageous determination and outstanding composure contributed to the defeat of the enemy ambush.



Master Corporal Kelly Godfrey SMITH

On 4 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to reinforce the entrapped company, Master Corporal Smith moved without cover through open fields to join three other Canadians who formed the extraction force that enabled the withdrawal of the Company. His decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire saved Canadian and Afghan lives.



Master Corporal Max Robert SMITH

Master Corporal Smith fought with Charles Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan, during Operation MEDUSA. On 3 September 2006, although he was under enemy fire, Master Corporal Smith dismounted from his disabled vehicle to direct its recovery and maintained his position until ordered to withdraw. At great personal risk to himself, Master Corporal Smith then helped the wounded back to the casualty collection point where he assisted in the treatment of the casualties, and the evacuation and processing of those killed in action. Master Corporal Smith demonstrated exceptional professionalism in combat.



Master Corporal Mark William SOPER

On 17 March 2007, Master Corporal Soper's vehicle was attacked by a suicide vehicle-borne explosive device in the Zhari District of Kandahar, Afghanistan. He received flash burns to his face and wrists and temporarily lost consciousness as a result of the blast. Upon recovery, he immediately took control of the situation, provided detailed reports and established a security cordon. Despite his injuries, he conducted an immediate approach to the blast site to render safe any unexploded ordnance and led the clearance of the site. Master Corporal Soper's selfless actions enabled the rapid evacuation of injured personnel and brought order to an otherwise chaotic and dangerous situation.



Corporal Paul Dean SPRENGER

On 17 March 1993, Corporal Sprenger, a member of a patrol providing armed security while relief supplies were being loaded in Belet Uen, Somalia, disarmed a gunman firing at Canadian Armed Forces soldiers and endangering Red Cross workers and innocent bystanders. Corporal Sprenger's actions ensured the safety of his patrol and averted possible civilian casualties.



Sergeant Paul Dean SPRENGER, MB, CD

On 18 June 2008, two Afghan National Army companies were patrolling in Arghandab District, Afghanistan, when the lead platoon was pinned down by insurgent forces. Under intense fire, Sergeant Sprenger led Afghan soldiers to cover and rallied them to engage the enemy. Leading by example, he repeatedly exposed himself to return fire in order to better define enemy positions. Sergeant Sprenger's courageous and decisive actions enabled the successful fighting withdrawal of both companies.

This is the second MID award.



Corporal Richard STEWART

On 15 August 2010, Corporal Stewart was second-in-command of a patrol with the Afghan Uniform Police that was attacked by insurgents. During the ensuing firefight, he provided clear and concise direction that ensured his soldiers remained cohesive and focused on defeating the enemy. He then led a textbook tactical withdrawal, selecting a route that enabled them to extract securely and without casualties. Throughout the engagement, Corporal Stewart's exceptional leadership and soldiering ability were critical to his soldiers' effectiveness under fire.



Major Patrick Benton STOGREN, CD

Major Stogren was the United Nations Military Observer Team Leader in Gorazde, Bosnia-Hercegovina, during the fiercest periods of fighting in April 1994. As the only link to higher headquarter levels, Major Stogren's local reports were forwarded to assist Security Council decision-making. Unable to move during daylight, he left his shelter at night to observe the results of the day's shelling and infantry attacks first hand, and often crossed the most dangerous parts of the city to visit the wounded in hospital. His efforts, at great personal danger, resulted in the most accurate operational reporting possible and set an impressive standard of duty for others.



Sergeant Matthew Phillip STOPFORD, CD

While deploying into positions in Krosevo, Croatia, Sergeant Stopford's company came under indirect Croatian fire on 26 August 1993. Shellfire reached such an intensity that an emergency redeployment to an alternate location was necessary. With most platoon and company headquarters stores unloaded, he volunteered to remain behind and secure the vitally important equipment, fending off scavengers in the process. He and others assigned for the task then worked through three days of shelling to complete a protective shelter and establish a firm United Nations presence in the area.



Lieutenant-Colonel John Noel STUART, OMM, CD

While employed with the Logistics Staff of Headquarters with Canadian Forces Middle East, Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart displayed dedication to duty and outstanding leadership during the Gulf War.



Master Corporal Jayson SWIFT

From October 2009 to May 2010, Master Corporal Swift routinely exposed himself to enemy fire to defeat insurgents during intense combat in Afghanistan. His composure under fire, decisive actions to suppress the enemy and ability to optimally position his soldiers were critical to preventing friendly force casualties and winning numerous firefights. Demonstrating exemplary conduct and devotion to duty in the face of the enemy, Master Corporal Swift's frontline leadership inspired his soldiers and contributed to the success of Reconnaissance Platoon.



Master Corporal Gregory William TATE

Corporal Walter James Postma

Corporal Postma and Master Corporal Tate were members of a team tasked with water resupply within Srebrenica, Bosnia-Hercegovina, on 12 April 1994, when the city was shelled by a mortar and rocket barrage. The team passed a site that had taken several direct hits, with many casualties. Despite the continuous and extreme danger, as rounds landed nearby, several trips were made to bring civilians to the nearest hospital. These actions in dangerous circumstances were in the finest spirit of the United Nation's mandate.



Major Donald Sidney THAIN, CD

In late December 1992, airlift plans already in place in Somalia had to be altered drastically because of an increased Canadian commitment to humanitarian aid and peace enforcement. As the recently appointed Air Staff Officer to Headquarters Canadian Joint Forces Somalia, Major Thain, though under extreme pressure, worked tirelessly and far beyond the demands of normal duty to coordinate vast changes in airflow, simultaneously allowing the humanitarian relief airlift to continue.



Sergeant Christopher Todd THOMBS, CD

Sergeant Thombs responded to two suicide attacks carried out with vehicles loaded with improvised explosive devices in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The first incident took place on 5 October 2005, when his own vehicle was the subject of attack. The second incident took place a few days later, on 9 October, when a British governmental convoy was attacked. In both instances, Sergeant Thombs demonstrated exceptional leadership, focus and poise as the section commander, ensuring the effective and immediate security of the site and treatment of the casualties. He expertly carried out his duties and inspired others to do theirs, despite the prevailing fear and potential risk of subsequent attacks.



Sergeant Derek Ashley THOMPSON, CD

On 19 August 2008, a joint Canadian-Afghan patrol suffered three casualties when it was attacked by a suicide bomber in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan. Sergeant Thompson emerged from the cloud of dust and debris to quickly take charge of the scene, preventing chaos and fear from pervading the patrol. Despite being seriously wounded, he developed and implemented a sound extraction plan and ensured his soldiers maintained perimeter security. Sergeant Thompson's decisive leadership ensured the rapid evacuation of the casualties.



Lieutenant Douglas Michael THORLAKSON, CD

On 3 August 2006, while serving with the National Support Element to Operation ARCHER Rotation 1, Lieutenant Thorlakson led a convoy to recover two battle-damaged light armoured vehicles. While fighting continued in the vicinity of the damaged vehicles, he observed a suspicious vehicle approaching his convoy and attempted to wave it off while alerting the soldiers under his command. When the vehicle accelerated towards them, he fired, forcing the vehicle to detonate 30 metres from the convoy. Lieutenant Thorlakson's actions saved soldiers under his command from serious injury or death and preserved recovery assets essential to the mission.



Master Corporal William Errol Edward TIERNAY

Master Corporal Tiernay was deployed with 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan.

While conducting a forward combat patrol on 14 October 2006, the battle group commander's tactical headquarters came under intense enemy fire, immobilizing their vehicle. Master Corporal Tiernay dismounted the vehicle to assist in securing the area. Unfortunately, attacks by the enemy claimed the lives of two soldiers. His courageous actions prevented further casualties and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Sergeant Chester William TINGLEY, CD

In 2005, following an improvised explosive device strike against elements of the Royal Canadian Dragoons D Squadron on 15 September and a suicide bombing attack against the Afghanistan national army on 28 September, Sergeant Tingley led the coalition forces' immediate response. On both occasions, he demonstrated fortitude and composure in the midst of carnage and chaotic conditions, while rendering on-scene security and assistance to those who were injured. Sergeant Tingley's professionalism brought great credit to him and to the Canadian Armed Forces.



Corporal Mark TODOROVIC

On 14 October 2006, Corporal Todorovic, a member of the Commander's tactical group, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, dismounted from his own vehicle under enemy fire in order to assist in the extraction of his commanding officer's light armoured vehicle that had become stuck in an irrigation ditch during an intense enemy attack near Ma'sum Ghar, in Afghanistan. Without regard for his own safety, he worked diligently to rig towing cables to pull out the exposed vehicle. His selfless and courageous actions helped save both the crew and the vehicle, and brought great credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Sergeant Sergio TOMASI, CD

Sergeant Tomasi demonstrated outstanding tactical prowess on 9 September 2006, when his Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan, was targeted by enemy sniper fire while conducting a night patrol during Operation MEDUSA. Remaining calm and focused, he immediately established a section security perimeter, located the enemy, and successfully directed retaliatory fire from supporting light armoured vehicles and attack helicopters. His confidence and composure inspired his soldiers to continue their mission without fear or hesitation. Sergeant Tomasi's reaction to this perilous situation illustrates his professionalism, leadership and strategic acumen.



Lieutenant Matthew TOMPKINS

On 27 October 2009, Lieutenant Tompkins responded to an improvised explosive device attack in Afghanistan that killed seven soldiers and wounded several others. Despite having just returned from a gruelling operation, he led his soldiers over difficult terrain to provide security and assist with extraction. With his soldiers physically exhausted, his inspirational leadership and repeated encouragements enabled them to repel a subsequent enemy attack. Lieutenant Tompkins' selfless efforts and outstanding initiative were critical to mission success.



Private Jason TOOLE

On 2 June 2008, an Afghan soldier was wounded by an improvised explosive device during an ambush in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Private Toole immediately provided critical medical treatment and saw to his evacuation. Shortly afterwards, their tactical headquarters again came under attack resulting in numerous casualties. Despite intense enemy fire, he calmly established priorities and helped stabilize the most seriously injured. Private Toole's composed and deliberate application of medical skills in highly stressful circumstances was an inspiration to his fellow soldiers.



Private Joseph Éric TREMBLAY

Master Corporal Joseph Paul Yves Éric Belley

On 10 August 1993, Master Corporal Belley and Private Tremblay were deployed with the United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Witness to the Battle of Bakovici, during which Muslim and Croatian forces fired 300 to 400 small-arm bullets near the Fojnica hospital, Master Corporal Belley and Private Tremblay were ready to exchange fire if necessary. During the most intense moments of the battle, they saw a disabled patient exiting the hospital. Noticing that the man continued walking in the area of open ground, where the belligerents continued firing, the two soldiers crossed the 15 metres that separated them from the patient and led him to safety. Master Corporal Belley's and Private Tremblay's selfless and professional deed helped to save a life.



Sergeant Gregory Andrew TRENHOLM, CD

Sergeant Trenholm set a standard of duty, courage and resolve during operations in the Medak Pocket, Croatia, in September 1993. On 2 September when his platoon came under fire from inebriated Serbian soldiers, he defused the situation with minimal force. On several occasions during the next two weeks, after a Croatian attack, he led by example during patrols and redeployment, gaining respect from all those with whom he served.



Corporal Michael TRUBELA, CD

Corporal Trubela was deployed to Afghanistan with the Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group. On 3 October 2006, his Pashmul region observation post was attacked with small arms fire, rocket-propelled grenades and rockets. Despite being wounded and exposed to continuous enemy fire, Corporal Trubela maintained his composure throughout the devastating attack. His leadership reassured the junior members of the patrol and calmed the wounded. Assisting the troop leader, he provided first aid to the critically injured and helped direct security of the scene to repel further attacks. Corporal Trubela's composure under fire reflects the highest standards of professionalism in combat.



Private Kiernan UNDERWOOD

On 7 July 2008, an Afghan National Army strongpoint in Zhari District, Afghanistan, was attacked from two directions by insurgents. Private Underwood directed Afghan soldiers to defensive positions and provided a heavy volume of suppressive fire until the attack was repelled. He called for the medical evacuation of a patrol that had been ambushed near the strongpoint and then set out to personally assist.

Private Underwood's courage and decisiveness ensured the successful defence of the strongpoint and evacuation of casualties.



Major Edward URBANOWICZ, CD

During Operation Storm in 1995, Major Urbanowicz's actions were responsible for saving many military and civilian lives threatened by the Croatian offensive in the Krajina district of the former Yugoslavia. Under extreme conditions involving fierce fighting with restrictions of movement, he ventured outside the United Nations compound to ensure the safety of his personnel and displaced persons. He personally liaised with the various warring factions to ensure that the route from Topusko to the Confrontation Line was cleared and ascertained that the convoys were well organized. Throughout, Major Urbanowicz played a key role in Sector North Operations and demonstrated a high level of personal commitment.



Corporal Douglas Ronald VAN TASSEL

Corporal Van Tassel was deployed with the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battalion Group, during Operation ATHENA. On 27 January 2004, he was driving the first of a two-vehicle Iltis patrol in southern Kabul when a suicide bomber attacked the second vehicle. In the face of adversity involving death and injury to his comrades, Corporal Van Tassel immediately provided site security ensuring there was no further threat. After conducting a cursory check of all soldiers, ascertaining that one had been killed, he designated a casualty collection point and assisted the wounded to move to that point. He single-handedly provided first aid, protection and comfort to his wounded fellow soldiers. He remained at the scene until the body of his fallen comrade was extracted from the vehicle and then escorted the body back to Camp Julien. In the aftermath of this horrific attack, Corporal Van Tassel displayed loyalty, dedication and professionalism, bringing credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Major Jonathan Holbert VANCE, CD

Major Vance commanded a task force that cleared a minefield lane between United Nations positions in the presence of armed, belligerent Croat and Krajina-Serb forces in Croatia on 20 December 1994. He then personally led the first relief team of allied soldiers through the lane and organized their immediate logistical support. His leadership and professionalism were instrumental in the success of this complicated and dangerous mission.



Major John VASS, CD

Major Vass was the officer commanding Parachute Company, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battalion Group during Operation ATHENA. On 27 January 2004, he was commanding the lead vehicle of a two-vehicle Iltis patrol in southern Kabul when a suicide bomber attacked the second. Assuming the role of on-site commander, Major Vass directed his driver to perform first aid, radioed for assistance and employed a passing Canadian convoy to further secure the scene, thereby ensuring his personnel could operate in a more protected environment. Though shaken by the news that one of his soldiers was dead and three others were severely wounded, he maintained control of the situation and provided assistance until the removal of the fallen and wounded soldiers was completed. In the aftermath of this horrific attack, Major Vass' composure, dedication and professionalism were inspiring to all Task Force Kabul soldiers, and brought credit to the Canadian Armed Forces and to Canada.



Corporal Calvin VICKERMAN

On 18 June 2008, two Afghan National Army companies were patrolling in Arghandab District, Afghanistan, when the lead platoon was pinned down by insurgent forces. Under intense fire, Corporal Vickerman led Afghan soldiers to cover and encouraged them to engage the enemy. Leading by example, he repeatedly exposed himself to return fire in order to better define enemy positions. Corporal Vickerman's courageous and decisive actions enabled the successful fighting withdrawal of both companies.



Lieutenant Daniel VINCENT

On 12 November 2008, Lieutenant Vincent's platoon fought through relentless enemy attacks while conducting a lengthy combat patrol in Zhari District, Afghanistan. As the lead element, he effectively manoeuvred his platoon into the line of fire to provide fire support to other elements of his company and prevent the enemy from flanking their position. Lieutenant Vincent's courage and determination enabled

his platoon to defeat multiple insurgent attacks, allowing the company to safely withdraw from the engagement.



Warrant Officer Eric VOLICK, CD

From January to September 2008, Warrant Officer Vollick was Commander of a police detachment as a member of the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Recognizing the strengths and weaknesses of the detachment, he achieved a perfect balance of mentoring Afghan police and conducting operations. His unwavering calm and decisiveness throughout multiple enemy contacts

was highly infectious, enhancing the unit's operational effectiveness. Warrant Officer Vollick's outstanding leadership enhanced the survivability and core policing skills of Afghan police, increasing the public's confidence in the government of Afghanistan.



Private Randy Lee VOLPATTI

On 4 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to reinforce the entrapped company, Private Volpatti joined three Canadians to form an extraction force that moved without cover through open fields and enabled the withdrawal of the Company. His decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire saved Canadian and Afghan lives.



Captain Michael Craig VOLSTAD, CD

For exceptional leadership and success as an Acting Squadron Commander in Afghanistan. In May 2007, Captain Volstad led numerous engagements against insurgent forces, which either neutralized the enemy or forced them to flee, all with minimal collateral damage.



Master Corporal Kevin William WALKER, CD

On 3 October 2008, Master Corporal Walker's section was ambushed in Afghanistan. Knocked from his feet by a mortar blast, he regained his composure and led his assault team to cover as rocket and rifle fire impacted around them. He proceeded to aggressively engage the enemy from multiple positions while simultaneously directing his section's fire and coordinating the use of artillery. Master Corporal Walker's composure, courage and decisiveness under fire were instrumental in the defeat of a sustained enemy ambush.



Corporal Jeffrey WALSH

On 4 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to reinforce the entrapped company, Corporal Walsh joined with three Canadians to form an extraction force that moved without cover through open fields and enabled the withdrawal of the Company. His decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire saved Canadian and Afghan lives.



Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Joseph WALSH, CD

Petty Officer 1st Class Walsh is recognized for his courage and dedication to duty while deployed as 23 Field Squadron's explosive ordnance disposal chief within the 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, in Afghanistan. During Operation MEDUSA, in September 2006, he risked his life to assist combat engineers in clearing a section of Route Vancouver in the Pashmul region. He personally identified five improvised explosive devices and a 450 kg unexploded bomb within a 150-metre stretch of road, and systematically disposed of them. Petty Officer 1st Class Walsh's professionalism and commitment to his mission potentially saved the lives of many fellow soldiers.



Private Ryan WARING

On 7 August 2008, a vehicle in Private Waring's patrol was destroyed by an improvised explosive device in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Immediately after the initial blast, the enemy engaged them with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. With rounds landing around him, he cleared a safe lane to the casualty collection point and selflessly returned to extract the wounded before personally engaging the enemy.

Private Waring's courage and composure under fire ensured the successful extraction and defence of the casualties.



Constable Raymond Randall WATSON

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Watson was deployed as a Police Monitor for the United Nations Protection Force Civilian Police at the Sarajevo Airport in Bosnia-Hercegovina. On 17 April 1993, an immobile aircraft was hit by sniper fire, spilling fuel from its tanks. Realizing the dangers posed by the escaping fuel and the surrounding sniper fire, Constable Watson, along with foreign monitors, alerted the aircraft Commander and safely evacuated the crew and passengers. His selfless actions averted a potential disaster.



Corporal James WHITE

On 5 July 2008, Corporal White's joint Canadian-Afghan combat re-supply convoy was ambushed by insurgents in Panjwayi District, Afghanistan. With the patrol caught off guard, he immediately began suppressing enemy positions with accurate fire in order to regain the initiative. When his machinegun malfunctioned, he selflessly exposed himself to incoming fire in order to repair the weapon and return to the fight. Corporal White's decisiveness, courage and tenacity ensured the defeat of the enemy ambush.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Kenneth Richard WHITE, CD

On 14 June 2009, Petty Officer 2nd Class White was attached to an Afghan reconnaissance company when an insurgent attack caused three casualties. Exposing himself to mortar and small-arms fire, he rushed to the casualties' location to provide immediate first aid. With medical evacuation unavailable, he set up a makeshift treatment centre in the basement of a building to stabilize the casualties until their extraction. Petty Officer 2nd Class White's selfless efforts and medical ability saved the lives of coalition and Afghan soldiers.



Corporal Gordon Matthew Hazeltyne WHITTON

Corporal Whitton was deployed with the Reconnaissance Platoon, 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group during Operation ARCHER Rotation 1. On 15 May 2006, while traveling in a convoy, an accompanying vehicle struck an improvised explosive device and caught fire. Without regard for his personal safety, he immediately went to provide first aid. After successfully removing the crew commander to safety, he re-entered the burning vehicle and removed the driver. While the pursuit of enemy forces continued, Corporal Whitton administered first aid until the casualties could be evacuated. His selflessness, fortitude, and dedication minimized the injuries to others, and his actions reflected exceptionally well on him, on the Canadian Armed Forces and on Canada.



Private Timmy WILKINS

On 19 August 2006, Private Wilkins of Alpha Company, 1st Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, was a crew member of a light armoured vehicle during an engagement with numerically superior Taliban forces in Masum Ghar. During the three hour firefight, he effectively employed the vehicle's general purpose machine gun to suppress a group of enemy fighters on one side of the vehicle. He also provided accurate and valuable targetting information to the vehicle's turret crew. Private Wilkins' skillful actions helped to prevent the Taliban forces from outflanking the remainder of the Company and undoubtedly saved numerous lives.



Corporal Jonathan Francis WILLIAMS

On 16 May 2007, an insurgent force numbering more than 30 ambushed Corporal Williams' Platoon in Sangsar, Afghanistan. The insurgents were dispersed in multiple well-sited positions and were focussing their effective, coordinated fire on the lead Section. On the Platoon Commander's orders and with no regard for his personal safety, Corporal Williams exposed himself to heavy small arms fire as he dashed across a 40 metre fire-swept field to take up a position to identify and neutralize the enemy. Corporal Williams' skill and courage under fire enabled the pinned down rifle Section to withdraw unharmed from this extremely perilous situation.



Master Corporal Christiphor William John WOODHOUSE

On 4 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. A mentor with the trapped Company, Master Corporal Woodhouse moved under fire to establish a casualty collection point and helicopter-landing site. After ensuring a successful medical evacuation, he then led a four-person rear guard to cover the company withdrawal under fire.



Master Corporal Ricky WOODS

On 14 June 2008, Master Corporal Woods' section was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. What was initially light contact quickly became a concentrated amount of small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire, separating him and two others from the rest of the section. Despite heavy enemy fire, he helped re-establish communications with the section and courageously moved into heavier enemy fire in order to cover their extraction. Master Corporal Woods' decisive and courageous actions ensured his section's successful fighting withdrawal.



30 members from the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command (CANSOFCOM) were Mentioned in Dispatches for valiant conduct or for devotion to duty in Afghanistan.

For security and operational reasons, the names and citations of the recipients are not released.



One member from CANSOFCOM was Mentioned in Dispatched twice.

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Glossary of Post-nominals

ADC	Aide de Camp of Her Majesty
BEM	British Empire Medal
CB	Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath
CBE	Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire
CD	Canadian Forces' Decoration
CGM	Conspicuous Gallantry Medal
CH	Member of the Order of the Companions of Honour
CM	Member of the Order of Canada
CMG	Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George
CMM	Commander of the Order of Military Merit
CV	Cross of Valour
DCM	Distinguished Conduct Medal
DFC	Distinguished Flying Cross
DFM	Distinguished Flying Medal
DSC	Distinguished Service Cross
DSM	Distinguished Service Medal
DSO	Distinguished Service Order
ED	Efficiency Decoration
GCB	Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath
GCMG	Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George
GCSI	Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India

GCIE	Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire
GM	George Medal
KC	King's Counsel
KCB	Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath
KCH	Knight Commander of the Royal Guelphic Order
KCMG	Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George
KG	Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Garter
KP	Knight of the Most Illustrious Order of St. Patrick
MB	Medal of Bravery
MC	Military Cross
MM	Military Medal
MBE	Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire
MMM	Member of the Order of Military Merit
MSC	Meritorious Service Cross
MSM	Meritorious Service Medal
MVO	Member of the Royal Victorian Order
MMV	Medal of Military Valour
OBC	Member of the Order of British Columbia
OBE	Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire
OC	Officer of the Order of Canada
OM	Order of Merit
OMM	Officer of the Order of Military Merit

ONL	Member of the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador
PC	Privy Counsellor
QC	Queen's Counsel
QGM	Queen's Gallantry Medal
SC	Star of Courage
SMV	Star of Military Valour
VC	Victoria Cross
VD	Volunteer Officers' Decoration

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