

MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)

1993 to 2005

First Announcements on 13 June 1993

Updated: 15 July 2023  
First CG: 12 June 1993  
Last CG: 13 August 2005  
Pages: 48  
Compiled By: Surgeon Commander John Blatherwick, CM, CStJ, OBC, CD, MD, FRCP(C), LLD(Hon), DSc(Hon)

Note: No MIDs announced in the Canada Gazette in 2006

**MIDs for the First Gulf War**

Page	CG Date	Name	Rank	Details	Decorations
10	12/06/93	AFFLECK, Colin	WO	Imagery Analysis	CD
05	12/06/93	ANDREWS, Stuart Douglas	Commander	CO HMCS Terra Nova	CD
05	12/06/93	BARTRAM, David Watson	Colonel	Deputy CCFME	CD
10	12/06/93	BOLDUC, Joseph Gaston André Michel	Warrant Officer	1 Royal 22e Regiment	CD
10	12/06/93	CHIASSON, Darrell Lewis	Sergeant	1 Forward Surgical Hospital	--
09	12/06/93	CHURCHILL, Frank Winfield	MWO	CATGME	--
09	12/06/93	CORKUM, Ivan Douglas	CPO2	HMCS Terra Nova	CD
09	10/02/96	COOPER, Harold	CPO2	HMCS Athabaska	CD
09	12/06/93	DOWNARD, Donald William	MWO	119th Air Defence Battery	--
06	12/06/93	FORCIER, Jean Yves	Commander	CFMEHQ - COS Ops Bahrain	CD
09	12/06/93	GAUTHIER, Joseph Michael	Sergeant	Maritime Log Detachment	--
08	12/06/93	HEWITT, James Terrance	LCdr	USS Tripoli US Navy	--
08	12/06/93	HILL, Stephen Peter	Captain	439 Fighter Squadron	--
05	12/06/93	JOHNSTON, Bruce	Commodore	DG Plans and Ops	<b>CMM CD</b>
08	12/06/93	KELLY, Richard Daniel	Major	CATGME - Infrastructure	CD
08	12/06/93	KENDALL, David William	Major	439 Fighter Squadron	CD
09	12/06/93	PALMER, John Randy	MWO	1 Royal Cdn Regiment	--
10	12/06/93	RALPH, Charles Leonard Allan	Sergeant	Explosives Ordnance Disposal	--
08	12/06/93	ROBERTS, Dennis James	LCol	CATGME - COS/Acting Cdr	CD
07	12/06/93	STUART, John Noel	LCol	CFMEHQ - Logistics (Gulf)	<b>OMM CD</b>

For more on the Mentioned in Dispatches, see the outstanding book by Directorate of Honours and Recognition at: [D2-359-2016-eng.pdf \(PDF, 9.55 MB\)](#). Many of the photos in this document and the other two documents are from this fine publication and the correct citations have been taken from this document.

MID INDEX

For FIRST GULF WAR / UNPROFOR / SOMALIA / UNAMIR / UNMOP / CROATIA / AFGHANISTAN  
1993 to 2005

Page	CG Date	Name	Rank	Details	Decoration /
10	12/06/93	AFFLECK, Colin	WO	Imagery Analysis	CD
06	12/06/93	ANDREWS, Stuart Douglas	Commander	CO HMCS Terra Nova	CD
13	14/05/94	ATKINSON, Dwayne William	M/Cpl	Defused a Volatile Situation Somalia	CD
25	10/02/96	AUSTDAL, Alexander Michael	LCol	Chief of Operations UNAMIR	CD
30	10/02/96	BAJEMA, Sjirk Ruurds	Sergeant	UNPROFOR – PPCLI – Medak Pocket	--
06	12/06/93	BARTRAM, David Watson	Colonel	Deputy Cdr CF Middle East	CD
35	26/04/97	BEC, Jean-François	Corporal	UNMOP (Croatia)	--
43	03/03/01	BELLEY, Joseph Paul Yves <u>Éric</u>	M/Cpl	UNPROFOR – Rescue Civilian Patient	--
14	14/05/94	BINNS, John Kirk	Captain	SOMALIA - Sea King Pilot	CD
33	30/11/96	BIRKS, Stephen Franklin	Ldg Seaman	CROATIA – Mine Clearance	--
10	12/06/93	BOLDUC, Joseph Gaston Andre Michel	WO	1 Royal 22e Regiment	CD
12	12/06/93	CAMPITELLI, Paul Anthony	Corporal	UNPROFOR – 1 RCR	--
24	10/02/96	CHARRON, Christopher Allen Robin	Corporal	UNPROFOR - RCR	CD
39	29/08/98	CHEVARIE, Marcel	LCol	UNPROFOR – DCO R22eR B. Group	CD
10	12/06/93	CHIASSON, Darrell Lewis	Sergeant	1 Forward Surgical Hospital	--
09	12/06/93	CHURCHILL, Frank Windfield	MWO	CATGME	CD
09	10/02/96	COOPER, Harold	CPO2	HMCS Athabaskan	CD
09	12/06/93	CORKUM, Ivan Douglas	CPO2	HMCS Terra Nova	--
14	14/05/94	COTTINGHAM, James Frederick	Major	SOMALIA - Sea King Pilot	CD
25	10/02/96	DEARING, Rodney Albert	Sergeant	UNPROFOR – PPCLI <b>Medak</b>	<b>MSC CD</b>
43	26/04/03	DECAIRE, Brian Michael	Corporal	Afghanistan - 3 PPCLI	--
31	10/02/96	DEMERS, André	Captain	Humanitarian Cell UNAMIR	<b>OMM MSC CD</b>
33	30/08/97	DOUCETTE, Frederick James	Captain	UNPROFOR – Rescue Under Fire	CD
09	12/06/93	DOWNARD, Donald William	MWO	119th Air Defence Battery	--
44	12/06/93	DRAY, Simon Patrick	Captain	UNPROFOR – RCR with 1R22eR	--
46	10/02/96	DREW, Daniel Reginald	Major	UNPROFOR – RCR 4-day Firefight	CD
46	13/11/04	DUVAL, Brian Michael Raymond	Corporal	OP ATHENA - 3 RCR	--
45	08/11/03	EASON, Dennis	Corporal	3 PPCLI – Afghanistan - Sniper	--
34	30/11/96	EUBANK, William Marshall	Corporal	<b>RCMP</b> / UNPROFOR	--
06	12/06/93	FORCIER, Jean Yves	Commander	CFMEHQ - COS Ops Bahrain - Gulf	CD
45	08/11/03	FURLONG, Robert	Corporal	3 PPCLI – Afghanistan - Sniper	--

## MIDs INDEX

For FIRST GULF WAR / UNPROFOR / SOMALIA / UNAMIR / UNMOP / CROATIA / AFGHANISTAN  
1993 to 2005

Page	CG Date	Name	Rank	Details	Decoration /
11	12/06/93	<b>GAGNON, Joseph Adrien Steve</b>	Major	UNPROFOR - R22eR	CD
09	12/06/93	<b>GAUTHIER, Joseph Michael</b>	Sergeant	Maritime Log Detachment	--
35	26/04/97	<b>GODIN, Gilles Michel</b>	Lieutenant	UNPROFOR	--
28	10/02/96	<b>GREEN, Andrew Tyrone Coulman</b>	Lieutenant	UNPROFOR – PPCLI – Medak Pocket	--
15	14/05/94	<b>GROVES, Shaun David P.</b>	Sergeant	Somalia	(MMM CD)
08	12/06/93	<b>HEWITT, James Terrance</b>	LCdr	USS Tripoli US Navy	--
08	12/06/93	<b>HILL, Stephen Peter</b>	Captain	439 Fighter Squadron – Gulf War	--
12	29/01/94	<b>HOLT, David Christopher</b>	Captain	ECMMY – Rescue Children	--
36	20/08/97	<b>HOLT, David Christopher</b>	Captain	ECMMY <b>2<sup>nd</sup> MID 4 days later</b>	--
46	13/11/04	<b>HUGHSON, Teddy Raymond</b>	Sergeant	OP ATHENA - 3 RCR	CD
44	12/06/93	<b>ILIFFE, Roger John</b>	Captain	UNPROFOR - 1 R22eR	--
29	10/02/96	<b>JANTZ, Jordan Russell</b>	M/Cpl	UNPROFOR - Engineer	CD
05	12/06/93	<b>JOHNSTON, Bruce</b>	Commodore	DG Plans and Ops	<b>CMM CD</b>
44	26/04/03	<b>JONES, Robert Kevin</b>	WO	Afghanistan - 3 PPCLI	--
08	12/06/93	<b>KELLY, Richard Daniel</b>	Major	CATGME – Infrastructure – Gulf War	CD
08	12/06/93	<b>KENDALL, David William</b>	Major	439 Fighter Squadron – Gulf War	CD
33	30/11/96	<b>KING, Glenn Andrew</b>	Corporal	Croatia – Mine Clearing	--
25	10/02/96	<b>LANCASTER, Philip Charles</b>	Major	Military Assistant to Cdr UNAMIR	CD
19	10/02/96	<b>LAPOINTE, Joseph Luc Richard Dominic</b>	Corporal	UNPROFOR – Injured Driving Truck	--
40	29/08/98	<b>LEBLANC, Joseph Maurice Oswald Paul</b>	MWO	UNPROFOR - R22eR	<b>MMM MSM CD</b>
30	10/02/96	<b>LEBLANC, Scott Simon Gerald</b>	Private	UNPROFOR – Medak Pocket	--
16	14/05/94	<b>LELIÈVRE, Wayne Terry</b>	Major	Somalia – Coordinate with NGOs	CD
29	10/02/96	<b>LEWIS, Kevin Lee</b>	Sergeant	UNPROFOR – Medak Pocket	<b>MMM CD</b>
11	12/06/93	<b>McALEER, Walter David Shane</b>	M/Corporal	UNPROFOR - R22eR	--
43	03/03/01	<b>McCOMBER, John S.</b>	Major	UNAMIR – Chief Logistics Officer	CD
29	10/02/96	<b>McKILLOP, David Allan</b>	Captain	UNPROFOR - PPCLI	--
43	08/11/03	<b>McMEEKIN, Timothy James</b>	M/Cpl	3 PPCLI – Afghanistan - Sniper	--
24	10/02/96	<b>MacNEIL, Donald James</b>	Major	UNAMIR – Team Leader Humanitarian	CD
16	14/05/94	<b>MAURER, Michael Charles</b>	LCol	Somalia - First Canadian	CD
35	18/05/96	<b>MEILLEUR, Joseph Real Roger</b>	Sergeant	Kasic, Krajina, Croatia	--
17	14/05/94	<b>MESSIER, Joseph Louis François</b>	Captain	Somalia Reconnaissance	--
48	13/08/05	<b>METAXAS-MARIATOS, Pericles</b>	Major	ISAF Kabul - Intelligence	<b>MSM CD</b>
17	14/05/94	<b>MICHAUD, Samuel Michael</b>	Captain	Somalia - Sea King Pilot	<b>OMM MSM CD</b>
20	10/02/96	<b>MOLLISON, Martin Joseph</b>	PO2	UNTAC – Getting a RIB out of Danger	CD
17	14/05/94	<b>MOREAU, Joseph Maurice Richard</b>	Captain	SOMALIA - Security Head	--
24	10/02/96	<b>MYKYTIUK, Thomas Nicholas</b>	Captain	UNPROFOR - RCR	--

MIDs INDEX

For FIRST GULF WAR / UNPROFOR / SOMALIA / UNAMIR / UNMOP / CROATIA / AFGHANISTAN  
1993 to 2005

Page	CG Date	Name	Rank	Details	Decoration /
09	12/06/93	<b>PALMER, John Randy</b>	MWO	1 Royal Cdn Regiment – Gulf War	--
36	26/04/97	<b>PAQUIN, Joseph Robert Donald</b>	Corporal	UNPROFOR	--
40	06/03/99	<b>PEREGO, Mark James</b>	Captain	UNPROFOR Bosnia/Herzegovina	CD
45	08/11/03	<b>PERRY, Aaron</b>	M/Cpl	3 PPCLI – Afghanistan - Sniper	--
44	26/04/03	<b>PERRY, Brett Robert</b>	Corporal	Afghanistan - 3 PPCLI	--
21	10/02/96	<b>POSTMA, Walter James</b>	Corporal	UNPROFOR - RCR	CD
37	26/04/97	<b>RACINE, Luc-André</b>	Major	UNAMIR - Rwanda	CD
45	08/11/03	<b>RAGSDALE, Graham</b>	M/Cpl	3 PPCLI – Afghanistan - Sniper	--
10	12/06/93	<b>RALPH, Charles Leonard Allan</b>	Sergeant	Explosives Ordnance Disposal	--
20	10/02/96	<b>RETTIE, James Murray</b>	Captain	UNPROFOR – 2-ic Engineer Team	--
12	14/05/94	<b>ROBERT, Joseph Harvey Mario J.</b>	Sergeant	UNPROFOR – Cmd 2 Anti-tank Teams	CD
08	12/06/93	<b>ROBERTS, Dennis James</b>	LCol	CATGME - COS / Acting Cdr	CD
12	12/06/93	<b>ROBITAILLE, Michael Gilles</b>	M/Corporal	UNPROFOR - R22eR	--
13	10/02/96	<b>ROONEY, Shawn Thomas</b>	Private	UNPROFOR	--
18	14/05/94	<b>RYALL, David Donald</b>	Sergeant	SOMALIA - Mine Clearance	--
33	30/11/96	<b>SINCLAIR, James Shannon Troy</b>	Private	CROATIA – Mine Clearing	--
18	14/05/94	<b>SPRENGER, Paul Dean</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> MID	Corporal	SOMALIA – PPCLI	<b>MB CD</b>
22	10/02/96	<b>STOGRAN, Patrick Benton</b>	Major	UNPROFOR - Infantry	<b>MSC CD</b>
24	10/02/96	<b>STOPFORD, Matthew Phillips</b>	WO	UNPROFOR - Infantry	CD
07	12/06/93	<b>STUART, John Noel</b>	LCol	CFMEHQ - Logistics (Gulf)	<b>OMM CD</b>
21	10/02/96	<b>TATE, Gregory William</b>	M/Cpl	UNPROFOR - RCR	--
19	14/05/94	<b>THAIN, Donald Sidney</b>	Major	SOMALIA - Air Staff Officer	CD
43	03/03/01	<b>TREMBLAY, Joseph Éric</b>	Private	UNPROFOR – Rescue Civilian Patient	--
33	10/02/96	<b>TRENHOLM, Gregory Andres</b>	WO	UNPROFOR – PPCLI – Medak Pocket	CD
38	26/04/97	<b>URBANOWICZ, Edward</b>	Major	UNPROFOR – Cdn Engineers	CD
48	13/08/05	<b>VAN TASSEL, Douglas Ron</b>	Corporal	Task Force Kabul - 3RCR	CD
21	10/02/96	<b>VANCE, Jonathan Holbert</b>	Major	UNPROFOR – Engineer	<b>CMM MSC* CD</b>
47	13/08/05	<b>VASS, John Donald Vincent</b>	Major	Task Force Kabul - 3RCR	CD
34	30/11/96	<b>WATSON, Raymond Randall</b>	Constable	<b>RCMP</b> - Former Yugoslavia	--

=====

MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)

FOR THE GULF WAR

**JOHNSTON, Bruce**

(CMM) CD

CG: 12 June 1993

Rear-Admiral – Director-General Military Plans and Operations

Event: Gulf War

Establishment and Control of Canadian Forces Operations during the Gulf War

"For providing key operational coordination and distinguished service for the establishment and control of Canadian Forces operations during the Gulf War."



**Medals:** CMM – SSM - Canada 125 – CD and two bars – MID (his MID is worn under his ribbon bars)

A rare example where of wearing an MID where no ribbon is awarded. He was stationed with the USA troops in Florida and was thus ineligible for the Gulf War Medal.



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR THE GULF WAR**

**ANDREWS, Stuart Douglas**  
Commander  
Commanding Officer – HMCS Terra Nova

CD

CG: 12 June 1993  
Event: Gulf War

"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."

=====  
**BARTRAM, David Watson**  
Colonel – Chief of Staff and Deputy Commander of the Canadian Forces Middle East

CD

CG: 12 June 1993  
Event: Gulf War

"While serving 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."

=====  
**FORCIER, Jean Yves**  
Commander – Operations Officer of HQ, Canadian Forces Middle East  
Combat Officer of Canadian Task Group 302.3

(OMM) CD

CG: 12 June 1993  
Event: Gulf War

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

**Medals:** OMM – Gulf Medal with MID – SSM with NATO bar – Canada 125 – CD and two bars

Later Vice-Admiral - Commanding Canada Command



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR THE GULF WAR**

**STUART, John Noel**

Lieutenant-Colonel

Logistics Staff of Headquarters, Canadian Forces Middle East

OMM CD

CG: 12 June 1993

Event: Gulf War

"For dedication to duty and outstanding leadership on the Logistics Staff of Headquarters, Canadian Forces Middle East during the Gulf War."

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 25 June 1988 in the rank of Major.

Awarded the **Second Class of the Order of Bahrain (Bahrain)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 28 May 1994 in the Rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He actually received the Order in 1991.

The other three to receive this honour were: Commander David Banks, Colonel David Bartram and LCol James Bender. Commodore Ken Summers received the First Class Order.

**Medals:** OMM – Gulf War with bar and MID – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UNEF – Golden Jubilee – CD and 2 bars – Order of Bahrain (2<sup>nd</sup> Class).

He has fought to have the Emirate of Kuwait's Order of Kuwait (3<sup>rd</sup> Class) accepted for wear by Canadian veterans of the Gulf War. Kuwait sent the Order of Kuwait (4<sup>th</sup> Class) to the Canadian Embassy in Kuwait but they all disappeared. Kuwait then made a new batch of medals, but this time 3<sup>rd</sup> Class medals, and these were distributed to the Canadian Forces member who served in Kuwait but they are not allowed to wear them by the Canadian Government (the American military personnel are allowed to wear their 4<sup>th</sup> Class medals).

John also was heavily involved in the creation of the 7<sup>th</sup> Book of Remembrance.



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR THE GULF WAR**

**ROBERTS, Dennis James**

CD

CG: 12 June 1993

Lieutenant-Colonel

Event: Gulf War

Commander – Canadian Air Task Group Middle East

"For outstanding professional leadership as Chief of Staff and Acting Commander of the Canadian Air Task Group Middle East during the Gulf War."

=====

**HEWITT, James Terrance**

--

CG: 12 June 1993

Lieutenant-Commander

Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding military service in mine warfare and mine countermeasures, during the Gulf War."

=====

**KELLY, Richard Daniel**

CD

CG: 12 June 1993

Major

Event: Gulf War

Development of Operational Accommodation and Infrastructure of the Canadian Air Task Group Middle East

"For the development of operational accommodation and infrastructure for the Canadian Air Task Group Middle East during the Gulf War."

=====

**KENDALL, David William**

CD

CG: 12 June 1993

Major - 439 Tactical Fighter Squadron

Event: Gulf War

"For air operations during the Gulf War."

=====

**HILL, Stephen Peter**

--

CG: 12 June 1993

Captain - 439 Tactical Fighter Squadron

Event: Gulf War

"For air operations during the Gulf War."

=====



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR THE GULF WAR**

**CHURCHILL, Frank Winfield** CD CG: 12 June 1993  
Master Warrant Officer Event: Gulf War  
- Canadian Air Task Group Middle East

"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

=====

**COOPER, Harold** CD CG: 10 February 1996  
Chief Petty Officer Second Class - HMCS Athabaskan Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

**Not gazetted until February 1996.**

=====

**CORKUM, Ivan Douglas** CD CG: 12 June 1993  
Chief Petty Officer Second Class - HMCS Terra Nova Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

=====

**DOWNARD, Donald William** CD CG: 12 June 1993  
Master Warrant Officer - 119th Air Defence Battery Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

=====

**GAUTHIER, Joseph Michael** CD CG: 12 June 1993  
Sergeant Event: Gulf War  
Outstanding Service while deployed with the Canadian Maritime Logistics Detachment

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

=====

**PALMER, John Randy** CD CG: 12 June 1993  
Master Warrant Officer - 1st Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR THE GULF WAR**

**AFFLECK, Colin**  
Master Warrant Officer

CD

CG: 12 June 1993  
Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding imagery analysis and intelligence during the Gulf War."

=====

**BOLDUC, Joseph Gaston André Michel**  
Warrant Officer – 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Royal 22e Regiment

CD

CG: 12 June 1993  
Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

=====

**CHIASSON, Darrell Lewis**  
Sergeant - 1 Forward Surgical Hospital

--

CG: 12 June 1993  
Event: Gulf War

"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

=====

**RALPH, Charles Leonard Allan**  
Sergeant - Explosives Ordnance Disposal Team

--

CG: 12 June 1993  
Event: Gulf War



"For outstanding service on operations during the Gulf War."

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**  
**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA (UNPROFOR)**

**GAGNON, Joseph Adrien** CD CG: 12 June 1993  
Major - Royal 22e Regiment Battle Group DOI: May 1992

"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."

=====  
**CAMPITELLI, Paul Anthony** -- CG: 12 June 1993  
Corporal - Royal Canadian Regiment DOI: 10 July 1992  
1st Royal 22e Regiment Battle Group

"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."

=====  
**DRAY, Simon Patrick** -- CG: 12 June 1993  
Lieutenant - Royal Canadian Regiment (with 1 R22eR Battle Group) DOI: 10 July 1992

"In Sarajevo, on 10 July 1992, Lieutenant 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."

=====  
**ILIFFE, Roger John** -- CG: 12 June 1993  
Lieutenant - 1st Royal 22e Regiment Battle Group DOI: 10 July 1992

"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."

=====  
**McALEER, Walter David Shane** -- CG: 12 June 1993  
Master Corporal - Royal 22e Regiment Battle Group DOI: 10 July 1992

"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."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - UNPROFOR with MID

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE and ECCMY IN former YUGOSLAVIA (UNPROFOR)

**ROBITAILLE, Michael Gilles**

--

CG: 12 June 1993

Master Corporal - Royal 22e Regiment Battle Group

DOI: 10 July 1992



"In Sarajevo, on 10 July 1992, Master Corporal McAleer 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."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - UNPROFOR with MID

=====

**HOLT, David Christopher**

--

CG: 29 January 1994

Captain - ECMMY

GH: 10 January 1994

Rescuing a group of blind children and their attendants

DOI: 22 April 1992

"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-Herzegovina) on 22 April 1992."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - ECMMY with MID - CD

He received a **second MID** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 20 August 1997 for his actions on 26 April 1992 as a Captain with the ECMMY for his actions four days later.

=====

**ROBERT, Joseph Harvey Mario Jean**

CD

CG: 14 May 1994

Sergeant - UNPROFOR

GH: 13 May 1994

Commander of two antitank detachments in the former Yugoslavia

DOI: 18 June 1993

"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 armoured 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 re-joined 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."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - UNPROFOR with MID - CD

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT IN SOMALIA**

**ROONEY, Shawn Thomas**

---

CG: 10 February 1996

Private

GH: None

UNPROFOR

DOI: 01 April 1993

"Private Rooney was an armoured personnel carrier crewman at a traffic control point north-east of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Hercegovina, 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."

=====

**ATKINSON, Dwayne William**

CD

CG: 14 May 1994

Master Corporal - Somalia

GH: 18 April 1994

Defused a Volatile Situation outside the Hospital Gates at Belet Uen Hospital

DOI: 17 February 1993

"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."

**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID – OSM ribbon Expedition – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM bar NATO – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and bar

Now a Major with Electrical and Mechanical Engineers



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT IN SOMALIA**

**BINNS, John Kirk**  
Captain - Somalia  
Sea King pilot - HMCS Preserver

CD

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 22 February 1993

"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."

**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID - CD



=====  
**COTTINGHAM, James Frederick**  
Major - Somalia  
Sea King pilot - HMCS Preserver - Merchant Vessel Rescue

CD

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 15 January 1993

"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 was 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."

**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID – CD



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT IN SOMALIA**

**GROVES, Shaun David P.**  
Sergeant – Canadian Engineers  
Somalia

(MMM CD)

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 1993

"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 organization to deliver greatly-needed relief supplies to previously inaccessible areas."

**MEDALS:** MMM - Somalia with MID – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UN Special Service Medal for Cambodia Mine Action Center – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and bar.

**Major Shawn Groves, MMM, CD (MID)**  
Canadian Engineers

Major Shawn Groves enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in May 1984, and upon completion of Basic Training in Cornwallis and subsequent QL3 training at CFB Chilliwack was posted to 2 Combat Engineer Regiment, as member of 1 Troop, AKA the "other Troop" of 23 Field Sqn. As a Corporal he was posted to 22 Field Squadron, and then upon being promoted Sergeant returned to 1 Troop, 23 Field Squadron as a Section Commander and then as Recce Sergeant, 4 Troop, 24 Field Squadron. Major Groves would finish his time in 2 Combat Engineer Regiment as 2 Troop Warrant Officer before being posted to the Canadian Forces School of Military Engineering, "The School".



While at "The School" Major Groves was the inaugural Sergeant Major Army Diving in the Army Dive Centre and also Sergeant Major Tactics. It was as SM Tactics that Major Groves was lured to the dark-side and commissioned to the rank of Captain. As Captain Groves he served as an exchange officer with Royal Engineers. On promotion to Major he had the privilege to command 41 Support Squadron, and subsequently as the Deputy Commanding Officer of 4 Engineer Support Regiment. Major Groves is currently in Kingston as the Commanding Officer 1st Canadian Division Headquarters

Over the span of his career Major Groves completed several operational tours and deployments, the most unique being a tour in Cambodia as a technical advisor for the Cambodian Mine Action Center. Among several decorations and commendations Major Groves was awarded over his career is a Mention in Dispatches for his actions in Somalia, and a Commander's Commendation for his role in the Army's response to hurricane Igor's impact on Newfoundland. Major Groves was recently inducted into the Order of Military Merit. He retired on 17 April 2015.



=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT IN SOMALIA**

**LELIÈVRE, Wayne Terry**

CD

CG: 14 May 1994

Major - Somalia

GH: 18 April 1994

Coordinating Canadian Forces humanitarian activity with United Nations agencies and NGOs DOI: 1993

"During 1993 emergency relief operation in Somalia, Major Lelièvre provided outstanding personnel services for the entire Canadian contingent, while simultaneously coordinating Canadian 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."

**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID - CD



**MAURER, Michael Charles**

CD

CG: 14 May 1994

Lieutenant-Colonel - Somalia

GH: 18 April 1994

First Canadian Soldier in Somalia

DOI: 1992

"Then 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."

**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID





**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT IN SOMALIA**

**MESSIER, Joseph Louis François** --  
Captain - Somalia  
Reconnaissance of the Galcaio Region an Area Mined and Controlled by Bandits

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 13-17 March 1993

"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 March 13 and 17, 1993, Captain Messier conducted reconnaissance of the Galcaio region, contributing directly to the deployment of the humanitarian assistance organizations in this previously neglected region. In addition, he constantly attempted to bring the rival factions to the conference table."



**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID

=====

**MICHAUD, Samuel Michael**  
Captain - Somalia  
Sea King pilot - HMCS Preserver

MSM CD

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 12/92 – 02/93

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



**MEDALS:** MSM - Somalia with MID - CD



=====

**MOREAU, Joseph Maurice Richard** --  
Captain - Somalia  
Security Head Somalia

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 27 April 1993

"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 April 27, 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."



**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT IN SOMALIA**

**RYALL, David Donald**  
Sergeant - Somalia  
Mine Clearance - Somalia

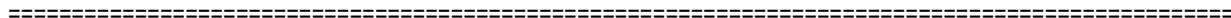
--

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 1993



"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 action 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."

**MEDALS:** Somalia with MID



**SPRENGER, Paul Dean**  
Corporal – 2 Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
Somalia

MB (CD)  
2<sup>nd</sup> MID in Afghanistan

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: 17 March 1993

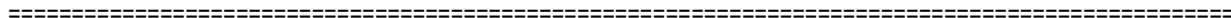
"On 17 March 1993, Corporal Sprenger, a member of a patrol providing armed security while relief supplies were being loaded in Belet Uen, Somalia, disarmed a gunman firing at Canadian Forces soldiers and endangering Red Cross workers and innocent bystanders. Corporal Sprenger's actions ensured the safety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



**MEDALS:** MB – Somalia with MID – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar

Awarded **Mentioned in Despatches (MID)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Sergeant serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion PPCLI in Afghanistan.

Awarded the **Medal of Bravery (MB)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 02 April 1994 in the rank of Private for a civilian incident in Somalia.



FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT IN SOMALIA

**THAIN, Donald Sidney**  
Major - Air Staff Officer Somalia

CD

CG: 14 May 1994  
GH: 18 April 1994  
DOI: December 1992

"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 airlift to continue."



**Medals:** Somalia with MID - CD

=====  
**LAPORTE, Joseph Roger Dominic**  
Corporal  
UNPROFOR

--

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 19 April 1995  
DOI: 10 January 1994

"Corporal Laporte 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 January 10, 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."



**Medals:** Sacrifice - Peacekeeping - UNPROFOR with MID

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA  
UNPROFOR and UNTAC**

**MOLLISON, Martin Joseph**  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
UNTAC Cambodia

CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 24 April 1995  
DOI: 10 August 1993



"Petty Officer 2nd Class Mollison was one of three United Nations personnel returning from a river patrol on the Tonle Tutch, a tributary of the Mekong River, Cambodia, on August 10, 1993, when five heavily-armed Khmer rouge soldiers unexpectedly opened fire on the vessel from the river bank. The helmsman froze, but Petty Offer 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."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - UNTAC with MID – CD

Only MID for a Canadian serving with the United National Transitional Authority in Cambodia

=====

**RETTIE, James Murray**  
Captain - Canadian Engineers  
UNPROFOR

--

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 04 May 1995  
DOI: 20 December 1994



"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 December 20, 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."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - UNPROFOR with MID

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**  
**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA UNPROFOR and UNTAC**

**VANCE, Jonathan Holbert**

Major – Royal Canadian Regiment  
UNPROFOR

CMM (OMM) MSC\* CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 04 May 1995  
DOI: 20 December 1994

"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 December 20, 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."

**MEDALS:** CMM – MSC and Bar – General Campaign Star with multiple Tours bar Southwest Asia ribbon – SSM with bar NATO - Peacekeeping - UNPROFOR with MID – EIIR Golden Jubilee – EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and bar – Commander Legion of Honour (France) – Commander Legion of Merit (USA) – 1<sup>st</sup> Class Order of Viesturs (Latvia) – Commander National Order of the Star of Romania.



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 June 2009 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Commander of the Order of Military Merit (CMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 22 March 2014 in the rank of Lieutenant-General. Appointment **terminated** by the Governor-General as per **Canada Gazette** of 07 May 2022 after he retired.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 August 2011 as a Brigadier-General commanding Canadian JTF Afghanistan.



Awarded **Bar to Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 11 February 2012 as a Brigadier-General commanding Canadian JTF Afghanistan.

Awarded **Order of Viesturs, 1<sup>st</sup> Class (Latvia)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 September 2018 in the rank of General.

Awarded **Commander, National Order of the Star of Romania** as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 June 2019 rank of General.

Promoted to **General** and became **Chief of the Defence Staff** in 17 July 2015 until 17 January 2021.

General Jon Vance's Order of Military Merit was terminated by the Governor-General on 20 April 2022 and published in the CG on 07 May 2022.

**POSTMA, Walter James**

Corporal – Royal Canadian Regiment  
UNPROFOR

CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 04 May 1995  
DOI: 12 April 1994

**TATE, Gregory William**

Master Corporal – Royal Canadian Regiment

"Corporal Postma and Master Corporal Tate were members of a team tasked with water resupply within Srebrenica, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 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."

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**  
**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA UNPROFOR and UNTAC**

**DREW, Reginald**  
Major  
UNPROFOR

CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 11 May 1995  
DOI: August 1993

"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."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - UNPROFOR - CD with MID



**STOGRAN, Patrick Benton**

MSC CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 11 May 1995  
DOI: April 1994

Major - PPCLI  
UNPROFOR – UN Military Observer Team Leader in Gorazde, Bosnia-Herzegovina



"Major Stogran was the United Nations Military Observers Team Leader in Gorazde, Bosnia-Herzegovina, during the fiercest periods of fighting in April 1994. As the only link to higher headquarters levels, Major Stogran'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."

**MEDALS:** MSC – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – SSM bar NATO - Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR with MID – EIIR Golden Jubilee – CD and Bar

Parachute wings – Colonel 2005 – CF Ombudsman

**Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 12 March 2003 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, PPCLI.



Retired as a Colonel and became the first Canadian Forces Ombudsman 15 October 2007. He was replaced in November 2007 by CWO Guy Parent.



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**  
**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA UNPROFOR and UNTAC**

**STOPFORD, Matthew Phillip**  
Warrant Officer  
UNPROFOR

CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 11 May 1995  
DOI: 26 August 1993

"While deploying into positions in Krosevo, Croatia, Warrant Officer Stopford's company came under indirect Croatian fire on August 26, 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."



Stopford was informed by a military leader in 1999 — six years after his return from overseas — that his own men in Croatia tried to poison his coffee with boot blacking, battery acid and eye drops. The soldiers, several of whom reportedly confessed to the crime, considered him too gung-ho and hoped to make him too sick to function. Stopford is now blind in one eye, has joint pain, suffers from internal bleeding and has lost several teeth. He was given a \$625,000 settlement.



=====

**CHARRON, Allen Rose**  
Corporal – Royal Canadian Regiment  
UNPROFOR

--

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 18 July 1995  
DOI: 12 April 1994

**MYKYTIUK, Thomas Nicholas**  
Captain – Royal Canadian Regiment

"Corporal Charron and Captain Mykytiuk were deployed in Srebrenica, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 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."



=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**  
**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA UNPROFOR and UNTAC**

**AUSTDAL, Alexander Michael**

CD

CG: 10 February 1996

Lieutenant-Colonel

GH: 31 January 1996

Chief of Operational Plans UNAMIR

DOI: May 1994 - June 1995



"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 Forces."

=====  
**LANCASTER, Philip Charles**

CD

CG: 10 February 1996

Major

GH: 31 January 1996

Military Assistant to the Commander UNAMIR

DOI: May 1994-May 1995



"Military Assistant to the United Nations Forces 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 Forces."

=====  
**MacNEIL, Donald James**

CD

CG: 10 February 1996

Major – Royal Canadian Armoured Corps

GH: 31 January 1996

UNAMIR – Team Leader of the Humanitarian Cell of the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda

DOI: 03 May 1994



"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."



## MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)

### FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT in COMBAT in the MEDAK POCKET UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA UNPROFOR

**DEARING, Rodney Albert**

Sergeant

UNPROFOR – for the Medak Pocket

MSC CD

CG: 10 February 1996

GH: 11 May 1995

DOI: 15 September 1993

"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."

**Medals:** MSC – GCS with SWA ribbon and two tours bar – SSM bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UNPROFOR with MID – NATO with bar KOSVO – CD and Bar

Awarded the **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per the Canada Gazette of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Warrant Officer for services as an Operational Mentor in Afghanistan.

#### **Description of the Medak Pocket Battle by "Craig" on the Internet**

Sergeant Rod Dearing couldn't see the Croatian soldiers who were trying to kill him but he could hear the rattle of their AK-47s and see their bullets kick up earth just centimetres away. Dearing's platoon was in a tight situation that 15 September 1993. Croatian troops, hidden behind trees and a hedgerow 150 metres away, were raining machine-gun fire down on the Canadians. Croatian rifle grenades exploded, sending red-hot shrapnel whizzing through the air. A barn behind Dearing's position had caught fire after being hit by tracers and cannon rounds. And one of his seven soldiers was pinned down by heavy gunfire.



For the last several months, Dearing had watched firefights between the warring factions. Now he and his soldiers were themselves in one, shooting at the Croats with their C-7 assault rifles and C-9 machine-guns.

"The adrenaline was just pumping," recalls Dearing, who now teaches combat skills at Canadian Forces Base Borden. "There was all kinds of screaming and yelling going on. We fought the Croats all night." Dearing and his 875-man unit, the 2nd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, "were making history. They were taking part in the largest battle the Canadian army had fought since the Korean War. Not that he cared about that at the time." I just kept thinking, 'How the hell am I going to keep my guys alive.'"

Only a few days earlier, Dearing's commanding officer, Lt.-Col. Jim Calvin, had gone for a walk in the town of Medak with French Gen. Jean Cot, head of the United Nations mission in the former Yugoslavia. Cot had a lot on his mind. On Sept. 9, 1993, the Croatian army had attacked near the town of Medak in the Krajina, an area controlled by Serbs in eastern Croatia. More than 2,500 Croatian troops, backed by tanks, had advanced into a 35-square-kilometre area known as the Medak Pocket.

After several days of heavy fighting with the Serbs, the Croats had agreed to a UN-brokered ceasefire that required them to pull back to their normal lines. Calvin and his men had already endured a 24-hour Croatian artillery and mortar barrage. Some Canadians were still shaken by the shelling. In the town of Medak, where Canadians manned an observation post, 525 bombs had landed. Four of Calvin's soldiers had been wounded in that barrage. Others had taken part in a skirmish with the Serbs a week earlier.

The six-month tour of duty with the UN mission was coming to an end for the Canadians and they looked forward to returning to their home base in Winnipeg in less than three weeks. Now, Calvin and Cot were going over a plan that would see the Patricia's establish a buffer zone between Serb and Croatian armies. Cot told Calvin the UN had a credibility problem and needed a successful mission in Yugoslavia. No more would UN troops pull back each time the Croats or Serbs attacked. It was now time to enforce the peace.

The other bit of information the general had was more troublesome. It was believed the Croatian commanders had not told their troops to withdraw. The Canadians could face a fight. The rules of engagement were simple: Calvin's soldiers could defend themselves. If fired at, they could return fire. "Our aim was to stop the fighting," recalls the 45-year-old Calvin.

About noon on 15 September 1993, 250 Canadian troops and another 500 French soldiers under Calvin's command started to move in between the Serb and Croat front lines. They would be supported by another 375 Canadian soldiers including engineers, medics, and anti-tank teams. More than half the Canadians were reservists. The Serbs watched as the UN troops advanced, but did nothing. The Croats opened fire. 'The whole place just lit up'

Dearing's men of 8 Platoon, Charlie Company, were digging in around the village of Sitlik when the Croats attacked about 4 p.m. that day. "The whole place just lit up," says Dearing, a native of Armstrong, B.C. "They started firing at us with every thing –20mm cannon, mortars, machine-guns, everything. It was crazy."

The Canadians scrambled into their trenches and returned fire. But the Croats laid down a wall of bullets. One of Dearing's men, Cpl. Bill Ray was getting some of the worst of it. He was hunkered in a trench with bullets kicking up everywhere around him. When the shooting died down, Dearing assessed the situation. He had seven men, five of them reservists, part-time soldiers. The average age of the group was 21. They were spread out over 30 metres. But the platoon had several things going for it. The Croatian gunfire had chewed up trees and the fence behind which Dearing's men were hiding. The debris actually helped in camouflaging their position. The trenches the Canadians had dug were about a metre deep, providing good protection. And the platoon had a lot of firepower; besides the C-7 assault rifles carried by each soldier, there was a big C-6 machine-gun and two C-9 light machine-guns outfitted with 200 bullets each. The Canadians were temporarily stunned by the initial attack. They couldn't see their enemy's location, so Dearing ordered his men to sit tight.

The Croats had ambushed and killed some French peacekeepers eight months earlier. The French soldiers had quickly retreated after that fight. "I guess the Croats figured we'd do the same thing if they caused us casualties," recalls Dearing, a six-foot, 210-pound, veteran soldier, "But we weren't going anywhere." During the second attack, the platoon spotted the Croats. Flashes from their machine-guns could be seen from a hedgerow and trees 150 metres away.

Dearing divided his men into groups. "One group, hedgerow, rapid fire. Two group, tree line, rapid fire." Pte. Scott Leblanc, a 19-year-old reservist from Yarmouth, N.S., blasted away with the C-9 machine-gun, spraying five to 10 bullets with each squeeze of the trigger. The others opened up with their assault rifles. Dearing manned the C-6 machine-gun, a two-metre flame hurling out the barrel of the big gun each time he pulled the trigger. Pte. Mike Daigle, of Carleton Place, fed bullets into the C-6 as quickly as it could spit them out. "We were just givin' 'er," says Dearing. The shooting on the Croatian side died down

The Canadians reacted with laughter, a combination of relief at being alive and shock at what had happened. Dearing made his way to each man. "How's it going? Take it easy," he told them. Dearing had two regular force privates, but the other five were reservists. Nine months ago the reservists' soldiering had consisted of two days a week at the local armory. Now they were fighting for their lives. One lucky break was that before deploying to Croatia, the unit had spent several weeks in Fort Ord, California, getting in shape and practicing combat skills. That trip had become the subject of newspaper articles that complained the soldiers were just going to California to get away from the Canadian cold. But for Dearing, the skills learned on that trip were saving lives. He quickly realized he didn't have to worry. The guys may have been scared and pumped on adrenaline, but the reservists knew their stuff.

The Croats tried a third attack. They lobbed more rifle grenades. Dearing's troops kept blasting back. Dearing and his troops weren't the only Canadians fighting back. Twenty separate gun battles would be fought that day and night with the Croats. Eight hundred metres away Croatian troops were firing from trenches at Sgt. Greg Trenholm and his men. The Croats would shoot and Trenholm's men would respond with controlled bursts of gunfire. Trenholm, a Calgary native, watched the tracer bullets streak across the sky from Dearing's position. The Croatian tracers were green and orange. The Canadian tracers were red.

In some fights, the Canadians were clearly outgunned. Several soldiers had to endure a Croatian assault as 20mm cannon rounds, about four-inch-long projectiles, flew through the room of a house they were in. The men could do little but take cover in the basement. French troops under Calvin's command were operating north of Medak. They were luckier. They had their own 20mm cannon and, when fired at by the Croats, blasted Croatian vehicles and bunkers with the gun. Dearing had his own concerns. Night had fallen, but the Croats kept firing. The burning barn was illuminating the bright blue UN helmets worn by the Canadians. Dearing told his men to take off their helmets. The Canadians then set up a long-range night observation device, a \$250,000 piece of equipment that can pick up the heat of a human body. On the screen the Croats looked like eerie green outlines as they moved to get a better shot at

the Canadians. Dearing directed the machine-gun fire, using the night observation device until the high-tech spotter malfunctioned in the middle of the night.

The fighting continued throughout the evening, but the Croats were beaten back each time. About 8 a.m., the Croats attacked again, peppering the platoon's position with more machine-gun fire. In a burst of adrenaline and frustration, Pte. Leblanc stood part way out of his trench, his upper body exposed, and blasted away with the C-9. He methodically hosed the hedgerow, while the others joined in. The Croatian position went silent, but mortar shells continued to drop on the Canadians. At 9 a.m., French troops who were in the rear, started moving forward. Backed by armored vehicles, they moved up past the Canadians and toward the Croatian positions. By then the Croats were falling back. An RCMP officer, who was part of a forensic team that moved through the area to assess war crimes by the Croats, would later tell Dearing it appeared his platoon killed or wounded at least 30 Croatian soldiers.

The night of the firefights, the Croats contacted Calvin to discuss a ceasefire. An agreement was reached that Sept. 16, at noon, the Canadians could occupy Croatian positions. But on the morning of Sept. 17, the Canadians heard small arms fire and explosions. Smoke was coming from Serb villages behind the Croatian lines. The Croats were killing Serb civilians.

An armored platoon led by Maj. Dan Drew started towards the burning villages, but was stopped by a heavily armed Croatian unit. The Croats aimed Sagger anti-tank missiles at the Canadian vehicles. Drew's soldiers cocked their weapons and trained their TOW anti-tank missiles on the Croats. It was a Mexican standoff for 90 minutes. The Croats wanted to delay the Canadians to enable their ethnic cleansing units to finish their killing and looting. A Croatian general stood in the middle of the road, glaring and yelling at the Patricia's. The Canadians knew what was going on behind the barricade, but they were in the open and the Croats were in fortified positions. "That was the hardest thing, to sit there and watch that and be essentially helpless to do anything," recalls Calvin, who had moved up to the barricade.

Calvin didn't have the firepower to match the Croats, but he did have another weapon. A European television crew and several Serb journalists were with the column. Calvin gave an impromptu press conference in the middle of the road, telling reporters the Croats were killing civilians just on the other side of the barricade. The Croatian general, worried about his country's image, opened the roadblock and let the Canadians pass. When Col. Calvin's units reached the Serb village of Licki Citluk they were shocked at the destruction. Capt. Wayne Eyre and Capt. Ian Hunt scanned the area. Every building was on fire or had been blown up. Dead horses, goats and dogs were scattered on roads and in the fields. Village wells had been poisoned.

Three Serb men ran from the forest begging the Canadians to save them from the Croats. They were put into an armoured personnel carrier and driven to Serb lines. Canadian troops began sweeping through Licki Citluk as Croatian soldiers, some carrying loot, ran in the opposite direction. In a nearby field, the Canadians found the body of a 70-year-old woman. She had been shot four times, once in the head. Then the soldiers came on the remains of two teenage girls who had been held captive by the Croats. They had been shot and set on fire. What was left of their bodies were still smouldering when the Canadians found them. A few of the men started pouring water on the corpses because they were too hot to be put into body bags.

Scattered on the ground were hundreds of pairs of surgical gloves. It appeared that more people had been murdered and the Croats wore the gloves when piling bodies into transport trucks for removal out of the area. Days later, the Croats turned over 50 bodies. Calvin had to calm down his outraged men. They were professional soldiers, he reminded them, and must not jeopardize the UN mission by seeking revenge on the Croats. The Canadians started tallying the Croatian destruction. Sixteen bodies were found. Every single building in the Medak Pocket, 312 houses and barns, had been destroyed. More than 130 large farm animals had been slaughtered.

On September 17 the Canadians kept pushing forward. The Croats slowly retreated, looting and burning as they moved through villages. Amazingly there was no shooting, but there were dozens of tense standoffs between Canadians and the Croats. Fed up, Calvin met with a more senior Croatian general. "I clearly warned him my guys were looking for a reason to show them that you do not kill innocent women and children." This time the Croats returned to the September 9 lines. Over the next several days the Canadians occupied observation posts and collected evidence of Croatian war crimes. By Sept 23, an agreement had been reached on the boundaries of the UN buffer zone around Medak. French Gen. Cot was so impressed by the Canadian performance that he gave the Patricia's a battalion citation, the first to be awarded on the mission to the former Yugoslavia.

Calvin tallied his casualties. Four Canadians wounded, all in the initial Croatian artillery barrage. Seven French soldiers hurt, mainly from landmines. But what wasn't on the official list were the psychological casualties. Calvin's men had been pushed to the brink and there were cases of combat fatigue. In the rear lines, the men were arguing with each other and sometimes getting into fights.

The Croats continued their sniper fire, keeping the troops on edge. It was too much for some. One soldier broke down and had to be given psychological counselling.

At one checkpoint, Warrant Officer Ed Larabie came face to face with combat stress. A young Canadian soldier stopped Larabie and demanded his UN identification card. Larabie responded that he was clearly a Canadian soldier and in a UN vehicle. The soldier cocked his rifle and pointed it at Larabie. "You could be anyone," he yelled. "Show me your ID card." The soldier was shaking. Larabie disarmed him and the trooper was taken for psychological evaluation.

In Canada, there were few references to the Medak operation in the media. The Defense Department didn't release information that the Patricia's had gone into combat; instead military officials talked about Canadians "monitoring" the Medak area and "establishing control." When news reached Canada that several soldiers were injured in the Croatian artillery barrage, Defense officials said there was no cause for alarm. "It's not all that dangerous. It's just something that our folks are not used to," a military spokesman said at the time, suggesting that Calvin's men were unfamiliar with artillery barrages.

In December 1993 a Canadian newspaper reported Canadian troops had illegally used a .50-calibre machine-gun to shoot at Croatian soldiers near the town of Medak. The military investigated and concluded the Patricia's had done nothing wrong. The use of such a weapon during the September battle was not against the Geneva Convention and, considering the situation, the response was measured. Calvin's soldiers, however, were not impressed. Here they had taken part in the biggest battle conducted by the Canadian army since the Korean War and their only publicity had suggested they were no better than war criminals.

Eighteen months after the battle, **Col. Calvin would get the Meritorious Service Cross** for conducting a successful operation "in support of a humanitarian effort" in the Medak Pocket. He credits his non-commissioned officers for the unit's outstanding performance. **Warrant Officer Bill Johnson was awarded a Medal of Bravery** for rescuing a French peacekeeper trapped in a minefield during the closing days of the operation. Using a flashlight and a stick to probe for booby-trap wires, Johnson carefully walked into the middle of the minefield at night to help carry the soldier to safety.

**Sergeant Dearing would be mentioned in dispatches** for "his steady and professional performance" that "motivated" his troops. **Private Leblanc was mentioned in dispatches** for "impressing his fellow soldiers with his calm and methodical reaction under fire." Also named were various soldiers from Calvin's unit: Sgt. Sjikr Bajema of Clearbrook, B.C., **Lt. Andrew Green of Vancouver, Master Corporal Jordan Jantz** of Saskatoon, **Sgt. Kevin Lewis** of Smith Falls, **Capt. David McKillop** of Caledon, Ont. and **Sgt. Trenholm**. The casualties from the Medak action mounted. Back home, several marriages broke up under the strain. Soldiers were carrying the images of the ethnic cleansing they had seen or were still stressed by the artillery barrage they had been through. Some soldiers, who had been recovering alcoholics, returned to drinking and were dismissed from the military.

Today, officers who attend the military staff college in Kingston or the Pearson peacekeeping centre in Nova Scotia learn about the Medak operation as the textbook example of UN peace enforcement. For Lt.-Col. Jim Calvin, despite the fact that until now the public had not heard all the details of the fight for the Medak Pocket, that is testimony to his unit's abilities and courage. "My guys did a great job under extremely difficult conditions," he says. "They have a lot to be proud of."

=====

**GREEN, Andrew Tyrone Coulman** ---  
Lieutenant  
Attack by Croatian Forces in the Medak Pocket

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 11 May 1995  
DOI: 09 September 1993

"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."

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT in COMBAT in the MEDAK POCKET**

**JANTZ, Jordan Russell**  
Master Corporal - Engineers  
UNPROFOR – Medak Pocket

CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
GH: 11 May 1995  
DOI: September 1993

“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.”

=====  
**LEWIS, Kevin Lee**  
Sergeant

MMM CD

CG: 10 February 1996  
CG: 11 May 1995  
DOI: 20 September 1993

Pointsman during a Patrol to secure a buffer zone Croatian & Serbian forces in the **Medak Pocket**

“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.”



Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 13 June 2009 in the rank of Master Warrant Officer

**Medals:** MMM – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus (2) – UNPROFOR – UNAMID (Darfur) – NATO bar Croatia – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – CD and Bar

=====  
**McKILLOP, David Allan**

---

CG: 10 February 1996  
CG: 11 May 1995  
DOI: 15-16 September 1993

Captain  
UNPROFOR – Commanded an Infantry Platoon in the **Medak Pocket**

“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.”



The town of Medak after the battle.

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT in COMBAT in the MEDAK POCKET**  
**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE IN former YUGOSLAVIA UNPROFOR**

**BAJEMA, Sjirk Ruurds**

--

CG: 10 February 1996

Sergeant - PPCLI

GH: 11 May 1995

UNPROFOR – for the **Medak Pocket**

DOI: 15 September 1993

“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.”



=====

**LEBLANC, Scott Simon Gerald**

--

CG: 10 February 1996

Private – Reservist from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia

GH: 11 May 1995

UNPROFOR – for the **Medak Pocket**

DOI: 15 September 1993

“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.”



=====

## **MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda

**DEMERS, Pierre Frédéric André**

(OMM MSC CD)

CG: 10 February 1996

Captain – UNAMIR – Royal 22e Regiment

GH: 11 May 1995

Humanitarian Cell of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda during the civil war

DOI: 1994

“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.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per Canada Gazette 01 June 2019 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per CanForGen 14 June 2015 in the rank of Colonel While serving with the UN Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Promoted to Brigadier-General in May 2019



### **Brigadier-General Pierre Frédéric André Demers, OMM, MSC, CD Chief of Staff Army Strategy**

BGen André Demers, a native of Sherbrooke, Quebec, joined the Canadian Armed Forces as a reservist with the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada in 1986. In 1991, he decided to join the Regular Force as an Infantry Officer with the Royal 22e Régiment.

His first regimental posting was to 2nd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment from 1991 to 1994, where he served as rifle platoon commander and as assistant operations officer. During this period, he also served as Liaison Officer with UNPROFOR in Srebrenica and Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina and subsequently served as military observer during the Rwandan Civil War. He was awarded a **Mention in Dispatch** for his performance under fire during the operation.

In 1995, BGen Demers was posted to the Land Force Quebec Area's G3 cell, as G3 International Tasks; then, he served as aide-de-camp to the Area Commander. In 1997, he returned to Valcartier to join 1 Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment. He held various positions within the unit from pioneer platoon commander to battalion second-in-command. During this period, he also served with the NATO led Stabilization Force in Bosnia and the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan.

During the summer of 2005, BGen Demers was posted to Ottawa to serve with the National Defence Headquarters Secretariat (NDHQ), as Assistant to the Armed Forces Council and as Executive Assistant to the COS of the Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff Group.

In 2006, he was selected as Canadian candidate for the United State Marines Corps (USMC) Command and Staff College course in Quantico, Virginia, USA, where he earned his Master's degree in Defence Studies. In 2007, he started a second year with the USMC and went to the School of Advanced Warfighting, obtaining a second Master's degree in Operational Art.



Following Staff College, he served with the Land Force's G3 Cell, as G35 Plans until he assumed command of 3rd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment, on September 4, 2008. He had the honour of commanding the 3 R22eR Battle Group on OP HESTIA in Haiti. In June 2010, he was posted to Ottawa and performed various functions on the Strategic Joint Staff before being posted in 2012 to the Army HQ as Director, Land Force Development.



Promoted Colonel in May 2013, he was deployed with the UN to the Democratic Republic of Congo as Task Force Commander of Op CROCODILE where he received a **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** for his actions against Illegal Armed Groups in the Eastern DRC. He returned to Canada in July 2014 and held the position of Director, Peacekeeping Policy. In September 2016, he became the Canadian Forces Recruiting Group Commander. In 2018, following his formation command he attended the National Security Program.

In May 2019 he was promoted Brigadier General and assumed the duties of Director General Defence Security. In 2021 he became the Chief of Staff Army Security. In 2023 he was the Director-General of Army Capability Development.

Brigadier General Demers and his wife, are the proud parents of two children.

=====



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

<b>TRENHOLM, Gregory Andres</b> Sergeant – now Warrant Officer UNPROFOR - Duty, Courage and Resolve in the <b>Medak Pocket</b>	CD	CG: 10 February 1996 CG: 11 May 1995 DOI: 02 September 1993
--	----	---

“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.”

=====

<b>BIRKS, Stephen Franklin</b> Leading Seaman	--	CG: 30 November 1996 GH: 25 November 1996 DOI: 21 June 1994
<b>KING, Glenn Andrew</b> Corporal	--	
<b>SINCLAIR, James Shannon Troy</b> Private Mineclearing - Kakma, Croatia	--	

"On June 21, 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 Forces."

**Corporal Stacy Vance MERRIAM, MB**, received the **Medal of Bravery** for clearing the path and providing assistance.  
**Sergeant Paul McMILLAN, MSM**, received the **Meritorious Service Medal** for directing the rescue operation despite being injured.

=====

<b>DOUCETTE, Frederick James</b> Captain – Royal Canadian Regiment United Nations Military Observer Force in Sarajevo	CD	CG: 30 August 1997 GH: 18 August 1997 DOI: 17 July 1997
---	----	---

"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 July 17, 1997. 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 reflect great credit on the Canadian Forces and Canada."



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**Two MIDs to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police**

**EUBANK, William Marshall**

OSTJ

CG: 30 November 1996

Constable – Royal Canadian Mounted Police

GH: 26 November 1996

Commander at the Plaski Civilian Police Station in the former Yugoslavia

DOI: 30 August 1993



“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.”



**Awarded Officer of the Order of St. John (OStJ) in 2006**

**Medals:** OStJ – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR with MID – European Defence and Policy Service Medal (ESDP) with bar – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIIR Golden Jubilee – RCMP LS&GC – Service Medal of the Order of St. John and bar - Alberta Police Officer Long Service Recognition Medal

=====

**WATSON, Raymond Randall**

CG: 30 November 1996

Constable – Royal Canadian Mounted Police

GH: 26 November 1996

United Nations Protection Force Civilian Police in the former Yugoslavia - UNPROFOR

DOI: 17 April 1993



“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-Herzegovina. 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.”

**Medals:** Peacekeeping – UN Protection Force Civilian Police Bosnia-Herzegovina with MID



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**

**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE UNPROFOR), UNMOP and ECCMY IN former YUGOSLAVIA (UNPROFOR)**

**MEILLEUR, Joseph Real Roger**  
Sergeant  
Kasic, Krajina

CD

CG: 18 May 1996  
GH: Unknown  
DOI: May 1995

"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."

=====  
**BEC, Jean-François**  
Corporal  
UNMOP (Croatia)

--

CG: 26 April 1997  
DOI: 23 June – 16 July 1995

"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."



=====  
**GODIN, Gilles Michel**

--

Lieutenant - C Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Battalion  
United Nations Military Observer Force in the Former Yugoslavia at Pristeg

CG: 26 April 1997  
DOI: 17 July 1995

"In August 1995, Lieutenant Godin was platoon commander of C Company, 1<sup>st</sup> 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."



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**

**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE and ECCMY IN former YUGOSLAVIA (UNPROFOR)**

**HOLT, David Christopher**

Captain - ECMMY

Monitor with the European Community Monitoring Mission in Northern Bosnia

--

**2<sup>nd</sup> MID**

CG: 20 August 1997

DOI: 26 April 1992



"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 recue other in such trying circumstances went beyond the normal call of duty."

**MEDALS:** Peacekeeping - ECCMY with MID

His **first MID** was announced in the **Canada Gazette** on 29 January 1994 as a Captain with the ECMMY.

=====

**PAQUIN, Joseph Robert Donald**

Corporal  
UNPROFOR

--

CG: 26 April 1997

DOI: August 1995



"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."

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**

**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE and ECCMY IN former YUGOSLAVIA (UNPROFOR)**

**RACINE, Luc-André**  
Major - Royal 22e Regiment  
United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda

CD  
Deceased

CG: 26 April 1997  
DOI: 08 June 1994

“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.”



He died at age 48 while serving in the Canadian Defence Attaché Office of the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire in Bamanko, Mali on 09 September 2008.

Major Racine, a Canadian Forces soldier with the Royal 22e Régiment based in Valcartier, Québec, was serving as a military attaché when he died in a non-combat related incident in Bamako, Mali.

Maj Racine suffered from PTSD for years after witnessing the genocide in Rwanda. General Romeo Dallaire, commander of the UN mission, spoke very highly of Racine saying he, “was one of the 12 reinforcements who came to me in 1994 and, within the span of 42 hours, had saved an orphanage full of children. Maj Racine subsequently took command of a small battalion of unequipped Canadians and took over the humanitarian protection zone, which had within it 1.6 million internal refugees. He coordinated the humanitarian protection, support and, ultimately, the transfer to the Rwandan government. Major Luc Racine is a veteran and he is one of my heroes.”

He was a member of the Embassy of Canada in Mali and senior staff member at the Bamako Peacekeeping School, a military training centre designed to support peace operations and capacity building in Western Africa. Previous assignments included command of the United Nations military observers in the French zone in Rwanda in 1994. He and his family moved to Mali in 2006 when he became the first full-time Canadian instructor at an African peacekeeping school.

Maj Racine is survived by his wife Dany France-Racine, their three children, his parents, siblings and extended family. Aged 48, he was originally from Chicoutimi, QC.



=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**FOR CANADIAN CONTINGENT**

**UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE and ECCMY IN former YUGOSLAVIA (UNPROFOR)**

**URBANOWICZ, Edward**  
Major – Canadian Engineers  
UNPROFOR

CD

CG: 26 April 1997  
DOI: 1995



“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.”

**Medals:** Peacekeeping – SSM with bar NATO – UNPROFOR with MID – CD and

**Major Edward URBANOWICZ, CD  
Canadian Engineers**



Major Urbanowicz joined 2 Field Engineer Regiment as a private in 1976. He was later commissioned in the Engineers in 1982. He is a graduate of the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff Course, the Canadian Forces Command.

Major Urbanowicz has commanded a Field Engineer Troop with 1 Combat Engineer Regiment, 25 Support Troop with 2 Combat Engineer Regiment, a Plant Troop with 46 Plant Squadron, 25 Engineer Regiment (RE) British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) and RSS with 45 Engineer Squadron in Sydney Nova Scotia. He deployed in International operational assignments include Sector North Engineer as part of UNPROFOR and then UNPF during 1995 at which time he was awarded a **Mention in Dispatches** and an **UNPF Force Commanders Commendation** for his actions during Operation STORM.

Staff appointments include SO2 Engineer Operations and Training with Army Headquarters, J3 Engineer Requirements at the National Headquarters, Director of Land Force Readiness 5-3 Foreign Military Training, CFEOD at which time he was appointed Project Director for the Advance CIED project and finally Project Manager for EOD and C-IED projects within ADM Materiel.

He retired on 06 June 2016 after 41 years in service. Upon retirement Major Urbanowicz moved to Omaha Nebraska with his wife.

=====



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**1998**

**CHEVARIE, Marcel**

MSM CD

CG: 29 August 1998

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal 22e Regiment

GH: 20 May 1998

Deputy CO Battle R22eR Group Bosnia-Herzegovina

DOI: 23 July 1993

"Lieutenant-Colonel Chevarie was the Deputy Commanding Officer of the Battle Group of the 2nd Battalion Royal 22e Regiment in Bosnia-Herzegovina, on July 23, 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 Forces."



**Medals:** Special Service with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR with MID – UN Haiti with 2 bars – CD and 2 bars

**Lieutenant-Colonel Marcel Chevarie, MSM, CD**  
**Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**

On 12 January 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Marcel Chevarie left the Royal Military College Saint-Jean, where he had served as deputy commander since its reopening in 2008, to become the Commander of the 2nd Ranger Patrol Group Canada whose headquarters is located in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu. He will assume command of the 2nd Ranger Patrol Group Canada on 12 January 2010, following a short ceremony at Old Mess Military College.

"This is for me a bittersweet moment. It is with regret that I left the Military College Saint-Jean, because it is an outstanding institution that contributes to the education, training and training of officers of high caliber Canadian Forces. But the fact of assuming command of the 2nd Ranger Patrol Group Canada is an honor and a privilege for me," said Lieutenant-Colonel Marcel Chevarie.

Before Deputy Commander of the Military College, Lieutenant Colonel Chevarie was the commander of the Centre for Advanced Learning and the Canadian Forces. A proud member of the Royal 22e Regiment, he commanded in turn an infantry company, the combat support company and the services before being appointed commander of the Battle School, Royal 22e Régiment at the base Canadian Forces Base Valcartier.

Lieutenant Colonel Chevarie has United Nations service in both Haiti and Bosnia. He was also the Defence Attaché to the Canadian High Commission in Pakistan.



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**LEBLANC, Joseph Maurice Oswald Paul**  
Master Warrant Officer - 2nd Battalion R22eR  
In Charge Company 'A' Battle Group Bosnia-Herzegovina

**MMM MSM CD**

CG: 29 August 1998  
GH: 20 May 1998  
DOI: 23 July 1993

"Master Warrant Officer Leblanc was in charge of Company A of the Battle Group of the 2nd Battalion Royal 22e 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. 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 Forces."



Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 25 June 2005 in the rank of Master Warrant Officer.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 07 April 2007 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer for Coordinating DND/CF 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of WWII Activities.

**Medals:** MMM – MSM – SSM bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UNPROFOR with MID and 2<sup>nd</sup> Tour – UN Haiti with Bar – EIIR Silver Jubilee – EIIR Golden Jubilee – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and Bar

=====  
**PEREGO, Mark James**  
Captain

**CD**

CG: 06 March 1999  
GH: 17 February 1999  
DOI: 23/06 –16/07 1995

Cdn Contingent UN Protection Force Bosnia-Herzegovina Forward Air Control Party

"From June 23 to July 16, 1995, Captain Perego commanded the Forward Air Control Party co-located with an Observation Post at CV4 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 Forces."





**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Awarded by the British Government**

**BÉDARD, Bryan Joseph**

CD

CG: 30 October 1999

Captain – Royal Canadian Artillery

LG: 07 May 1999

Serving in Bosnia with the British-led Multi Nation Division (South-West)

DOI: 24 April 1998

“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”



Both received congratulatory messages from HRH The Duke of Edinburgh as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Canadian Regiment.”

**Lieutenant-Colonel Bryan Joseph BÉDARD, CD**  
**Royal Canadian Artillery**  
**Commander**

**Commanding Officer 4th Canadian Division Training Centre at Canadian Armed Forces Meaford, Ontario**

**Education**

1991 – 1995	Officer Cadet	Royal Military College of Canada	Bachelor of Arts (Commerce)
2001 – 2004	Major	Royal Military College of Canada	Master of Applied Military Science

**Military**

07/1991 – Present	LCol	Reserve Artillery Officer in Toronto
09/1991	Officer Cadet	Royal Military College Kingston
06/1995	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant	Royal Canadian Artillery Toronto Reserves
2001	Major	Takes his Master of Applied Military Science at RMC Kingston
2004	Major	Graduates with Master of Applied Military Science from RMC Kingston
2009	Major	G3 (Operations) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, Petawawa
08/2011	Major	Canadian Forces College (Toronto)
06/2011	Lieutenant-Colonel	Executive Assistant DND Ottawa Canada Area
06/2013	Lieutenant-Colonel	Commander 4 <sup>th</sup> Canadian Division Training Center Meaford, Ontario

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with Afghanistan Bar – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one additional tour bar – Peacekeeping  
 – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia and British MID – NATO with Croatia Ribbon - CD

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Awarded by the British Government**

**INGERSOLL, Derek Sinclair**

CD

CG: 30 October 1999

Master Warrant Officer – Royal Canadian Regiment

LG: 07 May 1999

Company Sergeant Major 'Charlie Company' 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment Bosnia

DOI: 24 April 1998

**Received the British Mention in Despatches in 1999 for the part he played in the riot at Drvar, Bosnia.**



“During the riot in the town of Drvar, Bosnia on 24 April 1998, Master Warrant Officer Ingersoll demonstrated leadership, courage and judgment of the highest standards.

Master Warrant Officer Ingersoll is the Company Sergeant Major of Charles Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group. Garrisoned in the town of Drvar, Charles Company is responsible to provide a secure environment there, to further the implementation of the Dayton peace Accord.

On 24 April, 1998, a mob of 500 Croats staged a violent, destructive riot to express their dissatisfaction with the initiatives of the International Agencies in Drvar. After assaulting the Serb mayor and setting fire to International organizations' vehicles, offices and equipment, the mob then attacked an apartment complex, housing recently returned Serb DPRES. They burned their housing and vehicles, then attempted to overwhelm the Canadian Battle Group soldiers defending the site with the intention of assaulting the Serb residents.

Master Warrant Officer Ingersoll was instrumental in defusing several potentially deadly confrontations. By personally intervening and demonstrating resolve with his vehicle weapons, he deterred an assault on a Serb fire-truck crew. He then directed his armoured vehicle at the scene to effect an evacuation of the seriously injured Mayor, Mr. Mile Marcetta. Master Warrant Officer Ingersoll then rallied his available troops to establish a defensive perimeter around the threatened Serb citizen, now gathered in a central schoolhouse. Despite overwhelming odds, he directed his soldiers to establish a coherent cordon at the site, denying the mob access to the Serbs. Master Warrant Officer Ingersoll was a steadying influence to his troops by continually placing himself at the most threatened areas confronted by the mob. When necessary, he fired warning shots to deter the rioters from overwhelming the cordon. His courage and resolve served as a power example to his soldiers.

Master Warrant officer Ingersoll, through his leadership and clear direction to his soldiers, was key to his Company's success. By rigidly adhering to SFOR Rules of Engagement, and his resolve to prevent any casualties among the rioters, Master Warrant Officer Ingersoll's actions greatly contributed to containing the violence. His exemplary performance brought great credit to his unit and SFOR. He is highly recommended for recognition.

Signed by P.J. Devlin, L.Col.CO - 15 July 1998

London Gazette 07 May 1999



The "Mention in Despatches" was presented to Derek by Lieutenant-General Leach, the Commander of the Canadian Army. A silver oak leaf, the "Mention in Despatches" emblem, is attached to the NATO medal bar former Yugoslavia as the 1 RCR was under the command of the British sector at the time of the incident.

**Medals:** Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia with MID – CD and 2 bars

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**BELLEY, Joseph Paul Yves Éric** --  
 Master Corporal – Royal 22e Régiment  
 UNPROFOR – Rescue of a Civilian Patient from a Fire Zone

CG: 03 March 2001  
 GH: 12 October 2000  
 DOI: 10 August 1993

**TREMBLAY, Joseph Éric** --  
 Private – Royal 22e Régiment  
 UNPROFOR – Rescue of a Civilian Patient from a Fire Zone

"On August 10, 1993, Master Corporal Éric Belley and Private Éric 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, MCpl 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. MCpl Belley's and Private Tremblay's selfless and professional deed helped to save a life."



=====

**McCOMBER, John S.**  
 Major  
 Chief Logistics Officer UNAMIR

CD

CG: 03 March 2001  
 GH: 12 October 2000  
 DOI: 24 June 1994

"On June 24, 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 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."



=====

**DECAIRE, Brian Michael**  
 Corporal – PPCLI  
 PPCLI in Afghanistan

--  
 Edmonton

CG: 26 April 2003  
 GH: 13 March 2003  
 DOI: 17 April 2002

"On 17 April 2002, Cpl Decaire displayed outstanding professionalism following the Tarnak Farm incident in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Cpl 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. Cpl 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."



=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**Service in Afghanistan**

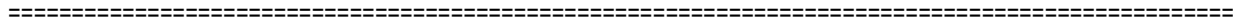
**JONES, Robert Kevin**  
Warrant Officer – PPCLI  
PPCLI in Afghanistan

CD  
Edmonton

CG: 26 April 2003  
GH: 13 March 2003  
DOI: 10 April 2002



"On 10 April 2002, WO 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. WO Jones' exceptional leadership and technical expertise under difficult and chaotic circumstances played a critical role in the overall success of the mission."



**PERRY, Brett Robert**  
Corporal – PPCLI  
Afghanistan

--  
Edmonton

CG: 26 April 2003  
GH: 13 March 2003  
DOI: 17 April 2002

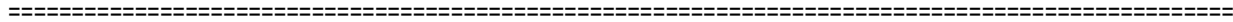


"On 17 April 2002, Cpl Perry's actions immediately following the Tarnak Farm incident in Kandahar, Afghanistan, were highly commendable. He remained calm in a very chaotic environment, despite a shrapnel wound. He assisted in securing the area and in deploying medical personnel as they arrived. He searched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



**Medals:** Sacrifice – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan and MID – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - CD

Now a Warrant Officer, PPCLI



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**Service in Afghanistan**

**EASON, Dennis**  
Corporal – PPCLI  
Shabi-Khot Valley East Afghanistan

US Bronze Star

CG: 08 November 2003  
GH: 24 October 2003  
DOI: 02-11 March 2002

**FURLONG, Robert**  
Corporal - PPCLI

US Bronze Star

**McMEEKIN, Timothy James**  
Master Corporal – PPCLI

CD – US Bronze Star

**PERRY, Aaron**  
Master Corporal – PPCLI

US Bronze Star

**RAGSDALE, Graham**  
Master Corporal – PPCLI

US Bronze Star



“During Operation ANACONDA in South-East Afghanistan, the above were inserted by air into the Shabi-Khot valley. From March 2 to 11, they operated their respective sniper teams from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group through extreme weather conditions. Corporals Eason and Furlong, as well as Master Corporals McMeekin, Perry and Ragsdale demonstrated impressive professionalism and dedication to duty through their valiant conduct while under direct and indirect fire and their actions helped ensure the success of the mission.”

The American Government, as per **Canada Gazette** of 8 November 2003, also awarded the **Bronze Star** to all five.

**Master Corporal Aaron PERRY Medals:**

Southeast Asia with bar Afghanistan – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – UNCRO (2) – Bronze Star

Master Corporal Aaron Perry broke the record for the longest recorded sniper kill in combat at a range of 2,310 m (2,526 yards). A few days later, in March 2002, **Corporal Rob Furlong** bested his distance with a kill at a verified range of 2,430 m (2,657 yards). Perry, a member of Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry, began his military career with a Halifax Reserve unit, the Princess Louise Fusiliers.

Corporal Rob Furlong at right.





**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**Service in Afghanistan**

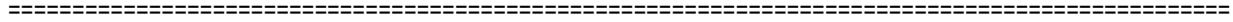
**DUVAL, Brian Michael Raymond**  
Corporal – 3 RCR  
OP ATHENA - Afghanistan

--

CG: 13 November 2004  
GH: 04 November 2004  
DOI: October 2003



“Cpl Duval was deployed with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, on Operation ATHENA, Task Force Kabul, Afghanistan. In 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, Cpl Duval remained calm and distinguished himself in a manner befitting the highest standards of his Regiment and of the Canadian Forces.”



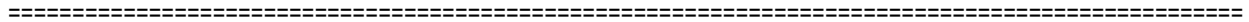
**HUGHSON, Teddy Raymond**  
Sergeant – 3 RCR  
OP ATHENA - Afghanistan

CD

CG: 13 November 2004  
GH: 04 November 2004  
DOI: October 2003



“Sgt Hughson was deployed with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, on Operation ATHENA, Task Force Kabul, Afghanistan. In 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 demeanor and leadership inspired his subordinates to follow him in the removal of the victims from the minefield. In the face of imminent danger, Sgt Hughson distinguished himself in a manner befitting the highest standards of his Regiment and of the Canadian Forces.”



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**

**Service in Afghanistan**

**VASS, John Donald Vincent**  
Major – 3 RCR  
OP ATHENA – Task Force Kabul, Afghanistan

CD

CG: 13 August 2005  
GH: 01 June 2005  
DOI: 26 January 2004

“Major Vass was the officer commanding Parachute Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battalion Group during Operation ATHENA. On January 27, 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 Forces and to Canada.”



Awarded **Defense Meritorious Service Medal (USA)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 26 January 2019 in the rank of Colonel.

**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID – General Campaign Medal with bar Expedition with 2 extra bars – Peacekeeping – UNPFOROF – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar – Defense Meritorious Service Medal (USA)

Col Vass spent his high school years in Petawawa, ON and in 1989 he joined the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regiment in Pembroke, ON. The following year Col Vass attended Royal Roads Military College followed by the Royal Military College of Canada graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1994. Upon commissioning, Col Vass was posted to 1st Battalion then 3rd Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment in Petawawa, ON. Holding a variety of positions within the Battalion, he also deployed on a UN mission to Croatia, a NATO mission to Bosnia and attended the US Army Ranger course.



Following a two-year posting to Borden in 2000 as the Executive Assistant to the Commander of the Canadian Forces Support Training Group and the completion of the Transition Command and Staff College at the CLFCSC in Kingston, Col Vass returned to 3rd Battalion as the Adjutant. After his promotion to Major in December 2002, he was privileged to command Parachute Company which included Operation ATHENA, Roto 0 in Afghanistan where he was awarded a **Mention and Dispatches**. Leaving 3rd Battalion as the Deputy Commanding Officer Col Vass moved to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas to complete the US Army Command and General Staff Course and attain his Master in Military Arts and Sciences (MMAS) degree.

Upon return to Canada in January 2008, Col Vass became the Chief of Operations for the Canadian Special Operations Regiment (CSOR). After a year as the CANSOFCOM J7, he was appointed the Commanding Officer of CSOR in June 2010. Completing second language training in 2013, Col Vass was then posted to Chief Force Development as Director Capability Integration 5. Two years later he was employed as the J3 for CFINTCOM followed by almost 14 months in Baghdad, Iraq as the Chief of Staff Operations for the Ministerial Liaison Team.

Returning to Canada in 2017, he was appointed the Canadian Army G3. In 2019, Col Vass attended the National Securities Program at the Canadian Forces College in Toronto. On June 26, 2020, Col Vass became the Commander of 4th Canadian Division Support Group. Col Vass lives in Petawawa with his spouse Steph Waito and enjoys fishing, hunting and trying to play most recreational sports.

=====

MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)

Service in Afghanistan

**VAN TASSEL, Douglas Ronald**  
Corporal – 3 RCR  
OP ATHENA – Task Force Kabul, Afghanistan

--

CG: 13 August 2005  
GH: 01 June 2005  
DOI: 27 January 2004



“Corporal Van Tassel was deployed with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battalion Group, during Operation ATHENA. On January 27, 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 in moving 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 Forces and to Canada.”



**METAXAS-MARIATOS, Pericles ('Percy')**  
Major  
Intelligence Division of ISAF HQ Kabul

**MSM CD**

CG: 13 August 2005  
GH: 25 July 2005  
DOI: Jan to June 2004



“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 Forces and to Canada.”

**Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 November 2004 for his liaison work with NATO Headquarters at Skopje.

