

## MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES

CITATIONS 08 November 2008 (CG) to 03 July 2010

Updated: 16 July 2023  
CG Entries: 08 November 2008 to 03 July 2010  
Pages 66  
Compiled by: John Blatherwick, CM, CStJ, OBC, CD, MD, LLD(Hon), DSc(Hon)

**Note:** On 17 March 2010, the Canadian Forces announced that the **ISAF+FIAS** bar would be discontinued with each campaign having a distinctive ribbon and the tour bars would be introduced. Thus, up until 17 March 2010, recipients of the General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon received the medal with the **ISAF+FIAS** bar. This is shown in all their photos up to that point – their bar is not a tour bar. After that, the medal was not issued with the **ISAF+FIAS** bar.

**There were NO Canada Gazette entries for Mentioned in Despatches in 2006.**

For more on the Mentioned in Despatches, see the outstanding book by Directorate of Honours and Recognition at: [D2-359-2016-eng.pdf \(PDF, 9.55 MB\)](#).

The story about Erin Doyle was taken from the Legion Magazine – it really describes an incredible man.

**Legion Magazine 07 March 2009** - email the writer at: [aday@legion.ca](mailto:aday@legion.ca)

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.

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

Page	CG Date	Name	Rank	Operation	Decorations /
06	08/11/08	<b>ANDERSEN, John Matt</b>	Private	JTF Afghanistan - RCR	--
33	27/03/10	<b>ATLEE, Jeffrey</b>	Private	JTF Battle Group Afghanistan	--
33	27/03/10	<b>BANKS, David C.</b>	Private	Afghanistan 2 PPCLI Battle Group	--
34	27/03/10	<b>BARKER, Robert E.</b>	Captain	JTF Afghanistan - OMLT	--
07	08/11/08	<b>BÉGIN, Isabelle Marie-Ève</b>	Captain	JTF Afghanistan	--
06	08/11/08	<b>BERGERON, Éric</b>	Sergeant	JTF Afghanistan – Cover Smoke	--
07	08/11/08	<b>BERTHIAME, Philippe</b>	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan	--
07	08/11/08	<b>BILODEAU, Marie Sylvie</b>	M/Cpl	JTF Afghanistan	--
08	08/11/08	<b>BLIER, David</b>	Private	JTF Afghanistan	--
06	not gazetted	<b>BOIVIN, Joseph Michael Stéphane</b>	LCol	JTF Afghanistan	<b>OMM MSC MSM* CD</b>
34	27/03/10	<b>BONNELL, Ross William</b>	Captain	JTF Afghanistan - OMLT	--
35	27/03/10	<b>BOUCHIE, Daniel William</b>	WO	JTF Afghanistan	<b>MSM CD</b>
08	08/11/08	<b>BOULAY, Guillaume</b>	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan	--
31	11/06/09a	<b>BOYES, Jason James</b> Posthumous	M/Cpl	1 PPCLI BG - JTF Afghanistan	--
35	27/03/10	<b>BUSCHE, Christopher Robert</b>	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
36	27/03/10	<b>CARTHEW, Christopher Walter</b>	Captain	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
09	08/11/08	<b>CHARLISH, Michael</b>	Corporal	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
36	27/03/10	<b>CICEKCI, Erkin</b>	Corporal	CFHS JTF Afghanistan with 2PPCLI	--
09	08/11/08	<b>CLARKE, Robert Joseph</b>	WO	LSH Afghanistan – Tank Recovery	CD
36	27/03/10	<b>CODE, Jeffery J.</b>	Captain	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	--
09	08/11/08	<b>COLBOURNE, Robert</b>	Captain	JTF Afghanistan	<b>MSM CD</b>
37	27/03/10	<b>COPELAND, Shaun David</b>	Corporal	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	--
37	27/03/10	<b>CORBAY, Raymond Jean-Claude</b>	Captain	JTF Afghanistan OMLT	--
37	27/03/10	<b>CORCORAN, Steven Alan</b>	Sergeant	Afghanistan 2 PPCLI Battle Group	CD
38	27/03/10	<b>COREY, Aaron Edward</b>	Lieutenant	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	--
10	08/11/08	<b>COUGHLIN, Russell Wayne</b>	M/Cpl	2 RCR Afghanistan	<b>MMM CD</b>
38	27/03/10	<b>COX, Simon J.</b>	Captain	Calgary High Afghanistan OMLT	CD
39	27/03/10	<b>CRANE, Robin John</b>	WO	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	<b>MMV CD</b>
39	27/03/10	<b>CRAWFORD, Sheldon R.G.</b>	Corporal	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	--
10	08/11/08	<b>CREWS, Bruce Michael</b>	LS	2 Electronic War - JTF Afghanistan	--
40	27/03/10	<b>DAVIDSON, James Robert George</b>	Sergeant	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
11	08/11/08	<b>DE CHANTEL, Joseph Louis Henri Dany</b>	WO	JTF Afghanistan	CD
41	27/03/10	<b>DINELLE, Jean-Guy Ross</b>	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
41	27/03/10	<b>DIXON, Hugh R.</b>	M/Cpl	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
42	27/03/10	<b>DODGE, Aaron A.</b>	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
05	11/08/08a	<b>DOYLE, Erin Melvin</b>	M/Cpl	3 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
60	11/08/08a	DOYLE, Erin Melvin	m/Cpl	3 PPCLI – complete story	--
11	08/11/08	<b>DULONG, Daniel Joseph</b>	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan	CD
56	03/07/10	<b>DUMBRECK, Shawn Christopher</b>	Captain	OMLET Afghanistan	--
42	27/03/10	<b>DUNPHY, Wayne Bernard</b>	Sergeant	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
11	08/11/08	<b>DUSENBURY, Shain Roy</b>	Corporal	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--

MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES (MID)

Page	CG Date	Name	Rank	Operation	Decorations /
12	08/11/08	FILION, Jean-François	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan	--
42	08/11/08	FLETCHER, Timothy Wayne	M/Cpl	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	CD
12	27/03/10	FLETCHER, Timothy Wayne	Sergeant	Afghanistan 2 PPCLI 2 <sup>nd</sup>	CD
12	08/11/08	FLIBOTTE, Joseph Daniel François	M/Cpl	JTF Afghanistan	--
42	27/03/10	FOLEY, Kevin J.	Corporal	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	--
42	27/03/10	FRANK, Phillip A.	Private	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	--
43	27/03/10	FULLER, Lucas John	Corporal	Afghanistan 2 PPCLI Battle Group	--
43	27/03/10	GILES, David S.	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group - CFHS	--
43	27/03/10	GIRARD, Dustin M.	Corporal	Afghanistan 2 PPCLI Battle Group	--
13	08/11/08	GIRARD, Michael	Sergeant	JTF Afghanistan	CD
44	27/03/10	GRAY, Casey A.E.	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan	--
13	08/11/08	GUIMONT, Guevens	WO	JTF Afghanistan	CD
13	08/11/08	HAMILTON, Jonathan Hewson	Captain	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
44	27/03/10	HARDING, Kelly A.	M/Cpl	JTF Afghanistan - CFHS	CD
44	27/03/10	HARDING, Ryan E.	Private	JTF Afghanistan	--
13	08/11/08	HENDERSON, Christopher	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan	--
14	08/11/08	HESSELL, Darren John	WO	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	CD
14	08/11/08	HOEKSTRA, Jason	Corporal	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
45	27/03/10	HOLWELL, Paul Justin	WO	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
31	11/06/09a	HORNBURG, Nathan Posthumous	Corporal	LSH JTF Afghanistan King's Own	--
15	08/11/08	INGRAM, Vaughn Posthumous	Sergeant	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
45	27/03/10	JOHNSTON, Bradley K.	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
45	27/03/10	JONES, Terry Thomas	WO	PPCLI OMLT Afghanistan	CD
16	08/11/08	JURKOWSKI, Ryan Earl	Captain	1 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	<b>MSM CD</b>
16	08/11/08	KEEBLE, Stephen James Myers	Corporal	1 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	CD
56	03/07/10	KIENS, René Francis	MWO	Prov. Recon Team Afgh.	<b>MMM MSM CD</b>
46	27/03/10	KRIWEZ, Carl B.A.	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
46	27/03/10	KULUSKI, Cody R.	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
16	08/11/08	L'HEUREUX, David	Sergeant	JTF Afghanistan	CD
17	08/11/08	LAMARRE, André	WO	JTF Afghanistan	CD
17	08/11/08	LANGELIER, Marc-André	Captain	JTF Afghanistan	--
32	11/06/09a	LEDUC, Denis P.	M/Cpl	JTF Afghanistan – CFHS - OMLT	--
46	27/03/10	LEGER, Joseph E.	M/Cpl	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
18	08/11/08	LUBINIECKI, Mark James	Captain	JTF Afghanistan - LSH	--
10	08/11/08	LUPU, Nicolae Toma	Corporal	2 Electronic War - JTF Afghanistan	--
57	03/07/10	MacDONALD, David A.	Corporal	OMLET – 3 PPCLI Afghanistan	--
47	27/03/10	MacLEAN, Clayton D.	Corporal	OMLET - JTF Afghanistan	--
47	27/03/10	MacPHERSON, Justin G.	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
18	08/11/08	MacWHIRTER, Michael Richard Stephen	Private	2 RCR Battle Goup Afghanistan	--
47	27/03/10	McLEAN, Matthew A.	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
19	08/11/08	McNAUGHT, Blair	Captain	JTF Afghanistan	--
32	11/06/09a	McPHAIL, Stephen Hector	M/Cpl	JTF Afghanistan – RC Signals	CD
48	27/03/10	MILLER, Lee Allan	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
10	22/11/08	MISTZAL, Christopher Michael	M/Cpl	2 Electronic War - JTF Afghanistan	--

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Page	CG Date	Name	Rank	Operation	Decorations /
19	08/11/08	MORIN, Joseph Julien Daniel	Captain	RCA - JTF Afghanistan	--
48	27/03/10	MYRONIUK, Tyler Brian	Corporal	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	<b>MMV</b> --
48	27/03/10	NOLASCO, Brent Simon	M/Cpl	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	--
19	08/11/08	PARSONS, Matthew	M/Cpl	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
20	08/11/08	PEACH, Benjamin Joel	Corporal	1 RCR Battle Group – Afghanistan	--
21	08/11/08	PELLERINE, Trevor Joseph	Captain	1 RCHA - JTF Afghanistan	CD
49	27/03/10	PETERS, Vincent Jacques	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan	--
58	03/07/10	PICARD, Sébastien	Corporal	3 RCR Battle Group Afghanistan	--
49	27/03/10	PICKARD, Jason Guy	WO	2 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	<b>MSM CD</b>
20	08/11/08	PLAMONDON, Cécil David	M/Cpl	JTF Afghanistan	--
22	08/11/08	PRESLEY, Daryl Edward	M/Cpl	1 PPCLI JTF Afghanistan	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> --
22	08/11/08	PRICE, Tracy Wavell	M/Cpl	2 RCR Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
49	27/03/10	PRONK, Matthew Timothy	Sergeant	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
50	27/03/10	RANGER, Patrick J.R.A.	Corporal	OMLT JTF Afghanistan	--
58	03/07/10	RASMUSSEN, Ben L.	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group, Afghanistan	--
23	08/11/08	REID, Christopher Jonathan	Deceased Corporal	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
25	08/11/08	RICHARD, Benjamin	Lieutenant	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
24	27/03/08	RITCHIE, Robert Tennant	Major	PPCLI - OMLT Afghanistan	<b>MSM CD</b>
25	08/11/08	ROULEAU, Danis	Captain	JTF Afghanistan	CD
25	08/11/08	ROYER, Joseph André Daniel	WO	JTF Afghanistan	CD
26	08/11/08	SAJJAN, Harjit	Major	JTF Afghanistan - BCR	<b>OMM MSM CD</b>
27	08/11/08	SCHALL, Scott Lee	Sergeant	JTF Afghanistan - LSH	CD
50	27/03/10	SCHARF, Johnathon ('John') E.	M/Cpl	OMLT JTF Afghanistan	--
27	08/11/08	SHEPPARD, Mark Andrew	Captain	1 RCR BG JTF Afghanistan	--
27	08/11/08	SHULAEV, Alex	Corporal	1 PPCLI BG JTF Afghanistan	--
50	27/03/10	SMALLMAN, Andrew Brett	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
28	08/11/08	SMITH, Kelly Godfrey	M/Cpl	OMLT JTF Afghanistan	--
28	08/11/08	SOPER, Mark William	M/Cpl	RCR Battle Group JTF Afghanistan	CD
51	27/03/10	SPRENGER, Paul Dean	Sergeant	2 PPCLI Afghanistan	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> MB CD</b>
52	27/03/10	THOMPSON, Derek Ashley	Sergeant	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
52	27/03/10	TOOLE, Jason C.	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
58	03/07/10	UNDERWOOD, Kiernan R.	Private	OMLT Afghanistan	--
53	27/03/10	VICKERMAN, Calvin T.	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
53	27/03/10	VINCENT, Daniel J.	Lieutenant	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
53	27/03/10	VOLLICK, Mike Eric	WO	OMLT Afghanistan – Mil Police	CD
29	08/11/08	VOLPATTI, Randy Lee	Private	JTF Afghanistan	--
29	08/11/08	VOLSTAD, Michael Craig	Captain	JTF Afghanistan - LSH	CD
54	27/03/10	WALKER, Kevin William	M/Cpl	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	CD
29	08/11/08	WALSH, Jeffrey	M/Cpl	OMLT JTF Afghanistan	--
54	27/03/10	WARING, Ryan K.	Private	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
55	27/03/10	WHITE, James Craig	Corporal	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
30	08/11/08	WILLIAMS, Jonathan Francis	Corporal	JTF Afghanistan – R Nfld Reg	--
30	08/11/08	WOODHOUSE, William John	M/Cpl	OMLT JTF Afghanistan	--
55	27/03/10	WOODS, Ricky L.	M/Cpl	2 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan	--
		<b>UNNAMED (19) NINETEEN</b>	Nil	No Citations	--

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**ANDERSEN, John Matt**

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Private – Royal Canadian Regiment

Broke Cover to move a Wounded Comrade to a Casualty Collection Point

CG: 08 November 2008

GH: 21 October 2008

DOI: 15 September 2007



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

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**DOYLE, Erin Melvin**

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Master Corporal – 2 PPCLI

**Posthumous**

3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group Afghanistan

CG: Not Gazetted

GH: 11 August 2008 Condolences

DOI: 11 August 2008

“Master Corporal Erin Doyle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and attached to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group and his fellow soldiers were protecting their combat outpost during an attack.”

Master Corporal Erin Doyle, 32, was killed in a firefight **11 August 2008** in the Panjwaii District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

**Erin Melvin Doyle**

Born: March 20, 1976, in Maple Ridge, B.C.

Grew up in Kamloops B.C.

Enlisted: 21 May 1998.

Killed in Action: 11 August 2008

Favourite activities: restoring old trucks and cars, shovelling neighbour's sidewalks, playing pranks on friends and others.

Probable reason he was able to grow his beard so long: Doyle played Santa every year at the PPCLI Christmas party.

Two gyms now named after him: one at 3 Battalion, PPCLI and another at 1 Bn., PPCLI.

There was a third in Zangabad, but that base has been torn down.

Buried: St. Emile Cemetery, Legal, Alberta on 21 August 2008.



Full article on Master Corporal Doyle appears at the end of this document

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)  
Service in Afghanistan**

**BERGERON, Jos Jean Éric**

CD

CG : 08 November 2008

Sergeant

GH: 21 October 2008

Braved heavy insurgent fire to throw smoke grenades

DOI: 12 September 2007



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

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**BOIVIN, Joseph Michael Stéphane (“Steve”)**

**OMM MSC MSM\* CD**

CG: Not gazetted

Lieutenant-Colonel – 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion PPCLI

GH: Not mentioned

Task Force 1-08 in Kandahar Province

DOI: 2008

He commanded a reconnaissance squadron in 2008 in Kandahar province, with the battle group of 2nd Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry during Task Force 1-08 and was awarded an MID.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** in 2014 but this is one of the awards not gazetted. However, the MID does appear on his Southwest Asia Medal and ribbon.

Awarded **Bar to the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM\*)** as per the Honours & Recognition to the Canadian Forces document of 2017.



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canadian Forces List** of 06 June 2016 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

**Medals:** OMM – MSC – MSM and Bar – Southeast Asia with extra tour bar and **MID** - General Campaign Star ribbon SWA – Peacekeeping – UN Yugoslavia – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – Somalia – CD and bar

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**BÉGIN, Isabelle Marie-Ève**

CD

CG: 08 November 2008

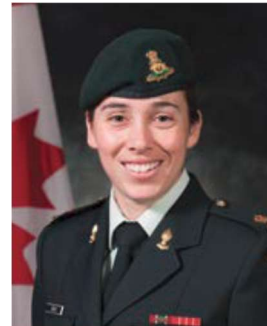
Captain (now Major) – Royal Canadian Artillery

GH: 21 October 2008

1 PPCLI, Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 17 November 2007

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



**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID - CD

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**BERTHIAME, Philippe**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Corporal

GH: 21 October 2008

Firing a rocket while Exposed to enable a Withdrawal

DOI: 14 September 2007

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



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**BILODEAU, Marie Sylvie Annie**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Master Corporal – 1 Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group

GH: 21 October 2008

Platoon Commander - 1 RCR Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 27 August 2007  
and 06 November 2007

"For outstanding leadership that enabled his platoon to achieve victory in battle and greatly contributed to his company's success with 1 RCR Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, from January to August 2007."

"For outstanding dedication under enemy fire in Afghanistan, on 27 August and 06 November 2007. She quickly rehabilitated heat stress casualties, allowing them to rejoin the battle, and contributed the treatment and evacuation of over one hundred wounded coalition force soldiers, thereby increasing their chances of survival."



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**BOULAY, Guillaume**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Corporal

GH: 21 October 2008

Section Signaller in an intense and sustained attack in Afghanistan

DOI: 17 November 2007



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

Medals: General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, MID and one extra tour bar –  
Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia

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**BLIER, David**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Private – 3 Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 27 October 2006

Op ARCHER Roto 1 - Afghanistan

DOI: 15 July 2006

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

**Medals:** Sacrifice - General Campaign Medal with SWA ribbon and ISAF bar with MID



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**CHARLISH, Michael** --  
Corporal – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 09 July 2006

“For outstanding courage and dedication when he exposed himself to enemy fire to extract a wounded comrade as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 09 July 2006.”



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**CLARKE, Robert Joseph** --  
Warrant Officer – Lord Strathcona's Horse  
Recovery of a Tank under sustained enemy attacks

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 24 September 2007

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



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**COLBOURNE, Robert** MSM CD  
Captain – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
OMLT - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 23 October 2007

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

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 19 July 2008 in the rank of Captain

**Medals:** MSM – Somalia – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID – Operational Service Medal Humanitus – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and Bar



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**COUGHLIN, Russell Wayne**

Master Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment  
2 RCR Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

(MMM) CD

CG: 08 November 2008

GH: April 2008

DOI: 26 May 2007



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

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 26 March 2011 in the rank of Sergeant and as a member of 2 Canadian Field Ambulance.

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**CREWS, Bruce Michale**

Master Seaman – Canadian Navy  
2 Electronic Warfare Squadron - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008

GH: 08 November 2008

DOI: 27 August 2007

**LUPU, Nicolae Toma**

Corporal

**MISTZAL, Christopher Michael**

Master Corporal



“Master Seaman Crews was recognized for outstanding initiative and resourcefulness in Afghanistan on 27 August 2007. On that day, in addition to providing counter-battery intelligence while under a mortar attack, MS Crews, along with Master Corporal Michael Misztal and Corporal Nicolae Toma Lupu, who are also being awarded Mention in Despatches, assembled a critical defensive system that helped decrease the effectiveness of the enemy fire.”

MS Crews receives his MID from the Chief of Defence Staff

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

<b>DE CHANTEL, Joseph Louis Henri Dany</b>	CD	CG: 08 November 2008
Warrant Officer	GH:	21 October 2008
Joint Task Force Afghanistan		DOI: 08 September 2007

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

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<b>DULONG, Daniel Joseph</b>	--	CG: 08 November 2008
Corporal		GH: 21 October 2008
Joint Task Force Afghanistan		DOI: 24 September 2007

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

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<b>DUSENBURY, Shain Roy</b>	--	CG: 08 November 2008
Master Corporal – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry		GH: 21 October 2008
1 PPCLI, Battle Group -Joint Task Force Afghanistan		DOI: 14 July 2006

“For outstanding courage and initiative when he selflessly positioned his vehicle as a shield between the enemy position and his comrades while engaged by insurgent forces as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 14 July 2006.”

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**FILION, Jean-François**  
Corporal  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan

--

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 22 August 2007

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

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**FLIBOTTE, Joseph Daniel François**  
Master Corporal  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 23 October 2007

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

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**FLETCHER, Timothy Wayne**  
Master Corporal – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CD

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 24 June 2006



“For outstanding initiative and courage when he selflessly took command of a company mortar crew while under intense fire as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 24 June 2006.”

Awarded his **2nd Mentioned In Despatches (MID)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Sergeant. He wears an MID on his Southwest Asia and his General Campaign Star for service in Afghanistan.

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan and MID – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo - CD

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**GIRARD, Michael**  
Sergeant  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CD

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: August to November 2007

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



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**GUIMONT, Guevens**  
Warrant Officer  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan - OMLT

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: September 2007 to February 2008

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

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**HAMILTON, Jonathan Hewson**  
Captain – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
RECCE Platoon – 1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 03 August 2006

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



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**HENDERSON, Christopher**  
Corporal  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 12 September 2007

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



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**HESSELL, Darren John**

CD

CG: 08 November 2008

Warrant Officer – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 21 October 2008

DOI: 17 May 2006



“For outstanding professionalism and leadership as a Platoon Commander, PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 17 May 2006. His actions during an intense engagement saved both the lives of a stricken platoon and local civilians, and inflicted heavy enemy casualties.”

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**HOEKSTRA, Jason**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Corporal – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 21 October 2008

DOI: 03 August 2006



“For outstanding courage and leadership when his courageous actions during heavy fighting, were instrumental in suppressing the enemy as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 03 August 2006.”

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)  
Service in Afghanistan**

**INGRAM, Vaughn**

Sergeant

1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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**Posthumous**

**KIA 03 August 2006**

CG: 08 November 2008

GH: 21 October 2008

DOI: 03 August 2006

“For outstanding leadership and professionalism, in Afghanistan, as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 3 August 2006. His determination in the face of an overwhelming and aggressive enemy was an example to all his soldiers, and his actions were key to motivating his troops to carry on under extremely perilous circumstances.”

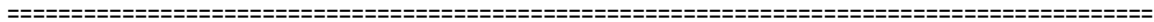
**Killed in Action 03 August 2006.**

Sergeant Vaughn Ingram, Corporal Bryce Keller and Private Kevin Dallaire were killed and six others injured on 03 August 2006 as the result of a rocket-propelled grenade attack. The incident occurred near the village of Pashmul, approximately 25 kilometres south west of Kandahar City, near the location where Corporal Reid was killed when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device earlier in the day. Sergeant Ingram’s 40-man platoon was overwhelmed by a force of over 200 Taliban fighters as they pushed to seize a key objective in Kandahar province. Early in the battle the platoon commander was wounded and Sgt Ingram assumed command. Under his inspirational leadership, the platoon pressed forward and seized their objective from the enemy. During the fight to hold this vital piece of terrain, the 3 soldiers were killed by a rocket propelled grenade.



**Corporal Keller** was awarded the **Military Medal of Valour** for his actions this day.

**Medals:** Sacrifice – Southwest Asia with Afghanistan Bar – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar KOSOVO - CD



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)  
Service in Afghanistan**

**JURKOWSKI, Ryan Earl** MSM CD CG: 08 November 2008  
Captain – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry GH: 21 October 2008  
Company Commander, 1 PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan DOI: May to June 2006



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



Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** 04 June 2016 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

**Medals:** MSM – Southwest Asia bar Afghanistan and with MID - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – NATO bar Afghanistan – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – CD

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**KEEBLE, Stephen James Myers** -- CG: 08 November 2008  
Corporal – Canadian Military Police GH: 21 October 2008  
1 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan – Quick Reaction Force DOI: 12 October 2006



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

=====

**L'HEUREUX, David** -- CG: 08 November 2008  
Sergeant – Royal 22e Régiment GH: 21 October 2008  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan DOI: 17 November 2007



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

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**LAMARRE, André** CD  
Warrant Officer  
Member of an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 17 November 2007

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



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**LANGELIER, Marc-André**  
Captain  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan  
November 2007

CD

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 5 October and 10

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

**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and two extra tour bars and MID – Peacekeeping - UNDOF – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - CD



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**LUBINIECKI, Mark James**  
Captain – Lord Strathcona’s Horse (Royal Canadians)  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan  
November 2007

CD

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 5 October and 10



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

**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID – SSM bar NATO - EIIR  
Diamond Jubilee – CD

LCol Mark Lubiniecki became CO of the Lord Strathcona’s Horse in Edmonton in 2016 and then the Commander of Joint Task Force P Ukraine. He joined LSH in 2000.



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**MacWHIRTER, Richard Stephen**  
Private – 2nd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment  
2 RCR Battle Group – Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: April 2008  
DOI: 16 May 2007



“On 16 May 2007, an insurgent force numbering more than 30 ambushed Private MacWhirter’s Platoon in Sangsar, Afghanistan. The insurgents were dispersed in multiple well-sited positions and were focusing their effective, coordinated fire on the lead Section. On the Platoon Commander’s orders and with no regard for his personal safety, Private MacWhirter exposed himself to heavy small arms fire as he dashed across a 40 metre fire-swept field to take up a position to identify and neutralize the enemy. Private MacWhirter’s skill and courage under fire enabled the pinned down rifle Section to withdraw unharmed from this extremely perilous situation. For Courage and professionalism under fire when they neutralized the enemy, which allowed a pinned down rifle section to withdraw, 2 Royal Canadian Regiment Brigade Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan on 16 May 2007.”

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**McNAUGHT, Blair**  
Captain  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 08 December 2007

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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID



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**MORIN, Joseph Julien Daniel**  
Captain – Royal Canadian Artillery  
Coordination of Artillery Fire in a Battle Involving the JTF Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 17 November 2007

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

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**PARSONS, Matthew**  
Master Corporal – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 03 August 2006

“For outstanding courage and leadership as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 03 August 2006. His determination in selflessly manoeuvring his vehicle as a shield and establishing a defensive position around the casualty collection point was vital in the successful extraction of friendly casualties.”



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**PEACH, Benjamin Joel**

Corporal – 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment  
1 RCR Battle Group – Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 08 November 2008

GH: April 2008

DOI: 17 March 2007



“On 17 March 2007, a suicide vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device attacked Corporal Peach’s vehicle in the Zhari district of Khandahar, Afghanistan. After realigning his own dislocated shoulder, he extinguished the fire on his unconscious Crew Commander and provided first aid. When his Crew Commander regained consciousness, Corporal Peach dismounted the vehicle, conducted a reconnaissance of the blast site to identify any unexploded ordnance and established a security cordon. His immediate actions enabled the rapid evacuation of injured personnel and contributed to the timely exploitation of the blast site. Corporal Peach’s selfless actions reflect the highest standards of professionalism. For selfless actions and professionalism after their vehicle was struck by an IED, Joint Task Force Afghanistan.”

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**PLAMONDON, Cécil David**

Master Corporal – Royal Canadian Health Services  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan – Medical Technician

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CG: 08 November 2008

GH: 21 October 2008

DOI: September to October 2007



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

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**PELLERINE, Trevor Joseph** CD  
Captain – Royal Canadian Artillery  
Forward Air Controller with Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 04 June 2008

“On 04 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. Captain Pellerine skilfully controlled multiple air and aviation assets than enabled the withdrawal of the entrapped and beleaguered Company. His tactical skill and courage under fire as the Forward Air Controller saved Canadian and Afghan lives and are testament to his resolve and training.



Capt. Trevor Pellerine knew the ambush was coming; he just didn't think it would come that soon. The Middleton native was one of eight Canadians mentoring a group of about 70 Afghan soldiers as they conducted a foot patrol in June in the volatile Zhari district of Kandahar province. "We got ambushed a bit earlier than we had expected to," Capt. Pellerine said. "We knew we'd come into contact. We always did every time we went down that way. And we thought we knew where we were going to be hit." But before reaching that spot, just as the sun was rising on June 4, they started taking fire from insurgents armed with assault rifles, heavy machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades. "We started to get surrounded and pinned down pretty badly," he said. "We were taking fire from three sides." Shots killed two nearby Afghan soldiers almost right away. "It was pretty hairy to be able to find a place to be able to defend yourselves from and try to do your job to get the table turned on the enemy," Capt. Pellerine said. The 36-year-old married father of three said he didn't feel scared. "I certainly was very aware of the fact that this wasn't a good situation to be in and that it could end badly," he said. "I was just thinking that it would be terrible to be killed that day. I was thinking of my kids and not being able to see my kids grow up." The Afghan soldiers weren't ready for that kind of action, Capt. Pellerine said, "So it really came down to the Canadians to do most of the heavy lifting that day. "We were just doing our jobs, and we had to if we wanted to get out of there alive." The artillery officer's job that day was to direct deadly fire from nearby Canadian Howitzers and planes overhead. "We engaged a couple of positions with air strikes and then the artillery," he said. But after about 90 minutes of fighting from behind mud walls and irrigation ditches, the last insurgents firing on them were less than 100 metres away. "We actually opted to switch from regular artillery to smoke, and we just had a huge artillery smokescreen that let us get out of there," he said. "You still have rounds coming through, but it's nowhere near as effective because they can't see you." For his efforts that day, Capt. Pellerine was awarded a **Mention in Despatches** insignia, a military honour that stretches back to the Crimean War. "His tactical skill and courage under fire as the forward air controller saved Canadian and Afghan lives and are testament to his resolve and training," says the citation. The Saint Mary's University graduate spent three years in the army reserves in Halifax before joining the regular force in 1999. He expects to return to Afghanistan in 2011. "My next job could potentially be as a battery commander," said Capt. Pellerine, who is now the operations officer with the 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, based in Shilo, Man. During a ceremony held Tuesday at CFB Valcartier, Que., Gen. Walt Natynczyk, chief of the defence staff, presented 58 Mention in Despatches insignias. These are bronze oak leaves worn on the ribbon of the General Campaign Star that soldiers receive for service in Afghanistan. Capt. Pellerine was one of three Nova Scotians to receive the honour.

Mention in Despatches has a long history in the British and Canadian military. "Before the introduction of official gallantry decorations, it became customary to mention individuals who had distinguished themselves in combat in Despatches," says a military backgrounder. "The Despatches were reports that were sent by the commanders in the field or at sea to the king or queen and to Parliament to inform them of the progress in the campaign."

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**PRESLEY, Daryl Edward**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Master Corporal – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 21 October 2008

1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

**Second MID**

DOI: 27 July 2006



“For outstanding courage and determination, in Afghanistan, on 27 July 2006. He voluntarily dismounted under heavy enemy fire to extract a stuck vehicle as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan. His selfless actions directly contributed to saving the lives of his comrades and helped neutralize and enemy attack.”

**This is Master Corporal Presley's second MID.**

Awarded **Mentioned in Despatches (MID)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 24 February 2007 in the rank of Master Corporal for an event on 15 June 2006 in the same tour.

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**PRICE, Tracy Wavel**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Master Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment

GH: April 2008

2 RCR Battle Group – Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 26 May 2007



“On 26 March 2007, Master Corporal Price's patrol was traveling from Patrol Base Wilson to Forward Operating Base Sperwan Ghar, Afghanistan when insurgent forces ambushed his patrol with rocket propelled grenades and machine gun fire. Under effective enemy fire, he immediately engaged and suppressed the enemy position with the pintle-mounted machine gun. The convoy continued its patrol only to be struck by a suicide vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device. Despite being injured in the blast, he continued to command his vehicle and ensured the safety of his crew and the integrity of the patrol. Master Corporal Price's courageous and immediate actions reflect the highest standards of professionalism. For Courage and professionalism in performing his duties while under sustained enemy fire, 2 RCR Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan on 26 May 2007.”

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**REID, Christopher Jonathan**  
 Corporal  
 1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CD  
**Deceased**  
**KIA 03 August 2006**

CG: 08 November 2008  
 GH: 21 October 2008  
 DOI: 27 July 2006

“For outstanding courage and determination when they (Reid and Corporal Presley) voluntarily dismounted under heavy fire to extract a stuck vehicle as a member of the PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, 27 July 2006.”

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



He was **Killed in Action** on 03 August 2006. The award is not listed as a Posthumous award because that refers to a person killed while doing the action that he received the MID (or decoration). He is thus listed as Deceased.

**Medals:** Sacrifice – Southwest Asia with Afghanistan Bar – General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon and MID - Special Service Medal with bar Alert – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo – CD



Corporal Reid was killed, and another soldier (Corporal Presley) injured, on 03 August 2006, when their light armoured vehicle struck an improvised explosive device near the village of Pashmul, approximately 25 kilometres southwest of Kandahar City, while supporting Afghan national security force operations in the area. He served 16 years with the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalions of the PPCLI plus the Airborne Regiment. <sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Miss Samantha Ingram, daughter of Sergeant Vaughan Ingram, receives the MID from the Chief of the Defence Staff in Edmonton.

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**RITCHIE, Robert Tennant**

MSM CD

CG: 08 November 2008

Major - PPCLI

GH: 21 October 2008

Senior Member of an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

DOI: 04 June 2008



“On 04 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to provide reinforcement, Major Ritchie, the senior mentor of the of the Afghan Company, authorized the withdrawal of the entrapped and beleaguered Company and personally led the four-man extraction force that enabled the withdrawal. His decisiveness and courage under fire averted significant casualties among the Canadian and Afghan Company.”

Major Robert Ritchie, Master Corporal Kelly Smith, Master Corporal Jeffrey Walsh and Private Randy Volpatti formed the extraction team for the Afghan Company trapped by the Taliban.

“For their decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire that saved Canadian and Afghan lives as members of the Canadian Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 04 June 2008.”

Awarded the **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Major.



**Medals:** MSM – SWA with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, one extra tour bar and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO bar Kosovo – EIR Diamond Jubilee – CD

Colonel Ritchie enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in 1994 and was posted to the First Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) in 1998. He has commanded at platoon, company and battalion level, most recently 2 PPCLI (2013-2015).



Operationally, Colonel Ritchie deployed to Kosovo on Operation KINETIC as a platoon commander. He has also served twice in Afghanistan, first on Operation ARCHER in the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team and then on Operation ATHENA as a sub-unit commander with the Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team.

His key staff experiences include service in 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, Aide de Camp to the Chief of the Defence Staff, Canadian Army G35 Plans, Canadian Army Acting G3, a secondment to the Foreign and Defence Policy Secretariat of the Privy Council Office, and the Canadian Joint Operations Command J3.

Colonel Ritchie is a graduate of the National Security Programme. He holds a Bachelor of Civil Engineering and a Masters in Defence Studies. Colonel Ritchie is married with two children.

Colonel Ritchie assumed command of 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group on 28 June 2018

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**RICHARD, Benjamin** --  
Lieutenant – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 03 August 2006

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



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**ROULEAU, Danis**  
Captain  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan - IED

CD

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 22 August 2007

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



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**ROYER, Joseph André Daniel**  
Warrant Officer  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan - IED

CD

CG: 08 November 2008  
GH: 21 October 2008  
DOI: 22 and 23 August 2007

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



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**SAJJAN, Harjit Sing**

Major – British Columbia Regiment

Special Advisor to American Coalition Forces - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

OMM MSM CD

CG: 08 November 2008

GH: 21 October 2008

DOI: September 2006



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

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 April 2013 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 09 February 2013 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Also awarded Army Commendation Medal (USA) but not gazetted.

**Medals:** OMM – MSM – Southwest Asia Medal with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon plus 2 extra tour bars and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – EIRR Golden Jubilee – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - CD and bar – Army Commendation Medal (USA)

Lieutenant-Colonel Harjit Sajjan became the Commanding Officer of the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) in Vancouver on 09 September 2011.

He became the Minister of National Defence on 04 November 2015.

Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia. Minister of National Defence 2015 to 2019



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**SCHALL, Scott Lee**

CD

CG: 08 November 2008

Sergeant

GH: 21 October 2008

Joint Task Force Afghanistan – Lone Tank Commander in an Assault Force

DOI: 24 September 2007

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



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**SHEPPARD, Mark Andrew**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Captain – 2nd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment

GH: 21 October 2008

Platoon Commander - 2 RCR Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: January to August 2007

“For outstanding leadership that enabled his platoon to achieve victory in battle and greatly contributed to his company’s success with 2 RCR Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, from January to August 2007.”

“Captain Mark Sheppard deployed to Afghanistan as a platoon commander with 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group from January to August 2007. Leading his platoon through many close-range engagements, he outflanked insurgent formation on several occasions through initiative and decisive action. When his commander was injured in an improvised explosive device attack, he immediately took control of the company’s defence and security. His inspirational leadership enabled his platoon to achieve victory in battle and greatly contributed to his company’s success.”



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**SHULAEV, Alex**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Corporal – 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 21 October 2008

1 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 08 July 2006

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



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**SMITH, Kelly Godfrey**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Master Corporal

GH: 21 October 2008

Member of an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

DOI: 04 June 2008



“On 04 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to provide reinforcement, Master Corporal Smith moved without cover through open fields to join three other Canadian who formed the extraction force that enabled the withdrawal of the Company. His decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire saved Canadian and Afghan lives.”

Major Robert Ritchie, Master Corporal Kelly Smith, Master Corporal Jeffrey Walsh and Private Randy Volpatti formed the extraction team for the Afghan Company trapped by the Taliban. “For their decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire that saved Canadian and Afghan lives as members of the Canadian Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 04 June 2008.”

=====

**SOPER, Mark William**

CD

CG: 08 November 2008

Master Corporal (now Sergeant) – Royal Canadian Regiment

GH: 21 October 2008

RCR Battle Group - JTF Afghanistan

DOI: 17 March 2007

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

**Medals:** Sacrifice Medal – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra Tour Bar and MID – Operational service Medal ribbon Haiti– Peacekeeping - CD



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**VOLPATTI, Randy Lee** -- CG: 08 November 2008  
Private GH: 21 October 2008  
Member of an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan DOI: 04 June 2008

“On 04 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to provide reinforcement, Private Volpatti joined with three Canadian to form an extraction force that moved without cover through open fields and enabled the withdrawal of the Company. His decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire saved Canadian and Afghan lives.”

Major Robert Ritchie, Master Corporal Kelly Smith, Master Corporal Jeffrey Walsh and Private Randy Volpatti formed the extraction team for the Afghan Company trapped by the Taliban. “For their decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire that saved Canadian and Afghan lives as members of the Canadian Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 04 June 2008.”

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**VOLSTAD, Michael Craig** CD CG: 08 November 2008  
Captain GH: 21 October 2008  
Joint Task Force Afghanistan – Lone Tank Commander in an Assault Force DOI: May 2007

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

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID - CD



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**WALSH, Jeffrey** CD CG: 08 November 2008  
Master Corporal GH: 21 October 2008  
Member of an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan DOI: 04 June 2008

“On 04 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. With the Afghan National Army unable to provide reinforcement, Master Corporal Walsh joined with three other Canadian to form the extraction force that moved without cover through open fields and enabled the withdrawal of the Company. His decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire saved Canadian and Afghan lives.”

Major Robert Ritchie, Master Corporal Kelly Smith, Master Corporal Jeffrey Walsh and Private Randy Volpatti formed the extraction team for the Afghan Company trapped by the Taliban. “For their decisive action, courage and unwavering resolve under fire that saved Canadian and Afghan lives as members of the Canadian Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, on 04 June 2008.”

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**WILLIAMS, Jonathan Francis**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Corporal – Royal Newfoundland Rifles

GH: 21 October 2008

Joint Task Force Afghanistan – Lone Tank Commander in an Assault Force

DOI: 24 September 2007



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

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**WOODHOUSE, William John**

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CG: 08 November 2008

Master Corporal

GH: 21 October 2008

Member of an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

DOI: 04 June 2008



“On 04 June 2008, Taliban insurgents ambushed and surrounded a partnered Canadian and Afghan Company of soldiers, bringing intense and deadly fire to bear from three sides for over ninety minutes. A mentor with the trapped Company, Master Corporal Woodhouse moved under fire to establish a casualty collection point and helicopter-landing site. After ensuring a successful medical evacuation, he then led a four-person rear guard to cover the company withdrawal under fire.”

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**BOYES, Jason James**

Master Corporal – 2nd Battalion, PPCLI  
2 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

--  
**Killed in Action**

CG: Not Gazetted  
GH: 11 June 2009  
DOI: 08 July 2006

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

Sergeant Boyes was **Killed in Action** on 16 March 2008, by an IED while participating in a joint Afghan-Canadian foot patrol in the Zangabad region, in the District of Panjwayi, approximately 35 km SW of Kandahar City.



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**HORNBERG, Nathan**

Corporal – King's Own Calgary Regiment  
Lord Strathcona's Horse Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

--  
**Killed in Action**

CG: Not Gazetted  
GH: 11 June 2009  
DOI: 24 September 2007

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

**Medals:** Sacrifice Medal – General Campaign Star with ISAF bar and MID

Corporal Nathan Hornburg was **Killed in Action** on 24 September 2007. During an ambush he drove his ARV between the enemy and a disabled **Canadian** main battle tank. In the long tank recovery operation he was struck by enemy fire and killed. He was 24 years old.



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**McPHAIL, Stephen Hector**

CD

CG: Not Gazetted

Master Corporal (now Sergeant) – Royal Canadian Signals Corps

GH: 11 June 2009

Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 29 August 2006



“On 29 August 2006, then Master Corporal McPhail's patrol was ambushed near Kandahar. Despite suffering two gunshot wounds, he provided suppressive fire while exposed to hostile fire so as to allow the patrol to push through the ambush. With remarkable concern for his crew, he refused medical attention so that he could remain focused on his vehicle command responsibilities.”

**Medals:** Sacrifice – Gulf War with bar - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID – Special Service with NATO bar – Peacekeeping – UN Special Service Medal – NATO – Canadian 125 - CD and bar



He died on 29 August 2011 in Pembroke after 33 years in the Canadian Forces

Shown here with Prince Charles

**LEDUC, Denis P.**

--

CG: Not Gazetted

Master Corporal – Canadian Forces Health Services

GH: 11 June 2009

Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) Afghanistan

DOI: 28 February 2008



"For selfless, courageous actions under sustained enemy fire. He left cover to provide first aid and bring the injured soldier to the casualty collection point, 28 February 2008, Joint Task Force."

MCpl Leduc was part of a special group called the Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) responsible for teaching the Afghan Army and Afghan National Police. One incident in particular occurred at a location that cannot be revealed due to security reasons, when the OMLT came under heavy attack by gunfire and mortars, injuring several people. Denis ran out under fire and was able to administer medical attention to an individual with very traumatic injuries resulting in saving this person's life.

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID





**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**ATLEE, Jeffrey** --  
Private – Now Corporal  
2 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 03 October 2008

“On 03 October 2008, Corporal, then Private, Atlee’s platoon was ambushed in Afghanistan. As part of the primary machine gun team, he immediately moved through intense enemy fire to a more effective position. Despite drawing the brunt of the attack for over two hours, he remained in this position and provided a steady volume of accurate fire that hindered the insurgents’ ability to reinforce their position. Corporal Atlee’s courageous actions helped his platoon break initial contact, regroup and ultimately defeat the enemy ambush.”



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID

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**BANKS, David C.** --  
Private – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 06 May 2008

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

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**BARKER, Robert E.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Captain

GH: 18 March 2010

Member of an Operational Mentoring and Liaison with the Afghan National Army

DOI: 18 June 2008

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID

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**BONNELL, Ross William**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Captain

GH: 18 March 2010

Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 11 to 16 January 2009

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID.

=====

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**BOUCHIE, Daniel William**  
Warrant Officer - PPCLI  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 07 August 2008

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

His **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** was not gazetted.

**Medals:** MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan and extra tour bar – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and two extra tour bars and MID – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR with 2<sup>nd</sup> tour numeral – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia and 2<sup>nd</sup> tour numeral – CD and Bar



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**BUSCHE, Christopher Robert**  
Corporal  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 28 July 2006

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

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**CARTHEW, Christopher Walter**  
Captain  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CD

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 03 September 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF Bar and MID

=====  
**CICEKCI, Erkin**  
Corporal  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 31 January 2009



“On 31 January 2009, an Afghan National Police officer (ANP) in Cpl. Cicekci’s patrol was seriously wounded during the initial stages of a fire-fight in Zhari District near Kandahar. With the casualty caught in the open, he selflessly moved through heavy enemy fire to reach his position and began medical treatment. The soldier remained with the wounded police officer to dress his wounds and stabilized him even as bullets landed inches from their heads.”

**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF Bar and MID – SSM bar NATO

=====  
**CODE, Jeffrey J.**  
Captain  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 15 April 2008



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

**Medals:** Sacrifice Medal - Southwest Asia bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF Bar and MID

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**COPELAND, Shaun David** --  
Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 25 March 2008

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID

=====

**CORBY, Raymond Jean-Claude** CD  
Captain  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: Sept 2008 to April 2009

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



**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID – CD

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**CORCORAN, Steven Alan** CD  
Sergeant – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 02 June 2008

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



**Medals:** Sacrifice – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo - CD

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**COREY, Aaron Edward**  
Lieutenant – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

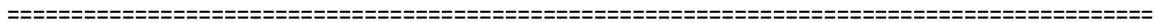
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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 12 November 2008



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

**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID – CD



**COX, Simon J.**  
Captain – Calgary Highlanders (now Major)  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

CD

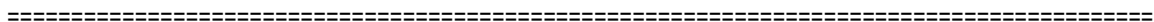
CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 28 July 2008



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



**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA Medal, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**CRANE, Robin John**  
Warrant Officer– 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

MMM MMV CD

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 30 May 2008

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



Awarded **Medal of Military Valour (MMV)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Warrant Officer.

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 22 March 2014 in the rank of Master Warrant Officer, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion PPCLI.

**Medals:** MMM - MMV – Southwest Asia with Bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus - UNPROFOR – NATO bar Kosovo – Canada 125 – CD

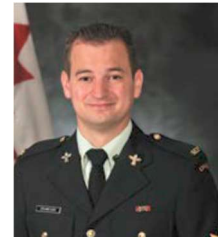
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**CRAWFORD, Sheldon R.G.**  
Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 08 July 2006

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**DAVIDSON, James Robert George**

CD

CG: 27 March 2010

Sergeant – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 30 May to 19 June 2008



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

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**DINELLE, Jean-Guy Ross**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 16 November 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**DIXON, Hugh R.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Master Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 15 October 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**DODGE, Aaron A.** --  
Private – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 07 October 2008

“On 07 October 2008, Private Dodge's combat outpost in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, was attacked by insurgents. Facing effective fire from several directions, he remained composed while in an exposed position in order to engage the enemy. While directing the efforts of his Afghan Army counterpart, he summoned his Section Commander to provide indirect fire, ultimately permitting access and much needed treatment to another fallen comrade. Private Dodge's courage under fire inspired those around him and ensured the defence of the combat outpost.”



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**DUNPHY, Wayne Bernard** CD  
Sergeant – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 06 May 2008

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



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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**FLETCHER, Timothy Wayne**

CD

CG: 27 March 2010

Sergeant – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 18 March 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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

DOI: 03 June 2008



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

This is the **Second MID** for Sergeant Fletcher.

Awarded his **first Mentioned In Despatches (MID)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 08 November 2008 in the rank of Master Corporal. He wears an MID on his Southwest Asia and his General Campaign Star for service in Afghanistan.

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan and MID – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo - CD

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**FOLEY, Kevin J.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 18 March 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 06 May 2008



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

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**FRANK, Phillip A.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Private – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

GH: 18 March 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 20 October 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**FULLER, Lucas John** --  
Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 14 June 2008

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



**Medals:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO bar Kosovo

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**GILES, David S.** --  
Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 02 August 2008

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

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**GIRARD, Dustin M.** --  
Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 18 July 2008

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



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**GRAY, Casey A.E.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 18 December 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**HARDING, Kelly A.**

CD

CG: 27 March 2010

Master Corporal – Canadian Forces Health Service  
Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 20 March 2009



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

**Medals:** Sacrifice – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID - CD

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**HARDING, Ryan E.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Private – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 03 October 2008



“On 03 October 2008, Private Harding's platoon was ambushed in Kandahar Province. As part of the primary machine gun team, he immediately moved through intense enemy fire to a more effective position. Despite drawing the brunt of the attack for over two hours, he remained in this position and provided a steady volume of accurate fire that hindered the insurgents' ability to reinforce their position. Private Harding's courageous actions helped his platoon break initial contact, regroup and ultimately defeat the enemy ambush.”

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**HOLWELL, Paul Justin**  
Warrant Officer – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CD

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 02 June & 18 June 2008

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



**Medals:** Sacrifice – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar

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**JOHNSTON, Bradley K.**  
Private – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team Helmand Province, Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 11 to 16 January 2009

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**JONES, Terry Thomas**  
Warrant Officer – Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CD

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 19 October 2008

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



**Medals:** Gulf with bar – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Kosovo - CD

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**KRIWEZ, Carl B.A.** --  
Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 14 June 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**KULUSKI, Cody R.** --  
Private – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 03 September 2008



“During an insurgent ambush in Zhari District, Afghanistan, on 3 September 2008, an anti-tank round destroyed a light armoured vehicle, creating a mass casualty situation. Exposed to sustained enemy fire and the exploding ordnance from the burning vehicle, Private Kuluski helped move and treat the wounded soldiers. With insurgents targeting the casualty collection points, Private Kuluski’s courageous and selfless efforts were vital to the treatment and evacuation of casualties. Awarded for courageous and selfless efforts vital to the treatment and evacuation of casualties exposed to sustained enemy fire and exploding ordnance in the Zhari District of Afghanistan.”

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**LEGER, Joseph E.** --  
Master Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
‘C’ Company, 2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 14 June 2008

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

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**MacLEAN, Clayton D.** --  
Corporal  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team Helmand Province, Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 11 to 16 January 2009

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MacPHERSON, Justin G.** --  
Private – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 07 August 2008

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**McLEAN, Matthew A.** --  
Corporal– 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 14 June 2008

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**MILLER, Lee Allan**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Corporal (now Master Corporal) – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Cdn Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 06 May 2008



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

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

=====

**MYRONIUK, Tyler Brian**

MMV

CG: 27 March 2010

Corporal – Loyal Edmonton Regiment  
2 PPCLI Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 25 March 2008



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

Awarded **Medal of Military Valour (MMV)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Corporal.

**Medals:** MMV – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

Joined the regular force RCAF.



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**NOLASCO, Brent Simon**

CD

CG: 27 March 2010

Master Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 15 October 2008



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

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**PETERS, Vincent Jacques**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Corporal – now Master Corporal – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Cdn Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 30 March 2008

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



Now a member of the RCAF

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**PICKARD, Jason Guy**

MSM CD

CG: 27 March 2010

Warrant Officer – 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 02 June 2008

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



Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Warrant Officer for services in Afghanistan.

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**PRONK, Matthew Timothy**

CD

CG: 27 March 2010

Sergeant

1 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: February to Sept 2008

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

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**RANGER, Patrick J.R.A.** -- CG: 27 March 2010  
Corporal GH: 18 March 2010  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team with Afghan National Army in Afghanistan DOI: 07 July 2008



“On 07 July 2008, Corporal Ranger was part of an Afghan National Army foot patrol that was ambushed in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Despite being wounded, he provided first aid to a seriously wounded interpreter and extracted him to the vehicle while simultaneously returning fire. Once inside the vehicle, he continued to provide a heavy volume of turret fire that effectively suppressed the enemy. Corporal Ranger’s decisive and courageous actions saved the interpreter’s life and ensured the extraction of the patrol.”

**Medals:** Sacrifice – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**SCHARF, Jonathon E.** -- CG: 27 March 2010  
Master Corporal GH: 18 March 2010  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team in Afghanistan DOI: 11 to 16 January 2009



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**SMALLMAN, Andrew Brett** -- CG: 27 March 2010  
Private GH: 18 March 2010  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan DOI: 06 May 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**SPRENGER, Paul Dean**

Sergeant – 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

MB CD

2<sup>nd</sup> MID

CG: 27 March 2010

GH: 18 March 2010

DOI: 18 June 2008

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



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.

Awarded **Mentioned in Despatches (MID)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 14 May 1994 in the rank of Private serving with the PPCLI in Somalia.

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



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**THOMPSON, Derek Ashley**

CD

CG: 27 March 2010

Sergeant

GH: 18 March 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 19 August 2008



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

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, ISAF bar and MID – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - CD



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**TOOLE, Jason C.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Private – Now Corporal – Canadian Forces Health Services

GH: 18 March 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 02 June 2008



“On 02 June 2008, an Afghan soldier was wounded by an improvised explosive device during an ambush in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Corporal Toole, then Private, immediately provided critical medical treatment and saw to his evacuation. Shortly afterwards, their tactical headquarters again came under attack resulting in numerous casualties. Despite intense enemy fire, he calmly established priorities and helped stabilize the most seriously injured. Corporal Toole’s composed and deliberate application of medical skills in highly stressful circumstances was an inspiration to his fellow soldiers.”

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**VICKERMAN, Calvin T.**  
Corporal  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 18 June 2008

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



**Medals:** Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**VINCENT, Daniel J.**  
Lieutenant  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 12 November 2008

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



**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**VOLLICK, Eric Mike**  
Warrant Officer  
Commander of a Police Detachment for an OMLT in Afghanistan

CD

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: Jan to September 2008

“From January to September 2008, Warrant Officer Vollick was Commander of a police detachment as a member of the Operational Mentor Liaison Team in Zhari District, Afghanistan. Recognizing the strengths and weaknesses of the detachment, he achieved a perfect balance of mentoring Afghan police and conducting operations. His unwavering calm and decisiveness throughout multiple enemy contacts was highly infectious, enhancing the unit’s operational effectiveness. Warrant Office Vollick’s outstanding leadership enhanced the survivability and core policing skills of Afghan police, increasing the public’s confidence in the government of Afghanistan.”



**Medals:** General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – NATO with bar Kosovo – CD

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**WALKER, Kevin William**  
Master Corporal – now Sergeant  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

CD

CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 03 October 2008



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

**Medals:** General Campaign Star with Southwest Asia ribbon, bar ISAF and MID – Peacekeeping –NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – NATO with bar Kosovo – CD

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**WARING, Ryan K.**  
Private  
2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

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CG: 27 March 2010  
GH: 18 March 2010  
DOI: 07 August 2008



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**WHITE, James Craig**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Corporal

GH: 18 March 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 05 July 2008

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



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**WOODS, Ricky L.**

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CG: 27 March 2010

Master Corporal

GH: 18 March 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 14 June 2008

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

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**DUMBRECK, Shawn Christopher** --  
Captain  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan

CG: 03 July 2010  
GH: 12 June 2010  
DOI: 20 March 2009



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

**Medal:** General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID

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**KIENS, René Francis** MMM MSM CD  
Master Warrant Officer  
Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team, Zhari District, Afghanistan

CG: 03 July 2010  
GH: 12 June 2010  
DOI: 08 May 2008



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

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 09 February 2013 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** military as per the **Canada Gazette** of 11 February 2012 in the rank of Master Warrant Officer.

**Medals:** MMM – MSM – Somalia – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 2 extra tour bars and MID – Peacekeeping – NATO ribbon non-article 5 Balkans – CD and 1 bars





**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**MacDONALD, David**

Corporal – 3 Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team, Afghanistan

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CG: 03 July 2010  
GH: 12 June 2010  
DOI: February to Sept 2008

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

**Medals:** Southwest Asia with Afghanistan Bar – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and MID



**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**PICARD, Sébastien**

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CG: 03 July 2010

Corporal – CF Service Police

GH: 12 June 2010

3 RCR Battle Group - Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 18 December 2008



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

**Medal:** Campaign General Service Star with Southwest Asia Ribbon and MID

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**RASMUSSEN, Benett Lance**

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CG: 03 July 2010

Corporal - RCAF

GH: 12 June 2010

2 PPCLI Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: 14 June 2008



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

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**UNDERWOOD, Kieman**

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CG: 03 July 2010

Private

GH: 12 June 2010

Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team, Zhari District, Afghanistan

DOI: 07 July 2008



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

**Medal:** Campaign General Service Star with Southwest Asia Ribbon, bar ISAF and MID

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**MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES CITATIONS (MID)**  
**Service in Afghanistan**

**ONE**

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CG: Not Gazetted  
GH: 11 March 2011  
DOI: 2010

No rank given  
Canadian Special Operations Forces Command

“His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, announces the awarding of:

**three Stars of Military Valour and two Medals of Military Valour;**

as well as **one Meritorious Service Cross;**

**three Meritorious Service Medals;**

and **one Mention in Despatches,**

to members of the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command (CANSOFCO).

These members received their decorations today (11 March 2011) during a ceremony at Rideau Hall in the presence of the Chief of the Defence Staff. They were recognized for devotion and acts of valour in the presence of the enemy and for military deeds performed in a highly professional manner. For security and operational reasons, recipients' names and citations are not released.”

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**Master Corporal Erin Melvin DOYLE**  
**3rd Battalion – attached 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group**  
**The story of a Mentioned in Despatches Canadian Forces Member**

**DOYLE, Erin Melvin**

Master Corporal – 2 PPCLI

3rd Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group Afghanistan

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**Posthumous**

CG: Not Gazetted

GH: 11 August 2008 Condolences

DOI: 11 August 2008



“Master Corporal Erin Doyle of the 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry and attached to the 2nd Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group and his fellow soldiers were protecting their combat outpost during an attack.”

**Master Corporal Erin Doyle**

Master Corporal Erin Doyle, 32, was killed in a firefight 11 August 2008 in the Panjwai District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

The Canadian army has a policy on facial hair. Moustaches are OK, but beards are pretty much forbidden without medical cause and even then growing anything longer than the allowed one inch is a sure way to bring a crusty sergeant major down on your own personal head. It is called a ‘jacking.’ And it’s what happens in the Canadian Forces when a superior officer has some kind of issue with you, or with your beard. Master Corporal Erin Doyle was not worried about getting jacked. He was, in fact, legendarily unworried about getting jacked. He may have been, to be honest, the least jacking-averse soldier in the entire CF.

Seriously, he seemed to like getting jacked. It didn’t really matter what the rank was doing the jacking, either, from sergeant to colonel, Doyle was as unworried about rank as he was about getting in trouble. I met Doyle, who was with the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry, a couple of times in Panjwai in April 2008 and he made a singular—sort of scary—impression.

Doyle was a tattooed and wildly-bearded giant. He had the unmistakable swagger of a man for whom solid rules were mere suggestions. He had a way of leaning into a stare that could make anyone nervous. Hell, he didn’t just look at you, he estimated you. It was a look that seemed to leave everyone, even officers, feeling a little less than certain. It was an interesting effect, and I’m not sure where he learned it, some kind of finishing school for outlaws maybe. The first time I saw him, he was quite literally presiding over a meeting between two sets of patrol leaders—one captain and one sergeant—during a long and arduous hike in the deep outback of western Panjwai.

The captain and sergeant would make plans, then kind of quietly look up at Doyle. With a headshake and a grunt, he’d torpedo their idea and they’d go back to the map. This went on for half an hour or more, as gunfire and explosions rippled overhead. With his rank obscured by his gear—his battle rattle—I assumed he was a warrant officer or maybe the company sergeant major, based solely on the deference and respect he received from the other soldiers, many of whom I knew to be cynics of the first order.

When the planning conference broke up, I hurried to get up to where Doyle was, figuring I was better off standing near him than anywhere else. “This is bullshit,” Doyle growled at me as the two patrols finally moved off in the direction of the police substation at Zangabad, where he was then stationed. “Somebody thinks it’s a live-fire patrol exercise out here—on a two-way range.” He had a point. There was patrolling with intent to achieve a tactical purpose and then there was walking in circles in brain-shrinking heat simply to prolong the patrol to its preordained length. This was now clearly the latter. “What’s that patch mean?” I asked him as we walked, pointing at the symbol on his shoulder that featured the text ‘20%’.

Doyle explained that during a pre-deployment speech, the sergeant major complained that 100 per cent of the problems in their unit were caused by 20 per cent of the soldiers. He said it in a much more profane way than that, however. Some guys, I thought, would hear that speech and silently tick off the troublemakers in his mind, some would smile inside knowing they may well belong to that club, some would embrace it by smiling openly and calling themselves a 20 per

center, and then some, probably a very few, maybe only one, would go out and get 20 per cent patches made and have his whole platoon wear them into combat. That last guy—that was Doyle.

But there was way more to him than just being a badass among bad asses, as I learned the second time I met him a few days later. Not only was he the most impossibly polite outlaw you could imagine, being friendly to even outcast journalists, but the respect with which everyone treated him turned out to have an incredibly strong and undeniable basis in fact. On that day in late April, Doyle and his section had patrolled several hours down to Police Substation Haji—the place where he was eventually killed—in order to take over for another section that was being pulled out of the field.

The enemy, nothing if not superbly unpredictable, chose to attack at the moment when more than 200 coalition soldiers were converging on Haji. In the resultant chaos, Doyle and his section were ordered to load the withdrawing platoon's massive pile of equipment onto a truck while the rest of the convoy lay pretty much belly up in a sandstorm on the Arghandab riverbed. Now, we've all moved heavy boxes before and it's not exactly fun. Doyle was already sick—with Afghan hanta virus, as he called it—but that didn't stop him. He jumped up and moved boxes with his troops. And he moved them way past the point where any normal person would have stopped. He moved them until he nearly died. No, really. I'm not just saying that. He moved boxes until he passed out and his vital signs got so bad the medic came over the radio saying he was unsure if Doyle would live and requested an emergency nine-liner medevac back to Kandahar Airfield.

No one who knew Doyle is surprised by this story. Troops were in danger so he pushed past all of the body's normal warning signs because a job had to be done. It's just what it was. Doyle made it back to Kandahar and with the help of a tasty intravenous buffet, he survived the day. He would not survive the war.

### **Numberless Are the Dead**

Numbers are numbers, they tell you something but it's probably nothing vital. There is no code hidden in the numbers, nothing to tell you whether the war was just or if the man was loved or what life now feels like for the people he left behind. Nonetheless, maybe big digits do tell some kind of story too, so here are some rough numbers. Doyle was the 90th Canadian soldier to die in Afghanistan since 2002. And he was approximately the 2,100th Canadian to die in the service of his country since the end of the Second World War, and very nearly the 118,000th soldier to have his name listed in the official Books of Remembrance since Canada first sent armed men overseas in 1884 to fight alongside the British in Sudan. Beyond the numbers stands the other story. It's Doyle's story. And even more, it is the story of his wife Nicole, his friends and comrades and the unimaginable cost of losing someone—one man—at war. These are the people whose world changed when Doyle died. And it's not now a better world.

The way they still speak about him in the present tense is one of the things you'll notice if you talk to his friends. Master Corporal Matt Yaschuk, one of Doyle's best friends, is not the kind of guy who normally sits down for interviews with journalists, you can tell just by looking at him. But yet, on a freezing cold December day in Edmonton, he sat patiently, waiting for me, wearing a blue plaid jacket and a toque, his hugely muscled arms protectively cuddling a little Tim Hortons coffee



Yaschuk was in the 3rd Bn. with Doyle, same company, and had been for years. The two of them had been through a lot together. From Bosnia in 2000 to Kabul in 2004, they'd seen pretty much everything. Yaschuk was at Forward Operating Base Sperwan Ghar, sleeping in on that early morning in August when Doyle's section of about 10 guys—at that time holding the Haji base all on their own—came under attack. Normally when a soldier is killed, the news is spread out to the unit all at once, as soon as possible. But in this case, because everybody knew Doyle and Yaschuk were so tight, he was told first. "A warrant officer came in and woke me up," said Yaschuk. "He just asked me to come with him. And I knew there was a contact going on because I could hear the guns firing, but there's always contact, rounds going out all the time, so you get used to that." The warrant officer took Yaschuk outside and told him Doyle was dead, and that the fight was still going on. "He told me that Erin was killed. And then I felt like shit," said Yaschuk sternly, with something that seemed stronger than reluctance. "I just lost one of my best friends and there's not much you could do. He's out there and you're in here. You wish that you were out there with him."

Yaschuk was among the first of Doyle's close friends and family to hear of his death. Many others still hadn't heard, like Nicole, his wife of 11 years, or his daughter Zarine or his many friends or the rest of Canada, even.

It didn't take long for Yaschuk's higher-ups to tell him he would be going back to Kandahar with Doyle in order to follow his coffin up the ramp of the Hercules and escort his body back to Canada. "I was happy I was going with him. It's the biggest honour I've ever had in my life," said Yaschuk, looking down at his coffee. "But at the same time, I was pretty broken."

Yaschuk and Doyle rode on the Hercules back to Camp Mirage, a nearby Canadian base, before transferring to a Canadian Airbus for the flight back to Trenton. He remembers sitting quietly those many long hours, separated from Doyle by a draped curtain. Waiting for Doyle and Yaschuk on the tarmac in Trenton alongside Nicole and Zarine were two other members of the tight 3rd Battalion crew, M.Cpl. Gerry Fraser and M.Cpl. Kevin Nanson, both of whom had been on this tour with Doyle only to be seriously injured and evacuated to Canada. Not incidentally, many who witnessed the scene believe Doyle probably saved Nanson's life after the improvised explosive device strike in which Nanson was so badly injured, but more on that later. "It was emotional," remembered Yaschuk. "Very emotional. Especially with Gerry being hurt." Fraser had been repatriated after suffering major injuries in a vehicle accident in Kandahar City.

The three—Yaschuk, Nanson and Fraser—remember standing together on the tarmac in Trenton when all of a sudden it seemed like their endlessly mischievous friend Doyle was still with them.

See, Doyle used to love pranks. Whether it was duct-taping rotten yogurt to a guy's locker or sending truly illicit emails from a friend's accidentally left-open account, Doyle could always be counted on to cause trouble. So, when Chief of Defence Staff General Walter Natynczyk approached the trio and said, quietly, conspiratorially, "Would it mean anything at all if I said to you 'Hey ——!'"

What Natynczyk said will forever remain a mystery to all but those who knew Doyle, but it may be enough to say that it was Erin's favourite politically incorrect greeting. The trio just shook their heads and laughed. It was as if Doyle had gotten them yet again, in the most unlikely way possible. What had actually happened was that Natynczyk had asked Nicole if there was anything at all he could do for her, and she figured the boys could use a good laugh, so she put him up to it.

Nicole Doyle doesn't let many people call her Nick, and if you try for 'Nicky' you'd better have some sort of armour-plating system to protect your softer organs from attack. Nicole is in the forces too. Currently a corporal in the air force, she's been to Afghanistan before and she's going back again. Beyond that, she seems to share something way down inside with Erin: a love of mischief with a hard edge, impatience with weakness and a strict policy of never ever abiding fools.

During my second interview with Nicole, I asked her a question that I'd already asked a<sup>2</sup> few days earlier, Nicole glanced over, then down at the ground. "You suck," she said quietly. "You already know that answer." She was right, of course. The issue of when Nicole and Erin first met isn't all that easy to resolve, but they were definitely married on April 25, 1997. (I know this for sure because I asked this question twice.) When Nicole was young, she moved out near the Westsyde area of Kamloops, B.C. She remembers her school bus would stop on Dairy Road and pickup this red-headed kid who was always acting boisterous and wild. Later, Nicole remembers watching the same redheaded kid play football at Westsyde Secondary School. After school was done, Nicole joined the Rocky Mountain Rangers reserve unit in Kamloops and it was there she and Erin, well, got married. "We went to one party and shortly after there was another party," said Nicole. "There was no linking up or nothing, it was just hanging out. "We just went to this party together. We weren't together or anything. We were both leaning against the lockers and someone came up and congratulated us on getting engaged. We're just like, 'Thanks!'"



"But we just looked at each other and said, 'What was that about?' Apparently, we're engaged. And then we both just looked at each other and he goes, 'Well, why don't we?' And I was like, 'OK.'" And just like that, without even a kiss, they were engaged.

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<sup>2</sup> Nicole with Erin

"Then the next day we went to The Fox and Hounds," she said, referring to a local pub in Kamloops. "That's where we kissed before we got married. So, it was checked out. And that weekend we went and got married," Nicole added with a laugh. "He was that good, he was that nice and I just saw that he was awesome. He had a huge heart. He was awesome." After having rings tattooed on their fingers, the two were married in a brief ceremony at a commissionaire's house before having to run off to a military exercise in Kelowna, where, as Nicole said, the government paid for a hotel room—their honeymoon.

"Maybe it was kind of weird, but it was pretty cool," she said of their brief engagement, smiling. "I just knew. It's not something stupid, like no big production happens. It's just something about a person: you know.

"We'd worked together so we had conversations about stuff and we both matched on a lot—and what we differed on was good enough. You're not supposed to be the same. You're supposed to be your own individual. He was such a redneck guy, NASCAR kind of guy and he just killed me, he was pretty funny. "He was such a boy-boy man and half the shit he did, I was just shaking my head laughing. I was like, 'I can't believe you thought you'd get away with that.' And he'd just look at me and go, 'Love me, I'm cute.' I'd say, 'No, you're not.' "That was his big thing, 'Love me, I'm cute.' No, but I think I'll keep you anyway. "No one we knew thought it would last, but we made it right until the day he died. Eleven years."

Perhaps not surprisingly, Erin's sense of mischief spread into his sense of romance. Nicole remembers going on exercises only to come back to find that "he'd have gone into my tent space to gun tape a rose to my pillow or something. So, every time I came back there was something like a teddy bear. And I'd get mad because it was dark and I'd say, 'Who the hell threw their shit on my bed?' And it wasn't that, it was a present from him to me. I'm just like, 'Oh, my, God,' because I wasn't really the girly kind of person." Erin was 21 when they married and Nicole was 26. Her daughter Zarine was five. Over the next few years Erin would become a fixture in Zarine's life. Whether it was when Zarine accidentally lost one eyebrow to an unfortunate over-plucking incident and Erin did what had to be done, with his beard and all his tattoos, going out to shop for appropriate makeup, or later when Zarine would bring home boyfriends and Erin would be waiting in the garage to check them out. "He was a great gift to me," said Nicole. "That's for sure. I didn't deserve him that much. He was really good. He was perfect. That's it. He was." She stopped talking. There was a pause. "It's OK. I just miss him a lot."

Nicole, in her preternatural calm, seems to see it all from some great height, from what is perhaps a distance necessary now, for her to get by. "I just need to get an everyday life going. It's hard enough getting up to go to work and stuff and to not want to just sit at home. It takes quite a bit. But I've never been one to be like that, and a lot of people know me because of that. But it's hard to keep that going when you've got people always standing in front of you kind of pitying you. Because, like Erin, I have no problem telling you: 'OK, fuck off—enough already.' That's the way I am. But it's hard to move on."

And as for the men who killed Doyle, Nicole is dealing with that, too. "It's just what happens in war. It's not personal," she said, but added with a twinkle in her eye. "But there's karma, I'm sure of it. And they'll get theirs. They'll get what's coming to them." Doyle's friends, the soldiers, mostly agree, but with a small twist. "It's war. It's not personal," said M.Cpl. Bruce Otto, who spent time with Doyle in Bosnia. "That said, if I ran into those three guys on the street," he continued, very quietly, as if he didn't want anyone to hear, "I'd kill them all on sight."

### **Too Far From Civility**

Most of the time in the military a person's rank means a lot, pretty much everything. The whole system is rigged so that a certain kind of soldier gets promoted, and it often works, but there's a fine line between obedience and passiveness. In some places, like out in the heavy clench of a tiny Canadian outpost in Panjwai, for example, it seems like a different kind of order takes over. Out there in the mess, conducting what one officer called doctorate-level counter-insurgency operations in a place no longer ruled by the kind of civility senior officers were feeling back at Kandahar Airfield, guys like Doyle rose to a prominence all out of whack with their actual rank.

Captain Reg McMichael was Doyle's platoon commander during the tour. McMichael is a full half-decade younger than Doyle (and many inches shorter) and he recalls that, "as a commander you want guys like Doyle because there are soldiers that you trust and there are soldiers that you lead. He was a soldier I trusted, so I often found myself not deferring, but I found myself seeking his guidance on things that a captain wouldn't normally seek guidance from a master corporal on.

"I trusted his perspective on what was going on. I trusted that there would be no bullshit. I trusted that he wouldn't lie. I trusted that he didn't care what I thought of what he said—that he was just going to tell me the honest information. What he told you was exactly what he thought. You knew where you stood based solely on what he would say. There were no games." Now, that's not to say that McMichael and Doyle always got along perfectly. Doyle, being Doyle, loved to screw with those in authority until they managed to earn his respect. McMichael remembers, quite clearly, the first time he met Doyle, when he took command of the platoon as a lieutenant.

As McMichael says, he'd already seen Doyle's picture on the regiment website and knew he was a handful, but he wasn't expecting the welcome he got. "I walked into the platoon office and he was sitting there. He looked up at me and said, 'get the fuck out of here.' "So I did." McMichael then sought some advice from another officer, who told him to go back in and sort Doyle out. "So I walked back into the office and Doyle said, 'I told you to fuck off.' "And I said, 'go fuck yourself!' And that's how it started." "He was a pretty big paradox," said McMichael. "You look at him and see the huge bushy beard, which definitely provoked people, and right on, you know, the big tattooed biker guy who doesn't really fit into the norm of the clean-cropped, clean-shaven young soldier that we generally stamp up on posters, but nobody could really argue with how competent he was. "It was weird because he would go from the rough, cursing, angry, Viking barbarian to the quiet, mannered, polite ambassador of Canadian foreign policy in a ravaged land. And I don't know, it's funny, but it's that big dichotomy of soldiers that we want them to be capable of so much, yet crammed into the gentleman. Though with Doyle the gentleman was a bit harder to find sometimes, that's the way he was.

"He had this really like mischievous smirk on all the time, kind of like that knowing, ha, ha, ha sort of deal. Like he knew a joke you didn't. And you wanted to know the joke. But he always would do that even when rounds were coming in—I remember distinctly him standing in these shitty shorts that he had on, up on the tower, shooting, and he's looking back, and he's like, 'Hey, can you see over the wall, boss?' while the rounds are hitting the other side of the wall. And I'm like, 'You're a dick,' and he's like, 'I can get you a platform if you want.' It was always that kind of stuff.

"And if I didn't handle it well, he would say I was spinning. He always used to do that to me. 'Hey, you look like you're a little stressed right now. Are you allowed to get stressed?' It was funny because it turned into this whole thing, like, 'I have to look totally disassociated from what's going on so that Erin doesn't make fun of me.' As if that was more upsetting than actually getting shot at, which is weird."

### **The Viking Goes Priority Echo**

McMichael was in the operations room at Sperwan Ghar listening as Doyle's section fought off a concerted insurgent attack out at substation Haji. He listened as the section's sergeant gave battle reports over the radio, as artillery was called in, as bombers were called in, and then he listened in horror as another call came in. Men had been hit. There was someone wounded. A nine-liner medevac was called in priority Alpha, which meant it was urgent. Then another was called in priority Echo, which meant, well, dead.

They don't use names on the radio, so they had to wait for the identifying Zap numbers to follow. Everybody in the room gasped as they heard, "R69194106" crackle through the speaker. It was Doyle, and McMichael simply couldn't believe it. A few hours later, and a full world away, Nicole was waiting for Erin to get on the Internet for her goodnight chat session. He didn't show up on time. "It was weird because the time wasn't right—midnight had passed and normally that's when he has time to talk to me," Nicole remembered. "I'm used to him not meeting the timings, it doesn't always match up, but this one felt weird. And then the phone rang at 1:30 in the morning. I was just like, 'That's not right.'

"I answered the phone and it was the (battalion) commanding officer and he said, 'Is this Nicole Doyle, Mrs. Nicole Doyle?' I said, 'Yes.' "He says, 'We need to come to your house.' "I said, 'What happened?' "I said, 'Is he alive or is he dead?' "And he said, 'We need to come to your house, we can't tell you over the phone.'" Nicole asked them where they were and they told her they were five minutes down the road. She went out the front door and looked down the road and they were parked alongside a block away. Then their headlights came on and they drove up to her house. "And I went in the house and they came in. I just looked at the CO and I said, 'Is he alive or dead?' And he said, 'I'm sorry.' "And I said, 'Was it quick? What happened?'" He told her it was quick. "Everything just goes through your head. Just insane. It was just like it was so complete. I don't know how to explain it. It was unbelievable for a bit, and then it was like, knowing the life, I just thought, 'Well, it has to be true. They wouldn't be standing here.'" Then Nicole started making phone calls.



## Stories From The Field

There are many reasons to become a soldier. Some probably do it for the adventure, some maybe for the money, and some because they don't have anything better to do.

But for some guys, it seems like they have no choice, or rather that they had no choice. Whether they fit in there or not, whether they do it right or not, they are soldiers because somewhere a long time ago they decided that's who they were. They are committed to the idea, you could say. Doyle seems to have decided to become a soldier sometime around the time he was born. Or at least that's the conclusion you could come to if you saw his childhood collection of playing cards which, aside from a few topless girls, were primarily the rare, but quite cool, Desert Storm cards commemorating the 1991 Persian Gulf War. While Doyle may have questioned anything, or everything, he also knew where the questions had to stop and action had to start. Early on in the tour, he came upon a scene just near the Zangabad base where his friend M.Cpl. Kevin Nanson had been badly injured in an IED strike and was currently laying still inside the damaged Nyala patrol vehicle. Doyle waited as long as he could, but things were happening too slowly. He sprung into action, taking control of the scene, getting Nanson help and calling in a medevac.

For his part, Nanson remembers lying on the ground, looking up at Doyle, who'd been called over to calm the wounded man by one of the medics. Nanson remembers seeing the sun come through Doyle's beard. Nanson tried to speak to his friend, but his teeth were blown out and his lungs were filling with blood. Doyle wanted to reassure his buddy, so he punched him in the chest and told him he'd be all right. "Normally I wouldn't have minded," said Nanson, smiling. "But my back was broken at the time, so..." Despite the extra pain, Nanson has nothing but unending admiration for his friend and is now trying to start a Christmas charity in his name in order to, as he says, somehow thank him for saving his life. Doyle lived for his guys. That is what everyone said about him. He would have done anything for friends like Nanson, Yaschuk or Fraser, but, equally, he would have done anything for the young privates and corporals under his command.

When Doyle came home on leave in June he was in bad shape. Nicole had never seen him like this. "He was tired. He told me he had been diagnosed with typhoid. I guess he was misdiagnosed at first and jacked up for being dehydrated and then a few days later he got told something else," said Nicole. "He said he was extremely tired. He's like, 'I just want to come home. I'm done.' When he was on leave I surprised him with a hot tub because I knew he was tired, I knew he needed to be spoiled. That's when he went and said, 'I don't want to go back, but I have to. I'm not happy.' That's when I asked him if he wanted me to go to the padre, to step in for him. He said, 'No.' I was like, 'OK.'"

## The End

Back in Afghanistan and back out at Haji, things had not gotten any easier for McMichael, Doyle, and all the men. Through July and into August they were in contact almost every day. When I was at Haji in April, it was held by about 25 Canadians and a whole bunch of Afghan National Police. Now it was being held by about 10 guys total.

Unable to mount effective clearance patrols to keep the enemy back, they knew it was only a matter of time until the enemy came for them. And come they did. The first rounds hit the sandbagged walls of the base in the very early hours of the morning. Doyle led the charge to man the heavy C6 machine-gun in the southernmost guard tower.

Doyle—who had the rarest talent of always appearing to have a good time, who seemingly had the idea that life is some kind of fierce party—stuck with his guns until the end.

But it was almost like the enemy knew exactly where he would be. Three rockets fired from point-blank range slammed into the tower and Doyle died that day. "When he got killed we all said 'Well, if he had to die, that's the way he wanted to die,'" said McMichael, choking back tears. "He died pulling the trigger. He died screaming into the face of the enemy. He died doing what every soldier wants to do. If he had to go, that's how he'd want to go, defying the enemy to the last.

"He stood against it though, you know what I mean? How many guys do you know have actually stood against evil people?" asked McMichael, gently. "He paid the ultimate sacrifice for it, but didn't he give the rest of us hope in doing that?" It was Aug. 11, 2008. Doyle was 32.

**EPILOGUE: The Cost**

Many of Doyle’s friends had themselves tattooed in memoriam, but they didn’t want to tell me about the tattoos. And they didn’t, in fact. I only learned about it later.

Beyond that, as McMichael said, the loss is really “not quantifiable.”

“We were stunned. I think a lot of us are still stunned. As for me, I literally can’t picture the fact that he’s not somewhere. You just expect to see him.”

For Nicole, well, as her friends say, she’s tough. But it’s no easy road.

“Erin even told me, ‘Just get it done and move on. Don’t sit and dwell on it,’” said Nicole, recalling a conversation she had about the possibility of his death. “I just told him, ‘You have no idea how hard it would be if I had to deal with this. None.’ “And I did really have a hard time and I still have my bad days but I never have been one to lie down and be kicked around. This is very hard for me because he’s my best friend but I’m not one to stop living because of it.

“I have him down the road anytime I need to go see him. I know he didn’t want me to dwell on it. It’s just going to take time to get past all that. I’ve always got him around. I know he’s always there.

“But the most insane thing that bothers me is having him referred to as a number. Cities of men were lost in the previous wars and they’re still trying to figure out...who certain guys were and until someone can list off the thousands of guys that died in the last two World Wars, they have no right to keep saying that.

“I hate that with all my heart. He wasn’t the 90th. He was Master Corporal Erin Melvin Doyle. He was a very good man and that’s the way I want him remembered. Not as a number.”

Legion Magazine 07 March 2009 - email the writer at: [aday@legion.ca](mailto:aday@legion.ca)

**Erin Melvin Doyle**

Born: March 20, 1976, in Maple Ridge, B.C. Grew up in Kamloops.

Enlisted: May 21, 1998.

Favourite activities: restoring old trucks and cars, shovelling neighbour’s sidewalks, playing pranks on friends and others.

Probable reason he was able to grow his beard so long: Doyle played Santa every year at the PPCLI Christmas party.

Gyms now named after him: two, one at 3 Battalion, PPCLI and another at 1 Bn., PPCLI. There was a third in Zangabad, but that base has been torn down.

Buried: St. Emile Cemetery, Legal, Alta., Aug. 21, 2008.

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