

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**CITATIONS 04 August 2012 to 08 December 2012**

**UPDATED:** 04 May 2026 (May the Fourth be With You)  
**PAGES:** 40  
**CORRECT TO:** 08 December 2012 CG  
**Prepared by:** John Blatherwick

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**ADAMS, Derek John**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Major

GH: 20 June 2012

Mentoring the Commander of the Maywand District Police Headquarters

DOI: April to December 2010

“While deployed to Afghanistan from April to December 2010, Major Adams provided mentoring to the commander of the Maywand District Police Headquarters. His efforts yielded an increase in policing capacity within the district and were critical to the successful co-operation between coalition forces and Afghan National Police during major operations. Progress in this area was clearly shown by the absence of security issues during the parliamentary elections, where the Afghan National Police took the lead. Major Adams’ leadership and dedication contributed significantly to improved stability in Afghanistan and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

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**BRUCE, Malcolm David**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel

GH: 20 June 2012

Work at the National Military Hospital in Afghanistan

DOI: July 2010 to July 2011

“While deployed to Afghanistan from July 2010 to July 2011, Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce contributed significantly to developing the country’s Ministry of Defence and Afghan National Army. He also spearheaded improvements to the National Military Hospital that greatly improved efficiency and soldier care. His pursuit of excellence and ability to continually deliver outstanding results were evident as he mentored and advised the country’s most senior leadership. Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce’s actions enhanced Canada’s reputation in the eyes of our Afghan and coalition partners, and directly contributed to mission success.”

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**CAMPBELL, Yannick**  
Sergeant - RCAF  
Leader of an Engineer Construction Team in Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: April to December 2010



“As team leader of an engineer construction team from April to December 2010, Sergeant Campbell significantly improved the quality of life in Dand District, Afghanistan, through his exemplary leadership and devotion. Operating in an incredibly hostile environment, he worked closely with local authorities to initiate and facilitate 14 development projects that employed hundreds of Afghans, improved local infrastructure and enhanced their trust in the district government. Sergeant Campbell contributed to the success of the international reconstruction mission and helped stabilization efforts in Afghanistan.”

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**CHAMPAGNE, Joseph Guy Alain Richmond**  
Master Warrant Officer  
Road-building Project in the Western part of the Panjwayi district of Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: November 2010 to July 2011

“As sergeant major of C Squadron from November 2010 to July 2011, Master Warrant Officer Champagne played a leading role in a vital road-building project in the western part of the Panjwayi district of Afghanistan. Despite the complexity of the task and the constant presence of the enemy, and through his perseverance in overcoming many obstacles, he ensured the success of this critical operation. Master Warrant Officer Champagne’s efforts inspired his colleagues and stand as tangible proof of Canada’s contribution in Afghanistan.”

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**COLE, Michael James**  
Major  
Officer Commanding Maintenance Company in Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: April to November 2010

“Major Cole displayed professionalism and dedication as officer commanding Maintenance Company in Afghanistan from April to November 2010. Under his leadership, starting with the training period leading up to the deployment, his company provided seamless support to Task Force Kandahar operations. Executing his duties to the highest professional standards, he led by example and willingly shared the same risks as his soldiers on the ground. Major Cole’s efforts contributed to the Canadian Forces’ operational success during a long and challenging fighting season.”



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**DUFFY, Scott William**  
Major  
Senior mentor within a Police Operational Mentor and Liaison Team

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: April to November 2010

“Sergeant Duffy served as a senior mentor within a Police Operational Mentor and Liaison Team from April to November 2010. His mentorship significantly enhanced the capacity of Dand District Police, particularly that of its chief. Working with three subsequent chiefs, he adapted to their varying abilities and provided tailored mentoring to each. Successfully navigating a variety of complicated issues with his Afghan counterpart, Sergeant Duffy was able to impart a sense of professionalism that permeated the ranks and increased stability in the region, thereby bringing honour to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

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**FILIATRAULT, Marc Charles Joseph**  
Warrant Officer - RCAF  
Assisted a young man involved in a car accident

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: 27 September 2009



“On September 27, 2009, Warrant Officer Filiatrault assisted a young man involved in a car accident in Simcoe County, Ontario. As Warrant Officer Filiatrault rounded a bend in the road, he discovered the vehicle, which had crashed in a deep ditch and wedged itself between trees. He scrambled down the steep embankment and, as flames spread out from under the hood, he pulled the semi-conscious driver to safety. He then rendered first aid to the victim until paramedics arrived.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and tour bar – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – UN Haiti – CD & 2 bars

**Chief Warrant Officer Marc Charles Joseph FILIATRAULT, MSM, CD, RCAF**

CWO Marc Filiatrault retired on 01 November 2020 after more than 35 years of service. He was born and raised in Verner, Ontario. He enrolled in the Canadian Forces as a mobile support equipment operator (MSE OP). After basic training in St. Jean-sur-Richelieu, he was attach posted to the Land Engineering Test Establishment (LETE) in Ottawa. Following trade training in 1986, he was posted to CFB Borden. In 1992, he was promoted to Master Corporal and posted to 5 Service Battalion, Valcartier. He participated in numerous exercises, operations and deployed to Croatia in 1993 and Haiti in 1997. In 1999, he was posted to CF Logistics Training Center (CFLTC) in Borden. In 2004, he was promoted to Sergeant and posted to base side Borden in the position of Base CWO Assistant. In 2007, Marc was posted to Base Transport where he had the opportunity to deploy to Oman in support of the Afghanistan campaign. He was promoted to Warrant Officer in 2008 and posted to PRETC. In 2009, he was again posted to CFLTC. Promoted to Master Warrant Officer in 2011, he was posted to 1 Canadian Air Division (1 CAD HQ) Winnipeg in the position of RCAF Fleet Manager, A4 MSE 2-2. In September 2015, he was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer and assumed the position of A4 MSE CWO in 1 CAD HQ. He and his wife will retire in Winnipeg.

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**FRANCIS, Joy**  
Corporal  
All Source Intelligence Centre

MSM

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: Day to December 2010

“While deployed to Afghanistan with the All Source Intelligence Centre, from May to December 2010, Corporal Francis was instrumental to the unit’s ability to provide thorough intelligence support to Canadian and coalition units. Possessing a profound knowledge of the intelligence process, counter-insurgency warfare, the enemy and the battlespace, she worked diligently to provide timely and actionable intelligence to ground forces. Corporal Francis’ efforts were critical to the success of numerous combat operations.”

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**GRANT, Douglas Andrew**  
Major – Royal Canadian Artillery  
Command-and-Control Capability Domestic Ops

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: July 2007 to November 2012

“From July 2007 to November 2012, Major Grant demonstrated foresight, dedication and leadership in creating an immediately deployable command-and-control capability to be utilized during Canadian Forces’ responses to domestic operations. He played a key role in the design of the headquarters, the procurement of equipment and the training of personnel to fulfill the need for a task force headquarters wherever and whenever one was required. His vision and contributions have enabled the Canadian Forces to provide an immediate and effective response to the needs of Canadians during domestic emergencies.”

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**LONG, Scott Gerard**  
Lieutenant-Colonel – 41 Combat Engineer Regiment  
Chief of Staff - Headquarters Command (South) Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: November 2009 to October 2010

“As chief of operations within Headquarters Regional Command (South) from November 2009 to October 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Long was pivotal in the coordination of combat assets throughout southern Afghanistan. Having the confidence of his commander, he forged more than 60 duty officers, watchkeepers and desk officers into an effective and cohesive team that provided exceptional support. Exhibiting leadership, calm professionalism and a positive influence under pressure, Lieutenant-Colonel Long was critical to the Headquarters’ overall operational success.”

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**JOURDAIN, Steve**

Major – Royal 22e Regiment

Officer Commanding 'C' Company R22eR Battle Group JTF Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

GH: 20 June 2012

DOI: April to October 2010



“Commanding C Company’s combat team in Afghanistan from April to October 2009, Major Jourdain courageously led his team against repeated enemy attacks during a period of intense confrontation. Despite continuous enemy fire and physical fatigue, he maintained his tactical acumen and decisiveness, which enabled his soldiers to excel during security and stability operations. Major Jourdain’s professionalism and leadership greatly facilitated governance and development initiatives and were instrumental in ensuring the overall success of his combat team.”

**Medals:** MSM – GCS with SWA ribbon with one additional tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti with bar UNTMIH – NATO bar former Yougoslavie – EIIR Diamond - CD

From March to October 2009, LCol Jourdain deployed to Afghanistan as Commander, Cobra Company in Sperwan Ghar. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his actions in Afghanistan by the Governor General. As a result of his experiences in Afghanistan, LCol Jourdain wrote a book, “*Mon Afghanistan*”, which was published in Quebec in April 2013 and in France in September 2013. The book, an account of personal recollection and experiences in a war zone as the commander of a francophone company operating in Afghanistan, was the first of its kind to be published in French by a Canadian Army officer. Lieutenant-Colonel Jourdain, a member of The Royal 22<sup>e</sup> Régiment, joined the Canadian Army in 1991. He has deployed to Haiti, the former Yugoslavia and Afghanistan. He was the Commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Royal 22<sup>e</sup> Régiment from July 2012 to July 2014. He assumed the position of Head of Operations at 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Division Headquarters in Montreal, Quebec on July 7.



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**LOWTHIAN, David William**  
Lieutenant-Colonel - RCAF  
Deputy Commander - JTF Afghanistan Air Wing

OMM MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: November 2009 to September 2010

“Lieutenant-Colonel Lowthian was deputy commander of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing from November to September 2010. His leadership, dedication and tact contributed to the expansion of the air wing’s operational capability. As the architect behind numerous technical advancements, he had an immediate impact on the unit’s effectiveness, while he improved relations with coalition partners with skilful diplomacy. Lieutenant-Colonel Lowthian’s efforts were critical to the operational success of the air wing and the entire task force.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 04 June 2016 in the rank of Colonel.

**Medals:** OMM - MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and multiple tour bar – SSM with bar – EIIR Diamond Jubilee Medal – CD and Bar



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**LUSSIER, Vincent**  
Captain  
Platoon Commander at Patrol Base Sperwan Ghar in Afghanistan

MSM

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 20 June 2012  
DOI: March to October 2009

“As infantry platoon commander at Patrol Base Sperwan Ghar in Afghanistan from March to October 2009, Captain Lussier greatly inspired his soldiers with his determination during intense combat operations. Always willing to face enemy fire during successive engagements, he was able to give clear instructions that were instrumental in the success of his platoon’s mission. Captain Lussier’s leadership and tactical acumen helped to achieve remarkable outcomes on the battlefield.”

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**MARTIN, James William ("Scotty")**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel

GH: 20 June 2012

Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel 31 Service Battalion London, Ontario

DOI: October 1999 to 2012



"Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Martin demonstrated leadership, professionalism and dedication in his capacity as the honorary lieutenant-colonel of 31 Service Battalion (London). He tirelessly promoted his unit in the community and played a leadership role in mentoring holders of other honorary appointments within 31 Canadian Brigade Group. In recognition of these contributions, he was selected as a key member of the National Honorary Colonels Executive Council, which provides advice to the Commander Canadian Army. His contributions have brought direct and indirect benefit to soldiers and Reserve units throughout the Canadian Forces."

**Medals:** MSM – CVSM and Clasp – 1939/1945 War Medal – Canadian Korea Medal – Canadian Volunteer Service Medal for Korea – Peacekeeping – UN Korea – ICCS – Silver Jubilee Medal – CD and two bars

James Wm (Scotty) Martin was born in Dundee, Scotland and immigrated to Canada at an early age. He began his military career in July 1941 at the age fifteen. He transferred from non-permanent active militia to the Canadian Army active service in July 1943. He transferred to the Canadian Intelligence Corps then served briefly in the United Kingdom at Shorncliffe, Kent. Seconded to a special US/Canada Intelligence Group destined for service in the Burma-Siam (Thailand) theatre. He trained for this in Fort Benning, Georgia. The war ended before the special group could be dispatched.

Returning to Canada, he was posted to the Special Security and Intelligence section, headquarters Military District 2 in Toronto. His duties included interviewing returning Canadian prisoners-of-war from Japanese prison camps, the general security arrangements of a number of German prisoner-of-war camps and work projects in Ontario, and the security for the repatriation of German prisoners.

He remained with Military Intelligence until 1949 at which time he transferred to the First Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment (1RCR) in the rank of Sergeant and re-qualified as a paratrooper. He was commissioned Lieutenant in November 1951 and served with 1RCR in Korea. He was wounded during a fighting patrol action 23-24 May 1952 then evacuated to British Commonwealth Hospital in Kure, Japan. Returning to Korea in August of that year, he commanded a platoon during the Battle of Kowang-San on 23 October. In the post war years, he served in various Regimental and Army staff positions in Ontario and Newfoundland, Hythe England, and an exchange to the Jamaica Defence Force in Kingston, Jamaica.

In 1967-68, he saw service with the International Control Commission in Vietnam. On his return to London, Ontario, he became a member of the Regular Support Staff in various staff positions until retirement from the Regular service in 1973, and transfer to the Canadian Army (Reserves). As a Reservist, he served as Commanding Officer 22 (London) Service Battalion; and Senior Staff Officer Logistics and Administration at London Militia District finally retiring in October, 1981. In October 1999, he was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, 22 (London) Service Battalion and later that same year, Assistant Chief of Staff (Honouraries) at Headquarters, 31 Canadian Brigade Group. LCol Martin also serves on the Council of Honorary Colonels, Ottawa.

LCol Martin's community service is extensive including service with the Royal Canadian Legion, Garrison Community Council (London & Region), Governor with Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, Warriors Day Parade Committee (Western Fair District) and much more. In 1999 and 2000, LCol Martin served as Chairperson with then London Canada Day Committee. LCol Martin is a founding member of London Celebrates Canada and appointed Honorary Chairperson at the inaugural meeting of the Board of Directors. In August 2012, he remains as the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of 31 Service Battalion (London).

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**MILNE, John Gerard**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Colonel – ex Royal Canadian Signals Regiment

GH: 20 June 2012

Senior mentor for Afghan National Army development

DOI: July 2008 to April 2009

“As senior mentor for Afghan National Army development within the NATO training mission in Afghanistan from July 2008 to April 2009, Colonel Milne was a vital contributor to shaping key leaders within the Ministry of Defence and General Staff. As a result of his efforts, the Afghan National Army greatly improved its force development, generation and employment. Colonel Milne’s leadership and efforts, which were a credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada, played an essential role in professionalizing critical Afghan institutions and contributed significantly to the improvement of security in Afghanistan.”



**Medals:** MSM – Southwest Asia bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 2 extra tour bars – SSM bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – CD and Bar

Promoted to Brigadier-General

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**MONAGHAN, Jeffrey Karl**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Major

GH: 20 June 2012

Officer commanding a kandak mentor team in Afghanistan

DOI: April to November 2010

“As the officer commanding a kandak mentor team in Afghanistan from April to November 2010, Major Monaghan demonstrated leadership, professionalism and dedication, which had a positive impact on the development of three newly formed Afghan National Army kandaks. Whether mentoring Afghan commanders, facilitating joint operations or providing leadership and guidance to his mentor teams, he distinguished himself as a first-rate soldier and leader, and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

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**NOEL, Stephen**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Major – Royal Canadian Regiment

GH:

Officer Commanding “India Company” RCR Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: May to December 2010

“For exceptional frontline leadership as OC India Company Royal Canadian Regiment in Afghanistan from May to December 2010.”

“As officer commanding India Company from May to December 2010, Major Noel distinguished himself as a flexible and effective combat leader. Initially deployed to Kandahar City, his company conducted ongoing patrols, which improved stability and enabled American forces to seamlessly assume security responsibilities. Following their reassignment to volatile Nakhonay, his soldiers excelled in their new role, and helped reduce incidents of violence and intimidation towards villagers. Major Noel’s front-line leadership was critical to the Canadian Forces’ operational success in Afghanistan”

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**NEWHOOK, Kirk**  
 Chief Warrant Officer - RCAF  
 Air Cargo Missions to and from Kandahar Airfield

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
 GH: 20 June 2012  
 DOI: July 2010 to January 2011



“While deployed to Kandahar Airfield from July 2010 to January 2011, Chief Warrant Officer Newhook distinguished himself as an innovative and decisive leader who represented Canada with distinction during NATO operations. Under the most trying of circumstances and despite significant manpower shortages, he facilitated innumerable complicated air cargo missions without injury to personnel or damage to valuable air assets. Chief Warrant Officer Newhook’s leadership was critical to operational success at the busiest single runway in the world.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – SSM with Bar – Peacekeeping – CD and two bars



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**PEYTON, Paul James**  
 Lieutenant-Colonel – Lord Strathcona’s Horse (Royal Canadians)  
 Deputy Commander - Task Force Jerusalem

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
 GH: 20 June 2012  
 DOI: August 2010 to August 2011



“While deployed as deputy commander of Task Force Jerusalem from August 2010 to August 2011, Lieutenant-Colonel Peyton played a key role in Canada’s contribution to the United States Security Coordinator’s mission to support Palestinian Authority security sector reform. From training and logistics to command and control, his influence was profound. In particular, his personal intervention was critical to securing funding for key infrastructure improvements. Lieutenant-Colonel Peyton’s leadership and hard work set conditions for major transformational changes within the Palestinian National Security Forces and brought great credit to Canada.”

**Medals:** MSM – SW Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with Expedition ribbon – General Service Medal with Expedition ribbon – Operational Service Medal with Expedition ribbon - Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – UN Bosnia – NATO former Yugoslavia – CD



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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**SAGSTUEN, Corey**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Corporal – Canadian Forces Health Services

GH: 20 June 2012

Medical Leadership to the Afghan National Army

DOI: September 2009 to April 2010

“As a mentor to Afghan medics from September 2009 to April 2010, Corporal Sagstuen was an outstanding medic, soldier and instructor. His personal commitment improved the medical capacity of the Afghan National Army and contributed to the welfare of Afghan soldiers. He repeatedly provided exceptional care, laudable medical instruction and leadership in traumatic situations. Corporal Sagstuen’s medical skills, composed leadership and professionalism directly contributed to better battlefield care.”

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**SAVARD, Mark**

MSM

CG: 04 August 2012

Captain

GH: 20 June 2012

Working with the Afghan National Police Organizations

DOI: September 2009 to April 2010

“While deployed to Afghanistan from April to December 2010, Captain Savard demonstrated leadership and diplomacy, which enhanced the ability and willingness of Afghan National Police organizations to share intelligence with each other and their coalition allies. He worked relentlessly to create an atmosphere of trust among Afghan intelligence operators, enabling the timely passage of critical information to ground forces. Captain Savard’s efforts improved the intelligence capabilities of several coalition forces and had a direct impact on the success of operations.”

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**MacCHARLES, Heather Joy**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel

GH: 24 June 2015

Champion the Issue of Family Violence and Sexual Assault

DOI: 2009 to 2011



“Between 2009 and 2011, Major MacCharles exhibited personal courage, professionalism and leadership in her efforts to champion the issue of family violence and sexual assault. While spearheading a Canadian Forces-wide review on the subject, she identified deficiencies in the existing Canadian Forces policy. As a direct result of her perseverance, this sensitive issue was brought to the attention of the Armed Forces Council, which resulted in a complete review of and subsequent changes to the Canadian Forces’ approach.”

**Medals:** MSM – CD and Bar

NOTE: Most of the MSM recipients on 24 June 2015 did NOT have their announcement gazetted. This is an anomaly for the date. The citation is listed again in the 03i list for 2015.

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**SIMONEAU, Michel**

MSM CD (MID)

CG: 04 August 2012

Sergeant

GH: 20 June 2012

Second in Command of an Infantry Platoon, 3 PPCLI Battle Group Afghanistan

DOI: April to October 2009

“While deployed to Afghanistan as second-in-command of an infantry platoon from April to October 2009, Sergeant Simoneau played a key role in his platoon’s success during high-intensity combat operations. On numerous occasions, he exposed himself to insurgent fire to coordinate the actions of Canadian and Afghan soldiers under his command. Sergeant Simoneau’s tactical acumen, soldiering skills and front-line leadership inspired his comrades and contributed greatly to the battle group’s operational success.”



Awarded **Mentioned in Despatches (MID)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 08 December 2012 in the rank of Sergeant.

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and 3 extra tour bars and MID – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar Former Yugoslavia - CD

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**SINDEN, Kevin Peter**

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Chief Warrant Officer

GH: 20 June 2012

Multinational Partnerships – JTF Afghanistan

DOI: April to November 2010

“While deployed to Afghanistan from April to November 2010, Chief Warrant Officer Sinden displayed the ability to foster and maintain multinational partnerships. Working with Canadian, American and Afghan units, he was able to coordinated complexities among high-profile organizations, both military and civilian, within the Kandahar City area of operations. He developed a strong partnership with the local Afghan army, which enabled productive mentorship with notable results. Chief Warrant Officer Sinden’s professionalism brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**TAYLOR, Eleanor Frances**

OMM MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012

Major – Royal Canadian Regiment

GH: 20 June 2012

Officer commanding Charlie Company Royal Canadian Regiment JTF Afghanistan

DOI: April to December 2010



"As officer commanding Charles Company in Afghanistan from April to December 2010, Major Taylor distinguished herself as an exceptional combat leader. With her company holding the coalition's volatile frontier in western Panjwayi against a determined and well-established enemy, her front line leadership, tactical acumen and determination were critical to her soldiers' operational success. Whether engaged in intense combat, partnering with Afghan units or interacting with the local population, Major Taylor was an exemplary representative of the Canadian Forces."

**Major Eleanor Frances TAYLOR, OMM, MSM, CD  
Officer Commanding 'C' Company – Royal Canadian Regiment**

Major Eleanor Taylor caused quite a stir when she deployed to a remote outpost deep in the Taliban heartland of western Kandahar last spring. When the 34-year-old soldier from Antigonish, N.S., took off her blast goggles and helmet, Afghan elders in Panjwaii were taken aback, meeting the first woman to command a Canadian infantry company in combat.

"I would be disingenuous if I did not acknowledge that they were often very surprised," Taylor said during an exclusive interview with Postmedia News at the end of her seven-month tour. "There was shock on their faces and they would exchange a couple of words among themselves. I know the word for women in Pushto and I heard that word." But these rural Pushtoons from what may be the most conservative Islamic society in the world were always respectful as well as curious, as were the soldiers from two Afghan army companies her unit was partnered with, so it turned out "not to be a handicap at all."



"I honestly think that notion that Afghan men won't deal with western women is a myth. Or that has been my experience, anyway," the commander of Charles Company said. "Certainly, if an Afghan woman were to come and ask them the things that I asked of them, they would receive an entirely different response. But as a western woman, they see me as foreign and if they hold prejudice towards women, and I certainly suspect some may, they don't show it. In fact, I have found they have been more open with me — certainly much more than I expected — than with some of my male counterparts."

Locals provided Taylor with a logical, if slightly bizarre explanation for their solicitous behaviour. "I was told by them that they believe that I am easy to work with because I am a woman and they know that women are compassionate and here for peace, whereas they think that the men are here to fight," she said before adding, "of course, I am also here to fight, but when I speak with the locals, they don't need to know that." One of Taylor's regrets is that she had few chances to speak with Afghan women because whenever her soldiers entered a village the women all disappeared into their family compounds. Once, spotting several women inside the door of a mud-walled home, she told them who she was and that she would like to meet them.

"I went in alone and chatted with them and it was great. It was very enjoyable. They were very surprised and very keen to talk and very interested in the fact that I was a woman soldier."

This being Afghanistan, Taylor's male interpreter translated from the other side of the curtain. "It's crazy. It's hard to understand," she said of such rigidly enforced segregation. Thinking very much like the career soldier she has been since she attended Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., as a teenager, Taylor added, "There is a great deal of intelligence that can be gained from half the population. That is the bottom line." During her deployment, Taylor led a beefed-up fighting company of about 250 soldiers, when the gunners, engineers, forward air controllers and medics were factored in. At no time were more than eight of them women, and Taylor, who is a qualified paratrooper, was one of only two women trained as an infanteer, the other a master corporal.

Charles Company, the Royal Canadian Regiment, had an arduous, dangerous tour in Sperwan Ghar District, particularly in the first few months, which coincided with the height of the fighting season. Four days after Taylor arrived from her base at Petawawa, Ont., an engineer attached to the outgoing Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry battle group was killed by an improvised explosive device. "That was a tragic day," said Taylor, who was not then in command. "He was a hugely respected man and it shook everybody. It made us acutely aware of the dangers we were facing." Four of Taylor's own troops suffered very serious injuries over the next few weeks. She had her own "close call" when a Taliban mortar round hit the reinforced roof of her company's command post in July, exploding about one metre from her head. "I was surprised that they were that accurate," she said. "They were good. They had us accurately bracketed. "We got them later. Did you know that?" she asked this reporter, who had also been close to that exploding mortar shell. "It was a day we learned a lot from. From that, we were able to establish mechanisms that ensured that we were able to rapidly produce counter-battery fire."



The soldiers in Taylor's company had all been exposed to direct fire, she said. But the most nerve-racking moments were when they came across IEDs while out on patrol because "you always think, "What if we had found it a different way?" meaning what if the IEDs had found them by exploding. Soldiering in Sperwan Gar is not easy. It is a bleak, hardscrabble land occasionally softened by irrigated fields of grapes, wheat and poppies. The temperature range can be extreme, reaching into the high 50s during summer and dropping well below freezing at night during winter. "The troops performed marvelously," Taylor said. "I learned that they will do everything that is asked of them. They have an undying sense of humour that keeps us all going and they will do anything for each other. I knew this before, but they are incredibly perceptive and intelligent."

Of her own time in Panjwaii, the major said "I don't think anything can match what I have done here. I have been able to work with troops and young officers who have been truly exceptional, and directly with Afghans and a huge host of enablers from other trades to achieve a tactical mission. It was been tremendously rewarding professionally. I really don't think there is another job like that in the (Canadian Forces)." Everyone from Taylor's company is now at Kandahar Airfield or back in Canada. They have been replaced by a battle group from the Royal 22nd Regiment — the Van Doo. "I think we definitely made some progress," Taylor said.



Taylor, who was so reluctant to speak for the record that it took months to arrange to sit down with her, made it plain that she didn't want attention for being a woman when there were male company commanders doing similar jobs, and it was her soldiers and not she who had been doing the fighting. "I don't really consider it relevant," she said of her sex. "The fewer people in my organization think about it, the better." It has now been several decades since Canada opened all combat-arms trades to women, but there are still only a handful of women in such jobs. This is especially true of the infantry, which is generally regarded as the toughest soldiering task there is.

The U.S. will still not allow women to join combat arms, although those lines have blurred somewhat during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The major winced uncomfortably when told that many she's served with in Kandahar, as well as others in the army, think she'll become the first woman to run an infantry battalion, and be considered for even higher commands. A self-proclaimed army 'lifer,' she is waiting to find out if she has been selected for a staff course in Toronto that could put her on track to become a battalion commander. If not selected, she will likely take a French- language course in Ottawa, where she has siblings. Taylor's top priority right now is to regain some balance in her life. Canada's most successful female warrior confided that she and her husband, who is a staff officer, have other plans beyond the military. "We're looking forward to starting a family."



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **69<sup>th</sup> ORMM List** in the rank of Colonel.

**Medals:** OMM - MSM – General Campaign Star with extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – NATO bar Kosovo – NATO non-article 5 for operations in the Balkans – CD



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**BELCOURT, Joseph Mario Claude**                      MMM MSM CD                      CG: 08 December 2012  
Chief Warrant Officer – ex 12e Régiment blindé du Canada and RC Dragoons      GH: 13 November 2012  
Canadian Forces Support Unit Chief Warrant Officer                      DOI: 2009 to 2012

“As the Canadian Forces Support Unit chief warrant officer in Ottawa from 2009 through 2012, Chief Warrant Officer Belcourt demonstrated leadership, initiative and professionalism. Historic commemorative events such as the Canadian Forces’ farewell to the Commander-in-Chief and the Operation *Mobile* end-of-mission parade largely benefited from his attention to detail and his ability to work with a number of partners and organizations. Developing and mentoring non-commissioned members during his tenure was his hallmark, a contribution that will have a profound, lasting impact on the future of the Canadian Forces.”



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

**Medals:** MMM – MSM – MSM with bar NATO - Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – EIIR Golden Jubilee – CD and Bar

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**BLAIS, Gérard Joseph**                      OMM MSM CD                      CG: 08 December 2012  
Colonel                      GH: 13 November 2012  
Director of Casualty Support Management                      DOI: November 2008 to December 2012

“As director of Casualty Support Management, beginning in November 2008, Colonel Blais was responsible for setting up integrated personnel support centres and operational stress injury support programs in Canada. He demonstrated the highest degree of leadership, initiative, determination and vision, ensuring the provision of ongoing and high-quality support to the members of the Canadian Forces and their families. Colonel Blais’ extraordinary commitment and dedication helped to achieve the success of these projects.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 January 2007 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**CESSFORD, Michael Pearson**

Colonel

Commander - Staff Language Training Centre in Afghanistan

**OMM MSM CD**

CG: 04 August 2012

GH: 13 November 2012

DOI: January to October 2010



“As commander of the Staff and Language Training Centre from January to October 2010, Colonel Cessford made a significant contribution to developing junior leadership in the Afghan National Army and police force. He called upon his extensive network of battle-hardened Afghan commanders and his own personal experience to develop a program for teaching combat leadership as it relates to Afghanistan’s unique counter-insurgency environment. Colonel Cessford’s efforts laid the foundation for the professionalization of Afghanistan’s security institutions, furthering stability and safety for the local population.”

Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 January 2006 in the rank of Colonel.

**DALLAIRE, Joseph Yvon Prudent Claude**

Master Warrant Officer - RCAF

Sergeant-Major - Canadian Helicopter Force Maintenance Squadron Afghanistan

**MSM CD**

CG: 08 December 2012

GH: 13 November 2012

DOI: July 2010 to April 2011



“As sergeant major of the Canadian Helicopter Force Afghanistan maintenance squadron from July 2010 to April 2011, Master Warrant Officer Dallaire distinguished himself by his professionalism and insight. Through his strong leadership, and with the cohesive team of aircraft technicians that he trained, he kept the fleet accessible and available for all task force missions. Master Warrant Officer Dallaire’s dedication and discipline ensured ongoing air support for Canadian soldiers, thereby helping to bring about the operational success of the Canadian Forces.”

Medals: MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – UN Haiti - NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and bar

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**DUFAULT, Raymond Jean François**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Major – Royal 22e Regiment

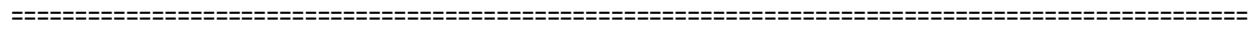
GH: 13 November 2012

Deputy Commanding Officer – R22eR Battle Group JTF Afghanistan

DOI: November 2010 to July 2011

“As deputy commanding officer of the battle group deployed to Afghanistan from November 2010 to July 2011, Major Dufault played a key role in the group’s effectiveness. A seasoned leader and tireless worker, he supported the commanding officer during his tours and updated the liaison in the chain of command, thereby facilitating the battalion’s actions on the complex battlefields of the Panjwayi District. Major Dufault’s tactical skills and perseverance greatly contributed to the success of the group’s mission.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and two extra tour bars – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti with bar – EIR Diamond Jubilee - CD



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**ERRINGTON, John William**  
Lieutenant-Colonel – 3 Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry  
Commander - Special Operations Task Group Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012  
GH: 13 November 2012  
DOI: October 2010 to March 2011



“As commander of a special operations task force in Afghanistan from October 2010 to March 2011, Lieutenant-Colonel Errington distinguished himself as a combat leader and special operations advisor. His unit’s participation was critical to the achievement of campaign objectives pursued by Regional Command (South) and Task Force Kandahar, and contributed directly to enhancing the capabilities of the Afghan police. Lieutenant-Colonel Errington’s efforts were critical to the success of the Canadian mission and enabled his unit to operate effectively within a dynamic multinational environment.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and bar – Alberta Centennial Medal.

Lieutenant-Colonel Errington joined the Canadian Forces in 1990 and was subsequently commissioned into the Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). LCol Errington’s career started in the Second Battalion in Winnipeg as a Platoon Commander including an Op deployment to Croatia in 1993. Upon return, he was appointed Recce Platoon Commander, was promoted to the rank of Captain, and subsequently posted to the Canadian Airborne Regiment. In 1995, Captain Errington was posted to Edmonton as a PI Comd in the PPCLI Parachute Company before it became part of 3 PPCLI in 1996. He occupied jobs within 3 PPCLI as Assistant Adjutant, Anti-Armour PI Comd, Para Coy 2IC and Adj. A domestic deployment to the Winnipeg floods and subsequent international deployment to Bosnia with the LdSH (RC) BG as Anti Armour platoon commander helped build Captain Errington’s experiential base on operations. Staff training in Kingston, a few months in LFWA and two years as G3 Ops gave Captain Errington a perspective across 1 CMBG.



Promoted to Major in 2003, he returned to 3 PPCLI for two excellent years as OC A Coy, one year at U of A to complete his bachelor’s degree, one year in Toronto on JCSP and to write his Masters in Defence Studies before being posted to Canadian Expeditionary Force Command in Ottawa. After one year as Deputy J35, Major Errington was selected as the Ops O/COS of Dwyer Hill Training Centre where he would spend two very hectic, yet professionally rewarding years before being promoted to his current rank in 2009. Lieutenant-Colonel Errington was then appointed as the Special Operations Task Force Commander in Afghanistan in 2010. He then attended a French Course in Ottawa.

LCol Errington is supported by his extremely understanding, hardworking and beautiful wife, Kerri, along with their four wonderful children: Alanna, Chantel, Erica and Joshua.

Lt-Col Errington has a history with the PPCLI that dates back to the early 1990s and has been posted to Edmonton several times during his career. His experiences include a deployment to Bosnia, a posting to the Canadian Expeditionary Force Command in Ottawa and another with the Canadian Special Forces Command. He comes to 3 PPCLI after completing a year of French language training. Lieutenant-Colonel Errington, his wife Kerri and their four children will be living in St Albert. Lt.-Col. Errington is pleased to be returning to 3 PPCLI and 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, stating: “I am honoured and humbled by the opportunity to return to the Battalion where I have now held command positions at all levels. The incredibly talented and motivated soldiers of this unit do not seem to have changed or diminished over the years. Clearly the PPCLI and 1 CMBG continue to produce top notch soldiers.”



Located at Edmonton Garrison in Edmonton, Alberta, the Third Battalion is the only Regular Force light infantry battalion in western Canada and is capable of rapidly projecting light forces for operations across the spectrum of conflict in all environments. 3 PPCLI specializes in operations in complex terrain, including urban, mountainous and arctic environments. The battalion can deploy forces using a variety of insertion techniques, by vehicle, parachute, aviation, and foot.

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**FREEMAN, Myra Ava**

Honorary Captain(N) – Royal Canadian Navy – The Honourable  
Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia

CM DStJ ONS MSM

CG: 08 December 2012

GH: 10 September 2013

DOI: 2003 to 2012



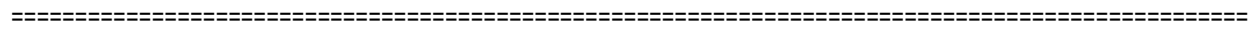
“Since her appointment in 2003, Honorary Captain(N) Freeman has demonstrated uncompromising loyalty to the Royal Canadian Navy, as well as initiative and leadership in establishing the Halifax-based Community Leadership Advisory Council in 2007. Through her efforts and dedication, she has fostered a tremendous spirit of collaboration between the Navy and the people of Nova Scotia. Her actions have brought great credit to the Canadian Forces, and have promoted a strong sense of pride among the citizenry for the sacrifices and accomplishments of members serving in the Atlantic region.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Canada (CM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 08 November 2008.

First **Chancellor and Member of the Order of Nova Scotia (ONS)** in 2002

Awarded **Dame of the Order of St. John (DStJ)** in 2002

Appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia from 17 May 2000 until 07 September 2006.





**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**GINGRICH, Hope**

MSM

CG: 08 December 2012

Corporal

GH: 13 November 2012

Signaller – Joint Defence Operations Centre at the Kandahar Airfield

DOI: July 2010 to January 2011

“From July 2010 to January 2011, Corporal Gingrich performed outstandingly as a signaller within the Joint Defence Operations Centre at Kandahar Airfield. Most notably, in response to indirect fire attacks on the airfield, she led her section to cordon the impact sites until they could be cleared by counter-explosive personnel. Taking on new roles as required and providing excellent mentorship to inexperienced NATO personnel, Corporal Gingrich displayed exceptional leadership and was a key member of the operations centre.”



**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon

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**GOSSELIN, Joseph Pierre Hervé Hercule**

OMM MSStJ MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012 / 18 May 2013 \*

Colonel – ex Royal 22e Régiment

GH: 13 November 2012

Commander - Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT) in Afghanistan

DOI: November 2010 to July 2011

“As commander of the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team from November 2010 to July 2011, Colonel Gosselin increased the confidence and effectiveness of the Afghan National Army by personally supporting the commander of 1 Brigade, 205 Corps. He distinguished himself by his honesty in conveying the reality of the terrain to the Afghan commanders and in conceptualizing the principles of training with Afghan National Security Forces. A seasoned mentor and experienced leader, Colonel Gosselin enhanced the reputation of the Canadian Forces.:



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per **Government House** list of 30 December 2011 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Serving Brother, Order of St. John (SBStJ)** in 2012 in the rank of Colonel.

**Medals:** OMM – SBStJ - MSM – Gulf War – Somalia – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and extra tour bar – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti – EIIR Golden Jubilee – EIIR Diamond Jubilee – CD and Bar

ADC to the Governor General of Canada from December 1993 to June 1995.

ADC to the Chief of Defence Staff, General Ray Henault, from June 2002 to January 2004.

Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment June 2006 to June 2008.

\* Canada Gazette 18 May 2013 Errata – OMM added to his decorations

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**GRAVEL, Joseph Lucien Éric**

**MMM MSM CD**

CG: 08 December 2012

Chief Warrant Officer - Royal 22e Regiment

GH: 13 November 2012

Regimental Sergeant-Major - R22eR Battle Group, Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: November 2010 to July 2011



“From November 2010 to July 2011, Chief Warrant Officer Gravel, regimental sergeant major of the battle group deployed to Afghanistan, was a workhorse who distinguished himself by his dedication and his knowledge of the terrain. His ability to understand the intentions of commanders and to relay them to the various sub-units was vital to decentralizing operations. Chief Warrant Officer Gravel’s leadership and involvement in the command and control of the unit made him an essential component of the battle group’s success.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 26 March 2011 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

**Medals:** MMM – MSM – Gulf War - Somalia – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM with Bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and Bar



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**GRENIER, Alain**

**MMM MSM CD**

CG: 08 December 2012

Chief Warrant Officer – ex Royal Canadian Artillery (RCHA)

GH: 13 November 2012

RSM – Operational Mentor & Liaison Team (OMLT) – JTF Afghanistan

DOI: November 2010 to July 2010



“As regimental sergeant major of the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team from November 2010 to July 2011, Chief Warrant Officer Grenier distinguished himself by his dedication and leadership in supporting his Afghan counterpart in 1 Brigade, 205 Corps of the Afghan National Army. With his excellent tactical knowledge and sense of duty, he gave greater responsibility to the role of Afghan non-commissioned officers, thereby increasing the brigade’s operational capability. An extraordinary mentor, Chief Warrant Officer Grenier significantly increased the effectiveness of the Afghan National Army.”

Awarded **Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 March 2011 in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

**Medals:** MMM – MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus – NATO bar Former Yugoslavia – CD and 2 bars

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**GYORKOS, Aaron**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Lieutenant-Commander – Royal Canadian Navy

GH: 13 November 2012

Commandant – Canadian Forces Fleet School Esquimalt

DOI: July 2011 to January 2012



“From July 2011 to January 2012, Lieutenant-Commander Gyorkos demonstrated exceptional leadership as commandant of Canadian Forces Fleet School Esquimalt. Through his problem-solving abilities, he effectively advanced numerous projects considered critical to the success of the naval training system. He led the On-the-Job Performance Requirements implementation program; a classroom modernization project; the development of a pan-naval training performance management framework; and the detailed analysis of the quality control and assurance model. His efforts brought great credit to the Royal Canadian Navy.”



**Medals:** MSM – SSM with bar – Peacekeeping - CD

**HAMEL, Joseph Antonio Marcel Louis**

MSM\* CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Major – Royal Canadian Air Force

**BAR**

GH: 13 November 2012

Operations Officer – Air Wing Joint Task Force Afghanistan

DOI: September 2010 to March 2011

“From September 2010 to March 2011, Major Hamel was the operations officer for the Air Wing in Afghanistan, where he demonstrated extraordinary dedication and professionalism. An experienced planner, he proposed and implemented several initiatives to improve task force effectiveness and to ensure its security. Major Hamel’s leadership and commitment ensured the operational success of the mission and enhanced the reputation of the Canadian Forces.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 27 March 2010 in the rank of Major as part of the tactical Air control Party for the Canadian Air Wing in Afghanistan.

**Medals:** MSM and Bar – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - CD



**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**HUGHES, Simon Rupert**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Commander – Royal Canadian Navy

GH: 13 November 2012

REGULUS Program & Adoption of the Single Fleet Scheme Manoeuvre

DOI: August 2010 to January 2012



“Between August 2010 and January 2012, Commander Hughes contributed strategic benefit to the Royal Canadian Navy. He was instrumental in conceiving and developing innovative approaches, which made sure of the readiness of naval personnel for the introduction of the internationally successful REGULUS program and the adoption of the Single Fleet Scheme of Manoeuvre. Commander Hughes’ leadership, strategic wisdom and groundbreaking work helped ensure the future success of the Navy, the Canadian Forces and Canada.”

**Medals:** MSM – NATO – CD and Bar

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**HUGHES, Stewart Thomas**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Lieutenant-Commander – Royal Canadian Navy

GH: 13 November 2012

Commander – Cdn Forces Naval Engineering School St. John’s, Newfoundland

DOI: 2009 to 2012



“Lieutenant-Commander Hughes demonstrated dedication, initiative and leadership throughout his tenure as the Canadian Forces Naval Engineering School Detachment commander in St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador, from 2009 to 2012. He forged close relations with public and private enterprises, as well as with many levels of government, by organizing a number of community-based activities involving the CF and naval students attending the Marine Institute. Through his leadership and mentorship, Lieutenant-Commander Hughes inspired his organization in its role to support the Canadian Forces.”

**Medals:** MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - CD

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**KEARNEY, Robert Edward**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Dragoons

GH: 13 November 2012

Chief of Staff – Combined Joint Interagency Task Force, Shafafiyat, Afghanistan

DOI: October 2010 to May 2011



“While deployed to Afghanistan from October 2010 to May 2011, Lieutenant-Colonel Kearney made a critical contribution to the fight against corruption as chief of staff of Combined Joint Interagency Task Force Shafafiyat. He displayed the ability to simultaneously track a broad range of issues while collaborating with high-level military and civilian stakeholders from numerous countries. Lieutenant-Colonel Kearney’s leadership and in-depth understanding of Afghanistan’s complex political dynamic was essential to the operational success of the mission.”

**Medals:** MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – UN Cyprus - UNPROFOR – CD and bar – Meritorious Service Medal (USA)

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**KELLY, Patrick**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Colonel – Cameron Highlanders of Canada

GH: 13 November 2012

Senior Advisor to the Afghani Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff

DOI: October 2010 to July 2011

“As senior advisor to the Afghan Vice-Chief of the General Staff from October 2010 to July 2011, Colonel Kelly made exemplary contributions to the development of the Afghan National Army and the Ministry of Defence. His guidance allowed the Vice-Chief to champion improvements within the Army and to take a more active role in its command and control. Colonel Kelly’s leadership and diplomacy contributed directly to building a stable command structure within the Afghan National Army and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”



Awarded **USA Meritorious Service Medal** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 30 June 2012 in the rank of Colonel.

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – EIRR Diamond Jubilee – CD and bar – USA MSM

**Colonel Patrick KELLY, MSM, CD – Chief of Staff – Director General Land Reserve Secretariat**

Colonel Patrick Kelly joined the RCAC as a Cadet with the 3 Field Engineer Cadet Corps in 1977. In 1980 he transferred to The Black Watch Cadet Corps where he remained until 1982. While a Cadet Colonel Kelly capped off his Cadet experiences by attending the Banff National Army Cadet Camp in 1981 followed up by a summer as an instructor on the Arctic Indoctrination Course.



Colonel joined the **Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)** of Canada in 1982 as a rifleman. He progressed quickly to the rank of Master Corporal by 1986 having completed the Regular Force Infantry Section Commanders Course. In 1988 he commissioned and was transferred to **The Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR)** where he served until 1994. During this time he held various positions including Rifle Platoon Commander, Company 2 i/c, Adjutant and Rifle Company Commander. Colonel Kelly was promoted to Lieutenant in 1988 and to Captain in 1990 while at the RMR.

In 1994 Colonel Kelly transferred back to the **Black Watch** to assume the position of Operations Officer. In 1995 he assumed the position of Rifle Company Commander that he held until July 1997. During this period Colonel Kelly completed the Canadian Land Force Command and Staff Course as the lone Reserve candidate and was promoted to Major in May 1996. In 1997 he was posted to the Land Staff in Ottawa to assume the duties of Alternative Service Delivery Staff Officer. While on the Land Staff, Colonel Kelly completed Phase I of the USMC MAGTF Course in Quantico Virginia in 1998.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in September 2000 and assumed **command** of the **Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa** in March 2001 while employed fulltime on the Land Staff as a section head. In spring 2004 Colonel Kelly completed a three-year tour as CO of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa and subsequently participated in the National Security Studies Seminar at CFC. In June 2006 Colonel Kelly transferred to CEFCOM as J3 Land Operations and Plans. While at CEFCOM, Colonel Kelly completed the Joint Reserve Command and Staff Program as well as the Advanced Military Studies Programme.

In October 2008 Colonel Kelly was promoted to his present rank and was appointed as Director Land Reserve on the Land Staff. Colonel Kelly attended McGill University where he studied history. In his free time Colonel Kelly plays hockey and enjoys running.

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## CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)

**LANDRY, Jean Éric**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Major – 12<sup>e</sup> Régiment blindé du Canada

GH: 13 November 2012

Commander 'C' Squadron – R22eR Battle Group JTF Afghanistan

DOI: November 2010 to June 2011



“As commander of the C Squadron Combat Team from November 2010 to June 2011, Major Landry was given responsibility for building a vital road in Afghanistan. Overcoming complex challenges in this dangerous environment, he skillfully coordinated the squadron’s various security, construction and logistical elements, and effectively supported Headquarters’ other logistical operations. Major Landry’s leadership, so often demonstrated while under enemy fire and in the presence of improvised explosive devices, ensured the success of this mission.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Operational Service Medal with Expedition ribbon - Peacekeeping – NATO with bar former Yugoslavia – CD

### **Commanding Officer, 12<sup>e</sup> Régiment blindé du Canada**

A native of Montreal, Lieutenant-Colonel Landry joined the Canadian Forces in 1994 as a member of the Primary Reserve and served with the Royal Canadian Hussars during his studies in the Bachelor of Business Administration at the University of Quebec in Montreal.



His operational tours began in 1997 following his transfer to the Regular Force and its arrival in the 12th Armoured Regiment of Canada in Quebec. During his first assignment in the Regiment, he served as a troop leader with A Squadron from August 1997 to January 1999, and with the D Squadron from January 1999 to May 2000. He participated in Op PALLADIUM in Bosnia Herzegovina with the squadron D.

In 2001, he was transferred to the School of Leadership and Recruit Canadian Forces in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu as an instructor. He took advantage of this period to complete a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales in Montreal. In 2004, he returned to the Regiment where he served as an officer, he did regimental operations, battle captain Squadron and Adjutant. Promoted to Major, he deployed to Afghanistan from July 2007 to May 2008 as J35 (chief plans) Joint Task Force-Kandahar. Upon his return home, he took command of B Company of the Center for Quebec Area Land Force instruction, then back to the Regiment to take command of the squadron C. It is at this

position that he deployed to Afghanistan as the last commander of tank squadron from November 2010 to June 2011. In this role, he provides protection and construction of the HYENA road, a path of land communication in the Horn of Panjwayi figurehead the success of operations in the region. For his leadership during this deployment, he was awarded the **Meritorious Service Medal**.

In the fall of 2011, he was transferred to Toronto in the command Program and Joint Staff. He completed it in June 2012, also earning a Master in Defence Studies. After serving two years as a strategic analyst in the organization of the Head - force development, he was promoted to his current rank and transferred to Canada Command Joint Operations J3 where it acts as North America, where he is responsible the conduct of domestic operations. Lieutenant-Colonel Landry became the twenty-fifth commander of the 12th Armoured Regiment of Canada. Promoted to **lieutenant-colonel** in 2014, he was transferred to Canadian Joint Operations Command where he acted as J3 North America, responsible for the conduct of domestic operations. In 2015, he became the 25th Commander of the 12th Canadian Armoured Regiment. He commanded the Regiment during three domestic operations: Operation Nanook and Nunavut in the Canadian North and Operation Lentus during the floods in Quebec in 2017. He was **promoted to Colonel in 2018** and appointed the deputy commander of Joint Task Force — Impact overseeing build partner capacity effects in Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, and Lebanon. Previous to his appointment as 2 CMBG commander, Landry was the chief of staff for the 1st Canadian Air Division. He was promoted to **Brigadier-General** and became the **Deputy Commanding Officer of 1 USA Corps at Fort Lewis**. He is married to Julie and they have 3 children.

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**LEWIS, Frederick A.**  
Colonel – Former Combat Engineer  
Commander – Task Force Jerusalem

MSM\* CD  
**BAR**

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 13 November 2012  
DOI: July 2009 to July 2010

“As commander of Task Force Jerusalem from July 2009 to July 2010, Colonel Lewis provided leadership to Canada’s contribution to the United States Security Coordinator’s mission to support Palestinian Authority security sector reform. Both a diplomat and soldier, he forged strong relationships with American, Israeli and Palestinian stakeholders, and played a key role in ensuring the long-term viability of growing Palestinian security forces. Colonel Lewis’ efforts enhanced relations with key allies and highlighted Canada’s role in the Middle East peace process.”



Awarded **United States Meritorious Service Medal** but not gazetted.

**Medals:** MSM and Bar – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Operational Service with Expedition ribbon – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UN Lebanon (UNTSO) plus 2<sup>nd</sup> tour numeral – UNPROFOR – UN SSM with bar Cambodia Mine Action plus 2<sup>nd</sup> tour numeral – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - CD and 2 Bars – MSM (USA)

**Brigadier-General Frederick LEWIS, MSM & Bar, CD  
Joint Task Force Central / Land Force Central Area Commander**

Brigadier-General Lewis joined the Canadian Forces in 1976. He graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada with a degree in civil engineering and was commissioned into the Canadian Military Engineers in 1980. As a combat engineer he commanded at the troop and squadron level in 4 Combat Engineer Regiment at Lahr, Germany and then commanded 1 Combat Engineer Regiment in Chilliwack, British Columbia. He has deployed on operations as a military observer with the United Nations on the Golan Heights and Southern Lebanon (UNTSO), as a squadron commander in the former Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR), as the Canadian Contingent Commander/Chief Advisor Operations to the Cambodia Mine Action Centre in Phnom Penh and as the Deputy Commander to Canada’s Joint Task Force in Afghanistan. His most recent operational tour was as **Commander Task Force Jerusalem, Operation PROTEUS**.



He has staff experience with Headquarters 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group as both a G3 operations officer and G1, Headquarters 1st Canadian Division as the Engineer G4, National Defence Headquarters as a section head responsible for nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) defence operations and on the Land Staff as Director Army Doctrine. Brigadier-General Lewis has taught as a tactics instructor at the Canadian Forces School of Military Engineering and as a directing staff at the United States Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC). He commanded **the Canadian Land Force Command and Staff College** from 2007 until 2009.

He is a graduate of the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College, the British Army Staff College and the Canadian Forces College (National Strategic Studies Programme). Brigadier-General Lewis has a master degree in Military Arts and Science from United States Army CGSC. He assumed command of **Joint Task Force Central/Land Force Central Area** in July 2010 to June 2012 when he retired from the Canadian Forces.

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**MARCELLA, Timothy David**  
Lieutenant-Colonel  
Commanding Officer – National Support Element, Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 04 August 2012  
GH: 13 November 2012  
DOI: April to November 2010



“As commanding officer of the National Support Element in Afghanistan from April to November 2010, Lieutenant-Colonel Marcella demonstrated leadership and professionalism while providing logistics support to Canadian and coalition forces. Working in Afghanistan’s complex counter-insurgency environment, he ensured effective support throughout the vast area of operations. Lieutenant-Colonel Marcella’s endeavours helped to advance international efforts in the country and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – General Campaign Star with Expedition ribbon and one extra tour bar – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – UNDOF with 3 tours – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO with Kosovo bar – CD and Bar

He became the Dean of the Canadian Army Command and Staff College, Kingston, Ontario.

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**MARQUIS, Jean-Christian**  
Major – Royal 22e Regiment  
Commander ‘C’ Company, R22eR Battle Group JTF Afghanistan

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012  
GH: 13 November 2012  
DOI: November 2010 to June 2011



“As commander of the C Company Combat Team deployed to Afghanistan from November 2010 to June 2011, Major Marquis distinguished himself by his tactical agility. In his battlespace, he prevailed over numerous incidents caused by, among other things, improvised explosive devices; he faced the enemy on several occasions; and he became involved with the local population. Even when faced with the loss of soldiers and the complex challenges of combat, Major Marquis contributed greatly to the team’s success and to improved stability in his area of operations.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia - CD

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**MANSFIELD, Daniel Pius** MSM CD CG: 08 December 2012  
Warrant Officer GH: 13 November 2012  
Engineering Advisor – Task Force Kandahar Engineer Regiment, Afghanistan DOI: August 2010 to July 2011

“Warrant Officer Mansfield was deployed as the Task Force Kandahar Engineer Regiment Operations warrant officer from August 2010 to July 2011. As the engineer advisor to the Tactical Operations Centre, he ensured the optimal allocation of engineering resources and coordinated explosive ordnance disposal activities. He also contributed to the provision of accurate information regarding threat levels and enabled the acquisition of equipment that would have otherwise been inaccessible to the task force. Warrant Officer Mansfield’s efforts and leadership were critical to the operational success of the engineer regiment.”

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**McKENNA, Christopher Alan** OMM MSC MSM CD CG: 08 December 2012  
Major – Royal Canadian Air Force GH: 13 November 2012  
Officer Commanding – Chinook Flights, Cdn Helicopter Air Wing - Afghanistan DOI: July 2010 to April 2011

“As the officer commanding Chinook Flight within the Canadian Helicopter Force (Afghanistan) from July 2010 to April 2011, Major McKenna was vital to the execution of helicopter operations, which provided critical support to Canadian and coalition ground forces. A proven airman and an officer of the highest standard, he forged a professional and cohesive team that guaranteed operational success. Whether in the air or in the planning room, Major McKenna demonstrated a level of performance and leadership that reinforced Canada’s reputation for excellence in aviation.”

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

Awarded the **Meritorious Service Cross (MSC)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 04 January 2020 in the Rank of Colonel as Commander of the Canadian Forces in the United Nations mission in Mali.

**Medals:** OMM – MSC - MSM – Southwest Asia with Afghanistan Clasp – General Campaign Star with SWA Ribbon and 1 extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Mali – NATO Bosnia – CD and Bar







**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**RUEBEN, Alexander Franz Georg**  
Captain(N) – Royal Canadian Navy  
Commander – Canadian Forces Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Breton

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012  
GH: 13 November 2012  
DOI: 2004 to 2009



“As commander of the Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Breton from 2004 to 2009, Captain(N) Rueben made invaluable contributions to the future of the Royal Canadian Navy, and that of the Canadian shipbuilding and repair industry. His visionary efforts to forge strategic partnerships connecting the Canadian Forces, government and industry enabled the success of the National Shipbuilding and Procurement Strategy and the establishment of the Marine Training and Applied Research Centre. Captain(N) Rueben’s personal engagement and perseverance in achieving broad co-operation brought strategic benefits to Canada.”

**Medals:** MSM - CD

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**SCHOLTEN, Scott**

MSM

CG: 08 December 2012  
GH: 13 November 2012  
DOI: 20 August 2011

Corporal – Royal Canadian Air Force  
Firefighter Response to the *First Air* aircraft Crash in the Arctic - Op Nanook



“Deployed as a firefighter during Operation *Nanook* in 2011, Corporal Scholten demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism throughout the crash response to First Air Flight 6560 on 20 August 2011. Arriving at the scene as a first responder, he hiked approximately 800 metres over adverse terrain while carrying his breathing apparatus, tools and extinguishers in order to rescue victims of the accident. His personal actions, speed and endurance led to three severely injured passengers being promptly rescued from the scene. Corporal Scholten’s exceptional contribution enhanced civil–military co-operation and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

**Medals:** MSM - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon plus 1 extra tour bar – SSM with bar  
NATO - Peacekeeping

**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**SIMONEAU, Éric David**

OMM MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 13 November 2012

Commanding Officer – Canadian Helicopter Forces, Afghanistan

DOI: July 2010 to April 2011

“Lieutenant-Colonel Simoneau, Commanding Officer of the Canadian Helicopter Force Afghanistan from July 2010 to April 2011, distinguished himself by his leadership and dedication. He optimized air support effectiveness by supporting a high number of deliberate operations and air assaults, transporting more passengers and cargo, and ensuring an uninterrupted combat supply. Following an aircraft crash, he developed a plan that would minimize the effects of such a loss. Lieutenant-Colonel Simoneau’s leadership and initiatives greatly contributed to operational success.



Awarded **Officer of the Order of Military Merit (OMM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 08 December 2012 in the rank of Colonel.

**Medals:** OMM - MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan - General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon plus 1 extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UN Haiti - NATO bar Croatia – CD and Bar

**Colonel Éric David SIMONEAU, OMM, MSM, CD  
Wing Commander – 2 Wing CFB Bagotville**

Colonel Simoneau spent most of his career serving in Tactical Aviation in Kingston, Valcartier and Ottawa. During these postings, he deployed to Haïti, Kosovo and, on three occasions, to Afghanistan. His most recent deployment was to Kandahar as commander of the tactical helicopter unit on Roto10. Colonel Simoneau has also taken part in a number of domestic operations, including Op SABOT, the forest fires in Northern Québec, Op RÉCUPÉRATION in the Montréal area, Op GRIZZLY in Kananaskis, Op QUADRILLE in Québec and Op NANOOK and NARWAL in northern Canada.



During his posting to 1 Wing Headquarters, he held the position of head of operations management. This function generally involved harmonizing operational requirements and financial imperatives. Before being posted to 2 Wing Bagotville, Colonel Simoneau held a section head position in the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff (VCDS) Group/Chief of Program where he was in charge of force planning with respect to human and organizational resources.

Colonel Simoneau has a Bachelor’s degree in Administration from Royal Military College of Canada St-Jean and a Master’s in Defence Studies, which he earned while taking his joint command and staff course in Toronto.

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

<b>STALKER, Mason James</b>	MSM* CD	CG: 08 December 2012
Lieutenant-Colonel - PPCLI	<b>BAR</b>	GH: 13 November 2012
Commanding Officer – Cdn Contingent Regional Command South Afghanistan		DOI: September 2010 to October 2011

“Lieutenant-Colonel Stalker displayed leadership and tactical acumen as the commanding officer of the Canadian contingent at Regional Command (South) Headquarters and as executive officer to the deputy commanding general from September 2010 to October 2011. Responsible for operations in the most volatile and violent region of Afghanistan, he was instrumental to operational success and significantly contributed to defeating the insurgents. Lieutenant-Colonel Stalker’s performance was of a high standard and brought honour to the Canadian Forces and to Canada.

Awarded **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 07 April 2007 in the rank of Captain, PPCLI.

Awarded **Bronze Star (USA)** as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 September 2012 in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, PPCLI.

Awarded the **Polish Armed Forces Medal in Gold** as per the Honours and Recognition book CAF 2024 in the rank of Colonel.

Awarded **Defense Meritorious Service Medal (USA)** as pr the Honours and Recognition book cAF 2024 in the rank of Colonel.

**Medals:** MSM and Bar – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and one additional tour bar – Peacekeeping – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – NATO bar Croatia – CD – USA Bronze Star – Defense Meritorious Service Medal (USA) - Polish Armed Forces Medal in Gold.



March 2018: A high-ranking military officer who is suing National Defence for making "false and malicious" sexual assault allegations against him has been promoted and will take up a significant overseas assignment, CBC News has learned. It was announced Friday in the latest promotions list that Lt.-Col. Mason Stalker will be elevated to the rank of full colonel and appointed as the deputy chief of major operations at NATO headquarters in Brussels. His lawsuit against both the defence department and the armed forces, which alleges military police were negligent, is ongoing.



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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**ST-LOUIS, Michel-Henri**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal 22e Regiment

GH: 13 November 2012

Commanding Officer – R22eR Battle Group JTF Afghanistan

DOI: November 2010 to July 1011

“Commanding officer of the battle group deployed to Afghanistan from November 2010 to July 2011, Lieutenant-Colonel St-Louis distinguished himself by his leadership and tactical acumen. A confident and innovative leader, he orchestrated and led numerous focused and aggressive operations in partnership with Afghan kandaks and, in so doing, halted the annual spring surge of insurgents in the Horn of Panjwayi. Lieutenant-Colonel St-Louis’ dedication and infectious enthusiasm enabled the battle group to make tremendous progress in security and governance in this vast and complex battlespace.”

**Medals:** MSM – Southwest Asia with bar Afghanistan – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon and extra tour bar – Peacekeeping – UNPROFOR – NATO bar former Yugoslavia – CD and Bar



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**TURNER, Richard Cimon**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

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

GH: 13 November 2012

Deputy Commanding Officer – 1 PPCLI Battle Group JTF Afghanistan

DOI: October 2009 to May 2010

“As a battle group deputy commanding officer in Afghanistan from October 2009 to May 2010, Major Turner played a critical role in executing a fundamental change in the coalition’s approach to counter-insurgency operations. As additional forces and aid agencies surged into Afghanistan, he led the development and implementation of collaborative military-civilian district stabilization plans that, for the first time, fully synchronized security, governance, reconstruction and development operations. Major Turner’s leadership united an array of multinational partners, which ensured the success of this critical process and brought great credit to Canada.” Operation Athena Rotation 8

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**CITATIONS to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (Military) (MSM)**

**WEST, Kevin Charles**

MMM MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Chief Warrant Officer – Canadian Armed Forces

GH: 13 November 2012

Chief Warrant Officer – Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing

DOI: March to August 2011



“Chief Warrant Officer West played a critical role in optimizing morale and maintaining mission focus as chief warrant officer of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing from March to August 2011. He mentored senior personnel, provided sage advice to command, and developed robust plans to resolve identified deficiencies in force protection and personnel recognition. Chief Warrant Officer West’s efforts contributed directly to the unit’s effectiveness and to overall operational success in Afghanistan; his leadership and professionalism brought great credit to both the air wing and the Canadian Forces.”

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

**Medals:** MMM – MSM – General Campaign Star with

SWA ribbon – SSM with bar NATO – Peacekeeping – EIIR Diamond Jubilee - CD and bar



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**ZIMMER, Christopher John**

MSM CD

CG: 08 December 2012

Lieutenant-Colonel – Royal Canadian Air Force

GH: 13 November 2012

HQ Commanding Officer & Wing Chief of Staff – JTF Afghanistan Air Wing

DOI: March to September 2011



“As headquarters commanding officer and wing chief of staff of the Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing at Kandahar Airfield from March to September 2011, Lieutenant-Colonel Zimmer demonstrated the highest calibre of initiative, leadership and support. Whether streamlining processes, instituting morale and welfare programs, or establishing relationships with other headquarters, he ensured that all staff executed their tasks to a consistently high standard. In addition, his planning effectively positioned the unit for successful mission transition as the Canadian Forces left Kandahar. Lieutenant-Colonel Zimmer’s efforts contributed directly to the success of the air wing and brought great credit to the Canadian Forces.”

**Medals:** MSM – General Campaign Star with SWA ribbon – Peacekeeping – NATO bar Former Yugoslavia - CD