

of Indonesian regular troops, Lieutenant Ranbahadur's great courage, resourcefulness, inspiring leadership and tactical skill were the main factors which enabled his Platoon to prevent the enemy from over-running the position and continuing their penetration.

Distinguished Conduct Medal

21135475 Sergeant BARMALAL LIMBU, 2nd Battalion, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles.

Having placed half his force in ambush some 2,000 yards distant Sergeant Barmalal was, with 10 men, in a temporary resting-place. At 1500 hours he received warning from one of his sentries that a very large enemy force was about to attack a longhouse near his position. Although the enemy were unaware of his presence, he placed the need to protect the defenceless civilians in the longhouse before the security of his own small party and unhesitatingly ordered that the enemy be engaged.

During the four hours before nightfall over 120 regular troops supported by mortars and at least three medium machine guns made three separate, determined but unsuccessful attacks on our position. In each case their vastly superior numbers and the weight of small arms fire concentrated on the defenders carried them to within yards of their objective before being beaten back. Throughout the whole battle Sergeant Barmalal, regardless of his own safety, moved amongst his men, personally re-siting some, adding his own fire to positions under the greatest threat and encouraging all by his calm and commanding bearing.

When a strong group of enemy were seen to be forming up for their final assault in dead ground dangerously close to his position he took four men with him and crawled forward to a position from which he was able to drive this party off with grenades.

The third attack was launched through scrub which afforded a covered approach up to his position. Ordering the light machine gun and four men to cover the open approaches, Sergeant Barmalal led the remainder to a detached position from which he could better meet this new threat. For thirty minutes this small group, inspired by their commander, waged an intense battle in the undergrowth at point blank range. At one stage the enemy actually penetrated his position before being driven back, Sergeant Barmalal accounting personally for at least two of their casualties.

With his ammunition all but exhausted he nevertheless asked to remain when ordered to break contact and withdraw. He continued to hold his position until the enemy withdrew under cover of their supporting fire at 2100 hours, taking with them their casualties. Searches on the following day showed these to have been heavy.

Throughout six hours of battle, fought with the utmost ferocity and determination by both sides, the premeditated bravery, professional skill, aggressive leadership and selfless example under fire displayed by this junior Sergeant were unquestionably responsible for the successful tactical defeat, by a small force, of an enemy who outnumbered them by twelve to one. Sergeant Barmalal's conduct on this day was in the highest traditions of his Race, his Regiment and the British Army.

Military Medal

22548546 Sergeant Brian BATY, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's).

During the night 2nd-3rd August the platoon position at Pa Lungan was fired on by an Indonesian mortar. At 0615 hours on the morning of 3rd August Sergeant Baty and his tracker team were flown into Pa Lungan with orders to locate the base plate position and follow up as rapidly as possible. A half platoon was ordered to support Sergeant Baty and the trackers.

He located the base plate position and reported that the enemy party which was about 16 strong had moved back along the border track about 6 hours earlier. Sergeant Baty followed fast and by 1000 hours he estimated that the enemy was now only 3 hours ahead.

At about 1230 hours the dog, pointed, was lifted from the track and replaced by visual trackers, who shortly heard foreign voices and contacted the enemy at about 10 yards range. The enemy saw the tracker

team and opened fire at the same time as they themselves were seen. The enemy had the advantage of higher ground and using a light machine gun pinned down the tracker team.

By sending the half platoon support group on a right flanking manoeuvre Sergeant Baty cleared the position of enemy who withdrew towards the border. Two enemy dead were found in this position. On reconstruction it is believed that this position was occupied by about 30 enemy being the mortar party and their support group.

The enemy party then ran into a "cut off" ambush which had by then been placed on the border crossing.

Sergeant Baty searched the area, a considerable quantity of abandoned weapons, ammunition and equipment was recovered. The enemy suffered six dead, one wounded and several believed wounded.

The success of this operation was due entirely to the speed of movement in the follow up and to the determined leadership and aggressive action shown by Sergeant Baty.

Military Medal

21138481 Corporal BOMBABADUR GURUNG, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles.

On 10th December 1964, Corporal Bombahadur Gurung commanding a group of 12 men who had been ordered to go from their platoon base area near the Indonesian border, in the Fourth Division of Sarawak, to collect supplies from a landing zone.

On their way Bombahadur Gurung's men came under heavy fire from a party of Indonesian regular Raider Battalion troops. The strength of this party was reliably estimated to be 90, and many were armed with automatic weapons.

Isolated and heavily outnumbered, Corporal Bombahadur immediately realised that only by resolute and determined action could he and his party hope to survive. Although completely surrounded he rallied his men and by repeated sharp counter attacks inflicted severe casualties on the enemy, and kept them at bay until reinforced some hours later by the remainder of his platoon.

At one time when the enemy nearly gained a foothold on the position, Bombahadur again rallied a small group and after a few minutes of intense close-quarter fighting this enemy party was forced to withdraw.

Throughout the time that this heroic party fought this action Corporal Bombahadur Gurung was in the forefront of the fire-fight. His tactical skill, positive leadership and utter disregard for his own safety was an inspiration to those he commanded, and undoubtedly contributed towards the success of this action.

Military Medal

21137441 Lance Corporal AMARJIT PUN, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).

Lance Corporal Amarjit Pun was second in Command of the point section of Number 10 Platoon, C Company, which was ambushed on the border South of Kumpang Langir by the enemy on 29th August 1964.

The enemy waited until Lance Corporal Amarjit's section had started entering the killing ground before opening fire at point-blank range. The point section commander was seriously wounded, another non-commissioned officer killed, a rifleman wounded and the light machine gun team knocked out, with the Number 2 killed and the Number 1 wounded, Lance Corporal Amarjit at once took command of the section and rushed for the fallen Bren gun in order to pick it up and turn it upon the enemy. No sooner did he seize the gun than it was struck by enemy fire and put out of action. Lance Corporal Amarjit then turned his own weapon on the enemy. Regardless of cover and his own safety, he stood up at the edge of the track in the centre of the enemy's killing ground, fully exposed to rapid fire from ten yards range. From this position, yelling encouragement to the men in his section this brave non-commissioned officer poured magazine after magazine from his machine gun into the enemy ambush position until the Indonesians' fire dwindled and they commenced to pull out in retreat. During this time three enemy bullets hit different parts of Lance Corporal Amarjit's equipment.

His audacity and courage in the face of heavy odds and his complete disregard for his own safety was