

11 Cdn Inf Brigade 5 Cdn Armd Division 1 Cdn Corps

Date recommendation  
passed forward

Received

Passed

1 Sep 44

Brigade

17 Sep

16 Oct 44

Division

Corps

17 Oct

23

Army

24 Oct 44

5 Nov 44

Schedule No.

(to be left blank)

Unit The Perth Regiment, CIG

Army No. and Rank

Major (Acting Lieutenant Colonel)

Name

William Wright REID

(Christian names must be stated)

Action for which commended  
(Date and place of action must be stated)Recommended  
byHonour  
or  
Reward(To be  
left blank)

On 30 August 1944, during the attack on Feature 111 in the GOTHIC LINE, the leading Company of the Perth Regiment was held up by heavy machine-gun fire. After going forward to contact them, Lieutenant Colonel REID organized an attack and by first light the Battalion, supported by a Squadron of tanks, had captured its objective, and had exploited to Feature 147, well inside the GOTHIC LINE.

The Battalion was then ordered to capture Feature 204. At this time the whole area was subjected to very heavy Artillery and mortar fire. Disregarding the fire, Lieutenant-Colonel REID contacted a Squadron of the 2 Canadian Armoured Regiment (LASH)(RC) and planned the attack. By night fall, under intense shelling, the Battalion had gained it's objective, and although wounded Lieutenant Colonel REID moved about organizing the defence of the area.

At 0150 hours 31 August 1944, the position was attacked by a Company of Infantry, supported by two Self-Propelled guns.

(Overleaf)

*about 1/2*  
(1 S Johnston) Brig  
Comd 11 Cdn Inf Bde

Distinguished Service Order  
(Immediate)

(E.L.M. Beane)  
LT. GEN.  
S.O.G. 1 Cdn Corps

OCT 1944

(4/11) R. L. Hetherington 1/4/45  
406 Coy 1st Army

P.T.O.

Lieutenant Colonel REID organized a counter-attack and personally formed two PIAT teams to engage the Self-Propelled guns. One of the PIATs was knocked out and number 1 on the other became a casualty. Lieutenant Colonel REID took over the remaining PIAT and crawling forward himself, knocked out the two Self-Propelled guns. The enemy attack was driven off with heavy losses, but some of the enemy had infiltrated the position and Lieutenant-Colonel REID was again wounded by a German hand grenade. Although in great pain he refused to be evacuated until the position had been consolidated and the Second-in-Command was on his way forward to relieve him.

The courageous leadership, energy and determination displayed by Lieutenant-Colonel REID enabled his Battalion to be the first to gain a successful foothold in the GOTHIC LINE.

**Recommended:**

(B M Hoffmeister) Maj Gen  
GOC 5 Cdn Armd Div

If a casualty as under, fill in date.

Nature of Casualty	Date
Killed in action	
Died of Wounds	
Died	
Missing	
Prisoner of War	

GRANTED AN IMMEDIATE

D50

(Sgd). H.R. Alexander.

FIELD MARSHAL