

SIXTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

17-9-18

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N

for

C R O I X D E G U E R R E

on behalf of

NAME COLLERY M.M.
Christian Names James Michael
Rank Sergeant
Regimental Number 4388
Arm. Infantry
Unit. 24th Battalion A.I.F.

Action for which commended

Throughout the operations which began on August 8th and culminated in the capture of MONT ST.QUENTIN on September 1st Sergeant COLLERY comported himself magnificently.

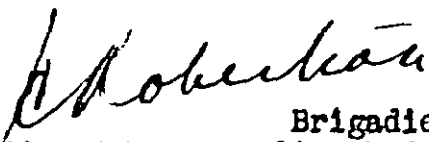
At all times and under all conditions his devotion to duty was admirable.

At FONTAINE LES CAPPY on August 27th he had charge of a Platoon, and by day under heavy shell fire he very skilfully led his platoon forward to a distance of 800 yards. Here he met with slight resistance and entrenched.

Without hesitation he went forward alone, made a personal reconnaissance, and established a sound system of outposts. From 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. that same night he patrolled NO MAN'S LAND with two men. At dawn the next morning the Battalion advanced to a depth of 4 kilometres, and again met enemy resistance. Sgt. COLLERY here took charge of another daylight patrol, and did inestimable work.

On September 1st during the attack on MONT ST.QUENTIN, he displayed all the qualities that go to make a leader of men.

Utterly disregarding danger, he led forward his half-platoon with skill and initiative. On three separate occasions he went out alone and made personal reconnaissances preparatory to further advance, and it was largely due to his splendid leadership, that his platoon was enabled to penetrate the village in the morning.


Brigadier-General,
Commanding 6th Australian Infantry Brigade

17th September, 1918.