

Brigade.  
Division.

Received.

Army Form W.3421.

14th Aust. Infantry Brigade. 5th Australian Division. Australian Corps. 4-1-19. Date of Recommendation.

Schedule No. (to be left blank)	Unit	Regtl. No.	Rank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
	56th Infantry Battalion, A.I.F.	2965	Sergeant Alexander Ignatius O'CONNOR.	<p>At PERONNE during period 1st/2nd September Sergeant A.I.O'CONNOR showed magnificent gallantry, initiative and leadership in the face of the enemy. During the attack of the 1st September, when his Battalion was in reserve and under heavy artillery fire, he exhibited very fine judgment in the handling of his Platoon.</p> <p>During the attack of the 2nd the first wave of the attack, consisting of three companies, came under a heavy enemy artillery barrage before it had reached its start line and the whole of the Officers became casualties, Sergeant O'Connor took charge and, under a terrific artillery fire, got the men of the three companies on the start line and launched and personally lead the attack. Later, when the attack was held up by heavy machine gun fire, he moved from group to group gradually getting his line forward until the flank gaps had been filled.</p> <p>The initiative displayed by Sgt. O'Connor was responsible for the attack developing, and attacking troops on the flanks were saved very heavy casualties if not disaster. He had charge of the line until reserve troops came up, a period of 2½ hours, during which time he continuously exposed himself to terrific fire, and his example and cool judgment gave confidence to all, and provided an example of a critical situation being saved by the resource and dogged courage of one man.</p> <p>He is a N.C.O. who possesses soldierly qualities and tactical skill in an unusual degree and I strongly recommend him for the MEDAILLE BARBATTIE 1<sup>re</sup> CREDITA, 2nd Class.</p>	<p><i>H.L. Connor</i> Major. Commanding 56th Battalion A.I.F.</p>	Medaille Barbatie 1 <sup>re</sup> Credinta, 2nd Class.	

This N.C.O. has been awarded the D.C.M. but has not received or been recommended for any other award.  
No. Rank and Name have been verified and are correct.