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In lieu of Army Form W. 3121

Date Recommendation passed forward

HQ SAS Tps Brigade Div *Airborne* Corps
 Schedule No Unit *1 SAS Regt AAC*
 Army No and rank *132513 WS/Capt (T/Major)*
 Name *FRASER William M.C.*

	Received	Passed
Brigade	<i>5 Nov 44</i>	<i>6 Dec 44</i>
Division		
Corps	<i>9 Dec 44</i>	<i>24 Dec 44</i>
Army		<i>1086</i>

Action for which commended.	Recomm by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
<p>Maj Fraser in command of 'A' Sqn, 1 SAS Regt, was dropped behind the enemy lines by parachute on the night of 10/11 Jun 44, near VIEUXDUN to the west of DIJON, with a reconnaissance party to establish a base for his Sqn. This he did, and ten days later he was joined by the whole of his Sqn. From that day until they were relieved on Sep 8th, the Sqn, under his direction, carried out continued and forceful attacks against the enemy's transport and lines of communications, and sent back daily a large amount of invaluable information about enemy movements, etc.</p> <p>Major Fraser himself lead many mobile patrols. While on one of these on Aug 29th Major Fraser in a jeep unexpectedly came to a main road along which a German troop carrying convoy was moving. Major Fraser immediately opened fire, called up his section of six</p> <p><i>29791</i></p>	<p><i>B. Lupton</i> <i>Major</i></p> <p><i>Commander</i> <i>Br</i> <i>COY. MAJOR.</i> <i>S.A.S. GROUPS.</i></p> <p><i>R. N. Gale</i> <i>R. N. GALE, Maj-Gen,</i> <i>Comd Airborne Corps.</i></p> <p><i>3. 45</i></p>	<p><i>BAR TO</i> <i>M.C.</i></p> <p><i>Previous Awards.</i> <i>M.C. - 23/4/42 - (W. Desert)</i></p> <p><i>J.P.B.</i> <i>M.S.</i> <i>14. 1. 45</i></p>	

Reference -

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men, and continued to engage the enemy for half an hour with two Bren guns and carbines before withdrawing, causing many casualties and much confusion. Major Fraser then withdrew along a side path which ran parallel to the main road and engaged another convoy on the main road, again causing confusion, though casualties could not be observed.

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Major Fraser then withdrew the section into a wood to have something to eat and reload magazines, etc before it got dark. While there a third convoy was heard approaching. Leaving the section to continue the work in charge of a BOB Major Fraser, with one man and a Bren gun creaked over to the edge of the main road and engaged the convoy at fifty yards range. This time they were more on the alert and MGs, mortars, and a bigger gun were fired off in all directions... Major Fraser continued firing until confusion was completely rife among the enemy. He then went back to his section and withdrew them to the wood. Two hours later the 'battle' was still heard to be raging. Next morning while visiting the scene of his first section, two German cars with seven officers aboard, came down the road and all were destroyed.

Throughout the three months that he was behind the enemy lines, Major Fraser's untiring leadership and spirit kept his men alert and their morale high, and kept the enemy guessing and continually harassed. Major Fraser was entirely responsible for the great success of the operation 'SPIDER HOLE' and his courage and resources were of the highest order.

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