

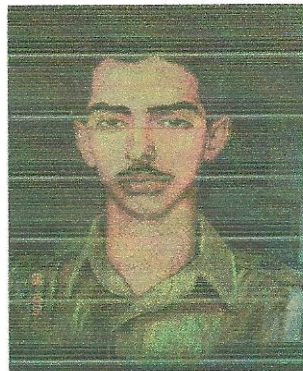
DETAILS OF GALLANTRY AWARDEE

1. Details of Awardee.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|
| (a) | Service No | - | IC-14015 |
| | Name | - | Maj Sat Parkash Verma, VrC |
| (b) | Unit with which offr was serving when awarded | - | 3/8 Gorkha Rifles |
| (c) | Award | - | Posthumous |
| | Date of Award | - | 15 Aug 1966 |
| | Op in which awarded | - | Indo-Pakistan War, 1965 |
| (d) | School | - | St. Edwards School, Shimla |
| | | - | Government College, Chandigarh |
| | NDA Course | - | 22 |
| | Sqn | - | Kilo Sqn |
| (e) | Contact No | - | +910172- 774112, 724794 |
| | Address | - | # 100, Sector 18-A,
Chandigarh – 160018 |
| | Details of family | - | Mr Sudhir Verma - Brother |

2. Soft Copy of the photo and citation of the awardee.

MAJ SAT PARKASH VERMA, VrC (POSTHUMOUS)



CITATION PUBLISHED ON THE OCCASION OF INVESTITURE
CEREMONY (DEFENCE) BY PRESIDENT OF INDIA
ON 1ST NOVEMBER, 1966

VIR CHAKRA

A/MAJOR SAT PARKASH VERMA (IC-14015)
THE GORKHA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)

Major Sat Parkash Verma was the leading Company Commander of a force deployed for an attack on an objective in Jammu and Kashmir, approach to which was barred by a high stone wall. When his assault was temporarily halted by the enemy, he directed the fire of his rocket launchers and managed to cause a breach in the stone wall and enemy bunkers. Subsequently, he over-ran the enemy forward positions. Despite heavy enemy fire, he led his men resolutely and silenced the enemy bunkers one by one. When two Pakistani soldiers came out and attacked him, he killed both of them with his "Khukri". He was, however, hit in the stomach by two bursts of enemy MMG. Even then he continued to encourage his men and ultimately the objective was captured. Later, however, he succumbed to his wounds.

A/Major Sat Parkash Verma displayed gallantry and leadership of a high order.

3. Brief of the Specific Op in which the Offr was Awarded.

(a) During the Indo-Pak conflict in 1965, THUD AITE (3/8 GR) fought one of the most daring Gallant and heroic battles of the war at Sunjoi. The Bn was entrusted with the responsibility of capturing Sunjoi in the Tithwal Bulge in Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) On the fateful night of 3/4 Sep 65, the brave sons of THUD AITE went into action against all odds, two colns, one commanded by Maj SP Verma and the other by Maj SC Naithani attacked Sunjoi simultaneously from two different directions. 'A' coy who were leading the main attack came under hy and accurate MMG fire from an en posn, loc behind a 7 ft height wall. Lnk Raj Bahadur Gurung, the leading Sec Cdr and his PI Cdr Sub Man Bahadur Gurung crawled through en mine fd and destroyed the en MMG pill box. 'A' Coy Cdr Maj SP Verma unmindful of his pers safety charged the en with a gren in his hand. No sooner he had thrown the gren into the en loc; he was mortally hit by a MMG burst into his stomach. Seeing their revered Coy Cdr fall, 'A' Coy charged with such ferocity, that the en abandoned the loc and fled. Finally the two colns got merged at Sunjoi Top.

(c) After the capture of Sunjoi, Capt SL Puri and his valiant aslt gp were holding a vulnerable flank waiting for the inevitable counter attack. Two counter attacks were beaten back. The third came in str and the en was bent on silencing this flank. During this counter attack on 5th Sep, Capt SL Puri and three ORs were killed. Maj SP Verma, Sub Man Bahadur Gurung and Lnk Raj Bahadur Gurung were awarded the Vir Chakra immediately for the gallant part played by them during the capture of Sunjoi.

(d) The full details of the gallant and bravery shown by Maj SP Verma, VrC were as follows :-

(i) Maj SP Verma was one of the leading Coy Cdr of the force attacking Sunjoi. Throughout his Coy aslt, he was with his leading PI – directing, encouraging and personally firing an LMG on the en. He, without caring for his safety, led his men most resolutely and silenced the en bunker after bunker.

(ii) In silencing one of the en bunkers two Pak soldiers came out and attacked him. He used his deadly 'Khukri' and cut them.

(iii) Later his Coy over ran half of this en stronghold, two MMG bursts hit him in the stomach. He sat down and despite very serious wounds in his stomach, encouraged his men to move fwd and clear the en from this posn. lmdt more fire came from other en bunkers.

(iv) Maj Verma, though seriously wounded and almost fainting because loss of blood, ordered his men to clear the en and leave him alone. His Coy hearing these words from their Cdr fell on the en like enraged tigers and very soon secured the Coy obj very effectively.

(v) No sooner Maj Verma heard the success sig of his Coy, this gallant young ldr exhausted and very much weakened from loss of blood breathed his last.

4. Achievements of Op.

(a) The cease fire line ran along the Kishanganga R opposite Tithwal till a couple of miles south of Mirpur when it turned east and then ran parallel to the river to meet it again a few miles to the north. Thus, a large tract to the east of Kishanganga R came under Pak Cont. It was used as a launch pad for infiltrating into the Kashmir Valley. There were three bridges on the river, which gave free access to the east bank. The Bde was ordered to drive the Pakistani's from this bulge and destroy the three bridges. This task necessitated the capture of Sunjoi feature, which dominated this area and gave access to territory further north. The 3/8 Gorkha Rifles was assigned the task to capture Sunjoi. At that stg, the Bn was just two years old.

(b) The Pakistani's had their Special Task Bde HQ and one Coy of 15 FF on Sunjoi Lower. Sunjoi Top was heavily defended with two Coys supported by Mors and MMG. Sunjoi Right was a small feature held by one PI. Between this PI post and Sunjoi Top was a ridge, which had steep slopes on either side. This narrow ridge was also the only approach which was covered by LMGs and MMGs suitably dply.

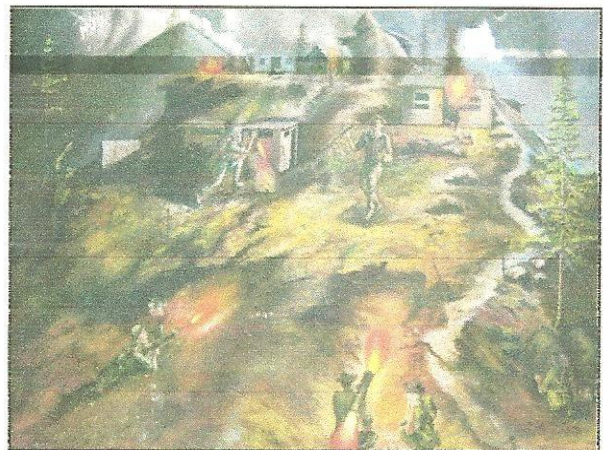
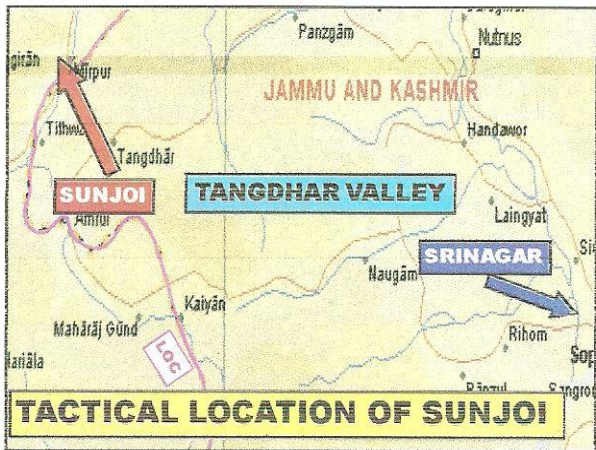
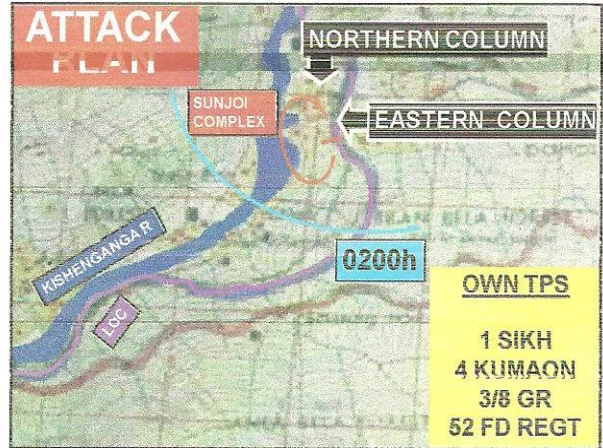
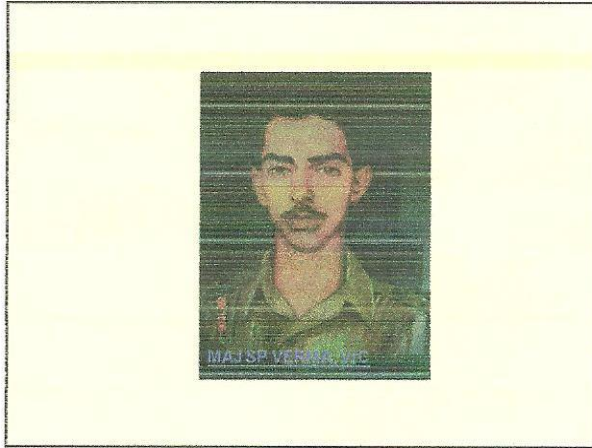
(c) Despite of all odds, the oftrs and men under the comd of Lt Col OP Kapur showed exemplary gallant and bravery.

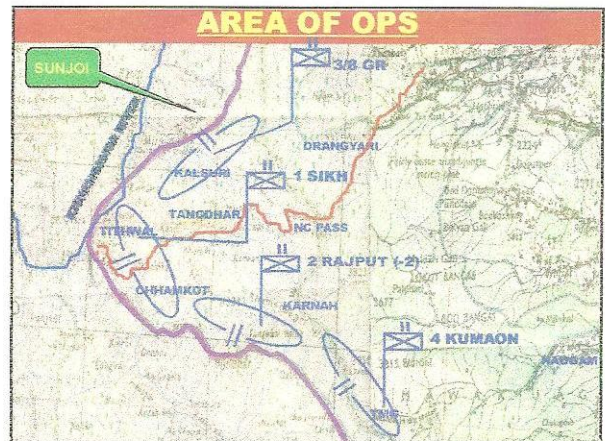
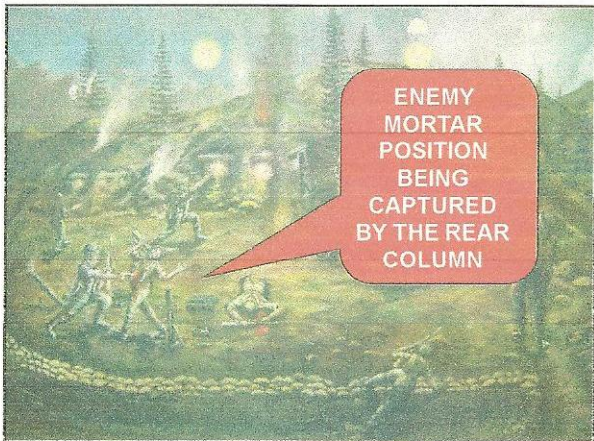
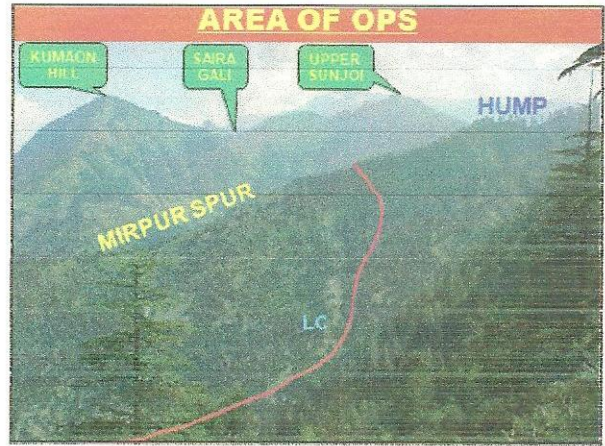
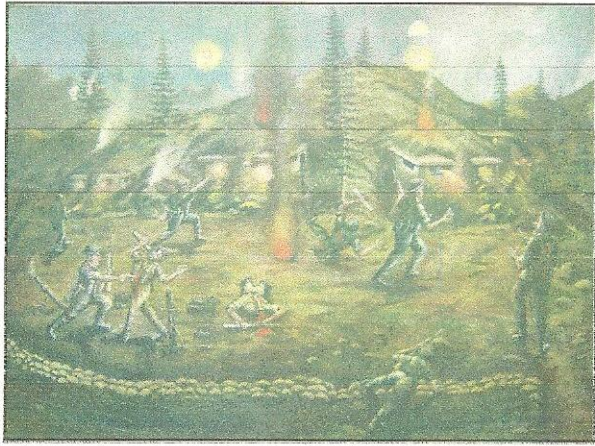
(d) Since Pak was having a Tac HQ at Sunjoi, which could have been used for infilt into our land but the gallant and brave efforts of the oftrs and men wiped out their any plan of infilt and secured tac posn at Sunjoi Top.

(e) During the Ops in the Tangdhar sector, the 3/8 GR was awarded the following gallantry awards :-

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|---|----|---|
| (i) | Vir Chakras | - | 04 | (Maj SP Verma, Sub Nanda Bahadur Gurung, Sub Man Bahadur Gurung and Lnk Raj Bahadur Gurung) |
| (ii) | Sena Medals | - | 05 | (Capt Am Bahadur Gurung SM in 1962 (Bar to his Sena Medal), Capt SL Puri (Posthumous), CHM Birta Prasad Gurung, L/Hav Kul Prasad Gurung and Rfn Bhakta Kishore Gurung (Posthumous) in 1965) |
| (iii) | Mentioned-in Despatches | - | 03 | (Sub Tek Bahadur Pun, Nb Sub Gal Bahadur Ale and Nk Santa Bir Gurung) |

(f) For the capture of Sunjoi, the Bn was awarded '**Sunjoi-Mirpur**' as a **Battle Honour** and '**Jammu & Kashmir 1965**' as a **Theatre Honour**.







Maj SP Verma, VrC

51

3/8 Gorkha Rifles
PIN-910203
c/o 56 APO

1751/PRI

23 Dec 2009

58 Gorkha Training Centre
PIN-900332
c/o 99 APO

POST INDEPENDENT BATTLE HONOURS

1. Ref your sig No O-1438/GS(T) dt 18 Dec 2009.
2. The details as asked vide your letter under ref is fwd herewith in hard and soft copy for your further necessary action pl:-
 - (a) Brief Write-up : Post Independent Battle Honour - Appx 'A'
 - (b) Paintings. - Appx 'B'
3. PI ack.



(Ramesh Sariyal)
Maj
2IC
for CO

Encls :- As above

Brief Write-up : Post Independent Battle Honour.

1. During the Indo-Pak conflict in 1965, THUD AITE (3/8 GR) fought one of the Gallant and heroic battles at Sunjoi.
2. The cease fire line ran along the Kishanganga R opposite Tithwal till a couple of miles south of Mirpur when it turned east and then ran parallel to the river to meet it again a few miles to the north. Thus, a large tract to the east of Kishanganga R came under Pak Cont. It was used as a launch pad for infiltrating into the Kashmir Valley. There were three bridges on the river, which gave free access to the east bank. The Bde was ordered to drive the Pakistani's from this bulge and destroy the three bridges. This task necessitated the capture of Sunjoi feature, which dominated this area and gave access to territory further north. The Bn was entrusted with the responsibility of capturing Sunjoi in the Tithwal Bulge in Jammu and Kashmir. At that stg, the Bn was just two years old.
3. On the night of 3/4 Sep 65, the brave sons of THUD AITE went into action against all odds, two colns, one commanded by Maj SP Verma and the other by Maj SC Naithani attacked Sunjoi simultaneously from two different directions. 'A' coy who were leading the main attack came under hy and accurate MMG fire from an en posn, loc behind a 7 ft hight wall. Lnk Raj Bahadur Gurung, the leading Sec Cdr and his Pl Cdr Sub Man Bahadur Gurung crawled through en mine fd and destroyed the en MMG bunker. 'A' Coy Cdr Maj SP Verma unmindful of his pers safety charged the en with a gren in his hand. No sooner he had thrown the gren at the en; he was mortally hit by a MMG burst into his stomach. Seeing their revered Coy Cdr fall, 'A' Coy charged with such ferocity, that the en abandoned the loc and fled. Finally the two colns merged at Sunjoi Top.
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