

Text of Citation for award of Mentioned-in-Despatches to Major Warwick L. H. Smith

Major Warwick Smith was commissioned on 14th December, 1956 and was allotted to the Royal Australian Infantry. He was posted to 9th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment on 27th November, 1967 and was appointed to command A Company. He arrived in South Vietnam on 20th November, 1968.

Since commencing operations, Major Smith has commanded A Company with distinction in a number of encounters with the enemy.

On 10th January, 1969 the leading platoon of A Company contacted a large group of enemy bunkers. Major Smith immediately deployed a second platoon around to a flank and although under fire himself, calmly and effectively controlled artillery fire and airstrikes on to the camp. By aggressive fire and manoeuvre with his platoons, Major Smith forced the enemy to withdraw leaving behind 10 of their number killed, and a large quantity of weapons, ammunition and rice.

On 8th April, 1969, Company encountered a company-sized enemy force in bunkers. A fierce fire-fight developed, but due to Major Smith's skilful deployment of his company and his bold handling of fire support, the enemy was ejected from the camp.

On these and many other occasions, Major Smith has shown cool and determined leadership of high calibre. His conduct of operations with his company reflects great credit on himself and has brought well-merited success in action against the enemy.