

Lundu District of Sarawak which it was believed Indonesian infiltration parties used as a route into Sarawak.

He was a Bren gunner with the ambush party's North flank protection group—a group consisting of 10 Gurkha other ranks. His task was to cover the track which ran parallel to the stream and to kill any enemy approaching down the track or who tried to outflank the ambush position as a whole. Contrary to expectation the enemy, an Indonesian Company over one hundred strong, appeared suddenly from the flank using the track rather than the stream as an axis. Rifleman Ramprasad held his fire until there were 25 Indonesians in his flank group's killing ground and the enemy leading scout was 10 feet from his position. With his initial burst of fire he killed the leading scout and 3 other enemy soldiers. The Indonesian company were quick to react and put in an immediate frontal assault covered by heavy machine-gun fire on Rifleman Ramprasad's group and at the same time commenced trying to outflank the ambush position in order to cut off Support Company's withdrawal. A fierce fire-fight, lasting some 10 minutes, now began between the enemy company and Rifleman Ramprasad's group. In this fight he played a very prominent part, inflicting many casualties on the enemy. The company commander's order for the North flank group to withdraw to reorganise at the rendezvous was now received and Rifleman Ramprasad's party started to break contact and pull back. The enemy, seeing this manoeuvre commence, immediately started to press forward with greater ferocity. Yelling to his platoon commander, who was nearby, that he would cover the North flank group's withdrawal, Rifleman Ramprasad, with no regard for himself, then leapt to his feet in order to get a better view of his targets and proceeded to deal with the enemy. Shouting encouragement to his comrades this brave young soldier withdrew step by step between the retiring North flank group and the enemy. Firing his Bren gun from the hip, Rifleman Ramprasad threw back group after group of charging Indonesians, inflicting yet again many casualties on the enemy. He kept up these tactics until the enemy pressure had slackened sufficiently for his group and platoon to make a clean break to the rendezvous.

Throughout this harsh and confused battle against almost overwhelming odds, Rifleman Ramprasad's behaviour was outstanding. His marksmanship was of a very high order and he inflicted a great number of casualties on the enemy. His fearless example under fire served to encourage the soldiers around him. His personal conduct during the withdrawal phase contributed greatly to his flank group and his platoon reaching the rendezvous without casualties.

Military Medal

21137545 Sergeant DHANKARNA LIMBU, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles.

On 29th August 1965, in the Bau District of Sarawak, Sergeant Dhankarna Limbu of the Assault Pioneer platoon, was attached to a company which had the mission of destroying an enemy force located in the border area. The operational plan was to cordon the position to prevent any escape and then annihilate the enemy by direct assault. Sergeant Dhankarna Limbu was given command of the assault group.

The enemy position was reached at dawn and the cordon was soon established. The position was surrounded by sixty yards of completely open ground. The enemy sentries remained unalerted and Sergeant Dhankarna, leading his group in the stealthy crawl forward to the position, was within fifteen yards of his objective when he was seen by one of the sentries. With surprise lost he immediately killed this enemy and dashed forward to the position but on reaching it could see further positions in depth now manned by the enemy force. A fire fight lasting some 30 minutes developed at a range of less than 30 yards with both sides employing all available weapons to their maximum. The weight of fire was intense but despite the obvious danger Sergeant Dhankarna moved among his group directing their fire at targets he could only pin point by deliberately exposing himself and drawing the enemy fire. His premeditated bravery, inspired leadership and disregard for his own safety throughout this long and most vital phase of the attack inspired all around him. When one of his group was fatally wounded he rendered first aid and carried him out of the line of fire.

When it became apparent that further delay in silencing the enemy would prejudice the success of the operation Sergeant Dhankarna volunteered to lead a part of his group in an assault from the right flank and this achieved complete success. Clearing the immediate enemy position he established himself so that he could dominate at short range the enemy positions in depth and kill those still alive. This bold and most courageous manoeuvre ensured the complete and devastating success, the dead bodies of all twenty of the original force being found when the position was taken. Of this number Sergeant Dhankarna had personally killed four but by far his greatest contribution was the display of those qualities of courage and leadership which so inspired those he led.

Mentions in Despatches

Captain (temporary Major) Francis Fitzralph CHAMBERLAIN (439969), 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, Royal Armoured Corps.
 Lieutenant-Colonel Robert LYON, O.B.E. (288788), Royal Regiment of Artillery.
 22774861 Warrant Officer Class II Ronald BAYNES, Royal Regiment of Artillery.
 22959478 Warrant Officer Class II Gordon CHARGE, Royal Regiment of Artillery.
 23570708 Lance Bombardier (acting Bombardier) Ronald HOWE, Royal Regiment of Artillery.
 Captain (temporary Major) Neville Mervyn WHITE (430480), Corps of Royal Engineers.
 22562123 Sergeant (acting Staff Sergeant) John ELLIOTT, Corps of Royal Engineers.
 23244597 Lance Corporal (acting Corporal) Geoffrey Leigh GILLESPIE, Corps of Royal Engineers.
 Major Robert POPE (400024), Royal Corps of Signals.
 Major John Henry HILD (420855), Royal Corps of Signals.
 22523172 Staff Sergeant Leslie Harold HARVEY, Royal Corps of Signals.
 23211722 Corporal Patrick Joseph GORDON, Royal Corps of Signals.
 Lieutenant-Colonel Archibald Ian Douglas FLETCHER (293471), Scots Guards.
 Major Anthony James Foy (407833), The Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Volunteers).
 Major (Brevet Lieutenant Colonel) (temporary Lieutenant Colonel) Robin Macdonald CARNEGIE, M.B.E. (364503), Queen's Own Hussars.
 Captain (temporary Major) Leonard James LAUDERDALE (449001), 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 Captain (Q.G.O.) SURENDRAMAN GURUNG (469508), 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 Captain (Q.G.O.) THANDRAJ PUN (470305), 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 21145713 Sergeant LALSING THAPA, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 21149107 Rifleman (local Lance Corporal) RESAMBAHADUR THAPA, M.M., 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 21151635 Rifleman BALBAHADUR THAPA (Posthumous), 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 21149155 Rifleman AMARBAHADUR PUN, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 21155355 Rifleman HARIPRASAD THAPA, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 2151472 Rifleman KHARKASING PUN, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).
 Lieutenant (Q.G.O.) BIRKHARAJ GURUNG (477053), 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles.
 21151867 Rifleman TULBAHADUR THAPA, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles.
 21152108 Rifleman SARKIDHAN RAI, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles.
 Lieutenant (Q.G.O.) BHAGISOR LIMBU (477211), 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles.
 21152330 Rifleman DAMBERSING RAI, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles.
 21132787 Warrant Officer Class II GAMARSING THAPA, Gurkha Engineers.
 21151285 Sapper (acting Lance Corporal) MARARSING LIMBU, Gurkha Engineers.
 Captain (Q.G.O.) BALBAHADUR TAMANG (459068), Gurkha Signals.
 Colonel Henry Mark Garneys BOND (198385), late Infantry.