St. Jean, Gerald Joseph Private C70355
No. 4 Company
Canadian Forestry Corps

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**O.C.F. Order**
(31 May 45)

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**COMMENDATION FOR GALLANTRY**

C.70355 Pte. St. Jean, G.V.M., O.C.F. (No. 4 Co.)

1. On the evening of Sunday, 31 May 45, a twelve-year-old girl, while walking on the precipitous bank of a river, slipped and fell in. The river was very cold, and although sluggish there was a dangerous undercurrent. The depth was between 30 and 40 feet. Fortunately, the child was able to cling to the branches of a fallen tree submerged in the water. Pte. St. Jean, who was sitting on the opposite bank, about 200 yards away, heard the cry for help and immediately ran to the scene of the accident. He removed only his cap and coat, even some 50 yards across the river and lifted the girl out of the water. From the water's edge he brought her to safety to the top of the bank by means of a rope with which two nearby residents had attempted to effect a rescue.

2. Pte. St. Jean has been awarded a Testamentary for Gallantry by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Senior Officer, O.C.F., commends this act of gallantry and has directed that it be recorded on this soldier's Conduct Sheet in accordance with R.C.M. (50) 1940, para. 213 (b) (vii).

(Deceased R.C.M. 3260, dated 31 May 45.)

This communique desires to convey his congratulations to the A/M soldier who so greatly risked himself.

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Canada, Military Honours and Awards Citation Cards, 1900-1961

National Defence

Canadian Army Overseas Honours and Awards Citation Details

[Image of a citation card]

1. On the evening of Sunday 28 Feb 43, a twelve-year-old girl, while walking on the precipitous bank of a river, slipped and fell in. The river was very cold, and although sluggish, there was a dangerous under-current. The depth was between 20 and 30 feet. Fortunately, the child was able to cling to the branch of a fallen tree submerged in the water. Pte. St. Jean, who was sitting on the opposite bank, about 500 yards away, heard the cry for help and immediately ran to the scene of the accident. He removed only his cap and tunic, swam some 30 yards across the river and lifted the girl out of the water. From the water's edge he brought her to safety to the top of the bank by means of a rope with which two nearby residents had attempted to effect a rescue.

2. Pte. St. Jean has been awarded a Testimonial on Parchment by the Royal Humane Society. The Senior Officer, C.H.Q., comments this act of gallantry and has directed that it be recorded on this soldier's Conduct Sheet in accordance with R.M. (Eng.) 1939, paras. 531B (b) (xvi).