



## SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

BY MAJOR-GENERAL A. C. MACDONELL,  
C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

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The final act of the war drama, in which this 1st Division has been privileged to play no inconsiderable part, now commences.

The old 1st Canadian Division, and all that that means, in truth the old Guard Division of the Canadian Corps. Carry your minds back to VALCARTIER and the determined eager men there; trace their movement and their record throughout and you will carry your heads high, and march more proudly because of it; 1915 and the 2nd Battle of YPRES placed Canadians at one bound, by universal opinion, in the front rank of the finest troops in France; the Battle of FESTUBERT and holding the line, trench raiding inaugurated by the 2nd C.I.B., the Winter of 1916, holding the line in the Bloody Salient and all that that meant, the hard fighting in June of that year, Canadians still more than holding their own; the Battles of the SOMME, the fierce attacks and heavy losses, but still successes; the Winter of 1916/1917, holding the line on the VIMY RIDGE, the continuous raiding, the glorious victory of VIMY RIDGE and after, ARLEUX and FRESNOY, the Battle of HILL 70 and after, the Battle of PASSCHENDAELE; the Winter of 1917/1918, the Spring and early Summer, again many splendidly dashing raids, holding the line. Our glorious record since August of this year is too well known to require itemized comment. Let it suffice to say that we have had the honour of being in the van every time there was heavy work to do, and every time we broke the enemy's lines and fulfilled the trust our Chief (the Corps Commander)

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placed in us. Witness the following telegram received from him on the night of the 2nd September, which should be known by heart by every member of the Division:—

“ MAJOR-GENERAL A. C. MACDONELL.

Please convey to all ranks of the old Division and attached Units, my sincere admiration for and pride in the magnificent success you have achieved to-day. Your record since taking over the line on August 29th has been simply splendid.

CURRIE.”

In starting on this final march for German territory let us do so with the firm resolve to quit ourselves throughout like men, real soldier men, entrusted with the honour of Canada and the good name of this old 1st Division.

I request that every man who has the honour of wearing the “old red patch” shall so govern himself as to be a model of soldierly efficiency in whatever rank he has the honour to serve, treasuring the fame and good name of the Division in his heart, and enhancing it by his own deportment, zeal and conduct. If this march is conducted in this way it will be a pride and joy for ever to every Canadian who has the good fortune and honour to take part in it in any capacity.

Before closing, I ask that every member of this splendid old Division that I have the honour to command, gives sincere thanks to Almighty God for his protection and the splendid victory vouchsafed to us.

Viewing the past with pride and the future with confidence, let us do the work at hand thoroughly and well, with a prompt and soldierly efficiency that will win the praise of our military superiors or bring joy to the heart of our revered Chief, the Corps Commander.

A. C. MACDONELL, *Major-General.*

November 17th, 1918. Commanding 1st Canadian Division.