



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE



CAPTAIN GAUTAM MUBAYI

SERVICE NUMBER	IC-15689
RANK	Captain
NAME	Gautam Mubayi
SON OF	Shri SN Mubayi
RESIDENT OF (Village/District/State)/ DOMICILE	Gulmi/Nepal
UNIT/REGIMENT/CORPS	2 DOGRA
SERVICE	Indian Army
DATE OF ENROLMENT/ COMMISSION	23 September 1963
AWARD/DATE OF ACTION	Maha Vir Chakra (Posthumous) /02 November 1965
WAR/BATTLE/OPERATION	1965 Indo-Pak War
OTHER AWARDS WITH DATE	

Captain Gautam Mubayi was born on 02 January 1943, at Lahore in Pakistan to Shri S Mubayi. Captain Mubayi was commissioned into the 2 DOGRA — a Regiment known for its valiant soldiers and numerous battle honours — of the Indian Army on 23 September 1963, at the age of twenty years. During Indo-Pak War of 1965, Captain Mubayi's unit was deployed in J&K in the Mendhar Sector.

The DOGRA Regiment, raised in 1877 is one of the older infantry regiments of the Indian Army. The Regiment traces its roots directly from the 17th Dogra Regiment of the British Indian Army. After World War I, the British Indian government restructured the army, moving from Regiments with a single Battalion to multi-Battalion Regiments. In 1945, it shed the numeral '17' and became Dogra Regiment. The DOGRA Regiment has troops from Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and the Northern districts of Punjab. Their Regimental war cry is "Jwala Mata Ki Jai" (Victory to Goddess Jwala). The Dogras have participated in all the wars and conflicts fought by the Indian Army since independence and winning laurels. General NC Vij, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM who was the 21st Chief of the Army also belonged to the DOGRA Regiment.

The Indo-Pak War of 1965 was the second war fought between these two bordering countries. While India was still recovering from the Sino-India War of 1962, Pakistan saw it as an opportunity to acquire Jammu and Kashmir with might, presuming India to be weak in terms of defence preparation. The war began on 24 April 1965, when the Pakistan Army attacked Indian territory in the Rann of Kutch and penetrated six to eight miles inside the Indian territory. This act of illegal occupation of Indian territory constituted violation of the Indo-Pak Border Agreement, 1960 and the international law as per the United Nations Charter. The Pakistani forces subsequently intruded in Kashmir with the launch of Operation Gibraltar.

Chuni Nar feature, called OP Hill by the Indians, was a 1524-meter-high hill complex to the South-West of the road Mendhar-Balnoi. It provided a dominating view of Indian defences and road Mendhar-Balnoi. Pakistanis had occupied it sometime in early August and had strengthened it into a Battalion-Defended position. A Pakistani Observation Post located at the feature, directed artillery fire on the 2 DOGRA Picquet 636 twice in August. They also launched attacks on the picquet but were beaten back.

On 18 September 1965, in a bid to isolate and "strangle" Picquet 636, Pakistanis infiltrated into the area. The intrusion was cleared by a Dogra Company on the night of 20/21 September 1965. Pakistan then concentrated on developing OP Hill into a stronghold, with shell-proof bunkers and wire obstacles, along three Spurs emanating from the Chuni-Nar. Explosives were used to improve the defence works. They also continued the shelling of 2 DOGRA base at Balnoi and Picquet 636. In the face of this shelling, the movement of Indian vehicle convoys and troops on road Mendhar-Balnoi became impossible.

To dislodge Pakistanis from OP Hill, 2 GARHWAL RIFLES mounted an attack on the night of 06/07 October 1965. But protected by strongly built defences they counter-attacked in overwhelming strength and repulsed the attack with heavy losses." In fact, nothing short of a Brigade attack was needed to evict the enemy from OP Hill. An appeal to UN Observers also failed to get the area vacated.

On 15 October 1965 a decision was taken to mount an attack on the feature in Brigade strength. The task was entrusted to 120 Infantry Brigade.

According to the plan of operation, the attack was to be mounted in three Phases. In Phase one, 2 DOGRA was to capture Twin Pimples and Black Rocks, and 5 SIKH LI the White Rocks on D Day. In Phase two, 7 SIKH was to capture Jungle and OP Hill by 0500 hrs and in Phase three, Twin Trees and Lone Tree by 0600 on D plus 1.

2 DOGRA planned to launch the attack with two Companies. D Company was to capture Black Rocks, whereas C Company with a Platoon of A Company was to capture Twin Pimples. B Company was to serve as a reserve for D Company, while A Company less a Platoon was to stand as reserve for C Company.

The Assaulting (C and D) Companies crossed the Cease-fire Line at 2200 hours on 02 November 1965 and formed up for the final assault below their respective objectives at 2245 hours, despite heavy artillery and automatic fire. C Company and the Platoon of A Company suffered 50 per cent casualties in the shelling, yet they pushed on through the minefield and wire obstacles and captured Twin Pimples and a feature to the South-West of it by 2345 hours, after a hand-to-hand fight. C Company was now left with only twenty survivors to hold Twin Pimples, all others were either killed or wounded. The Pakistani soldiers fled, leaving behind eleven dead and a large quantity of arms, ammunition, and equipment.

D Company also suffered heavy casualties in shelling and automatic fire, but it managed to reach within 45 meters of the objective. Here, again it encountered extensive minefield, wire obstacles and devastating automatic fire. Consequently, four assaulting Sections of the two leading Platoons were practically written off. But the others pushed through the minefield on a narrow frontage, created a breach through the wire obstacles and established a foothold. In a two-hour long battle, the Company was badly mauled. At this juncture B Company was rushed to reinforce D Company, but by then the enemy opposition had also stiffened and in the heavy firing one third of B Company became casualties. Black Rock was finally captured by the troops at 0430 hours on 03 November 1965.

During the battle of OP Hill, when the 2 DOGRA attack was held up by intense fire and mounting casualties, Captain Gautam Mubayi led his Platoon through a minefield and successfully established a Bridge-Head. Though injured by a mine blast he kept on moving and neutralised an enemy MMG with grenade attack. He was mortally wounded by a Browning machine gun burst at a bridge-head. He was awarded the Mahavir Chakra for his indomitable courage.

2 DOGRA, 5 SIKH LI and 7 SIKH after a grim battle lasting over two days, evicted the intruders out of this formidable feature by a brilliantly conceived plan, executed with courage and determination. Even after suffering very heavy casualties, the troops did not waiver. The battle epitomised the courage of the troops and leadership of the officers.



Captain Gautam Mubayi

Source:- <https://honourpoint.in/profile/captain-gautam-mubayi-mvc-2/>

In his honour, the housing project of “Gautam Nagar” in Secunderabad has been named after Captain Gautam Mubayi, MVC. Captain Gautam Mubayi, aged 22 years, made supreme sacrifice in the best traditions of the Indian Army, for this, he was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra.

CITATION

Captain Gautam Mubayi (IC-15689)
The Dogra Regiment (Posthumous)
(Effective date of award– 2nd November 1965)

On the night of 2nd/3rd November 1965, a Company of a Dogra Regiment in which Captain Gautam Mubayi was commanding a platoon was ordered to take possession of a feature in Mendhar Sector, Jammu and Kashmir, which notwithstanding the ceasefire had been encroached upon by Pakistani forces, and formed a part of a very strong enemy defence complex. His objective consisted of a series of bunkers with a strong protective mine-field and wire obstacle around it and covered by a well-coordinated automatic fire and supported by mortar and artillery. When the assault launched by the Company was held up by intensive enemy fire and heavy casualties due to the mine-fields. Captain Gautam Mubayi volunteered to break through with his platoon to establish a bridge-head. He crawled forward, cut the wire himself and led his platoon forward through the minefields. He was wounded severely in the leg by a mine but unmindful of his injury, he kept moving forward encouraging his men. By this bold action, he established a bridge-head capturing a portion of his objective with only a handful of his remaining men. An enemy light machine gun was firing from an enfilading position, as a result of which his men suffered further casualties. He rushed forward and threw a grenade to silence this bunker. He held on to his slender bridge-head in spite of heavy enemy fire and grenade and refused to be evacuated or even to take cover. He moved continuously from post to post exhorting his men to remain firm. This encouraged the company to push forward towards its objective. While urging his men forward he was mortally wounded by a burst from a Browning machine gun. Captain Gautam Mubayi showed indomitable courage and inspiring leadership and made the supreme sacrifice in the best traditions of the Indian Army.

Reference: Gazette of India, Notification No. 9-Pres./66 dated February 12, 1966

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