



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE



COMPANY HAVILDAR MAJOR YASHVIR SINGH

SERVICE NUMBER	2874399
RANK (At the time of Award)	Company Havildar Major
NAME	Yashvir Singh
SON OF	Girwar Singh
RESIDENT OF (Village/District/State)/ DOMICILE	Village Sirsali, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
UNIT/REGIMENT/CORPS	2 RAJPUTANA RIFLES
SERVICE	Indian Army
DATE OF ENROLMENT/ COMMISSION	29 June 1979
AWARD/DATE OF ACTION	Vir Chakra (Posthumous) / 13 June 1999
WAR/BATTLE/OPERATION	Kargil War/ Operation Vijay
OTHER AWARDS WITH DATE	



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh was born on 04 January 1960 in Sirsali village of Meerut District, Uttar Pradesh. His father's name was Girwar Singh. CHM Yashvir Singh joined 2 RAJPUTANA RIFLES of the Indian Army on 29 June 1979 at the age of 19. During the Kargil War, he was part of the assault on Tololing Top in Dras Sector where he displayed outstanding gallantry in the face of enemy and sacrificed himself for the nation. He was awarded Vir Chakra posthumously. CHM Yashvir Singh was married to Manesh Devi and had two children, Uday and Pankaj.¹

The RAJPUTANA RIFLES is the senior most Rifle Regiment of the Indian Army. Its first battalion was raised in January 1775. The RAJPUTANA RIFLES has a long and glorious history. The regiment took part in some of the bloodiest battles in many theatres of the world. During World War II, the battalions of this regiment fought in every theatre in which the Indian Army was involved. Three of them, the 1st, 4th and Medium Machine Gun Battalions fought in Eritrea in North Africa and Italy as part of the famous 4th Indian Division, whose fighting record was one of the finest in World War II. Post-independence the Regiment took part in many battles and operations including the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Congo. The RAJPUTANA RIFLES fought gallantly in the 1965 and 1971 India-Pakistan wars. During the Kargil War, the RAJPUTANA RIFLES displayed exemplary valour and determination especially in the Tololing Operation. The 2 RAJ RIF was conferred India's first 'Instant Unit Citation' by General VP Malik, the then Chief of the Army Staff. During the Kargil War, the men of this regiment displayed exceptional bravery and fortitude in the capture of Tololing Heights.

The Kargil war of 1999 was fought 52 years after independence. The genesis of Indo-Pak conflict can be traced back to the year 1947. The bone of contention between India and Pakistan are the attempts by Pakistan to annex the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir by any means. The war commenced shortly after the signing of the Lahore declaration in 1999, when the Pakistan army surreptitiously occupied the winter vacated posts of the Indian Army. This act is thought to be the brain-child of General Pervez Musharraf, then Chief of the Pakistan Army. On 03 May 1999, intrusions were detected. On 26 May, the first air to ground strike was launched by the Indian Airforce (IAF), followed by Operation Vijay, by the Indian Army to evict the intruders from the Indian territory. After two months of violent confrontation, the war came to an end on 26 July 1999.

The Tololing Heights was the deepest penetration beyond the LC by the Pakistani intruders. As the Kargil War progressed, the capture of Tololing became essential to flush out the Pakistani intruders. 56 Mountain Brigade was given the task to capture Tololing. Tololing and another

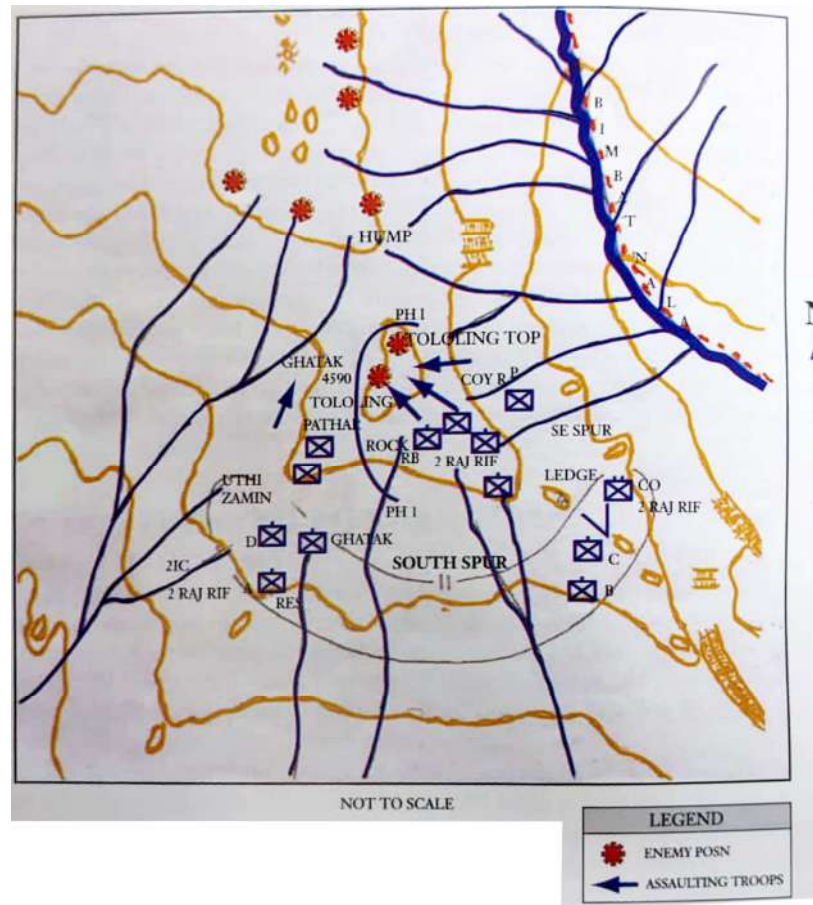
¹ CHM Yashvir Singh (Accessed on 07 Jul 1999)
https://www.jatland.com/home/Yash_Vir_Singh_Tomar



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

feature named Point 4590 were among the vital peaks for India. Both the peaks were crucial as they overlooked the Dras Sector and a large section of National Highway, giving enemy a visual access to every movement on the National Highway. The intruders at the Tololing top stayed put and didn't open fire until they were discovered on 12 May 1999. This time was utilized by the intruders to build coordinated defences that would enable the enemy to bring effective fire on attacking troops.

On 22 May 1999, 18 GRENADIERS launched their first attack on the Tololing top. The battalion made several attempts and were able to encircle them in the span of two weeks. During the attempts to recapture the Tololing Top, 18 GRENADIERS also lost a valiant officer Major Rajesh Singh Adhikari on 30 May 1999. The responsibility to capture the top was then assigned to 2 Rajputana Rifles, a regiment which operated in the valley and had undergone extensive training at the Corps Battle School in Khrew. The unit of 2 RAJ RIF reached Dras Sector on 01 June 1999.



Capture of Tololing (Point 4590) by 2 RAJ RIF

Source: Lt Col (Retd) YM Bammi, "Kargil 1999: The Impregnable conquered"



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

To recapture the Tololing top and the surrounding features, a multi-directional attack plan was approved by Major General (later Lieutenant General) Mohinder Puri, General Officer Commanding 8 Mountain Division. To ensure plan was a success, it was absolutely necessary to have adequate artillery fire units for each assaulting Battalion, since the multi-directional attack should begin at the same time otherwise enemy would guess the direction of attack and take appropriate action. However, later it was decided to stagger the attack and ensure adequate artillery support for all assaulting troops. The 2 RAJ RIF was tasked to capture the Tololing Top by 0600 hour on 13 June 1999. When the Battalion launched the attack, Major Vivek Gupta was in command of the leading Charlie Company and Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh was charged with organising the evacuation of casualties during the Company assault. The Company had taken Tololing top and lost the Company Commander and Platoon Commander in the ensuing firefight. The Troops on Tololing Top were in the danger of being isolated by the enemy.

Seeing the grave situation of own troops on top and the lurking danger to the accomplishment of task, Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh mustered all spare men around him and rushed to the Top. As soon as he reached there, he teamed up with the survivors of Number One Section and assumed the leadership. When he saw that an uncleared enemy sangar was posing a threat to Tololing Top, he gathered all the hand grenades and proceeded to the sangar, despite heavy enemy fire. As he got closer, he started throwing grenades inside through the loopholes, but he was fired at point blank range by the enemy. He was able to silence the bunker after throwing eighteen grenades. However, in this gallant action, he sustained innumerable bullet injuries and succumbed as a result of the profuse bleeding.

Throughout the action, Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh, displayed great valour in the face of the enemy and made the ultimate sacrifice for the country. He was awarded Vir Chakra posthumously for his gallantry.



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

CITATION

2874399 Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh, 2 Rajputana Rifles (Posthumous)
(Effective date of the award: 13th June, 1999)

On 12/13 June 99, Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh of Charlie Company, was tasked to organize evacuation of casualties during the company assault on Tololing Top in the Drass Sector during OPERATION VIJAY. The company had captured Tololing top and in the ensuing fire-fight the company had already lost the Company Commander and the Platoon Commander. The Troops on Tololing Top were in the danger of being isolated by the enemy.

Seeing the grave situation of own troops on Top and the lurking danger to the accomplishment of task, Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh mustered all spare men around him and rushed to the Top. On reaching the Top he immediately joined up with the remnants of Number One section and assumed command.

On realising that the danger to Tololing Top was because of an uncleared enemy sangar, he collected all the hand grenades and proceeded to the sangar despite heavy enemy fire. On closing in, he started lobbing grenades inside the loopholes but in the process was fired at by the enemy at point blank range. After having lobbed eighteen grenades, he was able to silence the bunker.

However, in the heroic action he sustained innumerable bullet injuries and succumbed due to the resultant profuse bleeding.

Company Havildar Major Yashvir Singh displayed exemplary valour in the face of enemy and made the supreme sacrifice for the Nation.

Reference: Gazette of India, Notification No. _____ dated _____



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

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3. Amarinder Singh, "A Ridge Too Far: War in the Kargil heights 1999", Patiala: Motibagh Palace (2001)