

MIDDLE EAST

Brigade

Division

Royal Flying Corps

26/3/1917

Date of Recommendation.

Schedule No. (to be left blank)	Unit	Regtl. No.	Rank and Name	Action for which commended	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be filled in)
	5th Wing No. 67 (Aust.) Squadron, R. F. C.	--	Lieutenant Frank Herbert MACNAMARA	<p>serial</p> <p>During a bomb attack upon a hostile construction train on 20th March 1917, Captain D.W. Rutherford, on a B.E.2c. was forced, through losing his engine to land behind the Turkish lines.</p> <p>Lieutenant Macnamara on a Martynside Scout was also taking part in the attack and observing Captain Rutherford's predicament and the fact that hostile Cavalry were rapidly approaching him, he descended to his rescue. He did this under heavy rifle fire and in spite of the fact that he himself had been severely wounded in the thigh.</p> <p>Lieutenant Macnamara landed about 200 yards away from Captain Rutherford's machine and attempted to get out, but was unable to do so on account of his wound. Captain Rutherford then ran across to him and asked for assistance to re-start his engine. As this was not practicable and as the Turkish cavalry was approaching, he climbed on to the Martynside Scout and an attempt was made to rise, but Lieutenant Macnamara, owing to his disabled leg, was unable to keep the machine straight and it turned over. The two Officers having extricated themselves, immediately set fire to the machine and made their way across to the B.E.2c. whilst two other of our machines that had approached the scene, held off the Turkish cavalry by repeatedly diving at them and sweeping them with bursts of machine gun fire.</p> <p>Assisted by Captain Rutherford, Lieutenant Macnamara, who could not stand alone, succeeded in getting into the pilot seat and Captain Rutherford started the propeller and climbed into the passenger's seat. All the above took place under heavy rifle fire. Finally, Lieutenant Macnamara although weak from loss of blood, flew the B.E.2c. back to the aerodrome, a distance of 70 miles, and thus completed the rescue of Captain Rutherford.</p>	G.O.C. Middle East Brigade, R.F.C.	V. C.	

W. G. H. Talbot
Brigade
Commander