

loosened the earth and enabled him to extricate himself. Although greatly shaken, he refused to rest, but at once set to work, and successfully dug out several comrades who had also been buried.

310 Cpl. W. Aspinall, E. York. R.

For conspicuous gallantry during a raid on the enemy's trenches. Though wounded in two places the day before, he insisted on taking part in the raid, and displayed great dash in the enemy's trench, inflicting loss on the occupants.

2485 Pte. J. Atherton, Lan. Fus.

For conspicuous gallantry during operations. When the telephone wire was cut, and, owing to smoke from bursting shells, visual signalling was impossible, he went out and repaired the broken wire in two places.

8509 Pte. W. J. Back, R. W. Kent R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. Although wounded, he gave most gallant assistance to his officer, and finally rescued his body under heavy shell and rifle fire.

S/770 Cpl. G. Baker, R.W. Surr. R.

For conspicuous gallantry during an attack. When the advance of his company was held up by a strong point, he lay in a shell-hole, and by the accuracy of his fire he inflicted severe casualties on the enemy and enabled the company again to advance. He then attacked a machine gun single-handed, killing the two men who were working it and capturing the gun.

143055 Sjt. J. Bannerman, R.E.

For conspicuous gallantry. When an enemy trench mortar bomb fell into the trench four yards in front of him he rushed up and threw it over the parapet, where it immediately exploded. This plucky act saved several casualties.

10298 C. S./M. (A./Reg. Sjt.-Maj.) H. J. Bartholomew, R. Berks. R.

For conspicuous gallantry during operations, when he organised and maintained a constant supply of ammunition and bombs, and on many occasions went fearlessly through the enemy's heavy barrage, utterly indifferent to personal danger.

2361 Cpl. A. Baybut, L'pool R.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He tended the wounded in the open under heavy rifle and shell fire, and in the evening searched "No Man's Land" for any wounded that might be lying out. Next night he brought in three more wounded men.

70367 Cpl. W. Bell, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and resource during operations, when he assisted to rally troops at the F.O. Post of his Battery under a heavy shell and rifle fire.

G/6066 L./Cpl. R. Benison, R. W. Surr. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion. During an attack L./Cpl. Beninson was acting as Company Commander's Observer.

When his officer was killed and the advance was checked by heavy rifle and machine gun fire, he led forward all the men in his vicinity, advancing the line some 50 yards. Although wounded, he returned to Battalion Headquarters and accurately reported the situation, voluntarily going on to the Brigade Centre under heavy shell fire and delivering an extremely good report there.

10266 Sjt. S. T. Bentley, K.R.R.C.

For conspicuous gallantry during operations, when, with a small party, he pushed out to some shell-holes outside a detached post, thereby compelling advancing enemy parties to retire with loss. He remained in the shell-holes, under heavy machine gun fire, for a day and night, until relieved.

19418 Pte. J. H. Birtwell, Lanc. Fus.

For conspicuous devotion to duty when acting as company runner. For three days, under heavy fire, he successfully carried many orders and messages. It was largely due to his untiring energy and determination that touch was maintained with our allies.

13/1115 Pte. L. Blanchard, York. and Lanc. R.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. When severely wounded in the advance and only able to crawl he got his machine-gun forward and rejoined the remainder of his team.

11500 Sjt. G. Bonner, Leic. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and ability in leading his platoon forward in an attack after his officer had been wounded. His invariable courage and coolness under the heaviest fire set a fine example to all ranks with him.

20559 Pte. R. G. Boughtflower, Mach. Gun Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry when the N.C.O. in charge of his team had been killed and all ammunition had been buried or destroyed by heavy shell fire he took charge of his team. Later, during attack, he showed great courage and skill in keeping his guns in action.

22053 Pte. W. H. Brace, Ches. R.

For conspicuous gallantry during operations. As C.O.'s runner he carried messages to all parts of the line. When the adjutant, signalling officer and assistant adjutant became casualties he did splendid work, and though only a boy knew exactly what was going on all along the line. He was twice blown off his legs during the day close to his C.O.

10574 L./Cpl. B. C. Bragg, Essex R.

For conspicuous gallantry during operations. When the enemy counter-attacked our newly captured position he did fine and gallant work with his machine-gun. After his gun was hit he took some bombs and went forward to help the bombers. His example greatly encouraged the men round him, and the enemy's attack was repulsed.