

during several following days, he kept his men going by his cheerful example, in spite of their being exposed to heavy shelling and constant rain and mud. He also drove off frequent enemy counter-attacks, greatly inspiring all ranks throughout a very trying time.

T./2nd Lt. William Samuel Skeats White, attd. Rif. Brig.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during three days' severe fighting, Having led his platoon across a river, he was held up by heavy machine-gun fire and found himself unsupported on both flanks. Although in danger of being surrounded, he ably extricated his platoon and dug himself in. On the following morning, when the enemy endeavoured to work round his flank, he broke up the attack and inflicted heavy loss on them. Next day he followed up the first wave of the attack, and did splendid work in mopping up strong points, putting two machine-guns out of action, bombing several dug-outs, and capturing many prisoners. Throughout the whole of this period he displayed such fearlessness and spirit when his men were short of food and water that he maintained their morale unimpaired.

2nd Lt. Henry James Whiting, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a heavy enemy bombardment of his emplacement, where a premature burst had just occurred. He entered the emplacement with utter disregard of personal danger and extricated the two men of the detachment. Although the N.C.O. was mortally wounded, the gallantry and promptitude of this officer undoubtedly saved the life of the other man, who was buried by the explosion.

T./2nd Lt. Reginald Alfred Whittle, Manch. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in carrying out valuable reconnaissance work in the enemy's front line trenches. He afterwards led his platoon forward with skill, and was very prominent in the attack until he fell badly wounded.

Capt. John Haworth Whitworth, Manch. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. While crossing a river his battalion came under an intense gas shell bombardment, which destroyed the bridge they were using. Amidst the confusion which ensued this officer showed most exceptional presence of mind in extricating his battalion from a difficult situation, finding another bridge and conducting them there by platoons and passing them over the river. As it was a very dark night and the men were all in their gas masks and under very heavy fire, his quickness in overcoming the difficulties saved casualties from being much greater than they actually were.

2nd Lt. William Charles Wicks, Notts. & Derby. R., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led three men against a hostile bombing party, nine in number, and the latter threw bombs and wounded his three men, thereupon 2nd Lt. Wicks and a private rushed at the enemy, who took to flight. He

killed two and wounded three with his revolver and the private killed one. By this gallant and dashing act valuable identifications were obtained.

2nd Lt. Frank Wild, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on three separate occasions. At great personal risk he extinguished an ammunition dump which had been set alight in his battery by hostile shell fire, showing utter disregard of the fumes and explosions amidst which he worked. Again, when a shell of very big calibre had hit one of his guns and killed or wounded the whole detachment, he, although buried and very much shaken and bruised, insisted on helping to dig with a view to rescuing any man that might still be alive. Finally, when acting as liaison officer with an advanced infantry battalion, he was in the battalion headquarters dug-out when it was hit by a shell, which buried him, but, although again severely shaken when extricated, he continued to perform his duties with the same splendid determination and courage.

T./Lt. Eric Millward Wilkins, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Whilst his battery was firing a barrage it came under heavy shell fire, during which a gun-pit was hit. He rescued the men who had been wounded, extinguished the burning ammunition and camouflage, and then collected men and got the gun into action again. He displayed exceptional pluck, resource, and devotion to duty.

Lt. William Alexander Camac Wilkinson, C. Gds., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in commanding his company with the utmost fearlessness and ability after his company commander had become a casualty. Having led them in the attack, he walked up and down during consolidation, regardless of the fact that enemy snipers were firing at very close range, urging his men to greater efforts so that they should get quickly under cover. Later in the evening, he made a personal reconnaissance of a strong point, made his dispositions before dark, and subsequently led his company forward and captured it with the greatest dash and gallantry.

Lt. (A./Capt.) Robert Mence Wilkinson-Jones, R.F.A., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his battery was under heavy shell fire he organised and led stretcher parties and rescued the wounded on two occasions with the greatest gallantry and coolness. Two days later, when the battery water-cart and a limber and team were under heavy shrapnel fire, he went forward himself and brought them to a place of safety, handling the cart and hooking in the horses himself. It was due to his coolness and courage that both teams were got away without casualties.

Capt. Noel George Hay Will, Ches. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. For seven days he commanded his company in an advanced position with the greatest ability under extremely bad weather conditions and continual heavy shelling.