

a machine-gun was firing, he worked his way round from the rear and captured the gun and eight prisoners. He showed great courage and initiative.

70331 A./Sjt. W. Harris, M.G. Corps (Liverpool):

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of two guns in forward position. When the enemy attacked he got one gun into action and inflicted heavy losses, and moved the other forward to shell-hole position, from which the enemy could be enfiladed. He handled his guns with great skill, and contributed largely to the success of the operations. His personal courage under continuous fire for three days was a fine example to his men.

A.1524 Cpl. R. Hart, K.R.R.C. (Leicester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of his platoon during an attack and captured an enemy strong point which was holding up part of the advance. The strong point was manned by fifteen of the enemy, who resisted strongly, but he captured the position, taking an officer and eight men prisoners. His initiative and courage did much to ensure the success of the battalion.

5011 A./C.S.M. W. Hatch, Camb. R. (Lowestoft).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When all his officers had become casualties early in the attack, he took command of his company and led it with conspicuous courage and ability. He did invaluable work in consolidating and reorganising the objective, and inspired all his company by his conduct and good leadership.

32765 Spr. A. Hawtree, R.E. (E. Windsor).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in repeatedly repairing cable which had been shattered by enemy shell fire. He also returned under heavy shell fire for fresh supplies of cable, with which he enabled communication to be established, and by his untiring efforts afforded a brilliant example to his section of determination and devotion to duty.

265649 Cpl. (L./Sjt.) J. W. Heap, L'pool R. (Southport).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his officer became a casualty he took command of his platoon and captured an enemy strong point, taking twenty prisoners and three machine-guns, one of which he at once got into action against the enemy. His own objective had not yet been captured, and he directed his fire on to it, and, on his own initiative, sent reinforcements to his company commander, who was then able to capture it. In addition to defending and holding his own position, he rendered great assistance in collecting a large number of wounded, and when some men of a neighbouring unit were driven back by an enemy counter-attack he rallied them and led them back to establish their former position. His courage, energy, and leadership were of the highest order.

17458 Pte. E. J. Heller, E. York. R. (Southampton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He reorganised and led forward a wavering line composed of men of various units, and single-handedly rushed an enemy post, killing and capturing twelve of the enemy. His magnificent courage and disregard of danger were conspicuous throughout the operations.

15/12884 Pte. T. Higgins, R. Ir. Rifles (Belfast).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when an enemy raiding party entered our trenches. Without hesitation he attacked the party single-handedly, killing the officer and inflicting other casualties, though under revolver and bomb fire. His prompt and courageous action demoralised the enemy, who rapidly withdrew.

55596 L./Cpl. W. J. Hill, M.G.C. (N. London).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was carrying a machine-gun in an advance when it was put out of action by a shell. Though he was wounded by the same shell, he went back and brought up another gun, which he got into action with great effect. Later, he went forward with his gun and broke up an enemy counter-attack. His gallant conduct was a fine example to the men.

40503 Cpl. (L./Sjt.) J. E. Hilton, Norf. R. (Gillingham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in command of his platoon after his officer had been killed. He led them to the final objective, where a whole company of the enemy appeared from dug-outs. He controlled the fire of his men with great effect, most of the enemy being killed or wounded. He then bombed the dug-outs, afterwards destroying a mortar beyond the objective.

11434 Pte. G. E. Hogbin, G. Gds. (Herne Bay).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He went out on patrol and captured a prisoner single-handedly, and brought back most valuable information as to the enemy's defences under heavy snipers' fire. He showed great courage and initiative.

C3603 Sjt. H. Hole, K.R.R.C. (Tottenham, N.).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of a company in the attack and led them to the final objective, which he captured and consolidated. His reports and messages showed a full grasp of a difficult situation. He had previously led his platoon with great courage and determination to the capture of an enemy strong point.

27118 L./Cpl. T. Holmes, Notts. & Derby. R. (Jacksdale).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of his platoon when his platoon commander was killed, and led an attack on a strong point under intense machine-gun fire, and captured the position. He showed great courage, initiative and contempt of danger.