

position, he showed the greatest energy and initiative, though suffering from gas, in organising parties and leading them forward against the enemy under heavy fire. His prompt action and fine example assisted largely in saving a serious situation.

12965 Sjt. (A./C.S.M.) L. Fisher, Essex R. (W. Bergholt).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. With the enemy on both sides of him, and after his platoon had expended every round of ammunition, he steadied his men and kept them in position until the reinforcing platoon arrived. When ordered later to fight to the last with the bayonet, he carried out these orders to the letter with the utmost cheerfulness, and by the gallant stand which he made a company on the flank was enabled to withdraw. His outstanding courage, ability, and efficiency cannot be too highly praised.

R/9398 Sjt. V. F. Fisher, K.R.R.C. (Lancaster).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. After his officer and another serjeant had been wounded, he took charge of the platoon, and, in spite of severe casualties from machine-gun fire, led them forward. On reaching the final objective he assumed command of his company, which had no officers left, reorganised it, and consolidated the position.

20301 Pte. P. Flaherty, R. Innis. Fus. (Glasgow).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During an attack he advanced with a Lewis gun resting on his shoulder while it was being fired by an officer, thereby drawing the fire of an enemy strong point and enabling another party to outflank the position. During the following six days he showed the greatest determination and initiative as company runner.

46547 L./C. G. Fletcher, M.G.C. (Gringley-on-the-Hill).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a machine gun during a heavy enemy counter-attack. When the whole of his team became casualties he got his gun into action alone, enabling the infantry to take up a position behind him and consolidate it. Though under heavy machine-gun fire, he kept his gun firing throughout the attack with the greatest courage and determination.

200199 Pte. R. Forse, Glouc. R. (Bristol).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Though a signaller, he took charge of a Lewis gun team and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy and repelled several hostile attacks. He had previously showed great courage and determination in repairing broken lines under heavy and continuous fire.

T.Z. 569 P.O. N. Foster, M.M., R.N.V.R. (Newcastle).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of his company after it had lost all three officers and forty-eight

men. He so disposed the remainder as to minimise casualties, and kept up their spirits. When an officer took over he showed the greatest energy throughout the night in finding and evacuating all wounded within 200 yards of the line.

230169 Pte. F. Fowler, Yeo. (Worgett, Wareham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When a withdrawal was ordered he remained behind with a wounded officer, and eventually succeeded in helping him to a place of safety under heavy fire. He showed great gallantry and self-sacrifice.

L/26563 Bombr. J. Fox, R.F.A. (Rossington).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He maintained signal communication throughout the day in a most exposed forward position under continuous shell fire. He showed an entire disregard of danger, and his courage and determination enabled several batteries to complete their registration. During an action he kept up communication under heavy fire in the open and sent back valuable information. He also repaired telephone wires on several occasions under a heavy barrage.

305587 Sjt. S. Frazer, L'pool R. (Liverpool).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When all the company officers had become casualties, he took command of the company, reorganised it and sent forward all men with wire-cutters for the purpose of making a second attempt to break through the enemy entanglements. This being unsuccessful, he ordered his company to dig in, but owing to very severe machine-gun and rifle fire he was forced to withdraw, which he succeeded in doing in an orderly manner. He showed splendid daring and coolness throughout the whole of the operations.

13153 Pte. T. Freeman, S. Gds. (Bracknell).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During the attack he repeatedly carried messages from battalion headquarters to his company under heavy shell and machine-gun fire, every one of which he succeeded in delivering. He also volunteered to guide two platoons of the supporting company, which had been ordered to reinforce the line, over ground in full view of the enemy and swept by fire for half a mile. It was entirely due to his initiative and skilful leading that these two platoons arrived at the required positions at a critical period, thus enabling a counter-attack to be repulsed.

8421 C.S.M. E. Frost, G. Gds. (Long Eaton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. Seeing that one of the platoon sergeants had become a casualty and that the platoon was losing direction and suffering casualties from machine-gun fire, he doubled across the open to the platoon under heavy fire. He corrected their direction, ordered a sergeant to take command, and enabled them to reach their objective. He showed great promptness and initiative.