

sixteen hours until the battalion was relieved. He set a most inspiring example of courage and devotion to duty to all ranks.

T./Maj. Charles Edward Hudson, D.S.O., M.C., Notts. and Derby. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in command of a sector of the front line for several days during an action, and organised and carried out the defence of the position under continuous and violent enemy shelling. It was entirely due to his organisation and personal supervision of the work that the line was able to resist heavy enemy counter-attacks. He showed splendid leadership and great energy and courage.

Maj. (T./Lt.-Col.) Cecil Polglase James, D.S.O., Arg. and Suth'd Highrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in commanding his battalion during the attack and capture of a position, and in holding it against very severe counter-attacks. He personally superintended the work of consolidation, and showed marked ability and untiring energy in the very difficult work of reorganising his own and other battalions.

Capt. Edward Reginald Kearsley, D.S.O., R. Welsh Fus.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of his battalion at short notice, and organised and launched an attack which was completely successful, capturing the final objective. He showed great initiative and skill throughout.

T./Maj. (A./Lt.-Col.) Alfred Paul Harrison Le Prevost, D.S.O., Notts. and Derby. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a battalion in an attack. Though the battalion on his left was held up, he captured his objectives and also a series of strong points which was holding up the battalion on his left, and formed a defensive flank on a frontage of 600 yards. He personally directed this difficult operation under heavy machine-gun fire. He showed a complete disregard of danger, continually visiting his companies throughout the day, and it was due to his magnificent example and cool leadership that the position was secured and the battalion on his left was eventually enabled to advance.

Maj. (A./Lt.-Col.) Charles Strangway Linton, D.S.O., M.C., Worc. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. In the initial arrangements for an attack, which resulted in the capture of the first two objectives, as well as during the action and the consolidation after, he displayed marked ability and leadership as well as fearlessness in exposing himself when necessary.

Maj. (A./Lt.-Col.) William Arthur Tennison Bellingham Somerville, D.S.O., R. Lan. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in handling his battalion during two attacks. It was largely owing to his courage and ability that a defensive flank was successfully formed on both occasions. His conduct was beyond all praise.

#### AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Lt.-Col. Frederick William Toll, D.S.O., Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was ordered at very short notice to take part in an attack with his battalion on the following morning. Notwithstanding the limited time available, he made all the necessary arrangements and led his battalion through a heavy barrage to the assembly position. During the attack the unit on his right was held up, his flank became exposed, and heavy casualties were caused by enemy machine guns in numerous strong points. He organised an attack on the strong points in a most able manner, capturing or killing the entire garrison, and taking fourteen enemy machine guns. By his prompt and gallant action the advance was continued and the final objective was captured.

#### *Awarded the Distinguished Service Order.*

Maj. Christopher Alderson, Lan. Fus.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of the front line. He organised the men of all units of the brigade, who were mixed together, with energy and skill. He held on in the face of a heavy and accurate barrage.

Capt. (A./Maj.) Herbert Bailey, E. Lan. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Owing to the heavy going the two rear battalions were late arriving on the starting tapes. Shortly before zero hour he, whose battalion was only covering the right half of the brigade front, grasped the situation and deployed across the whole front just in time to follow the leading battalion behind the barrage. When severely wounded later, he showed a high example of courage when in great pain.

2nd Lt. Alfred John Best, R.E.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Whilst carrying out a road reconnaissance during an action he saw a large party of men, without officers, who had been driven from their position. He at once rallied the party, led them forward, and succeeded in re-establishing the position. By his example and good leadership he restored a critical situation.

Lt. (A./Lt.-Col.) George Stanley Brighten, L'pool R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his battalion could advance no further owing to intense machine-gun fire, he went forward and personally reorganised it and established a strong defensive line. Later, when this hostile fire slackened, he at once initiated an advance which gained a considerable amount of ground. Throughout, his admirable reports were of the greatest assistance. His ability, coolness, and grasp of the situation had a marked effect on all ranks.

Maj. Muirhead Collins Clayton, Cambs. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He marked out the assembly position for the battalion under very heavy shell and