

position along a bad plank road under very trying conditions. Very wet weather, the greasy nature of the road, and heavy enemy shell fire greatly added to the difficulties. The success of the advance of these heavy guns was largely due to his untiring energy and disregard of personal danger.

Rev. Luke Eli Bellanti, A. Chaplins. Dept.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He repeatedly went to the assistance of the wounded, and when a Colonel was mortally wounded went out alone and brought him to a place of shelter. For twelve days he lived in a battery position under continuous shell fire.

Lt. Ernest Aubrey Brister Belt, C. Gds., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of a sub-section of machine guns attached to an assaulting battalion. When the infantry were held up by a strong point he brought his guns within close range and effectively assisted in the final assault. Later, he was largely instrumental in the repulse of a counter-attack. He was instrumental in getting into action a captured enemy machine gun, which was used with great effect against the enemy.

T./2nd Lt. William Henry Pope Bennett, R. Suss. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of the company in an attack. He captured the final objective, constructed a strong point and held it for two days under heavy fire. It was due to his skill that the casualties to his men were very few.

Lt. Robert Alan Wimberley Bicknell, G.G., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in forming up his company for attack under most difficult conditions of pitch darkness, rain, and mud. He led the first waves of his company, and was responsible for keeping the proper direction of the attack for the whole division, and keeping in touch with the brigade on his right until the objective was reached.

2nd/Lt. Sidney Charles Biddlecomb, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in getting two guns into action after dark, over most difficult ground and with worn-out men and horses.

T./Capt. Arthur Cecil Barker Biggs, R.A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in supervising the removal of the wounded under very heavy fire during two days' operations. It was due to his extraordinary energy that the battlefield was always kept clear of wounded, in spite of very adverse conditions.

T./Lt. Leslie William Bird, Essex R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in maintaining his wireless and power buzzer and amplifier station in working order under heavy shell fire. He frequently repaired his aerial and earth wires himself. In spite of heavy casualties he succeeded in maintaining communication when all other means had failed.

T./Capt. George Alexander Birnie, M.B., R.A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. In going forward with two stretcher-bearers to form an advanced aid post he was wounded in the shoulder by a piece of shell, one of the stretcher-bearers being killed at the same time. He continued dressing the wounded in our most advanced line, and even penetrated the enemy line of posts in search of casualties, keeping at his work until relieved some eight hours later.

Lt. (A./Capt.) Edward Vernon Blakey, W. Rid. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of the leading company in an attack. Although sustaining heavy casualties from machine gun fire during the advance, he reorganised his company, selected positions, and held his ground until relieved the following night, driving off a strong counter-attack by Lewis-gun and rifle fire.

Capt. Maurice Baldwin Bolton, E. Lan. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the brigade ammunition dump was set on fire by enemy shells, he at once collected a party which, by their exertions, prevented the flames from spreading. Under his direction the party carried out burning boxes of Véry lights and smoke bombs, and thus prevented the other ammunition in the dump from being exploded. He was employed on this work for forty minutes, mainly under heavy shell fire, and throughout the whole operation he displayed the greatest resource.

2nd Lt. Ernest George Frederick Boon, R.G.A., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a bombardment a shell hit a stack of shells, exploding some and setting fire to the cartridges. At great personal risk and under fire the whole time, he succeeded in extinguishing the fire before it spread to a pile of fused shells.

T./Lt. Charles Herbert Booth, R.A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in tending the wounded in the open under continuous heavy shell fire. His skilful organising of stretcher-bearers was undoubtedly the means of saving many lives.

2nd Lt. Jack Leonard Boughton, North'd Fus., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of brigade carrying parties. For seven nights in succession he led them through intense shelling, and in spite of casualties he kept the front line troops supplied with rations and water under most trying conditions.

2nd Lt. John Frederick Bourne, S. Staffs. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when conducting the pack animals to a forward position. When the enemy put down a heavy barrage on the track, he off-loaded the loads of the animals that had been killed, and succeeded in delivering them, himself leading pack animals back through the bar-