

an allied field battery which was being heavily shelled, the ammunition dump also being on fire and exploding. He displayed the greatest devotion to duty and complete disregard for his own safety, setting a very fine example to all around him.

37492 Pte. W. H. Barber, York. L.I. (Bradford).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as a stretcher-bearer during a counter-attack by his battalion. Under heavy machine-gun fire he organised and went out several times with bearer parties to bring in wounded. In one case he crawled to within ten yards of an enemy machine gun to drag away a wounded man. Largely owing to him a considerable number of wounded men were saved from falling into the hands of the enemy.

310156 Sjt. J. Barclay, R. Highrs. (Glasgow).

For conspicuous gallantry during an attack. As company serjeant-major he handled the men with the greatest coolness and resource, and was of the greatest assistance to his company commander. On one occasion, when the platoon commands had been wounded, he led the platoon forward to their objective, capturing an enemy machine gun and crew. Throughout he showed absolute fearlessness, and was a source of great inspiration to all ranks.

16396 Pte. H. W. Barker, Y. & L. Regt. (Sheffield).

For conspicuous gallantry under intense enemy barrage while working continuously on a main telephone line which had been cut to pieces. The two men assisting him were killed one after the other, but Private Barker stuck to his job and put the line through alone. Upon his return he immediately volunteered to go out through a barrage to mend another line, though he had had nothing to eat for 15 hours. His absolute disregard of danger and his devotion to duty were magnificent.

918 Sjt. W. Barker, Durh. L.I. (Darlington).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. Under galling machine-gun fire he, with an officer, drew wounded men into a shell-hole for cover, and shot two enemy who called on them to surrender. Sixteen more enemy then rushed up and threw hand grenades, one of which fell by the side of the wounded men. Serjeant Barker promptly picked it up and threw it back, killing two of the enemy. He and the officer then killed seven more of the enemy with their rifles, and drove back the remainder. This N.C.O. by his splendid resolution and courage inspired all who saw him.

D/7135 Pte. A. C. Barnes, Dn. Gds. (Dorchester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He was in charge of his section doing advance guard to his squadron, and rode unwaveringly through heavy machine-gun fire to his objective. Single-handed he attacked a small group of enemy non-commissioned officers who were

trying to organise the defence, and killed three and took three prisoners. He displayed splendid courage and dash throughout.

200205 Sjt. D. Barr, A. & S. Highrs. (Greenock).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his officers became casualties this non-commissioned officer took command of the company and handled it with great skill and determination. He achieved all the company's objectives, and by his untiring energy and personal disregard of danger set a fine example to his men.

11/22143 Pte. F. Bassett, S.W. Bord. (West Nash, Mon.).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while watching an enemy post with three other snipers. Seven of the enemy armed with bombs emerged from the post, and when the leader made a sign to his men, two of whom rushed to his side, the snipers, judging they had been observed, fired, and the leader fell dead. The rest ran back. Pte. Bassett, in full view of the enemy, rushed to the body, made a thorough search, seized the revolver from the dead man's hand, and then made a dash for cover midst a hail of machine-gun bullets. It was largely owing to his skill that control of "No Man's Land" was secured.

5084 Cpl. (A./Sjt.) S. B. Bawden, M.M., R.A.M.C. (Woolwich).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. Though wounded in the neck early in the day he continued to lead his bearer squads up to the front line, across the open, and under heavy fire. Cut off for four hours from help, he displayed such resource during this period that the evacuation of the wounded proceeded without a hitch, when help arrived. His courage and leadership never failed him, and his splendid example gave confidence to all.

F/2153 Cpl. W. H. P. Bean, Midd'x R. (Wellingborough).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in a raid. When the officer in charge had been killed he took command, and though considerably outnumbered he led his men with great dash and determination against the enemy.

203773 Pte. H. Beetham, W. York. R. (Leeds).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. As company runner he constantly crossed ground that was heavily swept by machine-gun and artillery fire; many other runners were killed or wounded, but he never faltered in his devotion to duty. He volunteered to help bring in the wounded, working for several hours under heavy fire. He set a splendid example of courage and unwavering determination.

45416 Cpl. Fitter J. T. Bell, R.F.A. (Coxhoe, Durham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Throughout a four hours' heavy bombardment he continually visited each