

200172 Sjt. S. A. Constable, R. Suss. R. (West Heathley).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He collected and organised a company under heavy shell and machine-gun fire after all the officers in the neighbourhood had become casualties. By his utter disregard of danger and continued cheerfulness he set a splendid example to the men and inspired all with a feeling of confidence in the success of the advance.

20908 L./Cpl. B. A. Copping, Hamps. R. (South Hayling).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was with the first wave of an attack, which found itself under our own barrage as well as that of the enemy. The attack was beginning to waver, when he dashed to the front, and cheering them on, led the men forward and captured the objective. The success of the attack in this sector was due to the gallantry and splendid example of Corporal Copping.

549 L./C. G. E. Cowan, North'd Fus. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. He was with an officer on the front of the division on the left when the enemy captured a sector of the front line. The party he was with became surrounded, but he and the officer fought their way back through the enemy, capturing a machine gun and killing the gunners. Subsequently he took part in a counter-attack, and used the captured gun on the enemy, inflicting a number of casualties. He did splendid work.

18/1514 Pte. (L./Cpl.) H. Cowgill, W. York. R. (Glusburn, nr. Keighley).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. displayed great gallantry and initiative during our attack. At one moment an enemy machine gun was about to open fire, when, with the utmost promptitude, he rushed the gun, killing the gunner and scattering the detachment, who were subsequently made prisoners. The advance then progressed. The next day, though very severely wounded by a shell in the chest and legs, he continued to command his section until he became unconscious. His cool courage and fine leadership contributed largely to the rapidity and success of the advance.

45332 Pte. R. W. Cowling, Durh. L.I. (Doncaster).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He and another man stalked a machine gun through the corn, shot two of the crew, and dismantled the gun. Their section being held up again, they went forward again, and successfully dealt with this second machine gun, killing three of the crew. The splendid courage and resource of these two men saved many casualties and greatly helped the advance.

39017 Pte. J. R. Coyne, L'pool R. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).

For exceptional gallantry while in charge of a Stokes gun supporting a raid. When his own gun had been put out of action and he saw the team on his right were in difficulties, he promptly climbed along the parapet and went to their assistance. He took charge, and continued to fire this gun until the raid was over. Also, he went twice through the heavy barrage with two of his comrades who had been severely wounded. He showed courage and devotion to duty of a very high order.

6207 L./Sjt. (T./R.S.M.) G. H. Cozens, C. Gds. and K. Afr. Rif. (Kentish Town, N.W.).

For conspicuous gallantry in action. When in charge of the battalion ammunition this warrant officer set a splendid example of courage and devotion to duty under very heavy fire in collecting his parties. Mainly as a result of his action the companies were kept well supplied with ammunition throughout the battle. On many previous occasions in action he has done fine work.

201572 Cpl. L. A. Cripps, O. & B. L.I. (Oxford).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in command of two Stokes mortars covering the front line. On the enemy attacking he at once got his guns into action and fired continuously until cut off from all other troops. He then with two men succeeded in forcing his way back and joining a party of infantry. With these he counter-attacked and regained the front line, but was again forced back. Finally he regained possession of one of his guns and immediately restored its position. Throughout he displayed great courage, determination and skill.

240078 Sjt. B. Crocker, Som. L.I. (Chaffcombe Chard).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Under direct machine-gun and rifle fire he crawled some three hundred yards to a shell-hole and rescued his company commander who was lying unable to move within a hundred yards of the enemy and carried him back to the line on his back. At dusk he carried him, under heavy shell fire, to the aid post, and then returned to the front line. He showed fine courage and devotion to duty.

11775 Sjt. E. Cross, M.M., Hamps. R. (Worcester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When three officers of his company had become casualties he took command of two platoons and led them forward through heavy machine-gun fire and captured his objective, where he consolidated. He displayed much initiative and fine gallantry throughout the operations, and his cheerful bearing greatly helped to maintain the spirits of his men.