

splendid example did much to keep the attack going.

16/282 Sjt. E. Holmes, W. York. R. (Thornton).

For conspicuous gallantry and initiative in an attack. When the officer was killed he led the platoon forward and broke down the resistance of the enemy, who were holding up part of the assaulting company. Later he reorganised the assaulting company after all the officers and most of the N.C.O.s were casualties.

9672 R.S.M. W. E. Holmes, Durh. L.I. (Barnard Castle).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when sent back for ammunition for a party without any. He went to a dump under heavy machine-gun and rifle fire and obtained it. The horses of the limber were killed on the return to the line, but he succeeded in getting the ammunition into the trench. The conduct of this warrant officer during the whole battle was exemplary.

2527 Sjt. J. P. F. Hooper, R.F.A. (Bermondsey).

For conspicuous gallantry and presence of mind when an enemy shell hit a gas dump. He rushed out and single-handed picked out the shells which had cracked from the heat, and then, standing on the dump, threw off the boxes which were on fire. A charge blew up, severely burning him in the face and blinding him temporarily in one eye, but he continued the work until the fire was extinguished and all danger over. He was then carried to hospital.

306966 Sjt. J. F. Horner, M.M., W. York. R. (Leeds).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During an attack, when all the officers became casualties, he took command of the company and, collecting the few men around, he led them forward and captured the objective, where he consolidated. Throughout the operations Serjt. Horner's behaviour was splendid, and he set an admirable example of courage and leadership to all under his command until towards the end of the fighting he was badly wounded in the face.

242411 A./C.S.M. J. Housley, York. L.I. (Sheffield).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his platoon forward under heavy machine-gun fire which at first had held them up, displaying fine qualities of leadership and ability. In the final assault he captured four enemy machine guns and their commanding officer, and accounted for the whole of the teams. His gallantry and dash relieved a critical situation, as the attack in that sector had been checked and might have been held up for some time.

10683 Pte. H. Howell, D.C.L.I. (Peckham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After a raid he went back alone under heavy fire to look for his platoon officer whom he heard had been left behind badly

wounded. He found the officer, who was unable to move, and having bandaged his wounds carried him back over most difficult ground to our lines, where he arrived completely exhausted. His action was a magnificent example of gallant self-sacrifice and devotion to duty, and the officer's life was saved thereby.

200805 Pte H. Hughes, R.W. Fus. (Rhosyllen).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as a stretcher-bearer. He twice assisted in bringing in wounded men under heavy fire over 800 yards of open plain. On another occasion he brought in a man on his shoulders as no stretcher was available. Throughout the action he displayed great courage and devotion to duty.

41761 Pte. E. Hullah, E. York. R. (Bradford).

For conspicuous gallantry and resource as a Lewis gunner. When the team became casualties he took charge of the gun and pushed forward to a position of advantage. His prompt action checked enemy patrols who were trying to outflank his platoon. Although his position was heavily swept by fire he stubbornly held on until reinforced.

C/6394 Sjt. W. H. F. Humphrey, K.R.R.C. (Highgate).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led thirteen of his men in a charge against thirty of the enemy in order to disengage one of our posts which had been surrounded. In spite of a heavy fire of all descriptions he routed the enemy, many of whom were killed with the bayonet. He was severely wounded himself, but the post was saved and he prevented the line from being turned. His dashing leadership and example of personal gallantry were splendid.

5/40865 Cpl. (L./Sjt.) R. Hunter, Sea. Highrs. (Alloa).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his platoon in an attack with the greatest gallantry, won his objective, and though wounded remained and assisted in consolidating the position. When this was accomplished he volunteered and took back a message to battalion headquarters. He showed the greatest pluck and devotion to duty.

107401 Spr. W. Hurst, M.M., R.E. (Shepherd's Bush).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. After half the section had become casualties he succeeded in keeping communication with divisional headquarters by continually repairing lines which were repeatedly broken by exceptionally heavy enemy barrage. For three days he continued to work as a linesman until his seniors were killed or missing, after which he assumed command of the section and maintained with only two or three men the communications which were vital to the success of the operations. He showed fine courage and determination.