

terminated action they crushed what might have become a serious local counter-attack.

240836 Cpl. H. F. Terrett, Glouc R. (Gloucester).

For conspicuous gallantry and determination in an attack. When his company was held up by machine-gun fire this non-commissioned officer advanced with a section of six as far as he could, and then dug in. He maintained his position all day, inflicted considerable casualties on the enemy, and then skilfully withdrew. He rendered splendid service.

42811 Pte. W. Thompson, S. Staff. R. (Richmond).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during four days' heavy fighting. He was one of a Lewis-gun team, and on the first day the remainder of his team became casualties, and all the magazines were lost except the one on the gun. During each withdrawal he stayed behind with his gun, firing and unloading his own magazine himself, until everyone was clear. On the third day he took forward his gun, and by enfilade fire prevented the enemy for twenty-four hours from concentrating and organising an attack on the battalion. He showed fine courage and determination.

23148 Pte. C. A. Thornton, Leic. R. (Wigston Magna).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as a company runner during an enemy attack. He was sent with a message to battalion headquarters from a forward company through an intense enemy barrage. On the way back to his company he ran into the enemy, who had broken through the front line, and was seized by them, but escaped back to the next line of resistance, where he gave warning of the approach of the enemy. He then made his way back to battalion headquarters, where he gave the first information of the break through by the enemy. He did valuable service.

3/5555 Pte. E. Thynne, E. York. R. (Felling-on-Tyne).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During an advance this soldier was ever in the forefront of the attack. When the advance was delayed at a farm that was determinedly held by the enemy, he rushed forward through heavy machine-gun fire and forced his way into the buildings. Pte. Thynne captured three prisoners; the remainder of the garrison retired precipitately. The final objective having been reached, he volunteered to take back the information to battalion headquarters. After making his way through a heavy hostile barrage, he safely delivered his message, together with a most useful account of the precise situation and the requirements of the front line. His behaviour throughout was distinguished by brilliant gallantry.

275292 S./S./M. J. J. Tomkins, Yeo. (Northampton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when two troops of his squadron were sent to seize a tactical feature. While approaching the place the squadron leader was killed, and this warrant officer at once

took charge of the two troops and seized and consolidated the position, in spite of heavy rifle fire. He showed fine dash and ability.

200053 R.S.M. F. Townley, M.C., R. War. R. (Edgbaston).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. He gathered battalion headquarters together and covered all approaches to headquarters. He assumed command, and held off repeated efforts of the enemy to advance. His splendid example of cool fearlessness encouraged his men to hold the position until reinforced.

242351 L./Sjt. H. Tytler, Sea. Highrs. (Pimlico).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Seeing an enemy machine-gun team about to enfilade a sunken road containing many men, he selected a man, ran with his gun to a good position, and succeeded in killing the team while they were mounting their gun. Later, after heavy casualties, he showed great ability in organising the gun team and other sections. Throughout the operations his gallantry, coolness, and fine leadership inspired great confidence in those under his command.

235706 L./Cpl. (A./Cpl.) A. Ussher, R.W. Fus. (Kempiton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when the outpost positions were strongly attacked and looked like being cut off. He promptly took command of a body of men, which he pushed forward, and with them held off the attack until a withdrawal had been successfully accomplished. He then skilfully withdrew, fighting all the way, to the position ordered. He later displayed similar courage, enterprise and skill in the operation which restored the position.

290090 L./Sjt. V. T. Valentine, Gord. Highrs. (Stonehaven).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When all the officers of his company had become casualties, he rendered invaluable service in leading the company through a heavy enemy barrage. His great gallantry inspired the men near him, and contributed largely to the success of the company's attack. Throughout he set a splendid example of fearlessness and soldierly spirit.

50075 Cpl. T. Venables, R.F.A. (Stafford).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of two heavy trench mortars, which were in action immediately behind our front line. When our attack began the enemy put down a heavy barrage on the trench occupied by these mortars, the detachments of which suffered heavy casualties. Cpl. Venables showed an admirable example of coolness and fortitude, and by his conduct steadied and encouraged what was left of his detachments, and carried out the firing programme in its entirety. After the bombardment ended, the detachments, now reduced to two men each, stood by for twenty-four hours to respond to S.O.S. calls with a resolution and courage which