

282171 L./Cpl. (A./Sjt.) H. F. Watson, Lond R., and K. Afr. Rif. (Hoxton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. When his company was retiring under heavy enemy pressure he turned back and, unassisted, brought in a wounded askari, exposing himself to maxim and rifle fire at close range in the bush. Throughout the day his fine coolness and determination greatly inspired his men.

295869 Sjt. J. Watson, R. Sco. Fus. (Gretna).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when commanding a fighting patrol. He surprised a dozen of the enemy, whom he captured, with one machine gun which had been causing casualties. His able leadership and devotion to duty were an example to all.

459151 2nd Cpl. J. Watson, R.E. (S. Gosforth).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. While accompanying two officers along a trench a trench-mortar bomb fell between them. Shouting to the officers to get away, he placed his foot on the bomb, which immediately exploded, blowing off his foot and slightly wounding one of the officers. His splendid courage undoubtedly saved his officers from very serious injury.

40934 Pte. J. Watt, R. Scots (Slateford).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After a heavy barrage of artillery, trench mortar and machine-gun fire the enemy raided the battalion on his right. Private Watt mounted his Lewis gun on the parapet and lay there in order to obtain a field of fire. With absolute disregard of personal danger he kept his gun in action until the raiding party was dispersed. During this time he received a bullet wound in the chest, but did not report that he was wounded. He behaved splendidly.

266543 Sjt. D. Watters, R. Highrs. (Auchterarder).

For conspicuous gallantry when his party was held up by enemy machine-gun fire. Crawling out to a flank he shot several of the team and then captured the gun single-handed. This was a magnificent act of courage and prompt initiative; and all through operations he set a splendid example of coolness and determination to his men.

203124 Cpl. T. Watts, Glouc. R. (Cheltenham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. was out on our front for ten hours under heavy shell and machine-gun fire in charge of patrols. When all the men of the first patrol became casualties he returned, bringing all his wounded men back, and took out a second patrol. This likewise was placed hors de combat. He then took out a third party, and eventually with only one man unwounded reached a spot whence he gained the required information. On his final return he rendered most valuable service in strengthening the position and reorganising the company against a counter-

attack. His determined perseverance and complete disregard of danger invested his conduct with peculiar merit.

33399 L./C. E. H. Webb, York. R. (Leyton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in a raid. For two nights previously he reconnoitred the ground, often fired at by the enemy and within bombing distance of them, and his reports were of the greatest value to the raiding party. In the raid itself he acted as guide for the left party, and took a prominent part in the capture of the eleven prisoners. He did splendid service.

203468 Pte. R. Webster, Cam. Highrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. In the opening stages of our attack he saved a critical situation by bombing an enemy machine gun which, from behind a thickly-wired fence, was holding up our advance. He broke through the fence and accounted for the whole team, and the men then followed his lead to the final objective. Later, during the consolidation, he worked forward about 300 yards beyond our line, under heavy fire, and bombed a machine gun, the crew of which at once surrendered. Throughout the operations he set a splendid example of courage and energy.

3099 Sjt. C. Weir, The West India R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when his post was attacked by a greatly superior enemy force. He controlled the fire of his men with great coolness and ability, and by his fine example and leadership greatly contributed to the successful defence of the post.

26521 Pte. (L./Cpl.) W. T. Wheeler, Midd'x R. (Tottenham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He and some others rushed a machine-gun post, capturing a gun and ten prisoners. After reaching the objective he was told to take his section and reinforce some moppers-up. This he did, and captured a second machine gun and twelve prisoners. The courage and leadership of this young non-commissioned officer were of a very high order.

240244 Cpl. E. White, M.M., Notts. & Derby. R. (Matlock).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When on a daylight patrol this non-commissioned officer and another attacked a shell-hole post behind the enemy wire and killed the three occupants. The patrol then entered the shell-hole for identification, but were attacked by seventeen of the enemy and withdrew to their lines and took out a Lewis gun, which they used with great effect on the enemy. This non-commissioned officer has always shown great courage, particularly on patrols.

200318 Cpl. E. J. White, R. Suss. R. (Horsham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took over command of his company when all the officers and non-commis-