

wounded man. He showed great intelligence, and set a fine example.

118377 Cpl. J. G. Barrett, 42nd Bn., M.G. Corps (Sheffield).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During the bombardment prior to an enemy counter-attack the position of his gun was blown up. Although wounded he went on under heavy shell fire to reconnoitre a new position and led his team over to the new position and got his gun into action on the enemy as they came over. He was at last ordered back by his section officer in a fainting condition. He behaved splendidly.

285564 Pte. T. Barrett, 13th Bn., Welsh R. (Bwlch, Brecon).

For conspicuous gallantry and initiative when his company, while crossing a canal, was suffering many casualties from snipers. Seeing two of the enemy in a shell hole covering the bridge he dashed across and bayoneted both. His prompt courage enabled his company to cross the bridge and saved many casualties. He has previously done fine work.

18335 Pte. P. Barry, 2nd Bn., Leins. R. (Moyard).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He crawled forward round an enemy machine-gun post in face of heavy fire and captured the gun and turned it against the team, causing them considerable casualties as they retreated. He showed splendid courage and initiative.

77190 Cpl. J. Bell, 12th Bn., Tank Corps (Ayr, N.B.).

For conspicuous gallantry during an attack. When his Tank got badly ditched and received a direct hit, wounding the commander, he evacuated the Tank and assisted to carry his officer three hundred yards back to the front line under heavy fire. He then returned to the Tank and stood by for two hours under heavy machine-gun fire until the infantry passed through. On a previous occasion when his Tank, in advance of the infantry, was put out of action he manned a 6-pdr. gun and by his fire kept down machine-gun fire and enabled the crew to evacuate the Tank, after which he formed them into Lewis gun posts and returned to the Tank for more guns and ammunition and carried on firing until the infantry moved forward. He set a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

50955 L./Cpl. P. Bell, 2nd Bn., R. Scots (Innellan).

For conspicuous gallantry as acting platoon serjeant during an attack. When his platoon was held up by a machine gun he went forward alone and rushed the gun, killing three and wounding five enemy and capturing the gun and enabling the platoon to move forward. He set a splendid example of courage and determination to his men.

29198 Pte. (L./Cpl.) J. Bennett, 3rd Bn., G. Gds. (Keswick).

For conspicuous gallantry and daring. He led his section in an attack on a machine-gun nest which from a hundred yards distance was enfilading his company, and in

spite of the fire and casualties rushed the post and captured two guns and their teams.

40055 Pte. F. Bennetta, 15th Bn., Welsh R. (Bolton).

47750 Pte. A. Brandon, 15th Bn., Welsh R. (Luton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a critical period of forty-eight hours these runners maintained uninterrupted communication between company and battalion headquarters, continually passing through heavy artillery and machine-gun barrage. They also carried rations when practically all the ration party were wiped out. Their courage and devotion to duty were an example to all.

TZ/815 P./O. T. Bestford, M.M., Drake Bn., R.N.V.R. (Seghill).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He pushed ahead with a few men, and mopped up an enemy machine-gun position. He then pushed on, and bombed another gun position, damaging the gun and killing the crew. His great courage and ability to deal with unforeseen difficulties inspired all about him.

3/7098 Pte. R. Black, 1st Bn., Norf. R. (King's Lynn).

For great gallantry and tenacity in attacking an enemy machine-gun post. When his platoon commander called for volunteers to capture the gun, he rushed forward. His officer was killed within thirty yards of the hostile gun, but this private went on, killed the crew and captured the gun, thus enabling his platoon to continue their advance. A magnificent effort.

12474 Sjt. G. E. Blackwell, 1st Bn., C. Gds. (Gravesend).

For conspicuous gallantry and fine leadership. On two occasions, in reorganising his command and consolidating the position under most trying circumstances and intense artillery fire, he showed great initiative and courage.

14161 Sjt. J. A. Bland, 1st Bn., S. Gds. (Burnley).

For conspicuous gallantry. When in command of his platoon, on entering a village they were met by heavy machine-gun fire; by skilful leading and dash he surrounded two machine guns, killing or capturing the entire teams, and thereby saving his company many casualties. He then led his men on to the final objective, and consolidated the position gained.

241937 Pte. (L./Cpl.) H. Boardman, 1/7th Bn., Lan. Fus. (T.F.) (Middleton).

During a successful attack by his company his Lewis gun section was at one time surrounded by superior numbers of the enemy, but by his promptness and skill in handling his gun he dispersed them. In the initial attack his section rushed a machine-gun post, and it was due to his courage and fine leadership under heavy machine-gun fire that the casualties were comparatively slight.