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THURSDAY, 14 JUNE, 1917.

War Office,
14th June, 1917.

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Victoria Cross to the undermentioned Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers:—

Lt. Rupert Vance Moon, Inf. Bn., Aus. Imp. Force.

most conspicuous bravery during an on an enemy strong point.

His own immediate objective was a position in the advance of the hostile trench, and against the hostile trench itself, after capture of which it was intended that his men should co-operate in a further assault on a strong point further in rear.

Although wounded in the initial advance, he reached his first objective.

Leading his men against the trench itself, he was again badly wounded and incapacitated for the moment.

He nevertheless inspired and encouraged his men and captured the trench. Lt. Moon continued to lead his much diminished command in the general attack with the utmost

valour, being again wounded, and the attack was successfully pressed home.

During the consolidation of the position, this officer was again badly wounded, and it was only after this fourth and severe wound through the face that he consented to retire from the fight.

His bravery was magnificent, and was largely instrumental in the successful issue against superior numbers, the safeguarding of the flank of the attack and the capture of many prisoners and machine guns.

2nd Lt. (A/Capt.) David Philip Hirsch, late York R.

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty in attack.

Having arrived at the first objective, Capt. Hirsch, although already twice wounded, returned over fire-swept slopes to satisfy himself that the defensive flank was being established.

Machine gun fire was so intense that it was necessary for him to be continuously up and down the line encouraging his men to dig and hold the position.

He continued to encourage his men by standing on the parapet and steadying them in the face of machine gun fire and counter-attack until he was killed.

His conduct throughout was a magnificent example of the greatest devotion to duty.

T/2nd Lt. John Harrison, M.C., E. York. R.

For most conspicuous bravery and self-sacrifice in an attack.

Owing to darkness and to smoke from the enemy barrage, and from our own, and to the fact that our objective was in a dark wood, it was impossible to see when our barrage had lifted off the enemy front line.

Nevertheless, 2nd Lt. Harrison led his company against the enemy trench under heavy rifle and machine-gun fire, but was repulsed. Reorganising his command as best he could in No Man's Land, he again attacked in darkness under terrific fire, but with no success.

Then, turning round, this gallant officer single-handed made a dash at the machine-gun, hoping to knock out the gun and so save the lives of many of his company.

His self-sacrifice and absolute disregard of danger was an inspiring example to all. (He is reported missing, believed killed.)

No. 8/3504 Sjt. Donald Forrester Brown, late Inf. Bn., N.Z. Forces.

For most conspicuous bravery and determination in attack when the company to which he belonged suffered very heavy casualties in officers and men from machine gun fire.

At great personal risk this N.C.O. advanced with a comrade and succeeded in reaching a point within thirty yards of the enemy guns. Four of the gun crew were killed and the gun captured.

The advance of the company was continued till it was again held up by machine gun fire. Again Sjt. Brown and his comrade with great gallantry rushed the gun and killed the crew. After this second position had been won, the company came under very heavy shell fire, and the utter contempt for danger and coolness under fire

of this N.C.O. did much to keep up the spirit of his men.

On a subsequent occasion in attack, Sjt Brown showed most conspicuous gallantry. He attacked singlehanded a machine gun which was holding up the attack, killed the gun crew and captured the gun. Later, whilst sniping the retreating enemy, this very gallant soldier was killed.

No. 645112 Sjt. William Gosling, R.F.A.

For most conspicuous bravery when in charge of a heavy trench mortar.

Owing to a faulty cartridge the bomb, after discharge, fell 10 yards from the mortar.

Sjt. Gosling sprang out, lifted the nose of the bomb, which had sunk into the ground, unscrewed the fuze and threw it on the ground, where it immediately exploded.

This very gallant and prompt action undoubtedly saved the lives of the whole detachment.

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the undermentioned Rewards for gallantry and meritorious service on the occasion of the mining of a Hospital Ship:—

Awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

Maj. Robert Thornton Meadows, R.A.M.C.

Awarded the Royal Red Cross decoration, 1st Class.

Matron, Miss Katherine Conway Jones, A.R.R.C., T.F.N.S.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (Reserve).

Awarded 2nd Class, Royal Red Cross.

Sister, Miss Edith Passmore.

Sister, Miss Fanny Boulton.

NOTE.—The award of the Meritorious Service Medal has been conferred on four men of the Royal Army Medical Corps, in recognition of devotion to duty on this occasion.

Their names will be published in a subsequent issue of the Gazette.