

prisoners, of whom two were officers, in addition to an undamaged machine gun.

No. 6895 Sjt. (Actg. C.S./M.) John Skinner, K.O. Sco. Bord. (Pollokshields, Glasgow.)

For most conspicuous bravery and good leading.

Whilst his company was attacking, machine gun fire opened on the left flank, delaying the advance. Although C.S./M. Skinner was wounded in the head, he collected six men, and with great courage and determination worked round the left flank of three blockhouses from which the machine gun fire was coming, and succeeded in bombing and taking the first blockhouse single-handed; then, leading his six men towards the other two blockhouses, he skilfully cleared them, taking sixty prisoners, three machine guns, and two trench mortars. The dash and gallantry displayed by this warrant officer enabled the objective to be reached and consolidated.

No. 200717 Cpl. (L/Sjt.) Tom Fletcher Mayson, R. Lanc. R. (Silecourt, Cumberland).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty when with the leading wave of the attack his platoon was held up by machine gun fire from a flank.

Without waiting for orders, L/Sjt. Mayson at once made for the gun, which he put out of action with bombs, wounding four of the team. The remaining three of the team fled, pursued by L/Sjt. Mayson to a dugout into which he followed them, and disposed of them with his bayonet.

Later, when clearing up a strong point, this non-commissioned officer again tackled a machine gun single-handed, killing six of the team.

Finally, during an enemy counter-attack, he took charge of an isolated post, and successfully held it till ordered to withdraw as his ammunition was exhausted.

He displayed throughout the most remarkable valour and initiative.

No. 13303 Pte. Wilfrid Edwards, K.O. York. L.I. (Leeds).

For most conspicuous bravery when under heavy machine gun and rifle fire from a strong concrete fort.

Having lost all his company officers, without hesitation he dashed forward at great personal risk, bombed through the loopholes, surmounted the fort, and waved to his company to advance. By his splendid example he saved a most critical situation at a time when the whole battalion was held up and a leader urgently needed. Three officers and thirty other ranks were taken prisoner by him in the fort.

Later, Pte. Edwards did most valuable work as a runner, and he eventually guided most of the battalion out through very difficult ground.

Throughout he set a splendid personal example to all, and was utterly regardless of danger.

No. 15805 Pte. Arnold Loosemore, W. Rid. R. (Sheffield).

For most conspicuous bravery and initiative during the attack on a strongly-held enemy position.

His platoon having been checked by heavy machine gun fire, he crawled through partially cut wire, dragging his Lewis gun with him, and single-handed dealt with a strong party of the enemy, killing about twenty of them, and thus covering the consolidation of the position taken up by his platoon.

Immediately afterwards his Lewis gun was blown up by a bomb, and three enemy rushed for him, but he shot them all with his revolver.

Later, he shot several enemy snipers, exposing himself to heavy fire each time.

On returning to the original post he also brought back a wounded comrade under heavy fire at the risk of his life. He displayed throughout an utter disregard of danger.

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