

devastating fire from machine guns, gallantly led small parties to attack these strong points and, successfully silencing the machine guns with bombs, captured the garrison at the point of the bayonet.

On another occasion, when a corporal, who had become detached from his company, had been captured and was being taken to the rear by the enemy, Pte. Bugden, single-handed, rushed to the rescue of his comrade, shot one enemy and bayoneted the remaining two, thus releasing the Corporal.

On five occasions he rescued wounded men under intense shell and machine-gun fire, showing an utter contempt and disregard for danger.

Always foremost in volunteering for any dangerous mission, it was during the execution of one of these missions that this gallant soldier was killed.

No. 21654 Pte. Frederick George Dancox. Worc. R. (Worcester).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty in attack.

After the first objective had been captured and consolidation had been started, work was considerably hampered, and numerous casualties were caused by an enemy machine gun firing from a concrete emplacement situated on the edge of our protective barrage.

Pte. Dancox was one of a party of about ten men detailed as moppers-up. Owing to the position of the machine-gun emplacement, it was extremely difficult to work round a flank. However, this man with great gallantry worked his way round through the barrage and entered the "pill box" from the rear, threatening the garrison with a Mills bomb. Shortly afterwards he reappeared with a machine gun under his arm, followed by about 40 enemy.

The machine gun was brought back to our position by Pte. Dancox, and he kept it in action throughout the day.

By his resolution, absolute disregard of danger and cheerful disposition, the morale of his comrades was maintained at a very high standard under extremely trying circumstances.

No. 241475 Pte. Albert Halton, K.O.R. Lanc. R. (Carnforth).

For most conspicuous bravery in attack. After the objective had been reached Pte. Halton rushed forward about three hundred yards under very heavy rifle and shell fire, and captured a machine gun and its crew, which was causing many losses to our men. He then went out again and brought in about twelve prisoners, showing the greatest disregard of his own safety and setting a very fine example to those around him.

No. 331958 Pte. (A./L.Cpl.) John Brown Hamilton, High. L.I. (Lanarkshire).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty, during the enemy's attack on the line held by our brigades. The greatest difficulty was experienced in keeping the front and support lines supplied with small-arm ammunition owing to the intense and continuous belt of artillery fire placed systematically by the enemy between our

various lines and battalion headquarters. It was of vital importance for the successful maintenance of the defence of the position that ammunition should be got forward.

At a time when this ammunition supply had reached a seriously low ebb, L./Cpl. Hamilton on several occasions, on his own initiative, carried bandoliers of ammunition through the enemy's belts of fire to the front and support line, and then, passing along these lines in full view of the enemy's snipers and machine guns—who were lying out in front of our line at close range—distributed the ammunition to the men. In so doing he not only ensured the steady continuance of the defence by rifle fire, but by his splendid example of fearlessness and devotion to duty inspired all who saw him with fresh confidence and renewed their determination to hold on at all costs.

No. 267110 Pte. Arthur Hutt, R. War. R. (Earlsdon, Coventry).

For most conspicuous bravery and initiative in attack, when all the officers and non-commissioned officers of No. 2 platoon having become casualties, Pte. Hutt took command of and led forward the platoon. He was held up by a strong post on his right, but immediately ran forward alone in front of the platoon and shot the officer and three men in the post, causing between forty and fifty others to surrender.

Later, realising that he had pushed too far, he withdrew his party. He personally covered the withdrawal by sniping the enemy, killing a number and then carried back a badly wounded man and put him under shelter.

Pte. Hutt then organised and consolidated his position, and learning that some wounded men were lying out and likely to become prisoners if left there, no stretcher bearers being available, he went out and carried in four wounded men under heavy fire.

No. 506 Pte. Reginald Roy Inwood, Aus. Imp. Force.

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty during the advance to the second objective. He moved forward through our barrage alone to an enemy strong post and captured it, together with nine prisoners, killing several of the enemy. During the evening he volunteered for a special all-night patrol, which went out six hundred yards in front of our line, and there—by his coolness and sound judgment—obtained and sent back very valuable information as to the enemy's movements.

In the early morning of the 21st September, Pte. Inwood located a machine gun which was causing several casualties. He went out alone and bombed the gun and team, killing all but one, whom he brought in as a prisoner with the gun.

No. 871 Pte. Charles Melvin, R. Highrs. (Kirriemuir).

For most conspicuous bravery, coolness and resource in action. Pte. Melvin's company had advanced to within fifty yards of the front-line trench of a redoubt, where, owing to the intensity of the enemy's fire, the men