



SIXTH SUPPLEMENT

TO

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FRIDAY, 11 JANUARY, 1918.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.
11th January, 1918.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotions in the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, for valuable services rendered in connection with the Military Operations culminating in the capture of Jerusalem. To be dated 1st January, 1918:—

To be Additional Members of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, of the said Most Honourable Order:—

Maj.-Genl. (temp. Lt.-Genl.) Edward Stanislaus Bulfin, C.B., C.V.O., Colonel, Yorkshire Regiment.

Maj.-Genl. (temp. Lt.-Genl.) Sir Philip Walhouse Chetwode, Bart., K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Chancery of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.
Downing Street, 11th January, 1918.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give directions for the following appointment

to the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, for services rendered in connection with the Military Operations culminating in the capture of Jerusalem. To be dated 1st January, 1918:—

To be an Additional Member of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, of the said Most Distinguished Order:—

Maj.-Genl. Louis Jean Bols, C.B., D.S.O.

War Office,
11th January, 1918.

His Majesty the KING has been pleased to approve of the promotion to Brevet Colonel of the undermentioned officers from 1st instant inclusive, for services rendered in connection with military operations, culminating in the capture of Jerusalem:—

Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. (temp. Br.-Genl.) W. H. Bartholomew, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.A.

Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. (temp. Br.-Genl.) E. T. Humphreys, D.S.O., Lanc. Fusrs.

War Office,
11th January, 1918.

His Majesty the KING has been pleased to approve of the award of the Victoria Cross to

the undermentioned Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men, for most conspicuous bravery:—

Maj. (A./Lt.-Col.) John Sherwood-Kelly, C.M.G., D.S.O., Norf. R., comd. a Bn., R. Innis. Fus.

For most conspicuous bravery and fearless leading when a party of men of another unit detailed to cover the passage of the canal by his battalion were held up on the near side of the canal by heavy rifle fire directed on the bridge. Lt.-Col. Sherwood-Kelly at once ordered covering fire, personally led the leading company of his battalion across the canal and, after crossing, reconnoitred under heavy rifle and machine gun fire the high ground held by the enemy.

The left flank of his battalion advancing to the assault of this objective was held up by a thick belt of wire, whereupon he crossed to that flank, and with a Lewis gun team, forced his way under heavy fire through obstacles, got the gun into position on the far side, and covered the advance of his battalion through the wire, thereby enabling them to capture the position.

Later, he personally led a charge against some pits from which a heavy fire was being directed on his men, captured the pits, together with five machine guns and forty-six prisoners, and killed a large number of the enemy.

The great gallantry displayed by this officer throughout the day inspired the greatest confidence in his men, and it was mainly due to his example and devotion to duty that his battalion was enabled to capture and hold their objective.

Capt. (A./Maj.) George Randolph Pearkes, M.C., Can. Mtd. Rif.

For most conspicuous bravery and skilful handling of the troops under his command during the capture and consolidation of considerably more than the objectives allotted to him, in an attack.

Just prior to the advance Maj. Pearkes was wounded in the left thigh. Regardless of his wound, he continued to lead his men with the utmost gallantry, despite many obstacles.

At a particular stage of the attack his further advance was threatened by a strong point which was an objective of the battalion on his left, but which they had not succeeded in capturing. Quickly appreciating the situation, he captured and held this point, thus enabling his further advance to be successfully pushed forward.

It was entirely due to his determination and fearless personality that he was able to maintain his objective with the small number of men at his command against repeated enemy counter-attacks, both his flanks being unprotected for a considerable depth meanwhile.

His appreciation of the situation throughout and the reports rendered by him were invaluable to his Commanding Officer in making dispositions of troops to hold the position captured.

He showed throughout a supreme contempt of danger and wonderful powers of control and leading.

Capt. John Fox Russell, M.C., late R.A.M.C., attd. R.W. Fus.

For most conspicuous bravery displayed in action until he was killed. Capt. Russell repeatedly went out to attend the wounded under murderous fire from snipers and machine guns, and, in many cases where no other means were at hand, carried them in himself, although almost exhausted.

He showed the highest possible degree of valour.

Lt. (T./Capt.) Robert Gee, M.C., R. Fus.

For most conspicuous bravery, initiative and determination when an attack by a strong enemy force pierced our line and captured a brigade headquarters and ammunition dump. Capt. Gee finding himself a prisoner killed one of the enemy with his spiked stick, and succeeded in escaping. He then organised a party of the brigade staff with which he attacked the enemy fiercely, closely followed and supported by two companies of infantry. By his own personal bravery and prompt action he, aided by his orderlies, cleared the locality.

Capt. Gee established a defensive flank on the outskirts of the village, then finding that an enemy machine gun was still in action, with a revolver in each hand, and, followed by one man, he rushed and captured the gun, killing eight of the crew.

At this time he was wounded but refused to have the wound dressed until he was satisfied that the defence was organised.

Lt. (A./Capt.) Christopher Patrick John O'Kelly, M.C., Can. Inf.

For most conspicuous bravery in an action in which he led his company with extraordinary skill and determination.

After the original attack had failed and two companies of his unit had launched a new attack, Capt. O'Kelly advanced his command over 1,000 yards under heavy fire without any artillery barrage, took the enemy positions on the crest of the hill by storm, and then personally organised and led a series of attacks against "Pill-boxes," his company alone capturing six of them with 100 prisoners and 10 machine guns.

Later on in the afternoon, under the leadership of this gallant officer, his company repelled a strong counter-attack, taking more prisoners, and subsequently during the night captured a hostile raiding party consisting of one officer, 10 men and a machine gun.

The whole of these achievements were chiefly due to the magnificent courage, daring and ability of Capt. O'Kelly.

2nd Lt. (T./Lt.-Col.) Philip Eric Bent, D.S.O., late Leic. Regt.

For most conspicuous bravery, when during a heavy hostile attack, the right of his own command and the battalion on his right were forced back. The situation was critical owing to the confusion caused by the attack and the intense artillery fire. Lt.-Col. Bent personally collected a platoon that was in reserve, and together with men from other companies and various regimental details, he organised and led them forward to

the counter-attack, after issuing orders to other officers as to the further defence of the line. The counter-attack was successful and the enemy were checked.

The coolness and magnificent example shown to all ranks by Lt.-Col. Bent resulted in the securing of a portion of the line which was of essential importance for subsequent operations.

This very gallant officer was killed whilst leading a charge which he inspired with the call of "Come on the Tigers."

2nd Lt. (A./Capt.) Arthur Moore Lascelles, Durh. L.I.

For most conspicuous bravery, initiative and devotion to duty when in command of his company in a very exposed position. After a very heavy bombardment during which Capt. Lascelles was wounded, the enemy attacked in strong force but was driven off, success being due in a great degree to the fine example set by this officer, who, refusing to allow his wound to be dressed, continued to encourage his men and organise the defence.

Shortly afterwards the enemy again attacked and captured the trench, taking several of his men prisoners. Capt. Lascelles at once jumped on to the parapet and followed by the remainder of his company, 12 men only, rushed across under very heavy machine-gun fire and drove over 60 of the enemy back, thereby saving a most critical situation.

He was untiring in reorganising the position, but shortly afterwards the enemy again attacked and captured the trench and Capt. Lascelles, who escaped later.

The remarkable determination and gallantry of this officer in the course of operations, during which he received two further wounds, afforded an inspiring example to all.

No. 10053 Serjt. John McAulay, D.C.M., Scots Guards (Stirling).

For most conspicuous bravery and initiative in attack. When all his officers had become casualties Serjt. McAulay assumed command of the company and under shell and machine-gun fire successfully held and consolidated the objective gained. He reorganised the company, cheered on and encouraged his men, and under heavy fire at close quarters showed utter disregard of danger.

Noticing a counter-attack developing on his exposed left flank, he successfully repulsed it by the skilful and bold use of machine-guns, aided by two men only, causing heavy enemy casualties.

Serjt. McAulay also carried his company commander, who was mortally wounded, a long distance to a place of safety under very heavy fire. Twice he was knocked down by the concussion of a bursting shell, but, nothing daunted, he continued on his way until his objective was achieved, killing two of the enemy who endeavoured to intercept him.

Throughout the day this very gallant Non-commissioned Officer displayed the highest courage, tactical skill, and coolness under exceptionally trying circumstances.

No. 51339 Sjt. George Harry Mullin, M.M., Can. Inf.

For most conspicuous bravery in attack, when single-handed he captured a commanding "Pill-box" which had withstood the heavy bombardment and was causing heavy casualties to our forces and holding up the attack. He rushed a sniper's post in front, destroyed the garrison with bombs, and, crawling on to the top of the "Pill-box," he shot the two machine-gunners with his revolver. Sjt. Mullin then rushed to another entrance and compelled the garrison of ten to surrender.

His gallantry and fearlessness were witnessed by many, and, although rapid fire was directed upon him, and his clothes riddled by bullets, he never faltered in his purpose and he not only helped to save the situation, but also indirectly saved many lives.

No. 9522 Sjt. Charles Edward Spackman, Bord. R. (Fulham).

For most conspicuous bravery when in action the leading company was checked by the heavy fire of a machine-gun mounted in a position which covered the approaches. The ground was absolutely devoid of cover of any description. Sjt. Spackman, realising the position, and seeing that it would be impossible for troops to advance, went through the fire to attack the gun. Working forward gradually, he succeeded in killing all but one of the gun crew. He then rushed the gun and captured it single-handed; thereby enabling the company to advance.

The behaviour of this Non-commissioned Officer was gallant in the extreme, and he set a fine example of courage and devotion to his men.

No. 404017 Corpl. Colin Barron, Can. Inf.

For conspicuous bravery when in attack his unit was held up by three machine-guns. Corpl. Barron opened on them from a flank at point-blank range, rushed the enemy guns single-handed, killed four of the crew, and captured the remainder. He then, with remarkable initiative and skill, turned one of the captured guns on the retreating enemy, causing them severe casualties.

The remarkable dash and determination displayed by this N.C.O. in rushing the guns produced far-reaching results, and enabled the advance to be continued.

No. 240171 L./Cpl. Robert McBeath, Sea. Highrs. (Kinlochbervie, Lairg, Sutherland).

For most conspicuous bravery when with his company in attack and approaching the final objective, a nest of enemy machine-guns in the western outskirts of a village opened fire both on his own unit and on the unit on the right. The advance was checked and heavy casualties resulted.

When a Lewis gun was called for to deal with these machine-guns, L./Cpl. McBeath volunteered for the duty, and immediately moved off alone with a Lewis gun and his revolver. He located one of the machine-guns in action, and worked his way towards it, shooting the gunner with his revolver.

Finding several other hostile machine-guns in action, he, with the assistance of a Tank,

attacked them and drove the gunners to ground in a deep dug-out. L./Cpl. McBeath, regardless of all danger, rushed in after them, shot an enemy who opposed him on the steps, and drove the remainder of the garrison out of the dug-out, capturing three officers and thirty men.

There were in all five machine-guns mounted round the dug-out and by putting them out of action he cleared the way for the advance of both units.

The conduct of L./Cpl. McBeath throughout three days of severe fighting was beyond praise.

No. 6657 Pte. George William Clare, late Lrs. (Plumstead).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty when, acting as stretcher-bearer during a most intense and continuous enemy bombardment, Pte. Clare dressed and conducted wounded over the open to the dressing-station about 500 yards away.

At one period, when all the garrison of a detached post, which was lying out in the open about 150 yards to the left of the line occupied, had become casualties, he crossed the intervening space, which was continually swept by heavy rifle and machine-gun fire, and, having dressed all the cases, manned the post single-handed till a relief could be sent. Pte. Clare then carried a seriously wounded man through intense fire to cover, and later succeeded in getting him to the dressing-station.

At the dressing-station he was told that the enemy was using gas shells to a large extent in the valley below, and as the wind was blowing the gas towards the line of trenches and shell-holes occupied, he started on the right of the line and personally warned every company post of the danger, the whole time under shell and rifle fire.

This very gallant soldier was subsequently killed by a shell.

No. 838301 Pte. Thomas William Holmes, Can. Mtd. Rif.

For most conspicuous bravery and resource when the right flank of our attack was held up by heavy machine-gun and rifle fire from a "pill-box" strong point. Heavy casualties were producing a critical situation when Pte. Holmes, on his own initiative and single-handed, ran forward and threw two bombs, killing and wounding the crews of two machine guns. He then returned to his comrades, secured another bomb, and again rushed forward alone under heavy fire and threw the bomb into the entrance of the "pill-box," causing the nineteen occupants to surrender.

By this act of valour at a very critical moment Pte. Holmes undoubtedly cleared the way for the advance of our troops and saved the lives of many of his comrades.

No. 437793 Pte. Cecil John Kinross, Can. Inf.

For most conspicuous bravery in action during prolonged and severe operations.

Shortly after the attack was launched, the company to which he belonged came under intense artillery fire, and further advance

was held up by a very severe fire from an enemy machine gun. Pte. Kinross, making a careful survey of the situation, deliberately divested himself of all his equipment save his rifle and bandolier and, regardless of his personal safety, advanced alone over the open ground in broad daylight, charged the enemy machine gun, killing the crew of six, and seized and destroyed the gun. His superb example and courage instilled the greatest confidence in his company, and enabled a further advance of 300 yards to be made and a highly important position to be established.

Throughout the day he showed marvellous coolness and courage, fighting with the utmost aggressiveness against heavy odds until seriously wounded.

No. 24213 Pte. Henry James Nicholas, N.Z. Inf.

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty in attack. Pte. Nicholas, who was one of a Lewis gun section, had orders to form a defensive flank to the right of the advance which was subsequently checked by heavy machine-gun and rifle fire from an enemy strong point. Whereupon, followed by the remainder of his section at an interval of about twenty-five yards, Pte. Nicholas rushed forward alone, shot the officer in command of the strong point, and overcame the remainder of the garrison of sixteen by means of bombs and bayonet, capturing four wounded prisoners and a machine gun.

He captured this strong point practically singlehanded, and thereby saved many casualties.

Subsequently, when the advance had reached its limit, Pte. Nicholas collected ammunition under heavy machine-gun and rifle fire.

His exceptional valour and coolness throughout the operations afforded an inspiring example to all.

No. 552665 Pte. James Peter Robertson, late Can. Inf.

For most conspicuous bravery and outstanding devotion to duty in attack. When his platoon was held up by uncut wire and a machine gun causing many casualties, Pte. Robertson dashed to an opening on the flank, rushed the machine gun and, after a desperate struggle with the crew, killed four and then turned the gun on the remainder, who, overcome by the fierceness of his onslaught, were running towards their own lines. His gallant work enabled the platoon to advance. He inflicted many more casualties among the enemy, and then carrying the captured machine gun, he led his platoon to the final objective. He there selected an excellent position and got the gun into action, firing on the retreating enemy who by this time were quite demoralised by the fire brought to bear on them.

During the consolidation Pte. Robertson's most determined use of the machine gun kept down the fire of the enemy snipers; his courage and his coolness cheered his comrades and inspired them to the finest efforts.

Later, when two of our snipers were badly wounded in front of our trench, he went out

and carried one of them in under very severe fire.

He was killed just as he returned with the second man.

No. 2008 L/Dafadar Gobind Singh, Indian Cavalry.

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty in thrice volunteering to carry messages between the regiment and Brigade Headquarters, a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles over open ground which was under the observation and heavy fire of the enemy. He succeeded each time in delivering his message, although on each occasion his horse was shot

and he was compelled to finish his journey on foot.

His Majesty the KING has been pleased to approve of the award of the Military Medal to the undermentioned Ladies for coolness and gallantry displayed in the performance of their duties when a casualty clearing station was heavily shelled:—

Sister, Miss Mary Gladys Connie Foley,
R.R.C., Q.A.I.M.N.S.

Sister, Miss Mabel Jennings, A.R.R.C.,
T.F.N.S.

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