

1429 Sjt. A. MacRae, A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of a stretcher-bearer division. His division suffered heavy casualties, but notwithstanding this he, by his splendid example and courage, succeeded in making a clean evacuation for that particular section allotted to him. He set a magnificent example throughout a most trying period.

8380 Sjt. E. W. Mattner, Fld. Arty.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On the battery coming under heavy fire, when in action, this N.C.O. took control, when the battery commander was wounded and after a detachment had become casualties and a gun set on fire. He kept the battery in action, got the wounded away, and displayed the greatest determination and ability. Exposing himself fearlessly to hostile fire, he brought the battery through a period of great difficulty at a critical time.

607 C.S.M. (now 2nd Lt.) J. Maxwell, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This W.O. took command of a platoon and led it forward with great dash. On one of our strong points being heavily barraged he went forward on his own initiative and moved the men forward clear of the barrage, during which operation only one casualty was sustained. The action of this W.O. undoubtedly saved many lives. Throughout the operations he carried out his duties with great skill, and was a source of great inspiration by his splendid example.

3417 Sjt. T. A. Mentiplay, Fld. Arty.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He assisted an officer on several occasions in extinguishing fires which had broken out in gunpits, thus saving a large quantity of ammunition. This work was effected at great personal risk when the battery was under hostile shell fire. He has shown marked ability, energy and devotion to duty during the operations.

2478 Sjt. J. G. Morris, Pnrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as one of a party detailed to remove a dump of shells outside a burning building. Though ammunition and bombs were exploding inside the building, about seventy shells were removed, and thereby a large explosion prevented.

5684 Pte. L. Neale, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as stretcher-bearer. A shell burst in a machine-gun position, causing several casualties and setting fire to the ammunition. He at once went to the spot, extinguished the fire and attended to the wounded. Throughout an attack he attended to the wounded continuously for twenty-four hours under shell fire, setting a fine example of courage to all.

1008 Sjt. J. O'Brien, Eng.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He assisted in the laying of a buried cable route. A large working party was on its way to the work when a hostile barrage commenced. He went out voluntarily through the barrage, met the party, and con-

ducted them to the work. He showed great courage and determination throughout a very trying time, and was largely responsible for the successful completion of the work.

1454 Sjt. E. W. Pennell, Engrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He continually repaired telephone lines under very heavy shell fire. He set a fine example of efficiency and courage, and it was entirely due to his efforts that communication was kept up.

2839 Pte. G. F. Pierce, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of his Lewis gun section in an attack and bombed an enemy machine-gun post single-handed, capturing the gun. Later, he carried ammunition to the front line through heavy barrages. He set a splendid example of courage and cheerfulness.

4091 Sjt. W. J. Pirie, Engrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He went forward with the leading troops of the attack to mark out tracks, and completed his work very speedily under heavy fire, taking charge of the work when his officer was killed. He showed great courage and initiative.

5181 Sjt. G. L. Prendergast, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of a reserve platoon, and when the line in front had advanced he saw an enemy machine gun post open a heavy fire. He rushed the post and captured seventeen prisoners and three machine guns. His work throughout the operations was of the highest standard, and he set a fine example to his men by his coolness and contempt of danger under heavy fire.

2201 Pte. W. Robins, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the advance was held up by two enemy machine guns, with another man he dashed forward, captured one of the guns, putting the team out of action. This gallant act inspired other men to attack and capture the second gun, taking many prisoners and allowing the advance to proceed.

659 Pte. C. A. Ross, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During the attack, whilst enemy machine guns were holding up the advance and causing casualties, he dashed forward, silencing the guns with bombs and capturing the crews. His action materially assisted the advance, since, if these guns had not been put out of action, a great deal of trouble and many casualties would have been thereby caused after the barrage had lifted.

3323 Sjt. R. N. Smith, Engrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He showed great initiative and skill in organising carrying parties and leading them in their work through heavy barrages. When in charge of a party laying a duck-board track to a forward position he completed the work under heavy shell fire with only one casualty. He always displayed great coolness, and his courage and devotion to duty were a constant example to his men.