

enemy outpost line, by the light of a hostile flare he saw a party of eight of the enemy approaching. He allowed them to come within a few feet of his position, and then summoned them to surrender. Revolver fire was opened on them and a bomb thrown, resulting in four of the enemy being badly wounded. He displayed coolness, dash and military judgment of the highest order.

2nd Lt. John Archibald Blair Churchill, Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He commanded a party during a raid on the enemy trenches, and when his commanding officer was wounded he took charge of the operations and rendered valuable service. After his return to our lines, learning that some men of another party were missing, he organised a party, and at once proceeded to the enemy wire. Being attacked on his way by an enemy patrol of double his strength, he succeeded in securing two prisoners and driving the remainder off, finally assisting in bringing the wounded back to our line. His courage and devotion to duty were most exemplary.

Lt. John Gardiner, Arty.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of two trench mortars detailed to support a raid. These guns were subjected to heavy shell fire throughout the operations, and one gun being put out of action he transferred all the ammunition to the other gun and carried through his task as ordered with this gun alone. At the end of the shoot he with six other men were buried by the bursting of an enemy shell, and after being extricated himself he performed valuable work in saving the lives of the other buried men. By his courageous and gallant behaviour throughout he set a magnificent example to all under him.

Lt. William Hunter, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a raid on the enemy trenches, although wounded on the way across "No Man's Land," he continued to command his party and to direct operations from the enemy's front line. He refused to leave the enemy's parapet until satisfied that his party had withdrawn and then personally assisted to bring in the wounded. He displayed splendid courage and determination.

Lt. Donald Ivan Johnston, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Whilst acting as scout officer of a party raiding the enemy trenches he led the party along the routes, which he had previously prepared, without experiencing the slightest difficulty. On returning to our lines and hearing that a wounded man had been left out in "No Man's Land," he at once went out to bring him in. On the way he encountered an enemy patrol of eight men. He attacked this patrol, put it to flight, and succeeded in rescuing the wounded man. His courage and devotion to duty were most marked.

2nd Lt. Ernest John Hugh Schlitz, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Although wounded during a raid on the enemy trenches he refused to leave his post until forced to do so through exhaustion, when he insisted on walking to the dressing station in order to save a stretcher for a badly wounded man. Throughout the whole of the training and preliminary reconnaissance in connection with the raid his courage and ability were of the highest order.

#### NEW ZEALAND FORCE.

2nd Lt. Alfred Edward Esquilant, Fld. Arty.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when a battery group was heavily shelled. He got all his men safely away to a flank, and then seeing that some officers had been wounded at a neighbouring battery he went to the spot and, with the help of a N.C.O., carried two wounded officers to safety under intense fire. He set a splendid example to his men.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN FORCE.

Lt. William Smith Heaton, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When in command of a platoon he kept his men under splendid control, and showed great devotion to duty. Later, he rushed and captured an enemy machine gun. He has at all times set a most inspiring example, and has rendered services of the greatest value.

2nd Lt. Sivert Vause Samuelson, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He, though severely wounded, beat off a strong enemy attack, reinforced by several machine guns, and remained fighting with his platoon until relieved. He showed great determination, and his courage and cheerfulness afforded an excellent example to his men.

#### AMENDMENTS.

The following are the correct descriptions of the Officers upon whom the Victoria Cross has recently been conferred:—

Capt. (A./Maj.) Okill Massey Learmonth, V.C., M.C., late Can. Infy.  
(V.C. gazetted 8th November, 1917.)

Lt. Hugh McKenzie, V.C., D.C.M., Can. M.G. Corps.  
(V.C. gazetted 13th February, 1918.)

The following are the correct descriptions of Officers upon whom Rewards have recently been conferred:—

Lt. Ronald Albert Austin, M.C., Aust. F.C.  
(M.C. gazetted 26th March, 1918.)