

T./2nd Lt. (A./Capt.) Stanley George Blake, Glouc. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He organised and held a captured area for thirty-six hours against two counter-attacks. On a previous occasion he organised the front line after the two front companies had suffered heavy casualties.

Lt. Cecil Francis Ramsden Bland, R. Berks. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his platoon in an advance over most difficult ground, and after reaching his objective made a personal reconnaissance and obtained valuable information. He was also largely responsible for the successful evacuation of casualties under heavy fire over difficult ground.

T./2nd Lt. Reginald Percy Bloor, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in command of five mortars during a raid, and kept them in action throughout the operations with great skill, though heavily shelled.

Lt. (A./Capt.) Douglas Maryon Bluett, H.A.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When owing to heavy casualties no guide could be found for his company he reconnoitred the whole front by himself under fire and subsequently moved up all his posts into good positions by daybreak. On the following day he further improved his position and brought in about twenty men of other units who were lying out in shell holes.

2nd Lt. Sidney Blyth, R. Scots, Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a raid on the enemy's position. He rendered valuable assistance in guiding his battalion by compass bearings under heavy fire. He contributed largely to the success of the operations.

2nd Lt. Edward Henry Brooke Boulton, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in assisting under heavy fire in carrying four wounded men to a place of safety. He encouraged the stretcher-bearers at their work under heavy fire by his excellent example.

2nd Lt. Herbert Booth, Lond. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his platoon through an enemy barrage, and in spite of the difficult state of the ground and heavy fire advanced to within 150 yards of the objective and established a post. He also made a useful reconnaissance alone under heavy fire.

2nd Lt. James Duncan Boyd, R.F.A., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He remained on duty at an observation post throughout an intense bombardment of gas and other shells. He showed great contempt of danger.

Lt. William Boyd, R.F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On entering the enemy trenches,

during an advance, he attacked some hostile dug-outs, and brought out from them twenty-two prisoners. He then searched the dug-outs for hidden mines, and made them safe for the infantry. He showed great courage and resource.

Capt. Allen Basil Bratton, N. Lan. R., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was engaged with his company in marking out a route to guide troops to the forward area, when the enemy put down an intense barrage. He sent his men out of the shelled area and waited behind to make certain that all had got safely away. When on his return he heard that one of his men had been wounded, he immediately went back to search for him, finally succeeding in bringing him back to safety in spite of the heavy shelling and pitch darkness. Throughout this period he showed the greatest determination and courage.

T./Sub.-Lt. Joe Willie Brearley, R.N.V.R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. With eleven men he attacked a concrete dug-out in the dark. They killed three of the enemy and captured one officer and eleven other ranks, and a machine gun. The advance was over boggy ground, and the position was strongly wired. The enemy fired on them with a machine gun, but he himself shot the No. 1 of the gun and rushed the position.

Capt. George Albert Brett, Lond. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a raiding party. The success was mainly due to his skill and courage, both in organising and assembling his men, and in leading the assault.

Lt. Francis James Bridges, Hrs., attd. M.G.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer collected scattered parties of infantry and assisted in reorganising the defence at a critical period under very heavy shell and rifle fire. His personal courage and determination greatly assisted in bringing the line forward again to its original position on the crest of a hill.

T./Capt. John Frederick Broughton, M.B., R.A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in attending the wounded in an exposed aid post under heavy fire throughout the day. He visited the advanced positions whenever he could to organise his bearers and collect wounded. After the battalion was relieved he stayed in the line all the following day to search for wounded. When the medical officer of a neighbouring battalion became a casualty he passed from one aid post to the other under heavy fire and attended to the wounded of both battalions.

Lt. Bernard Loftus Brown, R.G.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When an observation post could not be found he located and occupied one in a village under heavy fire, and endeavoured to establish and maintain communication.