

the Russian retreat from Galicia in July and August, 1917:—

*To be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order.*

Lieut.-Cdr. William Wells-Hood, R.N.V.R.

This officer joined the Armoured Cars at the outset of war, and served with them in Belgium, South-West Africa, France, the Caucasus, Armenia, the Dobrudja, and Galicia. Throughout the Galician retreat he fought day and night, under every sort of difficulty, always cheerful and ready, and inflicted very heavy casualties on the enemy. His last fights round Gusiatoryn were very severe, and drew the praise of the Russian General in command. In the last day's fight he brought down an enemy aeroplane.

*To receive a Bar to the Distinguished Service Order.*

Lieut.-Cdr. Walter Dorling Smiles, D.S.O., R.N.V.R.

When the road to Brzezany was blocked in the attack of 1st July, 1917, this officer called for volunteers to destroy the obstruction, and succeeded in removing it in the face of the fiercest fire by taking cover in the adjoining ditch and rushing out during lulls to tear down wire and sandbags. Later on, during the retreat, he fought with characteristic courage until all his cars were lost in action, with the exception of a light armoured Ford. He then improvised an armoured car by taking the armour off an old car and concealing it round a lorry. With this car and a heavy armoured car borrowed from another squadron he kept the enemy at bay beyond the frontier in Austria for six hours, until all troops had crossed the river. These cars passed over the river five minutes before the last bridge was blown up, and were the last thing on wheels to leave Austrian territory.

*To receive the Distinguished Service Cross.*

Lieut. Noel Lucas Shadwell, R.N.V.R.

When the Galician campaign of 1917 opened, he led a car many times into action on the first and subsequent days. During the first day of the retreat he took his car far beyond the Russian lines against the enemy. His car was destroyed by a shell, and he was wounded for the second time, but crawled back to the Russian trenches, where he rallied two companies of Russians, until too exhausted to go on. His courage, industry, and attention to detail deserve great praise.

Lieut. Walter Crossing, R.N.V.R.

Did duty in the Russian trenches opposite Brzezany and during the retreat in cars, showing great courage and cool judgment.

Lieut. Francis Charles Bruce Lefroy, R.N.V.R.

Acted as Transport Officer to the Force during the Galician retreat. So successful was his work that not a single ounce of stores was lost, although he had unexpectedly to evacuate two hospitals and to assist the Russians in the removal of much material. On one occasion Lieut. Lefroy was without sleep for four days and four nights.

*To receive the Distinguished Service Medal.*

P.O. Mech. William Henry Johnston, O.N. F.2878.

P.O. Mech. Richard Rogers, O.N. F.2785.

P.O. Mech. William Douglas Swan, O.N. F.2750.

The following officers and men have been mentioned in despatches:—

Lieut.-Cdr. Alpress Ruston, R.N.V.R.

Lieut.-Cdr. William Huyshe Yeatman-Biggs, R.N.V.R.

Surgn. Maitland Bodley Scott, R.N.

Lieut. Leslie Reginald Hulls, R.N.V.R.

Lieut. Geoffrey Noel Gawler, R.N.V.R.

Sub-Lieut. Alexander William Southam, R.N.V.R.

Warrt. Offr., 2nd Gr., Leonard Gutteridge, R.N.A.S.

C.P.O. Mech., 2nd Gr., James Douglas Wallace, O.N. F.2929.

C.P.O. Mech. 3rd Gr., Harold Vincent Cox, O.N. F.5975.

C.P.O. Mech. 3rd Gr., James Murray, O.N. F.2873.

P.O. Mech. Craig Wright, O.N. F.2748.

P.O. Mech. Edgar Charles Savory, O.N. F.6224.

P.O. Mech. James Standfield, O.N. F.10136.

P.O. Mech. William Ritchie, O.N. F.10109.

P.O. Mech. Stanley Alfred Radway, O.N. F.3810.

P.O. Mech. William Reed, O.N. F.10101.

P.O. Mech. Samuel Deane, O.N. F.2883.

P.O. Mech. John Crook, O.N. F.9708.

P.O. Mech. Thomas Weller, O.N. F.3230.

P.O. Mech. Edward Henry Adams, O.N. F.9467.

Ward Master Robert Haslam, O.N. M.9226.

HONOURS FOR MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the following honours, decorations and medals to the undermentioned officers and men:—

(i.) *Action in the Heligoland Bight on the 17th November, 1917.*

*Posthumous award of the Victoria Cross.*

Ord. Sea. John Henry Carless, O.N. J.43703 (Po.) (killed in action).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty.

Although mortally wounded in the abdomen, he still went on serving the gun at which he was acting as rammer, lifting a projectile and helping to clear away the other casualties. He collapsed once, but got up, tried again, and cheered on the new gun's crew. He then fell and died. He not only set a very inspiring and memorable example, but he also, whilst mortally wounded, continued to do effective work against the King's enemies.

*To be a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order.*

Lieut.-Cdr. Maurice Fiennes FitzGerald Wilson, R.N.

On recovering consciousness after being wounded, he returned to duty, and for some time aided the officer who assumed command after the captain had been mortally wounded.