

D/20976 Sjt. C. W. Ogden, Dns. (Belvoir).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He organised several working parties and collected tools under intense shell and machine-gun fire thereby enabling his men to dig themselves in and obtain cover and preventing many casualties. His gallant and determined conduct throughout the day enabled a successful defence to be maintained.

D/9387 Pte. A. Onions, D. Gds. (Birmingham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as stretcher-bearer. He continually went forward under intense shelling to attend to the wounded, and on one occasion carried in on his back a badly wounded man. He showed splendid courage, energy, and determination.

C/7740 Pte. (L./C.) R. Paul, K.R.R.C. (Brighton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. Though the enemy penetrated into the support line behind him, he maintained his position in the front line trench under intense fire, and used his Lewis gun with great effect. He displayed magnificent courage and leadership.

12059 Sjt. G. H. Pollington, M.M., Norf. R. (Downham Market).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When in command of one of our front line posts the enemy attempted to raid the post with a party of forty strong. Owing to his coolness and initiative he organised his party in such an able manner that the enemy were successfully repulsed. On a later occasion he was in command of the same post when a large raiding party of the enemy penetrated our front line and fired into the post from the rear with a machine gun. He immediately led some of his men into a communication trench, where a hand-to-hand struggle ensued, during which he was knocked down and dragged half way across "No Man's Land" by the enemy. He then pulled off his steel helmet, hit his two captors in the face with it, and made good his escape. Thanks to his initiative and great courage the enemy were prevented from capturing the post.

59619 L.5Sjt. L. F. Poole, M.M., R. Fus. (Sydenham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the enemy had attacked and gained a footing in the front line he took part in three counter-attacks. He was of the greatest assistance in leading bombing parties, and when his officer was wounded he took command and continued to lead his men forward. He drove the enemy back out of the trenches and completely restored the position. He showed splendid leadership and determination.

318048 Sjt. C. Pullen, Lond. R. (Willesden Green).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in charge of a bombing block which was surrounded during an enemy

attack, and he and one of his men became prisoners and were led into the hostile lines by an enemy officer and an N.C.O. On passing a bomb store he seized a bomb and killed the officer whilst his comrade killed the N.C.O. They then made their escape and returned with valuable information.

86012 Cpl. T. H. Raeburn, R.F.A. (Bermondsey).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of a trench mortar. His position was subjected to an intense bombardment throughout the day, during which the emplacement received 10 direct hits and was badly damaged. Under heavy and constant fire he worked with his detachment, keeping the emplacement in repair so as to be able to fire his mortar during the operations which were to take place that night. Though the mortar received a direct hit and was damaged, he repaired it under the most difficult conditions and heavy fire in time for the operations. He set a magnificent example of courage, determination and resource.

40938 Sjt. W. Ridgson, M.M., R.G.A. (Bury St. Edmunds).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a hostile attack he, with another man, volunteered to assist the battery signallers, and for 36 hours they patrolled the line between the battery and the observation post under heavy fire of all kinds. By his initiative and gallantry he was thus able to preserve communication with the observation post intact, this line being during a considerable period the only means of transmitting information.

18679 Spr. (A./2nd/Cpl.) H. J. Sewell, R.E. (Sheerness).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of forward communications. When all the lines had been cut by heavy shell fire he succeeded in restoring communication with the help of two linesmen at least eight times while the shelling still continued. He overcame all difficulties by his splendid coolness and determination.

2507 Cpl. (A./L./Sjt.) H. Sharp, R. Highrs. (Perth).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He made several reconnaissances in preparation for a raid and obtained valuable information. He led one of the two assaulting parties in the raid, and though he had considerable difficulty in getting through the enemy's wire he succeeded in entering the trench and reached his objective. He showed splendid initiative and determination.

775224 Sjt. H. Smith, M.M., R.F.A. (Leeds).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. While the battery was in action it was very heavily shelled, and one of his guns received a direct hit which killed three and wounded two of the detachment. With one man he at once set to work to extricate the wounded under very heavy fire, and while they were doing so a shell burst close to them, killing one of the wounded men. Though the battery commander ordered the evacua-