

later went back under heavy fire to the trench and carried back his officer, who had been wounded.

28484 B.S.M. W. G. Hosier, R.G.A. (Wandsworth).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This warrant officer displayed conspicuous gallantry and coolness, helping to withdraw the guns under heavy shell fire, and preventing them falling into the hands of the enemy. His fine example was a great encouragement to the battery, and contributed largely to the success with which the retirement was conducted. In every position taken up during the retreat the fine behaviour of this warrant officer brought him prominently to notice.

S/41092 Cpl. G. Hotchkiss, M.M., Sea. Highrs. (Stenhousemuir).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in carrying out many valuable reconnaissances and bringing back most accurate and concise information regarding the enemy's dispositions. Throughout the whole period he was indefatigable in his labours. He rallied and collected men, guiding them back to their companies in the line. His work deserves the highest praise.

240054 C.S.M. D. Houston, E. Lanc. R. (Church).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On two occasions he was largely responsible for saving a very critical situation. The left flank of his company was threatened, but by skilfully reorganising his men, and by his personal example and bravery, he was able to keep his company intact.

31369 Pte. G. S. Houston, R. Scots. (Salt-coats).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. An enemy bomb was thrown into the trench which he and ten other men were holding. He promptly picked it up, and when it slipped from his hand with the fuse still burning, he picked it up again and threw it over the parapet. Just as it left his hand it exploded, wounding him in the face. His plucky act saved the lives of several of his comrades.

L/973 Sjt. C. S. Howes, Lrs. (Croydon).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. Two enemy machine-guns suddenly opened fire at close range, killing his officer, and inflicting heavy casualties. A withdrawal being ordered, he remained behind and covered the retirement, causing the enemy severe loss and enabling his troop to take up a new position. Throughout a very trying time he showed a fine example and an utter disregard of personal danger.

14823 Sjt. (A./C.S.M.) O. Howie, M.M., R. Scots. (Clackmannan).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. The enemy had worked round the trench where his gun was, and there were no rifles between them and the gun position. He was ordered to get the gun back to where it could be successfully worked. He did so,

and from an improvised position in the middle of the trench shelled the enemy trying to enter the end of it. Later, when another trench mortar was brought up, he took charge of both guns, and by their effective shelling in front and rear of the trench contributed largely to stopping the advance of the enemy. His courage and energy greatly helped the morale of the new troops who held the line.

S/6162 Sjt. R. W. Howson, Sea. Highrs. (Lancaster).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. Seeing a party without officers or N.C.O.'s, he, although an orderly-room clerk, immediately took charge of them, and handled them during a retirement with the greatest skill and courage. It was entirely at his own request that he was with the battalion and in action, instead of in the transport lines.

46674 Bdr. J. Hoy, R.F.A. (Glasgow).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. was in charge of communications when they were all severed between batteries and Brigade Headquarters. In order to get through, he stood up in the open behind the guns, and sent messages by flag. On another occasion he sat at his instrument for a whole hour under heavy shell fire, taking messages from the Forward Observation Officers and three different battalions in the line, gaining very important information.

35652 Sjt. F. Hubbard, R. Scots. (Leicester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in taking his platoon to the help of troops who were heavily pressed. He held the enemy in check, and stubbornly resisted repeated attempts to dislodge him. He was shot in the face and lost an eye, but refused to leave his platoon. All through the operations his behaviour was magnificent, and he made the enemy pay very heavily for the ground they gained.

8172 Serjt. L. W. Hubbocks, Bedf. R. (Leighton Buzzard).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When in command of a platoon he showed the greatest coolness in reconnoitring a position for the defensive flank he had been ordered to form, and in getting the men into position, though the enemy's fire was very heavy. Later, he led his men forward in daylight, under machine-gun and rifle fire, to reinforce the front line, and, being uncertain of the position and strength of the enemy, he went out with another N.C.O. to reconnoitre at great risk. Having been successful in his object, he returned with information of the greatest value.

275269 R.Q.M.S. A. Hughes, Manch. R. (Blackpool).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During many days of active operations he displayed the greatest courage and disregard of personal danger in getting up rations to the battalion, on one occasion forcing his way through extremely heavy