

were destroyed by shell fire. In spite of the continued heavy shelling, he remained with his men at work and succeeded in restoring communications. Later, he repaired a line under heavy machine-gun fire from enemy aircraft.

13007 Sjt. J. Sutherland, M.M., York. R. (Washington Station, Co. Durham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He rallied and took command of two Lewis gun sections, and at a critical period of the fighting placed them in such a position as to materially assist the defence. His general cheerfulness on all occasions was a fine example to his men, and increased their morale very materially.

16999 C./S.M. G. Sutton, L'pool R. (Walton, Liverpool).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a violent attack by the enemy a party of about twenty succeeded in entering one of the advanced posts. This W.O. immediately attacked them, single-handed, with bombs, killing and wounding a number, and recapturing the post. The enemy had penetrated at a most important point, and had he been given time to establish himself, it would have taken a large force to eject him.

3114 Sjt. F. Sweetapple, R.F.A. (Greenwich, S.E.).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in continuing to supervise and fire his gun after being heavily gassed. When almost surrounded by the enemy, he succeeded in escaping with the gun sights. For some days he remained at duty, although unfit, and set a fine example of determination to his own and other detachments.

265195 Cpl. (L./Sjt.) H. Swinden, W. Rid. R. (Bingley).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. led his section in an attempt to rush the enemy from a trench in which they had obtained a footing, though he had already been twice wounded in the leg, nor would he fall out until he was satisfied the situation had been cleared. At his urgent request he rejoined his battalion, after being a fortnight in hospital at the base, and immediately went into the front line into action and rendered the most valuable services on patrol work. He went far out to the front, staying out till dawn watching the enemy and sending back information of the most important description. The energy and courage of this N.C.O. were a very fine example to his men, and inspired his platoon with the greatest confidence.

174339 Gnr. J. F. Symes, R.F.A. (Fulham, S.W.).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. He helped in repelling the enemy by rifle fire, and then assisted in dismantling a gun. His officer commanding being shot through both legs, he carried him, though surrounded by the enemy, under cover of the mist to the R.A.M.C.

9270 Sjt. H. Tait, Sea. Highrs. (Rosemarkie).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during lengthy operations. When his company serjeant-major was killed he took charge, rallied and reorganised the men, and materially assisted in the retirement. Throughout a most trying period he set an example of courage, coolness and energy worthy of the highest praise.

72384 Cpl. C. Talbot, M.G.C. (Colchester).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He covered the withdrawal of other troops, holding up the enemy and causing hostile artillery to withdraw into cover. He collected a party of infantry to fire until he could get more ammunition, and then again kept up covering fire. By his coolness and personal courage he kept the morale of his men up to a high standard.

M2/153184 Pte. ((A./Sjt.) G. Talmey, A.S.C. (M.T.) (Brighton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This N.C.O. was in charge of tractors, and worked unceasingly under gas and heavy fire of all descriptions, over ground which was a shell-torn morass, into which they sank repeatedly up to the driver's platforms. It was largely due to him that a great portion of the armament and stores was successfully retired. On completion of this work he assisted in pulling out under heavy shell fire some heavy howitzers belonging to another battery.

109090 C.S.M. J. Tandy, R.E. (Warrington).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during the evacuation of a position. In spite of very heavy shell fire, he three times brought away guns and rolling-stock, not leaving the position until the whole place had been cleared. His great courage and contempt of danger was worthy of high praise.

16040 Sjt. J. W. Tann, M.M., M.G.C. (E. Ham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in charge of two gun teams. His guns were attacked early in the morning, but he held on to his position throughout the day, though heavily shelled and sniped, beating off three attacks, only withdrawing his guns at dusk to conform to a new infantry line. Later in the operations he again did splendid work, and his coolness and total disregard of personal danger greatly inspired all ranks with him.

375311 Sjt. H. Tarbuck, Manch. R. (Oldham).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the right flank of his company was threatened, owing to the withdrawal of other troops, he advanced his platoon on his own initiative to a forward position, from which he brought heavy fire to bear on the enemy, and caused many casualties, thereby driving off the attack. Throughout the action his courage and cheerfulness were a great inspiration to his men.