

Lt. (A./Capt.) Harold Lester Robert Joseph Groom, M.C., 1/5th Bn., Royal Warwick R. (T.F.). (ITALY)

For conspicuous gallantry during a raid. He led his company right up under our barrage and got into a railway cutting before the enemy had time to man his machine guns. In spite of the severe fighting in the cutting he personally examined sheds and shelters and gained valuable information. During the withdrawal he collected his men and got his wounded away with great skill. Throughout he showed determined leadership and courage.

Lt. (A./Capt.) Edward Julian Groves, M.C., 1st Bn., Ches. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and initiative in an attack. He led his company to the final objective without artillery support in the face of intense machine-gun fire, inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, and captured a large number of field guns. When the enemy counter-attacked and broke through on both his flanks he carried out a skilful withdrawal and collected and reorganised scattered parties of other units under heavy machine-gun fire.

T./Capt. (A./Maj.) Oswald Vernon Guy, M.C., 7th Bn., Tank Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and ability in command of his company during a fortnight's fighting. He cleared a strong enemy position in the fog and organised attacks at extremely short notice with such complete detail that the success was great, and the infantry greatly assisted in their advance. His energy and co-operation with the infantry staffs gave them detailed information earlier than from any other source.

Maj. Ernest Helme, Glam. Yeo., attd. 15th Bn., Welsh R.

For conspicuous gallantry and ability. He organised and carried out the crossing of a river by his battalion with great foresight and skill, and during the subsequent advance and operations lasting several days his example of personal courage, and his power of organisation and command enabled his men successfully to accomplish all the tasks they were called on to perform.

T./Maj. Howard Frederick Hobbs, M.C., 13th Bn., Welsh R.

For conspicuous gallantry and skill in command of his battalion in an advanced guard. Under heavy shell fire and gassing he kept his men well in hand; and, later, fought his way forward successfully through strong machine-gun opposition. Thanks to his gallant and noble leadership during three days' strenuous fighting his battalion was completely successful in its duties.

T./Lt. (A./Capt.) Samuel Rolleston Hogg, M.C., 26th Bn., R. Fus., attd. H.Q. 122nd Infy. Bde.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when acting as brigade-major. He organised and directed operations with supreme skill. When the situation was obscure, he went forward in broad daylight, exposed to constant fire, and linked up the forward posts that formed the front line. He then conducted with great daring the opera-

tions for new dispositions. As a result, the line was advanced at dusk 500 yards along the brigade front. Throughout difficult operations, he showed fine courage and initiative.

T./Capt. (A./Lt.-Col.) Cecil Frederick George Humphries, M.C., D.C.M., 1st Bn., D.C.L.I., attd. 1st Bn., Norf. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and fine leadership. Having taken his objective, he reorganised his battalion, and, on hearing that the attack on the final objective was held up, he went forward under heavy fire and reconnoitred the whole position, after which he returned and led the battalion forward. Later, he personally controlled his men during a very determined counter-attack by the enemy under the heaviest machine-gun fire. His courage inspired great confidence throughout the operations.

2nd Lt. (A./Capt.) John Percival Jamieson, Middlesex R., Spec. Res., attd. 4th Bn.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the advance of his company was held up by an enemy machine gun and trench mortar post, he, with two of his runners, rushed this post, capturing two machine guns, two trench mortars and two prisoners. Although slightly wounded he led his company to the final objective, which he consolidated. Later, with a few runners, he captured a gun team, wounding three of the enemy and taking two prisoners; and throughout the operations he inspired his men by his wonderful example and total disregard of personal danger.

Maj. Charles Ernest Johnston, 1/6th Bn., Seaf. Highrs., T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in command of his battalion. He encouraged his men by his great coolness under very heavy fire, and when the enemy broke through on the left, he organised a defensive flank, subsequently conducting the withdrawal with great skill. It was due to his splendid example that the battalion put up such an excellent defence and inflicted such heavy casualties on the enemy. He was finally wounded.

T./Lt.-Col. William Beresford Molony, 9th Bn., Royal Lanc. R., attd. 4th Bn., Middlesex R.

For conspicuous gallantry and good leadership during an attack. When, owing to thick mist and enemy smoke and gas shell, many of the companies were losing direction, he personally rallied them, under very heavy fire, and directed them to their objective. Later, he went forward, and under heavy shell fire, led parties of men who had lost their platoons in the mist. Throughout he set a splendid example to all ranks.

Capt. Eric Mackay Murray, M.C., Q.V.O. Corps of Guides, I.A., and R.F.C.

(MESOPOTAMIA)

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during three months' operations. He persistently showed courage and ability of a high order throughout. He was three times in action against enemy aircraft, and