

and capturing and killing many of the enemy. Before the raid took place he reconnoitred the assembly position and the enemy wire both by day and night.

T./Capt. Iltyd David Allan, 13th Bn., Welsh R.

During an attack he overcame stiff resistance on the flank by his bold and skilful leadership, capturing 50 prisoners and several machine guns. He then reconnoitred the village, accompanied by only a few men, and drove out the enemy and made skilful dispositions for defence. During four days' heavy fighting he set a splendid example to his men until he was severely wounded.

T./2nd Lt. Robert John Anderson, K.R.R.C., attd. 1st Bn.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his platoon skilfully and with great determination in an attack, rushing a machine gun and killing or capturing the team. He was largely responsible for the capture by the battalion of five officers, 200 other ranks, and 20 machine guns. Throughout the operations he showed great courage and initiative, and set a splendid example to his men.

Lt. (A./Capt.) John William Andrew, 5th Bn., R. Sco. Fus., T.F., attd. 1st Bn.

For conspicuous gallantry in command of a company. When the two attacking companies had lost touch in the fog and a gap occurred, he pushed forward his platoon to fill it up, and also mopped up several of the enemy who had been overlooked. He displayed quick initiative, and throughout the operations his good leadership and coolness under fire inspired complete confidence in his men.

T./2nd Lt. Alexander Arthur, M.M., 21st Bn., North'd Fus., attd. 2/7th Bn., L'pool R., T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and resource when leading his platoon through a village. So quickly did he follow up the barrage that he reached the enemy machine guns before they were able to come into action. It was largely due to this officer that the operation was a complete success, his platoon alone taking about 150 prisoners and 15 machine guns.

T./2nd Lt. Charles Victor Ashe, S.W.B., attd. 10th Bn.

For conspicuous gallantry and ability in leading his platoon of 20 men with great determination against 100 of the enemy. He completely disorganised a hostile out-flanking movement, taking 60 prisoners and dispersing the remainder. Later, when his company commander had been killed, he took charge of the company and set a fine example to his men.

2nd Lt. Leslie Charles Ashton, 5th (attd. 8th) Bn., L'pool R., T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and good leadership. When the enemy attacked he led his platoon forward to meet them and drove them back, inflicting heavy losses. Later, he led his platoon with great determination in an attack, and, encountering an enemy machine gun, he killed the gunner and cap-

tured the remainder of the team. It was largely owing to his excellent example that the attack was successful.

T./2nd Lt. Cecil Ashworth, York. L.I., attd. 9th Bn.

For conspicuous gallantry and good leadership. By fine handling of his platoon in the darkness he drove in enemy posts with bombs and rifle fire, and cleared the way for his battalion to advance and take up a position from which it delivered a successful attack next day. Throughout the operations he showed a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

T./2nd Lt. Geoffrey Askew, 10th Bn., Tank Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as company tank engineer. When, after a long trek, the battalion tanks were ordered into action again, he went from tank to tank, under heavy shell fire, ensuring that all were mechanically fit before starting, accompanying one into action to complete the repairs. He himself manned one of the guns and inflicted many casualties. Later, he went on foot across the open to repair another tank, and helped to work the guns until it was put out of action. He and the crew then left it and joined the infantry with their Lewis guns. He was finally wounded. He behaved with splendid courage and determination.

2nd Lt. Albert Edward Aspinall, R.G.A., Spec. Res., attd. 255th Sge. Bty.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as forward observation officer. He twice went forward with the attacking waves of the infantry, and by his first-hand information of enemy formations and positions of guns enabled his battery to engage fleeting targets of great importance. He showed absolute disregard of danger and rendered valuable service.

2nd Lt. Alec Astbury, R.F.A., Spec. Res., attd. D/286th Bde., R.F.A., T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He brought his battery into action under very heavy fire, and got his ammunition wagons up to the battery position in spite of congested traffic. Later, he was instrumental in laying telephone wires from a very advanced post to the battery over open country under heavy machine-gun fire. The information which he sent back was of great value in enabling the enemy line to be driven back.

T./2nd Lt. Alfred George Austin, 6th Bn., Wilts. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as company commander. He disposed his men so as to bring the maximum amount of fire on the advancing enemy, who were in overwhelming numbers. He held the enemy in check for many hours, thus enabling the next line of defence to be organised and consolidated, and covering the withdrawal of troops on his left. Though nearly all his company were casualties, he hung on to his position till wounded. He behaved splendidly, and showed great courage and determination.