

cases by Ford ambulance from rear ambulance posts or from in front of those posts back to the collecting posts. He has shown a complete disregard for his own safety, and a cheerfulness and willingness beyond praise.

13935 Sjt. J. Sheed, 1st Bn., S. Gds. (Cabrach).

He led his platoon against enemy machine guns, killing several of the crew himself and capturing the gun, and then did valuable work in the consolidation of the final objective. On a subsequent occasion, though wounded at the assembly position, he continued his duties until ordered to the dressing station. His fine example of contempt for danger was an inspiration to all.

241422 L./Cpl. E. Smith, 1/6th Bn., Notts. & Derby. R. (T.F.) (Chesterfield).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After his officer had been killed and platoon serjeant wounded, he took command, reorganising his men, and although both flanks were unprotected continued the advance in face of strong opposition for several hundred yards. This assisted the advance of another platoon, and when he was finally held up by heavy fire in front and on the flanks he organised into posts, and kept up such a strong fire that the platoons on either side were enabled to push on to their objective. He showed initiative and determination of a high order.

281506 Sjt. J. A. Smith, 1/7th Bn., Lan. Fus. (T.F.) (Manchester).

During a successful attack by his company he led his platoon forward under heavy machine-gun fire with conspicuous courage and skill, capturing two machine-gun posts. Although the enemy were in the proportion of three to one, he showed so much dash and leadership that it led to the capture of the position with very few casualties.

30814 Sjt. H. Smyth, 1st Bn., R. Innis. Fus. (Newtownards).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Just before the battalion was leaving the line an identification was urgently required, and every effort was made to obtain it. The front was patrolled all night without success, but this N.C.O. remained out with his patrol till well after daylight, and eventually located a trench which was occupied, and decided to rush it, but the enemy came out to meet him. A hand-to-hand struggle ensued, and, thanks to the efforts of this N.C.O., one man was captured, one killed, and the remainder put to flight. He showed great patience and determination.

74549 Cpl. S. Spedding, 1/10th Bn., Manch. R. (T.F.) (Bolton).

In an advance he was in charge of a Lewis-gun section in the second wave. Seeing the first wave held up by machine-gun fire, he at once worked his section round on the right flank of the platoon, and, getting to close quarters, silenced the enemy guns. He then pushed rapidly forward, and was able to cover the advance of the platoon to the objective. His example of courage and coolness was exceptionally high.

9610 Pte. G. Spreckley, 2/4th Bn., Y. and L. Regt. (T.F.) (Peterborough).

His chief endeavour, when in charge of his section, was to capture a nest of machine guns, which were holding up the advance of the whole battalion. He led them forward under intense machine-gun and shell fire, but, owing to severe casualties, he had several times to obtain reinforcements from other platoons. Finally, he reached his objective, to which he held until wounded. His conduct throughout was magnificent.

265528 Cpl. J. Stag, 1/7th Bn., Sco. Rif. (T.F.) (Glasgow).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an advance. He guided his section of five men through thick belts of undamaged wire into the enemy's front-line trench, where he was attacked by greatly superior numbers. His party killed thirteen, and when enemy reinforcements drove them out he, though severely wounded, established them under heavy machine-gun fire in shell-holes some fifty yards further back. Here they remained until the line was taken. His courage and determined leadership were splendid.

139375 Cpl. C. Stewart, 499th Sge. By., R.G.A. (Bradford).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in charge of six signallers, whose duty it was to lay a line from a forward O.P. to a position in the enemy lines. He went forward through heavy barrage and got in front of the infantry, coming under heavy machine-gun fire. Though unable to reach the objective owing to the attack being held up, he continued to lay the line forward until ordered to return. He behaved splendidly.

34336 L./Cpl. F. Stirling, 2nd Bn., S. Lanc. R. (Ashton-under-Lyne).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This man, acting as No. 1 of a Lewis gun team, was crawling to a flank to engage the enemy when his team came under heavy machine-gun fire; without hesitation he rushed in, killing two of the enemy and putting the gun out of action. He then got his Lewis gun into action and brought fire to bear on about twenty of the enemy who were running back. His prompt action saved many casualties.

201968 Pte. (L./Cpl.) W. Stockley, M.M., 10th Bn., R. War. R. (Birmingham).

For conspicuous gallantry and endurance. He took part in the capture of three strong posts, including one machine-gun post. Although badly wounded three times, he continued to lead his men until a fourth serious wound rendered him helpless. His conduct was magnificent.

G/30785 Pte. M. R. Stott, 10th Bn., R.W. Surr. R. (Luton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. While guiding a party up to the front line he was severely wounded, but kept on under heavy shell, machine-gun and rifle fire, accomplished his mission and returned to battalion headquarters. As he was one of the few runners left that knew the way, he