

the air and unsupported by other troops. During the night the right flank was heavily counter-attacked three times, but owing to the clever handling of his men his own gallant conduct and the confidence with which he inspired the troops the attacks were repulsed and the line gained was retained throughout a very critical period and in spite of heavy casualties.

Maj. (A/Lt.-Col.) John Murray, Sco. Horse Yeo., attd. 12th Bn. R. Scots.

On October 1st, 1918, during the attack on Ledeghem, the flanks of the battalion under his command became exposed and very heavy casualties were suffered by enfilade machine gun fire. Col. Murray realising that the dispositions of his battalion needed immediate alteration, went forward and carried this out under close range rifle and machine-gun fire. His fearless disregard for danger which was evident to all ranks and the splendid example which he showed undoubtedly renewed the confidence of his men during a very critical period.

Maj. Paul Cuthbert Petrie, M.C., D/245th (W Rid.) Bde., R.F.A., T.F.

During an attack on the morning of October 11th, 1918, near Iwuy, he displayed remarkable initiative, especially when the enemy launched a heavy counter-attack supported by tanks. He succeeded in bringing into action a section of guns in a forward position and engaged the tanks at close range over open sights and forced them to withdraw. The enemy then showing signs of wavering, he encouraged our infantry to again attack. During the afternoon he again visited the front line on horseback, and by his initiative and utter disregard of personal safety and the successful manner in which he handled the situation showed marked ability as a fighting soldier.

Maj. (A/Lt.-Col.) John Alsager Pollock, Ox. and Bucks L.I., attd. 3rd Bn. Lond. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and initiative during the attack on Peziere on September 18th, 1918. In mopping up the village the battalion encountered considerable opposition from strong points. He promptly went forward accompanied only by his intelligence officer and four runners. He led this small party in face of heavy fire against Proctor's Post, capturing it together with three officers and 47 other ranks. He did splendid work.

Lt.-Col. Walter Sladen Prentis, 72nd Punjabis (Egypt).

For conspicuous gallantry and initiative in command of his battalion on September 19th, 1918. When the 232nd Infantry Brigade was held up in front of Et Tireh, and an officer commanding another unit became a casualty, he assumed command of the whole of the right of the attack. His clear and concise reports on the situation, written under the most difficult circumstances and under heavy fire, were of inestimable value to the brigade commander, and enabled him to direct the attack of his battalion to the best advantage.

Capt. and Bt.-Maj. (A/Lt.-Col.) George Edward Redvers Prior, M.C., 2nd Bn. Devon R.

For gallant and resourceful leadership of his battalion. In particular during the successful attacks at Arleux on September 26-27th, 1918, against Fresnes on October 7th, and against the Drocourt-Queant Line on October 11th, he made several valuable reconnaissances under heavy fire, and materially facilitated the early and rapid successes gained by the brigade. He rendered very valuable service.

Lt. (A/Capt.) Thomas Wynford Rees, M.C., 73rd Carnatic Inf., attd. 125th Napiers Rif. (Egypt).

For conspicuous gallantry throughout the day on September 19th, 1918, during the attack on the Turkish position about Tabor, and especially after passing through the last objective into open country. Collecting various details of four different units up to a total of about 80 men, he organised them into parties, charged in face of strong opposition, and took two trenches, capturing about 50 prisoners and two field guns. Subsequently, when mounted on a captured pony, he saw a third field gun escaping, whereupon he galloped after it and, single-handed, captured the gun and team complete. He set a magnificent example to all units by his initiative and utter disregard of danger.

Lt. (A/Capt.) Harry Roberts, M.C., 2nd Bn. R. Suss. R.

During the operations north of Gricourt on September 24th, 1918, he commanded the right front company of the battalion in the attack. After reaching the final objective and whilst the company was still somewhat disorganised from the attack, the enemy launched a counter-attack with about 400 men against the position occupied by this company. He was out in front of the position when the counter-attack was first seen. He returned to his company and ordered the men to fire on the advancing enemy. As soon as he first saw the first wave of the enemy wavering he again blew his whistle and ordered the whole of the men in that area to fix bayonets and advance against the advancing enemy. The total number of men at his disposal did not exceed 80. By this action he completely routed the counter-attacking enemy and captured many prisoners. Throughout this operation he was walking about fully exposed, and by his calm handling of the situation and skill in selecting the moment to dash out against the enemy with the bayonet, was responsible for the thorough routing of a strong counter-attack and enabling the ground gained in the initial attack to be retained. During this advance he was severely wounded in the arm by a bullet fired at point-blank range, but in spite of this he remained with his company reorganising his men in defensive position and before being evacuated gave a full report of the situation to the battalion commander.

T/2nd Lt. James William Shorland, Hamps. R., attd. 2/4th Bn., T.F.

For most determined courage and splendid dash on September 30th and October 1st, near Rumilly. A strong pocket of the enemy with numerous machine guns was holding out, and he led his platoon across the open in face of