

were evacuated before daylight and that the battery never failed to respond to calls for fire.

14015 L./Cpl. A. Powell, Yorks. L.I. (Leeds).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his battalion was held up by machine-gun fire from a concrete fort, he picked up a Lewis gun and fired into the loophole, silencing the enemy. He then seized a rifle and bayonet, and calling upon others to follow, dashed round to the back and captured the garrison. The moment was critical, and by his prompt and gallant action two officers and forty of other ranks were taken prisoners.

9401 Sjt. A. C. Powell, W. York. R. (Barking).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his platoon was checked by an enemy machine-gun during an advance, he went forward with a section and put the gun out of action. He took command of his company when all the officers were casualties, and when ordered to withdraw he maintained an advanced position with six men covering the withdrawal of the company. He inflicted severe losses on the enemy, and only withdrew himself when outflanked. He behaved with great fearlessness and determination throughout.

200231 Cpl. E. G. Powell, Norf. R. (East Harling).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He assisted in dressing a large number of wounded under very heavy shell fire, and went forward at dusk with a medical officer to within 150 yards of the enemy trenches, where he remained until some twelve wounded had been dressed and collected. He then went back to act as guide to the stretcher parties, and got them safely in. His courage and devotion were worthy of the highest praise.

6930 S./M. W. Price, M.C., E. Lanc. R. (Liverpool).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Owing to heavy casualties he found himself the only warrant officer remaining with his Battalion Headquarters, whereupon he showed great initiative in promptly reorganising the signalling system and the whole means of communication. During one period of the operations he found twelve of the enemy in a dug-out, and single-handed forced them to surrender, setting a splendid example of determination and fearlessness in face of superior numbers.

11910 A./Sjt. G. D. Prosser, E. Surr. R. (Gravesend).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After all his officers had become casualties, he took charge of the company and reorganised them under heavy fire, and led them forward during a counter-attack with great success. Throughout the whole operation he displayed the greatest coolness, cheerfulness and ability under trying circumstances.

9047 L./Sjt. W. Proud, Scots. Gds. (Butterknowle).

Conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty whilst commanding a platoon during

an attack upon a hostile position. Noticing that the troops on his left were held up by an enemy machine-gun, he organised and led a party, with which he outflanked the gun and forced it to withdraw, thus materially assisting the advance of the other troops. The example which he set was splendid throughout the day.

M2/182415 Pte. C. R. Puckett, A.S.C. (Alton).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when driving a lorry loaded with ammunition. His lorry sustained a direct hit, and burst into flames. He then went to the assistance of the second driver, who was seriously wounded, extinguished his burning clothing, and carried him to the dressing station, passing an ammunition dump which was exploding, and along a road which was being heavily shelled. He then returned to where his lorry had been standing, and rendered first aid to other wounded men, also assisting to get lorries that had not been hit to a place of safety. He set a very fine example to all ranks.

G/10802 C.S.M. W. Quimby, R.W. Surr. R. (Brixton Hill).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He went ahead of his company in an attack, and himself accounted for six of the enemy. Later, although wounded, he rushed a strong point which was holding up the advance, and captured the whole garrison. His determination and fearlessness deserved the highest praise.

8005 C.S.M. (A./R.S.M.) F. H. Radford, Devon. R. (Exeter).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of regimental dumps. He was responsible for getting water and bombs forward for the use of companies during the attack. The enemy was shelling very heavily, and his parties came under very heavy machine-gun fire. He, however, continued to exhort his men to further efforts with the utmost determination and courage, and by his splendid personal example under appalling weather conditions and intense hostile fire the dumps were kept filled.

21942 A./Cpl. R. Rae, North'd Fus. (Newcastle).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as a Lewis gunner during an attack. After the remainder of his team had been killed or wounded, he continued to push forward with the advance, and accounted for a large number of the enemy. He set a fine example to all.

266805 Pte. A. Ralph, Gord. Highrs. (New Pitligo).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his company was held up by machine-gun fire, he pushed forward until within close range of the enemy's position. From there he threw a bomb on to the gun and destroyed it, and rushing forward, bayoneted one of the enemy gunners, the remainder being killed by his platoon serjeant. His gallantry and initiative enabled his company to continue their advance without loss of time, which was most important to the success of the operation.