

He also dug out ammunition from the debris under heavy fire and brought it back. His conduct throughout the day was exemplary.

4400 Sjt. R. C. Taylor, R.F.C. (Willesden, N.W.).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When sent out with an observer to take important photographs he saw six hostile scouts approaching him. Realising that there would be no further chance of doing the work as clouds were coming up he continued taking the photographs until the hostile scouts came within fifty yards' range, although his machine was the only British one in the vicinity. He then turned on them, and by skilful manœuvring enabled his observer to crash one. Another was then attacked and driven down in a spin, after which the remaining four retired, and he completed the photographs. He has always shown the greatest determination and gallantry.

1200 Pte. G. Tedder, R. Fus. (Holloway).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When carrying a load to a post in front of our line he and a comrade missed the post in the dark and ran into a patrol of three of the enemy. He immediately attacked the nearest of them, seized his rifle and captured the patrol.

40781 Cpl. J. Telford, R. Scots Fus. (Ecclefechan).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his company was held up by machine-gun fire he crept forward, single-handed, bombed a dug-out into which he had driven an enemy sniper, and then advanced alone up the enemy's trench and bombed and dispersed the team of a machine gun which was causing heavy casualties to his comrades. His great dash and gallantry were responsible for the capture of 50 prisoners and two machine guns.

240014 C.S.M. R. E. Thomas, R.W. Fus. (Mold).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty at a critical moment in controlling the fire of the firing line when it was held up pending the arrival of reinforcements. His coolness and gallantry were most conspicuous on this occasion, and during the assault he was in the front until the position was captured, when he at once commenced to reorganise the battalion and to collect parties of leaderless men.

18999 Sjt. W. A. Thomas, R.W. Fus. (New Zealand).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in commanding his platoon. He was wounded as the objective was reached, but continued to carry on his duties with the greatest pluck and gallantry. When finally relieved he handed over all his dispositions, orders, etc., as coolly and thoroughly as if he had been on parade, and did not allow himself to be carried from the field until he had seen that everything was in order. He set a very splendid example of devotion to duty.

202923 Pte. P. Thomsett, Midd'x R. (Horsted Keynes, Sussex).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when his company was held up by machine-gun fire and bombs from an enemy dug-out in a railway embankment. He climbed down alone and threw the only bomb he had into the window; the garrison of thirty then surrendered, and he thus enabled his company to continue its advance.

16735 Pte. A. Themson, C. Gds. (Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On his own initiative he set out alone under heavy rifle fire to regain touch between his own unit and another division. He successfully accomplished this, and on his way back shot three of the enemy. He then took up a position midway between the two divisions, from which he kept up a consistent rifle fire upon the enemy for twenty-four hours, setting a very splendid example of determination and devotion to duty, and by his gallant action safeguarding the right flank of his unit.

265033 C./S./M. (A./R./S./M.) S. G. Tite, Herts. R. (Tring).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When all the officers of the battalion had become casualties and the enemy were counter-attacking he collected the remnants of the battalion and consolidated the position. Though wounded he remained with his men and supervised the defence of the line under particularly difficult circumstances until he handed the remnants of the battalion over to an officer. He set a magnificent example of courage and devotion to duty.

9706 Pte. (L./Cpl.) J. Topham, R. Lanc. R. (Leeds).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his section in a fearless and determined manner, and on one occasion, although supported by only one man, rushed an enemy dug-out and captured twenty-six prisoners, one of whom was an officer.

14034 L./Cpl. F. Topps, G. Gds. (Wisbech).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when commanding a section of "moppers up." Although at a nearly stage his party was reduced to three men he led them forward with the greatest skill and courage till the objective was reached. He then attacked a concrete block-house, in which he found nine of the enemy, three of whom he killed, the remainder then surrendered. By his initiative and gallantry he saved the lives of many of his comrades and prevented the attack from being held up. His conduct has been conspicuous on all occasions for coolness under fire and cheerful devotion to duty.

3/4029 C./S./M. B. Treagus, Hamps. R. (Clanfield).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When an enemy machine gun opened enfilade fire on the advancing troops he immediately organised a party, assaulted and captured the gun. He rendered valuable service during the consolidation, and his cheerfulness, coolness, and contempt of danger under the most trying conditions were an example to all.