

a party, and by his splendid example and courage kept his men at work under heavy shell fire, and so rapidly and skilfully repaired the lines that a constant supply of ammunition to the batteries was kept up.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Capt. Charles Ahrens, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his company in the attack, and after clearing up all the objectives allotted to him he supervised, under heavy shell fire, the consolidation of the right sector of the line. When the enemy put down a heavy barrage on one of his posts he saved many casualties by gallantly going into the barrage and leading his men forward in advance of the post. His tireless energy and personal example did much to maintain the spirits of his men under very heavy fire.

Lt. Herbert Trangmar Allan, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of his company. He lost two officers soon after the attack started, and also had to take over command of another company which had lost all its officers. He showed great skill in controlling these two companies.

Capt. Douglas Lewis Barlow, A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. He advanced with the battalion, established his aid post, and dressed the wounded and assisted in their removal under constant shelling. Owing to casualties among bearers he was cut off from the ambulance clearing post for several hours, and it was mainly owing to his exertions that the wounded received attention and shelter during this period.

Lt. Fritz Newton Basedow, M.G. Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He set a splendid example to the men of his battery by his untiring efforts under very heavy fire. When two officers of the battery on his right were wounded he supervised the firing of that battery as well as his own. His services were invaluable to the group commander.

Lt. Robert Kenneth Bazley, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as liaison officer with the flanking battalion. When his runners became casualties he continually passed through the enemy barrage himself and brought back valuable information. Later, he reconnoitred the jumping-off trench in daylight, and led the attacking troops into position. After the attack he again reconnoitred our new positions and led the relieving battalion to their line.

Lt. Leslie Waldron Blake, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of his company during an attack. His careful direction of the covering fire of his men on targets likely to hold up the position was largely responsible for the success of the operation.

Lt. Frederick John Blenkarn, M.G. Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of two machine-guns in an attack. He moved them forward to the first objective, reorganised, and advanced to the second objective. He was wounded in the leg, but remained on duty until relieved the following day.

Lt. Cecil James Blomfield, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the enemy attacked on his flank it was owing to his supreme coolness and promptitude that the men of all units in the vicinity were enabled to make a determined stand. His action undoubtedly staved off a serious attack by the enemy. He showed the greatest courage and initiative throughout the operations.

2nd Lt. John Mounstevan Bristow, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. When all the officers of his company became casualties, he led his company forward and captured a strong point in spite of strong resistance, and consolidated his position. He showed great skill and judgment.

Capt. John Herald Balfour Brown, A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of the forward line of evacuation for eight hours after his commanding officer was wounded. His reconnoitring of ambulance posts and regimental aid posts through the area of shell fire was of great assistance in controlling the evacuation. He supervised the loading of wounded into horse ambulances and organised the line of bearers and prisoners, and it was due to his action that great congestion was prevented.

Capt. William Harland Bunning, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in an attack. He penetrated the position and established his posts, and, although his numbers were much depleted by casualties, he repelled two counter-attacks, causing the enemy severe loss. He personally carried out a reconnaissance, and kept his commanding officer informed of the situation.

Lt. Archibald Chesterman Chalmers, M.G. Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in moving his eight machine-guns forward in answer to a S.O.S. call over marshy ground and through persistent shelling, which caused continuous casualties. Though he had been buried and severely shaken, and with more than 50 per cent. of his personnel killed or wounded, he kept his guns firing till the situation cleared.

Lt. William Frederick Clark, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the objective had been reached he so organised his men that a thorough and effective system of defence was prepared to meet the heavy enemy counter-attacks which followed. By personal reconnaissance he established strong points in advance of the line, which enabled any movements of the enemy to be quickly detected. His courage and coolness were an inspiration to his men.