

wounded at the commencement of the bombardment, he remained in command of his battery throughout the day and rendered most valuable assistance in driving off repeated attacks. His courage and skill throughout the operations were most marked.

2nd Lt. Charles Bates, S. Staff. R., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He went forward, through a heavy barrage, to a commanding position, and lay there, under fire, for three hours, sending back valuable information. Then, returning to his platoon, he altered his dispositions and held up the enemy, in spite of repeated efforts to attack and turn his flank. Although twice wounded, he stayed with his command, which he withdrew the following day, when he again stopped the enemy's advance by getting a Lewis gun into position on a railway embankment and firing it himself until all ammunition was exhausted. He then was able to withdraw.

Capt. John Alexander Batten-Pooll, M.C., Lrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in reconnoitring under heavy fire and personally driving the enemy back with bombs over a canal. Later, when the enemy had entered the trenches on his flank, he organised a counter-attack and restored the situation. Though wounded, he continued to direct his squadron, until he was wounded a second time.

Lt. (T./Capt.) George La Croix Baudains, M.C., Lond. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. When in command of the right front company of his battalion, a heavy enemy attack drove back the battalion on his right, leaving his flank exposed. In spite of this, he held his support line position against greatly superior numbers, and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. Subsequently he was entirely cut off, but continued to hold on until he judged that the troops in his rear had had time to take up a new position, when he fought his way out, being wounded while so doing. By his splendid courage and coolness he set a fine example to all with him.

T./Comdr. Daniel Marcus William Beak, M.C., R.N.D., R.N.V.R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a night attack by the enemy the right flank of his division was left in a dangerous position. He arranged for a flank to be formed in that direction, and subsequently covered the retirement of two brigades with a composite rear-guard which he organised and commanded. His initiative and presence of mind greatly assisted in extricating these brigades from a very difficult situation. Throughout, the skilful handling of his battalion was particularly noticeable.

Maj. Malcolm Gelling Bird, Lanc. Fus.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when, although wounded, he continued to command his battalion, until severely wounded a second time, at a very critical

moment, when his gallantry and resource were of valuable service.

T./Lt. (A./Capt.) Edward D'Arcy Birnie, M.C., Bord. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When hard pressed by the enemy he led several counter-attacks against their bombing parties, and for hours kept large forces of the enemy at bay. At one time he took up a position on the parapet, and (being a marksman) accounted for many of them with a rifle. Finally, when his position became untenable, he successfully withdrew his men. He displayed exceptional skill and courage in the face of great odds.

T./Capt. Charles Hastings Bowyer, R. Fus. (Lt., S.A. Def. Force).

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. By his promptitude in forming a defensive flank he was instrumental in breaking up the enemy's attack, and more than once he saved his battalion from an awkward situation. When the officer commanding his battalion was missing, he assumed command and displayed fine courage and efficiency.

T./Capt. (A./Maj.) Eric Deane Blackburn, M.C., Tank Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a company of tanks in a counter-attack. He personally led the tanks on foot under heavy machine-gun fire. Again, hearing that the enemy were advancing on a village, he rushed a Lewis gun party up on a lorry, riding forward to reconnoitre, and denied the village to the enemy, on whom he inflicted heavy casualties and took about 20 prisoners. He was responsible for rallying the infantry in the vicinity, and throughout the whole action showed the greatest determination and total disregard for his own safety.

Lt. (A./Maj.) Frank Brook, M.C., York. L.I.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During an enemy attack on his battalion he showed great coolness under heavy machine-gun and rifle fire at close range, and greatly assisted a successful withdrawal. The same night, when owing to a misunderstanding an unauthorised withdrawal was taking place, he rallied the men, pushed forward with tanks, and restored the line. At various times, by his fine personal example, he maintained the moral of the troops.

T./2nd Lt. Archibald Calder, Tank Corps.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of eight Lewis guns. On five consecutive days the enemy made heavy attacks, forcing our troops to retire. 2nd Lt. Calder invariably displayed the greatest gallantry and coolness in rallying retiring men, leading them back to their original positions, and in bringing his guns into action in support of the defence, holding up the attacks, and causing very heavy enemy casualties. In stopping one attack he three times expended all his ammunition. He