

a cavalry field ambulance during an attack he performed most useful work. His brigade sustained considerable casualties, and he organised a stretcher party and rescued several wounded, though the ground was being shelled at the time. He showed great coolness and devotion to duty.

T./Capt. George Wheatley Ashforth, attd. W. York R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He commanded his company with great skill in the task of clearing from the enemy posts any elements of resistance which might have been left after the leading waves had passed through. He personally led his company headquarter details to attack a group of enemy in shell holes and shot four of an enemy machine-gun team and captured the gun. It was largely due to his energy and initiative that the operation was so rapidly and successfully completed.

Lt. Percy Stewart Ayers, R.F.A.

For gallant conduct as forward observation officer during an enemy withdrawal, and great zeal in pushing forward and establishing an observation post in the trenches just abandoned by the enemy. In doing so he came under heavy machine-gun fire, and his telephone lines were cut several times by shell fire; but he maintained communication with his brigade headquarters and sent back most valuable information. He performed fine work.

T./2nd Lt. George Dudley Bacon, M.G.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On one occasion when in charge of machine-gun limbers, carrying guns and ammunition to the assembly position, he came under very heavy enemy artillery fire. By his coolness and presence of mind he averted a stampede, and successfully extricated his limbers without a casualty. When, during the advance, his section officer was wounded, he took charge of four guns which were widely separated, and successfully controlled their operations, moving from one to the other under heavy fire with the utmost coolness.

Capt. Henry Ernest Cyril Bacon, Sco. Rif., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. The assembly positions occupied by this officer's company were under direct enemy observation and machine-gun fire at close range. While assembling his company he personally supervised it, coolly giving his orders to platoon commanders. During the advance heavy casualties occurred, but he continued to lead his company forward until machine-gun fire made it impossible to get further. He was the only officer left in his company. His fine courage and behaviour set a splendid example to his men.

Lt. Robert Emery Badenoch, R. Highrs.

During recent operations, this officer displayed great gallantry and ability in the

clearing of a village, and by his courage and determination set a fine example to his men. His bold initiative and leadership enabled the party under him to capture thirty prisoners.

T./Capt. William Baird, York. L.I.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Having been detailed for a certain duty, he accomplished part of his task in spite of very heavy shelling by the enemy, who were aware of his object and who were assisted by the visibility afforded by the bright moonlight. He was himself half-buried by the explosion of a shell, but only withdrew when requested to do so by the officer commanding the post. He returned on the following night and completed his task. It was entirely due to his skill that the operation was successfully accomplished.

T./2nd Lt. Maurice Banham, W. Rid. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He commanded the second wave in a daylight raid, personally destroyed an enemy machine gun which could not be brought in, and superintended the blowing up of works and dug-outs. During the second phase of the operations, when the enemy's front line was attacked from a wood in the rear of their line, he handled his men with great skill, and brought away several prisoners.

T./2nd Lt. Andrew Banks, Cam'n Highrs.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After his platoon had suffered heavy casualties he personally took charge of the Lewis-gun section and led them under heavy fire against an enemy machine gun which was holding up his platoon. When the No. 1 of his gun was killed, he himself took hold of the gun and inflicted many casualties on the enemy until the gun was knocked out. He continued to hold the ground gained, and later was severely wounded.

Lt. (T./Capt.) Frederick Barnett, R. Scots., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Throughout recent operations this officer rendered most valuable services. On one occasion, when a shell burst inside a small shelter in which the battalion headquarters were situated, killing the commanding officer and signalling officer, he immediately took the situation in hand, and though suffering considerably from shock and concussion, continued to perform his duties in a most efficient manner.

2nd Lt. Harold Lyle Batty-Smith, R. Scots Fus., S.R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer, who was in command of a company during an attack, displayed remarkable initiative in supporting a company in front, which he saw was being checked by machine-gun fire from an enemy strong point. He moved his company round the flank of the strong point, and, bringing his Lewis gun to bear, prevented the enemy from using their machine gun, and so allowed the leading company to advance and capture the garrison.