

Troops from other units, which he disposed to the best tactical advantage. On the 28th, when his company, which had been ordered to establish forward posts beyond the objective of the battalion, was held up by hostile machine-gun fire, he made a daring reconnaissance, established touch with the battalion on his right, and kept the situation well in hand. On the 31st he again led his company in the attack, and though he was wounded before reaching his objective, the capture of the objective by his company was largely due to his gallant leading.

Lt. (A./Capt.) Robert Smith, Ayrshire Yeo., attd. 1/4th Bn. N. Lanc. R., T.F.

For conspicuous gallantry and skilful handling of his company during operations near La Bassée, September 30th and October 1st, 1918. He personally directed the attack on the final objective; seeing that one of the advanced posts was held up he went forward in face of strong opposition and established it well in front of the objective. His initiative and energy contributed much to the success of the operations.

T./Lt. Robert Drysdale Smith, 1st Bn. K.O.S.B.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on October 15th, 1918, near Courtrai. When the company advancing to take the river crossing was held up by heavy machine-gun fire, he volunteered to go forward to clear up the situation. He saw the company to their objective and brought back most valuable information. Later, he again volunteered to go forward, and successfully established a post on the river. His energy and disregard for personal safety materially contributed to the success of the operation.

Capt. Christopher Castlehow Smythe, 1st Bn. Hamps. R., attd. 2nd Bn. R. Muns. Fus.

For conspicuous gallantry and skill near the St. Quentin Canal on October 4th, 1918. He led his company with great gallantry and determination in the attack on Le Catelet on October 4th, 1918, and succeeded in getting a portion of his company through in spite of very heavy machine-gun fire. He then formed a defensive flank on his left, which was in the air, and thus materially assisted in the capture of the enemy position at La Pannerie South.

Lt. Herbert Otto Spatz, 6th., attd 10th Bn. Middx. R.

For gallantry and devotion to duty near Hollebeke. On the night, September 27/28th, 1918, he, with his platoon, worked incessantly until zero hour, preparing a track through our front trench system, over which our guns were rushed forward. In spite of gas shelling, he persisted in his efforts and completed the task. Later in the day and again the following night he repeated the performance. A tremendous effort was made, and it was due to the complete confidence of the platoon in their officer.

Lt. John Spencer, 2nd Bn. N. Lan. R.

On September 28th, 1918, at Wytschaete, he led his fighting patrol with fine courage and dash at a spur which was covered with numerous enemy posts and machine guns.

He killed all enemy who hesitated to surrender and by rapidly advancing in this manner his patrol accounted for over forty of the enemy. The capture of this spur made it possible for the troops on either flank to advance. He was severely wounded in the head whilst consolidating the position he had captured.

2nd Lt. Joseph Thomas Spencer, 8th Bn. Lond. R., attd. 2/2nd Bn.

For most conspicuous gallantry during the operations east of Peizieres, September 19th, 1918. This officer gallantly rallied his men under very heavy hostile machine-gun fire, rushed the machine-gun post and succeeded in taking the crew prisoner. During this period he displayed an utter disregard of danger and inspired his men. He was subsequently wounded.

T./Capt. Arthur Spottiswoode, Middx. R. attd. 26th Bn. R. Fus.

Near Kortewilde, on September 29th, 1918, in command of the leading company during the advance he greatly inspired all ranks by his courage and fine leadership. When the advance had to be continued without the co-operation of any unit on his left, he gained the objective in spite of heavy machine-gun fire on his flank causing him heavy casualties. His advance protected the whole flank of the brigade, and enabled it to push on without serious loss.

2nd Lt. Louis Evelyn Squibb, 4th Bn. R.W. Kent R., T.F., attd. 10th Bn.

For marked gallantry and determined leadership near Comines on September 29th, 1918. During the advance he led his company with great skill capturing three guns in spite of very heavy machine-gun fire. He reached his objective and held it in spite of strong counter-attacks. On October 1st, 1918, near Werwicq, when his company with another was sent forward to fill a gap between two brigades, the enemy counter-attacked before he had reached his position and drove back the left brigade. In spite of this, he went forward and succeeded in driving back the enemy. His bold leadership and resource undoubtedly saved the right flank of the left brigade which had been forced back.

Lt. Percival Vere Stallon, Welsh R., (Spec. Res.), attd. 2nd Bn.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During the attack on Fresnoy on September 24th, 1918, he showed great dash and judgment in the handling of his company. It was largely owing to this skilful and fearless leading that all objectives were taken and a large number of enemy captured with only slight losses to the company. After taking his final objective he quickly consolidated his position and successfully beat off a counter-attack.

2nd Lt. John Stansfield, 5th Bn. York. L.I., T.F.

For most conspicuous gallantry during the attack and capture of Masnieres on September 29th, 1918, in mopping up the village. After this was thought to be complete, he was proceeding to the eastern edge of the village with three men when he was fired on by a