

operation. Throughout he showed great coolness and devotion to duty.

3902 C./S./M. E. A. Richardson, 59th Bn., Aust. Inf.

During the operations near Bellicourt, on 29th September, 1918, when his company was held up, he displayed great gallantry in organising bombing attacks under heavy shell and machine-gun fire. Again, on 1st October, when all his officers had become casualties, he took command of his company, continued the advance, gained his objective, and after pushing out forward patrols, consolidated the position under heavy shell fire. He has on previous occasions displayed great courage and skilful leadership.

3290 Cpl. J. L. Roberts, M.M., 3rd Bn., Aust Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty at Hargicourt on 18th September, 1918. His officer having become a casualty, he assumed command and led his men forward with great skill and dash. When his platoon was held up by machine-gun fire from two enemy guns, he led a charge forward, killing and wounding the crews, and capturing the guns, thus enabling the advance to continue to the successful capture of the objective. Throughout he showed great courage and leadership.

34812 Gnr. R. S. Robertson, 5th F.A.B., Aust. F.A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 29th/30th September, 1918, east of Bellicourt, whilst one of a party of telephonists accompanying a liaison officer with the attacking infantry. Early in the advance all the liaison officer's party, with the exception of this gunner and one other, became separated. He alone mended wires and kept up communication between battalion headquarters and a forward observation post under a heavy enemy barrage of 8-inch and 5.9-inch shells. His plucky work enabled his officer to pass back important information under most trying circumstances.

6612 Cpl. A. H. A. Ruge, 26th Bn., Aust. Inf.

He was in charge of a section during the attack on the Beurevoir System near Peronne, on the 3rd October, 1918. On passing through the first objective, both his platoon officer and serjeant became casualties. He immediately took command and reorganised the platoon, continuing the advance to our position east of Vellevue Farm, and consolidated. When the enemy forced an entry into the farm and our right flank was exposed, he withdrew to the line behind the farm, and by his sections mutually supporting one another, he was enabled to occupy the new line with a minimum of casualties and without disorder. He displayed great gallantry and ability throughout.

3656 Pte. (T./Cpl.) R. Russell, 5th Bn., Aust. M.G.C.

For marked gallantry and initiative during the attack on Joncourt on 1st/2nd October, 1918. His N.C.O. becoming a casualty, he took charge of his gun team,

and, despite severe hostile opposition, successfully engaged enemy machine-gun nests, which were causing casualties to the infantry and hindering their advance. Later, when the situation on his flank became obscure, he took charge, and by his skilful handling and gallantry he rendered invaluable assistance to the attacking infantry.

2981 Pte. A. P. Schofield, 18th Bn., Aust. Inf.

For most conspicuous gallantry in the operations of 3rd October, 1918, near Estrees, north of St. Quentin. His company met with unbroken wire in front of the objective, and came under heavy machine-gun fire. He found an opening through the wire, and rushed single-handed through the gap to a machine-gun post which was holding up his company. He himself killed two of the crew, capturing the remaining four and the gun. He did splendid work.

319 C./S./M. J. Scott, M.M., 17th Bn. (fmly. 19th Bn.), Aust. Inf.

During the attack on the Beurevoir line, north of St. Quentin, on 3rd October, 1918, he displayed marked gallantry and initiative in dealing with the enemy. When his company advanced after being temporarily held up by severe enemy machine-gun fire, he was first to reach the objective trench, and successfully attacked two machine-gun posts in succession, capturing twelve prisoners and two machine guns. With seven men he then continued to mop up about 150 yards of the enemy trench, and captured a further thirty-two prisoners during this operation. He did excellent work.

500 Sjt. J. Seivewright, 25th Bn., Aust. Inf.

During the attack on the Beurevoir line, east of Peronne, on 3rd October, 1918, he, in company with another man, went forward after the capture of our objective, to deal with a machine gun which was causing a lot of trouble, and a sniper near the machine-gun post. He worked his way to within 40 yards of the gun, and then with the other man firing at the enemy post, killed two of the crew, the remainder surrendering to him. He showed marked courage and determination.

421 Sjt. A. R. Selman, 1st Bn., Aust. Inf.

In the operations near Hargicourt, from 18th/21st September, 1918, as battalion signalling serjeant he performed valuable work throughout, greatly assisting his officer in the directing of his section and attending to all details of communication, which was early established with brigade and companies. During the attack of 21st he went out to lay a further line to brigade, and on coming under heavy barrage continued to carry on his work till he and the two men with him were severely wounded. He set a fine example to those with him.

4477 Sjt. C. Smith, 45th Bn., Aust. Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during the operations west of Belleglise, north of St. Quentin, on 18th September, 1918. When troops on the right were held up during the advance he with