

great skill and determination manœuvred his platoon in such a manner that he was able to engage the enemy at short range and force him to evacuate, our line being thereby established. He set a very fine example to the men throughout.

1737 Sjt. C. Smith, 53rd Bn., Aust. Infy.

During the operations near Bellicourt, from 30th September to 2nd October, 1918, he displayed conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When the enemy counter-attacked along a trench he three times collected bombs and rushed forward, forcing them back, and causing heavy casualties. He took part in bombing down a section of 600 yards of trench, and rendered invaluable service to the officer in charge by collecting quantities of enemy grenades and using them with good effect. Throughout the operations he rendered very valuable service.

3002 Cpl. R. G. Stephenson, 58th Bn., Aust. Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations north-east of Bellicourt 29th September-1st October, 1918. He worked all night 29th/30th continuously under fire, re-organising parties who were wandering in front of our line, bringing them into the front trench and then guiding them across to their position on the left flank. He also brought in a considerable number of wounded men who were lying out in front of the line. Throughout he did excellent work.

1750 Cpl. C. W. Tayler, 9th Bn., Aust. Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and ability. Near Villeret, on 18th September, 1918, when the attack was held up by strong enemy machine-gun fire from a trench, he immediately brought his Lewis gun into action in an exposed position, thus helping a small party of "moppers-up" to approach the trench from a flank. He then rushed forward, firing his gun from the hip, and took up a position on the enemy side of the trench, and brought covering fire to bear on the enemy's position while the "moppers-up" completed the capture of the post. He did excellent work.

2227 Sjt. F. V. Tuxworth, 19th Bn., Aust. Infy.

During the attack on the Bearevoir Line, north of St. Quentin, on 3rd October, 1918, he displayed conspicuous gallantry in dealing with enemy opposition. While the attack was held up on the right, he worked his way up the trench system from the left, and located an enemy machine-gun post in the trench, which was still firing and causing considerable trouble to the main attacking party. He immediately bombed the post, and the surprise caused by his accurate bombing having scattered the enemy, he rushed the post, eight prisoners and two machine guns being captured. He did fine work.

2428 L./Cpl. C. R. Williamson, 46th Bn., Aust. Infy.

For conspicuous courage and most determined leadership during operations on the

night 18th-19th September, 1918, west of Bellenglise, north of St. Quentin. He fought his way into a trench held by a large party of the enemy. After throwing all his bombs he seized an enemy gun and turned it on them, inflicting heavy losses and causing the remainder to surrender. He then rallied a few men, and getting more bombs he fought his way along the trench, and after another stiff fight he captured a large number of the enemy. He did splendid work.

1963 Bdr. W. J. Wilson, 106th Bty., 6th Bde., Aust. F.A.

At Saint Souplet, on 17th October, 1918, he was with a patrol under an officer on a forward reconnaissance. While the party were advancing with the infantry through enemy barrage he was wounded, and the other two men incapacitated by wounds. He assisted in carrying them a considerable distance through the barrage and assisted his officer in his reconnaissance, returning with him to the battery, and afterwards carrying out his duties on his gun throughout the day's fighting. He showed marked gallantry and devotion to duty.

6578 Pte. J. J. Woodhouse, 37th Bn., Aust. Infy.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty near Le Catelet, on 1st October, 1918. He was sent forward as a scout, and reconnoitred the northern entrance of the St. Quentin Canal Tunnel, which was close to the enemy's position and under heavy fire. Later he guided a section to command the entrance of the tunnel, and whilst so doing was severely wounded. Throughout the operation he showed remarkable resource and an utter disregard of danger.

NEW ZEALAND FORCE.

14556 Sjt. F. Baker, M.M., 1st Bn., Wellington R.

For most conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty, east of Le Quesnoy, on 4th November, 1918. During the attack, whilst doing consistently good work throughout the day, he rushed two machine-gun posts and captured the garrisons. Later with two men he was instrumental in capturing a battery of 4.2's and 77 mm. guns, taking prisoners three of the crew. His exceptional coolness and magnificent dash were a very fine example to the men in his platoon.

36944 Rfn. C. Birch, 1st Bn., N.Z. Rif. Bde., attd. 3rd N.Z. L.T.M. Bty.

For conspicuous courage and good work. He was one of a light trench-mortar gun team in the attack on Le Quesnoy on the 4th November, 1918. He went forward and located a machine gun which was holding up the advance, enabling the remainder of his gun team to blow out the gun and thus allow the advance to proceed. He, with one other man, then made a daring reconnaissance of the locality from which the machine gun had been firing and captured and brought in an enemy officer and 27 other ranks.