

the enemy, killing 6 and capturing 2 officers and 29 other ranks.

No. 2060 Sjt. John James Dwyer, Aus. M.G. Corps, Aus. Imp. Force.

For most conspicuous bravery when in attack, Sjt. Dwyer, in charge of a Vickers machine gun, went forward with the first wave of the brigade.

On reaching the final objective this Non-commissioned Officer rushed his gun forward in advance of the captured position in order to obtain a commanding spot. Whilst advancing he noticed an enemy machine gun firing on the troops on our right flank and causing casualties. Unhesitatingly he rushed his gun forward to within thirty yards of the enemy gun and fired point blank at it, putting it out of action and killing the gun crew. He then seized the gun and totally ignoring the snipers from the rear of the enemy position, carried it back across the shell-swept ground to our front line and established both it and his Vickers gun on the right flank of our brigade.

Sjt. Dwyer commanded these guns with great coolness and when the enemy counter-attacked our positions he rendered great assistance in repulsing them.

On the following day when the position was heavily shelled, this Non-commissioned Officer took up successive positions. On one occasion his Vickers gun was blown up by shell fire, but he conducted his gun team back to Headquarters through the enemy barrage, secured one of the reserve guns, and rushed it back to our position in the shortest possible time.

During the whole of the attack his contempt of danger, cheerfulness and courage raised the spirits of all who were in his sector of the line.

No. 8133 Sjt. Joseph Lister, Lan. Fus. (Reddish, Stockport).

For most conspicuous bravery in attack, when advancing to the first objective, his Company came under machine gun fire from the direction of two "Pill-boxes." Seeing that the galling fire would hold up our advance and prevent our troops keeping up with the barrage, Sjt. Lister dashed ahead of his men and found a machine gun firing from a shell hole in front of the "Pill-box." He shot two of the enemy gunners, and the remainder surrendered to him. He then went on to the "Pill-box" and shouted to the occupants to surrender. They did so with the exception of one man, whom Sjt. Lister shot dead; whereupon about 100 of the enemy emerged from shell holes further to the rear and surrendered.

This Non-commissioned Officer's prompt act of courage enabled our line to advance with hardly a check and to keep up with the barrage, the loss of which might have jeopardised the whole course of the local battle.

No. 456 Sjt. Lewis McGee, late Aus. Imp. Force.

For most conspicuous bravery when in the advance to the final objective, Sjt. McGee led his platoon with great dash and bravery, though strongly opposed, and under heavy shell fire.

His platoon was suffering severely and the advance of the Company was stopped by machine gun fire from a "Pill-box" post. Single-handed Sjt. McGee rushed the post, armed only with a revolver. He shot some of the crew and captured the rest, and thus enabled the advance to proceed. He re-organised the remnants of his platoon and was foremost in the remainder of the advance, and during consolidation of the position he did splendid work.

This Non-commissioned Officer's coolness and bravery were conspicuous and contributed largely to the success of the Company's operations.

Sjt. McGee was subsequently killed in action.

No. 1817 Sjt. John Molyneux, R. Fus. (St. Helens).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. During an attack, which was held up by machine-gun fire which caused many casualties, Sjt. Molyneux instantly organised a bombing party to clear the trench in front of a house. Many enemy were killed and a machine-gun captured.

Having cleared this obstacle, he immediately jumped out of the trench and called for someone to follow him, and rushed for the house. By the time the men arrived he was in the thick of a hand-to-hand fight; this only lasted a short time, and the enemy surrendered, and, in addition to the dead and wounded, between 20 and 30 prisoners were taken.

Apart from the personal bravery of this non-commissioned officer, his initiative and dash prevented a slight check from becoming a serious block in the advance, and undoubtedly prevented many casualties.

No. 15122 L./Sjt. John Harold Rhodes, G. Gds. (Tunstall, Staffs.).

For most conspicuous bravery when in charge of a Lewis gun section covering the consolidation of the right front company.

He accounted for several enemy with his rifle as well as by Lewis gun fire, and, upon seeing three enemy leave a "pill-box," he went out single-handed through our own barrage and hostile machine-gun fire, and effected an entry into the "pill-box." He there captured nine enemy, including a forward observation officer connected by telephone with his battery. These prisoners he brought back with him, together with valuable information.

No. 71130 Cpl. Ernest Albert Egerton, Notts. & Derby. R. (Longton).

For most conspicuous bravery, initiative and devotion to duty when, during attack, owing to fog and smoke, visibility was obscured, and, in consequence thereof, the two leading waves of the attack passed over certain hostile dug-outs without clearing them. Enemy rifles, assisted by a machine-gun, were, from these dug-outs, inflicting severe casualties on the advancing waves. When volunteers were called for to assist in clearing up the situation, Cpl. Egerton at once jumped up and dashed for the dug-outs under heavy fire at short range.

He shot in succession a rifleman, a bomber