

reorganised and assisted to repel the attack. In a subsequent counter-attack in the afternoon he took a Lewis gun to an exposed position on a road and successfully engaged an enemy machine gun that was attempting to work along the sunken road into the village. His coolness and courage throughout the day's fighting were a fine example to all ranks.

T./2nd Lt. George Pennington Richards, 11th Bn. E. Lanc. R.

On October 4th, 1918, east of Ploegsteert, he with two N.C.O.'s carried out a most daring and successful daylight patrol along the enemy bank of the River Lys, bringing back reliable information regarding enemy positions. The only access to the bank was by crossing a partially demolished bridge commanded by enemy machine guns and trench mortars which opened fire on him during his return to his own bank.

T./2nd Lt. William Richards, R. Welsh Fus., attd. 25th Bn.

On September 21st, 1918, east of Ronsoy, after the battalion had taken its final objective facing Hindenburg Line and an enemy counter-attack on three sides necessitated a withdrawal from forward positions, he organised a bombing party and covered the withdrawal of battalion down about 800 to 900 yards of trench against vastly superior numbers. All ammunition had been exhausted and but for the prompt action of this officer and the skill and gallantry with which he handled his party, it would have been impossible for the battalion to withdraw without very heavy casualties. The whole time this officer was under heavy shell fire, and very heavy machine-gun and rifle fire from three sides, and his indifference to danger was a very fine example to all ranks.

2nd Lt. Walter Harry Richardson, 2/5th Bn. R. Lan. R., T.F.

On September 28th, 1918, during an attack on the Canal de l'Escaut, he very gallantly led his company over the canal and captured his objective in face of heavy machine-gun fire. His leadership and bold initiative in a difficult situation were alone responsible for the successful carrying out of a difficult operation. On September 29th, when the right division was heavily counter-attacked and driven back, he withstood the enemy assault, and later extricated his men to conform to the situation on the right.

2nd Lt. Charles Humphreys Ricketts, 2nd Bn. S. Staff. R.

Near Flesquieres, on the night of September 27th, 1918, he, finding his platoon held up by machine-gun fire, rushed forward alone, firing his revolver on the hostile post. He shot dead the No. 1 of the team, which disorganised the enemy. He then called up his platoon and rushed the post, taking one prisoner, the remainder of the enemy being killed while running away. He showed the greatest gallantry and determination.

T./2nd Lt. John Alfred Riddel, 15th Bn. Tank Corps

On September 27th, 1918, in the attack on Flesquieres, he assumed command of the

section and led it across a stretch of country exposed to the direct fire of enemy field guns and heavy trench mortars. This movement covered the advance of the infantry and enabled the fire of several hostile machine guns to be silenced, and field guns to be engaged at close range. All the tanks of this section except one, were knocked out by direct hits, and although he was himself wounded and taken prisoner he effected his escape. He set a splendid example of resolution and gallantry throughout the action.

T./Lt. Alfred Charles Ridlington, 17th Armoured Car Bn. Tank Corps.

On the Le Cateau-Marets Road on October 9th, 1918, he displayed marked gallantry and skill when in charge of a section of armoured cars. He first attacked a machine-gun post which was holding up our advance, and in conjunction with the infantry successfully cleared it and captured the guns. In proceeding forward with two cars, a bridge was blown up behind him by the enemy, separating him from the second car and from our troops. With one car, however, he went forward through Maurois and Honnechy, which were both strongly held by the enemy, of whom he killed five in one spot in the latter village. His prompt action prevented the railway bridge from being blown up by the enemy.

T./Lt. Milton Ewart Riley, 2nd Bn. E. Lanc. R.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was battalion intelligence officer and rendered most valuable service to his commanding officer during the attack on the Drocourt-Queant Line and subsequent advance on October 11th, 1918. He made most valuable reconnaissances under heavy machine-gun and artillery fire, thus enabling information of the utmost importance to be sent through quickly. His cheerful disposition set a splendid example to all.

Capt. Neil Methuen Ritchie, D.S.O., 2nd Bn. R. Highrs. (Egypt).

During the action against the Turkish Tabor position on September 19th, 1918, and during the subsequent advance, he was invariably to the fore and set a fine example of coolness, courage and utter disregard of danger. When the regiment occupied the El Medjel position on the evening of September 19th, 1918, Capt. Ritchie carried a Lewis gun up part of the way as its carrier was exhausted, and thereby materially assisted in driving off an enemy picquet which was holding up the attack on top of the hill. His services throughout the two attacks, and the subsequent trying marches, were of inestimable value to the regiment.

2nd Lt. Stewart John Ritchie, 1st Bn., attd. 7th Bn. Sea. Highrs.

For gallantry and initiative in leading his platoon on September 28th, 1918, in the attack on the Broodseinde Ridge. He displayed the greatest coolness on October 2nd, 1918, when his company was ordered to withdraw slightly, handled his men with great skill under very heavy machine-gun fire, and successfully rallied them on the objective.