

For Valour

Members of the Queen's Own Rifles awarded the Victoria Cross

Lieutenant (afterwards Captain) Charles S. Rutherford, V.C., M.C., M.M.
5th Canadian Mounted Rifles, C.E.F.

"For most conspicuous bravery, initiative and devotion to duty. When in command of an assaulting party at Monchy-le-Preux, August 26th, 1918, Lieut. Rutherford found himself a considerable distance ahead of his men, and at the same moment observed a fully armed, strong enemy party outside a 'pill box', ahead of him. He beckoned to them, with his revolver to come to him; in return they waved to him to come to them. This he boldly did and informed them that they were prisoners. This fact an enemy officer disputed and invited Lieut. Rutherford to enter the 'pill box', an invitation he discreetly declined. By masterly bluff, however, he persuaded the enemy that they were surrounded and the whole party of 45, including two officers and three machine guns, surrendered to him. Subsequently he induced the enemy officer to stop the fire of an enemy machine gun close by and Lieut. Rutherford took advantage of the opportunity to hasten the advance of his men to his support. Lieut. Rutherford then observed that the right assaulting party was held up by heavy machine gun fire from another 'pill box'. Indicating an objective to the remainder of his party, he attacked the 'pill box' with a Lewis gun section and captured a further 35 prisoners with machine guns, thus enabling the party to continue their advance. The bold and gallant action of this officer contributed very materially to the capture of the main objective and was a wonderful inspiration to all ranks in pressing home the attack on a very strong position."—Official Record.

2nd Lieutenant Edmund De Wind, V.C.
15th Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles
(Killed in action—March 21st, 1918)

"On the 21st March, 1918, at the Race Course Redoubt near Grougie, this officer showed the greatest possible gallantry.

"For seven hours he held the most important position, being a section of trench into which the enemy had penetrated. Though twice wounded, he remained at his post, often alone with one N.C.O., until another section could be got to his help.

"On two occasions he, with two N.C.O.'s alone, got out on top, under heavy machine gun and rifle fire, and cleared the enemy out of the trench, killing many.

"He remained at what was the most dangerous point, repelling attack after attack, until wounded for the third time (very severely) he collapsed. His courage, tenacity and example were of the highest order."—Official Record.