

No. 33314 Private Cecil James DALLARD.

1st Bn., New Zealand Force., Wellington Regt.

DCM

At ROSSIGNOL WOOD near HEBUTERNE on the 9th day of July 1918 this soldier displayed the very greatest heroism and the utmost devotion to duty.

A daylight patrol, consisting of two officers and this soldier, had gone out at 11 a.m. about 150 yards beyond our front line to reconnoitre an enemy post with a view to capturing it, when the patrol was attacked with bombs by a concealed enemy post. Both officers were badly wounded and Pte. DALLARD was wounded slightly. Pte DALLARD carried one of the officers to a place of comparative safety about 60 yards back towards our lines and then went back in face of the enemy to rescue the other officer, who had fallen about 15 yards from the enemy post. In face of a further shower of bombs, by which he was wounded again, this time in three places, he got to within 10 paces of the officer, only to find him dead. He then withdrew, and, notwithstanding his own wounds, carried the first wounded officer back down a ruined communication trench to within 30 yards of our line, where a party came over the parapet and carried in both the wounded officer and Pte. DALLARD.

But for the very gallant conduct of this soldier the officer would certainly have been either killed or captured.

The extrême gallantry displayed by this soldier was a magnificent example and incentive to his comrades.