THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.

Captain Richard ARCHER-HOUBLON,
32nd Battery, 33rd Brigade, R. F. A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations near LAVENTIE in July 1916. On the 16th July he was wirecutting under very heavy shell fire, and was slightly wounded. He remained at duty and on the 18th July his Battery was again very heavily shelled and eventually he was seriously wounded. Up to that time, his extraordinary coolness, gallantry and presence of mind inspired the greatest confidence in the battery, (although it had suffered very heavy casualties) and the task of wire cutting was most successfully concluded.

Major Courtenay Talbot Saint PAUL.
36th Battery, 33rd Brigade, R. F. A.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations near LAVENTIE in July 1916. Both on the 16th and 18th July, his battery and his observing station was subjected to very heavy shell fire during wire cutting. His coolness and total disregard of danger gave complete confidence to the battery, and he accomplished his wire cutting with the greatest success. His thoroughness and devotion to duty have been most marked.

Major Leslie Jack COULTER,
No. 3 Mining Coy., Australian Engineers.

At FERME DU BOIS on the night of the 15/16th July 1916, during the operations against the BOARS HEAD, one of the Push Pipes used to form Communication trenches, having failed to explode properly became exposed. In order that the enemy might not discover after daylight the method of forming communication trenches, he accompanied by a Corporal, went out under heavy shrapnel and machine gun fire and blew up the exposed portion of the Push Pipe.
Push Pipes had been laid to cut communication trenches previous to the operations of the 19th July at FAUQUISSART. During the operations, and about the time when the pipes should have been exploded, the leads were cut by the enemy's shell fire. In spite of the very severe bombardment, he at great personal risk, ran out to the head of the sap outside the parapet to attempt to light the fuse further down the sap, where he was exposed to heavy shell fire. He was wounded before he reached the fuse, but refused to be removed to the Aid Post till he had seen the Push Pipe successfully exploded. The trench formed by the explosion was of great assistance to the assaulting troops.