

To Be Returned TO
Compensation (Personal
Injuries) Section

AIREACHT AIRGID. R

An Roinn.

1/P 2
2A

NÁ CUIRTEAR ÉANTUAIRISC AR AN GCLÚDACH SO.

Tá annso, leis,

Member of I.R.A.
wounded in Action

An Uimhir.

An Gnó.

653/88.

See file
1/P/32

SPECIAL PERIOD.
(NON-DEGREE).

Joseph Mulkearn (ex. I. R. A.)
mount St.

Mullingar

An Uimhir ag Aireacht
Eile.

Do cuireadh chun

Dáta.

Do cuireadh chun

Dáta.

Do cuireadh chun

Dáta.

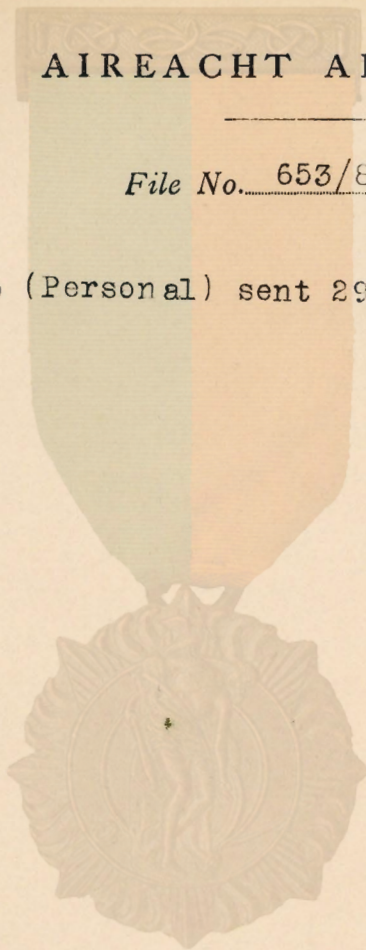
AIREACT AIRGID

Joseph Mulkearn.

File No. 653/88.

Form L (Personal) sent 29th August, 1923.

*D. Mulkearn
CST.
29/8/23
S.M.*



[OVER

Uimh. Thag.
(Ref. No.)

COISTE UM CHÚITEAMH (DÍOGHBHÁIL PHEARSANTA)
(Compensation (Personal Injuries) Committee),

125 SRÁID BHAGÓID ÍOCH.
(125 Lower Baggot Street),

Guthán 3789. Ex. 10.
(Telephone 3789. Ex. 10).

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH.

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August 18th, 1923.

Dear Almond,

Will you, please, forward the ^{attached} ~~enclosed~~ to the

Army Finance Officer.

Yours sincerely,

J. Shanahan

C. S. Almond, Esq.,
Ministry of Finance,
Upper Merrion Street, Dublin.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

*File re.
CST*

R.O.

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Coiste
(Diog)

18 AUG 1923

(Compensation [Personal Injuries]
Comm. Gen)

Mount Street
Mullingar
14th Aug 23

Dear Sir.

Would you kindly forward necessary forms. Re. Esc. I.R.A. mens disability pensions. I have served and been disabled during 1919-21. Periods. I was also serving in Free State Army. 1922 as Brigade D.O. 5th Brigade 1st Eastern Division and was obliged to resign my position owing to ill health and medical advice. Thanking you in anticipation

I remain

Faithfully Yours

Joseph Murphy

? Was it same
1/11/23

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Δ, Ρυζσιδθε Ackd 3/9
Amesche Dingio
Spaid Mhumbhcheann usche
Boile sea Cluch
653/88



A Caps.

In reply to your communication I have been a member of the Irish Volunteers since 1914. I served in the 5th Brigade Mullingar, the 4th Battalion Dublin Brigade and also 2nd Battalion, 3rd Brigade 4th Northern Division, October 1920. I was appointed 1st Lieut. in the latter Brigade, on the night 15th Dec 1920. I took part in the Egyptian Arch Ambush, Newry, Co Down, under the command of Frank Aiken. I was injured whilst endeavouring to save the life of one our party, William Canning, Serjeant, who was mortally wounded. I was captured with J. J. Laying, James Hughes and Joseph Keenan

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whilst endeavouring to escape. I was subjected to a brutal beating and kicking by our captors the "specials" we were lodged in Crowninshield Prison Belfast. I was ordered into Hospital. whilst there a space of five months, I was twice announced for death and three times recommended for immediate release: as being medically unfit for imprisonment. I was tried, convicted, and sentenced to fifteen years Penal Servitude. I was transferred to Mountjoy Prison, there to embark for Dartmoor I was certified medically unfit for the voyage, and was again sent into Prison Hospital. by Doct^r Hackett Mountjoy Prison, M. O. during my term in Mountjoy. I was again, thrice recommended for immediate release. On October 25th 1921, I was released unconditionally from Mountjoy Prison. after my release I attended Doct^r O'Brien Merrion Square who certified me to be suffering from

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irregular complications of the heart. In his opinion due to strain and ill treatment. The said complications, to prove fatal if caused any undue excitement or strain. I was also advised by Medical Men whom I have consulted, under no circumstances was I to take up any Business or profession what-so-ever as I was thoroughly incapable of doing so owing to my state of health.

During hostilities 1922. I volunteered my services to the National Army as Brigade Intelligence Officer from April until October when I was obliged to resign my position by ill health and medical advice. I was then attached to 5th Brigade 1st Eastern Division. I have been attended to during Imprisonment, a period of Eleven months in Prison Hospital by medical Doctors. M^r Cormack Medical Inspector Prisons Board. Flaherty, P. M^r Carrill J. D. (A.T.) Conlon. Hackett, and Cooke. after my release I was attended by Doctor. O'Brien Merion Square, Shepherd, Anghrim St

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Doctors Kearney Mullingar and also Doctors
O'Kelly military M.O. Colerick Barracks
Mullingar all of whom gave similar evidence
as to my state of health. and the majority
of whom I can secure if necessary. Certificates
from.

Yours to meet

Joseph McKearn
Mount Street
Mullingar

1st Sept. 1923.

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Personal Injuries Compensation Act:

Joseph Mulkearn, Mount Street, Mullingar:

4th Sept. 1923

A'Capa.

With reference to my letter 31st Aug '23 marked undated. I re-write you giving you my experiences and career with I.R.A. movement. 1914 on the organization of the I.R.A. in Mullingar I enlisted into the ranks I remained in this area until 1914. When a transfer of business. Draper's assistant took me to Dunleavy I there was transferred into the 4th Battalion area and carried on under Comdt Tom O'Connell and later on Comdt Charles Sommers. 1920 took up a position in Henry Lee Down. as Charge hand of Post department in Messrs Cahills. Bro. Hill Street Henry. on the 12th Aug 1920. with necessary credentials I was initiated into the 2nd Battalion 2nd Brigade 4th Eastern Division. whilst in Henry I played an

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Active Part in the movement, and in November
Same Year I was appointed 1st Lieutenant of the
Company. On the night of the 13th Dec, 1930,
I was ordered to proceed to the Egyptian Arch
which on the direct heavy and Camborough road,
with a party of nine men, at the Egyptian Arch
I was to sever all Telegraph and Telephone
communications, and fill sufficient trees as
to barricade the road and render it impassable
It had previously been arranged the Camborough
R. & C. Barracks Bmagh was to be attacked
by the IRA under the command of Frank
Aiken Dundack. (Presently the C.O.S of the
irregulars) Our Party were to lie in ambush
for the reinforcements of British Military and
Ulster Special Constables being rushed out to
the assistance of the Camborough, R. & C. Post.
at 12.00 midnight the attack on the Barrack
opened and about 12.30 reinforcements
approached the Egyptian arch on their way
to Camborough. The Enemy vastly outnumbering
Our Party, by about 10 to 1. We were

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obliged to take refuge on the Top of the Arch and there put up the best possible defence we could under circumstances being only in possession of approximately 9 grenades and 12 revolvers. due to the main body of our party not turning up. which was afterwards reported to G.H. Quarters by James J. Layton. we held the position for about twenty minutes under a heavy machine gun and rifle fire the enemy numbering about 120 whilst our party only numbered thirteen. amongst our party William Canning Derry was mortally wounded. Peter Shields and Jeremiah O'Hare both of Henry were also wounded and succumbed to their wounds within a few months. Our party having used all the available material. we made a get-a-way, the night being very dark and we could not discern anything on the Arch. until my foot came in contact with what I guessed to be one of our party I stooped down to try and find out who it was I questioned who it was not knowing

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who or whether the person was dead or wounded
I got a surging reply Canning. I raised him to his
feet and found by my hand accidentally coming
in touch with his throat. that he was badly
wounded in the neck. I got him on to my back
and endeavored to get him away. Somewhere
I could not know, where perhaps I could have
some sort of assistance rendered. I stumbled
along in the dark and was caught in a
sweeping machine gun fire, which killed
Canning outright. He quivered and twisted on my
back as I was trying to pick my steps across
the rain and sleet soaked slaps of the railway
I fell with my human burden my chest coming
in right angles to the railway track. I lay
for some time. I know not how long for I
had both strained my heart and chest and
when I tried to get away. I was a kind of
semi unconscious. I wandered along the
railway line in the direction of Ouseath.
I had got about half a mile when I
realized the Enemy were on top of the arch

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and were sweeping the Railway line with rifle fire. I crawled on my hands and knees towards the embankment, and gained the fields. I made my way towards Sundalk and Foxhill road, in order to gain a by-road known as the "Flag-staff" road leading into Omeath, as I gained the main road I was challenged by a Patrol of Uster Specials accompanied by a Military Sergeant. I was repeatedly searched and was then subjected to a brutal beating with Bullets of rifles and revolvers and also kicking: my Heart was knocked out of place, and twice its normal size. as I was afterwards informed by Prison M.O. O'Flaherty: my left arm was wrenched from the shoulder blade, and broken between the Elbow and the Shoulder. my collar bone was broken, two of my ribs on the right side, and also five of my teeth knocked out. meantime there had been three others of our party captured by the same Patrol we were then the four of us put up against a wall to be shot. all the Specials were armed with rifles and revolvers, and one

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of the Special Constables in the act of drawing his revolver shot himself in the foot, for which he afterwards claimed £2000 for injuries received at Egyptian Arch. Another of the Specials came forward and said he knew me, that he had seen me in the Castle and told the others not to shoot as I was a wanted man. I was then subjected again to a further beating. We were then taken into Newry Military Barrack the morning of the 13th Dec 1920. On the afternoon of the same day we were lodged in the Crowninshield Prison Belfast. The W. Officer of the Prison was immediately summoned to attend me. The Chaplain was also phoned for and I was anointed and placed in Prison Hospital. where I became unconscious. The Governor of the Prison telegraphed my people to come at once as I was dangerously ill. My Mother and Brother were admitted into Prison Hospital to see me at 6.30 a.m. I was six months in Prison Hospital, and was not allowed to hear Mass. My condition of Heart and health

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being so precarious. on the 18th May 1921 I
with J. Haining, James Keenan and Joseph Hughes
were tried by F. G. Court martial in Victoria
barracks Belfast, our trial which should have
taken place on the 31st January, having been put
back for an indefinite period owing to my
condition, and the Doctors certifying me medically
unfit to go forward for trial. We were charged
with being concerned in the Egyptian Arch Ambush
and also the attack the Police barrack Cambragh
We were found guilty and sentenced to Fifteen
Years Penal Servitude. During my term of
imprisonment in Belfast: Doctor O'Halearty
recommended me three times for immediate release
as being medically unfit for imprisonment
On one occasion Doctor W. G. Cormack Medical
Inspector of Prisons Board travelled to Belfast
Prison to examine me. He pronounced me
to be the worst case he had ever heard tell
about. So far as I could learn, I was and
am suffering from Double Valvular Disease
of the Heart, due to ill-treatment and strain

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at the time of my arrest. I was also twice
awaited for death whilst in Belfast Prison
on the 31st May I was transferred with five other
Penal Servitude Prisoners to Mountjoy. I was
examined on my arrival by Doctor Mackett. and
immediately ordered into Hospital. During my
time in Mountjoy Prison I was again three
times recommended for immediate release as
medically unfit for imprisonment: I was
eventually released on the 25th Oct. 1921.
I was impressed by each doctor that examined
me, which numbered about nine, that on
my release under no circumstances was I
to resume business of any nature. In
January 1922, my position in life not being
a suitable one to live in idleness, I resumed
business at the Drapery with my old Employer
James Joyce Mulligan and was unable to
carry on longer than a fortnight, owing to
my health. In April 1922, having been
previously seen in company with different
National Army Officers, some of whom had

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made acquaintance with in prison. I was marked by the irregulars as being a spy and Free State informer. I was on several occasions held up by armed irregulars, and I was also the recipient of several threatening letters, clearing out orders and on one occasion a death notice was sent me. I realized I had either to clear out or join up the National Army. I therefore went to the military barracks and offered my services as assistant J.O. free to Captain Peter Conlon. I acted as such and also as Company Captain of Volunteers in Mullingar. On several occasions I acted as guide to the troops carrying out the raids etc. On the 10th July 1932. On the National Emergency call, I went into Barracks as Company Captain with 45 men, at the request of Brigade Command. James O'Reilly 5th Brigade 1st Eastern Div. I remained as Company Captain No. 1 Reserve Company for the space of six weeks. I was then appointed Brigade Intelligence Officer and attached to the Brigade Staff.

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I done efficient work during my term as Brigade D.O. affecting in all the arrest of about 60 irregulars and the capturing of a considerable amount of Grenades, Arms and Ammunition, and the tracking down and effecting the arrest on two different occasions of a much wanted organizer and Gunman Joe Brown, who twice broke imprisonment. I was all the time working under considerable difficulties owing to my health. And in October 1933, I was obliged to resign my position owing to ill health and medical advice. With further evidence as to my state of health and activities during present hostilities and Anglo-Irish War, I wish to submit the following.

Colonel M. Gorman, 45th Battalion Mullingar
Doct. Hackett, M.D. Mountjoy Prison
Doct. Kelly, M.D. 45th Battalion, Mullingar
Michael Staines, Alderman, Camon Duggan I.D.
Professor Gen M. Keill. The three latter named
who were in custody with me in Mountjoy

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Hospital. Doct^r W^r Cornack. Medical
Inspect^r Prison Board. Doct^r O'Flaherty M.D.
Crumlin Prison Belfast. Doct^r P. W. Carnill
L.D. and Treaty and Doct^r Peter Coulter
Sligo. my company captain in Newry.
was Patrick Casey afterwards Brigade
Command National Army, Brigade Command
Eamonn Rooney Drogheda, all of whom
can vouch for my statement herewith
Mise le gear
Joseph Mulkeam

653/88

Doj Rúnaidhe

Ainacht Aigid

Sraid Mhuirbhtheannnacht.

Baile Ica Críoch

4th Sept '93

Military Service
Pensions Collection

J. E. WALLACE,

State Solicitor,

Tel. No

Mullingar,

25th..day of...Octrn...192..3.

The Secretar y
Ministry of Finance
Dublin.

re Mu lkearns. Ref. 653/88.

Dear Sir,

In reference to your memo of 1st inst. addresse d to Mr. Joseph Mulkearns of Mount Street Mu llingar, we would be glad to hear at y our convenience if M r. Mulkearns claim was sent to the Personal Injuries Commission, and if so, when he may expect to have it heard.

Yours faithfully,

Military Service
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