
**MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS
COLLECTION**

MA/MSPC/A/65 (2)

SOUTH WEXFORD BRIGADE

**MILITARY ARCHIVES
IRELAND**

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE TO STATEMENT READ BY FRANK CARTY ON
BEHALF OF WEXFORD DEPUTATION BEFORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON THE 3RD FEBRUARY, 1936.

- Q. This statement is divided into four periods - Easter Week Period, the period from '16 to May '20 and the period to July '21 and the Civil War period.
- Q. Does this cover the Brigade activities?
- A. The South Wexford Brigade was not formed until late in '20. The activities of the area are set out in these four periods.
- Q. What do you want to discuss in regard to Easter Week. You don't want to make excuses -
- A. We don't want to make excuses; we want to explain the activities.
- Q. Are you explaining in connection with making a claim?
- A. Making a claim as far as the men were on active service during Easter Week. I can give you details of the Easter Week period.
- Q. Is everything you are going to say set out in the statement?
- A. Yes. (Statement for Easter Week Period read). Perhaps you would like to ask some questions?
- Q. I take it from that statement that they simply mobilised once or twice or thrice during Easter Week and demobilised without doing anything?
- A. Here is a letter from Colonel O'Connell who was in Wexford at that time (Letter from Colonel O'Connell read). I can corroborate that statement about the countermanding order. Subsequent to that they came out and waited for further instructions. As you know, there was a rising in Enniscorthy.
- Q. You have not explained how, after the demobbing, you came together again?
- A. They were practically mobilised several times during the week pending an attack on Enniscorthy. On the last mobilisation they were not able to mobilise more than five men.
- Q. Under whose orders were these mobilisations made?
- A. On my own.
- Q. On your own account?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You did not consult any higher authority?
- A. No. The higher authorities countermanded the first order.
- Q. You were the Brigade O.C.?
- A. No, Battn., Wexford town Battn.
- Q. You did not even consult the Brigade?
- A. There was no Brigade at the time. We were acting under Staff Capt. O'Connell. We were more or less in direct touch with Capt. O'Connell and exchanged messages with him every day. He was in Kilkenny and he told us to stand to for further orders. He was arrested with us - not exactly - he

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was arrested in Kilkenny and we were all in about the one time.

- Q. Did the police take no action against your mobilisation?
 A. We did not mobilise in the town; outside the town we mobilised. There were about 200 police in the town at the time. There were 300 special constables mobilised.

Period 1916 to May 1920, when the usual re-organisation was taking place.

The Volunteers took over the town for a day.

- Q. What date was that?
 A. The 12th March, '18.

Period May 1920 to July 1921.

- Q. What was the date of Clonroche?
 A. That was about April '20.

- Q. You don't tell us what the nature of the attack was. Was it a mere sniping attack?
 A. This was when the entire County was in one Brigade and men came from different parts of the area. It was a very intensive attack, lasting all night.

- Q. New Ross Barracks?
 A. That was kept up for some time.

- Q. When was New Ross attack?
 A. About April or May 1921.

- Q. When was Foulks Mills?
 A. December 1920.
 A number of them were sniping attacks. Duncannon (?) was attacked regularly every week over a long period.

- Q. What was the idea?
 A. It was an instruction from the Chief of Staff at the time that all the barracks in the area were to be attacked. Carrick-on-Bannow - the intention was to blow up the barracks with gelignite. The gelignite was brought down and it was to be put into the house next door but the thing went astray. The plan was not carried out.

- Q. Barlough - when was that?
 A. That was early in June 1920.

- Q. Who occupied that?
 A. The coastguards.

- Q. Were they armed?
 A. They were all armed with revolvers.

- Q. Only revolvers?
 A. Only revolvers; firing went on for a good while.

- Q. Shooting of District Inspector, Wexford town.

- Q. When was that?
 A. That was April or May 1921.

- A. R.I.C. patrol bombed in New Ross town

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Q. When was that?

A. April '21, I think.

A. Attack on party of R.I.C. men at Derrycarrick. That was in August '20 - before the others.

A. Held up two R.I.C. men at Wexford Railway Station - that was in the summer of '20.

A. At Campile police were disarmed - that would be in the winter of '20 or early '21.

A. Military patrol fired on at Ferrymount, outside New Ross. That would be in May '21.

A. Military convoy of 8 lorries - about May or June '21.

Q. Things were getting hot up to the Truce?

A. They were improving. The three weeks or month before the Truce were the best from the point of view of activities.

A. Three military officers were fired on and wounded in Wexford town also about that period.

A. On numerous occasions men were in position for ambushes - for foot patrols and lorries and the things did not come off.

Q. When did you start these prepared ambushes?

A. There was an attempt to ambush a military patrol in Wexford town in the summer of '20 if not earlier. There was a military patrol coming along the town and we lay out for them; we had arranged to capture them coming back and we were told they would come back in another direction and we went to meet them but the information was wrong - they came back the way they went first.

Q. Were they on foot or in a lorry?

A. On foot.

Q. Have you given an account of the prepared ambushes?

A. No. There was quite a number of attempted ambushes.

Q. You started in the summer of '20? You would have

A. You would have far more. On three different occasions in Wexford alone we waited on police patrols and I think that was very general. I think the British concentrated in Wexford. I think their intention was to confine the fighting to the South. It was not possible to get less than 5 or 6 lorries at a time. That is just my opinion; I could not verify it but I think it may be correct. In one of these attempted ambushes the police were fired on at Foulks Mills Mines were laid on the road and we lay in ambush but the military came out in another direction.

We had only shot-guns; there were only about

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six rifles in the Brigade area until a few months before the Truce.

Q. Had you much explosives?

A. There would have been a certain amount of explosives. There was a big munition depot, in the summer of '20, at Salt Mills (?) where explosives were being manufactured. There was an explosive and 5 men were killed and 5 wounded.

Q. When did that happen?

A. In October '20. All the stuff was destroyed.

Q. What particular kind of explosives were you making?

A. Tonite - hand-grenades. Tonite was seized on a raid on Sloop (?) Light House.

Q. Were did you get the explosives used in the barracks?

A. We made a good lot of it.

Q. You had some stored away?

A. Yes. There was some being made all the time.

Q. Was the stuff you had been making successful?

A. Yes. It was very successful.

A. What is the definition of active service?

Q. For any man who was engaged on military work there will be no bother about testifying his active service.

A. Burning of two military lorries in Wexford in 1920 - the end of '20.

A. Attempt to derail a troop train at Campile - that was called off.

A. Seizure of high explosives from Sloop (?) Light House. That was early in '20. There were three raids on the Light House.

A. Just before the 7th July there was a raid on New Ross Post Office - the town was heavily patrolled.

Q. What was the raid for?

A. For funds - it was a Brigade order.

A. Destruction of the court house in Wexford town, a short distance from the R.I.C. Barracks.

A. That would summarise the activities of the Brigade area up to the period of the Truce.

The Truce Period.

A. During the Truce, in addition to the ordinary training camps, there was a raid organised on Salisbury Plain in England - on the British Camp there for arms.

Q. How many men did you send over for that?

A. Two.

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Q. Did you get anything?

A. We were in touch with two - a sergeant and a man - in Salisbury Plain. They went out in taxis from Newport and they had 30 rifles in the car when the guard was changed and the men had to go on the run. The British sergeant came to Wexford and fought in the civil war and a very good lad he was. Joyce and Synnott were the men's names; we got 30 rifles.

The Civil War Period.

Q. Did you not take over any military posts?

A. We had control of the entire area. In Wexford town there was a military barracks taken over and two police barracks and police and military barracks elsewhere.

I would like to mention the fact that, with the exception of one half company, the entire Brigade as a unit went Republican. Not a single officer went Free State.

Q. Had you anything down in your area corresponding to the flying columns?

A. We had an A.S.U. operating for a number of months. The men took part in the operations I have mentioned.

Q. Had you a man in charge?

A. Yes.

Q. Who was in charge?

A. The column was started about the time of the barrack attacks in April 1921. Part of this column took part in all these activities in co-operation with the Companies.

Q. Tell us your first operation and your last one?

A. The first operation was, I think, the attack in the town of Ross; we had mines in Cushiontown. The police were fired on in Foulks Mills and we had a mine laid on a certain road for the military.

Q. Were all these prepared ambushes to be carried out by your unit?

A. Yes. In co-operation with Company men.

Q. Who would be directing them? Your column?

A. Yes.

Q. It would not be the local officer who would be directing them?

A. No.

Q. Your column?

A. The column. The column was in existence up to the Truce.

Q. Did you keep your column scattered?

A. A certain section were on the run and they kept together.

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Q. How many?

A. About 14. They varied and some men that would not be on the run would go home.

Q. How many men would you regard as being permanently on the column. Men that you would look on from one engagement to another as men that you would have constantly with you?

A. Company men and all?

Q. No. You would only raise the company men for a particular engagement?

A. You would have about 15 or 20.

Q. You would not have more than 20. It would be a column under 30?

A. Yes. It was largely in a sense an experiment; it was a very flat country; it was not possible to keep a big column. Most of the column was composed of officers. This man was O.C. of the Brigade.

Q. He was O.C. of the Brigade before you took charge of the column?

A. I was O.C. of the Brigade and then I took charge of the column.

Q. You were the head bottle-washer. Nobody could issue orders to you?

A. For part of this time.

Q. Were you in charge up to the Truce?

A. No. I was in charge of the column.

Q. Up to the Truce?

A. Yes.

Q. Nobody could issue orders to you up to the Truce?

A. The Brigade O.C.

Q. When was he appointed?

A. About April 1921.

Q. I take it the two of you pulled together and you got a free hand?

A. Yes.

Q. Were there any Brigade operations apart from the column?

A. The column was the Brigade column. The attack on Foulks Mill Barracks was a Brigade operation. It was a heavy attack and lasted all night.

Civil War Period.

A. We had a company of 60 or 70 men in Kilkenny and it was on our instructions that they severed their connection with the Barracks without their officers. All the company, battalion and Brigade officers were offered definite sums of money - so much a wee k. Our Brigade police officer was personally offered by General O'Duffy the position of Deputy Commissioner of the Civic Guards. The reason I mention this is because there are probably not more than six men in the Brigade area in receipt of pensions under Mr.

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Cosgrave's Act.

A. Starting with Enniscorthy.

Q. Enniscorthy. When was that?

A. That was in the beginning of the civil war.

Q. In July?

A. In the first fortnight. Enniscorthy and Ferns were surrounded and captured.

August - attack on Free State troop train at Cool... - 5 killed.

Attack on Free State troops at Whiteford in 1922.

Q. What month?

A. August 1922.

Attack in New Ross in which the Free State guard was disarmed and three Republicans wounded.

Free State lorry bombed at a place called Nash (?).

Q. What was the system of fighting adopted in your area when the civil war came. Had you a field force or was it a question of some other form of fighting?

A. There were about 110 ^{under} arms at the out-break of the civil war in South Wexford and they were divided up in the columns.

Q. How many columns would you have?

A. About four columns and they came together for operations when necessary.

Q. Apart from these four columns the other men stayed in their own areas keeping in touch with the columns?

A. They co-operated. There was a great lot of arrests.

Q. Give us the names of the column leaders?

A. Robert Lambert,
Aiden Cullen,
Patrick Carty
James Furlong.

Q. How long did these columns keep out in the open?

A. All the time until the "cease fire".

Q. With a reduced following?

A. Yes. There were some arrests. During the civil war there were about 500 arrests in South Wexford.

Q. And these column men would be picked up and therefore you would have probably small numbers from the autumn on?

A. As a matter of fact in South Wexford during most of the time there was no Free State posts. Divisional Headquarters were in it and Brigade Headquarters.

Q. After the "cease fire" did they give you much trouble down there?

A. Yes. There was a good lot of raiding and arresting after the "cease fire".

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Q. Did that apply as regards individuals?

A. That is so. They were looking for a number of individuals.

Q. They would be rather limited?

A. There was one man killed after the "cease fire".

Q. How did that happen?

A. In a round up by Free State forces; he was trying to keep clear.

Q. Were they looking for him?

A. They were looking for him; he was an officer.

A. Train ambush at Mackmine - three trains running into the junction were destroyed.....

Engagement at Staplestown (?) with 3rd Battn. column which was 14 strong at this period. It was surrounded by 200 Free State troops and there was a long fight for about three or four hours. Two were killed and the rest fought their way through and got out.

Q. What month was that?

A. January 1923.

Q. We would want the dates of these operations - within a month?

A. We could get those dates; it would be possible to do it now.

Q. It is important when assigning service to a period - it would not matter whether something happened in July or August 1920 but it would be important if it happened in March or April 1921. When sending that along at the same time you might send the complete copies of the Company rolls that you have been asked for of the 4th Battn?

A. The position in the 4th Battn. is this: Cullen is in Dublin and the Battn. Adjutant for the 1st critical date is in Cork and for the 2nd critical date in Chicago and it is impossible to get any of the old officers.

Q. Are not the company officers still there?

A. Unfortunately most of the company officers in Wexford are away in Wales - one Coy. Capt. is dead and two are in England.

Q. Would it be possible to get someone in each company area to undertake the work of compiling the records?

A. It would. The lists already received are correct for the first critical date, as far as I can judge. As far as the second critical date is concerned the same lists would be correct but there may be some names to be added.

Q. Is that the 4th Battn.?

A. Yes. The real key men are not available.

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Q. Surely the next best would be able to do a simple job like that - a good Lieut. could do it?

A. It will be done.

Q. When you are sending them along at the same time you might send us a list of the men of your Brigade that the Committee consider should qualify?

A. Dr. James Ryan was speaking to us in Wexford and he asked us to make out a list of 150 names out of the Brigade area that we considered the best and to send them in. We are doing that.

Q. You will want to complete those records.

A. There was a number of names Dr. Ryan was anxious to have sent in - people who were badly off and in need of a pension.

Q. If a man was badly off and at the same time was one of your good men send him up first?

A. Yes.

Q. We are only concerned with men who had the fighting?

A. We will make out a list of 150 of the best cases.

Q. Whether the men are any good or not it won't make more than a fortnight's difference in the time between the first of the list and the last so long as the application forms are all with us here. It would be advisable for a list of the men on the column on the 11th July '21 to be sent up to us?

A. Yes. And also the lists of the column men for '22.

Q. We call them a field force for that time.

Q. If you sent up 20 names and the leader's name as we might want to ask him about his men?

A. We could arrange for a column O.C. to be sent up.

Q. If you could so arrange it to have your lists prepared for each Battn. and give the names of two or three of the Battn. or Brigade officers who could verify the details of the service of the men on the list before them. The three officers would not be called until the following week so that the transcripts of the evidence would be available and they could be questioned ~~on the~~ regarding the statements made. It would be well to encourage applicants to bring written references from their officers and not to bring up witnesses. When giving these references they should go into detail and describe the various operations - he was in this operation and that operation - and mention generally anything else he wants to mention about his service.

A. Would it be possible to hear a good number of men on the same day?

Q. We hear 20 a day.

A. Twenty from the same place and officers from the same place.

Q. The officers are not to come the same day - the following week would do. We try to arrange it in that way.

A. The Brigade Secretary will arrange that.

A/65/2/10

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Q. Had you a munition factory going down there in the
Tan war?

A. Yes. We mentioned that.

Q. Was there any man full time on that?

A. There was.

Q. If you had a number of men working fairly constantly
it would be possible to let us have a list?

A. Yes.



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Military Service
Pensions Collection

A/65/2/11

SOUTH WEXFORD BRIGADE. I.R.A.Summary of scheme of organization. 1916 to 1921.

Prior to and including Easter Week 1916 the entire Co. Wexford was one Brigade area 'with 3 Battns: Enniscorthy; Wexford; New Ross. New Ross appears to be only a Coy at this time the local Officers say, but the O/C Wexford Battn at this time says New Ross was a Battn.

On the General re-organisation late in 1917 the entire Co. Wexford was still one Brigade area with 4 Battns: Enniscorthy, Gorey, Wexford and New Ross. In October 1920 the Brs. was split in two: North and South. The South Wexford Bde. comprised the New Ross and Wexford Btn. areas. The New Ross Battn. was split in two: 1st (New Ross) & 2nd. (Campile) Btns. The Wexford Btn. was also split in two: 3rd. (Bridgetown) & 4th (Wexford). The South Wexford Bde. acted as an independent unit attached direct to G.H.Q. from Oct. 1920 to about April 1922 when the 3rd. Eastern Div. was formed. Dr Ryan. TD. was first O/C, up to his arrest in 1920.

Thomas O' Hanlon, Gusserranne, New Ross was 2nd O/C. DR. O' SULLIVAN.

Clancys Hotel, Wexford, succeeded him in 1921 and on the formation of the 3rd. East. Division, THOMAS HOWLETT, Dunbrody, Campile, was appointed Bde. O/C and held that rank until after the cease fire order when he was arrested. I think the summary above explains the state of organisation sufficiently for the Pensions Board requirements.

Richard Sinnott Brigade I.O. succeeded T. O'Hanlon as O/C Brigade before appointment of Dr. O'Sullivan.
Francis Carty.



Military Service
Pensions Collection

Easter Week 1916. Wexford Town: 20 men mobilized under Sean Sinnott, Bn. 1st. Order countermanded by Staff Capt. O'Connell, G.H.Q. who arrived while Mobilization was in progress. Men again mobilized under Arms on Tuesday night. Mobilized finally under Bn. O/C on Thursday night 5 Men answered the call on this occasion with 6 Rifles. Sean Sinnott Bn. O/C at this period is in possession of a letter from General O'Connell, verifying countermanding Order. A Coy. of 30 men from Rathangan also Mobilized on the Wexford Road in accordance with previous instructions when counter manding order stoped them. Again mobilized on Tuesday and finally on Thursday, 18 men responded on the last occasion. In New Ross on Sunday night 29 men reported at Corcorans Cross. They were subsequently joined by 12 men from New Ross town. Arms 13 Rifle. Stood to in vicinity for 4 or 5 days before finally disbanding. Phil Lennon, decd. & Joseph McCarthy, South St, New Ross in charge.

March 12th.

1918. app... About 30 men from A. B. C & E Coys. 1st. Btn. and 2 men from A Coy. 2nd. Batn. were on duty at the bye election in Waterford, A fierce riot developed in which several shots were fired. Our men were under fire by R.I.C. and Redmondites.

Same Month. On the occasion of the visit of Eoin McNeill, Sean Milroy & Henry O'Hanrahan to a political meeting at New Ross. the entire New Ross Batn. paraded town and took possession of same for the day, confining the R.I.C. to Barracks.

Same Month. About 12 men from the Wexford Batn. also under fire at Waterford Bye Election referred to above.

May 1918.... On the occasion of an Election meeting in Wexford town, addressed by Father O'Flanagan, a serious riot developed in which about 100 men from Wexford town took part. I do not know if any shots were fired.

1919..... During 1919 and 1920 about 4 men from each Co. in Bde. area were engaged in making Buck shot and filling cartridges. These men were not whole time men but worked during their spare time.

Operation No. 1. April 19th. 1920. A. Co. 1st. Bn. destroyed Rosbercon Police Hut. Reported in Wexford Free Press. 10/4/20.

Oper. No. 2. The entire Co. Wexford Bde. participated in an attack on Clonroche R.I.C. Bks. on April 25th. 1920. The attacking party consisted mostly of Enniscorthy men. App. 5 men from each Coy. in 1st. Bn. blocked roads cut communications and acted as outposts during attack. 9 men from A. Co. 2nd. Bn. did likewise. G. Co. 2nd. Bn. blocked roads. 5 men from A. Co. 3rd. Bn. acted as outpost. This attack was reported in Wexford Free Press. (1/5/20) Attack lasted about 4 hours and had to be abandoned through lack of ammunition. All men engaged were under arms.

Oper. No. 3. May 12th. 1920. The following vacated R.I.C. Bks. were destroyed or wrecked. The units responsible are given after the Bk. Berkly: 2B. 1st Ballinacoola (C. 1st) Ballybrazil: -(B. 2nd) Tintern: -(A & G 2nd) Killinick: -(B. C & A. 3rd) Duncormick: -(B. C. & F. 3rd) Kilmore: -(B. 3rd) Killurin. (H. 4th) & Castlebridge. (G. 4th). Report in Free Press. 15/5/20

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MAR. 1936

SOUTH WEXFORD BRIGADE I.R. A.

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DIARY OF ACTIVITIES. PAGE. 2.Operation No. 4.

DÚN IT GRIOBHTHA

G.H.Q. sent down an Officer, I think Col. Frank Thornton, about May, 25th. 1920. to investigate two alleged Spies in the area. Accompanied by members of the New Ross Btn. the party arrested two Mr Jefferes of Rechestown, New Ross, and a gentleman of same name at Tinne-ranny, New Ross. Both were conveyed to the north of the County by the G.H.Q. Officer, who conducted a courtmartial after which the men were released. About 12.15 men from A & C Coys, 1st. Btn. were under Arms during these Arrests. Reported in Wexford Free Press. May. 29th. 1920.

Operation No. 5. Two R.I.C. men fired at between Wexford & Tagmen. Const. Tarsney slightly wounded. We cannot trace what unit did the job. Refer to Btn. O/C. Francis Carty, for particulars. Report. Wex. Free Press. June. 12th. 1920

Operation No. 6. E. Coy. 1st. Btn. destroyed Ballywilliam R.I.C. Bks. on June 5th. 1920. Reported in Wexford Free Press. June. 12th. 1920.

Operation No. 7. Large quantities of Hay baled for British Military was destroyed on June 14th. 1920. at Ballybrazil, Ballykoregue, Ballysep, and Ballysullane by A & B Coys. 2nd. Btn. Report Free Press. June 19th. 1920.

Operation No. 8. June 19th. 1920. Volunteers from 3rd & 4th. Btms. raided Bar of Lough Coastguard Station, Cullenstown. The coastguards refused to surrend-er and opened fire on the raiders who replied, the exchange lasting about 20 minutes, after which the coastguards surrendered. 5 Revolvers, were captured, no casualties on either side. Report Free Press. June 26th. 1920.

Attempted Operation No. 1. About June 1920. an attack on a large scale was planned for Aurtherstown Bks. R.I.C. The entire 1st. & 2nd. Btms. were under arms for attack and all communications were cut, roads blocked etc. Mines were in readiness for attack, but a transport driver from New Ross who was on his way to a dump to carry exploders, etc. get held up and detained by Military when leaving New Ross. This led to the attack being called off by the then Bde. O/C. Philip Lennen. Since Deed.

Attempted Operation No. 2. About same time, B. & E. Coys. 1st. Btn. in charge of Bn. Officer P. Cleary, lay all night on the Ferry Hill outside New Ross for a patrol of Auxs. who were accustomed to come from Innistigue to New Ross. A mine had been laid on road during the day. The enemy failed to turn up.

Operation No. 9. July 5th. 1920. Large quantities of Govt. Hay destroyed at Ballysullane, & Heresweed by A & B. Coys. 2nd. Btn. Report Free Press. 10/7/20

Operation No. 10. July 9th. 1920. Meter Cycle & Telegraph apparatus the property of the British Postal Authorities Seized from North Station, Wexford, by members of A. Coy. 4th. Btn. Report Free Press. 17/7/20.

Operation No. 11. July 18th. 1920. Members of E. Coy. 3rd. Btn. held up and disarmed two R.I.C. men on road from Rosslare to Killinick. 2 Revolvers captured. Report Free Press. 24/7/20.

Operation No. 12. July 19th. 1920. 4th. Btn. seized about 450 Shell Cases from Messrs. Pierce's Foundry, Wexford, within 200 yds of Military Bks. Report Free Press. 24/7/20

Operation No. 13. Same week. Govt. Hay D. stroyed at Aelare, Ballysep, & Ballykoregue by B. Coy. 2nd. Btn. Report Free Press. 24/7/20.

Operation No. 14. July 28th. 1920. Fethard & Aurtherstown R.I.C. Bks. destroyed by D. & C. Coys. 2nd. Btn. Report Free Press. 31/7/20.

See letter of 7/3/36
Wexford
Munster

A/65/2/14

SOUTH WEXFORD BRIGADE I.R.A. 19 MAR. 1920

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Operation No. 15. July 20th. 1920. B.Co. 3rd. Bn. destroyed Steel Plates, etc. consigned to local R.I.C. Report Free Press. 7/8/20.

Operation No. 16. Aug. 12th. 1920. Ex soldier brandishing Revolver in the public street in Wexford town, promptly disarmed by Volg. from W.A.Co. 4th. Btn. Report Free Press Aug. 14th. 1920.

Note: - About this time the Bde. Column was formed.

Operation No. 17. Aug. 13th. 1920. 4th. Bn. held up Mail Train at Killurin and seized official mails. Report Free Press. 21/8/20.

Operation No. 18. Aug 18th. 1920. 4th. Bn. seized 200 Gls. petrol within 100 yards of Wexford Military Bks.

Operation No. 19. Aug. 16th. 1920. 3rd. Bn. held up train at Killinick Stn. seized Motor Cycle property of P.M.G. Report Free Press. 21/8/20.

Operation No. 20. During the week ending Sept. 4th. 1920. systematic raids for arms were carried out by each Coy. in Bde. area. This was a general order from G.H.Q. Report in Free Press. 4/9/20. all Cos. participated.

Operation No. 21. Official mails raided at Rathgareogue Station by members of Bde. Col. Report Free Press 11/8/20. Similar operation by same unit at Campile Station. Report in same press.

Operation No. 22. Sept. 12th. 1920. 2 R.I.C. men held up at Wexford Station but were unarmed and released. Report Free Press 18/9/20.

Operation No. 23. Sept. 21st 1920. D.Co. 2nd. Bn. raided Hook Tower Lighthouse. Seized gun, cotton, detonators and telescope. Report Free Press. 2/10/20.

Note: - About this time there was continuous and systematic raids for mails. etc. too numerous to enumerate. which continued up to the truce.

Attempted operation No. 3. 5 Col. men lay for Police Car at Dunmain. Enemy failed to turn up. about Sept. 28th. 1920.

Note: - A report of a meeting of the New Ross Technical Instruction meeting may be of interest to the Board. Fr. Harpur is reported to have said that the town was like a little hell. The military seemed to be out of hand and there was volley after volley fired every night. Report Free Press 9/10/20.

Note: - About Oct. 1st. 1920. a large quantity of explosives which had been manufactured at Saltils dump, was sent to G.H.Q.

Operation No. 24. Oct. 12th. 1920. 14 members of G.Co. 2nd. Bn. were making explosives at Bde. dump at Saltils. when a fierce explosion occurred. 5 men were killed or died next day and of the 9 survivors 1 has since died. Report Free Press 16/9/20.

Operation No. 25. Nov. 1920. App. E & F Coys. 2nd. Btn. raided mail car between Foulksmills & Taghmon.

Operation No. 26. Dec 17th. 1920. Bde. Column under Bde. O/C T.O'Hanlon and assisted by all Bde. launched a determined attack on Foulksmills R.I.C. Bks. at 2-30 A.M. The attack lasted until 5-30 A.M. and had to be abandoned for want of ammunition. The Police afterwards admitted that were about to surrender when attackers withdrew. The following units participated in attack:- A. Co. 1st. Bn. - 4 men. D Coy. 1st. Bn. - 5 men. All B.C & D Coys. 1st. Bn. blocked roads and acted as outposts during attack. All Cos. in 2nd. Btn. were similarly engaged. A & D Coys. 3rd. Bn. acted likewise. This attack was carried out with shotguns, revolvers & Bombs, there being NO RIFLES IN BDE. at this time. Report Free Press 24/12/20.

Operation No. 27. Dec. 19th. 1920. 3rd. & 4th. Bn. attempted to capture Carrig on Bannow R.I.C. Bks. It was decided to lay a mine in the house of a man named Walshe who lived under the same roof as the R.I.C. Walshe resisted our men when they entered his house and in the melee, Walshe was mortally wounded. The success of the operation depended on the successful explosion of the mine, which was impossible in view of Walshe's attitude, and our men abandoned attack. Report Free Press 24/12/20.

DIARY OF ACTIVITIES. PAGE 4.

SPECIAL NOTE On Jan 4th. 1921. Wexford County was declared a Martial Law area by proclamation issued by General E.P. Stretland. Cork. Report Wexford Free Press Jan 15th. 1921.

Operation No. 27. All rate collectors in Bde. area, who refused to work for the Local Govt. Dept. of Dail Eireann, were raided and their books seized. Our men were under arms. The following units acted:- G & D Coys. 1st. Bn. G Coy. 2nd. Bn. B. Co. 3rd. Bn. and cannot trace what unit in 4th. Bn. did this job. Report Free Press 15/1/21.

Attempted operation No. 4. Jan 6th. 1921. 6 men from Bde. Column assisted by local members of B. Co. 1st. Bn. prepared ambush for Police, who used to raid Rathgarogue Chapel after Mass, but enemy failed to turn up.

Attempted operation No. 5. Shortly after No. 4. Att. Op. a dance was organised at Campile and enemy informed of same at New Ross, as dances were banned by enemy at this time. About 40 men from Bde. Col. assisted by local Volunteers from 2nd. Bn. prepared ambush on the two roads leading from New Ross to Campile. Enemy failed to turn up. Our men waited all night.

Operation No. 28. Jan 11th. 1921. Hook Lighthouse raided by D Co. 2nd. Bn. An electric Battery and Cables seized. Report Free Press 15/1/21.

Attempted Operation No. 6. Jan 14th. 1921. Bde. Col. and B & E Coys. 1st. Bn. prepared ambush for party of Auxies, which were to have come from Inistoguen to New Ross. B. Co. laid mine on road in the middle of day. Our men lay all night but enemy failed to turn up.

Operation No. 29. App Feb. 1921. On receipt of information that an R.I.C. man from Duncannon had gone to Waterford by boat, 3 men from Bde. Col. boarded boat at Ballyhack but failed to find the R.I.C. man.

Operation No. 30. March 3rd. 1921. Each Co. in Bde. area trenched roads in the entire Bde. area. Report Free Press 12/3/21.

Attempted Operation No. 7. Mar 7th. 1921. App. 16 men from Bde. Col. with the assistance of local Vols. from 4th. Bn. planned attack on R.I.C. patrol in Wexford town. In case patrol was attacked, a section of the Bde. Col. was to have attacked Bks. when fired would open, to prevent reinforcements going to R.I.C. patrol's assistance. Scouts reported that R.I.C. were confined to Bks. and both operations were called off.

Operation No. 31. Mar 12th. 1921. B. Co. 3rd. Bn. attacked Bridgetown R.I.C. Bks. for 15 minutes. Sniping attack. Report Free Press:- 19/3/21.

Operation No. 32. Mar 12th. 1921. G. Co. 2nd. Bn. destroyed Aurtherstown R.I.C. Courthouse. Report Free Press 19/3/21.

Operation No. 33. March 18th. 1921. D Co. 1st. Bn. attacked police patrol at Foulkswills. Const. Dunne wounded. Report Free Press 26/3/21. In conjunction with above an ambush was prepared by 1st. Bn. at Cushinstown for Military going to Foulkswills from New Ross to investigate. A mine was laid on road, our men waited in turn for three days but enemy went another route.

Note :- About this time E. Co. 1st. Bn. was divided into 2 Cos. E & F. Coys.

Note No. 2. About this time 8 Rifles arrived in Bde. area from G.H.Q. It is to be noted that all attacks prior to this date were carried out with Revolvers Shot Guns and fuse bombs only.

Operation No. 34. Mar 28th. 1921. A. Co. 2nd. Bn. sniped Duncannon R.I.C. Bks. The attack lasting several minutes. Report Free Press 2/4/21.

Operation No. 35. April 1st. 1921. E. Co. 4th. Bn. raided Oulart Petty Sessions Clerk for Dog License money. The Clerk, a Mr. Lee resisted and was mortally wounded. Report Free Press 9/4/21.

Operation No. 36. D. Co. 1st. Bn. attacked Foulkswills R.I.C. Bks. April 1st. 1921. This was a sniping attack as ordered by G.H.Q. Report Free Press 9/4/21

Operation No. 38. Mar 31st. 1921. D. Co. 1st. Bn. carried out sniping attack on Foulksmills R.I.C. Bks. Report Free Press 9/4/21.

Attempted Operation No. 8. April 1921. App. 7 members of Bde. Column lay for Police Patrol which used to come from Duncannon to Campile Stn. At the same time a large party of military arrived at Station by rail and our men did not attack police.

Attempted Operation No. 10. April 1921. App. 12 men from E Co. 3rd. Bn. lay for Belice Patrol between Ressler's Harbour and Ressler's Strand. Enemy failed to turn up.

Operation No. 40. April 2nd, 1921. A Crossley Car and a Lorry, consigned to military at Wexford were destroyed by fire. Refer to Francis Carty, Bn.O/6 for unit responsible. Report Free Press 9/4/21.

Operation No. 41, April 14th. 1921. Duncormick and Killinick Courthouses destroyed by Exs B & E and B.C. & E. Coys. 3rd. Bn. Duncormick was reported in Free Press 23/4/21. No Report on Killinick. in local press. *incom*

Operation No. 43. April 23rd, 1921. B & G Coys. 2nd. Bn. carried out sniping attack on Duncannon R.I.C.Bks. Report Free Press 30/4/21.

-Operation No. 44. April 27th, 1921. F. Co. 1st. Bn. attacked Glenreeche R.I. C Bks. with shot guns, 1 Revolver and fuse bombs for 30 minutes. Report Free Press 7/5/21. This attack will seem strange inasmuch as Glenreeche is in N. Wexford Bde. area. Nevertheless it was attacked by the unit named but I think there was some trouble about it afterwards, due to complaints by the officers of the North Wexford Bde.

Operation No. 46. April 27th. 1921. Foulkswills R.I.C. Bks. attacked by E. Co. 2nd. Bn. Report Free Press May 7th. 1921.

068XXXXXX48 May 11th 1921 Treaty with the Government of the United States of America

PLIT PERIOD CONTD. FROM PAGE 7. from Kilkenny on orders from Bde. O/C. AT PRESENT WE BELIEVE "NOT MORE THAN 6 MEN FROM BDE. AREA. ARE IN RECEIPT OF PENSIONS UNDER COSGARAVE'S 1924 ACT."

CIVIL WAR PERIOD. During this period there were a Column in each Bn. area. Occasionally the 4 Columns came together for a large operation. It would be impossible to enumerate all the activities of the area during this period, so I will content myself to give only the major operations and the app. dates as I have no old papers to go on.

Operation No. 67. Wexford Military & R.I.C. Bks. New Ross R.I.C. Bks. Rosslare Harbour R.I.C. & Duncannon R.I.C. Bks. taken over from British. About Feb. or March 1922.

Operation No. 68. July 1922. About 50 men from Bde. took part in the capture of Enniscorthy and Ferns Free State posts. This was a Div. Operation with Div. O/C P. Fleming in charge. 2 of our men wounded.

Operation No. 69. 4th. Bn. Col. attacked F.S. Treeps in Train at Killurin. 5 F.S. treeps Killed. about Aug. 1922.

Operation No. 70. 1st. Bn. Col. sniped New Ross Post at least twice weekly during this period. Different officers in charge.

Operation No. 71. 2nd. Bn. Col. surrounded at Kneekes, Campile by enemy convey. Enemy fired on and our men got safely away. About Aug. 1922.

Operation No. 72. Wexford Military Bks. continually sniped during this period by 3rd. Bn. Column.

Operation No. 73. Aug. 1922. 4th. Bn. Col. captured Ferryarrig F.S. Post, 1 F.S. killed. Machine Gun & 14 Rifles Captured. In conjunction with above. 3rd. Bn. Col. assisted by Wexford town A.S.U. attacked all posts in Wexford town to prevent reinforcements reaching Ferryarrig.

Operation No. 74. Aug. 1922. 1st. Bn. Column under Bde. Adj. attacked F.S. Lorry at Ballymacar. Reinforcements arrived and surrounded our men on hill, but they got away safely without any loss.

Operation No. 75. 2nd. Col. under Bde. O/C attacked F.S. Convey near New Ross. 1 F.S. wounded. about Aug. 1922.

Operation No. 76. 4th. Bn. Col. attacked 6 F.S. Lorrys at Whitefort, 6 F.S. wounded. about Aug. 1922.

Operation No. 77. 2nd. Bn. Col. with Div. Officers in charge, attempted to capture New Ross F.S. Post. Our men went right to the door, disarmed sentry and had almost succeeded when enemy opened fire with machine guns wounding 2 of our men. no other casualties. about Sept. 1922.

Operation No. 78. 3rd. Bn. Col. attacked Wexford Military Bks. Sept. 1922.

Operation No. 79. F.S. Lorry bomber at Nash Turn outside New Ross, by 2 Bde. officers. 3 F.S. wounded. Oct. 1922.

Operation No. 80. 1st. Bn. Vice O/C and 5 men from F. Co. 1st. Bn. attacked F.S. Treeps at Ballywilliam. Oct. 1922.

Operation No. 81. About same time 3rd. Bn. Col. attacked F.S. Treeps twice at Bridgetown & Rathrenan.

Operation No. 82. 2nd. Bn. Col. attacked F.S. Convey at Dunmain. Lt. Leonard wounded. Oct. 1922.

Operation No. 83. G. Coy. bombed F.S. Lorry at Cuhinstown. Nov. 1922. 1 Killed & 6 enemy wounded.

Operation No. 84. Nov. 1922. 1st & 2nd. Bn. Columns under Bde. Q.M. attacked F.S. Treeps at Ballinaberna.

Operation No. 85. Nov. 1922. 4th. Bn. Col. bomber F.S. Lorry at Ferryarrig 5 F.S. Killed.

DIARY OF ACTIVITIES. PAGE 6.

Carried out by Nth. Wexford Bn

Operation No. 48. May 11th. 1921. Train conveying Military was ambushed at Killurin. Report Free Press 14/5/21. Refer to Francis Carty, Bn. O/C for further particulars.

Operation No. 49. May 10th. 1921. Duncannon R.I.C. Bks. attacked by C & D Coys. 2nd. Bn. for 30 Minutes. Report Free Press 14/5/21.

Attempted Operation No. 13. On May 11th. 12th. 13th. & 14th. members of B. C. F & F. Coys. 1st. Bn. respectively waited for Police Patrols in New Ross. Simultaneously members of Bde. Col. were in readiness to snipe Bks. should fire open. Police Patrols never turned up but on the last occasion Bde. Col. sniped Bks.

Attempted Operation No. 14. April 1921. App. On the destruction of Ki liniek Courthouse, Police and Military from Wexford arrived to investigate. Duncannon Courthouse was then destroyed with the object of drawing enemy out again. Vice O/C and 3 men brought a mine from Bn. dump and set same to explode with a cable. Capt of B. Coy. was to explode mine, but G.H.Q. Officer, Capt Hughes arrived on scene and would not allow mine to be exploded. Mine was subsequently taken to safety. *3rd Bn. etc.*

Operation No. 50. May 1st. 1921. G. Coy. 3rd. Bn. dug trap trench at Braedway. Enemy lorry ran into same and wrecked.

Operation No. 51. May 16th. 1921. Rosslare R.I.C. Bks attacked by H E. Coy. 3rd. Bn. Report Free Press 21/5/21.

Operation No. 52. Bridgetown R.I.C. Bks. attacked by B. Coy. 3rd. Bn. on same date. Report Free Press 21/5/21.

Operation No. 53. May 17th. 1921. Foulksmills R.I.C. Bks. attacked by D. Coy. 1st. Bn. Report Free Press 21/5/21.

Operation No. 54. May 19th. 1921. Dist Ins. McGovern. R.I.C. fired at and wounded in Wexford town. Report Free Press. 21/5/21. Refer to Francis Carty, Bn. O/C for unit responsible.

Attempted Operation No. 15. D. Coy. 4th. Bn. waited for Military at Whitefoot which were returning to Wexford after carrying out reprisals at Courtown Harbr. Enemy did not arrive. May 1921 App.

Attempted operation No. 16. Bn. O/C and 3 men from B. Coy. 1st. Bn. waited for Police at Palace East, Chapel & Carrigbyrne, travelling from place to place on receipt of information armed with rifles. Enemy failed to turn up.

Operation No. 55. May 28th. 1921. Foulksmills, R.I.C. Bks. attacked by members of D. Coy. 1st. Bn. Report Free Press 4/6/21.

Operation No. 56. Same period. G. Coy. 1st. Bn. with Bde. D/Training seized books, etc. from Petty Sessions Clerk's office within 50 yds enemy post.

Operation No. 57. May 1921 app. G. Coy. 3rd. Bn. captured Lt. Barrett, officer i/e Carne Wireless Station and captured Revolver.

Attempted Operation No. 17. 6 men from A. Co. 3rd. Bn. waited for Police coming from Wexford at Johnstown. Enemy went another road. June 1921.

Operation No. 58. 2 R.I.C. men disarmed at North Station, Wexford town. June 1921. 4th. Bn. job. Refer to Francis Carty for unit responsible.

Operation No. 59. June 14th. 1921. Horses assigned to British Military let loose from train at Ballyanne by B. Co. 1st. Bn.

Attempted Operation No. 18. App. June 1921. Bde O/C and Bde & Bn Staff 2nd. Bn. waited several days in succession to attack police at Duncannon strand. The Police arrived but were always accompanied by local female friends and attack could not be carried out.

Operation No. 60. June 18th. 1921. Wexford Courthouse burned whilst town was held by 250 enemy. Report Free Press 23/6/21.

DIARY OF ACTIVITIES. PAGE N 7.

Operation No. 61. App. June 1921. B. Co. 1st. Bn. while attempting to destroy Ferry Mount Garrett Bridge were surprised by Military from New Ross. Cos. outpost opened fire on Military with shot guns and the Co. got safely away.

Attempted Operation No. 19. About same time E. Co. 1st. Bn. lay for Police Patrol at Palace East. Enemy failed to turn up.

Attempted Operation No. 20. About this time A. Co. 1st. Bn. made several attempts to burn New Ross Bridge in the midst of 100 enemy, but each attempt had to be abandoned. No shooting occurred.

Operation No. 62. Ferry Mount Garrett Bridge completely destroyed on July 3rd. 1921. by B & F Cos. 1st. Bn. Report Free Press 9/7/21.

Operation No. 63. New Ross Post Office raided July 7th. 1921. by Bn. I/O and about 10 men from D. Co. 1st. Bn. This raid was for funds and was carried whilst there was about 200 Troops patrolling town. All our men got safely away except Thomas Furlong, Raheenakennedy, who was captured with a revolver. Report Free Press 9/7/21.

Operation No. 64. App. July or June 1921. A Convey of 8 enemy Lorrys were attacked by 4 or 5 men from D. Co. 4th. Bn. at Kyle Wexford.

Operation No. 65. Two R.I.C. men captured and disarmed at Tagheen by F Co. 4th. Bn. about July 1921.

Note:- The above list concludes the activities of the area up to the Truce.

The app. equipment of the Bde. was as follows at July 11th. 1921:-
8 Service Rifles. 25 Revolvers & 400 Shot guns.

The App. strength of enemy in area was:- 600 and the area was patrolled by Aux. Co. from Innistieghue, Co. Kilkenny.

Operation No. 66. During the truce period, contact was made with two friendly British Soldiers who were home on furlough from Salisbury Plains, England. It was arranged for some of our men to go across but plans went astray and our men only succeeded in getting 30 Rifles. The 2 British soldiers had also to desert and afterwards fought with our troops during the Civil war. Complete details of this operation can be had from Dr. O'Sullivan or Francis Carty who were Bde. O/C and Bde. Adj. respectively at this period. *Refer also to Richard Sinnott, who carried out this operation. Francis Carty.*

IMMEDIATELY after the Truce a Bde. Camp was started at Ballylane, New Ross and all the Bde. Bn. and Co. Officers were drilled and trained there by G.H.Q. Officers. For all practical purposes the Bde. and Bn. Staffs were practically whole time men during this period.

On Bde. Camp terminating, there was a Camp started in each Bn. run generally by Bn. Staff and Co. officers assisted in most cases. Every man in area was drilled in the Bn. Camps. which lasted up to the time the TREATY was signed.

At the time of the Split, the entire Bde. (with the exception of one half of D. Co. 1st. Bn. and a few individual men from the area) remained loyal to Republican Ideals. All Bde. Bn. and Co. officers were offered fixed salaries to remain loyal to Beggars Bush, which were refused. Bde. Police Officer R. Sinnott was personally offered Deputy Commissionership of Civil Guards. Entire Co. of 60 men withers

A/65/2/20

Operation No. 86. 3rd Bn. Cel. ambushed F.S. Troops at Aughnagan, 2
1 B. Killed. Dec. 1922.

Operation No. 87. The 4 Bn. Columns merged to attack F.S. Troops at
Maemine Station. 1 F.S. Officer Killed. 14 enemy with arms captured and
three trains destroyed. Dec. 1922.

Operation No. 88. 3rd Bn. Cel. surrounded by 200 F.S. forces at Spencerekin
stown. After a fight lasting 3 Hours, 12 of our men got safely away and
2 of our men were killed. Jan 10th. 1923.

Operation No. 89. F. S. Pay Car attacked at Kyle by 4th Bn. Cel. Machine
Gun & 4 Rifles captured. Jan 23rd. 1923.

Operation No. 90. Following the execution of 3 I.R.A. by F.S. Troops in
Wexford. Div. Officers with Bde. Officers and Members of D. Co. 1st Bn.
captured 4 F. S. Troops at Ballagh, New Ross. 1 F.S. resisted and was
wounded. The 3 others were taken to Adamstown and executed as a reprisal
for the Wexford executions. This occurred in March 1923.

Operation No. 91. 3rd. & 4th Bn. Cels. attacked F.S. Convey at Greery,
Castlebridge. in March 1923. 2 F.S. Killed and 1 Wounded. Machine gun and
Rifles captured. Subsequently enemy reinforcements arrived and opened fire
on a number of our men retreating from original ambush. In this latter
engagement 4 of our men were killed in action.

Note:- In addition to the above major operations, there were several
minor incidents too numerous to enumerate. Every bridge in Bde. area
was demolished. Several trains, were wrecked and all general orders
carried out.

ENEMY STRENGTH:- The enemy strength of the area at times during the
civil war reached 5000. The usual strength was greater than the whole
enemy strength in Waterford, Carlow & Kilkenny combined.
After the cease fire order the enemy made systematic raids for our men,
arms, etc. and it is to the credit of the South Wexford Bde. to be able
to say that no arms were ever captured. In one of these raids, about
June. 1923. Connat. M. Rafferty, O/C 3rd Bn. was shot dead whilst
attempting to escape from enemy at Temhaggard, Wexford.



Military Service
Pensions Collection

A/65/2/21

Military Archives

THE SECRETARY,
THE MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS BOARD,
DUBLIN.

Sir,

I am instructed by the Members of the Brigade
and 2nd Battalion Committees to make the following
alterations on the Report of Operations already
furnished, and also to add some important operations
that were omitted.

SIGNED:

Thomas O'Haulon Member of Brigade Committee

Thomas O'Connell Member of Brigade Committee

Patrick Carty Member of No 2 Batt. Committee

Frank Meyer

Andrew Bailey. Sec Sec

**Military Service
Pensions Collection**

A/65/2/22

(2)

Attempted operation No. 3. should read : -

Two Members of A.S.U. assisted by 3 men from A. Coy. 2nd Batt. lay in ambush for Police car at Dunmain from 2 O.C. until 6 O.C. in the afternoon. The Police returned by some other route.

Operation No. 26. should read : -

Foulksmills R.I.C. was attacked on the night of the 17th Decr. 1920. The attack lasted about 3 hours and had to be called off owing to ammunition running out. The following units took part in the attack: - Ten men from the A.S.U. assisted by 14 men from A. Coy., 20 men from B. Coy. No. 2. Batt. & 3 men from A. Coy. No. 1. Batt. The following Coys. blocked roads and acted as outposts:- C.D.E.F. & G. Coys. No. 2. Batt. and B.C. & D. Coys. No. 1. Batt.

Attempted operation No. 5. should read : -

In January, 1921 a dance was organised at Campile and enemy at New Ross informed indirectly. Ambushes were prepared on the two roads leading from New Ross to Campile in the vicinity of Campile. Our men waited all night but the enemy failed to turn up. The following units took part : - 7 members of the A.S.U. A. Coy., 14 men, B. Coy. 25 men, & C. Coy. 5 men (2nd. Batt.)

Operation No. 39 should read : -

An ambush was prepared for a train at Campile Station on which a party of Military were expected to travel. The train was held up and rushed but only one Auxiliary armed with a Revolver was on board who surrendered. The following Units took part: - 10 men from A.S.U., 12 men from A. Coy. and 22 men from B. Coy. 2nd Battalion.

Omitted : - Attempted train Ambush. (1) On information being received that Military were travelling on night Express an Ambush was prepared at Ballycullane and the train held up. About 40 Military were on board but were unarmed. All their Military equipment was seized. The following Units took part : - A. Coy. 21 men, B. Coy. 8 men & G. Coy. 17 men (2nd Batt.) (2) A similar hold-up was carried out during the month of November in Ballycullane. Military were again on board but again unarmed. Their equipment was removed. The following Units took part : - A. Coy. 16 men, B. Coy. 9 men, & G. Coy. 4 men (2nd Batt.)

Duncannon & Foulksmills R.I.C. Barracks were sniped each week for six months prior to the truce by one or other of the Coys. in the Batt. area. We wish to make a special plea for the eight survivors of the Saltsmills explosion whose health is greatly impaired as a result of same

A/65/2/23

(3)
(Contd.)

Their names are : -

John Timmins
Patrick Reville
Patrick Grady
Michael Conway
Thomas Gleeson
Edward Kelly
Stephen Barron
Thomas Kinsella.

Omitted: Raid on Hook Tower.

On the night of 31st May, 1920 a Raid was made on the Hook Tower from which 37 cwts. of Tonite, 2 boxes of Electric Detonators and some field ~~gun~~ equipment were removed. 12 men from New Ross Batt. and 2 men from North Wexford took part.

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A/6572/24

Ref.No.

P.B.6. in reply to yours of the March 21st. Ref.No.R.O. 546.

Sec. Military Service Pensions Board,
Dublin.A/mc 24th 1926

a card,

I am directed by the Bde. Comm. to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st. ult. Ref. No. 546.

Regarding a more detailed statement re Easter week activities we referred this matter to the officers concerned:- viz Sean Sinnett O/C Wexford District and Jes McCarthy, senior surviving officer New Ross district. The following additional statement has been received from Jes. McCarthy concerning the New Ross Area:- "New Ross and Ballywilliam sections were mobilised by order from G.H.Q. on April 23rd. 1916. to proceed to Scellap Gap. Ballywilliam Sec. in charge of Lt. Jes McCarthy were proceeding on the way and had halted at Cerecorans Cross to await arrival of New Ross section under Capt. Phil Lennen, Deed. On arrival of New Ross section Capt. Phil Lennen brought the information that Capt. O'Connell, G.H.Q. officer had been to New Ross, cancelled orders, and gave orders to await further instructions. The sections were in touch with Capt. O'Connell, who was in Kilkenny, during the week. The New Ross party were arrested on May 4th. These sections believed they would have important duties to perform as Capt. O'Connell had been to New Ross frequently before the Rebellion and had given courses of instructions in field work on strategy, particularly in connection the Rivers Barrow & Nore and the Blackstairs Mountains where Scellap Gap is situated. On last occasion of Capt. O'Connell to New Ross he left Capt. O'Connell, another G.H.Q. Officer in New Ross who was recalled to Dublin on the eve of Easter Sunday. The New Ross section were armed with Rifles got from J.J. Walshe when he was living at Phibsboro and the O'Rahilly, deed. Herbert Place. The Ballywilliam section were armed with shot guns=".

We have received no reply to our query to Mr. Sinnett, but when same comes to hand, we will forward same. It must be understood that the Bde. Comm. does not verify Mr. McCarthy's statement. We merely ask questions of the Officers concerned and duplicate them to the Board.

Regarding your query re the strength of Coys. at 2nd. critical date we would point out that:-

- a. That an extensive recruiting campaign was carried out during the period the Bde. Training Camp was in operation.
- b.. At the time of the split all the Officers and men of the Bde. with the exception of half of D. Co. 1st. Bn. and a few isolated cases remained loyal to Republican ideals.
- c... All the Barracks vacated by the British Military and R.I.C. in the entire Bde. area were taken over and occupied by our troops up to about July 20th. app. when the first Free State troops entered the

A/65/2/25

SOUTH WEXFORD BRIGADE I.R.A.

Continuation Sheet. New. Ref. No. P.B.6.

C. cent... area, In fact some of the men who joined after the Truce gave very good service during the civil war. We think that the statements herein explains why the strength of the Coys. at the 2nd. critical date was so much in excess of the 1st. critical date.

Regarding the necessity for the amalgamation of the Coys. at the 2nd. critical date, we would point out that there are some inaccuracies in the Coy. Rolls at the 2nd. critical date inasmuch as there were more Coys. amalgamated than is given down in the Rolls already supplied. As far as we can remember there was a Bde. order during the Truce to have only 4 Coys. in each Bn. I append on a separate sheet a complete list of the amalgamated Coys. with the Officers names. but we would point out that some of these Coys. were afterwards split again when the civil war started and this is the cause of mistake in the original rolls.

is wise,

Thomas Rowlett Member Bde. Comm.

Thomas O'Hanlon do.

Andrew Bailey Sec. Bde. Comm.

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A/65/2/26 South Westford ~~Winged banner~~
Easter Week Period Retent

John
area re East Week activities 1916.

at Baily.

Bde Lee. Lt Wex Rd

A/65/2/29

(1)

The activities of Easter 1916
on Thursday April 20th I received
orders from Commandant P. J. Pearse
for a mobilization of the Volunteers
on Sunday 23rd at 7 P.M. to
commence hostilities against the
British. At the same time I
received an order from the British
Chief of Staff, which order was
in conflict with the order of
Commandant Pearse.

After a consultation with
the Brigade officers I issued
orders to the Wexford Batt. to
mobilise on Sunday evening at 7
P.M. at Belmont 3 1/2 miles
from Wexford Town and 1/4 mile
from a Railway Bridge which
spans the Rd at Ferrybank
and quite close to the Railway
tunnel. The object in calling
the mobilization for that

(2)

part, was because the first operation of the Battalion was the destruction of the Bridge. The Battalion at the time consisted of 2 Companies. Wesford Town about 25 men, and Baldwinstown Company about 30 men, and 5 or 6 men unattached to any Company. The arms consisted of 2 Howitz Rifles 1 long and one short Martini. Ringle shot 3 Revolvers and some shot guns, with ammunition for all arms to last about 15 minutes.

On Sunday Evening about 5 o'clock Mr J J O'Connell arrived in Wesford with an order from the Chief of Staff cancelling all mobilisations for Easter Sunday. This order was accepted by the officer present and orders were immediately issued to

Martin Fortune
Slade
Myo

Our men cancelling our first order, as some of the men had already arrived in the vicinity and most of the men were on their way, the order had a very bad effect, and made any further successful mobilization in the Ball area almost impossible. On

Monday and Tuesday different orders and counter orders were coming in and, an state of General Confusion existed.

Late on Wed evening we received a message that a troopship was due to arrive at Ballygeary Pier on Thursday morning and the troops would train to Dublin. Some Railway men offered to derail the train and block the line if possible Thursday morning at 2 a.m.

A/65/2/30.

Military Archives

Received word that the
Enniscorthy Batt had seized
the Town. Immediately set
out accompanied with another
officer for Staplestown. The
Centre of our Batt area.

The strength of the Wexford
garrison at this time was
100 Police 300 Special Constables
and a detachment of military,
commanded by Col French
with H.Q. at Ferrybank.

On arriving at Staplestown. I
sent a messenger to Baldurinstown
with orders for the men to proceed
to Staplestown. and another to
Wexford Town to the same
effect. I understood the
Baldurinstown men misunderstood
the message and mobilised
at Baldurinstown Cross and
dispersed after some time

A/65/2/31

Military Archives

5 men came out from Wesford
Town. I may mention here an
incident which might have
altered the situation. Had it
developed, at 10 o'clock am. on
Thursday morning a patrol of
police were reported coming
down a lane leading to a house
at which myself and 3 other
men were assembled. We took
up positions under cover with
what arms we had and waited
the arrival of the police, we
remained in this position for
a half hour, after that time we
received word that the police
had come down portion of the
lane and returned to the main Rd
at 2 or 3 am. Friday morning
we had eight men at our
disposal, and as we were
completely cut off every place

Military Service
Pensions Collection

A/65/2/32

Military Archives

(6)

The only thing we could do
was to secure whatever arms
we had and despatch to
get some rest + food, our
intention was if the
opportunity offered was to
strike at some isolated
place in the rear of the military
Barracks as the surrender came so
quickly we did not get that
chance

Thijs Oepi

Measuroud

Military Service
Pensions Collection

A/65/2/33

Hyph
5th copy required
to day 11.

CARRAIG RUADH.

LOCH GARMAN.



7adh., MEITHEAMH, 1936.

Do'n Runaidhe,
Bord Pinsin,
Arus Uí Griobhtha,
Baile Atha Cliath.

A Chara,

I attach herewith statement regarding Easter Week at Enniscorthy as requested. This statement should be read in conjunction with the statement of Seumas Doyle and with the map already submitted.

In connection with the examination of my own claim which the Board undertook last Wednesday I would like to correct two statements made then. I find, on consulting the Brigade Committee and the records compiled by them. that the number of men in the Brigade was twelve hundred. I believe that I stated in evidence that it was about 900. In connection with my own period of suspension my recollection on this point was not accurate. I would be glad of an opportunity to correct those two matters when up next Saturday.

Mise, le meas,

James D. Quinn
(T.D. Quinn)
Military Service
Pensions Collection

STATEMENT OF F.D. SINNOTT SUBMITTED TO MILITARY SERVICE PENSION BOARD IN SUPPORT OF THE CLAIM OF ENNISCORTHY VOLUNTEERS FOR FULL SERVICE ALLOWANCES IN RESPECT OF EASTER WEEK, 1916.

1. To accurately estimate the nature and scope of the Easter Week Insurrection at Enniscorthy some idea of the work of preparation is essential. Three organisations prepared the way for revolution and each organisation was controlled openly or secretly by the same individuals. Firstly, the I.R.B., from whose Circles came the controllers of every activity intended to make military action inevitable, arranged for the "Working Party" constantly engaged in the making of munitions and for the raids which provided the raw material upon which the Party worked; secondly, the Irish Volunteer Units trained, drilled and studied to acquire the military knowledge necessary to a successful revolution, and thirdly, the Gaelic League through Sunday night lectures, prepared the public mind for the Easter Week effort.

The Enniscorthy Units were regarded pre-Easter Week as amongst the most earnest and determined in the Movement and Padraic Pearse appealed successfully to Enniscorthy on more than one occasion. Plaster of Paris moulds for Buckshot which were in use at General H.Q. were replaced towards the end of 1914 by iron moulds made by James Cleary of Enniscorthy; a considerable quantity of gunpowder was supplied to the Kimmage garrison in November 1915 (Liam Mellows) and a further quantity was sent in the Christmas of the same year (Capt. Tom Wafer). Gunpowder sent just prior to the Insurrection did not reach Kimmage through no fault of the Enniscorthy Units. Quantities of Pike-heads were also made at Enniscorthy to H.Q.

specification by James Cleary. (The Witness will submit a

copy of the specification)

2. Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow and Wexford were to act as one Unit in the projected Insurrection and were to be commanded by Cmdt. J.J. O'Connell. Pearse's order for Insurrection on Easter Sunday was received by the Adjutant of the skeleton Wexford Brigade on Holy Thursday. The Adjutant, Seumas Doyle, has already submitted a statement which will give the Board some idea of the conflicting nature of the orders following each other in more or less rapid succession. The fact that Insurrection was decided on despite these orders and despite the fact that the country had not responded to Pearse's call is, in itself, proof of the sincerity and determination of the officers and men of the Enniscorthy Units. (The position in Enniscorthy from Holy Thursday to the following Wednesday has been dealt with by Seumas Doyle in his statement). From Holy Thursday an armed Guard had been placed on the arms depot. On the Wednesday night, when the first action was ordered, it was known that the landing of arms had failed, that the Countermanding Order had been obeyed in almost every area, that a General Rising would not occur and that sacrifice was more certain than success. In this atmosphere a party was detailed for the destruction of the Rosslare-Dublin railway line and orders were given for an immediate and complete mobilisation. The temper of the men who had been practically under arms from Easter Saturday night was such as to indicate that Insurrection would be attempted in Enniscorthy whatever the position in the remainder of the country.
3. The first action occurred near the Boro' Bridge on the Rosslare-Dublin railway line on Wednesday night. The place was being guarded by a Police patrol. The Volunteer Party consisting of James O'Brien, James Healy, William Boyne and John Tomkins, came in touch with the Police patrol.

The police had carbines and the Volunteer party revolvers. Several shots were exchanged. Tomkins shot the cap off a Police Inspector, was captured and afterwards sentenced to twenty years imprisonment. The other combatants lost touch.

The Bridge was destroyed on Thursday.

The main body fell in opposite the Arms' depot at Keegan's house in the Irish Street about 4 o'clock, a.m., on Thursday morning. Rifles and shot-guns were handed out and the Army marched to take over the town under the command of Cmdt. P.P. Galligan. Orders were given that the R.I.C. were not to be attacked unless it became evident that they meant to attack the Republican forces. The general direction was that they were to be driven into Barracks where they could be later compelled to surrender. Their carbines and ~~ammunition~~ ^{them} were needed and it was hoped to acquire ^{them} without waste of ammunition. At the junction of Irish Street with the Market Square parties were detailed to patrol the principal streets, whilst the main body proceeded to the Town Hall (Athenaeum), which they took over as H.Q. The proclamation of the Irish Republic was read and posted on the Market House by the Brigade Adjutant, Seumas Doyle, and the Tri-colour was run up and saluted by a Firing-party. The patrol which went up by the present Rafter Street to John Street fell in with an R.I.C. patrol and several shots were exchanged, the Police retreating to Barracks. Richard Donohoe and Thomas Doyle were afterwards sentenced to ten years in connection with this. It was the third member of the patrol who actually was engaged - Michael Cahill. The Barracks to which the R.I.C. had retreated was then surrounded by a circle of pickets and intermittent sniping took place during the day.

Constable Grace was seriously wounded and his removal to hospital was permitted. The R.I.C. returned the snipers' fire and kept up a ragged fire on H.Q. for some hours. They refused to surrender.

4. A Headquarters staff was first organised. Robert Brennan, Quartermaster of the Brigade who had come from Wexford, was appointed, in the absence of the Brigade Cmdt., C. in C.; Peter Paul Galligan was appointed to command the Army in the field; Cmdt. Seumas Rafter commanded the Town garrison; Seumas Doyle continued in his position of Adjutant; Sean R. Etchingham acted as Captain on H.Q. staff; Michael De Lacey was appointed in charge of the Commisariat and as general controller of food supplies; T.D. Sinnott was appointed ^{to} control egress from and ingress to the area held by the Army, to issue permits to travel to civilians and to censor any outgoing or incoming communications; Philip Murphy was appointed to attest recruits and arrange for their training; Denis O'Brien was appointed in charge of transport; Patrick Keegan combined with many other duties the position of Quartermaster; John Murphy became on the following day Military Governor of Ferns, and many other appointments became necessary as the area of control widened.
- A party was sent to Edermine on the main road to Wexford to block the road there and to leave an outpost; sentries were posted on all the approaches to the town and a system of regular patrols arranged.
- Towards the mid-day parties were despatched to all the houses in the Enniscorthy district where arms were thought to be, motor cars were brought in from the entire neighbourhood to H.Q., and lorries and other forms of motor transport were collected.

The railway line between Enniscorthy and Wexford was destroyed, possession taken of the Railway station and an engine and carriages prepared to accompany the northward march of the Army whose first objective on the coastline direction was Arklow, all the roads towards Wexford blocked and posts established to hold up the advance of the British whilst selected vantage points were being manned. Towards evening parties opened up the country towards Scollagh Gap, recruited in the Ballindaggin and Kiltalee areas and prepared for the march of a party by Borris towards Dublin.

All through the day the Town Garrison commandeered, clothing, bedding, tinned foods, etc., a War hospital was prepared, staffed by members of Cumann na mBan, and Dr. T.J. Kelly was conscripted to control this Unit. A Republican Police Force was organised and from Thursday evening ~~xx~~ until the surrender the town was patrolled with such efficiency that nothing in the nature of looting has ever been alleged. The Public houses were closed and drink could not be obtained without a permit from the O.C. About nightfall it was learned from scouts that Special Constabulary had been organised in Wexford town and that a British force consisting of a Cadet Corps, a detail from the Connaught Rangers and some other troops with Field Gun~~de~~ had left Wexford and reached Ferry~~car~~rigg on the road to Enniscorthy. The British were under the command of Colonel French. Arrangements were made to oppose the advance of this force at Edermine.

5. On Friday the advance towards Dublin via Arklow began. Ferns was taken over on that day and communication established along the Railway line with Enniscorthy. All quarries and houses along the line of march and in the area were raided.

Arms, motor cars and explosives were commandeered. Parties operating towards Scollagh Gap found that the police Barracks at Clonroche and Buncloody had been evacuated. Killanne Police Barrack was also evacuated on Friday. The advance party of the Army found that the Ferns Police Barrack had just been evacuated. From all that could be learned by the Republican scouts it appeared that the British forces were advancing very slowly towards Enniscorthy. From a telegraph pad found in Ferns Barracks it appeared that the Police view of the Rising at Enniscorthy was that "enormous forces would be required to suppress it." Scouts brought information that Galbally barracks had been evacuated on Friday evening.

6. On Saturday the main body advanced to Camolin. The Police evacuated the Barracks and it was taken over and the advance continued towards Gorey. Recruits were now pouring in from all over the occupied area. The delay on the part of the British forces to attempt an attack had convinced many of those recruits that the Republican forces were winning. Late in the evening reports reached H.Q. that Pearse had surrendered in Dublin. The Administrator of Enniscorthy and some other citizens asked to be allowed to go to Wexford and interview the British Officer with a view to testing the rumours. Permission was given and the party returned with a copy of Pearse's order to surrender. The H.Q. staff regarded the copy order as suspicious and proposed that one of their officers be allowed to go to Dublin and receive instructions from Pearse in person. To this proposal the British O.C. agreed and issued passes for Cpts. (description on permits) Seumas Doyle and Sean R. Etchingham through the British lines to Pearse at Arbour Hill. From the receipt of these passes the status quo was maintained by the British and Republican

troops until the surrender.

7. On Sunday morning, the two Republican Officers left for Dublin. Sunday was spent by all units in military displays and training exercises. There were Mass parades, route marches, rifle and bayonet drill, pike exercises, bombing practice, etc. It was necessary to arrange a special court to deal with persons spreading rumours calculated to interfere with the morale of the Army. Late on ~~the~~ the night of the 30th April, Captains Doyle and Etchingham arrived back from Dublin with Pearse's order to surrender. Officers and men of the town Garrison were called together at H.Q., and the order of the Commandant General was promulgated some time early on the morning of the 31st. May. Advanced outposts were called in and a surrender was prepared and signed by Robert Brennan, Seumas Rafter, Sean R. Etchingham, Seumas Doyle, Michael De Lacey and R.F. King. It was understood that these officers were surrendering themselves unconditionally and that all other officers and men would be allowed to go free. The pre-Easter Week Volunteers then removed from H.Q. most of the good rifles and ammunition. The British troops entered Enniscorthy on Monday evening and the surrender of the officers was accepted by their O.C. about 4 p.m. on that evening.

They brought with them the Field guns but did not bring the armoured train (Enniscorthy Emily) which had been prepared for the attack on the town.

8. The six officers surrendering were sentenced to death, afterwards commuted to imprisonment for life; two men were sentenced to twenty years each, one man to ten years and almost four hundred were arrested. Of the men arrested twenty-nine were kept until the general amnesty.

9. The foregoing gives a brief view of the Easter Week Insurrection at Enniscorthy. The newspapers of the time were unanimous in placing the Enniscorthy affair second to Dublin, and they regarded the ~~xxx~~ political organisation of the area over which the Republican forces assumed control as "Marvellous". The British Officer was in a position to estimate fairly accurately the strength of the Republican forces and their temper. He had a distinguished record and could scarcely be accused of cowardice. He could have brought a well-equipped and fairly strong force to Enniscorthy by Friday morning at the latest. His failure to do this is in itself an indication of his opinion of the nature of the opposition. The fact that he was prepared to allow two Republican officers through the lines to see the ~~the~~ Republican Commandant General in Gaol is a further indication of his attitude if such were needed. The fact that the Enniscorthy men "went out" in spite of the defection of the officer appointed to lead them, in spite of the non-co-operation of the other units of the Division, in spite of the mis-carriage of plans and in spite of the fact that death seemed the inevitable consequence of their action surely removes the operation from the region of "gesture". They were the last body of Easter Week men to surrender and no other body of defeated revolutionaries (in full uniform and acting and described as officers) of whom I have heard were allowed to send representatives to their imprisoned Commandant to obtain from him written instructions as to their future conduct.

A/65/2/42

Not sworn
22/9/39
SWORN STATEMENT OF Mr. T.D. SINNOTT MADE BEFORE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE on the 17th of JULY, 1936, in connection with

WEXFORD. (ORGANISATION)

Q. There was a meeting of the Brigade Council or the Brigade Staff on Wednesday evening after Peter Paul Galligan's report?

A. It was a meeting of officers.

Q. What officers?

A. As far as I know, to the best of my recollection :-
Seamus Doyle, Seamus Rafter, Sean Etchingham, Galligan
. . . There were 9 there.

Q. How many of these were on the Brigade staff?

A. Doyle and Rafter. Doyle was Adjutant, Sean Sinnott was Brigadier. He didn't turn up - he was sent for three times. Galligan was appointed Brigadier-Vice, and he took charge. Seamus Doyle acted as Adjutant. Rafter was Vice-Commandant of the Brigade and Comdt. of No. 1. Battalion, but Galligan was regarded - he had trained a special section of men for officers and he did a lot of training work in organising in Enniscorthy. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXX~~ In the grandiloquent language of the time, he was in charge of the Army in the Field. He was appointed Vice-Commandant actually of the Brigade as well, and Rafter Commandant, who remained Commandant to the Town Garrison. Etchingham was Staff Captain.

Q. He'd be on the Brigade Staff?

A. The Brigade as from that Wednesday night. He certainly was on the Brigade as from then. That meeting decided . .

Q. What time in the evening was that?

A. I met Galligan about 5 o'clock and the meeting occurred about 7 o'clock.

Q. What standing would a man who was Lieut. of "A" company have?

A. He was not responsible for anything.

Q. How many people of the 9 would be responsible?

A. Five would really be responsible I presume. I did not vote at the meeting at all.

Q. Give us the names of the five who were responsible?

A. Doyle, Rafter, Etchingham, Gallagher.

Q. That's only four?

A. I came to Enniscorthy as a Captain and I remained there as a Captain. I was in the I.R.B. centre. I was at the meeting, but I took no part in the discussion. I had a good deal to do with the arrangements.

Q. Would there be a fifth?

A. These four would be the important people. . . .

(2)

Q. Was it really an I.R.B. party?

A. I'd say so.

Q. How many centres down in Wexford was there fighting at in Easter Week?

A. At the Brigade and Enniscorthy.

Q. Boro' Bridge was Wednesday night?

A. Yes.

Q. How was it that the R.I.C. cleared out . . . and allowed it to be carried out?

A. There was no general order. We were making a fair show of military business in Enniscorthy.

Q. They left seemingly because it would be too hot for them to hold?

A. I am quite sure of that.

Q. Could your Committee give us a list?

A. We'll nominate, or we'll get you to nominate. You can nominate any three men you like, and if you write to them they'll write to you. We don't want a whole lot of publicity.

(No record made here on instruction of Board)

Keegan would be a good man, I suppose Seamus Doyle is the last living signatory, myself.

Q. In any particular case you would know?

A. Let the three of us take responsibility. There are probably some 50.

Q. Did any of the others come under the 1924 Act?

A. Yes, Cahill, the man that was shot. He has a pension of 6/- a week. He joined the Free State Army after the Treaty and he stayed about a month on the Free State Army.

Refer to
why for your information re 87 251

A/65/2/44

EVIDENCE OF PATRICK KEEGAN, ENNISCORTHY, REGARDING
THE APPLICATIONS OF THOMAS RAFTER (24144) AND
JOSEPH PORRESTAL (41340) GIVEN BEFORE THE REFEREE AND
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON 16TH JANUARY, 1951.

The Headquarters in Easter Week was my house in Irish St., Enniscorthy. An uncle and two aunts, old people, and myself were living in the house. I was a Cooper living with my uncle. The Workshop was downstairs. Kitchen and three rooms on the first floor and two rooms in the garret. Back premises formerly an old ball-alley roofed in. There was a shed with a loft. We had rifles, revolvers, sporting rifles kept in a dump in the back cut into the back wall of the ball-alley. Inside the yard, in the right hand corner. The shed was straight in front of back door. The entrance to the dump was in the right hand corner of the shed. It was hidden by a plank door studded with nails and wired. The door was plastered in squares as was the wall. On the back of the door there was a night latch. A wire came from the latch out in a loop covered by a stone. To open the door the stone was removed, the wire pulled and the door pressed with knee. The dump had pikes, shot guns and powder.

On Easter Monday we had men continually working there and a guard back and front. There were over 20 men working; carpenters making handles for pikes, others grinding pikes, blacksmith rivetting pikes, men running buck-shot, others opening and re-filling cartridges. There were four men on guard.

We took over the Athenaeum after daylight, (5 a.m.) on Thursday morning. We marched from headquarters. There were over 100 men. There was Shannon Company, A. Company, remnant of John Street and Irish Street Companies. Comdt. Rafter and Captain Garrigan led the men. The orders were given by Comdt. Rafter who fell the men in outside our house in Irish Street.

That night I went to Ballycarney for a load of cartridges taken from the railway. I got back shortly before the rising started. I used a cart from O'Reilly's livery stables. When I got back the crowd had been mobilised and were in fours in front of my house. I would say there were between 150 and 200 men. A good many in uniform. All A Company in uniform. Shannon Company mostly in uniform or with belts, haversacks and caps. Armed with shot-guns or Howth rifles. We marched to the Athenaeum. A window was broken. A man got in and a few others followed. We got the key from the Caretaker who lived next door and opened the door and took possession. Officers went to one of the Billiard rooms downstairs. Upstairs and stage and dressing rooms were used as a dormitory. The library was used as a guard room. It was on the right going in. Lieut. Murphy was in charge of the guard room. The seats were removed from the Main Hall and mattresses and bedding put down. We had gas light as we had possession of gas house. That morning, half an hour after taking over, the Flag - A Tricolour - was hoisted and saluted. Shots were fired by three men - it could be six men - they fired rifles. The Cumann-na-Ban took care of refreshments. We commandeered all the stuff we wanted. I had a couple of sisters there. - Miss White was there. There were a good many - some went to Ferns.