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An Uimhir

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An Uimhir as Roinn  
Eile.

Mc Boy, John

19 Calderwood Road

Drumcondra  
Dublin

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Call

P.G.

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Advisory Committee

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Report 9th

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12/1/40

8/7/40



P.S.M.  
OIFIG AN BÉITEÓRA  
FAIGHTE  
31 MIN. 1935  
NÚN UÍ GRIOBHETHA



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M.S.P./34/1. 1934  
OIFIG AN BÉITEÓRA  
FAIGHTE  
2-EAN 1935  
NÚN UÍ GRIOBHETHA

## Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

### APPLICATION TO THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE FOR A SERVICE CERTIFICATE.

This form must be filled in by every person who seeks a Service Certificate, and must be signed by him, and signature witnessed, on or before the 31st day of December, 1935. In the event of an applicant being unable to write he should affix his mark, such act being witnessed.

NAME (to be written in..... McCoy, JOHN,.....  
block capitals). SURNAME. CHRISTIAN NAMES.

PRESENT ADDRESS..... 19 CALDERWOOD ROAD,.....  
(to be written in block capitals). DRUMCONDRA, DUBLIN.

NOTE.—Before answering the questions below, the applicant is requested to note that :

- (a) This form is divided into three parts. Part I. is to be completed where the applicant had, in addition to the required pre-Truce Service, Service in the Forces in the period commencing the 1st July, 1922. Part II. is to be completed where the applicant's qualifying service in the Forces was pre-Truce only. Only one of those two parts is to be completed by any one applicant. Part III. is of general application and should be completed by all applicants.
- (b) Before completing particulars as to rank the applicant should read carefully the First Schedule to the Act and also the definitions of the expressions "first critical date" and "second critical date" which are appended to this form for the information of applicants. He should then complete his replies to the questions in the terms of Rules 1 and 2 of the First Schedule which are applicable to his case, e.g. :—

was "a Divisional Adjutant" or

was "a Battalion Quartermaster whose Battalion was (at the critical date) not less than one hundred in strength," or

was "an officer of Fianna Eireann commanding one hundred members or more."

If applicant's case falls within either Rule 3 or Rule 4 of the First Schedule full particulars of the claim as required by those Rules should be given, if necessary, in a separate statement.

- (c) All statements made in this application will be carefully investigated, and satisfactory evidence must be forthcoming on request to substantiate each and every statement made.
- (d) "If any person with a view to obtaining either for himself or any other person a grant or payment of a pension under this Act, makes, signs, or uses any declaration, application or other written statement knowing the same to be false, such person shall be guilty of an offence under this section and shall be liable on summary conviction thereof to a fine not exceeding £25 (twenty-five pounds) or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or at the discretion of the Court for both such fine and imprisonment." (Sec. 19 (1) of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934).



- (e) "If any person so convicted as aforesaid is in receipt of a pension obtained by reason of such false declaration, application, or other written statement he shall forfeit such pension as from the date of such conviction." (Sec. 19 (2) of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934).

If the applicant is unable to read, the above note should be read to him by the witness.

SERVICE IN THE FORCES, THAT IS IN THE FOLLOWING MILITARY BODIES, OGLAIGH NA h-EIREANN (IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY) OR IN THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS OR IN THE IRISH CITIZEN ARMY OR IN FIANNA EIREANN OR IN THE HIBERNIAN RIFLES OR IN CUMANN NA mBAN.

For each of the periods set out in Parts I. and II. in which you claim to have rendered active service, state the name of the unit or units, name and address of the O/C., the names and addresses of three reputable references who can verify your service.

The following circumstances shall not be deemed to constitute a breach in the continuity of service :—

- (a) Absence from duty following arrest, imprisonment, internment, or deportation under the Defence of the Realm Act, 1914, the Restoration of Order in Ireland Act, 1920, or any regulations made thereunder ;
- (b) Absence from duty following arrest, imprisonment, or penal servitude in respect of sedition, treason or treason felony prior to 11th July, 1921 ;
- (c) Absence from duty by reason of duties necessitating such absence undertaken at the instance of or on behalf of the Cabinet of the First Dail Eireann or of the Second Dail Eireann ;
- (d) Absence from duty while under arrest, as a result of activities as a member of the Forces.

If you claim to have been absent from duty under these conditions, give particulars of the circumstances with respect to each such period of absence, and state its duration.

#### PART I.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANTS WHO HAD PRE AND POST TRUCE SERVICE IN THE FORCES \* AS FOLLOWS :—

- (a) who served in the Forces at any time during the week commencing on the 23rd day of April, 1916,
- or
- (b) who served in the Forces continuously during either of the following periods, the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1920, and ending on the 31st day of March, 1921,
- or
- (c) the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1921, and ending on the 11th day of July, 1921,

*and in addition*

who served in the Forces at any time during the period commencing on the 1st day of July, 1922, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1923.

\* The following Military Bodies, and those only, are included in the term "the Forces," viz. :—

Oglaigh na h-Eireann (Irish Republican Army) or  
the Irish Volunteers, or  
the Irish Citizen Army, or  
Fianna Eireann, or  
the Hibernian Rifles, or  
Cumann na mBan.



(1). ACTIVE SERVICE AT ANY TIME DURING THE WEEK COMMENCING ON THE 23RD DAY OF APRIL, 1916.

- (a) Did you render active service in the week commencing 23rd April, 1916. If so,  
from what date in that week ?.....
- (b) Unit or Units.....
- (c) Duration (giving dates) of service.....
- (d) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....  
.....
- (e) Officer Commanding in each instance.....
- (f) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? .....  
.....
- (g) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during  
the week.....
- (h) Absence from duty and cause.....
- (i) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....  
.....  
.....

(2). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD COMPRISING—

- (a) period from 1st April, 1916, to 22nd April, 1916, and  
(b) period from 30th April, 1916, to 31st March, 1917.
- (a) Unit or Units.....
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....  
.....
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....  
.....
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? .....  
.....
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during  
the period.....  
.....
- (g) Absence from duty and cause.....



(h) References who can testify as to your statements above :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....  
 .....  
 .....

(3). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1917, TO 31ST MARCH, 1918.

(a) Unit or Units. *Mullaghbawn Comps Dundalk Battrn*.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service. *Joined volunteers in 1913*.....

*Became active on R.Organisation early in January 1918*.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered. *South Armagh*  
*& South Down*.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance. *James McGuill and — Toal*.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? *I was practically*

*full time engaged on volunteer activities from early Jan 1918*  
*in connection with South Armagh Election to Polling Day 1<sup>st</sup> May 1918*

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during

the period. *Late organising in neighbourhood parishes*

*volunteer companies appointed Comps Battrn early in Febry 1918*  
*Training Comps*

(g) Absence from duty and cause. *None*.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Garda John Grant Raheneys Co Dublin*.....

*Garda Peter Boyle Sandyford Co Dublin*.....

.....

(4). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1918, TO 31ST MARCH, 1919.

(a) Unit or Units. *Dundalk & Camlough Battrns*.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service. *Full period*.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered. *Co. Armagh*  
*and South Down*.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance. *Jas. McGuill in Dundalk Battrn*  
*Frank Aiken in Camlough Battrn*

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?.....

*Training Comps organisation work as Battrn adjt Instruction*  
*on military matters*



(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period. *Trained Mullaghlin Bomb. Appointed Battn adjt.*

*(Camlough Battn) in May 1918. Attended officers training class conducted. officers class. Anticoncubition activities helped to break*

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....*up. Col. A. Lynch's Recruiting meeting in Newry Sept 1918.*  
.....*None absent.*

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....*Garda John Grant Raheney Co Dublin*.....  
.....*Garda Peter Boyle Sandyford*.....  
.....

(5). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1919, TO 31ST MARCH, 1920.

(a) Unit or Units.....*Camlough Battn and Newry Brigade*.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....*Full period*.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....*Co Armagh*.....  
.....*& South Down*.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....*Frank Aiken & Paddy Rankin*.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? *Battn adjt.*

*Duties to May 1919 - Brigade adjt. Duties to end of period organisation of units all base Co Armagh & South Down*

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during

the period. *Raid for arms on Ballyedmond Castle 11th May 1919 -*

*Attempt on Newtownhamilton R.I.C. Barracks Febry 1920 - preparing for second attempt on N.S. Hamilton Barracks*

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....

.....*None*.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....*Garda John Grant Raheney Co Dublin*.....  
.....*Garda Peter Boyle Sandyford Co Dublin*.....  
.....

(6). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1920, TO 31ST MARCH, 1921.

(a) Unit or Units.....*Newry Brigade and 4th N/ Division*.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....*Full period*.....



(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.. *Co. Armagh*.....

*South Down + North Louth*.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.. *Paddy Parkin*.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? *Brig. ad. adpts*

*Early*  
*Duties up to March 1921: organisation work in connection with formation*  
*of 4th N/Div early March 1921. appointed Div adpt end of March 1921. attacks on*

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during  
*Brown Jones Barracks etc.*

the period. *Attacks on Newtownhamilton R.I.C. Bk. 9 May 1920 - manufacture*  
*of Buckshot etc and the organisation of same. Burning Buxton Ho. Newry April 1920*

*Raids on mails - Raids on trains - Attempt to capture explosives conveyed by strong*  
*military guard in Newry June 1920 - Burning of vacated Bk. Forkhill + Newry -*

*Raids on White Volunteer houses in July 1920 - Captured by Brown Jones in July 1920*  
*Confined in Newry military Bk. + Brixley Rd. Prison Belfast to release on*

*Preparation for attack on Camlough Bk. Went to Dublin to discuss plans of attack*  
*with Dick McKee of Dublin Brigade. Took arms + ammunition from Dublin*

(g) Absence from duty and cause. *on no occasions - attack on Camlough R.I.C. Bk. 12 Dec. 1920. ambush R.I.C. near*  
*Camlough 7th Jan 1921 - ambush on R.I.C. Ballyhamma 13th Jan 1921. Helped to*

*construct dump for arms etc - Bombed mounted volunteer officers to Belfast Hqs*  
*Raids on mails. Conveyed small arms ammunition from Belfast. Constant*

*Round ups by military + R.I.C. etc*.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Garda John Grant Raheny Co. Dublin*.....

*Garda Pete Boyle Sandyford Co. Dublin*.....

(7). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1921, TO 11TH JULY, 1921.

(a) Unit or Units. *4th N/ Division*.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service. *Full period*.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.. *Co. Armagh*.....

*South Down + North Louth*.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance. *Frank Aiken*.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? *Divisional adpts*

*Duties + attacks on British military - Imprisonment*.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during

the period. *Attempted ambush on British military at Plaste*.....

*Aug hare Co. Louth 17 April 1921. Surrounded at Mullaghbawn on 24 April 1921*  
*by R.I.C. military + I.R.A.s. Wounded + Captured, in military Hqs.*  
*Victoria Barracks Belfast to end of period*.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause. *None*.....



(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.	ADDRESS.
Garda John Grant Raheny Co Dublin	
Garda Pete Boyle Sandyford	"

(8). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 12TH JULY, 1921, TO 30TH JUNE, 1922.

- (a) Unit or Units.... 4<sup>th</sup> N/ Division
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service.. Full period
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.. Co. Louth.. Co. Armagh.  
+ South Down.
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance.. Frank Aiken
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? Released from Victoria Barrs early in Aug 1921. Not fit for any duty to mid Sept 1921. Training Camps for 4 weeks end of Sept. + Oct. - appointed Garrison Officer for Co. Armagh in Nov. 1921. Recalled to Div H.Q. early Dec. Reappointed Div adjt 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 1922
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period... Three Barrs down in Northern Ireland (Sic. Down too) in Febry 1922. Took over Dundalk Military Barrs as Div H.Q. 13<sup>th</sup> April 1922. Activities against Sir. Bowen's government + British forces from Febry 1922 to attack on Four Barrs 28<sup>th</sup> June 1922.
- (g) Absence from duty and cause.. None

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.	ADDRESS.
Dr. Mr. O'Hanlon Achill Rd. Drumcondra	
Garda John Grant Raheny Co. Dublin	
Garda Pete Boyle Sandyford Co. Dublin	

(9). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST JULY, 1922, TO 31ST MARCH, 1923.

- (a) Unit or Units.... 4<sup>th</sup> N/ Division
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service.. Served in Military Barracks Dundalk to 15<sup>th</sup> July 1922. I am not claiming active service until 27<sup>th</sup> July 1922 as the 4<sup>th</sup> N/ Div. declared a neutral attitude at start of Civil War and were actually working for a cessation of the war when the Divisional CP many of his officers + men were made prisoners by Gen. Van Hoogen on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1922.
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance.. Ernie O'Malley
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? Reorganisation of 4<sup>th</sup> N/ Div after 16<sup>th</sup> July 1922 - Attack on Dundalk held by Provisional Government forces + Dundalk Prison forced open + 150 Republican prisoners Released on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1922 - Captured same day and interned to end of period.



(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... *Attack on Dundalk & Release of all Republican prisoners in Dundalk prison on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1922*.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause..... *Imprisoned in Maryboro Prison & Buncrana Camp from arrest 27<sup>th</sup> July 1922 to end of period*.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Joe Grippin Irish Sugar Camp Dublin*  
*Conie O'Malley*  
*Dr. Mr. O'Mahon Achill Rd. Drumcondra*

(10). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1923, TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1923.

(a) Unit or Units..... *Prisoners*.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... *Full period*.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... *Kildare Camps and Co Dublin*.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... *Joe Grippin & Paddy Mullins*.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?.....  
*Imprisonment escape & Re-imprisonment*.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... *Escaped from Tintern I. Camp on 20 April 1923*  
*Captured about 10 days later*.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause..... *None*.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Mr. Hillend Military Service Registration Board Griffiths Bkly*  
*Dr. P. J. Mullins*  
*Dr. Jerry Davis St Breains Hosp Dublin*



## PART II.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANTS WHOSE QUALIFYING SERVICE IN THE FORCES\* WAS PRE-TRUCE ONLY, i.e.:—

(a) who served in the Forces at any time during the week commencing on the 23rd day of April, 1916,

or

(b) who served in the Forces continuously during the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1921, and ending on the 11th day of July, 1921.

(1). ACTIVE SERVICE AT ANY TIME DURING WEEK COMMENCING ON 23RD APRIL, 1916.

(a) Did you render active service in the week commencing 23rd April, 1916? If so, from what date in that week.....

(b) Unit or Units.....

(c) Duration (giving dates) of service.....

(d) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....

(e) Officer Commanding in each instance.....

(f) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?.....

(g) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the week.....

(h) Absence from duty and cause.....

\* The following Military Bodies, and those only, are included in the term "the Forces," viz.:—

Oglaigh na h-Eireann (Irish Republican Army), or  
the Irish Volunteers, or  
the Irish Citizen Army, or  
Fianna Eireann, or  
the Hibernian Rifles, or  
Cumann na mBan.



(i) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....

.....

.....

(2). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD COMPRISING :—

(a) period from 1st April, 1916, to 22nd April, 1916;

(b) period from 30th April, 1916, to 31st March, 1917.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service ?.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....

.....

.....

(3). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1917, TO 31ST MARCH, 1918.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....

.....



(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service ?.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

(4). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1918, TO 31ST MARCH, 1919.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service ?.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....



(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

(5). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1919, TO 31ST MARCH, 1920.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

(6). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1920, TO 31ST MARCH, 1921.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....



(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service ?.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

(7). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1921, TO 11TH JULY, 1921.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service ?.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period.....

(g) Absence from duty and cause.....

(h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.



## PART III.

## GENERAL.

## TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS.

- (1). State in terms of the First Schedule to the Act the rank and nature of appointment held on the first and second critical dates, respectively:—

(a) On first critical date.

*Div. Adjt. 4<sup>th</sup> N. Div. when captured by Brown  
Jones on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1921.*

(b) On second critical date.

*Divisional Adjt. 4<sup>th</sup> N. Division  
Refused to take part in Civil War at its outbreak 28<sup>th</sup> June 1922  
and balced off all activities in his County area on the same  
date.*

References who can testify as to your statements:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Sean Gormley Dundalk.*

- (2). Did you serve in the National Army as well as in the Forces on the 1st July, 1922, or on any subsequent date. If so, did you apply for a certificate of military service under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924, and, if so, with what result. If you did not so apply, give your reasons for not doing so.

*Served under provisional Government H.Q. up to 15<sup>th</sup> July  
1922. I never attested in the army.*

- (3). If you did not serve in both the National Army and the Forces on the 1st July, 1922, or on any subsequent date—state whether you applied for a Certificate of Military Service under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924, and, if so, with what result.

*N.D.*



(4). Did you apply for a wound or disability pension under any of the following Acts ? :—

Army Pensions Act, 1923.

Army Pensions Act, 1927.

Army Pensions Act, 1932.

If so, with what result.

*Claimed for wound under 1923 act.*  
*was awarded pension for 2 short periods.*  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

(5). Have you applied for, or are you in receipt of Unemployment Assistance under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933 ? If so, quote the number of your qualification certificate .....

*No.*  
 .....  
 .....

(6). Were you a member of the Irish Volunteer Executive at any time prior to the 11th July, 1921 ? If so, give the dates between which you served.....

*No.*  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

(7). Are you now, or were you at any time during the period for which you claim service, in receipt of any remuneration, or allowance payable out of public moneys, whether provided by the Oireachtas or out of the Central Fund, or by means of the poor rate or any other rate imposed by a local authority, state details.....

*Received pay as Garrison Officer £5 per week Nov. 1. Dec. 1921.*  
*also received Army pay from about Feb. 1922 until*  
*end of June 1922.*  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

(8). Are you in receipt of any pension in respect of service :—

- (a) As a member of the Civil Service.
- (b) As a member of the Garda Síochána.
- (c) As a member of any other Police Force.
- (d) As a member of the Prisons Service.
- (e) As a National School Teacher.
- (f) As a Secondary School Teacher.



- (g) As an Officer of any Local Authority.  
 (h) In any other employment.

If so, give details.....

No.....

NOTE.—You will subsequently have to furnish any further particulars and to submit any evidence which the Minister for Defence, or the Referee appointed under the Military Service Pensions Act, or any person or persons duly authorised by them may require in connection with this application for a Service certificate. In this connection attention is directed to the fact that Section 8 (4) of the Act prescribes that the onus of proof shall rest on the applicant.

Careful consideration will be given to any documentary evidence which you may wish to submit herewith. You may also at your discretion write hereunder a statement of any additional information which you consider may be of assistance in determining your application.

Signature (or Mark) of Applicant..... *John McCloy*.....

.....19. Baldwinwood Rd. Drumcondra.....

\*Witness to signature or (where  
 applicant is unable to write)  
 to mark of applicant. }

Address of Witness..... *John Jordan*.....

.....5, Upper Pembroke St., Dublin.....

Qualification ..... *Civil Servant (salary scale rising above £300)*.....

Date..... *31st December, 1935*.....

\* Witness must be one of the following :—

- A Commissioned Officer serving in the Defence Forces.
- A Permanent Civil Servant (active or retired) whose salary is or was not less than £200 and on a scale rising to not less than £300.
- A District Justice.
- A Peace Commissioner.
- A Barrister-at-Law, a Solicitor, or a Commissioner for Oaths.
- A Minister of Religion (denomination to be stated).
- A Registered Physician or Surgeon.
- Managers, Secretaries, Chief Cashiers and Accountants of Banks, and Officials in charge of Branch Banks.
- A Member of the Garda Síochána.
- A Postmaster or Postmistress in actual charge of a Post Office.
- Head Teachers of Secondary or National Schools.
- A Secretary of a Registered Friendly Society.
- A Notary Public.
- A Consul-General.
- A Consul.
- A Vice-Consul.



## APPENDIX.

## FIRST SCHEDULE.

RULES FOR DETERMINING NOTIONAL GRADES OF RANK IN THE FORCES HELD BY PERSONS SERVING IN THE FORCES.

1.—(1) Any person who at any date was either Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff, Adjutant General, a Divisional Officer Commanding, or Quartermaster General shall be deemed to have held at that date Rank A.

(2) Any person who at any date was either—

- (a) a General Headquarters Officer acting as Director of any one of the following services, namely Organisation, Intelligence, Engineering and Munitions, or
- (b) a Brigade Officer Commanding whose brigade was at that date not less than one thousand in strength,

shall be deemed to have held at that date Rank B.

(3) Any person who at any date was either—

- (a) a Brigade Officer Commanding whose brigade at that date was less than one thousand in strength, or
- (b) a Divisional Vice Officer Commanding, or
- (c) a Divisional Adjutant, or
- (d) a Divisional Quartermaster, or
- (e) a Battalion Commandant whose battalion was at that date not less than three hundred in strength, or
- (f) a Brigade Vice Officer Commanding whose brigade was at that date not less than one thousand in strength, or
- (g) a Brigade Adjutant whose brigade was at that date not less than one thousand in strength, or
- (h) a Brigade Quartermaster whose brigade was at that date not less than one thousand in strength, or
- (i) a Column Commander whose column was at that date not less than thirty in strength, or
- (j) a General Headquarters Officer who at that date was acting as Director of Medical Services, or
- (k) a General Headquarters Officer who at that date was acting as Director of any Service, other than that of Medical Services, or one of the Services mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) of the immediately preceding paragraph,

shall be deemed to have held at that date Rank C.

(4) A person who at any date—

- (a) was a Battalion Commandant whose battalion at that date was less than three hundred in strength, or
- (b) was a Company Captain whose company at that date was not less than sixty in strength, or
- (c) was, at that date, a Captain on the General Headquarters Staff or on a Divisional Staff, or
- (d) was, in the case of a company which at that date was not less than one hundred and twenty in strength, where the company had at that date one Lieutenant only, such Lieutenant or, where the company had at that date two Lieutenants only, one or other of such Lieutenants, or, where the company had at that date three or more Lieutenants, one or other of the two Lieutenants who were at that date respectively second and third in command, or
- (e) was, in the case of a company which at that date was less than one hundred and twenty in strength but not less than one hundred in strength, where such company had at that date one Lieutenant only, such Lieutenant or where such company had at that date two or more Lieutenants, the Lieutenant who was at that date second in command, or
- (f) was a Brigade Officer, other than a Brigade Officer who is deemed by virtue of paragraph (2) or (3) of this Rule to have held at that date either Rank B or Rank C, or
- (g) was a Battalion Vice Officer Commanding whose battalion at that date was not less than one hundred in strength, or
- (h) was a Battalion Adjutant whose battalion was at that date not less than one hundred in strength, or
- (i) was a Battalion Quartermaster whose battalion was at that date not less than one hundred in strength, or



- (j) was a General Headquarters Officer other than a General Headquarters Officer who was at that date acting as a Director of any Service, or
- (k) was a Divisional Officer other than a Divisional Officer Commanding, a Divisional Vice Officer Commanding, a Divisional Adjutant or a Divisional Quartermaster, or
- (l) was a Column Commander whose column at that date was less than thirty in strength, or
- (m) was a Medical Officer other than a General Headquarters Officer who at that date was acting as Director of Medical Services,

shall be deemed to have held at that date Rank D.

(5) Any person who complies with the following conditions, namely :—

- (a) was at any date an officer, and
- (b) is not deemed by virtue of any of the preceding paragraphs of this Rule to have held at that date any grade of rank,

shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to have held at that date Rank E.

(6) Any person who at any date held the rank of non-commissioned officer or private shall be deemed to have held at that date Rank E.

(7) None of the foregoing provisions of this Rule shall apply to any person who at any date was a member of Fianna Eireann or of Cumann na mBan and was not at any date a member of Oglagh na hEireann (Irish Republican Army) or of the Irish Volunteers, and in lieu thereof the following provisions shall have effect in relation to any such person, that is to say :—

(a) any person who at any date :—

- (i) was a member of the headquarters staff or executive of Fianna Eireann or Cumann na mBan, or
- (ii) was an officer of Fianna Eireann or Cumann na mBan commanding one hundred members or more of either of those bodies, or
- (iii) was an officer of Fianna Eireann or Cumann na mBan senior to an officer of either of those bodies commanding one hundred members or more of either of those bodies,

shall be deemed to have held at that date Rank D, and

- (b) any person who at any date was a member of Fianna Eireann or Cumann na mBan and who is not deemed by virtue of the foregoing sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph to have held Rank D, shall be deemed to have held at that date Rank E.

2. Where an officer whose grade of rank at any date is, under Rule I of this Schedule, to be determined both by his actual rank in the Forces and the strength of the unit to which he belonged at that date, and such officer is, at that date, absent from duty by reason of imprisonment on account of his activities as a member of the Forces, the following provisions shall, for the purposes of the said Rule I, have effect in relation to such officer, that is to say :—

- (a) such officer shall be deemed to have held at that date the actual rank in the Forces which he held at the date of his arrest, and
- (b) such unit shall be deemed to be at that date at the same strength as it was at the time of his arrest.

3. Where the case of any person does not fall within the provisions of Rule I of this Schedule, the Referee may determine the particular grade of rank which such person is to be deemed to have held on any date, and in so determining the Referee shall have regard to the following matters, that is to say :—

- (a) the appointment held by such person,
- (b) the services performed by such person,
- (c) the principles of grading set forth in the said Rule I.

4. Where any person, whose case at a particular date falls within the provisions of Rule I of this Schedule, was, at that date, engaged in service of a special character, the Referee may, in making his report under this Act in relation to the grade of rank held by such person on such date, report that the grade of rank held by him on such date is a grade of rank higher than the grade which, but for this Rule, would be the grade of rank held by him on that date.

#### DEFINITION OF THE FIRST AND SECOND CRITICAL DATES.

1. In the case of a person who served in the Forces during the period commencing on the 1st day of July, 1922, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1923,



The expression "the first critical date" means the 11th day of July, 1921; and the expression "the second critical date" means:—

- (a) in the case of a person who served in the Forces on the 1st day of July, 1922, the 1st day of July, 1922 and
- (b) in the case of a person who did not serve in the Forces on the 1st day of July, 1922, but who served in the Forces at any time during the period commencing on the 2nd day of July, 1922, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1923, the date during that period on which such person first served in the Forces.

2. In the case of a person who did not serve in the Forces during the period commencing on the 1st day of July, 1922, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1923, but who has either:—

- (a) served in the Forces at any time during the week commencing on the 23rd day of April, 1916, or
- (b) served in the Forces continuously during the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1921, and ending on the 11th day of July, 1921,

the expression "the first critical date" shall be construed as meaning the date during the said week, or if he did not serve during the said week, during the said period, on which he first served in the Forces in such week or such period (as the case may be), and

the expression "the second critical date" shall be construed as meaning the earliest date in the period between the first critical date in respect of such person, and the 12th day of July, 1921, on which such person held his highest rank in such last-mentioned period in the Forces.

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# Military Archives

FOURTH NORTHERN DIVISION

DIVISIONAL STAFF AT VARIOUS DATES

	11th July 1921	1st July 1922	Staff appointed on 23.7.22.	14th Aug. 1922
Officer Commanding	Frank Aiken	Frank Aiken	✓ John McCoy	Frank Aiken X
Adjutant	(John McCoy (in military ( custody) (Seamus Monaghan	John McCoy	Sean Gormley	Ml. O'Hanlon X
Quartermaster	Sean Quinn	(Thomas Rodgers (in hosp.) (Padraig Quinn	Thos. Rodgers	Paddy Quinn X
Intelligence Officer	Seamus Monaghan	Michael O'Hanlon	Patk. Lavery	
Engineer	Sean McGauran	Eiver Monaghan	Eiver Monaghan	E. Monaghan
Chemist	-	Ned. Fitzpatrick	Ned Fitzpatrick	N. Fitzpatrick
Training	Thomas McPolin	Andy O'Hare	Thos. McPolin	Jerry Davis
Transport	-	Peter Boyle	-	Peter Boyle
Signals	-	Jerry Tipping	Jerry Tipping	Jerry Tipping
Organisation	-	Jerry Davis	-	Sean Gormley
Med. Services	-	Dr. James McKee	Dr. James McKee	Dr. James McKee

6666

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The 4th Northern Division was organised as a Division in March, 1921. The staff appointed then was as follows:-

O/C.	F. Aiken
Adjt.	John McCoy
Q.M.	Sean Quinn.

John McCoy was wounded and captured by Crown Forces on 23rd April, 1921. He was replaced by Seamus Monaghan as Divisional Adjutant.

The Divisional Staff on 11th July, 1921 was as follows:-

O/C.	Frank Aiken
Adjt.	Seamus Monaghan
Q.M.	Sean Quinn
Engr.	Sean McGauran
Training	Tom McPolin

There were changes made in the Divisional Staff in mid-Jany. 1922, as follows:-

O/C.	Frank Aiken
Adjt.	John McCoy
Q.M.	Thomas Rodgers
Engrs.	Seamus Goodfellow
Chemist	Sean McGauran
Training	Thomas McPolin
Transport	Peter Boyle.

Michael O'Hanlon was appointed Divisional I.O. some time about April, 1922.

The staff on 1st July, 1922 was as follows:-

O/C.	Frank Aiken
Adjt.	John McCoy
Q.M.	Padraig Quinn
I.O.	Michael O'Hanlon
Engrs.	Eiver Monaghan
Chemist	Ned Fitzpatrick
Training	A. O'Hare
Transport	Peter Boyle
Signals	Jerry Tipping
Med. Services	Dr. James McKee

Thomas Rodgers, Div. Q.M. broke his leg when returning to Dundalk from an operation in the Six Counties in March, 1922. He was replaced by Padraig Quinn as Div. Q.M.

Seamus Goodfellow and Sean McGauran went off the Div. Staff after the Army Split in March, 1922, and were replaced by Eiver Monaghan and Ned Fitzpatrick. Thomas McPolin went to the 2nd Brigade and was replaced by Andy O'Hare.

Up to the outbreak of the Civil War (28th June) all the Division, with the exception of two Battalions of the first

Brigade,



Brigade, had been recognising the Old G.H.Q. - Beggars Bush H.Q. The 1st and 2nd Battalions, First Brigade, gave allegiance to the Four Courts Executive from about April, 1922. When the Civil War broke out the Division as a whole decided not to take part in the War but to work for a truce so that negotiations could proceed which, it was hoped, should lead to a settlement.

I proceeded to Dublin on 6th July, 1922, on a peace mission and appealed to the pro-Treaty leaders to call a truce and summon the Dail to discuss terms for unity. I went from Dublin to Limerick and interviewed Liam Lynch and other Republican leaders. I met with little success. On my return to Dublin on 14th July, 1922, I got a request from Richard Mulcahy for myself and the other members of my staff to meet him in conference at Portobello Bks. on the next day, Saturday 15th July. This conference took place. The whole situation was discussed, especially our attitude to Mr. Mulcahy's H.Q. from the outbreak of the Civil War. This meeting did not disclose much grounds for hopes of a settlement of the war. The talk was adjourned on the understanding that I would put in writing our peace proposals for submission to Mr. Griffith and Mr. Collins.

On the night of the 15/16th July the then Col-Comdt. Dan Hogan, O/C. 5th Northern Division, took possession of the town of Dundalk, including the Military Barracks. There was no resistance offered at the Military Barracks - Divisional H.Q. I was made a prisoner, together with all my officers and men, in the Barracks. On Sunday 16th July, I asked for and obtained permission to go, on parole, to Dublin to see Mr. Mulcahy re the invasion of our Divisional area. Mr. Mulcahy informed me that he knew nothing of the intended invasion. He refused to order the withdrawal of 5th Northern troops from Dundalk or to respect our neutrality any longer. I returned to Dundalk and later went into Dundalk Gaol as a prisoner to join my officers and men who were prisoners there. I remained in Dundalk Prison until the morning of the 27th July when John McCoy in charge of a party of our men attacked the prison and rescued myself and over 100 other prisoners who were detained there.

On 23rd July John McCoy as acting Div. O/C. called a meeting of all available senior officers, representing the whole Division as it existed prior to Army Split, to consider the situation caused by attack on Dundalk on 16th July. It was decided at the meeting to depart from the neutral attitude towards the Civil War and to take military offensive action against the Treaty forces. It was also agreed that because of our previous neutral attitude from the start of the Civil War, that the Treaty Forces H.Q. get forty eight hours' notice of the Division's change of attitude towards them before active military operations should start. A Divisional Staff was also appointed to take charge of the Divisional armed forces. The 48 hours notice referred to above was given and had elapsed before the prison was attacked on the 27th July.

On the 27th July, after the attack on the prison and my escape therefrom, I found that John McCoy and two of the Divisional Officers who escaped from the prison with me, had been captured.

After 27th July I had to fill the vacancies caused by the

capture/



capture of John McCoy and Andy O'Hare, Div. Staff Officers. I also felt it necessary to inform pro-Treaty Army H.Q. through Peter Hughes, T.D. that I had decided to attack their forces in Dundalk. My first activity in the Civil War apart from the escape from Dundalk Jail was the attack on Dundalk town on 14th August, 1922.

I should like to draw the attention of the Referee and his Advisors to the following important points in connection with the second critical date for officers and men in the units:-

- A. The 1st and 2nd Battns. 1st Brigade, and 1st Brigade Staff took their orders from Four Courts Executive from end of March, 1922.
- B. The rest of Division - 3rd and 4th Battalions of the 1st Brigade, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Brigade, and Divisional Staff (as shown on 1st July 1922) took orders from the old G.H.Q., Beggars Bush, up to the outbreak of the Civil War on 28th June, 1922.
- C. The whole Division as already stated declared a neutral attitude in the Civil War from its commencement up to the 16th July 1922. The 1st Brigade staff and 1st and 2nd Battalions, 1st Brigade, resisted the attack on Dundalk by Col-Comdt. D. Hogan on the 16th July. The rest of the Division with Divn. Staff did not resist D. Hogan's invasion but maintained a neutral attitude.
- D. The officers and men not captured in Dundalk Military Bks. on 16th July from the units giving allegiance to the Divn. Staff at the outbreak of the Civil War, took no part in the Civil War until 27th July 1922.
- E. The officers and men from the 4th Northern Division with me in Dundalk Prison from 16th to 27th July 1922 had no activity in the Civil War until the 14th August 1922.
- F. All operations against the Crown Forces in Northern Ireland were called off from the outbreak of the Civil War on the 28th June, 1922, and were not resumed for at least 2 months.

(Sd.) FRANK AIKEN.

26. 7. 37.

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REFEREE R.15.

Organisation Records supplied by

F. Aiken Div. O/C.

show that applicant was

(a) Div. Adj. 4th Northern Div.

on date of arrest 23/4/21  
~~11. 7. 1921.~~

Strength —

• (b) Div. Adj. 4th Northern Div. 1. 7. 1922.

Strength —

• Frank Aiken is shown as Div. O/C. on  
1st July 1922.

Signed: R. 8/9/39.



# MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

**Form R. 18.**

Ref. No. .... 16473

**APPLICANT'S NAME**

McKay John

**For Discussion with.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

OBSERVATIONS ON BANK

(a) First Critical Date..... *September 12* (b) Second Critical Date..... *October 10*

RESULT OF DISCUSSION.

*(10) released June 23*  
*He seems critical*  
*is 16 July 23 when in arrest of Aiken*  
*the owl of. maybe succeeded*

SP 4922 1000 5-39 RC 2/40/21



SUMMARY of EVIDENCE - JOHN MCCOY - 16473.

8th SEPTEMBER, 1939.

GRADE I.

Joined at Christmas, 1917.

3rd Period

Applicant was one of three or four men who devoted their full-time to organising Volunteers in the district.

He was appointed Company Captain in February, 1918.

4th Period

March, April and May:- Training centres were established in the different parts of the Battalion. Applicant attended them, inspected Companies, and assisted in organising in Armagh, etc.

He was appointed Battalion Adjutant in May, 1918.

About this Period a number of officers were arrested. Applicant was "on the run" and carried out ~~an~~ intensive organisation and training of the Battalion.

5th Period

Battalion Adjutant until the summer of 1919.

Devoted all his time to organising the Volunteers.

As Battalion Adjutant he helped in organising South Down, Armagh, portions of Tyrone, etc. Attended Meetings at different centres. His business as an Auctioneer facilitated him in visiting the different districts. From early in 1920 he was accompanied by eight or nine armed men on this work.

He took part in organising the raid on Ballyedmond Castle. On the night of the raid acted as connecting link between Newry and Ballyedmond. He had a motor-bicycle.

February, 1920 - attempted capture of Newtownhamilton Bks.:-  
Spent a considerable time in organising this attempted raid. On the night of the proposed attack he was in charge of the men in the town. It was a Protestant district. The attempt failed.

About May, 1920, he was appointed Brigade Adjutant.

6th Period

As Brigade Adjutant, he inspected Battalions and Companies in the district. Gave his full time to the work.

Newtownhamilton Bks. attack:- Applicant was in charge of the men in front of the Bks. He was armed with a rifle about 20-yds. from the Bks. The attack lasted four or five hours. The police were driven into the Yard. After the main body had withdrawn applicant succeeded in holding up some members of the R.I.C. garrison. Owing to a mishap they had to withdraw.



6th Period (Contd.)

Took part in the burning of the Custom House at Newry, the destruction of Barracks at Forkhill and Newry, and in an attempt to capture explosives in Newry.

Raided about twenty Ulster Unionist houses in July. Was captured shortly after this. Released from Belfast in November.

Resumed his duties as Brigade Adjutant. Came to Dublin to discuss the attack on Camlough Bks. Brought arms and ammunition on several occasions from Dublin.

12th December - Camlough Bks. attack:-

Applicant was in charge of the men on the south side. The attack lasted an hour.

7th January - Camlough ambush:- Applicant was one of a party of seven or eight that attacked a patrol of R.I.C. and Specials. Exchange of shots lasted a few minutes. One of the enemy was wounded.

13th January - Cullyhanna ambush:-

Applicant was one of a party of eight Volunteers that attacked a patrol of Specials. One of them was killed. The Volunteers had considerable difficulty in getting away.

After the attack on Camlough, he helped to make a big dump and dug-out.

Raids for mails and raids on trains were carried out regularly. There were constant rounds-up, etc.

7th Period:

Was appointed Divisional Adjutant about the end of March or beginning of April. Took part in the preparation for the formation of the Division. Inspected different Brigades, etc.

Attempted ambush on Military at Plaster and Camlough.

24th April: Surrounded, wounded and captured.

In gaol.

8th Period:

In gaol until about the 1st of August when he was released. Was unable to resume activities owing to his wounds until mid-September when he attended a Training Camp at Meigh.

Was appointed Liaison Officer in October.

When the Treaty debates were on, he was<sup>u</sup> called to the Division. Resumed his duties as Divisional Adjutant in January, 1922.



Full-time in charge of the Column operating on the Border.

9th Period:

Was neutral from 1st July to 15th July.

Was in Dublin on the night of the 15th July when the Divisional O.C., and 200 men were captured.

Returned to the District and a few days later was appointed Divisional O.C.

Helped to reorganise different Brigades which up to this had been taking orders from the Executive.

As Divisional O.C. carried out the operation which led to the capture of the Gaol and the release of the Divisional O.C. He was captured that morning himself, and interned.

10th Period:

Escaped in April, 1923 - recaptured ten days later.

Interned. Released in June, 1924 from the Military Hospital, Curragh.

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SWORN STATEMENT MADE BY JOHN McCOY ( No.16473)

BEFORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON 8. 9. '39.

Q. When did you join the Vols?

A. I joined about Feb. 1917 I think it was about 1st Feb. I joined 1917 - South Armagh Election - there was an Election declared in South Armagh about - I think the Election was on 1st February 1918 - and about 6 weeks before the Election the Campaign started. That would take it back to probably sometime about Christmas, I joined the Vols. then. There was no Organisation, the Organisation of the Vols had - the old Organisation of the Volunteers that was in existence before 1914 - lapsed, there was no Organisation in the area, Frank, I and a few others started a Re-organisation.

Q. Did you give much time to organising?

A. There was a small number of us - Frank, I and at least Paddy Rankin and a few other officers - Frank and I gave practically all full time between that and the Election work. The Organisation of the Volunteers was the principal thing that we concentrated on.

Q. When were you appointed Coy. Capt. - about Feb. 1918 is it?

A. Yes. I was not a Coy. Capt. when the Coy. was started. I got another man appointed Coy. Capt. I was thinking that time, I might be able to do a lot of work behind the scenes I had a business at the time, I had another man appointed, that man was a bit of a failure from different points of view, he was no use as a Coy. Capt. we found. I took charge of the Coy. sometime shortly after the Election.

Q. About the middle of February?

A. After the Election there was very intensive organising, there were only a few areas we got in to before the Election, we started in the different areas in South Armagh and tried to get squads or Coys. going in them. Sometime later on, I think, I have it in the form, that I was appointed Battn. Adjt.

Q. Immediately after being appointed Coy. Capt. had you a training camp?

A. We had no training camp, but we had training centres. There was a New Zealand Officer - a bit of a mystery man - we availed of his services, we availed of them for a fairly good while. He became a bit of a danger to us then we got rid of him. During that period - from about March or April 1918, all during them Summer months, there were 2 nights a week devoted to training. I attended the different centres for training, carried it out. Then there was a re-organising work, the Coys. were not doing well, you would have to go and have to look after them, find things wrong, have a re-organisation, appoint officers.

4th Period.

Q. About May 1918, you were appointed Battn. Adjt?

A. I was appointed Battn. Adjt.. There was no Brigade there at the time. Previous to the Battn. being called there we were attached to the North Louth Battn. I think, it was called at the time. It is difficult to know whether it was a Brigade or Battn. I did not like the way - there were a few Coys. in South Armagh, attached to the North Louth Battn. I did not like the way things were. I think, I was mainly responsible for having the Coys. transferred back and forming a Battn. in South Armagh.



A. A short time after that a new brigade was formed.

Q. All during 1918, you were organising, training, drilling and doing Battn. Adjut. on a full time basis?

A. Yes. In 1918 there was an order came from Hqrs. that Vols. training during - and that the presence of police and Crown Forces would not be allowed to interfere with the training. I carried out that order in Mullaghbawn, and the police attended. We used train after Second Mass, when the biggest crowd was present. The police got after us, we had a good deal of sport with the police about that time. Frank was arrested for drilling his Company, he got a month in Belfast. I was on the run. The day Frank was tried there was a row in Newry, smashed up the courthouse. And Michael Hawe, was arrested then, he got 2 months in jail. I was very busy that time while Frank was in and while Michael Hawe, was in.

5th Period.

Q. In 1919 you were still Battn. Adjut. for a period?

A. Yes. I am not sure.

Q. Ballyedmond raid?

A. I think that was about May 1919, I am not exactly sure. There was a good share of organising work for that and I took part in it. I had a motor bike at the time, I was dispatch rider between Newry and Ballyedmond. The thing was a bit of a fiasco, there must have been about 1,000 men engaged in it. We had the navy out that time.

Q. All during that Period as Battn. Adjut. you were inspecting the Coys. and carrying on this Organisation work?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you devoting much time to it at that period, 1919?

A. I was devoting nearly all the time. I was an auctioneer, my work would only occupy about 3 months we will say, Nov., December and January. Even during the time I was working at my business I would be devoting practically all the evenings and nights to Vol. work. After that I used devote the whole time to Vol. Work. I was doing nothing else. I was doing fairly well at the auctioneering business. In fact I paid a servant boy at home to replace me on the farm that time.

Q. Even when on the auctioneer business you would make use of it, to combine the two?

A. Yes. In 1920, I had 8 or 9 armed men of the Coy. going around with me.

Q. Feb. 1920, attempt on Newtownhamilton R.I.C., Bks?

A. Yes. It was the first attack, we organised that thing, it was intended to be a surprise attack and Frank was in charge, of the party. He was dressed as a Military Officer, He had about 10 men dressed as soldiers with steel helmets and the usual equipment soldiers wore at the time. I was in charge of the men all over the town. It was a very Orange town, I am sure there were about 100 armed Ulster Vols. We went in, Frank made his attempt to get in through the door by bluff and it failed. He tried to force the door, he was not able to, so we called it off. We did not attack it when the ruse failed.

Q. About this time, sometime prior to that you were made Brigade Adjutant?

A. I think I was made Brigade Adjutant, sometime about the Summer of 1919, sometime about the time of Ballyedmond raid, I think, I am not sure of that date.



5th Period.

Q. As Brigade Adjutant you had a more extensive area to work in?

A. Yes all the County Armagh and a small portion of County Tyrone. We used to have meetings in Newry, Armagh, Lurgan, Castlewilliam and later on Dundalk.

6th Period.

Q. Up to early 1921 - March - you were Brigade Adjutant?

A. From the summer of 1919 up to March, 1921.

Q. In that time you were carrying out the work of Brigade Adjutant covering the Counties Down and Armagh and you were attending meetings?

A. Yes.

Q. Attack on Newtownhamilton Barracks 9th May. Were you in this?

A. I was in front of the bks. I was in charge of the men in front of the bks.

Q. How far away?

A. Less than 20 yds.

Q. What arms had you?

A. Rifle.

Q. How long did the attack last?

A. From about 12 o'clock to 4/5 in the morning. It was daylight when we were getting away.

Q. Did you fire many shots that day?

A. I don't know how many. We had only about six grenades and we used the grenades on the barracks. The signal Frank was to give was to blow a whistle and he lost it and could not find it. He whistled with his fingers. I withdrew our men out of the place. It was a very hostile area. We got out over fences and ditches. Some of the chaps were from Newry and I had to leave them on the road for Newry. When I did that I found there was great explosions going on the barracks. I thought that the fight was still on. I took 6/7 men back with me. We came to the corner about 40 yds. from the bks. and from where we could see the bks. When I arrived there the Sergeant was on the street. He was Sergeant ..... I shouted at him and he put up his hands. One of the men ran out from the yard and then another fellow was coming out. He came over and lined up. One of the fellows with me lost his head and fired. The two fellows who were standing with their hands up seized their rifles and fired. The fellow coming out from the barracks fired too.

Q. Did you assist in the burning of the Custom House, Newry?

A. Yes.

Q. Attempt to capture explosives conveyed by strong military guard in Newry?

A. Yes.

Q. Did that fail?

A. It was called off. Some of the arrangements broke down.



4.

Q. Helped to burn Forkhill and Newry Barracks?

A. Yes. Newry was a very dangerous job.

Q. Raids on Volunteer houses in July. How many houses did you raid?

A. All the houses in Newry - about 20.

Q. You were captured in July, 1920? released

A. I was captured after those raids. I was/ about the 1st November. It was the time Terry McSwiney died.

Q. Where were you released from?

A. Crumlin Road, Belfast.

Q. When you came out did you resume the duties of Brigade Adjutant?

A. Yes.

Q. And you had the preparations for Camlough Barracks?

A. Yes.

Q. You went to Dublin to discuss the plans for that attack?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you bring arms and ammunition on 2 occasions from Dublin?

A. I conveyed them on several occasions from Dublin. I remember two very big loads. I had a motor bike. On two occasions I used a side car. I got the licence for that while I was on the run.

Q. Camlough Bks. attack. Were you in this attack?

A. I was second in command. I was in charge of the men on the south side of the barracks. Frank was in charge of the north side.

Q. How long did it last?

A. From about 12 o'clock and our plan was to pump petrol into it. They were pumping all over the place. The tube leading from the pump was punctured by a grenade. It failed. It was a very strong barracks. We were told in Dublin that we could never hope to take it. It lasted about one hour I would say. There was a fight at the Egyptian Arch that night.

Q. What arms had you?

A. Rifle. I was about 15 ft. from the bks.

Q. Ambush at Camlough on the 7th January?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you ambush there?

A. A patrol of R.I.C. and Specials.

Q. How many of you were in the attack?

A. About 7/8 of us.

Q. Who was in charge of you?

A. Frank was in charge.



Q. How long did that last?

A. A few minutes.

Q. Just a few shots?

A. Yes. One of them was wounded. We were too cold to do accurate shooting.

Q. Ambush at Cullyhanna?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did that last?

A. Not very long. One of the enemy was killed there. The ambush did not last very long. We had considerable trouble getting away. We had only 150 rounds of ammunition between 3 rifles.

Q. You helped to make a dump?

A. Yes. It was going on from the attack on Camlough Barracks. It was a concrete cave in an outhouse of ours.

Q. You conveyed a wounded Volunteer to Belfast?

A. I did not convey him. My sister did. I made arrangements for to have him taken into hospital. They got him into a Nursing Home for ex-soldiers.

Q. You had raids for mails and raids on the trains?

A. Yes. We had numerous raids on trains - twice a week from the summer of 1921 and we were stopping trains. We had a raid on a munitions train but we did not stop it. It went through. There was a big number of men engaged on it.

Q. You conveyed small arms from Belfast?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you being constantly rounded up by the R.I.C.?

A. I was on the run most of 1919. I was sort of on the run early in 1922. The local police did not interfere with me.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection



Contn. Page 6

Q. About March '21 you were appointed Divl. Adj. and you were engaged in the organisation in connection with the formation of the Divn.?

A. Yes, about a fortnight before I was wounded. A fortnight or three weeks. I was wounded on the 20th April.

Q. 24th April you have down here?

A. Yes, 24th. The Divn. was formed about the end of March or the beginning of April.

Q. All during this period, up to the time you were Divl. Adj., you were Bde. Adj., inspecting the Battns. and Coys. and attending Bde. meetings and Battn. meetings and that?

A. Yes.

Q. You were full time on that work, in addition to the other details we have taken?

A. Yes.

7th Period

Q. You were appointed Divl. Adj. when the Divn. was created at the end of March or the beginning of April?

A. Yes.

Q. The first thing then was an attempted ambush on military at Plaster?

A. Yes. We had an attempted ambush at Camlough the night before I was wounded and there was some sniping at Camlough bks. that night. I was surrounded in a house and captured.

Q. 24th April you were surrounded and captured?

A. Yes.

Q. You were wounded and captured?

A. Yes.

Q. Was there much of a fight there?

A. Well, the house itself was completely surrounded and I was inside armed. I had two other Vols. with me, the local Capt. and one of the Vols. and there were two old people in the farm-house, an old man and an old woman. I was in a bit of a mix-up about that, I had a bomb or two and a Webley in the house and the street in front of the house was full of police. They were breaking in the door when I heard them and it turned out afterwards that they knew I was there. We had the walls drilled into different houses along. I dumped the two guns, I knew if I bombed them in the front yard the old people would probably go west and I had no belief that I would ever get away myself and I was considering the fact that if I did knock any of them out they would likely "do in" the old man and the old woman so I dumped the gun and bombs into a barrel of meal in an out-house out from the kitchen. The back door of that out-house was two half doors so I opened the bottom half and I looked out - I had not very much clothes on me - and I saw a Special standing with his back to me so I slipped out and gave him the Rugby tackle and knocked him down and threw him on his head and got across into a haggard when I heard a man running in the opposite direction, just as I was running across the haggard. It was just light at the time. I stepped behind one of the stacks in the garden and there was a fence there and the man I heard running came just where I was in between the hedge



and the stack so I hit him and knocked him out and I got through a fence then - it was a whitethorn fence and pretty hard to get through - and I was half way through when I looked back and I saw him trying to get up. He was apparently knocked out. I got away a few hundred yards and they turned machine guns on me from different directions and rifle fire.

- Q. You went into hospital after that?  
A. Yes, up to the 1st Aug.

8th Period

- Q. Early in Aug. you were released?  
A. Yes, some time about that.

- Q. You took up duties about mid-Sept. again?  
A. Yes. I was a very bad case, I was hardly able to walk when I was released. I went into a training camp at Meigh. I did some duty and in Oct. I was appointed Liaison Officer in Armagh and took up duty and when the Treaty debates were on I was recalled for the resumption of hostilities and that was called off, the Treaty was signed and I was on full time duty from that until my appointment as Divl. Adjt. from Jan. '22 and I served all during that period of the fighting. The active service started early in Feb. and from that up to the Civil War started I was Divl. Adjt., carrying out the duties of Divl. Adjt. and I was in charge of a Col. across the border - operating across the border.

- Q. You were appointed Divl. Adjt. about 12th Jan. and then you were in charge of a Col. operating across the border and you were full time?  
A. Up to the Civil War started, then we were neutral from the 1st July until the 15th July, and on the night of the 15th July or the morning of the 16th July the F.S. army marched into Dundalk and captured the Divl. O.C. and a few of the staff, the Divl. staff, and other officers and about 200 men in the military bks. in Dundalk, there was a meeting. I was not captured, I was in Dublin that night. I came the next day and found out that the town had been captured. I called a meeting a few days afterwards and on the following Sun. there was a Divl. meeting called and held. I was appointed Divl. O.C.

P.T.O.

AMCD

Military Service  
Pensions Collection



There was a staff appointed and a whole reorganisation of the different Brigades. Half of the 1st Brigade, before the Civil War started, had not been taking orders from us. They were taking orders from the Executive Forces.

After the reorganisation of the Division which occurred about the 20th or 22nd July, the first operation we planned was the attack on the Gaol and, if successful, to be followed up by an attack on the town if opportunity presented itself.

We attacked the gaol and got all the prisoners there including the Divisional O.C., and other important officers. I was captured that morning myself and I was a prisoner then until April, 1923. I escaped from Tintown in April, 1923.

10th Period: Q. You were a prisoner until April, 1923?  
A. I was captured ten days' later and courtmartialled and sentenced to death. So I was informed by the Military. It was commuted to ten years.

Q. When were you released?

A. In June, 1924.

Q. From where?

A. From the Military Hospital in the Curragh.

The Divisional O.C. has put in a statement in connection with the 4th Northern Division. I am shown as Divisional O.C. in that statement from the time the reorganisation occurred in July, 1922.

Q. Is there anything else?

A. No.

*I have read the sworn  
statement made by John  
McCoy (No 16473) before  
Adams' committee on 8-9-'39,  
and I hereby vouch for the  
accuracy of all <sup>essentials</sup>  
particulars.* Frank Arden  
28-9-39.



SWORN STATEMENT MADE BY JOHN MCCOY ( No.16473)

BEFORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON 8. 9. '39.

Q. When did you join the Vols?

A. I joined about Feb. 1917 I think it was about 1st Feb. I joined 1917 - South Armagh Election - there was an Election declared in South Armagh about - I think the Election was on 1st February 1918 - and about 6 weeks before the Election the Campaign started. That would take it back to probably sometime about Christmas, I joined the Vols. then. There was no Organisation, the Organisation of the Vols had - the old Organisation of the Volunteers that was in existence before 1914 - lapsed, there was no Organisation in the area, Frank, I and a few others started a Re-organisation.

Q. Did you give much time to organising?

A. There was a small number of us - Frank, I and at least Paddy Rankin and a few other officers - Frank and I gave practically all full time between that and the Election work. The Organisation of the Volunteers was the principal thing that we concentrated on.

Q. When were you appointed Coy. Capt. - about Feb. 1918 is it?

A. Yes. I was not a Coy. Capt. when the Coy. was started. I got another man appointed Coy. Capt. I was thinking that time, I might be able to do a lot of work behind the scenes I had a business at the time, I had another man appointed, that man was a bit of a failure from different points of view, he was no use as a Coy. Capt. we found. I took charge of the Coy. sometime shortly after the Election.

Q. About the middle of February?

A. After the Election there was very intensive organising, there were only a few areas we got in to before the Election, we started in the different areas in South Armagh and tried to get squads or Coys. going in them. Sometime later on, I think, I have it in the form, that I was appointed Battn. Adjt.

Q. Immediately after being appointed Coy. Capt. had you a training camp?

A. We had no training camp, but we had training centres. There was a New Zealand Officer - a bit of a mysteryman - we availed of his services, we availed of them for a fairly good while. He became a bit of a danger to us then we got rid of him. During that period - from about March or April 1918, all during them Summer months, there were 2 nights a week devoted to training. I attended the different centres for training, carried it out. Then there was a re-organising work, the Coys. were not doing well, you would have to go and have to look after them, find things wrong, have a re-organisation, appoint officers.

Q. About May 1918, you were appointed Battn. Adjt?

A. I was appointed Battn. Adjt.. There was no Brigade there at the time. Previous to the Battn. being called there we were attached to the North Louth Battn. I think, it was called at the time. It is difficult to know whether it was a Brigade or Battn. I did not like the way - there were a few Coys. in South Armagh, attached to the North Louth Battn. I did not like the way things were. I think, I was mainly responsible for having the Coys. transferred back and forming a Battn. in South Armagh.

4th Period.



A. A short time after that a new brigade was formed.

Q. All during 1918, you were organising, training, drilling and doing Battn. Adjut. on a full time basis?

A. Yes. In 1918 there was an order came from Hqrs. that Vols. training during - and that the presence of police and Crown Forces would not be allowed to interfere with the training. I carried out that order in Mullaghbawn, and the police attended. We used train after Second Mass, when the biggest crowd was present. The police got after us, we had a good deal of sport with the police about that time. Frank was arrested for drilling his Company, he got a month in Belfast. I was on the run. The day Frank was tried there was a row in Newry, smashed up the courthouse. And Michael Hawe, was arrested then, he got 2 months in jail. I was very busy that time while Frank was in and while Michael Hawe, was in.

5th Period.

Q. In 1919 you were still Battn. Adjut. for a period?

A. Yes. I am not sure.

Q. Ballyedmond raid?

A. I think that was about May 1919, I am not exactly sure. There was a good share of organising work for that and I took part in it. I had a motor bike at the time, I was dispatch rider between Newry and Ballyedmond. The thing was a bit of a fiasco, there must have been about 1,000 men engaged in it. We had the navy out that time.

Q. All during that Period as Battn. Adjut. you were inspecting the Coys. and carrying on this Organisation work?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you devoting much time to it al that period, 1919?

A. I was devoting nearly all the time. I was an auctioneer, my work would only occupy about 3 months we will say, Nov., December and January. Even during the time I was working at my business I would be devoting practically all the evenings and nights to Vol. work. After that I used devote the whole time to Vol. Work. I was doing nothing else. I was doing fairly well at auctioneering business. In fact I paid a servant boy at home to replace me on the farm that time.

Q. Even when on the auctioneer business you would make use of it, to combine the two?

A. Yes. In 1920, I had 8 or 9 armed men of the Coy. going around with me.

Q. Feb. 1920, attempt on Newtownhamilton R.I.C., Bks?

A. Yes. It was the first attack, we organised that thing, it was intended to be a surprise attack and Frank was in charge, of the party. He was dressed as a Military Officer, He had about 10 men dressed as soldiers with steel helmets and the usual equipment soldiers wore at the time. I was in charge of the men all over the town. It was a very Orange town, I am sure there were about 100 armed Ulster Vols. We went in, Frank made his attempt to get in through the door by bluff and it failed. He tried to force the door, he was not able to, so we called it off. We did not attack it when the ruse failed.

Q. About this time, sometime prior to that you were made Brigade Adjutant?

A. I think I was made Brigade Adjutant, sometime about the Summer of 1919, sometime about the time of Ballyedmond raid, I think, I am not sure of that date.



5th Period.

Q. As Brigade Adjutant you had a more extensive area to work in?

A. Yes all the County Armagh and a small portion of County Tyrone. We used to have meetings in Newry, Armagh, Lurgan, Castlewilliam and later on Dundalk.

6th Period.

Q. Up to early 1921 - March - you were Brigade Adjutant?

A. From the summer of 1919 up to March, 1921.

Q. In that time you were carrying out the work of Brigade Adjutant covering the Counties Down and Armagh and you were attending meetings?

A. Yes.

Q. Attack on Newtownhamilton Barracks 9th May. Were you in this?

A. I was in front of the bks. I was in charge of the men in front of the bks.

Q. How far away?

A. Less than 20 yds.

Q. What arms had you?

A. Rifle.

Q. How long did the attack last?

A. From about 12 o'clock to 4/5 in the morning. It was daylight when we were getting away.

Q. Did you fire many shots that day?

A. I don't know how many. We had only about six grenades and we used the grenades on the barracks. The signal Frank was to give was to blow a whistle and he lost it and could not find it. He whistled with his fingers. I withdrew our men out of the place. It was a very hostile area. We got out over fences and ditches. Some of the chaps were from Newry and I had to leave them on the road for Newry. When I did that I found there was great explosions going on the barracks. I thought that the fight was still on. I took 6/7 men back with me. We came to the corner about 40 yds. from the bks. and from where we could see the bks. When I arrived there the Sergeant was on the street. He was Sergeant ..... I shouted at him and he put up his hands. One of the men ran out from the yard and then another fellow was coming out. He came over and lined up. One of the fellows with me lost his head and fired. The two fellows who were standing with their hands up seized their rifles and fired. The fellow coming out from the barracks fired too.

Q. Did you assist in the burning of the Custom House, Newry?

A. Yes.

Q. Attempt to capture explosives conveyed by strong military guard in Newry?

A. Yes.

Q. Did that fail?

A. It was called off. Some of the arrangements broke down.



Q. Helped to burn Forkhill and Newry Barracks?  
 A. Yes. Newry was a very dangerous job.

Q. Raids on Volunteer houses in July. How many houses did you raid?

A. All the houses in Newry - about 20.

Q. You were captured in July, 1920? released

A. I was captured after those raids. I was/about the 1st November. It was the time Terry McSwaney died.

Q. Where were you released from?

A. Crumlin Road, Belfast.

Q. When you came out did you resume the duties of Brigade Adjutant?

A. Yes.

Q. And you had the preparations for Camlough Barracks?

A. Yes.

Q. You went to Dublin to discuss the plans for that attack?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you bring arms and ammunition on 2 occasions from Dublin?

A. I conveyed them on several occasions from Dublin. I remember two very big loads. I had a motor bike. On two occasions I used a side car. I got the licence for that while I was on the run.

Q. Camlough Bks. attack. Were you in this attack?

A. I was second in command. I was in charge of the men on the south side of the barracks. Frank was in charge of the north side.

Q. How long did it last?

A. From about 12 o'clock and our plan was to pump petrol into it. They were pumping all over the place. The tube leading from the pump was punctured by a grenade. It failed. It was a very strong barracks. We were told in Dublin that we could never hope to take it. It lasted about one hour I would say. There was a fight at the Egyptian Arch that night.

Q. What arms had you?

A. Rifle. I was about 15 ft. from the bks.

Q. Ambush at Camlough on the 7th January?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you ambush there?

A. A patrol of R.I.C. and Specials.

Q. How many of you were in the attack?

A. About 7/8 of us.

Q. Who was in charge of you?

A. Frank was in charge.



Q. How long did that last?

A. A few minutes.

Q. Just a few shots?

A. Yes. One of them was wounded. We were too cold to do accurate shooting.

Q. Ambush at Cullyhanna?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did that last?

A. Not very long. One of the enemy was killed there. The ambush did not last very long. We had considerable trouble getting away. We had only 150 rounds of ammunition between 3 rifles.

Q. You helped to make a dump?

A. Yes. It was going on from the attack on Camlough Barracks. It was a concrete cave in an outhouse of ours.

Q. You conveyed a wounded Volunteer to Belfast?

A. I did not convey him. My sister did. I made arrangements for to have him taken into hospital. They got him into a Nursing Home for ex-soldiers.

Q. You had raids for mails and raids on the trains?

A. Yes. We had numerous raids on trains - twice a week from the summer of 1921 and we were stopping trains. We had a raid on a munitions train but we did not stop it. It went through. There was a big number of men engaged on it.

Q. You conveyed small arms from Belfast?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you being constantly rounded up by the R.I.C.?

A. I was on the run most of 1919. I was sort of on the run early in 1922. The local police did not interfere with me.

Military Service  
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Contn. Page 6

Q. About March '21 you were appointed Divl. Adj. and you were engaged in the organisation in connection with the formation of the Divn.?

A. Yes, about a fortnight before I was wounded. A fortnight or three weeks. I was wounded on the 20th April.

Q. 24th April you have down here?

A. Yes, 24th. The Divn. was formed about the end of March or the beginning of April.

Q. All during this period, up to the time you were Divl. Adj., you were Bde. Adj., inspecting the Battns. and Coys. and attending Bde. meetings and Battn. meetings and that?

A. Yes.

Q. You were full time on that work, in addition to the other details we have taken?

A. Yes.

7th Period

Q. You were appointed Divl. Adj. when the Divn. was created at the end of March or the beginning of April?

A. Yes.

Q. The first thing then was an attempted ambush on military at Plaster?

A. Yes. We had an attempted ambush at Camlough the night before I was wounded and there was some sniping at Camlough bks. that night. I was surrounded in a house and captured.

Q. 24th April you were surrounded and captured?

A. Yes.

Q. You were wounded and captured?

A. Yes.

Q. Was there much of a fight there?

A. Well, the house itself was completely surrounded and I was inside armed. I had two other Vols. with me, the local Capt. and one of the Vols. and there were two old people in the farm-house, an old man and an old woman. I was in a bit of a mix-up about that, I had a bomb or two and a Webley in the house and the street in front of the house was full of police. They were breaking in the door when I heard them and it turned out afterwards that they knew I was there. We had the walls drilled into different houses along. I dumped the two guns, I knew if I bombed them in the front yard the old people would probably go west and I had no belief that I would ever get away myself and I was considering the fact that if I did knock any of them out they would likely "do in" the old man and the old woman so I dumped the gun and bombs into a barrel of meal in an out-house out from the kitchen. The back door of that out-house was two half doors so I opened the bottom half and I looked out - I had not very much clothes on me - and I saw a Special standing with his back to me so I slipped out and gave him the Rugby tackle and knocked him down and threw him on his head and got across into a haggard when I heard a man running in the opposite direction, just as I was running across the haggard. It was just light at the time. I stepped behind one of the stacks in the garden and there was a fence there and the man I heard running came just where I was in between the hedge



and the stack so I hit him and knocked him out and I got through a fence then - it was a whitethorn fence and pretty hard to get through - and I was half way through when I looked back and I saw him trying to get up. He was apparently knocked out. I got away a few hundred yards and they turned machine guns on me from different directions and rifle fire.

Q. You went into hospital after that?

A. Yes, up to the 1st Aug.

8th Period

Q. Early in Aug. you were released?

A. Yes, some time about that.

Q. You took up duties about mid-Sept. again?

A. Yes. I was a very bad case, I was hardly able to walk when I was released. I went into a training camp at Meigh. I did some duty and in Oct. I was appointed Liaison Officer in Armagh and took up duty and when the Treaty debates were on I was recalled for the resumption of hostilities and that was called off, the Treaty was signed and I was on full time duty from that until my appointment as Divl. Adjt. from Jan. '22 and I served all during that period of the fighting. The active service started early in Feb. and from that up to the Civil War started I was Divl. Adjt., carrying out the duties of Divl. Adjt. and I was in charge of a Col. across the border - operating across the border.

Q. You were appointed Divl. Adjt. about 12th Jan. and then you were in charge of a Col. operating across the border and you were full time?

A. Up to the Civil War started, then we were neutral from the 1st July until the 15th July, and on the night of the 15th July or the morning of the 16th July the F.S. army marched into Dundalk and captured the Divl. O.C. and a few of the staff, the Divl. staff, and other officers and about 200 men in the military bks. in Dundalk, there was a meeting. I was not captured, I was in Dublin that night. I came the next day and found out that the town had been captured. I called a meeting a few days afterwards and on the following Sun. there was a Divl. meeting called and held. I was appointed Divl. O.C.

AMcD

P.T.O.

Military Service  
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There was a staff appointed and a whole reorganisation of the different Brigades. Half of the 1st Brigade, before the Civil War started, had not been taking orders from us. They were taking orders from the Executive Forces.

After the reorganisation of the Division which occurred about the 20th or 22nd July, the first operation we planned was the attack on the Gaol and, if successful, to be followed up by an attack on the town if opportunity presented itself.

We attacked the gaol and got all the prisoners there including the Divisional O.C., and other important officers. I was captured that morning myself and I was a prisoner then until April, 1923. I escaped from Tintown in April, 1923.

10th Period: Q. You were a prisoner until April, 1923?  
A. I was captured ten days' later and courtmartialled and sentenced to death. So I was informed by the Military. It was commuted to ten years.

Q. When were you released?

A. In June, 1924.

Q. From where?

A. From the Military Hospital in the Curragh.

The Divisional O.C. had put in a statement in connection with the 4th Northern Division. I am shown as Divisional O.C. in that statement from the time the reorganisation occurred in July, 1922.

Q. Is there anything else?

A. No.

Military Service  
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SUMMARY of EVIDENCE - JOHN MCCOY - 16473.

8th SEPTEMBER, 1939.

GRADE I.

Joined at Christmas, 1917.

3rd Period

Applicant was one of three or four men who devoted their full-time to organising Volunteers in the district.

He was appointed company Captain in February, 1918.

4th Period

March, April and May:- Training centres were established in the different parts of the Battalion. Applicant attended them, inspected Companies, and assisted in organising in Armagh, etc.

He was appointed Battalion Adjutant in May, 1918.

About this Period a number of officers were arrested. Applicant was "on the run" and carried out an intensive organisation and training of the Battalion.

5th Period

Battalion Adjutant until the summer of 1919.

Devoted all his time to organising the Volunteers.

As Battalion Adjutant he helped in organising South Down, Armagh, portions of Tyrone, etc. Attended Meetings at different centres. His business as an Auctioneer facilitated him in visiting the different districts. From early in 1920 he was accompanied by eight or nine armed men on this work.

He took part in organising the raid on Ballyedmond Castle. On the night of the raid acted as connecting link between Newry and Ballyedmond. He had a motor-bicycle.

February, 1920 - attempted capture of Newtownhamilton Bks.:- Spent a considerable time in organising this attempted raid. On the night of the proposed attack he was in charge of the men in the town. It was a Protestant district. The attempt failed.

About May, 1920, he was appointed Brigade Adjutant.

6th Period

As Brigade Adjutant, he inspected Battalions and Companies in the district. Gave his full time to the work.

Newtownhamilton Bks. attack:- Applicant was in charge of the men in front of the Bks. He was armed with a rifle about 20-yds. from the Bks. The attack lasted four or five hours. The police were driven into the Yard. After the main body had withdrawn applicant succeeded in holding up some members of the R.I.C. garrison. Owing to a mishap they had to withdraw.



6th Period (Contd.)

Took part in the burning of the Custom House at Newry, the destruction of Barracks at Forkhill and Newry, and in an attempt to capture explosives in Newry.

Raided about twenty Ulster Unionist houses in July. Was captured shortly after this. Released from Belfast in November.

Resumed his duties as Brigade Adjutant. Came to Dublin to discuss the attack on Camlough Bks. Brought arms and ammunition on several occasions from Dublin.

12th December - Camlough Bks. attack:-

Applicant was in charge of the men on the south side. The attack lasted an hour.

7th January - Camlough ambush:- Applicant was one of a party of seven or eight that attacked a patrol of R.I.C. and Specials. Exchange of shots lasted a few minutes. One of the enemy was wounded.

13th January - Cullyhanna ambush:-

Applicant was one of a party of eight Volunteers that attacked a patrol of Specials. One of them was killed. The Volunteers had considerable difficulty in getting away.

After the attack on Camlough, he helped to make a big dump and dug-out.

Raids for mails and raids on trains were carried out regularly. There were constant rounds-up, etc.

7th Period:

Was appointed Divisional Adjutant about the end of March or beginning of April. Took part in the preparation for the formation of the Division. Inspected different Brigades, etc.

Attempted ambush on Military at Plaster and Camlough.

24th April: Surrounded, wounded and captured.

In gaol.

8th Period:

In gaol until about the 1st of August when he was released. Was unable to resume activities owing to his wounds until mid-September when he attended a Training Camp at Meigh.

Was appointed Liaison Officer in October.

When the Treaty debates were on, he was called to the Division. Resumed his duties as Divisional Adjutant in January, 1922.



Full-time in charge of the Column operating on the Border.

9th Period:

Was neutral from 1st July to 15th July.

Was in Dublin on the night of the 15th July when the Divisional O.C., and 200 men were captured.

Returned to the District and a few days later was appointed Divisional O.C.

Helped to reorganise different Brigades which up to this had been taking orders from the Executive.

As Divisional O.C. carried out the operation which led to the capture of the Gaol and the release of the Divisional O.C. He was captured that morning himself, and interned.

10th Period:

Escaped in April, 1923 - recaptured ten days later.

Interned. Released in June, 1924 from the Military Hospital, Curragh.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

PM/GH.



REF. No. 16473APPLICANT'S NAME McBry JohnADDRESS 19 Calderwood Ave, Drumcondra, DublinUNIT 2nd Bde. 4th N. Div.

(a) PERIOD	(b) Service claimed	(c) Active service allowed	(d) Equivalent for Pension purposes	REMARKS
(1) 23/4/16 - 30/4/16		Nil	Nil	(7)
(2) (a) 1/4/16 - 22/4/16 (b) 30/4/16 - 31/3/17		Nil	Nil	(8)
(3) 1/4/17 - 31/3/18	Jan 1918 - 31/3/18	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$ year	(9)
(4) 1/4/18 - 31/3/19	Full Period.	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$ year	(10)
(5) 1/4/19 - 31/3/20	do.	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$ year	Finished 9/1/40 (11)
(6) 1/4/20 - 31/3/21	do.	Full	2 years	(12)
(7) 1/4/21 - 11/7/21	do.	Full	1 year	Cont 2020 (13)
(8) 12/7/21 - 30/6/22	do.	Full	1 year	20 - 1. 40 (14)
(9) 1/7/22 - 31/3/23	do.	$\frac{17}{18}$	$1\frac{8}{9}$ year	(15)
(10) 1/4/23 - 30/9/23	do.	Full	1 year	(16)

(a) First critical date.

(b) Second critical date.

Rank claimed on

Rank allowed

Div. adj.  
C (Divisional Adjutant)Div. Ok.  
A (Adjutant)

Total of Column (d)

SIGNED Seumas Robinson8 1/18  
John Jordan



Referee R. 17.

OIFIG AN RÉITEÓRA,  
(OFFICE OF THE REFEREE),  
BEAIRICÍ UÍ GRÍOBHTHA,  
(GRIFFITH BARRACKS),  
CUAR-BHÓTHAR THEAS,  
(SOUTH CIRCULAR ROAD),  
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH.  
(DUBLIN).

Ref. No. 16473

12 January 1940

15 March 1940

A CHARA,

I am directed by the Referee to refer to your application under the terms of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934, and in accordance with the provisions of Statutory Rules and Orders 1936, No. 61, I am to notify you that on the evidence submitted, the findings of the Referee in respect of your application are as follows:—

Service Period	Duration of Active Service during each period, as established to the satisfaction of the Referee.	Appropriate pensionable service .... Years.
(1) Week commencing 23/4/16		
(2) (a) 1/4/16 - 22/4/16 } (b) 30/4/16 - 31/3/17 }		
(3) 1/4/17 - 31/3/18	$\frac{1}{6}$ of Entire Period	$\frac{1}{12}$
(4) 1/4/18 - 31/3/19	$\frac{2}{3}$ of do	$\frac{1}{3}$
(5) 1/4/19 - 31/3/20	$\frac{3}{4}$ of do	$\frac{3}{4}$
(6) 1/4/20 - 31/3/21	Entire Period	2
(7) 1/4/21 - 11/7/21	do	1
(8) 12/7/21 - 30/6/22	do	1
(9) 1/7/22 - 31/3/23	$\frac{17}{16}$ of Entire Period	$1\frac{2}{3}$
(10) 1/4/23 - 30/9/23	Entire Period	1

TOTAL—8 $\frac{1}{6}$  years.

Grade of rank on 1st critical date.....C

“ “ “ 2nd “ “ .....A

I am also to inform you that if you desire to submit any additional evidence or to make any representations with a view to the revision of these findings, such evidence or representations must be submitted in writing to the

Referee and must reach this office not later than.....5<sup>th</sup> Nov.

The Referee will give full consideration to any evidence or representations so submitted, and after such consideration will make his report to the Minister for Defence. If no additional evidence or representation is furnished before the date indicated, the Referee will thereupon make his report to the Minister.

I am to add that the report of the Referee, when made, will, subject as mentioned in Section 9 of the Act, become final and conclusive and binding on all persons and tribunals whatsoever.

Mise, le meas,

Ch. John Mc Coy

19 Calderwood Av

Drumcondra Dublín

Rúnaidhe.



# Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

Ref. No. 345.1/18037

To:

THE REFEREE.

Ref. No. M.S.P./34/Referee - 16473

To:

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE.

I am directed by the Minister for Defence to transmit for report in accordance with Section 8 and the Regulations made under the Act the accompanying application of

McBry John  
19, Ballywood Road, Spinnecunda  
for a Service Certificate.

I submit hereunder my report in this case.

The report should take the form of replies to the questions set out herewith.

J. J. Morgan

(SIGNED) T. UA. DÓMHNAILL

Referee.

Date 2 - JAN 1936

Date 6/7/40

1. Is the Applicant a person to whom the Act applies? yes

2. If so, total actual service in the different service periods, as established

① nil ② 6 of ENTIRE PERIOD ③ 3 of ENTIRE PERIOD  
④ 3 of ENTIRE PERIOD ⑤ 1 of ENTIRE PERIOD ⑥ 1 of ENTIRE PERIOD  
⑦ 1 of ENTIRE PERIOD ⑧ 1 of ENTIRE PERIOD ⑨ 1 of ENTIRE PERIOD ⑩ 1 of ENTIRE PERIOD

3. Total service for pension purposes as defined by Second Schedule of the Act.

8 1/2 years

4. Grade or rank, quoting relevant paragraph of First Schedule under which allowed:—

(a) On first critical date. Grade C. Para. 1(3)(c)

(b) On second critical date. Grade A. Para. 1(1)

(c) Was applicant a member of the Irish Volunteer Executive at any time prior to the 11th July, 1921. no

(d) Does applicant's case fall under either of the following sub-paragraphs, and, if so, which, viz., sub-paragraph (j) of paragraph 3 of Rule I. of First Schedule

or under sub-paragraph (m) of paragraph 4 of Rule I. of First Schedule, as a Medical Officer. no



5. Does the applicant state in his application whether he is at present in receipt of any remuneration, pension or allowance payable out of public moneys whether provided by the Oireachtas or out of the Central Fund or by means of the poor rate or any other rate imposed by a local authority? *Advisory Committee, A. S. P. '34 Act*

6. Does the applicant state in his application whether he applied for or is in receipt of unemployment assistance under the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1933? If so, quote the number of his qualification certificate if given by him.

*no*

7. THE WEEK COMMENCING ON THE 23RD DAY OF APRIL, 1916.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

*nil*

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.

8. THE PERIOD COMPRISING :—

(a) THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 1916, AND ENDING ON THE 22ND DAY OF APRIL, 1916, and

(b) THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 30TH DAY OF APRIL, 1916, AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 1917.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

*nil*

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.



(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.....

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

9. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 1917, AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 1918.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

$\frac{1}{6}$  of ENTIRE PERIOD

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

$\frac{1}{12}$  of 1 year

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces..... *Irish Volunteers*

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

*Mullaghtown Coy.*

10. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 1918, AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 1919.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

$\frac{2}{3}$  of ENTIRE PERIOD

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

$\frac{1}{3}$  of 1 year

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces..... *Irish Volunteers*

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

*Dundalk and Bamlough Battalions*



11. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 1919, AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 1920.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

.....  $\frac{3}{4}$  of ENTIRE PERIOD .....

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

.....  $\frac{3}{4}$  of 1 year .....

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces..... Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

..... Cambridge Str. and,  
..... Newry Bde. .....

12. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 1920, AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 1921.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

..... ENTIRE PERIOD .....

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

..... 1 year .....

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces..... Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

..... Newry Bde. and,  
..... 4th Northern Div. .....

13. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 1921, AND ENDING ON THE 11TH DAY OF JULY, 1921.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

..... ENTIRE PERIOD .....

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

..... 1 year .....



(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.....

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

*4th Northern Div.*

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

*Divisional Adj.*

14. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 12TH DAY OF JULY, 1921, AND ENDING ON THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 1922.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

ENTIRE PERIOD

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

*1 year*

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.....

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

*4th Northern Div.*

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

15. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF JULY, 1922, AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 1923.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

*17/18 of* ENTIRE PERIOD

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

*1 8/9 years*

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.....

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

*4th Northern Div.,  
and Internment*

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

*Divisional Adj.*



16. THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 1923, AND ENDING ON THE 30TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1923.

(1) Duration of active service during the period as established to your satisfaction

ENTIRE PERIOD

(2) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined in the Second Schedule of the Act.....

1 year

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.....

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....

Interned