

Roinn

pó-Roinn

p.c.1

ná cuirtear éantúairisc ar an sclúdaic so.

Tá annro, leir

An Uimhir

An Snó

M.S.P. 34/Refered

35986

An Uimhir as Roinn
Eile.

Donovan. Myra 'Miss'
C/o Mrs Patterson
Timbely
to Wicklow
Upper Quay
Westport
to Mayo

Do cuirtear é

Dáta

Do cuirtear é

Dáta

Do cuirtear é

Dáta

N/A (B)

TRIL

Mrsweeney

to Loughran

N/A (B)

to M. Quinn

21/1/39

14/5/41

16/5/41

27/5/41

29/5/41

Military Archives

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT (1934).

REF. No. 35986 APPLICANT'S NAME O'Donovan Myra (Miss) ADDRESS ? Timahely Co. Wicklow REFEREE R.3
UNIT Ballinacorney B. Cuamsham Bork III Bde.

(a) PERIOD	(b) Service claimed	(c) Active service allowed	(d) Equivalent for Pension purposes	REMARKS
(1) 23/4/16 — 30/4/16				(7)
(2) (a) 1/4/16 — 22/4/16 } (b) 30/4/16 — 31/3/17 }				(8)
(3) 1/4/17 — 31/3/18	Full Period			(9)
(4) 1/4/18 — 31/3/19	do.			(10)
(5) 1/4/19 — 31/3/20	do.			(11)
(6) 1/4/20 — 31/3/21	do.			(12)
(7) 1/4/21 — 11/7/21	do.			(13)
(8) 12/7/21 — 30/6/22				(14)
(9) 1/7/22 — 31/3/23				(15)
(10) 1/4/23 — 30/9/23				(16)

(a) First critical date. (b) Second critical date.

Rank claimed on E.

Rank allowed Total of Column (d)

SIGNED

Military Service
Pensions Collection

REF. No. 35986APPLICANT'S NAME O'Donovan, Myra (Miss)ADDRESS Knockly, Co. WicklowUNIT Cumann na nGaedheal, Cork III

(a) PERIOD	(b) Service claimed	(c) Active service allowed	(d) Equivalent for Pension purposes	REMARKS
(1) 23/4/16 - 30/4/16				(7)
(2) (a) 1/4/16 - 22/4/16 } (b) 30/4/16 - 31/3/17 }				(8)
(3) 1/4/17 - 31/3/18				(9)
(4) 1/4/18 - 31/3/19				(10)
(5) 1/4/19 - 31/3/20				(11)
(6) 1/4/20 - 31/3/21				(12)
(7) 1/4/21 - 11/7/21				(13)
(8) 12/7/21 - 30/6/22				(14)
(9) 1/7/22 - 31/3/23				(15)
(10) 1/4/23 - 30/9/23				(16)

Conf
12.2.40

ACT DOES NOT
APPEAR TO APPLY

(a) First critical date. (b) Second critical date.

Rank claimed on

Rank allowed

Total of Column (d)

SIGNED—.....

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Handwritten initials

M.S.P./34/2.

Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

34 S.P.
Ref. No. 38019.....

Ref. No. 35586.....

To :
THE REFEREE.

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

I submit hereunder my report in this case.

O'Donovan Myra
Co M^c Patterson Upper Quay
for a Service Certificate. Westport
Co Mayo

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

J. Morgan

Date 27 NOV 1936

REJECTION
23 NOV 1941
Referee.
Date

- 1. Is the Applicant a person to whom the Act applies ? *no*
- 2. If so, total actual service in the different service periods, as established.
- 3. Total service for pension purposes as defined by Second Schedule of the Act.
- 4. Grade or rank, quoting relevant paragraph of First Schedule under which allowed : —
 - (a) On first critical date.
 - (b) On second critical date.
 - (c) Was applicant a member of the Irish Volunteer Executive at any time prior to the 11th July, 1921.
 - (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.

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 ?.....

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.....

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

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

(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

(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

.....

.....

(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.....

.....

.....

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

.....

.....

(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.....

.....

.....

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

(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.....

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

(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.....

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

(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.....

.....

.....

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

.....

.....

(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.....

.....

.....

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

.....

.....

(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.....

.....

.....

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

.....

(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.....

.....

**Military Service
 Pensions Collection**

Military Archives

Miss Myra O'Donovan (35986).

Memo.

Please note change of address
as follows:

Tinahely,

County Wicklow.

Noted.

93. Notified

15/5/41

PM/BH

8th May, 1941.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Summary of Sworn Evidence given before Interviewing Officers by applicant, Miss Myra O'Donovan, on 8th May, 1941, and agreed to by her. (Ref. No. 35986).

You joined the Cumann na mBan in 1917.

3rd, 4th & 5th Periods.

In 1917, 1918 and 1919 you had all the usual C. na mBan meetings. You attended first-aid lectures, made signal flags, helped to collect funds by means of dances, houses to house collections, etc. You also delivered now and again to men on the run despatches, and sent them food, clothes, etc.

6th & 7th Periods.

You had the same type of activities as in the previous periods.

INTELLIGENCE: You got information now and again from ~~we~~ a woman who was working in the barracks. This information was in connection with raids. You delivered the information to the Volunteers and you believe that it saved a number of them from arrest. You remember Patrick Donovan escaped arrest as a result of a warning given by you.

You watched the movements of suspects and reported them to the Volunteers. As a result of these and similar reports from other C. na mBan women, the mails were raided, and several of these suspects banished and two of them shot.

You delivered food, clothes, cigarettes, etc., to men on the run.

Men stayed in your house from time to time. One man stayed there for two weeks. If they were unable to stay in your house you provided them with safe houses and took them to these places.

You took an active part in the boycott of Cotter.

You were active in this way up to the Truce.

Is that now a fair summary of your activities?

A. I imagine it is.

Are you satisfied with that?

A. I am perfectly satisfied, and I am very grateful to you.

PC 35986-3

9.5.41

Act does not apply.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

PM/BH



SEANAD ÉIREANN

117, Donore Terrace

TIGH LAIGHEAN
(Leinster House) S.B.Rd

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
(Dublin)

4th May 1941

d. Chára.

A member of our urban will be in Dublin on Thursday 8th May on business. I will be much obliged if you will arrange for her examination or pension claim on that day.

She is ^(Miss) Myra O'Donovan. 6/C. Station House, Tinahely, Wicklow. Application form sent from Wexford Quay. Mayo. Service rendered in Ballinacorney. Co Cork 3rd Batt. 3rd West Cork Brig.

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours sincerely

Margt. L. Kennedy.

~~M. Kennedy~~

Ref for Call 11/5/41

I have read the statement of Miss Myra
O'Donovan late of Ballinacree Co. Cork and
wish to verify as correct everything stated
therein.

During the entire period she was always
available to do the most important I. R. A.
work, and living as she did in the centre
of a very hostile country, this work was
often very difficult. She gave all her time
to this and the usual C. M. M. work.

Signed Hanna C. Cotter, Vice Pres. C. M. M.
III Batt. III Cork Brigade

6/12/38.

Military Archives

ÉIRE.

*Isone Arday
T.M.*

Mrs Myra O'Donovan
To Mrs Patterson



Upper Quay
Westport
Co Mayo

Refuse

UNDELIVERED FOR REASON STATED
RETURN TO SENDER



Military Service
Pensions Collection

REFEREE R. 19.

OIFIG AN RÉITEÓRA,
(OFFICE OF THE REFEREE),

COLAISTE CAOIMHIN,
GLASNEVIN,

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH,
(DUBLIN).

Any reply should bear

Ref. No.

43/35986

28 FOR. 1940 SEP 1940
DUB 01 28

AND THE NAME OF YOUR FORMER COMPANY, BATTALION, AND BRIGADE.

A CHARA,

With reference to your application under the provisions of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934, for a certificate of military service, I am directed by the Referee to invite your attention to sub-section (1) of Section 2, and to Section 3 of the Act—copies of which are set out overleaf—and I am to point out that the Act applies only to persons—

(a) who rendered active service in the Forces at any time during the week commencing 23rd April, 1916, or who rendered continuous active service in the Forces during the period from 1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921, or from 1st April, 1921, to 11th July, 1921; and

(b) who are not persons to whom the Act of 1924 applies.

In your application you do not claim to have given service as specified at (a) above, and I am, accordingly, to inform you that on the evidence before him the finding of the Referee is, that you are not a person to whom the Act applies.

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 this finding, such evidence or representations must be submitted in writing to the Referee and must reach this office not later than.....

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,

Mrs Myra O'Donovan

Cp Mrs Patterson

Upper Quay Westport

Runaidhe.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

Service in
the Forces.

2.—(1) A person shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to have been serving in the Forces while such person was rendering active service in any of the bodies which constitute the Forces and, in the case of a person who served as a member of the Irish Volunteer Executive or of the Headquarters Staff of Oglagh na hEireann (Irish Republican Army) or in the Intelligence Branch of any of the bodies which constitute the Forces, while such person was so serving.

Persons to
whom this
Act applies.

3.—(1) This Act applies to every person—

- (a) who served in the Forces at any time during the week commencing on the 23rd day of April, 1916, or who served in the Forces continuously during either of the following periods, that is to say, the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1920, and ending on the 31st day of March, 1921, and the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1921, and ending on the 11th day of July, 1921, and
- (b) 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, and
- (c) who is not a person to whom the Act of 1924 applies.

(2) Where a person who is not a person to whom the Act of 1924 applies and who is not a person to whom, by virtue of the preceding sub-section of this section, this Act applies, 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,

this Act shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing sub-section of this section, apply to such person, but with and subject to the modification that, in respect of such person, 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.

(3) The Act of 1924 shall for the purposes of this section, be deemed not to apply to a person to whom the Act in fact applies but in respect of whom the Minister is satisfied either that because of such person having served in the Forces he did not apply for a certificate of military service under the said Act or that such person was refused such certificate because of his having been sentenced to imprisonment or penal servitude in respect of an act done by him in the execution of his duty as a member of the Forces.

Military Archives



Reference R.

Issued

26 SEP 1940

Expires

15 OCT 1940

Military Service
Pensions Collection

19

Military Service Pensions Act 1934

In connection with my application for a Military Service Pension I beg to submit the following report:—

I joined the Ballineen (Co. Cork) branch of Coman na mBan in April 1917 and attended local protest meetings against conscription at that period. I remained an active member until I resigned at the outbreak of the civil war in 1922.

I attended all branch meetings regularly and performed any duties allotted to me to the best of my ability particularly the carrying of dispatches. I gave much assistance in helping to form branches in other areas and also helped to raise funds by organising Whist Drives and Dances and holding Church Door collections. These funds were utilised to procure First Aid outfits, clothes, and sometimes food and cigarettes for the Volunteers. I also assisted in making shirts and socks for the Volunteers and kept them supplied with same while on the run. I frequently took these to the camp at great personal risk when the Volunteers were unable to leave their posts or call round for the necessary articles. I helped to make signalling flags for the Scouts and also learned First Aid so as to be of use whenever called on to render assistance.

I assisted in procuring information as to the movements of all local parties out to hamper our movements and by keeping a close watch on all their activities and reporting anything suspicious, succeeded in getting a number of their plans frustrated. Due to information of intended raids by R.I.C. and military which was timely supplied by me the Volunteers changed their positions on a number of occasions and got safely away before the arrival of the enemy.

Residing as I was in a small village where everyone's movements and I may say sympathies were known to everybody else, I wasn't long in the movement when the R.I.C. picked me out as one to

pay particular attention to, and there after I was frequently held up, searched, and questioned by them and later by their successors the Black & Tans. My house was frequently raided, three times in 1920 by R.I.C. and later in 1921 by B.T. Tans. In October 1920 my brother was arrested and interned in Cork Gaol and later in Ballykinlar Camp. From that time forth my movements and those of the other members of my family ^{were} constantly under observation and hence anything I did in connection with the movement was at considerable risk of being detected.

West Cork at the time was a hot bed of British Imperialists who were constantly watching and reporting our activities to the enemy, consequently the carrying out of our duties was considerably hampered. I had often to make a detour of several miles when conveying messages to the Volunteers so as to ward off suspicion and conceal our positions from the enemy. To counteract the activities of the above mentioned I assisted in watching the movements of all those whom I had reason to think were not in sympathy with our cause, reporting any suspicious movements on their part to our local Intelligence Officer. As a result of information supplied by me and other members of the Cumann the mails were on a number of occasions raided and information received which led to the shooting of two local enemy supporters and the banishment from the district of several others who were found to be implicated in a lesser degree.

With other members of the Cumann I assisted in collecting funds for the White Cross, The Volunteers, The Gaelic League, and for the Political Prisoners of the time. I also assisted in organising whist-drives, dances and other social functions in aid of the same objects. Having through our combined efforts succeeded in putting our own Cumann in a sound financial position we were also able to contribute to and frequently assisted other local branches who appealed to us for support.

Though a continuous watch was kept on my movements

I delivered dispatches and got them delivered safely week in, week out during the period of my membership but particularly in the years 1920 and 1921. When other members thought it too dangerous and refused to take the risk I delivered them myself from one area to another. Bicycles were not allowed at the time except on permit from local Military Authorities and needless to remark it would have been useless for me to look for a permit as same would not be granted. hence I was frequently compelled to travel from 6 to 10 miles on foot in all kinds of weather.

At times when a particular area was being combed by the Tans I had to deliver food and clothing to the ^{camps} as the Volunteers were not allowed to leave their places of retreat. I delivered a number of dispatches to the Head Quarter of the Flying Squad on the night following the Shilmichael Ambush and also on subsequent nights while the Tans were scouring the country for the very parties with whom I was in communication. I also took supplies of cigarettes to the Volunteers on these occasions. (November 1920)

I provided food, clothing and shelter in my own house on various occasions for members of the Flying Squad who happened to come my way and when it became too risky for me to shelter them owing to the vigilance of the enemy I either directed or guided them to houses where I knew they were safe.

When a local boycott was directed against a well known informer I helped to spread same and to discourage people from supporting him or purchasing his goods with consequent ill results for myself and other members of my family as I have it on reliable authority that due to information supplied by the party above referred to my brother was arrested.

I gave my services wholeheartedly to the movement until the outbreak of the Civil War in 1922 when failing to agree with the latest turn of events I resigned and took no further part in politics from that time forth.

Signed Hamish B. Cotter. Vice Pres. C. I. S. B. Myra O'Donovan
III Batt. III Cork Brigade.

38019



DEPT. OF DEFENCE
RECEIVED
17 SEP 1935

M.S.P./34/1.

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 *block capitals*). O'DONOVAN SURNAME. MYRA CHRISTIAN NAMES.

PRESENT ADDRESS. UPPER QUAY, WESTPORT, Co. MAYO
(to be written in *block capitals*). C/o Mrs. PATTERSON

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 to 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.....

(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 ?.....

Though myself, and members of my family gave our services whole-heartedly to the cause, we have never benefited in any way. My brother, the sole support, of an aged mother and myself, was interned in Ballykissil Camp for 14 months in 1920, from the effects of which he afterwards died, and since then my mother and I, are depending on a married sister for our upkeep. We made applications for assistance, to the Minister for Defence last September, but were turned down, on the plea, that our application was late, but I trust the same will not happen in this case, and that you will be good enough to extend your kind consideration to my claim.

Yours truly,

(Miss) Myra O'Donovan

(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.

.....

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

(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.

.....

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

(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.

.....

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

(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 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.

.....
Served during (b) period.

(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.....*No.*.....

(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..... *Ballinacorney branch of Company No. 10th*

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... *From 1st April 1917 To Treaty*

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... *Ballinacorney, and
Kinniskerry, Carrigra, Ballinacorney, Kinniskerry*

- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance. *(Mrs) Mary E. O'Dwyer*
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? *Attended all branch meetings regularly, and performed such duties*
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period. *allotted to me, to the best of my ability, particularly despatch carrying.*
- (g) Absence from duty and cause.
- (h) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Mr. P. C. Breslin, Gilloch, Ballinacree, Co. Cork.
Mrs. May O'Sullivan Knockbrown, Bandon, Co. Cork.
Rev. Canon O'Connell, P. P. Kinniskeen, Co. Cork.

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

- (a) Unit or Units. *Ballinacree branch of Cumann na mBan*
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service. *Continuous*
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered. *Ballinacree, and Kinniskeen, and surrounding districts.*
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance. *(Mrs) Mary E. O'Dwyer.*
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? *I assisted with other members, in forming branches in other*
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period. *areas, helped to raise funds, and carried despatches.*
- (g) Absence from duty and cause.

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Mr. P. O. Bruin, Gislach Ballineen Co. Cork
 Rev. Canon O'Connell, P. P. Enniskeen Co. Cork
 Mrs. May O'Sullivan, Knockbrown Bandon Co. Cork

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

(a) Unit or Units... *Ballineen branch of Cumann na mBan*

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

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

battalion area, including Ballineen and Enniskeen

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance... *(Mrs) Mary E. O'Dwyer*

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

services willingly, at all times, carrying dispatches

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

the period... *Made house to house collections to raise*

the necessary funds for first aid outfits for the volunteers of the battalion, and always had them ready

(g) Absence from duty and cause... *when required*

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Mr. P. O. Bruin, Gislach Ballineen Co. Cork
 Rev. Canon O'Connell, P. P. Enniskeen Co. Cork
 Mrs. May O'Sullivan, Knockbrown Bandon Co. Cork

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

(a) Unit or Units... *Ballineen branch of Cumann na mBan*

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

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

Kenneigh Balliniscarrigi Murch. Werr. gra

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance... *(Mrs) C. Patterson*

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? *I helped to make Shirts and socks for the volunteers and kept them supplied*

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period. *with same, while on the run. I took them to the camps to them at great risks when they couldn't leave their posts. Helped to make signalling flags for Scouts*

(g) Absence from duty and cause. *also learned first aid, and reported the movements of the enemy to the volunteers.*

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Mr. L. C. Bruce Gillock Ballineen Co. Cork
Rev Canon O'Connell P.P. Glenties Co. Cork
Mrs. May C. Sullivan Knockbrown Bandon Co. Cork

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

(a) Unit or Units. *Ballineen branch of Cumann na mBan*

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

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered. *The local and surrounding districts.*

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance. *(Mrs) C. Latterson*

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

dispatches all through when necessary. Kept in touch

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period. *all through with the volunteers, and gave*

any assistance in my power. Kept them supplied with necessaries, also with useful information.

(g) Absence from duty and cause. *kept raising funds to meet expenses. I continued on active service until the outbreak of the*

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

civil war, during which period, I continued raising funds, and

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Mr. L. C. Bruce Gillock Ballineen Co. Cork
Rev Canon O'Connell P.P. Glenties Co. Cork
Mrs. May C. Sullivan Knockbrown Bandon Co. Cork

increasing our supplies for the volunteers, & in learning first aid & signalling & giving every assistance in my power, to the branch, until my resignation at the beginning of the civil war.

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.

Member of Ballinacree branch of
Cumann na mBan.

(b) On second critical date.

References who can testify as to your statements :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Mr. J. C. Bruce, Carlock, Ballinacree Co. Cork
Rev. Canon C. Connell, P. S. Kinnisdeeran Co. Cork
Mrs. May C. Sullivan, Knockbrown, Bandon Co. Cork

- (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.

No.

- (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.

No.

(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.

No.

(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 *No.*

(8). Are you in receipt of any pension in respect of service :— *No.*

- (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.....

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.....

Myra O'Donovan

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

M J H Creal

Address of Witness.....

Don Maere Westport.

Qualification.....

L M Ricciardi

Date.....

22nd / 8 / 35

* 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.

**Military Service
Pensions Collection**