

new cover  
F.C.1

ROINN \_\_\_\_\_

R

Ró-Roinn \_\_\_\_\_

ná cuirtear éantúairisc ar an sclúdaic seo.

Tá annro, leir

P

~~A~~ ~~F~~

An Uimhir

An Snó

M.S.P./84/Refer

1251.

Baker, Joseph Leo,  
Lower Bridge St,  
Westport,  
Co. Mayo.

An Uimhir as Roinn  
Eile.

340296  
4/39.

Do cuirtear éun

Dáta

Do cuirtear éun

Dáta

Do cuirtear éun

Dáta

P.G.  
Rúnaí  
PA  
Rúnaí  
Mr. Robinson

45  
6/9/37  
26/9/37  
18/12/40  
29/2/41

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

An Uimhir

An Snó

~~A.~~

4/34/Referee

1251

Baker Joseph Leo

29 JAN 1935

An Uimhir as Roinn Eile.

Lower Bridge St

Westport

Co Mayo

4/39

Do cuirteadh eun

Dáta

Do cuirteadh eun

Dáta

Do cuirteadh eun

Dáta

Mrs. Sweeney

28/4/35

Mr Dooley

25/4/35

Ruan

1/6/35

Mr Dooley

29/7/35

Mr. Sweeney

8/11/35

Report G.H.O.

13/11/35

PA

7/1/36

P.A.

19/3/36

Ruan

19/5/36

Ruan

13/11/36

~~Ruan~~

~~12/11/36~~

Ruan

12/11/36

G.I.H.R.

20/11/36

PA

2/12

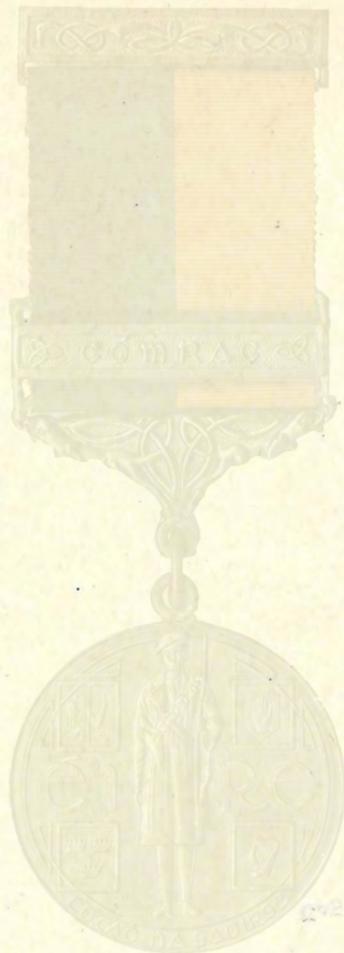
PA

18/1/37

Military Service Pensions Collection

# Military Archives

REFEREE R 6  
5.4.35 10.30  
30  
ISSUED  $\frac{3}{35}$



Military Service  
Pensions Collection



Ref. No. 1251. Applicant's name Baker, Joseph, Leo. Address \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_

(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) <i>Reconsidered on appeal.</i>
(3) 1/4/17 - 31/3/18.				(9) <i>Workings recommended.</i>
(4) 1/4/18 - 31/3/19				(10) <i>Grade C Recommended. (Rule 4)</i>
(5) 1/4/19 - 31/3/20.				(11) <i>on 2<sup>nd</sup> C date. The allowance for Coln Rank &amp; work on 2<sup>nd</sup> C date was not decided on when this claim was heard on appeal.</i>
(6) 1/4/20 - 31/3/21				(13)
(8) 12/7/21 - 30/6/22				(14) <i>The assessment as shown on sheet is otherwise correct.</i>
(9) 1/7/22 - 31/3/23				(15) $\frac{14}{10} = \frac{14}{10}$
(10) 1/4/23 - 30/9/23.				(16)

Rank claimed on - \_\_\_\_\_ (a) first critical date  
 Rank allowed - \_\_\_\_\_ (b) Second critical date

Total of Column (d) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED: Seamus Robinson John McBoy J. P. Kelly John Jordan

Rúnaí,  
Roinn Cosanta.

Adverting to your minute of 30th March last regarding appeals under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934, the additional evidence submitted by the Appellants in each of the 38 cases set out on the appended list is additional evidence as defined by the Attorney General.

(Sigend) E. de Burca

RÚNAÍ.

14/9/37

Ref. No.  
MSP/34/Referee.

Dept. of Defence  
Ref. 34/SP.

303	Keenan, T.P.	679
380	Holahan, P.H.	714
605	Ross, W.	892
743	Conroy, J. (Snr.)	931
971	Kittrick, T.	1103
1120	Corri, H.	904
1180	White, John P.	1251
1251	Baker, J.L.	1324
1336	O'Brien, L.	1450
1816	Kelly, D.C.	1961
1826	O'Callaghan, M.	1971
1827	O'Sullivan, J.J.	1972
1923	Murphy, J.	2080
1946	Drew, F.	2023
2082	Fitzpatrick, M.	2258
2091	O'Donoghue, F.	2274
2245	Moher, D.	2405
2367	Corkery, D.	2760
2995	Chambers, J.	3268.
3505	Brohan, J.	2809
3681	Kerin, P.	4284
3890	Bourke, J.	4323
3956	Fitzpatrick, J.	4279
4149	Sullivan, J.	4447
4288	Kelly, J.	4381
5615	Prendergast, S.	5967
5724	Power	5964
5935	Prendeville, M.	6389
6708	Healy, D.	7048
6723	Costello, J.	7017
8584	Flanagan, J.	9129
9562	Mee, F.	10047
9573	Malone, A.	10018
9736	McNamara, T.	10153
12059	Quille, D.	13375
12189	Carmody, J.	14143
12512	McHugh, P.	14273
15969	O'Gorman, M.	15878

1257

The following is a statement by Joseph Leo Baker  
of Bridge Street, Westport, Co. Mayo in connection with the  
attached extracts (from old newspapers in the National Library)  
regarding his appeal on the question of rank against the  
findings of the board under the 1934 Military Service Pensions Act.

Friday 25th. September, 1936.

The Secretary, Military Pensions Board.

A Capu,

Enclosed please find extracts taken from old newspapers in the  
National Library, in connection with my appeal. I have numbered  
the pages for convenience.

You will notice therefrom that "Collooney market house"  
then used as a barracks by Free State Troops was captured  
on Sunday 2nd. July 1922 at 3. a.m. (in the morning). I  
hereby state that my column under my command took part  
in this engagement. Also this attack was begun before  
12 (midnight) on Saturday 1st. July, 1922.

I have already lodged certificates with your board

# Military Archives

proving that my column, under my command was sent to Sligo to reinforce the 3rd. Western Division and the enclosed evidence, in the form of newspaper extracts prove the dates we were in action there. also ~~to be~~ <sup>long before this</sup> immediately after the four courts was attacked about the next day 27th. ~~June~~ June 1922 my column took charge of Westport Post Office.

The fact that we were in action at Callooney ~~on~~ on the 1st or 2nd. of July 1922 proves conclusively that my column was in existence prior to the 2nd. critical date (1st. July 1922).

On page 2. a reference is made to a fellow named Gavin being killed in Sligo. I quote this because the fellow mentioned is Jim Gavin, Castlebar and he was a member of my column.

On Page 6. you will notice the following extract - "Between four and five hundred Executive Troops marched to mass on Sunday at Callooney." I quote this because I marched my column to mass that day and the troops mentioned were composed of Mayo & Sligo men exclusively. also the extract from the "Sligo Champion of July 15th. 1922" is quoted because it was here I was captured on the 5th. July 1922

# Military Archives

I was later transferred to as prisoner from Boyle to Longford from where I subsequently escaped.

I will forward you a certificate that my column under my command took part in the attack on Collooney Barracks on the night of the 1st of July 1922 or the morning of 2nd of July 1922 at an early date.

Kindly bring this evidence before your the notice of your board as soon as possible.

Yr Obedt

Joseph Leo Baker.

25th. September 1936.

Extract from the "Connaught Telegraph" of

Saturday 8th. July, 1922.

Page 2. Column 7.

(As censored)

"The following appeared in a special "war Edition" of the, "Connaught Telegraph" published officially on Tuesday and circulated throughout the province":—

"All motor cars and motor cycles have also been taken over and all movements of such vehicles have to be under permits, for the issue of which the Crown Solicitor's Office in the Courthouse was taken over."

"On Friday there was again great activity in Castlebar and throughout the whole area of the 4th. Western Division but there was nothing new to report."

On Saturday troops from Castlebar moved into Sligo where much activity ensued. Collooney barracks, held by Free State troops, surrendered after a short engagement, a large number of prisoners being captured, after which all equipment etc. was removed and the place demolished.

Subsequently the prisoners were removed to Tubercary and

and later in the evening to Swinford.

On Sunday other sections of Co. Sligo were cleared of Free State troops, many prisoners being taken.

Extract from page 3. Column 2.

"In Castlebar during the day there was no incident of note. However it was rumoured that a young fellow named Gavin, a native of the town had been killed in action somewhere in county Sligo. up to a late hour the news had not been confirmed and on Thursday we learned that it was false."

Page 3.

Extract from the "Mayo News" of Saturday

July 8th. 1922.

Page 2 Column 6.

"Items of the conflict"

(as supplied by Republican Staff)

Sunday 2nd July - A 4-ton lorry from Athlone was captured outside Collooney. Rifles and ammunition taken and men made prisoners.

In an attack on Colonial Post at Gortan, Co. Sligo, Martin Flannery, Republican troops ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>killed</sup>.

On Sunday troops from Castlebar moved into Sligo where much activity ensued. Collooney Barracks, held by Free State troops surrendered after a short engagement, a large number of prisoners being captured, after which all equipment, etc., was removed and the place demolished.

Subsequently the prisoners were removed to Loherecurry and later in the evening to Swinford.

On Sunday other sections of County Sligo were cleared of Free State troops, many prisoners being taken.

Page 4.

# Military Archives

Extract from the "Connaught Telegraph" of  
Saturday July 1st. 1922.  
Page 3 Column 4.

"Castlebar Post office was taken over by  
I.R.A. troops on Thursday. Owing to the wires being  
cut there is no telegraphic intercourse with  
local or city districts."

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Page 5.

Military Archives

Extract from the "Sligo Champion" of July 8th. 1922

Page 5., Column 4.

"Collooney" was the scene of considerable activity during the week. For some time past Free Staters have been in occupation of Markree Castle, the property of Major B. Cooper, D.L. and on the 20th. ult. they placed a party in the Market House. This building was attacked by Executive forces shortly after three ~~o'clock~~ O. Clock on Sunday morning.

An hour's heavy firing ensued, much to the terror of the inhabitants of the town, and at the end of that period the building was seen to be on fire. The garrison numbering 34, surrendered with their arms and were made prisoners.

A lorry load of Dail troops was captured on Sunday evening near Collooney.

On Monday night heavy firing was heard in the direction of the plantation on the Markree demesne. Markree castle <sup>is</sup> held by Free State troops Staters and it is

Page 6.

is believed to be the object of the firing."

Between four and five hundred Executive troops marched to Mass at Collooney Church on Sunday.

Page 5 { Extract from the "Sligo Champion" of Sat. July 15th.  
Col. 2. { 1922 as follows -

"National troops proceeding from Carrick-on-Shannon to Boyle on Thursday 5th. inst. under command of Comdt. Gen. Seamus O'Farrelly, were ambushed and driver F. Balfie was killed. The fire of the irregulars on the national troops was strong and trees were also felled across the road.

The western Base having been appraised of the attack reinforcements with machine guns were dispatched to the scene under Col. Comdt. Davis and Lt. Comdt. Mitchell.

The position of the irregulars was stormed, the result being that 14 prisoners were captured, together with a large quantity of rifles, bombs, grenades, revolvers and foodstuffs."

Page 7.

Extract from the "Roscommon Messenger" of  
July 8th. 1922.

Page 5. Column 4.

Government troops are everywhere active in the Midlands and in the west under the command of General Sean Mc. Keown. Artillery has reached Boyle where operations are being prosecuted against irregulars who have come from Mayo and Sligo.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection



SAORSCÓC ÉIREANN

DÁIL ÉIREANN.

TIGH LAIGHEAN  
(Leinster House).

BAILE ATHA CLIATH  
(Dublin)

11th November, 1936.

The Secretary,  
Military Service Pensions Board,  
Griffith Barracks,  
DUBLIN.

Re JOSEPH LEO BAKER, BRIDGE STREET, WESTPORT,  
Co. Mayo.

A Chara,

I beg to certify that the above named applicant for an Army Service Certificate was O/C. of the Active Service Unit of the West Mayo Brigade on the Second Critical Date.

This Active Service Unit, which comprised upwards of fifty members under the command of Joseph Baker, operated in my Brigade area at the commencement of the Civil War and assisted at the capture of a large enemy post at Collooney on Sunday, 2nd July, 1922.

This Unit also participated in a number of other engagements in Co. Sligo during the early part of the Civil War.

Joseph Baker was a very capable and energetic officer, and in my opinion his application should receive the very favourable consideration of your Board.

Mise, le meas,

*Frank Carby*

T.D.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Military Archives

1251  
No. 1251

HQ AF  
Command

1871136 Bridge Street,  
Westport, Co. Mayo.

Thursday 12th. Nov., 1936.

13  
The Secretary,  
Military Service Pensions Board  
Griffith Barracks, St. Circular Rd.,  
Dublin.

A CORKA

I enclose, herewith certificate in connection with my appeal under the "1934 Military Service Pensions Act." I would feel very grateful if you would place it, with other documents - certificates, etc., which you have received from me and others on my behalf and bring them under the notice of the board.

The enclosed certificate, together with copies of newspaper reports, given by me to Mr. M. Kibroy T. D. and handed in by him, personally to you, late in last September, should form the final links in establishing my rank on the 2nd. critical date.

If your board should require any additional evidence, Messrs E. Moone, T. D. and M. Kibroy, T. D. will supply it. Trusting that your board will now give early consideration to my appeal. *By my type le yeap* Joseph Leo Baker.

# Military Archives

1251

1936, November 1936

Secretary,  
Dept. of Defence  
(Pensions Section)

I am directed by the Referee to refer to Mr. Horgan's  
minute 34.SP 1324 of 16th March 1936 relative to the  
appeal of Joseph Leo Baker

Lower Bridge St. Westport, Co. Mayo

against the findings of the Referee in his case, and I am  
to state that the Referee has reviewed his report in the  
light of the additional evidence.

The revised report is transmitted herewith.

(signed) E. de Búrca

RÚNAÍ

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Revised Report on Review

10/9/43

M.S.P./34/2.

### Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

Ref. No. 34 S.P./1324

Ref. No. M.S.P./34/Referee - 1251

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.

Baker, Joseph Leo  
St. Bridge St., Westport,  
for a Service Certificate.

J. K. O'Connor  
20/11/36

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

(SIGNED) J. K. O'CONNOR

Date 28. 1. 35.

Date .....  
Referee.

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. Nil

- Nil ..... Nil ..... Nil .....
- 5 1/2 of ENTIRE PERIOD / 6 ENTIRE PERIOD / 7 ENTIRE PERIOD
- 8 ENTIRE PERIOD / 9 ENTIRE PERIOD / 10 ENTIRE PERIOD

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

7 1/2 years

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

(a) On first critical date. Grade D. Para. 1(4)(h)

(b) On second critical date. Grade C. Para. 4

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

104

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 ?.....

*no*

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.....

*nil*

(3) State—

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

*Fiana Ceann  
Volunteers*

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

*Dmagh boy*

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.....

*nil*

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces. *Fianna Ceannas*

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

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

*nil*

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

(3) State—

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

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant. *Omagh Coy, Tyrone Bde.*

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

*nil*

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

(3) State—

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

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant. *Omagh Coy, Tyrone Bde.*

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

.....  
.....  $\frac{1}{12}$  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.....

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

..... *Omagh Coy, Tyrone Bde.* .....  
.....

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

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.....

..... *2 years* ✓  
.....

(3) State—

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

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

..... *Battn. III, West Mayo Bde,* .....  
..... *and A.S.M.* .....

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

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* ✓  
.....

Military Archives

Military Pensions Collection

(3) State—

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

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant..... *Battn. adjt.*  
*Battn. III, West Mays Bde,*  
*and A. S. W.*

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..... *Oglaigh na h-Eireann,*

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....  
*Battn. III, West Mays Bde.*

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

.....  
*ENTIRE PERIOD*  
.....

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

.....  
*2 years*  
.....

(3) State—

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

(b) Unit or Units and the position held by applicant.....  
*West Mays Bde,*  
*and Flying Column,*  
*and Internment.*

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*  
.....

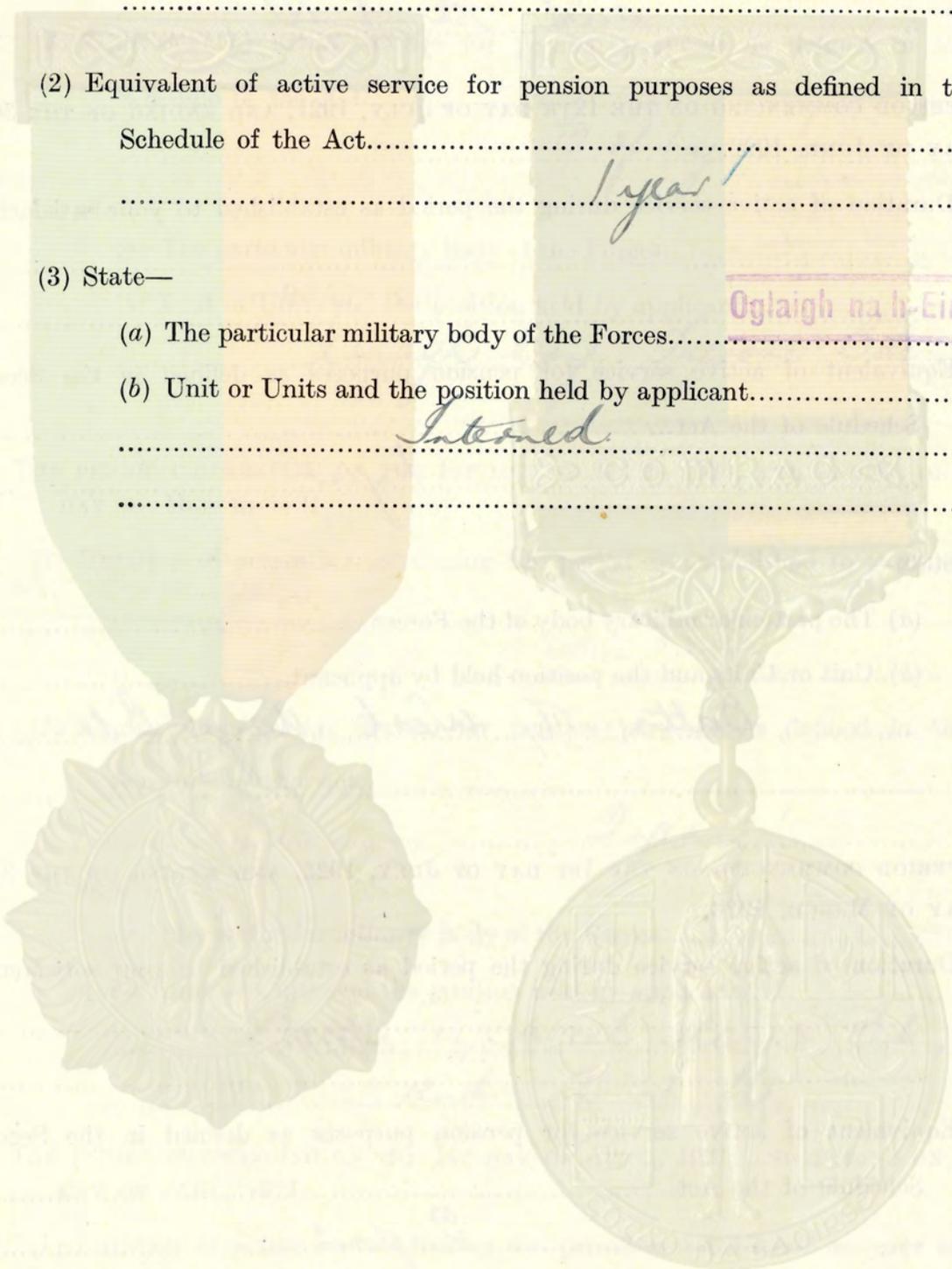
(3) State—

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

*Oglaigh na h-Eireann,*

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

.....  
*Intended*  
.....



# Military Service Pensions Collection

W. Robinson

For Secy. writs

Book. 4. p.

W.

4/11/36

Secretary,

File of Vol 4 of papers

W. 3/11/36

Military Service Pensions Commission  
Mr. Robinson  
Ch. Crotty 5/11/36

Perham

amended Report

W.

7/11/36

Committee

The Referee considers that all the evidence on the file indicates that applicant shd. be awarded Grade 'C' on the 2nd C. Date as "Commander for Column of not less than 30." Before deciding the question he wishes ~~that~~ the Committee to prepare a written Statement of the reasons for not recommending Grade C. in view of the evidence on the file.

E/b

24/6.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

MR. MICHAEL KILROY GIVING EVIDENCE ON BEHALF OF  
JOSEPH LEO BAKER (NO. 1251) BEFORE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE ON 10th JUNE, 1936.

- Q. This is an appeal too. (Letter from applicant read).  
There is no use in his going in for that, we have disallowed  
column rank on 1st July 1922, unless the question is raised  
again?
- A. Unless the question is decided generally?
- Q. It was solemnly decided early on not to allow it by the  
Referee when Humphrey Murphy was here. It was solemnly  
discussed for days on end and it was definitely decided that  
there were no columns in the sense that was meant Pre Truce.  
He was not a column leader on the first critical date?
- A. No.
- Q. We can only re-affirm the decision that is all. He was an  
outstanding man in the Civil War. He is not doing so badly  
at all. He is getting D. on the first date?

MC.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

# Military Archives

GUTHAN 21681  
(TELEPHONE)

UIMHIR THAGARTNA  
(REFERENCE NO.)

34 S.P./1324  
M.S.P./34-Ref.-1251

ROINN COSANTA,  
(DEPT. OF DEFENCE),

GEATA NA PAIRCE,  
(PARKGATE),

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH.  
(DUBLIN).

16 MAR 1936

Rúnaí,  
Oifig an Réiteóra.

I am directed by the Minister for Defence to state that Mr. Joseph Leo Baker,  
Lower Bridge St., Westport, Co. Mayo has appealed against the findings of the Referee in his case. He has submitted the attached evidence, which purports to be additional to that already tendered. The Minister directs that the Referee will be good enough to review his report in the light of this new evidence.

*J. Horgan*

a.s. Rúnaí.

MD.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection



# Military Archives



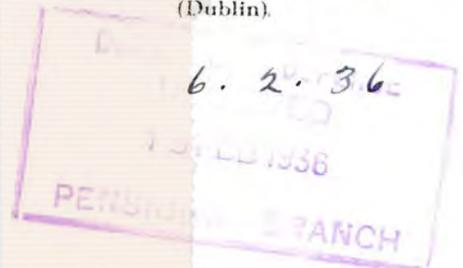
daonscót éireann

DÁIL ÉIREANN.

TIGH LAIGHEAN  
(Leinster House),

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH  
(Dublin).

The Referee  
military Service Pensions Board,  
Griffith Barracks,  
Dublin.



I certify that Joseph Leo Baker of Bridge St, Westport was O.C. of a West Mayo Brigade A.S.U. prior to - and on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1922.

I can distinctly recollect, Joe Baker A.S.U. was one of two units which we sent to reinforce the 3<sup>rd</sup> Western Division at Colooney, a few days after the Four Courts had been attacked. The two units sent to the Colooney district numbered approximately one hundred strong. I have no hesitation in stating from memory that the strength of the A.S.U. commanded by Comdt. Baker at that time was over forty in number.

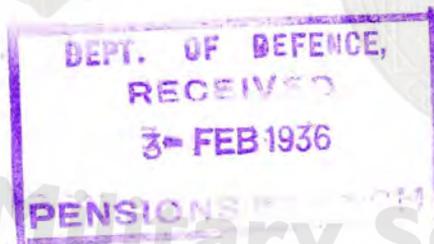
Signed - Michael Hilroy  
Late O.C. Western Command.

# Military Archives

Leenane  
Counemara

24<sup>th</sup> Jan 1936

This is to certify that as Divisional Q.M.  
I visited Westport Barracks occasionally  
prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1922. The West Mayo  
Brigade Active Service Unit at the time  
was stationed there in charge of  
Joseph Baker. I can definitely say  
that this unit, or Column was well in  
excess of thirty in strength at that  
time. I would say that the strength  
of Joseph Baker's Column would be  
at the time about forty men.



Signed  
J. Graham

EC Divisional Q.M.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Blooms Hill

Westport

23/1/36

Military Archives

To Whom it may Concern.

This is to certify that as Q.M. of the West Mayo Brigade I visited Westport Barracks once each week prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1922 and amongst other duties I had to inspect the Arms and men of the West Mayo Brigade active service unit stationed at Westport Barracks in charge of Joe Baker. and I can definitely state that his column was well over thirty strong for months prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1922 and I believe his column would number forty strong on the second critical date

Signed

Patrick Duffy

P.S.

I am in receipt of pension as Brigade Q.M. granted under M.S.P. 1934 P.B.

# Military Archives

Braffy  
Castlebar

+

23/1/36

This is to certify that as Batt. Comdt. of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Batt. West Mayo Brigade I was stationed in the Westport Barracks as of . Joseph Baker (present add. Bridge St. Westport) was also stationed there in charge of an active service Column . I am in a position to state that his A.S. U. numbered more that 30 strong and from memory I state its strength to be approx. Forty

Signed W<sup>m</sup> J. Malone 3<sup>rd</sup> Batt. Comdt.



Military Service  
Pensions Collection

7  
Bridge Street,  
Westport,  
Co. Mayo.

DEPT. OF DEFENCE  
RECEIVED  
10 DEC 1935

9th December, 1935.

The Minister for Defence,  
Parkgate, Dublin.

A Cársa,

I am in receipt of service certificates relative to my claim under 1934 Military Service Pensions' act and hereby appeal against the findings of the board with regard to my rank.

I propose to bring additional evidence to prove to the board's satisfaction that the rank held by me on the 2nd. critical date 1st. July, 1922 was grade **C**, as specified under paragraph (i) section 3 of the "First Schedule" of the 1934 Military Service Pensions' act, that is - that I was a column commander whose column at that date was not less than thirty in strength.

+

Military Archives

I am here returning certificate pending the hearing of appeal. Kindly acknowledge my appeal and receipt of certificate here enclosed.

I would respectfully ask the minister to put me in possession of all the facts governing the findings of the board concerning my rank and to let me know if there was any witness, or witnesses who testified against the genuineness of my claim for rank C, as on the second critical date.

*in justice to me* consider this to be a reasonable request because if there were any such witnesses I would desire to be present at the hearing of appeal, in person so that I might be given an ~~chance~~ opportunity of questioning them before the board. Also I would be prepared to bring witnesses on my behalf before the board at my own expense.

All I request is a full and open inquiry into the matter and that I be given full opportunity of proving my claim before the board. In wife & respect Joseph Leo Baker.

Military Service Pension Commission

1. Attached  
Cust.

1. 1251

U Bridge Street,  
Westport,  
Co. Mayo.

9th Dec., 1935.

The Military Service Pensions Board,  
Griffith Barracks, Dublin.

Dear Sirs,

I am in receipt of service certificate relative to my claim under the "1934 Military Service Pensions Act" and have returned same to the Minister for defence. I am appealing against the findings of the board with regard to my rank. I claim that the rank held by me on second critical date was grade C, as specified in paragraph (i) section 3. of the "First Schedule" of the 1934 Minister Military Pensions Act, that is

is — That I was a column commander whose column at that date (1st July 1922) was not less than thirty in strength.

I propose to ~~bring~~ produce additional evidence (not available before) to prove to the board's satisfaction that the rank held by me on 1st July 1922 was grade C.

Pending the hearing of the appeal I would respectfully ask the board to advise me whether any witness or witnesses testified against the genuineness of my claim for rank C. on the second critical date and if so could you supply me with the names of such witnesses.

I consider this request reasonable and it is necessary I should be made acquainted with these facts, in full justice to me, because if such

3.

# Military Archives

such was the case I would desire to be present, in person, at the hearing of appeal so that I might have an opportunity of questioning such witness - or witnesses. Also I would be prepared to bring my own additional witnesses (at my own expense).

Regretting the necessity for further troubling you and awaiting your reply.

Please acknowledge receipt of my appeal.

Votre très dévoué,

Joseph Leo Baker.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

# Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

Ref. No. 34SP/1324

Ref. No. M.S.P./34/Referee - 1251

To:

To:

THE REFEREE.

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.

*Doc.* Baker Joseph Leo  
Lower Bridge St., Westport,  
for a Service Certificate. *Co Mayo.*

*Report G.H.Q. 1 - 13/11/35*

*Recorded 9/13/35  
Registered 21/35*

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

*W Kelly*

Referee.

Date 28 JAN 1935

Date.....

- Is the Applicant a person to whom the Act applies? *Yes*
- If so, total actual service in the different service periods, as established:
  - (1) nil (2) nil (3) nil (4) nil (5) 1/2 of Entire Period (6) Entire Period (7) Entire Period (8) Entire Period (9) Entire Period (10) Entire Period*
- Total service for pension purposes as defined by Second Schedule of the Act. *4 1/2 years*
- Grade or rank, quoting relevant paragraph of First Schedule under which allowed:
  - (a) On first critical date. *Grade D. Para. 1(4)(h)*
  - (b) On second critical date. *Grade E. Para. 1(5)*
  - (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*

*18*  
*Case*

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 ?.....

*No*

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. *nil*

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces. *Fuaima Ceann*

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

*Omagh Shug*

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. *nil*

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces. *Finnia Reserve*

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

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

*nil*

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

(3) State—

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

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

*nil*

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

(3) State—

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

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

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

*1/2 of Entire Period*

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

*1/2 of 1 year*

(3) State—

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

*Oglaj na h. Eceann*

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

*Omagh Coy.*

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.....

*2 years*

(3) State—

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

*Oglaj na h. Eceann*

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

*Omagh Coy, & Westport Coy later West Mayo Brigade A.S.M.*

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. *Dyalaig na h-Asceann*

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

*West Mayo Brigade A.S.U.,*  
*and Battn. III, West Mayo Brigade*

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. *Dyalaig na h-Asceann*

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

*Westport (3rd) Battn. r*  
*Off. West Mayo Brigade A.S.U.*

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

*Entire Period*

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

*2 years*

3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces. *Dyalaig na h-Asceann*

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

*West Mayo A.S.U.*

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—

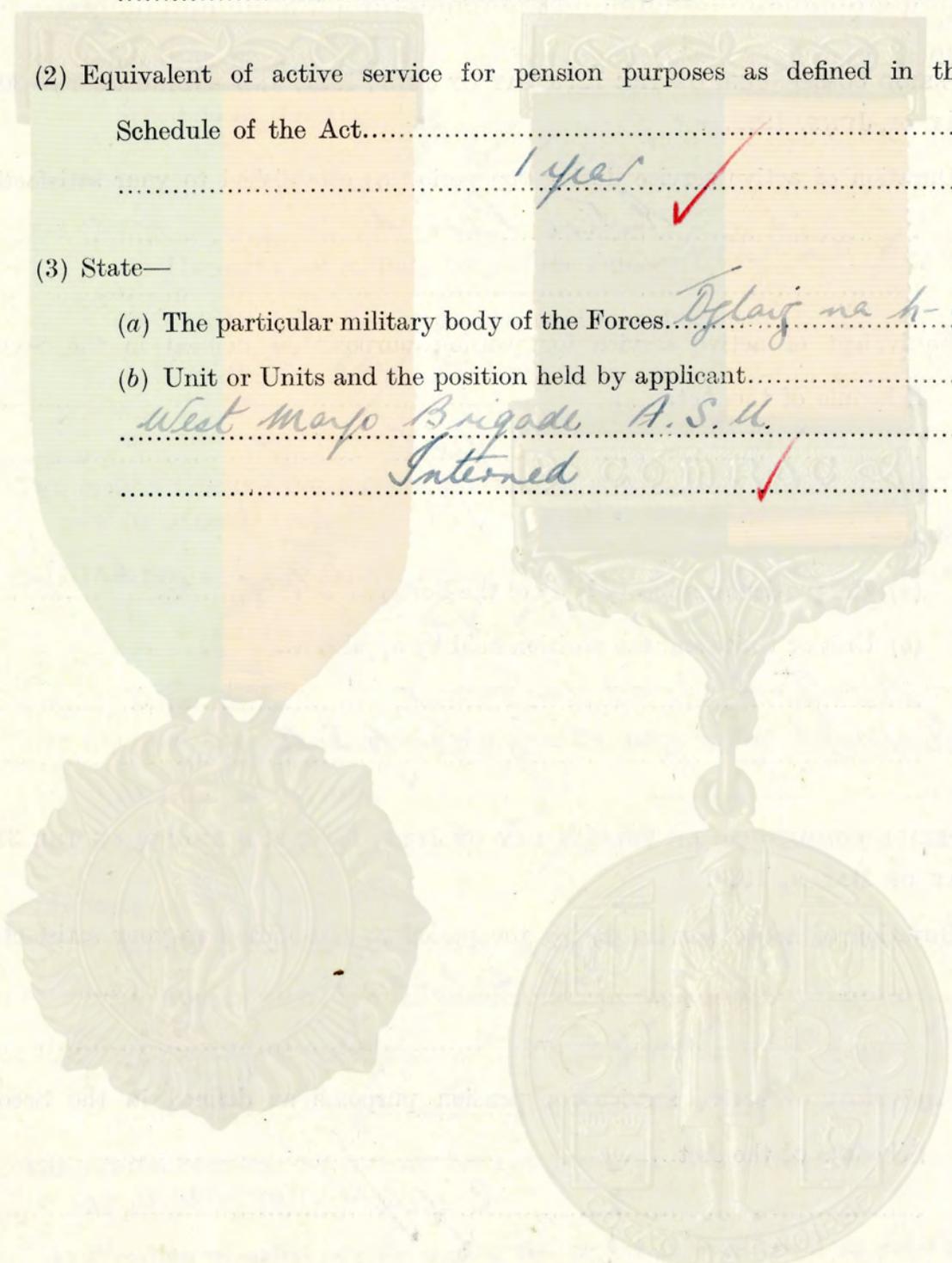
(a) The particular military body of the Forces.....

*Dyblaj na h-Ceann*

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

*West Mayo Brigade A.S.U.*

*Interned* ✓



# Military Service Pensions Collection

# Military Archives

Bridge Street,  
Westport, Co. Mayo.

12th Nov., 1935.

The Military Service Pensions Board,  
Griffith Barracks, St. Circular Rd., Dublin.

A. Duggan Doyle,

Please find enclosed a certificate, dealing with the period from June 1920 up to November, 1920, relative to my claim for military service, under the "1934 Military Service Pensions Act".

I would respectfully ask you to consider its contents, along with other evidence, formerly supplied, before deciding my case.

The reason this (the enclosed) certificate is, <sup>somewhat</sup> belated, is because it is only recently I came to the conclusion it was necessary to produce evidence for that period.

When I was called before your board, last April, I took it for granted that you would be put in possession of all the facts relating to my service in the West because our two senior officers, being members of the Dail, could communicate with your board at any time - and they should be fully conversant with all the facts.

I now realize, however, that it is impossible for

# Military Archives

for two individuals to recall all the facts relating to each case - and indeed, impossible for them to be aware of all the facts in any single case, outside their own. Hence I am sending this certificate and trust that your board, in the circumstances, will give it due consideration with other evidence already tendered.

In conclusion I would point out that I have now sent in all the lists, so far as possible, relating to my positions on the first and second critical dates. Permit me, therefore to express the hope that I might receive my certificate in the near future, if convenient for your board to grant it.

Regretting any inconvenience caused by delay in forwarding lists and assuring you of my best attention at all times.

Yr wife & myself,

Joseph Leo Baker.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Military Archives  
Chill Street  
Westport

9<sup>th</sup> Nov 1935.

This is to certify that since Joseph Leo Baker came to Westport in June 1920 up to the time he went on the run he was one of the most active workers in the Westport Company and gave a considerable portion of his time to I.R.A. work. He assisted on courts-martials and did police duty on many occasions. As Captain of the company when he arrived here and later on as Vice Command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Batt. I can state definitely that he gave a great deal of his time to the care and safe storing of arms and ammunition as company Q.M. He slept out with myself and others prior to going on the run and I am aware that owing to his Volunteer activities it was a frequent occurrence for him to lose days each week from his civil occupation.

Signed  
Charles Gavan.

1935  
DÚN ÚI GRIOBHÁ

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

# Military Archives

LEACÁN MIONTUAIRISCE.

m.s.c

TAGAIRT .....

Mr Dooley

Critical date.

Battn.?

State Applicant's rank on 1st  
Are all records to hand for this

Checked.

29/7/35.

Mr. Sweeney.

Rank correct. No company  
rolls in hand. Necessary circulars  
issued,

led  
29/7/35

Records recd.

led  
8/11/35

Military Service

Pensions Collection

# Military Archives

Referee R.15.

Organisation Records supplied by E. Moore, J.D. Bole. O/C.

show that applicant was

(a) Adj't. 3rd Batta. W. Mayo Bole. 11.7.21

Strength Over 100

(b) See appended notes 1.7.22

Strength \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: bd

8/11/35

According to the evidence of E. Moore J.D.  
applicant <sup>on 1/7/22</sup> commanded the No.2 A.S.U. of the  
West Mayo Bole., which according to a list  
supplied by the applicant ~~on the~~ was  
consisted of 41 members on the 1st July 1922

bd  
8/11/35

See R.O/609. Letter recd. 15/10/35 relative to  
this application - A.S.U.

bd  
8/11/35

Military Service Pensions Collection

# Military Archives

LEACÁN MIONTUAIRISCE.

m.s.c.

TAGAIRT .....

Mr. Sweeney

Have we any records to show  
that this applicant was Adjt. of 3<sup>rd</sup> Battr. West Mayo Bde.  
on 1<sup>st</sup> Critical Date

E. sub  
24/4/35.

Mr. Dookey of  
for all in pte.

Graced

25/4/35.

Mr. Sweeney,

No records of West Mayo Bde. recd. Bde. circular  
issued to E. Moore T.D. 9/4/35

CR 13/5/35

SWORN STATEMENT made before THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE by E. MOANE,  
T.D., on behalf of JOSEPH LEO BAKER, (No. 1251) on 17. 7. 1935.

Q. Do you know Joseph Leo Baker?

A. Yes.

Q. Was he in charge of the A.S.U. in the Civil War?

A. He was in charge of one of the Brigade A.S.U. We had two.  
He was in charge of No. 2 .....

Q. What was his rank on first critical date?

A. He was Battalion Adjutant.

Q. He says he was appointed when "on the run" in 1921?

A. Yes.

Q. ~~Was he before him?~~ He says Finnerty was before him?

A. Yes, Finnerty had left and gone to North Mayo at the time.

Q. He says he was made Battalion Adjutant by the Battalion O.C.  
Is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. Was he definitely Battalion Adjutant on the first critical  
date?

A. Yes, he was.

SWORN BEFORE ME ON : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
R E F E R E E.

GH. Military Service  
Pensions Collection

OIFIG AN RÉITEÓRA,  
(Office of the Referee),

BEAIRICÍ UÍ GRÍOBHTHA,  
(Griffith Barracks),

CUAR-BHÓTHAR THEAS,  
(South Circular Road),

BAILE ÁTHA CLIA TH.  
(Dublin).

Uimhir Thagartha.  
(Reference No. ).

15th May 1935..

PINSIÚINÍ SEIRBHÍSE MILEATA, 1934.  
(Military Service Pensions Act, 1934).

A Chara,

I am directed by the Referee to refer to the following applications and to state that the Advisory Committee would be glad of an opportunity to discuss these with you :-

✓ 2984	Martin Berry	Mace, Ayle, Westport.
✓ 3143	Michael Kilcoyne	Murrivaugh, Mulranny.
✓ 3139	Peter Joyce	Owenwee, Knappagh P.O. Westport.
✓ 1323	Edward Sammon	Peter St., Westport.
✓ 2032	Sean Gibbons	12, Seafield Av., Seafield Road, Clontarf.
✓ 2993	James Chambers	Maryland, Castlebar.
✓ 1860	John Barrett	"Foil Tra", Church St., Howth.

I am to request you to attend at the above address on Saturday next, 18th instant, at 10.30 a.m. in connection with these applications. In case you are unable to attend on this date, perhaps you will be good enough to 'phone me (51028) so that a mutually convenient appointment may be made.

I am also to state that further consideration of the following applications from the West Mayo Brigade have been deferred pending the receipt of the organisation records of the Brigade, i.e., lists of Brigade Staffs, Battalion Staffs and Company Rolls for both critical dates :

✓ 1251	Jos. Leo Baker	Lr. Bridge St., Westport.
✓ 1250	John Bradley	Murrisk, Westport.
✓ 1252	Thos. Ainsworth	Castlebar St. do.
1221 ✓ 1253	John Duffy	Meneen, Westport.
✓ 1224	Ml. Gallagher	21, McBride Tee., do.

The Referee will be glad if you can do anything to expedite the furnishing of the necessary organisation particulars for each Brigade in the 4th Western Division in order that the disposal of applications from this Division will not be unduly delayed.

Mise, le meas,

RÚNAÍ.

M. Kilroy, Esq., T.D.,  
LEINSTER HOUSE.

SWORN STATEMENT MADE BEFORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY JOSEPH LEO BAKER ON THE

ON THE 5TH <sup>April 6-10</sup> JULY, 1935 - NO. 1251.

1st Period Q. You were in the Fianna in 1916?

A. Yes.

Q. You were not arrested?

A. No.

2nd and 3rd Periods.

Q. Arrested in raid for arms on Baronscourt Castle?

A. Yes.

4th Period. A. Carried despatches, supplied information, cut wires, active generally?

A. Yes.

5th Period. Burned Gortin Barracks? Was that evacuated?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you in Tyrone at the time?

A. Yes.

6th Period. Q. You went on the run in November 1920?

A. Yes. I was called for at the time of the general round-up. I got word in Westport. I went to Westport in June 1920.

Q. Did that mean you had to clear out of Tyrone and go to Westport?

A. No. I went to a job in Westport in June 1920. I was in Westport in from June and at the general round up in the North they called for me; they had my name. I got word by wire from my people that I was called for there during the general round up and then I went on the run in case they might call for me in Westport.

Q. Cycled from Omagh to Clogher to attack R.I.C. Barracks?

A. The attack did not come off. We went there.

Q. Burned Westport Quay R.I.C. Barracks. That was evacuated?

A. It was.

Q. Lay in ambush for 10 hours or more on St. Patrick's near Murrisk, Co. Mayo?

A. Yes.

Q. Went to Louisburgh to organise column?

A. Yes.

Q. Did that mean you were away from your job - your time?

A. Yes.

Q. What rank did you hold when you went to  
A. I was Q.M. Westport Company. I was sent to organise a column.

Q. You went on the column when it was formed?

A. Yes.

Q. When was it formed?

A. At the end of '20 - we were on the column until the column was formed until early in 1921.

- 7th Period.
- Q. You took part in all the engagements with the column?  
A. Yes.
- Q. Carrowkennedy, Red Bridge, burning of Drummin R.I.C. Barracks - you were whole-time on active service until the Truce?  
A. Yes.
- 8th Period.
- Q. When the Truce came did you go back to work?  
A. No. I went into training. When the Truce came I went home to the North on holidays. I can't tell you how long I was there - it was a matter of days, a fortnight at most, when I returned.
- Q. What rank had you at the Truce?  
A. I was Battn. Adjutant.
- Q. When were you appointed?  
A. I was appointed when I was on the run, in 1921. I could not be definite about the date.
- Q. Who was before you?  
A. Captain M. Finnerty. He was called for during the general round up too. We all had orders to sleep out at the time. When he heard he was called for he removed from the area and went in the direction of Ballina. He left his own Battn. area. Prior to that, when he was appointed Battn. Adjutant my name was put forward too but I withdrew. While I was on the run I was made Battn. Adjutant by the Battn. O.C.
- Q. Did you go into the training camp then?  
A. Yes.
- A. Apart from the 14 days at home you were not at home for the rest of the time?  
A. No. It was a necessary holiday because I was kept free at home. The camps were not established at the time. I could have lived on the hospitality of some of the people around.
- Q. Did you go into barracks when they were taken over?  
A. I did.
- Q. Were you in barracks until the advent of the Free State forces into the area?  
A. Yes. Not until the Free State forces came. We went to Collooney.
- 9th Period.
- Q. Were you in charge of the West Mayo A.S.U. during the Civil War?  
A. Yes.
- Q. Were you in Clifton?  
A. No.
- Q. You were in Colooney, Boyle, Ballina, Glenamoy, etc.?  
A. These were all fights.
- Q. You were fairly active. You were arrested six weeks before the "Cease Fire". By Mick Hogan?  
A. Yes, it was in his area.
- Q. When were you released?  
A. About the 12th July, 1924

Q. Where you released from?

A. Hare Park.

Q. Did you hold any other rank besides the Battn. Adjutant rank  
That was your rank on the first critical date?

A. I was in charge of West Mayo Col. I was O.C. of the  
Brigade A.S.U. on the second critical date.. We had that  
unit stationed in Westport Barracks. When I went to  
Colooney I brought the unit with me.

I was sentenced to death after my capture at Claremorris -  
myself and my unit. Eight of us. On the Curragh it was  
commuted to 20 years penal servitude.

Sworn before me on.....

..... *Joseph K. O'...* .....  
REFeree.



Military Service  
Pensions Collection  
TM.

Military Archives

Dept. of Defence

Dublin.

4<sup>th</sup> April 1935.

This is to certify that Joseph L. Baker assisted me in forming the Fianna boys scouts in Omagh in April or May 1915. He was the most active member until Oct 1915 when on my departure from that town he took charge and remained in charge until my return in Feb 1916. He remained in the Fianna until July 1916 when I again departed, handing over charge to him.

I have this day given him a small note book which was used to record Fianna activities at that period.

Most of the entries in that notebook

dealing with Fianna activities are  
in what I believe to be, his handwriting  
I am prepared to give sworn evidence  
in his behalf if so required.

W. L. Nolan Bondt.



**Military Service  
Pensions Collection**

GRAND HOTEL,  
TRALEE.

'PHONE 69.

24th January 1935

This is to certify that Joseph Leo Baker was an active member of the O'Connell Company I.R.A. (O'Connell na h-Eireann) and that he took part in almost all the activities of the Company during his stay in the district.

(Signed) Michael McMartin

M.R.C.U.S.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

44, Mount Street,

MULLINGAR.

24th January 1935.

This is to certify that Joseph Leo Baker was an active member of the Irish Volunteers (Oglaig Na H>Eireann) in Omagh Company and served continuously from 1st April 1917 until June 28th 1920 when he left with transfer card for Westport. During that time he attended all meetings, manoeuvres etc.,; did dispatch work, took part in the raid for arms on Baronscourt Castle on night of 11th May 1918 (1917?); took a prominent part in the anti-conscription campaign; cut telegraph wires and blocked roads with myself and others on various occasions during the entire period aforesaid; cycled with myself to Greencastle, Newtownstewart and other places as far distant with dispatches; cycled with myself to Gortin and took part in the burning of Gortin R.I.C. Barracks between the period from 1st April 1919 to March 31st 1920. In June (about 26th) 1920 he cycled with myself and others to Clogher to take part in attack on Clogher R.I.C. Barracks.

The above is written from memory as more than 14 years have elapsed since said 28th June 1920 and I cannot vouch for the precise accuracy of all dates mentioned. Furthermore the foregoing is but an incomplete synopsis of the many Military activities in which said Joseph L. Baker took part during said period. As Adjutant of No. **I** (Omagh) Battalion at date of said Joseph L. Baker's departure to Westport I have pleasure in further certifying that he was one of the most active I.R.A. Members in the Battalion area and took part in practically all, if not all, Volunteer activities in said Battalion area and also in a number of activities outside the area *during same period.*

Dated this 24th day of January 1935.

Signed Patrick Donnelly

Ex-Brigade Adjutant,  
No. 1 Brigade,  
2nd Northern Division I.R.A.

# Military Archives

14th, January, 1935

This is to certify that the applicant Joseph Leo Baker was Officer commanding the Brigade Active Service Unit on the second critical date namely the first day of July 1922 and the particular unit which he commanded was not less than forty in strength on the first day of July 1922

Signed

Edward Moore J.D.

O.C. Westways Brigade  
from November 1921 to

1925.

Dated this the 14 day of January 1935

Military Service  
Pensions Collection



## 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). **BAKER** SURNAME. **JOSEPH, LEO** CHRISTIAN NAMES.

PRESENT ADDRESS (to be written in block capitals). **LOWER BRIDGE STREET, WESTPORT, COUNTY MAYO.**

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.

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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.

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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.

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\* 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?..... *Was Vice-Commitant of Fianna Eireann*
- (b) Unit or Units..... *Omagh company (or troupe)*
- (c) Duration (giving dates) of service..... *Served continuously*
- (d) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... *Omagh — The company functioned in the ordinary way — training etc.*
- (e) Officer Commanding in each instance..... *Leo Nolan*
- (f) In what way do you claim that your service was active service..... *Service was only ordinary. I do not claim it as active service other than that I gave most of my time to the training of the company.*
- (g) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the week..... *None except the training*
- (h) Absence from duty and cause..... *No absence*
- (i) References who can testify as to your statements above:—

NAME.	ADDRESS.
<i>Leo Nolan N.T.</i>	<i>Derry Road, Omagh, Co. Tyrone (Last address)</i>
.....	.....
.....	.....

## (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..... *Omagh company Fianna Eireann*
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... *continuous service throughout the period in the ordinary way of training*
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... *Omagh, Co. Tyrone*
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... *Leo Nolan*
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?..... *Most of my time was given to the training of the company.*
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... *The ordinary course of training given by me to the company*
- (g) Absence from duty and cause..... *No absence*

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Leo Nolan N.I., Derry Road, Omagh, Co. Tyrone (last address)

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

- (a) Unit or Units..... Omagh company, Oglau N.S. H. Eireann
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... continuous service throughout the period
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... Omagh and surrounding districts
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... W. Hannigan
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?..... carried dispatches and took part in all military activities in area.
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... assisted in raid for arms on Baronscourt Castle.
- (g) Absence from duty and cause..... No absence

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Patrick Donnelly, Georges Street, Omagh, Co. Tyrone.

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

- (a) Unit or Units..... Omagh company, Oglau N.S. H. Eireann
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... continuous service throughout the period.
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... Omagh and surrounding districts
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... Michael Mc. Barton V.S. (or Leo Keeney)
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?..... carried dispatches supplied information, cut telegraph wires, blocked roads and was active generally

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period... *Carried dispatches, cut wires, blocked roads*

..... *and interrupted communications generally.* .....

(g) Absence from duty and cause... *No absence* .....

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Patrick Donnelly, George's Street, Omagh Co. Tyrone.*

*Michael Mc. Barton, Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone (last address)*

*Patrick Doherty, near Strabane, Co. Tyrone (Do not know his address)*

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

(a) Unit or Units... *Omagh company Oglagh Ya h-Eipeary.*

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service... *Continuous service throughout the period.* .....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered... *Omagh and surrounding districts of County Tyrone* .....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance... *Patrick Doherty* .....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service? ... *Took part in all activities in the area* .....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period... *Carried dispatches, Blocked roads, cut telegraph*

..... *wires, Repaired revolvers and burned Gortin Barracks (R.I.C) Co. Tyrone.*

(g) Absence from duty and cause... *No absence* .....

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Patrick Donnelly, George's Street, Omagh, Co. Tyrone.*

*Mc. Guire, Newtown Stewart, Co. Tyrone*

*Patrick Doherty, near Strabane, Co. Tyrone (Do not know his address)*

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

(a) Unit or Units... *Omagh Company and later Westport company and then West Mayo's Brigade active service unit.*

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service... *Continuous service throughout the period. (Date when I first went on the run was 1st*

*November 1920 - at the time of the general round up.)*

*Co. Captain  
(Newtown Stewart)  
Company*

- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered... *Co. Tyrone and west Mayo areas.*
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance... *Michael Mc. Carton V.S. Omagh, Co. Tyrone and Michael Kilroy T.D. in west Mayo.*
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?... *Took part in practically all military activities in each of the two areas and was a member of the west Mayo Brigade active service unit.*
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period... *(1) Cycled from Omagh to Clugher to attack R.I.C. Barracks (2) Raided houses in westport for arms (3) Burned westport Quay R.I.C. barracks. (4) Lay in <sup>7-10</sup> ambush 10 hours or more on St. Patrick's day near Murrisk, Co. Mayo. (5) went to Louisburgh to organise column.*
- (g) Absence from duty and cause... *No absence.*

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

NAME.	ADDRESS.
<i>Patrick Donnelly,</i>	<i>George's Street Omagh, Co. Tyrone</i>
<i>or Michael Mc. Carton V.S.,</i>	<i>(Last address) Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone</i>
<i>Michael Kilroy,</i>	<i>T.D. Newport, Co. Mayo.</i>
<i>Samon Hoane</i>	<i>T.D. Barrowbanon, westport, Co. Mayo</i>

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

- (a) Unit or Units... *west Mayo Brigade Brigade Active Service Unit*
- (b) Duration (giving dates) of service... *continuous throughout the period*
- (c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered... *west Mayo Brigade area.*
- (d) Officer Commanding in each instance... *Michael Kilroy T.D.*
- (e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?... *I was an active member of west Mayo Brigade Active Service Unit*
- (f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period... *I took part in Clugher ambush (westport) (2) The Red Bridge (westport) ambush (3) Barrowkenedy (westport) ambush, the burning of Drummin R.I.C. barracks etc. (several others)*
- (g) Absence from duty and cause... *No absence.*

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

..... Michael Kilroy T. D., Newport, Co. Mayo .....  
 ..... Canon Moane T. D., Carrarbawn, Westport, Co. Mayo .....  
 (Presently Capt. F.S.A.) James Malone, Fair Green, Westport, Co. Mayo.

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

(a) Unit or Units..... Westport (3rd) Battalion and West Mayo Brigade

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... continuous service throughout the period.....

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... West Mayo Brigade area.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... Canon Moane T. D.....

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?..... whole-time service in Oging na H-Éireann.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... I had charge of training camp, arrested.....

..... military opponents, expelled R.I.C. residents and I was stationed permanently in barracks as O.C. of brigade active service unit.

(g) Absence from duty and cause..... no absence.....

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

..... Canon Moane T. D., Carrarbawn, Westport, Co. Mayo .....  
 ..... Michael Kilroy T. D., Newport, Co. Mayo .....  
 (Presently Capt. F.S.A.) Peter Joseph Mc Donnell, Leenane, Co. Galway.....

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

(a) Unit or Units..... West Mayo active service unit.....

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... continuous service throughout the period until arrested—about 5 or 6 weeks prior to cease-fire order also spent 5 or 6 weeks in Longford goal, July and August.

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... Co. Sligo, Co. Rosecommon, Co. Galway, Co. Mayo, etc.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... Myself was O.C. of West Mayo A.S.U.

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?..... I was O.C. of Brigade (W. Mayo) Active Service Unit and later was O.C. of Divisional A.S.U. and took part with my unit in various engagements throughout the areas mentioned above

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

at (1) O'Connell's, Co. Sligo (2) Boyle, Co. Roscommon (3) Ballina, <sup>Sligo</sup> and (4) Glenamoy and (5) Glencassagh (6) Newport Co Mayo and Kilmilkin, Co Galway.

(g) Absence from duty and cause... only absent while a prisoner in July and August and again... arrested 5 or 6 weeks before cease - fire order. Held prisoner until July, 12th, 1924

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

NAME. ADDRESS.

Canon Hoane T. D., Carrowbanon, Westport, Co. Mayo  
John Richard Gibbons, Blooragh Lodge, Westport, Co. Mayo  
(Presently Capt. F.S.A.) Peter Joseph Mc Donnell, Leenane, Co. Galway

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

(a) Unit or Units... West Mayo Brigade A.S.U. (prisoner in Galway Gaol later in the Curragh.)

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service... Continuous throughout the period as a prisoner.

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered... was a prisoner in Galway Gaol and later in the Curragh.

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance... Peter Joseph Mc Donnell was O.C. of the Curragh camp at the time.

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?... I was a prisoner throughout the entire period.

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

(g) Absence from duty and cause... was a prisoner throughout the period.

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

NAME. ADDRESS.

(Presently Capt. F.S.A.) Peter Joseph Mc Donnell, Leenane, Co. Galway.  
Michael Kilroy, T. D. Newport, Co. Mayo.  
(Presently Capt. F.S.A.) James Malone, Fair Green, Westport, Co. Mayo.

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.....

.....

.....

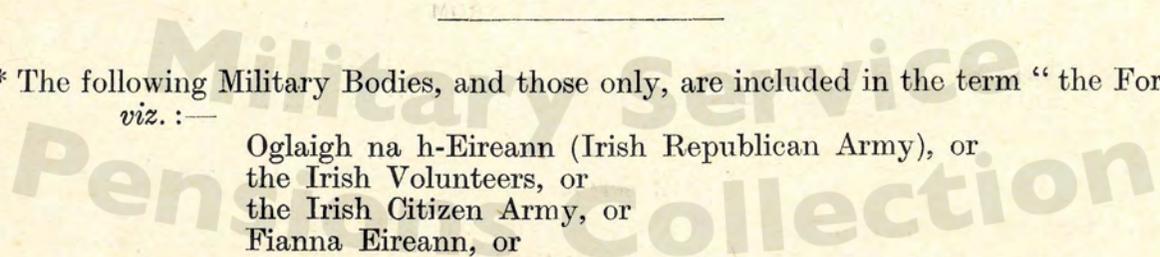
(h) Absence from duty and cause.....

.....

.....

\* 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.

Military Archives

(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.....

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(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.

..... Battalion Adjutant (3rd Batt Westport)  
 .....  
 .....

(b) On second critical date.

..... I was Officer Commanding West Mayo Brigade  
 Active Service Unit.  
 .....

References who can testify as to your statements:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

..... Eamon Moane, T. D., Barrowbawn, Westport, Co. Mayo.  
 ..... Michael Kilroy T. D., Newport, Co. Mayo.  
 ..... John Richard Gibbons, Bloomagh Lodge, Westport, Co. Mayo.  
 ..... Peter Joseph Mc. Donnell, Leenane, Co. Galway.

- (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, I did not serve in the national Army  
 nor have not, prior to this, applied for a  
 pension under any act.  
 .....  
 .....

- (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, I have not applied for  
 military service certificate, prior to this  
 .....  
 .....

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

Army Pensions Act, 1923. *no*  
 Army Pensions Act, 1927. *no*  
 Army Pensions Act, 1932. *no*

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 I have not applied and am not in receipt of unemployment assistance*

(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 - not*

*that I am aware of*

(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 - neither*

*at present nor in the past*

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

- (a) As a member of the Civil Service. *no*  
 (b) As a member of the Garda Síochána. *no*  
 (c) As a member of any other Police Force. *no*  
 (d) As a member of the Prisons Service. *no*  
 (e) As a National School Teacher. *no*  
 (f) As a Secondary School Teacher. *no*

(g) As an Officer of any Local Authority. *no.*  
 (h) In any other employment. *no.*

If so, give details..... *No, I am not in receipt of any pension as aforementioned or otherwise.*

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..... *Joseph Leo Baker*

*(Bridge Street, Westport.)*

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

*James Malone*

Address of Witness.....

*San Green Westport*

Qualification.....

*Captain A. O. Mayo (F.S.A)*

Date.....

*15-1-35*

\* 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.



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