

A.F. 10.

File Ref. No. *SP 11145*

*6535/S*



DEPARTMENT.....

Name or Subject ..... *Daniel Stagoleton*

..... *2 Charlton Terrace*

..... *Inchicore, Dublin.*

Date.....

Particulars *of M.S.P.*.....

*DATED 18/2/24 PASSED TO D.O.F. REFERENCE 23/2/24*

*RANK Captain TOTAL SERVICE FOR PENSION 7.25 Years.*

*FILE EXAMD  
20 JUNE 1927*

REFERRED TO	DATE.	REFERRED TO	DATE
<i>Reg.</i>	<i>14 SEP. 1926</i>		
<i>Reg</i>	<i>21/10/26</i>		
<i>P. A</i>	<i>23 FEB. 1927</i>		

Military Service Pensions Collection

MINUTE SHEET.

M.S.B.  
(Argunist).

Reference... *AP 11145*...

*Indexed.*  
*R 30/3/55.*

Military Archives

M.S.P. 7  
14. SEP. 1926  
ISSUED. *ellou dr.*

*10*  
20 OCT. 1926

M.S.P. 10  
21. OCT. 1926  
ISSUED. *MA.*

M.S.P. c.D. 33  
27 MAY 1927  
ISSUED. *E*

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

## MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1924.

Form to be filled in by a person testifying to the Service, if any, of an Applicant for a Certificate of Military Service.



Regd. No. S.P. 11145

BOARD OF ASSESSORS  
(MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS),  
DUBLIN.

To Chief Supt. of O'Dwyer.

14/9/22

In the application of

Daniel Stapleton  
2, Charlton Lee, Inchicore, Dublin.

for a certificate of military service in accordance with the above-mentioned Act, your name appears as a reference who can verify this applicant's service in the periods  
e f g set out hereunder.

You are therefore requested to reply in Column 2 to the queries in Column 1 for each of the periods above referred to. It will **not** be sufficient to make one general reply. Each period must be dealt with separately, and it is essential that your reply for each period should clearly set out the actual position you formerly held which entitles or enables you to testify as to the service, if any, of the applicant during such period.

The utmost accuracy should be observed in the replies made to the queries on this form. Persons making false statements render themselves liable to severe penalties. See notes (a) and (b) at foot of this page.

GEARÓID O SUILLEAVÁIN,  
Runáí.

NOTE.—(a) "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. 7 (1) of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924).

(b) "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. 7 (2) of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924).

**(a) (1) Active Service in the week commencing 23rd April, 1916.**

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) Did the applicant render active service?	
(ii.) At what posts?	
(iii.) What rank did he hold?	
(iv.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify as to his service?	

**(a) (2) Continuous Service from 1st April, 1916, to 31st March, 1917.**

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) What do you know of his connection with the Volunteers during this period?	
(ii.) To what Unit or Units was he attached?	
(iii.) What rank did he hold?	
(iv.) What was his occupation prior to and subsequent to this period, and to what extent was his ordinary living interfered with by his work as a Volunteer?	
(v.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify as to his service?	

**(b) Continuous Service from 1st April, 1917, to 31st March, 1918.**

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) What do you know of his connection with the Volunteers during this period?	
(ii.) To what Unit or Units was he attached?	
(iii.) What rank did he hold?	
(iv.) What was his occupation prior to and subsequent to this period, and to what extent was his ordinary living interfered with by his work as a Volunteer?	
(v.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify as to his service?	

**(c) Continuous Service from 1st April, 1918, to 31st March, 1919.**

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) What do you know of his connection with the Volunteers during this period?	
(ii.) To what Unit or Units was he attached?	
(iii.) What rank did he hold?	
(iv.) What was his occupation prior to and subsequent to this period and to what extent was his ordinary living interfered with by his work as a Volunteer?	
(v.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify as to his service?	

**(d) Continuous Service from 1st April, 1919, to 31st March, 1920.**

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) What do you know of his connection with the Volunteers during this period?	
(ii.) To what Unit or Units was he attached?	
(iii.) What rank did he hold?	
(iv.) What was his occupation prior to and subsequent to this period and to what extent was his ordinary living interfered with by his work as a Volunteer?	
(v.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify as to his service?	

**(e) Continuous Service from 1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921.**

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) What military services did applicant render? Insert particulars of attacks on enemy forces or positions; destruction of enemy property; manufacture, purchase or disposal of munitions; collection of information to enable these acts to be done; or organising or training to the same ends.	<p>Manufacture of Explosives, Buckshot Cartridges, made the Buckshot, refilled and recapped used Cartridges          Made an explosive Powder known in the South as "Y. B. Powder" Obtained <del>for</del> thro' his brother in Germany, 1 Service Rifle &amp; 1 German Sniping Rifle, 520 rounds .303, 27rds .45, 2 .38 Revolver, 4 London Police Service Revolver</p>
(ii.) To what extent was he a full-time Volunteer during this period and to what Unit or Units was he attached?	<p>From December 1920, to April 1921 attached as Chemist to "A" Coy 1st Batt, Kilkenny Bgde.</p>
(iii.) What was his occupation prior to and subsequent to this period, and to what extent was his ordinary living interfered with by his work as a Volunteer?	
(iv.) What rank did he hold?	
(v.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify as to his service?	

## (f) Continuous Service from 1st April, 1921, to 11th July, 1921.

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) What military services did applicant render? Insert particulars of attacks on enemy forces or positions; destruction of enemy property; manufacture, purchase or disposal of munitions; collection of information to enable these acts to be done; or organising or training to the same ends.	manufacture of Explosives, Buckshot etc. re filling and recapping of used cartridges. manufacture of Fulminate of Mercury for filling detonators on instructions from Ernest O'Malley. Was the medium through which stores of Pot. Chlorate was received by the 2nd Southern Div. from Harker, Stagg, & Morgan London
(ii.) To what extent was he a full-time Volunteer during this period and to what Unit or Units was he attached?	2nd 1st Batt. Kilkenny Bgde.
(iii.) What was his occupation prior to and subsequent to this period, and to what extent was his ordinary living interfered with by his work as a Volunteer?	
(iv.) What rank did he hold?	Captain, Bgde Chemist, Temp. Divisional M.O.
(v.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify as to his service?	

## (g) Continuous Service from 12th July, 1921, to 30th June, 1922.

QUERY.	REPLY.
(i.) What military duties were discharged by applicant under authority during this period?	
(ii.) To what Unit or Units was he attached?	
(iii.) To what extent was he a full-time Volunteer?	
(iv.) What rank did he hold?	Entered Free State Army as Captain
(v.) What was his occupation prior to and subsequent to this period, and to what extent was his ordinary living interfered with by his work as a Volunteer?	
(vi.) What were the circumstances which enable you to testify to his service?	

You may at your discretion write hereunder a statement of any additional information which you consider may be of assistance to the Board in determining the application,

In conjunction with Vice-Commdt McMahon, began the manufacture of explosives in 1920. Capt. Stapleton succeeded in making an explosive powder, which afterwards became known as "7.B.Powder" throughout the South. In June and September 1920 was in touch with Dr. Brennan and his own brother, the former in Cardiff and the latter in Germany, when he succeeded in obtaining 1 Service rifle and 1 German Sniping Rifle. The Service rifle was delivered to 7th. Batt. Kilkenny Brigade through Vol. Rowan. Early in 1921 Capt Stapleton received instructions from Ernest O'Malley to start the manufacture of Fulminate of Mercury for filling of detonators. He was injured in an explosion which occurred soon afterwards and burned about the hands and body. The Truce came on while recovering from these injuries. After the Truce he continued instructing on Mining etc. Received a flesh wound at Killenaule when returning from Limerick where he was delivering explosives and ammunition, when the "Tans" fired on him. Bears the mark of this flesh wound to the present day.

Signature of reference *A. J. O'Connell, Chief Superintendent, Garda Síochána*

\*Witness to Signature *P. H. Casey*

Address of Witness *Garda Síochána, Castlebar*

Qualification *Superintendent G.S.*

Date *30/6/27*

\* Witness must be a Commissioned Officer at present serving in the Army ; or a Member of the Oireachtas or an Officer of the Garda Síochána or Dublin Metropolitan Police ; or a permanent Civil Servant (active or retired) whose salary is or was not less than £200, on a scale rising to not less than £300 ; or a Justice of a District Court ; or a Clergyman ; or a Registered Physician or Surgeon ; or a Barrister-at-law ; or a Solicitor.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection



S.P.11145

# Military Service Pensions Act, 1924

M.S.P. 2.

## REPORT BY THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

TO THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE.

We, the undersigned members of the Board of Assessors constituted under Section 3 of the above-mentioned Act, report as hereunder on the application of Daniel Stapleton, 2 Charlton Terrace, Inchicore, Dublin for a Certificate of Military Service in accordance with the terms of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924, and the Regulations made thereunder.

(1) Periods of Military Service prescribed in the Act.	(2) Forces in which active service was rendered	(3) Duration of active service during each of the prescribed periods as established to the satisfaction of the Board	(4) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined by Section 4 (2) of the Act
(a) (1) Active service in the week commencing 23rd April, 1916 ...			
(2) Continuous service from 1st April, 1916, to 31st March, 1917 ...			
(b) Continuous service from 1st April, 1917, to 31st March, 1918 ...			
(c) " " " 1st April, 1918, to 31st March, 1919 ...	Oglaigh na hEireann	$\frac{1}{2}$ of Entire Period	$\frac{1}{4}$ Year
(d) " " " 1st April, 1919, to 31st March, 1920 ...	" " "	$\frac{1}{2}$ " " "	$\frac{1}{2}$ "
(e) " " " 1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921 ...	" " "	$\frac{3}{4}$ " " "	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "
(f) " " " 1st April, 1921, to 11th July, 1921 ...	" " "	Entire Period	1 "
(g) " " " 12th July, 1921, to 30th June, 1922 ...	" " "	" " "	1 "
(h) " " " 1st July, 1922, to 31st March, 1923 ...	Oglaigh na hEireann [Defence Forces (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923]	" " "	2 "
(i) " " " 1st April, 1923, to 30th September, 1923 ...	" " "	" " "	1 "

Rank of the applicant as defined by Sec. 4 (3) of the Act. Captain

Total service for pension purposes, as defined by Sec. 4 (2) of the Act. 7.25 years

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1927.

(Signed) [Signature]

Member of the Board of Assessors.

[Signature]

Wt. 4071—B. 22—Gp. 23—5,000—2/26—M.P.W. (A.S.)  
Wt. 73—B. 33—Gp. 23—20,000—4/26 (s)  
Wt. 2716—B. 44—Gp. 23—8,000—10/26.

Military Service Pensions Collection

**Military Service Pensions Act, 1924**  
**REPORT BY THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS.**

M.S.P. 2.

*S.P. 11145*

TO THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE.

We, the undersigned members of the Board of Assessors constituted under Section 3 of the above-mentioned Act, report as hereunder on the application of *Daniel Stapleton* for a Certificate of Military Service in accordance with the terms of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924, and the Regulations made thereunder.

(1) Periods of Military Service prescribed in the Act.	(2) Forces in which active service was rendered	(3) Duration of active service during each of the prescribed periods as established to the satisfaction of the Board	(4) Equivalent of active service for pension purposes as defined by Section 4 (2) of the Act
(a) (1) Active service in the week commencing 23rd April, 1916 ...			
(2) Continuous service from 1st April, 1916, to 31st March, 1917 ...			
(b) Continuous service from 1st April, 1917, to 31st March, 1918 ...			
(c) " " " 1st April, 1918, to 31st March, 1919 ...		<i>1/2 SP</i>	
(d) " " " 1st April, 1919, to 31st March, 1920 ...		<i>1/2 SP</i>	
(e) " " " 1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921 ...		<i>3/4 SP</i>	
(f) " " " 1st April, 1921, to 11th July, 1921 ...		<i>SP</i>	
(g) " " " 12th July, 1921, to 30th June, 1922 ...		<i>SP</i>	
(h) " " " 1st July, 1922, to 31st March, 1923 ...		<i>as</i>	
(i) " " " 1st April, 1923, to 30th September, 1923 ...			

Rank of the applicant as defined by Sec. 4 (3) of the Act.....

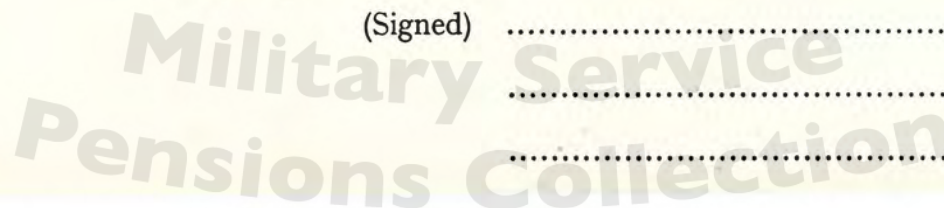
Total service for pension purposes, as defined by Sec. 4 (2) of the Act.....

Dated this.....day of.....

Wt. 4071—B. 22—Gp. 23—5,000—2/'26—M.P.W. (A.S.)  
 Wt. 73—B. 33—Gp. 23—20,000—4/'26 (s)  
 Wt. 2716—B. 44—Gp. 23—8,000—10/'26.

(Signed) .....

Member of  
the Board  
of  
Assessors.



Stapleton Daniel. Bondt.

Island Edge Bks

Joined 1914 National Vols  
I was manufacturing explosives  
all the time in 1919-1920  
1921 In my fathers place  
under my own shop I was  
instrumental in inventing  
particular powder 7.D.

I was a chemist I had special  
facilities of my rotary potassium  
chloride I imported it to  
Limerick I used to go on  
week ends to Hollyford to  
give instructions in manufacturing  
of bombs & explosives

I got guns & ammunition in  
through a brother & a friend  
of mine 1 German snipe rifle  
3 .38. + 5 London Police  
service revolvers & 600 round  
of .303 Once coming back from  
Limerick I was fired on at  
Killnaule & was wounded  
in right buttock. In Vols till  
joining Army Rank 1/2/24 buy

Pensions Collection

# Military Service Pensions Act, 1924.



Form of certificate to be attached by the G.S.O. i/c Staff Duties in the cases of Officers, and by the Officer i/c Personnel in the cases of N.C.Os. and Men, when the forms M.S.P. 1 are being transmitted to the Secretary, Military Service Pensions Board. (Paragraph 4 of Defence Order No. 59).

To :

The Secretary,  
Military Service Pensions Board.

SDR/3058.

I hereby certify that Captain Daniel Stapleton  
has rendered service in the National Forces or Defence Forces of Saorstát Éireann in the rank and during the periods set out hereunder :

Periods of Service prescribed in the Act.	Duration of Service during each Period.	
	Date of commencement and date of ending.	Total number of days.
(1) Continuous service from 1st July, 1922, to 31st March, 1923 ...	1st July, 1922 - 31st March, 1923.	274.
(2) Continuous service from 1st April, 1923, to 30th September, 1923	1st April, 1923 - 30th Sept. 1923.	183.

\*Rank... Captain.

Dated... 28th February, 1925.

M. O'Riain MAJOR.

G.S.O. (1) i/c STAFF DUTIES.

\* "Every military service pension shall be based upon the rank of the applicant at the time of his discharge from the National Forces or from the Defence Forces of Saorstát Éireann or the rank held by him on the 1st day of February, 1924, whichever of those ranks shall be higher . . . ." (Sec. 4 (3) of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924).

MG.

Pensions Collection

407



M.S.P. 1.

# Military Service Pensions Act, 1924.

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

SPN145

This form must be filled in by every person who seeks a certificate of military service, and must be signed by him, and signature witnessed, on or before the 1st March, 1925. In the event of an applicant being unable to write he should affix his mark, such act being witnessed.

NAME (to be written in DANIEL STAPLETON..... DANIEL ✓  
block capitals). SURNAME. CHRISTIAN NAMES.

PRESENT ADDRESS 2 CHARLTON TCE INGHICORE DUBLIN  
(to be written in block capitals).

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

(a) 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.

(b) "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. 7 (1) of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924).

(c) "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. 7 (2) of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1924).

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

SERVICE IN OGLAIGH NA h-EIREANN OR IN THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS OR IN THE IRISH CITIZEN ARMY OR IN FIANNA EIREANN OR IN THE HIBERNIAN RIFLES.

For each of the under-mentioned periods 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 officers at present serving in the Army who can verify your service.

If you are unable to name officers at present serving you may state the names of Members of the Oireachtas, Officers and Men of the Garda Siochana, or of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, or of Peace Commissioners, or Permanent Civil Servants (Active or Retired) whose salary is or was not less than £200 on a scale rising to not less than £300, or Justices of District Courts.

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 Dáil Eireann or on behalf of the Provisional Government from 21st January, 1919, to 1st July, 1922.

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.

(1). FROM THE 1ST APRIL, 1916, to 31ST MARCH, 1917.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) O/C. ....

(c) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(d) Did you render active service in the week commencing 23rd April, 1916 ?

.....

(e) Unit or Units.....

(f) O/C. ....

(g) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(h) Particulars of any Military operations or engagements or services rendered during this period :—

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

(i) Absence from duty.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

(2). CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 1ST APRIL, 1917, TO 31ST MARCH, 1918.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) O/C.....

(c) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(d) Absence from duty.....

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

(3). CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 1ST APRIL, 1918, TO 31ST MARCH, 1919.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) O/C.....

(c) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(d) Absence from duty.....

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

(4). CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 1ST APRIL, 1919, TO 31ST MARCH, 1920.

(a) Unit or Units.....

(b) O/C.....

(c) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(d) Absence from duty.....

.....  
.....

Military Archives

(5). CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 1ST APRIL, 1920, TO 31ST MARCH, 1921.

(a) Unit or Units... *KILKENNY BRIGADE STAFF CHEMIST*

(b) O/C... *BRIGADIER Geo O'DWYER*

(c) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Chief Supt G O'Dwyer*

*Garda Siochana Castlebar*

*Co Mayo*

(d) Absence from duty.....

.....  
.....

(6). CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 1ST APRIL, 1921, TO 11TH JULY, 1921.

(a) Unit or Units... *KILKENNY BRIGADE STAFF CHEMIST*

(b) O/C... *BRIGADIER Geo O'DWYER*

(c) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Chief Supt Geo O'Dwyer*

*Garda Siochana Castlebar*

*Co Mayo*

(d) Absence from duty.....

.....  
.....

(7). CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 12TH JULY, 1921, TO 30TH JUNE, 1922.

(a) Unit or Units... *Kilkenney Brigade Staff Chemist*

(b) O/C... *Brigadier Geo O'Dwyer*

(c) References :—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

*Chief Supt G O'Dwyer*

*Gard Siochana Castlebar*

*Co Mayo*

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Military Archives  
Pensions Collection



(d) Absence from duty.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

SERVICE IN THE NATIONAL FORCES OR DEFENCE FORCES  
OF SAORSTÁT EIREANN.

(8). Army No..... (9) Age.....<sup>38</sup>  
~~38~~ years

(10). Date of enlistment..... *April 19.22*.....

(11). Station at which you enlisted..... *Beggars Bush*.....

(12). Home address at date of joining..... *23 High St Kilkenny*.....  
.....

(13). Unit (Company, Battalion, Brigade, Division).....  
*Chemicals Staff*

(14). Date of resignation or discharge or demobilisation.....

(15). Rank held at resignation, or discharge or demobilisation.....

(16). If serving on the 1st day of February, 1924, what was your rank on that date ?  
*captain*

(17). Were you a member of the Irish Volunteer Executive or of the Headquarter's Staff of Oglagh na h-Eireann at any time prior to the 11th July, 1921 ? If so, state the position you occupied, the department or branch and the dates of your service.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

(18). If you are in receipt of any remuneration, pension, or allowance payable out of public monies, 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.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

(19). Give full particulars of any pension, allowance, grant or gratuity which you hold or at any time have held in respect of service in the National Forces or Defence Forces of Saorstát Eireann or in Oglagh na h-Eireann, or in the Irish Volunteers, or in the Irish Citizen Army, or in Fianna Eireann, or in the Hibernian Rifles.....

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

NOTE.—You will subsequently have to furnish any further particulars and to submit any evidence which the Minister for Defence, or the Board of Assessors constituted under the Military Service Pensions Act, or any person or persons duly authorised by them may require in connection with this application for a certificate of military service. In this connection attention is directed to the fact that Section 3 (5) 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.

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.....

Signature (or Mark) of Applicant *Daniel Stapleton Capt.*

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

Address of Witness *Islandbridge Square  
Dublin*

Qualification *Army officer*

Date *21/2/24*

\* Witness must be a Commissioned Officer at present serving in the Army ; or a Member of the Oireachtas ; or an Officer of the Garda Siochana, or Dublin Metropolitan Police ; or a Peace Commissioner ; or a Permanent Civil Servant (Active or Retired) whose salary is or was not less than £200 on a scale rising to not less than £300 ; or a Justice of a District Court.