

D. Mayo Bde

f.c.1

ROINN \_\_\_\_\_

fó-Roinn \_\_\_\_\_

ná cuirtear éantúairisc ar an sclúdaic so.

Tá annro, leir

An Uimhir

An Snó

mwp/34/Repave

13224

An Uimhir as Roinn Eile.

28/44

O'Coinn leam  
Rabbett, William  
Quay Rd  
Westport  
Bo Mayo

Do cuirtear éin

Dáta

Do cuirtear éin

Dáta

Do cuirtear éin

Dáta

Call

2/6/36

Rumai

10/11

B. F.

10/12

Rumai

21/12/36

L.D. M.R.

23/12/36

PA

2/1/37

22 JUN 1935 db

W



M.S.P./34/1.

DEPT. OF DEFENCE  
RECEIVED  
28 MAY 1935  
PENSIONS BRANCH

# 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.

Ó'COINÍN                      LIAM.  
(RABBETT,                      WILLIAM)  
SURNAME.                      CHRISTIAN NAMES.

NAME (to be written in block capitals).

PRESENT ADDRESS..... QUAY ROAD, WESTPORT.....  
(to be written in block capitals). ..... CO. 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.

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

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

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

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

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

#### PART I.

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

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

*and in addition*

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

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

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

PART II.

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

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

or

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

.....  
.....

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

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

(b) Unit or Units.....

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

.....

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

.....

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

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

.....

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

.....

.....

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

.....

.....

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

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

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

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

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

(a) Unit or Units... *Srah company, South Mayo Brigade.*.....

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

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

*Srah company area,*.....

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

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

..... *As an active member of the I.R.A., participation in all*.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... *company training, recruiting of volunteers*.....  
..... *& organization*.....

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

..... *Patrick Gibbons, Gortnacullia, Irah, Claremorris, Mayo*.....  
..... *Martin Conway, Gortnacullia, Irah, Claremorris, Mayo*.....  
..... *Sergeant Thomas Lally, <sup>Civic Guards</sup> Carragee, Co Galway*.....

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

(a) Unit or Units..... *Irah company, South Mayo Brigade*.....

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

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

..... *Irah company area, Derry park, Portry*.....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... *Thomas McGuire*.....

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

..... *Drilling and training of company*.....

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... *organization of resistance to conscription;*  
..... *recruiting for I.R.A. organization of I.R.A. units*  
..... *in other districts enforcement of decrees of*  
..... *Republican Courts*.....

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

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

NAME.	ADDRESS.
Sergeant Thomas Lally,	Civic Guards, Barraroe, Galway.
Martin Conway, Sr.	Gortnacullin, Claremorris.
Michael Lally,	Shangort Sr., Claremorris.

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

(a) Unit or Units..... *Srah company, South Mayo Brigade*

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

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... *Srah company  
Area, Derry Park Finny,*

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... *Thomas McGuire*

(e) In what way do you claim that your service was active service?..... *General  
Company Routine or Co. o/c.*

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period..... *Destruction of Tourmakeady R.I.C. Barracks  
commandeering of arms, Recruiting for I.R.A. Enforcement  
of Republican Courts' decrees,*

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

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

NAME.	ADDRESS.
Sergeant Thomas Lally,	Barraroe, (Civic Guards) Galway.
Michael Lally,	Shangort, Srah, Claremorris.
Martin Conway,	Gortnacullin, Srah, Claremorris.

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

(a) Unit or Units..... *Srah company area.*

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

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... *Srah company  
area. S. Mayo Brigade and Liverpool company I.R.A.*

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... *Thomas McGuire, Thomas Kerr.*

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

..... *as an active member of the I.R. a.* .....

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

the period... *Participation in destruction of cotton depots* .....

*in Liverpool in 1920 and in ambush on Crown forces at* .....

*Portoy, March 1921, Catering for & protection of aa 9-5-16.*  
*in area transport of arms.*

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

..... *Sergeant Thomas Lally, Leino Guards, Carraroe.* .....

..... *Charles Barrett.* .....

..... *Sean Lynchachann* .....

..... *Michael Lally, Gortnacullin, Srab, Blaremorris.* .....

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

(a) Unit or Units... *Srab company.* .....

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

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

..... *Srab company area.* .....

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance... *Thomas McEvie* .....

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

..... *as o/c Srab company.* .....

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

the period... *Participation as Company O/C in ambush* .....

*on crown forces at Loumaheady, May 1921. and* .....

*in subsequent engagement with enemy on Portoy Mountains.*

*on same date. Transport of arms, etc.*

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

..... *Sergeant Thomas Lally, Carraroe, Galway.* .....

..... *Michael Lally, Shangra, Srab, Blaremorris.* .....

..... *Thomas McEvie, Bron, Long, Blaremorris.* .....

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.

*o/c Irish company*

(b) On second critical date.

References who can testify as to your statements:—

NAME.	Batt. o/c	ADDRESS.
<i>Sergeant Thomas Lally</i>	<i>Brigade o/c</i>	<i>Irish Guards, Barrack, Galway</i>
<i>Thomas McQuinn</i>	<i>1st Lieut of Coy. A</i>	<i>Brook, Boreen, Claremorris</i>
<i>Michael Lally</i>	<i>Shangist</i>	<i>Irish, Claremorris</i>
<i>Charles Barrett</i>		

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

*no.*

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

*no.*

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

- Army Pensions Act, 1923.
- Army Pensions Act, 1927.
- Army Pensions Act, 1932.

If so, with what result.

*no.*

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

*no.*

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

*no.*

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

*no.*

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

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

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

If so, give details..... *no.*

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

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

*I enclose copy of testimonial from Batt. etc.*

*I accepted a position as Secondary Teacher in Athlone in Sept. 1921 which I held until June 1934. I am at present unemployed.*

Signature (or Mark) of Applicant..... *William Rablett*

*Quay Road, Westport, Co. Mayo.*

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

Address of Witness..... *Civic Guard Station Westport*

*County Mayo*

Qualification..... *C. G. 1138*

Date..... *27 May 1935*

\* Witness must be one of the following :—

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

## APPENDIX.

## FIRST SCHEDULE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) A person who at any date—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- (a) any person who at any date :—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Military Archives

I am unable so ~~far~~<sup>far</sup> to locate the whereabouts of, Charles Barrett, and Sean Lynchachan. with whom I acted in Liverpool. I believe, however that Mr. Richard Walsh T. D. Balla Co. Mayo, whom I met there on one or two occasions, will testify to my statement.

Sam O'Connor.

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Military Archives

Garda Síochána,  
Beathramha Ruadh,  
Co. na Gaillimhe.

To all whom it may concern.

This is to certify that Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Rablett was an active member of the Irish boy, South Mayo Brigade, I.R.A. from 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1917 to August 1921. He held the rank of boy O/C - captain and always gave satisfaction. His activities consisted of organizing and training his Coy. and in addition he organized his other companies, establishing and maintaining communications, cutting enemy connections, enforcement of decrees of Republican Courts; commandeering of arms, changing arms from one place to another, outpost duty, scouting, protection of active service units, when in his area, demolishing enemy strongholds in his company area and participation in operations against enemy forces directly.

He was one of the officers who was in charge of a party who ambushed a force of R.I.C. at Tourmakeady on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1921 and later on the same date took part in an engagement with the crown

forces on the Portray Mountains.

He was also one of a party who ambushed a party of crown forces at portray in the month of March 1921.

He was on the run from 1918 (evading arrest) and his parents' home at Srach was continuously raided and searched by Crown Forces. He was one of the most active members of the South Mayo Brigade and the most sought for of members by Crown forces but was never captured.

He always discharged his duties well, and was most careful and in fact was an excellent officer.

Tomás O' Maollesla (Thomas Lally)  
(Sergeant 2128)

Late Batt. O/c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt.

South Mayo Brigade,

2<sup>nd</sup> Western Division,

Óglách na h-Éireann.

Military Archives

Zarada Siociana

Levikainai Kuai

Co. Na Zasmine

9 - 5 - 35.

To all whom it may concern.

This is to certify that Mr. William. Rabbitt was an active member of the 5th Coy. South Mayo Brigade, I.R.A from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1927. to August, 1931.

He held the Rank of Coy O.C. - Captain and always gave satisfaction. His activities consisted of organising and training his Coy. and in addition he organised two other companies. Establishing, and Maintaining Communications. Cutting enemy connections, Enforcement of decrees of Republican Courts. Commandeering of Arms Changing arms from one place to another Outpost duty, Scouting, Protection of active service units, when in his area. Demolishing enemy strongholds in his company area, and participation in operations against Enemy Forces directly.

He was one of the officers who was in charge

of a party who ambushed a Force of R.I.C. at  
Tourmakeady on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 1921, and later  
on the same date took part in an engagement  
with Crown Forces on the Partry Mountains.

He also was also one of a party who ambushed  
a party of Crown Forces at Partry in the  
Month of March, 1921.

He was on the Run from 1918. (Evading arrest)  
and his parents' home at Trah. was continuously  
raided, and searched by Crown Forces. He  
was one of the most active members of the South  
Mayo Brigade, and the <sup>most</sup> sought of members by Crown Forces,  
but was never captured.

He always discharged his duties well, and was  
most careful, and in fact was an excellent  
Officer.

Tomás O' Neale. (Sánn 2128).

Pat. Batt O.C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt.

South Mayo Brigade.

2<sup>nd</sup> Western Div

Oglas No. 11. Conn.



SAORSTAC ÉIREANN

DÁIL ÉIREANN

TIGH LAIGHEAN  
(Leinster House)

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH  
(Dublin)

19<sup>th</sup> October 1936

I certify that Willie Rabbit Shrah Fournakeady  
Claremorris Comrae Present address Westport  
Comrae was a member of the Irish Volunteers  
in 1917. In the Preliminary work of organizing  
mountain area of the Comrae he gave  
exceptional assistance. As he possessed  
great Personal qualities He was also a  
Native Irish speaker. Which was  
a great advantage in this Particular  
area. As a Teacher He subsequently  
went to Westport where he helped and  
took in some important operations  
for the sake of employment he had  
to go to Liverpool where he was  
attached to the A. S. U. where he took  
part in such major operations as the burning  
of the dock warehouses ~~in~~ <sup>after he returned</sup>  
from Great Britain He took part in the  
major engagements of Portlough  
and Fournakeady in 1921. He gave  
his whole time to his military duties  
for a considerable period He held rank  
of company Capt in the Shrah Coy  
Ballinrobe Battalion  
Richard Walsh. T.D.

# Military Archives

R. FEREE R. C.  
21 OCT 1936  
ISSUED <sup>13</sup>/<sub>10</sub>



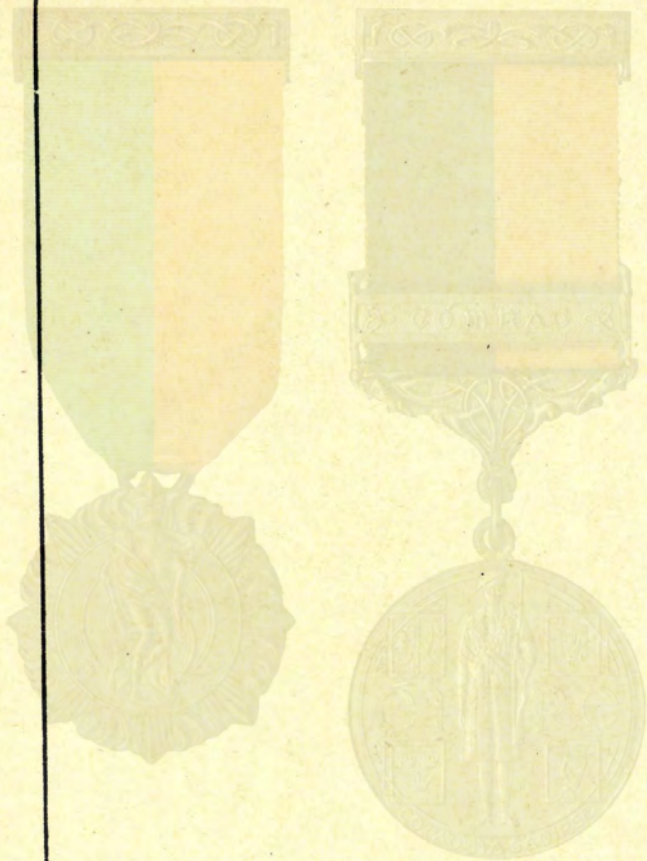
## Military Service Pensions Collection

Military Archives

ΛΕΑΤΑΝ ΜΙΟΝΤΥΔΙΡΙΣΘΕ.

m.s.c.

ΤΑΞΑΙΡΟ.....



Military Service  
Pensions Collection

Referee R.15.

Organisation Records supplied by Bde. Committee

show that applicant was

(a) Capt. Graham Boyd, 2nd Batta. S. Mapt. 11.7.'21.

Strength 86

(b) Applicant did not serve on this date 1.7.'22.

Strength —

Signed: LD <sup>19</sup>/<sub>36</sub>

Military Service  
Pensions Collection

SWORN STATEMENT MADE BEFORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY WILLIAM RABBETT ON THE

4 21. 10. 1936 - NO. 13224.

Q. You claim to have been a Coy. Capt. on the 1st critical date?  
A. Yes.

Q. How many men had you in your company on that date?  
A. Between 80 and 90.

Q. You don't claim anything on the 2nd critical date?  
A. Not on the second critical date.

Q. When were you appointed Capt.?  
A. About 1918, I think.

Q. Have you any idea of the month?  
A. I can't remember the month.

3rd Period Q. You joined up in '17?  
A. 1917.

4th Period Q. Usual activities.  
Did you bring any references?  
A. Yes.

Q. You were in Liverpool?  
A. Yes.

5th Period Q. Destruction of Tourmakeady R.I.C. Bks. That was evacuated?  
A. It was. That is not the Tourmakeady ambush.

Q. This would be in '19 some time?  
A. Sometime about that.

Q. During that period, in '19, what were your activities.  
You were a Company Capt.?  
A. Yes.

Q. What did you do?  
A. Organisation work and the collection of arms.

Q. One of your duties would be to see that your company got arms?  
A. Yes.

Q. What arms did you get?  
A. All the arms we could collect locally.

Q. How many raids had-you- did you make for arms?  
A. There would have been 8 or 9.

Q. Could you give me an idea how many guns you got locally?  
A. We got 20 or 30.

Q. Mostly shot-guns?  
A. Shot-guns only, no rifles.

Q. No revolvers?  
A. No revolvers.

Q. Any ammunition?  
A. No except cartridges.

Q. You were doing the usual captain's duties in this period?  
A. Yes.

Q. Are you teaching?

Q. Where did you live?

A. At Srah, near Tourmakeady. I am residing in Westport at present.

Q. Are you teaching?

A. Yes.

Q. A National Teacher?

A. No. I was a Secondary Teacher from Sept. '21 in Athlone till 1934.

Q. Athlone Christian Brothers?

A. The Marists.

Q. When did you go to Liverpool?

A. I went about the summer of 1920.

Q. Had you any fights with the enemy before you left?

A. No. I don't think there were any engagements before that.

Q. In your reference you were on the run from '18 evading arrest and your parent's home at Srah was continuously raided?

A. That is right.

Q. What time in '18?

A. It was after the shooting of Milling, The Magistrate, in Westport. I think it was early in '18.

Q. You had nothing to do with it?

A. Well, I had.

Q. You did not take part in the shooting?

A. No I did not.

Q. As a result you had to go on the run?

A. Yes.

Q. Evading arrest?

A. Yes.

Q. Your home was raided. How many times?

A. Several times.

Q. Six or seven times?

A. More.

Q. Were you sent to Liverpool or did you go off on your own to seek employment?

A. About the summer of 1920.

Q. June or July?

A. Either June or July.

Q. Did you get permission from your superior officers to go? Did you give up your job as Capt.?

A. One of the other lads got the rank when I left.

Q. Did you continue your connection with the I.R.A.?

A. I connected immediately with the I.R.A. in Liverpool. I met Tommy Reidy and he introduced me.

Q. You went with the permission ~~wet~~ of your superior officers?

A. Yes.

Q. What were you working at over there?

A. Anything I could get.

Q. Who was your officer in Liverpool?

A. Tom Kerr.

Q. Neil Kerr's son?

A. Yes.

Q. Destruction of cotton depots?

A. I think that operation took place about the end of Nov. '20.

Q. Was there anything else you did that time?

A. No, except the ordinary drilling. We used to meet there some place at Scotland Road.

Q. You were a Captain at this time?

A. No.

Q. When did you come back to Ireland?

A. At the end of December '20.

Q. At the time you were over in England did you remain in Liverpool all that time?

A. Yes.

Q. You were not sent to London to get arms or anything like that?

A. No.

Q. You were several months in Liverpool?

A. From July to December.

Q. After coming back did you report back to your company area?

A. I did and resumed captaincy immediately.

Q. That would be in December.

What activities had you after that. I suppose you did nothing at Christmas time?

A. Nothing except ordinary company work until March '21 and that was the Partry ambush.

Q. On military?

A. Yes, military.

Q. You were only a unit in this. It was in your own area?

A. No.

Q. You were not with any column?

A. No I was not.

Q. What took place at Partry?

A. The shooting of Cpl. Ball and a Captain wounded in the knee on the same day.

Q. How many of the military were in that. Was it a patrol?

A. It was. A car came along the road.

Q. How many were in the car?

A. About four. Capt. Chatfield was wounded in the knee and a corporal was shot dead.

Q. Was the car stopped?

A. It was, of course.

Q. Did you get their arms?

A. Yes.

Q. What had they?  
A. Rifles.

Q. What part did you play in that ambush. How many volunteers were there?  
A. There was a section of my company there.

Q. With other volunteers?  
A. Yes.

Q. How many of your men were there?  
A. I think I had about 12 at least.

Q. Did you take part in the actual ambush or were you on outpost?  
A. No. I took part in the actual ambush.

Q. Close up?  
A. Yes.

Q. What were you armed with?  
A. A shot-gun.

Q. How close were you to them?  
A. I was seven yards.

Q. And you used your shot-gun?  
A. Yes.

Q. After that had you any more activity?  
A. No, only the Tourmakeady ambush.

7th Period

Q. When did that happen?  
A. That happened in May 1921.

Q. There was nothing in April?  
A. No.

Q. Tell us about that ambush at Tourmakeady?  
A. It was on the police and Black and Tans. We had three ambushes and we only got one car.

Q. You say you had three ambushes in succession?  
A. We had made preparations for three cars and only one car went on to the first ambush. We had misjudged the distance between the first and second cars.

Q. A lorry or a car?  
A. A car.

Q. How many were in it?  
A. Five.

Q. Soldiers?  
A. No. Police and Tans.

Q. In this ambush did you take part personally?  
A. Yes. I led a section of men there.

Q. Did you take part in the actual ambush?  
A. I was not in the first ambush.

Q. Were you in any ambush at Tourmakeady? Were you actually in any ambush. Were you actually in the fight?  
A. It was not like any ambush.

Q. How far were you from this ambush where the five police were?  
A. About 150 yards or more.

Q. Then you were near this ambush?  
A. I was. We had three set on that occasion.

Q. Another section actually carried out the ambush?  
A. Yes.

Q. What were you armed with on that occasion?  
A. A shot-gun.

Q. And the Partry Mountains. That was immediately afterwards?  
A. Immediately afterwards within two or three hours after.

Q. Soldiers came out and tried to round you up?  
A. They surrounded the whole mountain.

Q. Were you in that fight?  
A. Yes.

Q. You took part in it actually?  
A. There was not much of a fight.

Q. You were surrounded? scattered?  
A. The lads were all scattered after the ambush.

Q. Did you get your gun out of it?  
A. Yes. We lost only one man.

Q. Was he one of your men?  
A. No He was not. He was the Brigade Adjutant.

Q. Had you no column or anything like that. You were not on a column?  
A. No.

Q. When the Truce came you ceased activity?  
A. Yes.

Q. Did you join the National Army?  
A. No.

Q. There is a letter here from Thomas Lally late Battn. O.C. 2nd Batt. Engagement at Port Royal?  
A. That was Partry.

Q. You ceased activities at the Truce?  
A. Sept. '21. July, I suppose, but I carried on till September.

MESSRS POWELL, MAY AND FALLON GIVING EVIDENCE ON  
BEHALF OF LIAM RABBETT (13224) BEFORE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE ON 5th NOV., 1936.

- Military Archives.
- Q. Has he any Civil War?  
A. I do not know if he has Civil War.
- Q. Has he any rank?  
A. He was company captain on the 1st date of Shragh.
- Q. 86 men he gets grade of rank on the first date. When was he appointed captain?  
A. It would be back in 1919 I suppose. He was a good while captain.
- Q. He is claiming activity in the 4th and 5th Periods. (Statement read from form) He went to Liverpool?  
A. Yes. He was in Liverpool.
- Q. When did he go to Liverpool?  
A. He was in Liverpool before his activities with us.
- Q. He went back to Liverpool?  
A. No. It was early when he went to Liverpool he came back over in the height of the Tan War.
- Q. When did he go?  
A. It would be in 1919 or 1920.
- Q. He said he went to Liverpool in the summer of 1920?  
A. It would be about that time.
- Q. Why did he go to Liverpool?  
A. He went over to work there.
- Q. He went off to seek employment he says. He had destruction of cotton depots in Liverpool in 1920. You know nothing about Liverpool?  
A. No. We are only taking his word for it. We know he was in Partry and Tourmakeady, he took over captain of the company again.
- Q. He was definitely in Partry ambush?  
A. He was in both Partry and Tourmakeady ambush.
- Q. He has given us no references about Liverpool. When he went to Liverpool did you fill his captaincy?  
A. I do not know, I think Gibbons fell in there that time because he was also captain. Rabbett was actually captain on the date you have looked for, for the period he was away in England Gibbons was ~~captain~~ in charge. He was later battalion vice O.C., he went on the column that let Rabbett take his place.
- Q. When was he back again?  
A. In 1921 when he came back from England.
- Q. He got his company rank?  
A. Yes. The other fellow got higher rank.
- Q. He is on records as company captain?  
A. Yes. On the 1st critical date.

- Q. He gets all 7th. That Liverpool business we will have to get verification of that?  
 A. Yes. We cannot assist you in that.
- Q. Was he a very active man in the 6th Period?  
 A. He was definitely.
- Q. If we give him  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 6th and finish him?  
 A. Give him  $\frac{1}{6}$  as you gave the others, give him a little more considering he was in Partry and Liverpool in the 6th Period, you would want to give him more.
- Q. Fellows in the Tourmakeady and Partry fights we have given them just  $\frac{1}{6}$ , just the ordinary Volunteers?  
 A. Yes. I think that is the way you worked it out.
- Q. Give him  $\frac{1}{4}$  and finish me that includes Liverpool. He has no Civil War?  
 A. We do not know about it. He had to leave the area in the Truce year. That is  $1 \frac{2}{3}$ .
- Q.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years?  
 A. He got a job in Athlone.
- Q. He was a good fellow?  
 A. He was.
- Q. Should he get anything in the 5th compared with the other fellows?  
 A. He was responsible for the company at that time.
- Q. Would he be very active?  
 A. He was. He was an Irish teacher he was going about a lot, these fellows could do a lot.
- Q. He is claiming court decrees?  
 A. That would come under his company.
- Q. Was he active from the start?  
 A. He was.
- Q. Give him  $\frac{1}{12}$  of 5th. Was he an active company captain in 1919?  
 A. He was.
- Q. What kind of company did he turn out?  
 A. The best company in the Brigade.
- Q. There was no company in Tourmakeady?  
 A. No. It was called Shrah.
- Q. There ~~wase~~ a lot of Loyalists in Tourmakeady?  
 A. Yes. How does he fare.
- Q.  $1 \frac{7}{12}$ , at D.

Ref. No. 13224 Applicant's Name Rabbit William O'Leary Liam Address Quay Rd., Westport, Mayo. REFEREE R.3  
 UNIT: Grath Coy, Sth. Mayo.

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

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

Rank claimed or - o/c Grath Coy.  
 Rank allowed - D.

Total of Column (d)  $\frac{1}{12}$  years

SIGNED: Seamus Robinson John Mc Coy. S. Fahy John Jordan

Military Service Pensions Collection

Referee R.17.

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

Ref. No. 13224 ..... 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 1936.

A CHARA,

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

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

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

TOTAL— 1  $\frac{7}{12}$  years.

“ “ “ “ 2nd “ “ ..... LT

I am also to inform you that if you desire to submit any additional evidence or to make any representations with a view to the revision of these findings, such evidence or representations must be submitted in writing to the Referee and must reach this office not later than 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 1936.

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

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

Mise, le meas,

Mr. Liam O'Connell  
Quay Road  
C. Mayo Westport

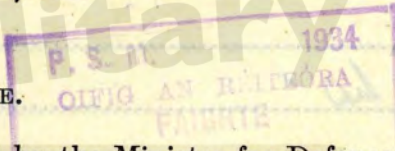
E. M. Burke  
 Rúnái.

# Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

Ref. No. 345-P/13608.

Ref. No. M.S.P./34/Referee - 13224

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.

Ó. Ceinníam (Robert Williams)  
Quay Road, Whiteport Co. Mayo.  
for a Service Certificate.

S. J. H. J. J. J.  
23/12/36.

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

J. J. Morgan

Referee.

Date 2 NOV 1935

Date

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*

- ① Nil
- ② 1/2 of ENTIRE PERIOD
- ③ Nil
- ④ Nil
- ⑤ 1/4 of ENTIRE PERIOD
- ⑥ 1/4 of ENTIRE PERIOD
- ⑦ ENTIRE PERIOD
- ⑧ Nil
- ⑨ Nil
- ⑩ Nil

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

*1 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)(b)*

(b) On second critical date. *Grade D. Para. 1(4)(b)*

(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*

*to*

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.....

(3) State—

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

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

8. THE PERIOD COMPRISING :—

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

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

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

nil

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

(3) State—

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

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

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

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

*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.....

*Srah Coy, Marys 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.....

*Srah Coy, Battr. II, 11th Marys 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

.....  
*1/12 of ENTIRE PERIOD*  
.....

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

.....  
*1/12 of 1 year*  
.....

(3) State—

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

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

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

*Srah Coy, Battrn. II, Sth. Mayo Bde.*  
.....

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

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

.....  
*1/4 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.....

Oglaigh na h-Eireann,

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

*Srah Coy, Battrn. II, Sth. Mayo Bde.*  
.....

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..... Oglaigh na h-Eireann.

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

Irish Coy., Batta. II, 5th Mayo Bde.

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

Nil

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

(3) State—

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

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

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

Nil

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

(3) State—

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

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

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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

*Nil*  
.....  
.....

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

.....  
.....

(3) State—

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

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

.....  
.....

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MSP 34 Ref 13224  
DP 16651

# Military Archives

20 April 2000

Ms. Maura McGing,  
Ayle,  
Westport,  
Co. Mayo.

Dear Ms. McGing,

I refer to your request for information from the records held in this Department, concerning the involvement of your late uncle, William Rabbett in the War of Independence.

The position is that the applications submitted for pensions and medals, relating to that period and the related correspondence, are the only records held in this Department from which a persons involvement in the War of Independence and their activities at that time can be verified.

Our records reveal that William Rabbett of Quay Road, Westport, Co. Mayo was awarded a pension under the provisions of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934. He was awarded the Service ( 1917-1921 ) Medal for his active service with Srah Coy., South Mayo Brigade of Oglai na hEireann ( Old IRA ).

All applicants for a pension under the Military Service Pensions Act of 1934 were required to submit a detailed application containing an account of activities claimed. Each application was investigated by a Referee, who was a member of the Judiciary appointed by the Minister for Defence. The Referee had statutory powers to interview applicants and witnesses under oath. This sworn evidence, together with any supporting statements supplied on behalf of the applicant by his former officers was considered by the Referee, who furnished his findings to the Minister.

Service ( 1917-1921 ) Medals were issued to persons who were in possession of a Military Service Certificate entitling them to a pension under the Military Service Pensions Acts in respect of the period which ended with the Truce of 11th July 1921.

The Truce Commemoration Medal was issued to Veterans of the War of Independence who were alive on 11th July 1971 and who had been awarded the Service (1917-1921 ) Medal.

I am enclosing for your information, copies of the following documents from William Rabbett's file :-

1. Application ( MSP 34/1 ) of William Rabbett for a Service Certificate under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934, dated 27th May 1935.
2. Letter from William Rabbett to this Department, not dated.
3. Sworn statement made by William Rabbett in support of his pension application, dated 21st October 1936.
4. Referee's decision ( R.3 ), dated 11th November 1936.
5. Letter ( R.17 ) from the Office of the Referee to William Rabbett, dated 15th November 1936.
6. Report by the Board of Assessors ( MSP 34 / 2 ) dated 23rd December 1936, that William Rabbett was a person to whom the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934 applied, therefore entitling him to a pension.
7. Description of the Service ( 1917-1921 ) Medal.
8. Description of the Truce Commemoration Medal.

I hope that this information will be of some interest to you and regret the long delay in dealing with your request.

Yours sincerely,



Marie Treacy  
Pensions Administration Section  
Telephone No. ( 091 ) 743899

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