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P/34/2817.

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Staunton, John
Westport Quay
Westport
Co Mayo

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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). STAUNTON SURNAME. JOHN CHRISTIAN NAMES.

PRESENT ADDRESS. WESTPORT QUAY WESTPORT CO MAYO
(to be written in block capitals). IRISH FREE STATE

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

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

was "a Divisional Adjutant" or

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PART I.

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

- (a) who served in the Forces at any time during the week commencing on the 23rd day of April, 1916,
- or
- (b) who served in the Forces continuously during either of the following periods, the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1920, and ending on the 31st day of March, 1921,
- or
- (c) the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 1921, and ending on the 11th day of July, 1921,
- and in addition*
- who served in the Forces at any time during the period commencing on the 1st day of July, 1922, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1923.

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

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

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

(a) Did you render active service in the week commencing 23rd April, 1916. If so,
from what date in that week?.....No.....

(b) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

(2). CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE DURING PERIOD COMPRISING—

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

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

(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.

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(a) Unit or Units..... *1st Northern Division Co Donegal*

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service..... *1st May 1922 to 31st March 1923*

(c) District or Districts in which active service was rendered..... *during portion of which time I was imprisoned on account of my taking up arms against the Irish Free State in Mountain Gluck Dublin*

..... *all over County Donegal*

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance..... *Sean Lehane*

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

..... *as a soldier of the I.R.A. and on account of my efforts on behalf of the Irish Republic and in discharge of the duties imposed on me*

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period... *Engagements against Free State Troops at "The Poisoned"*

Glenn Co. Boregal when my Battalion was attacked by Free State Troops and we were obliged to fight our way out.

(g) Absence from duty and cause... *never absent*

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Sean Leherne *No 1 Cook Area*

(Law Cooks Leherne)

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

(a) Unit or Units... *1st Northern Division Co Boregal*

(b) Duration (giving dates) of service... *whole time*

at in Burrenne, Raphoe, Newtowncunningham

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

(d) Officer Commanding in each instance... *Sean Leherne*

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

As a Soldier of the I.R.A. in support of my efforts on behalf of the Irish Republic

(f) Particulars of any military operations or engagements or services rendered during the period... *ambushes at Newtowncunningham Co. Boregal*

(g) Absence from duty and cause... *never absent*

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Sean Leherne *No 1 Cook Area*

PART II.

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

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

or

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

.....

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

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

(b) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....

.....

.....

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

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

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

.....

.....

.....

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

.....

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(a) Unit or Units.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NAME.

ADDRESS.

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

(a) Unit or Units..... *During my period of service in the Royal Irish Constabulary I was acting as Intelligence officer for the Irish Republican Army*

(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.

Sean Corr

8 Synott Place

Dublin

(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.

..... *Intelligence Officer*

.....

.....

(b) On second critical date.

..... *Divisional Police Officer*

.....

.....

References who can testify as to your statements:—

NAME.

ADDRESS.

..... *Sean Lehane*

.....

.....

.....

- (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*

..... *yes*

.....

(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. | <i>no</i> |
| (b) As a member of the Garda Síochána. | <i>no</i> |
| (c) As a member of any other Police Force. | <i>no</i> |
| (d) As a member of the Prisons Service. | <i>no</i> |
| (e) As a National School Teacher. | <i>no</i> |
| (f) As a Secondary School Teacher. | <i>no</i> |

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

If so, give details.....

.....

.....

.....

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

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

.....

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.....

.....

.....

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

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

Address of Witness..... *Westham Co. Mayo*

Qualification..... *Commissioner for Oaths*

Date..... *27th December 1935*

* Witness must be one of the following :—

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

* See memo. over leaf

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.

*Had been in service of the Royal Irish Constabulary
& during such service acted as Intelligence Officer to the
Irish Republican Army.*

*When in charge of R.I.C. Barracks at Pomeroy
Co. Limerick surrendered same to the Irish Republican
Army & was subsequently arrested by the R.I.C.
authorities for so doing, conveyed to Dungannon R.I.C.
station & detained pending enquiries, released on
bribe broke parole and escaped & joined the
Republican Army after consultation with officers of
the I.R.A. was appointed Divisional Police Officer
for the 1st Division Dublin stationed at Rathfriland
Co. Donegal*

Subsequently arrested by Free State Troops in County Wick

*Co. Donegal conveyed to Dublin by S.S. Helga in October 1922
& lodged in Mountjoy Jail & afterwards at the Curragh Camp
Co. Wick & finally released on 7th Dec 1923*

no Cord
304
26

304

Noville, 16th July

1936.

(Co. TIRCONAILL)

Subject

Pension claim of John Staunton
Roman Island. Westport.



To
Referee.
Pension Board.
Dublin

29491

V Chara,

I wish to state that John Staunton of above address was an Intelligence Officer in my Division, acting as a special Brigade I/O. to No 3. Brigade 2nd Northern Division during which time he was a member of the R.I.C. which made his service very dangerous as well as indispensable to me, he also arranged during his occupation of Pomroy Barracks to hand Barracks over to Brigadier F Curran and myself. which was an exceedingly dangerous action on his part, that he afterwards escaped with his life was primarily a matter of luck, as he had to contend with a double garrison, and my Division benefited to the extent of about 75 new Le Enfield Rifles and a similar number of Revolvers with a large quantity of other useful material, I wish further to state that practically all. intending raids by Military and R.I.C. were frustrated by the timely information supplied to me by John Staunton.

Sig

J J Morris Ex Command General
2nd Northern Division

16/7/36

To all whom It May Concern.

Admiralty House,
Moville,

Co. Donegal,

14th April 1936.

This is to certify that John Staunton was an Intelligence Officer in my Division acting as a Special Brigade I/O. to No 2. Brigade 2nd Northern Division. during which time he was a member of the R.I.C. which made his service very dangerous as well as indispensable to me. he also arranged during his occupation of Pomeroy Bks. to hand same over to Brigadier & Curran and myself (which he did) an exceedingly dangerous action on his part, that he afterwards escaped with his life was primarily a matter of luck as he had to contend with a double Garrison. while my Division benefited to the extent of about (75. new Le Enfield Rifles and a similar number of Revolvers. with a large quantity of material. I wish further to state that practically all intended raids by Military and R.I.C. were frustrated by timely information supplied by this I/O..

That he has my very best wishes for his future success. is superfluous to mention, and I trust he succeeds in every undertaking he may in future attempt...

14/4/36

J. J. Morris

Sig

J. J. Morris; Comdt General.

O/c 2nd Northern Division



GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND

DÁIL ÉIREANN

TIGH LAIGHEAN
(Leinster House)

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
(Dublin)

1 - 12 - 36

This is to certify that John Sturanton of
Newport Quay had my permission to join
the R.I.C. as an official P.D. He was afterwards
afterwards transferred to Komey Co. Tyrone
where he immediately got in touch with the P.R. &
and gave service there as proven by the certificates
given to him by the officers in that area.
? | During his time in the R.I.C. Depot he also
worked in and supplied us with information
I might add that by so doing he took a
terrible risk. I always found him reliable
efficient and most trustworthy

Trapp

James J.D

Lt. V.C. West Mays

The Chairman

Military Service Pensions Board

Dublin.

8 St. Christopher's Walk
Montenotte Park
Cork. 27/3/36

Sir

I have the honour to recommend Mr John
Stamilton at present at Wexford Co Mayo.

He was appointed by me to the rank of Divisional
Police Officer of 1st + 2nd Northern Divisions
which he occupied before during + after the
second critical date.

He was a very reliable officer + attentive
to duty

I have the honour to be

Sir

Yours sincerely
Edward

John Leane Captain

SWORN STATEMENT MADE BEFORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY
JOHN STAUNTON on the 28/4/1937 - File No. 29491.

Military Archives

Q. John Staunton?

A. Yes.

Q. What unit did you belong to?

A. 1st Northern Division.

Q. In the civil war?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you any references?

A. I have.

Q. When were you appointed to the rank of Divisional Police Officer of the 1st and 2nd Northern Division?

A. About March 1922.

Q. During the truce time?

A. Yes, I am not definite.

Q. You were appointed by Seán Lehane?

A. Yes.

Q. What were you doing before that?

A. I was in the R.I.C.

Q. When did you join the R.I.C.?

A. 1920

Q. Were you ever a member of the volunteers before that?

A. I was in 1918.

Q. Did you actually join the I.R.A. in 1918?

A. Yes, I was in the movements.

Q. Did you do the usual drilling and training?

A. Yes.

Q. What Coy. was it?

A. I don't know at the moment but Bruddy Malone was in charge.

Q. Where?

A. Round Westport.

Q. Where in Westport?

A. Crowhill.

Q. Who advised you to go into the R.I.C.

A. Eamon Mohan.

Q. So as to act for them from within?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you actually join the R.I.C.?

A. About the 12th Jan. 1919.

Q. Where were you stationed?

A. Co. Tyrone.

Q. How long were you there?

A. 3 months training.

6th period.

Q. About April, 1920, you were sent to Pomeroy?

A. Yes.

Q. How long were you there?

A. Until the 15th March 1922.

Q. While you were there were you able to do anything?

A. Yes.

Q. From April, 1920, when you went up to Pomeroy from that until the truce were you able to do anything special?

A. I was.

Q. What were you able to do?

A. They formed up the U.B.F. Constabulary. I was the cause of securing a few revolvers for them and bombs.

Q. Where did you secure them from?

A. The bks.

Q. How many?

A. There was 5 on one occasion and 4 or 5 bombs and grenades.

Q. Did you ever get any special information?

A. I used to be always on the alert and tell them when there was a raid on. I saved Francis Donnelly's life.

Q. How did you save him?

A. I used to tell him when there was a raid on.

Q. Was he an important I.R.A. man?

A. Yes, they were looking for him.

Q. During that time that you were in Pomeroy who were you in touch with?

A. Frank Curran. He is in America now. John Joe Hurson, I think he lives outside Dungannon now.

Q. Were you in touch with this Morris?

A. Yes, Major Morris.

Q. In the Black and Tan time?

A. Yes, I was in touch with Morris and Curren.

Q. Was Morris in Pomeroy that time or near Pomeroy?

A. He was living about 4 miles out.

Q. He was living near it?

A. Yes, and Curren was living about 9 miles away in Omagh direction.

Q. Apart from securing the few revolvers and bombs and saving Donnelly's life was there any other thing of importance during the Black and Tan time?

A. Only just putting them on the alert for raids.

Q. Did that occur often?

A. On several occasions there were raids.

Q. From April, 1920 to July 1921 would it have happened often?

A. It would have happened at least 10 or a dozen times. I used always meet this chap Donnelly. He was the principal man having the Drapery establishment. I used often meet Frank Curran.

Q. When the truce came along down here what was it like up in Pomeroy the early part of the truce?

A. There was a couple of ambushes round there, one at Dungannon between Cappagh and Dungannon.

Q. Had you anything to do with the ambush?

A. It was me that supplied the material.

Q. The information?

A. the ammunition.

Q. Have you any idea how long that was before you left Pomeroy?

A. It could be about April, I think.

Q. I thought you left the place in March?

A. It was March 1922.

Q. Was this ambush between Cappagh and Dungannon after you left?

A. This was in 1921.

Q. About April?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you supply much ammunition?

A. A box of Webley stuff. I think there was about 50 or 60 rounds of it.

Q. When did you arrange for the handing over of Pomeroy bks. to the I.R.A?

A. We were plotting for about 3 weeks. The day that I expected to be Bk. Orderly I fell sick and that put me out.

Q. Did you arrange with these men for the raid on Pomeroy bks?

A. I did.

Q. What did you do at the time of the actual raid?

A. I was Bk. Orderly the night of the raid.

Q. What happened?

A. They came to the door, about 50 of them, and I admitted them. They overpowered the garrison in the bks.

Q. Was there a big garrison?

A. 15.

Q. What did they get?

A. 75 rifles and 45 revolvers.

Q. With some other material?

A. Bicycles and things.

Q. No shooting?

A. There was not a shot fired.

Q. What happened to you then?

A. I was put under arrest and taken to Dungannon.

Mar. 1922

Q. They suspected you?

A. Yes.

Q. When was this raid?

A. In March '22 it was.

Q. What happened you there?

A. I was put into clink for a day. I was out on patrol then. I had a brother sick then in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast. I asked the day and he allowed me to travel as far as Belfast to see him.

Q. Did you get the permission?

A. I did.

Q. What happened then?

A. I came back again that evening.

Q. To Dungannon?

A. Yes and in the meantime there was a chap named Hanley, criminal specialist, and he gave me the work to hop it.

Q. Did you do it?

A. I did. I took the 6.30 train the following morning to Portadown. I came on to Dublin.

Q. What happened you in Dublin then?

A. I was staying up in Hills in Eccles St.

Q. For how long?

A. A fortnight.

Q. After that?

A. I met this chap Morris again and he took me out to Beggars Bush and I was introduced to Garret O'Sullivan, ~~x~~ Adj. Gen. that time.

Q. Yes?

A. He explained the case about getting me into the guards. They were forming up the new police force. I said I would consider it. I went up to Eccles St. that night and met Charlie Daly and Seán Lehané and they had an idea about the split and they asked me to go to Donegal.

Q. Did you go?

A. I did.

Q. When did you go?

A. About April or so.

Q. Before the civil war started?

A. Yes.

Q. Was that the time you were appointed Divisional Officer?

A. Yes.

Q. Where were your headquarters?

A. Raphoe.

Q. Had you bks?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you stay there in the garrison?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you doing the work of a Divisional officer of police?

A. I was. Eamon Donnellan was chief of the police at the time.

Q. Was it a full time job?

A. Yes.

Q. When the civil war was starting what happened to you up there?

A. I formed up the columns again.

Q. When you heard about the Four Courts falling in Dublin?

A. Yes.

Q. Had you any fighting ~~in~~ with the Free State?

A. In a place called the Poisoned Lane in Donnegal.

Q. What were you armed with?

A. A rifle.

Q. Have you any idea of the time?

A. It could be some time at the end of July.

Q. Were you in any column?

A. Yes.

Q. Who was in charge of it?

A. Con Crowley.

Q. This fight in the Poisoned Lane was it a case of you attacking the Free State or the Free State attacking you?

A. They were rounding us up a bit.

Q. Did you do much fighting that day?

A. There was a couple of rounds. There was a chap called Kane wounded.

Q. Did you fire much?

A. I emptied the magazine a couple of times anyhow.

Q. What range?

A. 70 yds.

Q. Had you any other fight?

A. I was in another scrap outside Reynoldtown.

Q. Was that much later?

A. I think it could be about a fortnight.

Q. What kind of a scrap was that?

A. A couple of lorries travelling on the road. The full column was not there that day.

Q. Did you attack the lorries?

A. We did.

Q. Were you any way close?

A. 60 yds away.

Q. Did you fire many?

A. About 4.

Q. And then escaped?

A. Yes. They kept going and they did not fire.

Q. Any other fight?

A. That is all I know.

Q. What about Newtowncunningham?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you in that?

A. I was.

Q. Were you all the time in Seán Lehane's column?

A. All the time.

Q. Did they capture you?

A. Yes. I was arrested in Churchhill.

Q. When?

A. About Sept. or so.

Q. Were you by yourself?

A. I was in seeing to my arm and when I came out I was surrounded. I had no gun on me.

Q. You were attending a Dr.?

A. Yes.

Q. What jails were you in?

A. Buncrana and Mount Joy.

Q. Were you in any other?

A. In the Curragh.

Q. Tintown?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you get out?

A. Some time round Christmas 1923.

Q. Were you on hunger strike?

A. I was.

Q. For how long?

A. About 8 or 9 days.

Q. Were you sworn?

A. I was.

M. Ní Ć.

Ref. No. 291-91

APPLICANT'S NAME

Staunton John

For Discussion with

Mr Seamus McCannDate 14/12/37

PERIOD	OBSERVATIONS ON SERVICE	PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT
(1)		
(2)	<u>Class 2-3</u>	
(3)	<u>In Vols. in '18 -</u>	
(4)	<u>Tan was not claimed in Form</u> <u>at interview claims special service</u> <u>unit: joined RLC to get medals Sub. =</u> <u>= nothing much</u>	
(5)	<u>On RLC pension</u> <u>[17] Held by. Tyrone officers. Mr McCann doesn't know</u> <u>him before 14/12/37</u> <u>[Reps. from Morris Air Lt = gives him good credit for Int. etc.</u> <u>& handing out 20 rifles etc. News & medals</u> <u>and "gave him permission to join RLC"]</u> <u>Pomeroy handed over when? = 14/12/37!</u>	
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
(10)	<u>McCann - Amb. at Newtown Cunningham was in the 81/period - May '22</u> <u>5/11/39</u>	

OBSERVATIONS ON RANK—

(a) First Critical Date..... (b) Second Critical Date.....

RESULT OF DISCUSSION.

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

Form R.18.

Ref. No. 29491

APPLICANT'S NAME

Staunton

John

For Discussion with

Messrs. O'Donnell & McEann

Date

5/6 Jan '39

PERIOD	OBSERVATIONS ON SERVICE	PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT
(1)	Wks for Tyrone	
(2)		
(3)	Thred for Tyrone off re 1/0 work in Tan Period	
(4)	looks as if he had not short	
(5)	Service in RSC as apparently	
(6)	he has no record in document	
(7)	R & C Pension	
(8)	Came over with Del in May ? any Tyrone Service in 8th	Period
(9)	Am a h- ? Cunningham (this is in Trace Period)	
(10)	19/18 Poine & Her fight - July - (McEann has lost Trace of him after this) - not in Cols	
	not in this yll for Kelly 26 1/39	
	(10) no	

OBSERVATIONS ON RANK—

(a) First Critical Date

(b) Second Critical Date

RESULT OF DISCUSSION.

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

Form R.18.

Ref. No. 29491

APPLICANT'S NAME Stanton John

For Discussion with Messrs Kelly, McKenna Messrs.

Date 25 Jan, 1939

PERIOD	OBSERVATIONS ON SERVICE	PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
(10)		

OBSERVATIONS ON RANK—

(a) First Critical Date..... (b) Second Critical Date.....

RESULT OF DISCUSSION.

REF. No. 29491

APPLICANT'S NAME

Staunton John

ADDRESS

Westport Quay, Westport, Co. Mayo

UNIT

1st N. Div.

(a) PERIOD	(b) Service claimed	(c) Active service allowed	(d) Equivalent for Pension purposes	REMARKS
(1) 23/4/16 ... 30/4/16				Hold for Tyne 4/11/39 (7)
(2) (a) 1/4/16 - 22/4/16 (b) 30/4/16 - 31/3/17				(8)
(3) 1/4/17 - 31/3/18				(9)
(4) 1/4/18 - 31/3/19			Conf 202 37.1. 39	(10)
(5) 1/4/19 - 31/3/20				(11)
(6) 1/4/20 - 31/3/21				(12)
(7) 1/4/21 - 11/7/21				(13)
(8) 12/7/21 - 30/6/22				(14)
(9) 1/7/22 - 31/3/23	1 May 1922 - 31/3/23			(15)
(10) 1/4/23 - 30/9/23	Full Period			(16)

(a) First critical date.

(b) Second critical date.

Rank claimed on

L.O.Div. Police O.

Rank allowed

Total of Column (d)

SIGNED—

S. RobinsonJohn Bry.[Signature]John Jordan

Military Archives



Referenced	21
Issued	19 APR 1940
Expires	11 MAY 1940
Initials	D.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

The Quay, 29491

Westport,

Co. Mayo.

1191 26/5/40

Military Archives

P.S.M.

May 7th 1940.

OFFICE AN EXCELSIOR

PAIGET

A-19 REAL 1940

DCN 10 ORIENTA

Ref. no. 29491/41.

To the Referee

Military Pensions Board.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your
Circular re—my claim for military
Service Pension, I wish to appeal
against the decision of the
Referee.

I herewith submit additional
evidence in support of my
appeal.

Yours faithfully,

John Staunton.

Ref. no. 29491/41

Carralaun
Westport

3. 5. 40

~~Recd~~

This is to certify that
John Staunton of Westport
Inqy. joined the R.I.B in 1920
on my instructions, so that we would
have some reliable person in the
R.I.B. Depot who would supply
us with information as to those
who were there. He carried out
this work while he was there.
Afterwards on his transfer he
got in touch with some I.R.A.
officers where he was stationed
and gave active service there.

Edward Inwae
Late O.C. West Mayo B.O.B.

Admiralty House,

Ref no 29491/41 Naville,

Co. Donegal,

April 25th 1940

To
Referee.
Military Pensions Board.

A. Clara,

I beg to state that J. Staunton was a very valuable I. O. and worked very hard as such Intelligence Officer, in fact he was the only reliable one we had in the whole district, apart from his work as I. O. he kept us supplied with small arms etc. after he had got us all the contents of Pomeroy Bks he remained in Pomeroy and furnished us with very special information as to movements of British Armed Forces procured at great risk to himself...

25/4/40
Sig
J. J. Morris. Ex. Comdt Gen
Op. 2nd Northern Div

Ref. no. 29491/41

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.

This is to certify that Mr. John Staunton, Westport, Co. Mayo, became acquainted with me in Pomeroy, Tyrone, June 1920 as an R.I.C.-man who was desirous of lending his assistance to the I.R.A.

Mr. Staunton gave very valuable assistance to the I.R.A. on several occasions.

In May 1921 when encountered by a superior R.I.C. patrol of which Mr. Staunton was a member, a small number of I.R.A. men found themselves in a very bad position. Mr. Staunton persuaded his comrades to retire by informing them that they were about to be engaged by additional units of the I.R.A. This, in fact, was not the case, and Mr. Staunton's sole object was to prevent an inevitable loss of life amongst our forces.

He supplied our forces on a few occasions with small arms and ammunition, and gave valuable information regarding the movements of enemy patrols. On at least one occasion he was in this way instrumental in saving the lives of some of our men. Mr. P. Donnelly, to give one instance, escaped with his life owing to information supplied by Mr. Staunton.

On the night of March 18th, 1922, Mr. Staunton whilst acting as guard of the Pomeroy R.I.C. Barracks admitted 25 of our men as a result of which we obtained two lorry loads of equipment including 75 rifles, about 40 revolvers, bombs and ammunition.

Mr. Staunton was placed under "open arrest" as a result of this raid, but subsequently escaped into the Twenty-Six Counties.

After this he joined the I.R.A. in Co. Donegal and held the rank of Divisional Police Officer, I understand.

Sean Corr

2 Inverness Rd.

Fairview

Dublin

8/5/40

29491

Military Archives



Military Service
Pensions Collection

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

Form R. 18.

Ref. No. 29491

APPLICANT'S NAME Staunton, John

For Discussion with Messrs Mc Cann, Donnell, Leary & Mc Carley Date 8/10/40

PERIOD	OBSERVATIONS ON SERVICE	PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT
(1)	<u>E-21.6</u>	
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)	<u>See Provisional</u>	
(7)		
(8)	<u>Brigade Police Officer</u> <u>Rashoe.</u> <u>his activities (Mc Cann)</u>	
(9)		
(10)		<u>C/V</u>

OBSERVATIONS ON RANK—

(a) First Critical Date..... (b) Second Critical Date.....

RESULT OF DISCUSSION.

Date.....

29491

JOHN STAUNTON

Advisory Cttee :

Tendered oral evidence.

Discussed with V.Os.

The references since received on behalf of applicant do not add any additional material information concerning his claim.

He joined the R.I.C. on instructions for the purpose of giving out information. He appears to have given out some information and some small arms. He claims that he was responsible for the handing over of Pomeroy R.I.C. Barracks in March 1922, as a result of which a large capture of arms and ammunition was made.

His pre-Truce service does not appear to have reached qualifying standard and the V.Os. appear to know very little about it.

No change recommended.

M. S. Sullivan

MMG/EF

Military Service
Pensions Collection

21. 11. 1941.

Appeal on R21

Fodhla—Wt. 4639—Gp. 50—10,000—2/'40—R 9010.
Wt. 44—Gp. 50—8,000—4/'40—S 115.

REF. No. 29491

APPLICANT'S NAME Stanton, John

ADDRESS Westport Quay Westport Co. Mayo REFEREE R.3

UNIT.....

1st M. Div.

(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 }		O CHANGE RECOMMENDED 28/11/41		(8)
(3) 1/4/17 — 31/3/18				(9)
(4) 1/4/18 — 31/3/19				(10)
(5) 1/4/19 — 31/3/20				(11)
(6) 1/4/20 — 31/3/21				(12)
(7) 1/4/21 — 11/7/21				(13)
(8) 12/7/21 — 30/6/22				(14)
(9) 1/7/22 — 31/3/23	1 May '22-31/3/23			(15)
(10) 1/4/23 — 30/9/23	Full Period			(16)

(a) First critical date.

(b) Second critical date.

Rank claimed on I.O. Siv. Police Off.

Rank allowed Total of Column (d).....

SIGNED—

ammaney

Jameson

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

Ref. No. 34.50/32854

Ref. No. ~~29491~~ 29491

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.

S. Taunton, John
Westport Quay, Westport, Co. Mayo.
for a Service Certificate.

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

J. J. Morgan

Date 10 SEP 1936

Date

Referee.

1. Is the Applicant a person to whom the Act applies ?
2. If so, total actual service in the different service periods, as established
3. Total service for pension purposes as defined by Second Schedule of the Act
4. Grade or rank, quoting relevant paragraph of First Schedule under which allowed : —
 - (a) On first critical date
 - (b) On second critical date
 - (c) Was applicant a member of the Irish Volunteer Executive at any time prior to the 11th July, 1921
 - (d) Does applicant's case fall under either of the following sub-paragraphs, and, if so, which, viz., sub-paragraph (j) of paragraph 3 of Rule I. of First Schedule or under sub-paragraph (m) of paragraph 4 of Rule I. of First Schedule, as a Medical Officer.

Deinim an tuarascabhaíl seo do dháimhniú

dáta; 31/1/47

RÉITEÓIR.

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

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

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

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

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

(3) State—

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

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

8. THE PERIOD COMPRISING :—

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

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

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

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

(3) State—

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

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

.....

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

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

.....

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

.....

(3) State—

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

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

.....

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

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

.....

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

.....

(3) State—

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

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

.....

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

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

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

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.

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

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

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

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

(3) State—

(a) The particular military body of the Forces.

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

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

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

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

(3) State—

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

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

.....

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

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

.....

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

.....

(3) State—

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

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

.....

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

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

.....

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

.....

(3) State—

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

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

.....

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

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

.....
.....

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

.....

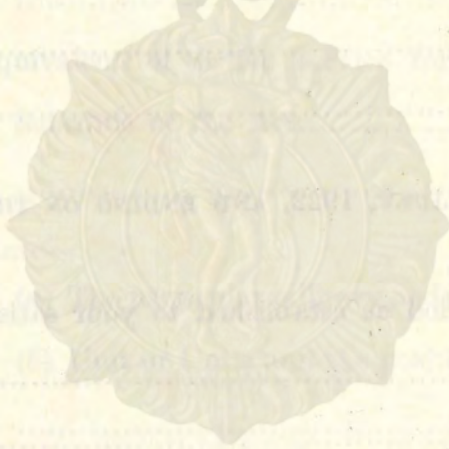
(3) State—

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

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

.....

.....



**Military Service
Pensions Collection**

File, Please

29491

John Stevenson

Westport Quay

Westham

SN

Chas Raim

File Under

23/1/16

Military Service
Pensions Collection

UIMH R THAGARTHA
(Reference No.)



Roinn Cosanta,
Brainnse Airgeadais,
Colaiste Caoimhin,
Glasnaoidhean,
Baile Atha Cliath.

34/SP/ 32859
MSP/34/
Ref: 29491

6 June 1946

John Stanton

MR. EGAN,

The above-named has appealed against the findings of the Referee in respect of his/her application under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934, and in support of his/her appeal has forwarded the enclosed documents purporting to contain additional evidence not previously available.

Will you please state for the Minister's information whether the evidence now produced is, in your opinion, additional evidence as defined by the Attorney General. Please return evidence with your reply.

J. S. O'Donoghue
of Rúnai.

Military Archives

2944 48.

If the evidence of the vomiting officers
is believed. this man's case comes
under the Intelligance Section of the Act.

is yes 25-6-'46
SR

June. 25/6.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Military Archives

OFFICE OF THE REFEREE, MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

M.S.P/34/Ref. 29491

26 June 1946.

34/S.P./ 32859

Rúnaí, Roinn Cosanta, (F.3 A).

With reference to your minute of the 6th inst.
and enclosure thereto (returned herewith) regarding the appeal
made to the Minister by John Staunton
the evidence now produced is not, in my opinion, additional
evidence as defined by the Attorney General.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

RÚNAÍ.

Military Archives

R

Westport

No. 148



Secretary.
Dept of Defence
Pensions Branch,
Colaishe Boinnein,
Maonaven,
Dublin.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Military Archives



Military Service
Pensions Collection



E I R E

3 JUN 1946
GLAHLANN na DRAINNE
AIRSBADAIR

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I John Staunton of the Quay, Westport, in the County of Mayo do hereby most solemnly and sincerely declare ~~that~~ as follows:

1. With reference to letter No. 34/SP/32859 received by me from The Military Service Pensions Board on the 27th March 1946, I attach herewith certificate of additional evidence by Patrick McDonnell of 107, Bedford Road, Bootle, Liverpool.

2. The evidence of Patrick McDonnell is the additional evidence upon which I rely for a Military Service Pension.

3. This additional evidence only became available two months ago when I located the whereabouts of the said Patrick McDonnell.

4. The said additional evidence was not available at the hearing of my application because the said Patrick McDonnell was absent from this country and I could not trace his whereabouts as he had no relations here. It was by accident I recently discovered his address and as he was Intelligence Officer for the area he was familiar with my activities.

5. I make this ^{DECLARATION} ~~application~~ conscientiously same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act, 1938.

Declared before me the undersigned
at Westport in the County of Mayo
this 30th day of May 1946.
a Peace Commissioner in and for the
said County and I know Deponent.

John Staunton
The Quay
Westport
Co Mayo

David O'Gallacháin
P.C.

I

F3A

24/32859

This is to certify that I got to know
John Staunton R.I.B. stationed in Pomeroy
Co Tyrone. in or about June 1920.

That he kept me in touch with all
matters relating to I.R.A. so far as
raids etc were concerned.

He was most enthusiastic about the
success of our national struggle.

He was most trustworthy and was
a valuable adjunct. to our efforts.

That he was continuous in his
efforts until February 1922. when
he was arrested by R.I.B. and
detained in Dungannon.

That I was responsible for his
escape. from R.I.B. Dungannon
and got him in touch with G.H.2.
J.R.A. Sullivan who in turn appointed
him Divisional Police Officer for the

II

First: not them Division. Now as to his pre-truce service:-

That he saved me being arrested by R.I.C. also. Francis Denny Pomeroy and John McDermott Dunamore.

That in May 1921: through his contacts, he was the means of mis-directing a large patrol of R.I.C. who would have captured a number of our Volunteers.

That he supplied figures and facts of R.I.C. and "A" specials in Brigade Area. in this period.

That he handed over Pomeroy R.I.C. Barracks. to us in February 1922.

(75 Rifles: several cases of Bombs) nobody injured. That he handed over to me on several occasions. ammunition

III

(303) and Mills Bombs.
during 1920. and 1921.

Signed: Patk. McDermell.
107 Bedford Rd.

Bottle
Liverpool 20.

18-5-46.

During above Periods I was. Brigade
J. A. ^{1st} Northern Division

McDermell.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

34/SP/ 32859

Military Archives

A.F.O. (Mr. Morgan).
Finance Officer.
Secretary.

Mr.

John Staunton

The Quay - Westport - Co Mayo

made application for a Service Certificate under the terms of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934, as a result of which the Referee issued a report on

14th Dec 1941

that the applicant was not a person to whom the Act applied. An appeal against the finding of the Referee was considered before he forwarded his report to the Minister.

Applicant now seeks to have his case re-opened. The evidence now produced (Tab "A") is declared by the Secretary, Office of the Referee, to be additional evidence as defined by the Attorney General.

The matter is submitted accordingly for a direction from the Minister as to whether the case should be referred back to the Referee for review.

5

July 1946.

Refer back
(Ltr) OJ

10/7/46

F.3.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Roinn Cosanta,
Brainnse Airgeadais,
Coláiste Caoimhín,
Glasnaoidhean,
Baile Atha Cliath.

34/SP/ 32859

MSP/34/

Ref: 29491

12 July 1946.

Rúnaidhe do'n Réiteoir.

I am directed by the Minister for
Defence to state that Mr. John

Stanton

The Quay - Westport - 6 May
has appealed against the findings of
the Referee in his case. The Minister
directs that the Referee will be good
enough to review his report in the
light of the additional evidence
furnished by the applicant.

S. A. W. Jacobsen

a/s

RÚNAIDHE.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Ref. No.

29491

cc/b
OIFIG AN RÉITEÓIR,
Bearrúic Uí Chríobhtha,
Baile Átha Cliath.

13 November 1946

ACHT NA bPAINSEAL SEIRBÍSE MÍLEATA, 1934.

A Chara,

With reference to your appeal for revision of the Report upon your application for a Service Certificate under the above Act, I am directed by the Referee to request you to attend at this Office at 2.30 o'clock, on Thursday the 21st November day of _____ 19 _____, FOR FURTHER EXAMINATION ON OATH BEFORE THE REFEREE, in connection therewith.

If you fail to attend, the Referee may proceed with the investigation in your absence.

I am to point out that no claim in respect of your travelling expenses or any other expenses incurred by you can be entertained, and that Section 8(4) of the Act prescribes that the onus of proof shall rest on the applicant.

Mise, le meas,

[Signature]
RÚNÁI.

Ch. John Stanton

The Bury
Westfield
College

Military Service
Pensions Collection

29491.

November, 1946.

A chara,

Further to my notification dated 13th instant for your attendance before the Referee on Thursday, 21st instant, I am to state that your case will be taken at 10.30 a.m. instead of 2.30.p.m. and I am accordingly to request you to attend at 10.30 a.m. on that date.

Mise, le meas,

RÚNAÍ.

Mr. John Staunton,
The Quay,
Westport,
CO. MAYO.

ER/MH.

Military Archives

29491

Chase

Pl call Ed. O'Hare

Canabau Westport

for 10.30 17-1-47

OK

31/12

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Ref. No.

29491

OIFIG AN RÉITEÓRA,
(Office of Referee),

BEARRIC UÍ GHRÍOBHTHA,
(Griffith Bks., S.C.R.,

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH.

31 Dec 1946.

Military Archives

ACHT NA bPINSEAN SEIRBHÍSE MÍLEATA, 1934.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Referee to request your attendance at this Office at 10.30 AM on Friday the 17th Jan 1947 to give oral evidence regarding the nature and extent of the military service rendered with the Forces (1916 - 1923) by the person under-mentioned, in respect of whom application for the award of Military Service Certificate has/have been submitted to the Referee for investigation and report.

A free Travel Voucher (No. 487808.) is enclosed for your journey.

Mise, le meas,

RUNÁI

Y. E. Gane
Kearns

Newport

Ref. No.	Name	Address	Unit
29491	Stanton John	Westport Quay Westport	attached to R.D.C. (D.O.) C. Lyman
		James F Crowhill Coy Westport	

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Reference No.

OIFIG AN RÉITLÓRA,
Beerric Uí Ghriobhtha,
Baile Átha Cliath.

37 Dec 1946.

ACHT NA BRINSEAN SEIRBHÍSE MÍLEATA, 1934.

Chara,

I am directed by the Referee to state that

Mr E. Yeane

Wainman

Newport Westport Co Mayo

has/have been summoned to attend before him at this Office at

10.30 am on Friday the 17th Jan 1947

to give evidence relevant to your application under the above Act.

Your attendance is not essential, but if you so desire, you may be present, or you may arrange for the attendance of a representative.

I am to add, however, that there is no provision for the refund of any expenses that may be incurred by your own attendance or by the attendance of any representative or witness not specifically summoned by the Referee.

Mise, le meas,

RÚNÁÍ.

Mr John Stawerton

Newport Quay

Newport

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

Form R. 18.

Ref. No. 29491

APPLICANT'S NAME

John Haunton

For Discussion with

applicant (Summ)

Date

21/11/46

J. Curdine J.

PERIOD	OBSERVATIONS ON SERVICE.	PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT
(1)	The capture of Bomber Bhs took place in Nov. 1922	
(2)	I don't think I made an application for review before end-December 1945. I had tried to, but could never get in touch with McDonnell	
(3)	before 1944. but about February or March last I managed to get in touch with him.	
(4)	Referee intimated he appeared to have a prima facie case for review of report. I was about	
(5)	20 years when I joined R.I.C.; I had a brother serving in R.I.C. who joined in 1908 or before. Lt. Sgt. Sheridan approached me to join the R.I.C.; I told E. Roane & he gave me permission to go ahead & do what I could.	
(6)	I was a member of the Vols then - in Jan. 1919 I was about 10 weeks training in the Depot & then went to Bomber. It was a mistake to have said I joined in Jan. 1919. It was a few months	

- (7) with before I joined that I had any contact with D.R.A. E. Roane told me not to bother joining out with the Vols. I wouldn't have joined only ^{while} I was in the I.C. Roane told me do anything I had no contact with D.R.A. while in Depot.
- (8) my first contact was about June 1940 with McDonald. I had no contact or communication with Roane meanwhile up to surrender of Pomeroy Pks. I was entitled to a fortnight's leave but didn't go home. McDonald was the
- (9) first D.R.A. I contacted; to him I gave 45 and .303 ammo & bombs; I might give him 10 or 15 rounds of ammo now & again; I gave him at least 15 bombs - not 4 or 5 as stated in our summation originally. A patrol
- (10) was ordered around April 1941; I was sent out

on the patrol; OBSERVATIONS ON RANK - I had a couple of bombs and could have put in them but

(a) First Critical Date.....

(b) Second Critical Date.....

RESULT OF DISCUSSION.

made for the Pks via the railway to leave; I was i/c of the patrol of 6 or 8 men; I had no means of knowing what the D.R.A. strength was.

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

Form R. 18.

R. No.

29491

APPLICANT'S NAME

John Staunton

For Discussion with

Sean Carr (Sunn)

Date

29/11/46

PERIOD	OBSERVATIONS ON SERVICE.	PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENT
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)	I don't remember being in Staunton's case. When leave was given I must have been present at hearing on 25/1/39. We didn't know as much about him. He was in touch with Paddy McDonnell all along. I think McDonnell was Bdx I.O.	

Military Archives

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

OBSERVATIONS ON RANK—

(a) First Critical Date..... (b) Second Critical Date.....

RESULT OF DISCUSSION.

Date.....

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF APPLICANT (SWORN) 21st Nov., 1946.

The capture of Pomeroy Bks. took place in Mar. 1922. I don't think I made an application for review before end-December, 1945. I had tried to but could never get in touch with McDonnell before 1941, but about February or March last I managed to get in touch with him. Referee intimated he appeared to have a prima facie case for review of report. I was about 20 years when I joined the R.I.C; I had a brother serving in R.I.C. who joined in 1908 or before. Sergt. Sheridan approached me to join the R.I.C. I told E. Moane and he gave me permission to go ahead (i.e. join) and do what I could. I was a member of the vols. then - in January, 1920. I was about 10 weeks training in the Depot and then went to Pomeroy. It was a mistake to have said I joined in January, 1919. It was a few months before I joined that I had any contact with I.R.A. E. Moane told me not to bother going out with the vols. I wouldn't have joined only Ned Moane told me do anything while I was in the R.I.C. I had no contact with I.R.A. while in Depot. My first contact was about June, 1920 with McDonnell. I had no contact or communication with Moane meanwhile up to surrender of Pomeroy Bks. I was entitled to a fortnight's leave but didn't go home. McDonnell was the first I.R.A. I contacted; to him I gave 45 and .303 ammo. and bombs; I might give him 10 or 15 rounds of ammo. now and again; I gave him at least 15 bombs - not 4 or 5 as stated in oral examination originally. A patrol was ambushed around April, 1921; I was sent out on the patrol; I had a couple of bombs and could have fired on them but made for the Bks. via the lane; I was i/c. of the patrol of 6 or 8 men; I had no means of knowing what the I.R.A. strength was.

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF SEAN CORR (SWORN) 29th Nov., 1946.

I don't remember being on Staunton's case when leave was given. I must have been present at hearing on 25/1/'39. We didn't know so much about him. He was in touch with Paddy McDonnell all along. I think McDonnell was Bdge. I.O.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

SWORN EVIDENCE GIVEN BEFORE THE REFEREE AND
ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY JOHN STAUNTON (29491)
ON 21st NOVEMBER, 1946.

REFEREE:

Q. You made application for a Service Certificate on the 27th December 1935.

A. Yes.

Q. You say in your form that during your period of service in the R.I.C. you were acting as I.O. for the I.R.A.?

A. Yes.

Q. Amongst the references you submitted is a reference from the man who was O.C. of West Mayo, Mr. Moane, dated 1/12/'36. (Reads out Mr. Moane's reference.). You also handed in a reference from T.J. Morris, O.C. 2nd Northern Division, who certifies that you were an I.O. in his Divn. acting as a special Bde. I.O. to No. 2 Bde., 2nd Northern Divn., during which time you were a member of the R.I.C. He certifies that you arranged to hand over Pomeroy bks. to Brigadier Curran and himself. Was that about May 1922?

A. No, at the end of Feb. or March 1922.

Q. Feb. or March 1922?

A. Yes.

Q. He says further that practically all intended raids by military and R.I.C. were frustrated by timely information supplied by you.

A. Yes.

Q. On the 28th April 1937 you gave evidence in support of your claim. (READS OUT EVIDENCE OF APPLICANT). "John Staunton.....
.....I used always meet this chap Donnelly"

A. I made a mistake in Donnelly. It should be Patrick McDonnell. There should be a reference. I was in constant touch with him from June 1920.

Q. That is the Patrick McDonnell referred to in your application for review?

A. Yes. He already has got a pension himself.

(Referee continues reading evidence of applicant:
"He was the principal man.....")

AMCD

(Contg.)

REFEREE:

Q. (REFEREE READS TO END OF APPLICANT'S EVIDENCE). Mr. Seamus McCann was called. The three Verifying Officers who were brought from Tyrone, Messrs. Kelly, McKenna and Corr, were unable to verify any service pre-Truce. There was a 21-day notice served on you, 19th April, 1940, and, although it is stated on R.18, dated 25th January, 1939, that the Verifying Officers, Kelly, McKenna and Corr could/

- Q/ could not verify any pre-Truce service, there appears a reference, signed by Mr. Sean Corr, dated 8th May, certifying that the applicant became acquainted with him in Pomeroy, Tyrone, June, 1920, an R.I.C. man who was desirous of lending his assistance to the I.R.A. He goes on to say that you did give very valuable assistance to the I.R.A. on several occasions. He gives incidents of service in May, 1921, to corroborate your claim to have been instrumental in saving life by warning of raids; and a curious coincidence is that he makes the same mistake in McDonnell's name as you did; he also refers to him as "P. Donnelly"?
- A. I don't know, but this chap, Corr, is in : APPLICANT the Education Department and, if you would like that, he would come here in person.
- Q. There is a further reference from Mr. Morris and, in May, 1940, Mr. Moane wrote a further reference saying that it was on his instructions that you joined the R.I.C. in 1920 - READS REFERENCE. Now, the statutory declaration you sent in is dated 30th May, 1946. Had you made an application to the Minister before the end of last year, that is, before the end of 1945, for a review?
- A. Yes, I did. Last year it was.
- Q. You say you have additional evidence now available which was not available until very recently. As a matter of fact, in the statutory declaration, dated 30th May, 1946, you say that the additional evidence only became available two months previously?
- A. Yes.
- Q. If that is so, this additional evidence did not become available until some time in February or March?
- A. Yes, in or about that.
- Q. Well, I don't understand how, if the additional evidence did not come to hand until February or March, 1946, you could have made an application grounded on it before December, 1945 - do you understand me?
- A. Yes. Well, you see -
- Q. Is that a mistake? Had it become available longer than two months before? When did you ~~the~~ first find out where McDonnell was?
- A. It was this year.
- Q. Are you certain of that?
- A. Yes - because he was up in Phibsboro'. It was from his sister in Castlebar I got his address.
- Q. When/

Q. When was this?

A. When they sent back from the Board for additional evidence and it came.

Q. You had sent your claim?

A. Yes, and that is the additional evidence.

Q. You made the application before the end of last year in the hope that you would be able to get the evidence?

A. Yes.

Q. And, in point of fact, you did not succeed in tracing the man -

A. It took me some time because he travelled to Liverpool; he was in Bootle.

Q. Had you made any efforts to trace him before the Referee made his report?

A. -

MR. McCOY:

Q. Before 1940 or 1941?

A. No, I could never get in touch with him.

REFEREE:

Q. Had you tried to?

A. Yes.

Q. You had?

A. Yes.

Q. How did this confusion arise about his name?

A. It was O'Donnell, as a matter of fact, I used call him; and sometimes - I don't know; I used get mixed up in it somehow.

Q. Well, you have since written to him and got from him this note?

A. Yes. I have a copy of it here.

Q. It is before us now?

A. Yes.

BH

Q. There is no immediate prospect of his being able to give evidence on oath here before us?

A. He is willing to come.

Q. To come over specially?

A. Yes, if necessary. He told me in a letter, and this Corr chap in the Education Office is willing to come up, even to-day if he were rung up.

Q. Is there any prospect of this man coming over on holidays?

A. I believe not, this time of the year.

Q. Perhaps at Christmas?

A. I do not know.

Q. The onus of proof is on you, and that : Referee
would mean you would be liable for
considerable expense in bringing this
man over.

A. He told me he would come, if necessary -
that he was willing to travel.

Q. I think you have established a prima facie
right to have your case reviewed. There
are some matters you might be able to
clear up yourself. Are you living in
Dublin?

A. No. I come from Westport.

Q. There is a big difference between the
two references that Mr. Moane(~~2~~) gave you.
In the first he says you had his permission
to join; in the second he says you joined
on his instructions. If that was so, why
didn't you get him to say so at once?

A. I do not know.

Q. How did you come to join the R.I.C.?

A. I was knocking around there at Westport.

Q. How old were you?

A. About 20 years old.

Q. Were you a small farmer's son?

A. Yes.

Q. Had you any work at the time?

A. My people used be delivering milk in the
Bks.

Q. Had you any relatives in the R.I.C.?

A. I had a brother.

Q. Serving?

A. Yes.

Q. How long was he in it?

A. He was stationed in Belfast until the end.

Q. When did he join?

A. From 1908, or before it, I think.

Q. You probably had it in your mind to
follow the brother's example?

A. No, I had not. The police used be recruit-
ing and I said I would not go, and I told
Ned Moane about it.

Q. What R.I.C. man approached youx to join?

A. Sergeant Sheridan.

So/

Referee:

Q. So, the first thing that led to your joining the R.I.C. was an invitation by a recruiting sergeant of the R.I.C.?

A. He was not a recruiting sergeant.

Q. A sergeant who was trying to get recruits?

A. Yes, and so I told Ned Moane about it and he said to go ahead and to do what I could do.

Q. There is no doubt about that, that it was you who went to Moane and asked for permission?

A. Yes - on his permission I went into the police.

Mr. McCoy:

Q. Were you a member of the Volunteers at the time that Sheridan came to you?

A. I was.

Mr. Gill:

Q. What time of the year of 1919 was this?

A. In Jany. 1919.

Q. You had three months training in Tyrone?

A. No - three months in the Depot - about 10-wks.

Referee:

Q. There seems to be a mistake in your original examination: you were 3-mths. in the Depot, in Dublin?

A. Nearly 3-mths.

Q. Until about the end of March, 1919?

A. Yes.

Q. Where were you stationed from March, 1919 until April, 1920?

A. I went from the Depot down to Pomeroy - it was 1920 I went into the police.

Q. Your answer to the question, when did you actually join the R.I.C., was about 12th Jany. 1919; that is a mistake?

A. Yes, it was Jany. 1920.

Q. How long before you joined the R.I.C. was it since you had anything to do with the Vols.?

A. It would be a few months. I was moving around and at the same time keeping in touch with Ned Moane.

Q. What were you moving around for?

A. Seeing could I locate anything that could be of any value to the I.R.A.

Q. Were you living at home with your people in Westport Quay all the time?

A. Yes.

Q. And helping with the milk delivery?

A. Yes.

Q. What was there to prevent your attending Volunteer parades during the or four or more months before you joined the R.I.C.? : Referee

A. Ned Moane said not to bother going out, but to mix back and forward with the police.

Q. But, on your own evidence, it appears that the real reason why you joined the R.I.C., was that Sergeant Sheridan asked you, that you were anxious to take the job and got the permission of Moane to take it?

A. I was not anxious at all to take the job, and I would not have gone in without Ned Moane telling me, to see if I could do anything inside and I could resign any time, and I did my best while I was in there.

During/

GH.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

-7-

REFEREE:

- Q. During the time you were training in the Depot did you have any communication with members of the I.R.A.?
- A. No, I hadn't.
- Q. At all?
- A. No. I could do nothing in that period. My first was about June 1920 when I got in touch with McDonnell and I kept in constant touch with him until the time that I left the police.
- Q. From the time you got permission from Moane to join the R.I.C. until the time you helped to hand over Pomeroy bks. to the I.R.A. had you any contact or communication with Mr. Moane?
- A. No, I hadn't.

MR. GILL:

- Q. Were you back in your own area on leave during that time?
- A. No.

AMcD

REFEREE:

- Q. You have been asked when last you were home on leave. You were not home at all?
- A. No, I wasn't.
- Q. How is that?
- A. I just didn't bother.
- Q. Well, you had leave in that time?
- A. While I was in the Police? Well, I didn't bother going home.
- Q. When did you have your leave?
- A. I never went on leave at all. I never took any holidays at all.
- Q. For two years? For the two years you were there?
- A. Yes. I had 12 hours off now and again.
- Q. What leave would you be entitled to in the ordinary way?
- A. I suppose in or about a fortnight.
- Q. You say your first contact with any I.R.A. man was made about June, 1920?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And who was he?
- A. He was McDonnell.
- Q. Where was McDonnell living at the time?
- A. He was working in McHugh's of Pomeroy, a drapery shop there; then he was working in the Co-operative Store business in the same place, in the same town.
- Q. What about Donnelly?
- A. That is McDonnell.
- Q. Are/

Q. Are you sure?

A. McDonnell was the man I was most in touch with. There was two Donnelly's I got away, that I was the means of getting them away from being arrested, through the information I gave McDonnell.

Q. There/

BH

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Referee: Q. There was a Donnelly living actually in Pomeroy?
A. Yes, Francie Donnelly. They were carpenters.

Mr. Gill: Q. Are you sure you are not confusing McDonnell
with Donnelly?
A. No.

(Referee reading from evidence.)

Referee: Q. You say, "I used always meet this chap Donnelly."
A. McDonnell is really the man.

Q. You said he was the principal man.
A. I must have got mixed up in them.

Q. That is strange. I can understand you making
a mistake about names so similar in identifying
a particular man but that is not apparently what
happened. You did know Francis Donnelly who
had a drapery establishment and you correctly
identified him both by name and occupation.
A. Well, McDonnell is the man I was in touch with.

Q. Francis Donnelly owned a drapery establishment?
A. No - he had some business.

Q. A Drapery business?
A. I do not believe he had a Drapery business.
McDonnell worked in McHughes Drapery establishment.
Donnelly was a carpenter, a coach-builder.

Q. How did you first get in touch with him?
A. I got to know him around town.

Q. How?
A. In the course of conversation, but we did not
discuss anything in the way of politics until we
got to know one another pretty well. So then we
got on to do a bit of business. There was
ordinary conversations about munitions and that.
I used to start giving him the .45 revolver
ammunition, and the .303, and I gave him
bullets (?) on several occasions.

Mr. Gill: Q. Could you give us any idea how much stuff you
gave him at a time and how many times?
A. I used give him about 10/15-rds. of .45 now and
again. You could not have a lot out at a time,
and I gave him bombs - at least 15 Mills bombs.

Q. When you were giving your evidence in 1937 you
said 4 or 5 bombs?
A. That might be at a time.

Referee: Q. You did not say so. You were asked what were you
able to do and you said you were the cause of
securing a few revolvers and bombs, etc. - You
were asked how many and you said 5 or 4 or 5 bombs
and grenades?
A. At least it mounted up to about 15 anyhow.

And/

Q. And you were later asked, "Apart from : Referee
securing the few revolvers and bombs
and saving Donnelly's life, was there
any other thing of importance during the
Black-and-Tan time," and you answered,
"Only just putting them on the alert for
"raids."

A. -

Q. The next question was, "Did that occur often,"
and your answer was, "On several occasions
there were raids," and you estimated the
number at 10 or a dozen times -
Were these answers correct?

A. Yes, they were, because I had to help
them out.

Q. But did they do you justice?

A. -

Q. You mentioned 4 or 5 bombs and now you : Mr. McCoy
say you estimate 15; which is correct?

A. I used to give them the bombs on a few
occasions. Sometimes, I would have
three but in all I handed about 15 bombs
to McDonnell and several rounds of ammn.
but I repeated it pretty often.

Q. You were operating in the R.I.C. in the : Mr. Gill
district where, in the Tan time, they
did savage acts. Did it ever occur to
you to get out of the R.I.C. who were
doing such shocking acts to the Irish?

A. -

Q. Are you getting any R.I.C. pension?

A. No - never a half-penny.

I have/

GH.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

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MR. GILL:

- Q. I have before me accounts of what happened to I.R.A. men and their associates in that district and one would believe that anybody who had genuine Irish sympathies would have left that Force?
- A. I was sent into the Force to stay in it and do the best I could.

REFEREE:

- Q. What I don't understand is your having no contact whatsoever with Moane from the day you got permission to join until the time you left?
- A. I didn't think it was necessary when I got in touch with McDonnell, I kept doing my stuff to help as well as I could. That was continuous. It wasn't easy getting in touch with people like that.
- Q. It appears to me that if you had been sent deliberately into the R.I.C. the reasonable thing would have been to make some arrangements to follow you up and keep in contact with you.
- A. If I thought I wasn't fit to do anything in the police the thing was to get back again.

MR. GILL:

- Q. On your own statement you did not do much. You only got some bombs and ammunition, you gave word about raids and you were attached to a force which was doing most savage acts.
- A. Things weren't organised in Pomeroy at the time. It was hard to work. There were a lot of "B" men outside.

MR. McCOY:

If we had a man working for us, no matter how little he would do the information he would give us would be of inestimable value to us. There was a very different outlook in the North of Ireland to the South.

APPLICANT:

With the "B" Specials it was hard to get around. Things were lively when the Truce came along, no one knew but it would last a few years and you wouldn't know what a man would do if he got the opportunity, if he was fit to do it. If you get Corr up he would be fit to tell you.

REFEREE:

- Q. Corr was up before on your case with McKenna and Kelly and the collective statement from the Verifying Officers, including this man, was that they were unable to verify any service during the Tan time.
- A. He was bound to know on account of him being O.C. of the Battn.
- Q. Is there any other correction or addition you want to make to the evidence before us that you have already given?
- A. No, except that you could bring Corr.
- Q. First/

-12-

REFEREE:

Q. First of all, your own evidence -
A. Yes.

Q. Is there anything else you want to say yourself?
You see, your own evidence is the most
important of all, in the long run?
A. -

MR. McCOY:

Q. If there are any amendments or additions you
want to make - additional evidence - this
is the time now for you to do it?

A. Then there was a patrol in April, 1921, and
they were ambushed; and I wasn't supposed to go
out on that patrol at all; but, however it
happened, I was sent out on it; and it seems
when we went up to the top of the town, there
was a couple of shots fired; and I had a
couple of bombs on me and all I would have to
do was to land the bombs; I averted them down
towards the railway, away from the ambush
party altogether; I returned back to the
Barracks again; and I believe if we opened
fire on them that night, there wouldn't be
one of them alive; I am sure I saved that
party of them anyway.

Q. There was a group of Volunteers waiting in
ambush for a patrol of R.I.C.?

A. Yes. I was in charge of it.

Q. How did you come to be in charge of the patrol?
A. I was the senior man in the B. Specials. I
averted the patrol away from them.

Q. With 15 months' service?

A. Those lads were only after being organised,
after coming from Gormanston(?); still and
all, they were old-timers - they came from the
British Army - and fairly well-used to rifles.
I took the patrol away down an old laneway.
If they had got them, there wouldn't have been
one of them alive.

Q. Weren't the Volunteers waiting to ambush the
patrol? Couldn't the action you took prevent
them from engaging them?

A. Well, the lads admitted it themselves that
were in the ambush.

MR. ROBINSON: Q. How many were in the patrol?

A. There were six of us.

Q. How many were in the Volunteers?

A. I believe there weren't many in it.

REFEREE:

Q. How did you know?

A. I didn't know, of course.

Q. How did you know there was going to be an
ambush?

A. There was some idea.

Q. What caused you to take them down the side lane?

A. I/

A. I didn't want them to get in on top of the lads down on the valley.

Q. How did you know they were there?

A. Did they not fire a couple of shots at us. We could have had them rounded up that night.

Q. What happened was that you were out with 6 B. Specials when some shots were fired and that, instead of going on the way you were going to go, you went down a side lane and back to the Barracks?

A. Yes.

Q. And the question is: years afterwards you claim certain motives for that?

A. Yes. It wasn't ambition to engage them.

Q. But you had no means of knowing in what strength the Volunteers were there - isn't that so?

A. That is right too, of course.

Q. Would it not have been simpler to go up and not fire on the Volunteers?

A. What could you do when you had those other fellows around. You see, I wasn't out to do them injury anyway; and they knew that.

Q. I could readily believe that.

A. -

Q. This very man, Frank Donnelly, was in the party who were to attack that patrol. If you were a great friend of his, why should he try to endanger your life?

A. -

Q. He might have intended to save your life?

: REFEREE

A. I done my part well. I was in the R.I.C. and they leading up to the Barracks. That was a great risk to my life.

Q. Pomeroy?

A. Yes.

Q. It was very much easier to be patriotic in May, 1922, than May, 1921?

A. I was with them all the time.

Q. We want to find out how much you did before July, 1921?

A. Of course, things were only really getting a bit active when the Truce really came, when they were making any movements at all, when the B. Specials were here - just as an emergency board here during the war having come, they would notify them in 2 hours. (?)

Q. All you have said yourself in the statement you made in 1937 was the giving of a few revolvers and some bombs and warning Vols. of raids on about a dozen occasions. What

-14-. (John Staunton)

Q/ I am saying is that, apart from that and a box of Webley ammunition containing 50 or 60 rounds, you claim nothing else in the way of service before July, 1921?

A. Well, of course, you see, as I said before, it was only leading up to things - what a man might do if he got a chance.

Q. May I take it then that that is, in fact, all you were able to do?

A. That is all I was fit to do, because we were working strenuously. I am only just telling you what really happened. If it was in my power to have done any more; but I didn't get the opportunity; but it was coming along probably that I might be able to do something big, and the Truce came along.

Q. The next step I propose to take, at all events, is to hear the evidence of Mr. Corr and Mr. Moane. I think after we have heard Mr. Moane that maybe we might be in a position to tell you whether it was worth your while bringing other witnesses. We have a statement in writing from him. We have his own sworn evidence. We will summon Corr.

A. Yes.

BH

Military Service
Pensions Collection

SWORN EVIDENCE GIVEN BEFORE THE REFEREE AND
ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY SEAN CORR IN THE CASE
OF JOHN STAUNTON (29491) ON 29th NOVEMBER 1946.

REFEREE:

Q. There was a discussion of this case with Verifying Officers "Kelly, McKenna and Corr" on the 25th Jan. 1939. We were in doubt as to whether or not you were there so we checked up and found that all the arrangements were made for you to get leave to attend on that date, so I suppose it is reasonable to imply that you were there.

A. On Staunton's case? I don't remember being on it.

Q. The note here says that Staunton's case was discussed with Messrs. Kelly, McKenna and Corr on the 25th Jan. 1939. I had it checked with your Department and found that leave of absence was given to you.

A. Was I there?

Q. Leave was given.

A. I must have been there alright.

Q. The note only says: "Officers cannot verify any military service pre-Truce. This service did not start until 8th Period".

A. The 8th? Did we agree on that?

Q. That is the note made.

AMcD

A. Well, that could happen alright, because we didn't say much about it. It was Paddy McDonnell was in touch with one man. He was in touch with a man called Paddy McDonnell the whole time, and we didn't know that. We were not supposed to know - and another lad. He could only go to a certain place to meet these people, because they were watching him from a distance the whole time; and he couldn't be seen talking to any of the lads out on the street, because Pomeroy was a bit on the quiet side, you know. It was nearly, parts of it, half and half.

Q. "Officers cannot verify any military service pre-Truce. This service did not start until 8th Period". That is a note made of the interview with Kelly, McKenna and you.

A. Yes. Probably we were not informed of the facts of the case at the time. There were a lot of cases that we didn't know about until we looked them up. We knew about him, that he was alright.

Q. Of course, the Pomeroy business would have fixed him very definitely in your mind?

A/ It/

A. It would. Well, we knew about that.

Q. And the fact of his doing that would put him in a very unique position in your recollection?

A. Well, it would. It is very hard to test a man. Do you know, there are things that took place that you would only hear of it afterwards.

Q. Did you know McDonnell before the Truce?

A. I did.

Q. Did you know him well?

A. Not extra. I just knew him as a stranger to me. He was a stranger to me.

Q. If he was getting information from Staunton and you were his O/C, would he not have told you about it?

A. He told me some things about him, but it was after the Truce.

Q. But if at the time there was -

A. McDonnell was a curious hook. He would tell nobody anything.

Q. Where was McDonnell from?

: MR. McCOY

A. He was from the West too - he was from Mayo.

Q. McDonnell was one of your junior officers? : REFEREE

A. He was - he would be one of my senior officers; he was on the Brigade, Brigade I.O.; but definitely this fellow was alright the whole time.

Q. If he were Brigade Intelligence Officer, ; MR. GILL should he not have reported to Kelly? Kelly was his Chief?

A. Yes, I suppose so. It is a different thing up there than it is down here, because you don't go about telling anything there, because you don't know who you are talking to. You wouldn't tell anybody. The Intelligence Officer has a worse job up there than he would have down here.

Q. Would you say that would apply, even to Senior Officers of the I.R.A.? : REFEREE

A. Well, it wouldn't apply to the whole of them. I don't think it would. You see, there are things we found out since that we didn't know those times and took no heed of them.

Q. Did you find out anything since you were up in 1939 giving evidence? Did you know that this man was in touch with McDonnell? : MR. McCOY

A. I did, of course. I knew he was alright. I didn't know what carry-on they had between them. I knew that he was friendly. We had a man friendly in our place, Sergeant Hogan, and any raids that were coming, he sent a message/

Q/ message to us through a magistrate, a J.P., you see.

Q. This man was very definite when he was up here that you knew about the things he was claiming pre-Truce?

A. -

REFEREE: XX That is clearly not so, from what Mr. Corr says.

MR. McCOY: Q. We then looked up your attendance, and it would then give the impression that you didn't know?

A. -

REFEREE: That is what he says himself.

MR. McCOY: Q. I would like to find out if he knew ~~about~~ ^{then} this man was doing things and was not able to verify.

A. I think this man is a bit afraid of himself.

REFEREE: Q. What appears to me is: you wouldn't sit here and hear his case turned down and agree that he had no military service pre-Truce, if you had any good reason for believing to the contrary. I don't believe you would have said around the table here in 1939 and agree that he had no military service pre-Truce, if you had any good reason for believing to the contrary at the time?

A. I might not. I don't think I would. The point is, about this man, I believe he could have killed him that night. That is one good point.

Q. That is a surmise. We are in as good a position ourselves to form an opinion as anyone else.

A. I'll tell you, Paddy Casey admitted to me. I asked Paddy Casey about that. I asked him about Staunton. I asked ^{him} ~~him~~ did he think Staunton went through the ^{lane} ~~men~~ that night from the top of the road. He said he believes he did, that he could have.

Q. Is there any one man, apart from Staunton himself, in a position to judge of that better than another?

A. I suppose so.

Q. The facts are just there - that an ambush party were waiting, first some shots, and that the police did not join issue with them?

A. But the police came down this lane, and he was a bomber; he had a sack of bombs - you know the sacks of bombs they used carry on their back - and he had a sack of bombs; and all he had to do was that (INDICATES) because it was a glen, a deep cutting.

Q. What evidence have you for that?

A. He was a man in the Barracks; he was a bomber in the Barracks. Every man had their own job to do. The only point - my belief in him/

A/ him being alright after the Truce, he must have been alright before it; he wouldn't change because he had a chance of staying there in Northern Ireland, if he was a wrong one. Do you see the point? What was to bother him, if he did not.

Q. Still, if you were Battalion O/C and knew nothing about him? : MR. GILL

A. -

Q. You are drawing your fair inferences from a fact. : REFEREE

Q. It might happen that the Brigade I.O. would deal with this thing. Certainly the Brigade O/C should know about it, but the Battalion O/C might not. It all depends on how they did their work. If the Brigade O/C thought it was better for the Battalion O/C to know about it, he would tell him; he should tell him, in fact. : MR. McCOY

A. -

Q. Was McDonnell a Brigade I.O.? : MR. GILL

A. He was.

Q. He was never returned as such, he is on the lists; shown as an ordinary member of Pomeroy Company?

A. You wouldn't mind that list too much. Sure we could have put an officer in for every one.

Q. Why leave a man out if he is entitled to rank?

A. We could have made four or five officers there.

Q. Why would you describe him as an ordinary member? : REFEREE

A. I wouldn't remember it.

Q. But you would remember a Divisional I.O. or Brigade I.O., and to report him as an ordinary member -

A. We wouldn't have any records of those things. Willie John Kelly's certificates are all gone. His certificate and everything belonging to the thing are gone. We have no records.

Q. At any rate, that is the most important thing we wanted to clear up on that.

A. -

Military Archives

Quay.

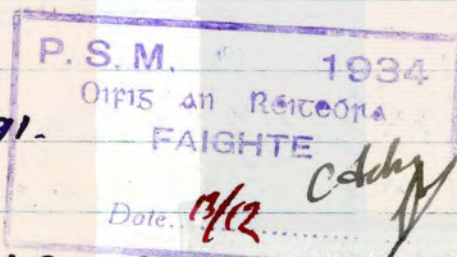
Westport

Co Mayo

11. 12. 46

Ref no 29491.

A CARA



I was summoned to appear before your Board on 21st ultims. I attended you will remember, and during the course of examination you asked me if Mr. Moane Certifying Officer would be in Dublin before Xmas or immediately after, I told you I did not know at the time. Since I have discovered Mr. Moane will be in Dublin between 15th January and the 20th Jan. 1947.

Would you kindly let me know if these dates would suit your Board

Sec. Office of the Referee
Griffiths Bks.
Dublin.

Yours truly

John Hamilton

Secy Army Secy

15.14/12

CM/10
Appeal

MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1934.

REFEREE R.3

Ref. No. 29491

Applicant's Name

Stanton, John

formerly RSC

Address: -

The Quay Westport

UNIT: -

Westport Tyne & Wear

(a) PERIOD	(b) Service claimed	(c) Active Service allowed	(d) Equivalent for Pension purposes	REMARKS
(1) 23/4/16 - 29/4/16				
(2) (a) 1/4/16 - 22/4/16 (b) 30/4/16 - 31/3/17				
(3) 1/4/17 - 31/3/18				
(4) 1/4/18 - 31/3/19				
(5) 1/4/19 - 31/3/20	} Entire {			
(6) 1/4/20 - 31/3/21				
(7) 1/4/21 - 11/7/21				
(8) 12/7/21 - 30/6/22				
(9) 1/7/22 - 31/3/23				
(10) 1/4/23 - 30/9/23				

No change recommended

Don'tingham
31.1.47

(a) First critical date.

(b) Second critical date.

Rank claimed on

9/0

Rank allowed

Total of Column (d)

SIGNED:

James Robinson

Bill

MSP/34/Ref.

copy
29491

CIFIG AN RÉITHÓRA,

3 Feb

194

7

Military Service Pensions Act, 1934.

Rúnaí,
Roinn Cosanta, F.3 A.

Further to your minute 34/S.F. 37859 of the 12/7/46,
I am directed by the Referee to state that he has accordingly
reviewed the Report on the application made under the above Act by -
John Stanton the Quay Westport Co Mayo.
and, on review, has confirmed the finding as set out in the said
Report.

JB
Please acknowledge.

1
RÚNAÍ.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Military Archives

27, Dingle Road,
Cabra West,
DUBLIN.

29th June, 1949.

A Chara,

This is to state that Jack Staunton was in touch with Pomeroy Company I.R.A. officers and also with Brigade Officers Frank Donnelly and Frank Curran who now are in New York. I am sorry I don't know their addresses. I also can state that he was responsible for saving the lives of some members of the Pomeroy Company. In April 1921, all Companies got an order to attack R.I.C. Patrols in their respective areas. Pomeroy Company sent out two or three parties this night. Carrickmore Company sent 2 members to assist them so on going in the main Carrickmore-Dungannon Road these two Volunteers ran into the patrol and opened fire. Staunton and the rest of the patrol went down a laneway. At the bottom of the laneway there was a steep hill sloping down towards the railway. Five Volunteers were coming up. They opened fire on the R.I.C. Staunton told the patrol that they were surrounded. At the same time he could have killed the lot for their cover was very bad. The R.I.C. had good cover, they could have fought for hours. They acted on Staunton's advice and went back to the barracks by the back gardens which were near their position.

Div. On 18th March 1922 he organised the raid on Pomeroy Barracks with some of the Divisional and Brigade Officers. The Officers were Major Morris, Frank Curran, ~~Brigade~~ O.C., Frank Stronge, adj. Patrick McKenna, Batt. O.C. They arranged to take the barracks on the night that he was doing guard. He opened the door for us at a given time. 25 of us took the Barracks and all the arms and ammunition. It took two lorries to take the stores away as there was a lot of arms stored there for the B. Specials. He was placed under open arrest and sent to Dungannon - the Volunteers arranged his get-away to Dublin. He then went to Donegal Border and took part in some of the fights which took place in the Spring of 1922 on the Tyrone-Donegal Border.

Mise, le meas,

(Signed)

Seán Kerr

Late Brigade O.C.

2nd Northern Div

Military Pensions Collection

North Street
Pomeroy
Co Tyrone

29th Sept 1891.

To Whome it may concern

This is to certify that
I knew John Staunton while stationed in Pomeroy
in the R.I.C. While serving there he saved
the lives of five I.R.A men of whom I was one
when trapped in a Railway Cutting by a Patrol
in which he was the only one carrying grenades
and even if he had rolled them down the Bank
he would have got us, After this incident we
found him to be in sympathy with the movement
and give men information of Raids to be carried out
saving many from Arrest he was always in touch
with the Company up to he give away the Barracks in
1922 after which he was put under arrest.
Signed Patrick Casey.

34/32859

Military Service Pensions Acts, 1924 to 1949.

PETITION UNDER SECTION 6 (1) OR UNDER SECTION 11 (1) OF THE
MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1949.

Minister for Defence,
Coláiste Caoimhín,
Glasnevin,
Dublin.

I made application for a Certificate under the Military Service Pensions Acts but my application was refused.

My application was made from the following address:—

John Staunton
The Quay Westport
Co Mayo

I now request that you will forward this, my petition, to the Board of Assessors or to the Referee, as the case may be, for a re-investigation of my application, on the ground that I am in a position to prove facts sufficient to establish that I am a person to whom the Acts apply.

The following is a statement of the said facts:—

I certify that I am John Staunton of The Quay, Westport, who joined the R.I.C. in March 1920. with the knowledge and approval of Brigs Moane and Ring on the condition that I would give all the assistance to the I.R.A. After leaving the Depot, I was allocated to Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone. After being there a short time, I got in touch with the I.R.A. and gave them useful information and assistance. I will name some of the incidents that happened.

There was a Sam Foy dance in progress in Pomeroy. I was on patrol with another Constable. During the dance when I was fired on by a "B" Special (Samson) ~~who was not a member of the I.R.A.~~ I pursued him, and he took cover in a disused building. I closed in on him, and arrested him fully armed. The object

P.T.O.

of this was to have the dance hall attacked, and to leave the shooting on the dance party, and I'm positively certain to day that there would be blood shed there only for what transpired that night.

I have done a good deal other acts which have been verified, but the general public in Pomeroy can prove what I have stated on other occasions.

I informed P. O'Donnell, Intelligence

Officers that they were coming out to arrest him fully armed. He then left his place and was not there when they called.

There is a reference on the file to that effect.

~~Through~~ Through other communications I was asked by the leaders to organize a raid on the Barracks, as they were short of arms. We fixed a date when I would be Barrack orderly myself. We carried out the raid and secured 70 rifles

45 revolvers, and several boxes of grenades.

I was then put under open arrest, and

conveyed to Dungannon. I succeeded in getting away and was conveyed to Dublin by the local I. R. A.

I don't want to occupy too much space but I am prepared to be examined on all that I have stated, and also on the references sent on to your Board of Arbitration.

I am also enclosing two other references from parties that I was in touch with while in Pomeroy.

Had I not acted as I did I'd be in receipt of an R.I.C. pension today.

John Staunton

The Quay Westport

Signature.....

Present Address.....

Military Service
Pensions Collection

NOTE:—Should the space allotted in this form be insufficient for the purpose, the statement of facts may be continued on a separate sheet which should, however, be attached to the form.

Military Archives

Signature.....

John Staunton

Present Address.....

The Quay

Westport

Co Mayo

Date.....

6th September 1950

NOTE:— Should the space allotted in this form be insufficient for the purpose, the statement of facts may be continued on a separate sheet which should, however, be attached to this form.

1311/2817 Stanton John

MS 29491

	DATE	INITIALS
Petition Received.		
Registered.		
Index Searched and Petition No. inserted.	15-9-80	11
File Drawn.		
File to Committee.		

Action required by Committee;

File to Referee

Action required by Referee;

Date of Decision.

Decision Recorded.

Report to Minister(Reject)

Petition Accepted.

Action Required:

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Ref. P34/2817

Petition submitted by John Staunton
The Quay, Westport

under Section 11 of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1949.

REFEREE.

I, the undersigned, being a member of the Advisory Committee duly appointed under Section 6 of the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934 as amended and extended by the Military Service Pensions Act, 1945 (11 of 1945) and Military Service Pensions Act, 1949 (29 of 1949) having been requested by the Referee to assist him in forming an opinion as to whether there is a *prima facie* case that the applicant (petitioner) is a person to whom the Act of 1934 applies, report to the Referee as follows:—

That there is a *prima facie* case that the petitioner is a person to whom the Act of 1934 applies.

In my opinion there is a
prima facie case. Sect

2 (1) of 1934 Act.

Applicant indicates he
served in "Intelligence
branch". The section quoted
does not appear to require
"author" service for men in
Intelligence branch.

That there is not a *prima facie* case that the petitioner is a person to whom the Act of 1934 applies.

O'Connor

M. MacLure
Austin Brennan

D. Mulvihill

John J. 24/8/54

P/50A.

Regraded
and
Funds



Military Service
Pensions Collection

Uimh. Thagh.

P34 / 2817.
MSP / 2949/
34SP / 32859.

OIFIG AN RÉITEÓRA,
COLÁISTE CAOIMHÍN,
GLASNAÓIDHEAN,
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH.

Stanton, John

Achta na bPinsean Seirbhíse Míleata 1934-1949.

Aire Cosanta.

Iar Bhreithniú achainí an iarratasóra thuas-luaite do réir forála Ailt 11(1) de Acht na bPinsean Seirbhíse Míleata (Leasú), 1949, ní h-é mo thuairim go bhfuil cás prima facie ann gur duine é a mbaineann Acht 1934 leis.

Dá bhrí sin, diúltuim an t-iarratas d'athscrúdú.

lá de 17 BLT 1954

Lady M. P. P. P.

RÉITEÓIR.

Military Service
Pensions Collection