

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21  
BÚRO 'STAIRÉ MILEATA 1913-21  
No. W.S. 1773

ORIGINAL



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BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.

STATEMENT BY WITNESS.

DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 1773

Witness

*Patrick J. Brennan*

Identity.

*Jr. and I.R.A. officer, Dublin.*

Subject.

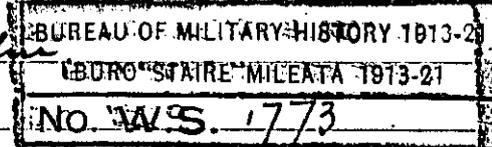
*Jr. and I.R.A. activities and operations  
South County Dublin.*

Conditions, if any, Stipulated by Witness.

*None*

File No .....

Statement by Patrick J. Brennan,  
St. Kevada's, 59, Churchtown Road Lower,  
Churchtown, Dublin



I joined the Irish Volunteer Boys Brigade in Dundrum, Co. Dublin, in May 1915. Our organisation and training was similar to that laid down in the 'Fianna Keiream Manual'. We were attached to the local Volunteer company and carried out various duties for it such as despatch carrying and mobilizing as well as acting as cycle scouts on manoeuvres and other exercises.

I joined "E" company, 3rd Battalion, in October 1916, in the Gaelic League Hall, at 19 Kelly Place and I attended parades and classes there each week until April 1917 when I obtained a transfer to a new company in Dundrum which was established at a meeting, at which I was present, on 17th March, 1917, in Mr Larry Nugent's house, Bunnysbank, Rosemount, Dundrum.

The officers elected at this meeting were:-

Liam Lannan	Captain.
Peter Mulligan	1st Lieut.
James Dillon	2nd Lieut.
Pearl Cunningham	Adjutant.
Frank Golden	Quartermaster.

Following a raid, in July 1918, by R.I.C. and military, on the Volunteer Hall, Dundrum, when 4 Volunteers were arrested; Captain Lannan, who succeeded in escaping on that occasion, was obliged to go "on the run" and he was replaced

by Lieut Mical Chadwick, on Chadwick's transfer, in January 1919, to take charge of Blackrock Company the following officers were elected:-

Thomas Cardiff	Captain
none	1st Lieut.
none	2nd Lieut.
Patrick J. Brennan	Adjutant
Richard Brady	Quartermaster

In August 1919, as a result of continual wrangling in the Company between rival sections of the local branch of the Gaelic League, a new election of officers was sought by the younger and more enthusiastic members of the Company and the Battalion Staff acceded to the request. The following officers were then elected and they held office, without a break, until the setting up by G.H.Q., in September, 1921, of the new Dublin No. 2, Brigade:-

Sean Curley	Captain
Patrick J. Brennan	1st Lieut.
Michael Murray	2nd Lieut.
Patrick Quinn	Adjutant
Denis Kenny	Quartermaster

In September 1919 all units in South County Dublin were formed into a new Battalion of the Dublin Brigade, designated the 6th Battalion; Anay Mac Donnell was elected Commandant at a meeting of

3  
3

representatives of the Company, which was held in No 3 Campfield Terrace, Dundrum, the residence of Mr Laurence Raul. At a subsequent meeting of the Battalion Council appointments to the various Staff posts were made, existing Company officers were reappointed and vacancies created by promotions to the Battalion Staff were filled.

The officer personnel of the Battalion Staff and of the 6 Companies together with the areas and the strengths (approx) of each Company at that time is set out hereunder:-

### 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Staff

Andrew Mac Donnell	Comat	Mt Pleasant Ave, Rathmines
Michael Leahadwick	Vice "	24 Cambridge Rd., "
Brian Mac Neill	Aajt	"Netley" Blackrock
Nial Mac Neill	Q.M.	" "
Dr. J. Loftus	M.O.	75, Fitzwilliam Square
Sean Kane	I.O.	Brookfield Ter, Blackrock
Thomas Cardiff	Transport off.	Rosemount, Dundrum
Richarda Doyle (Ruth)	Asst "	Gulistan Ter, Rathmines
Martin Kelly	Engineer	Dunlaughaire
Sean Kelly	Police	
David Bissett	Signals	Rathmines
J. J. Flanagan	Records	Main St., Blackrock
Michael Kelly	Ammunition	Dominick St, Dunlaughaire
Edward Cummins	Despatch Rider	Windy Arbour, Dundrum

### "A" Company

(Dundrum, Windy Arbour, Milltown, Churchtown,  
Goatstown, Balally)

Strength - 54.

4

4

Capt. Sean Crowley, Bernick Lodge, Rathfarnham.  
1st Lieut. Patrick J. Brennan, Main St., Dundrum.  
2nd Lieut. Michael Murray, Conerets, Milltown.

"B" Company

(Vicknock, Bonauculla, Sandyford, Glencullen, Stepanid,  
Strength - 60.

Captain Ted Stovien, Mumphystown, Sandyford.  
1st Lieut. Michael Nolan, Harold's Grange.  
2nd Lieut. James Kelly, Woodside, Sandyford.

"C" Company

(Bray, Anniskerry, Shankill, Greystones, Delgany)  
Strength - 69.

Captain Larry O'Brien, Bray.  
1st Lieut. Michael Neary, Bray.  
2nd Lieut. Michael McGarry, Shankill.

"D" Company

(Dunlaoghaire, Glasthule, Mounton, Pt. of Monkstown)  
Strength - 98.

Captain { Charlie Somers to arrest Oct 1920. Dackey  
          { Wm J Walsh Dunlaoghaire from Oct 1920.  
1st Lieut { George Kelly to Nov 1920. In Georges St. Dunlaoghaire  
2nd Lieut { Eugene Davis, Rosary Gdns Dunlaoghaire  
          { Joseph Kelly, 71 Glasthule Road. from Nov 1920

"E" Company

(Blackrock, Merrion Gates, Booterstown, Williamstown,  
Stillorgan, Gallopings Green, Newtown Park, Pt. of Monkstown.  
Strength - 74

5

5

Captain Joseph Flanagan, Blackrock.  
1st Lieut Jim Baughlan, 72 Herbert Ave, Mission.  
2nd Lieut Thomas Cassidy, Learysfort Lodge, Blackrock.

"F" Company

(Deansgrange, Kill-o-the-grange, Farnack,  
Coonelscourt, Leabintechy)

Strength - 86.

Captain Jack Foley, Deansgrange.  
1st Lieut Pat Yorks "  
1st Lieut Tommy Moran Coonelscourt  
2nd Lieut Liam Troy "

"G" Company

(Dackey, Killiney, Ballybrack, Loughlinstown)  
Strength - 73

Captain Charlie Somers transferred May 1920. Dackey  
Captain Paddy Darcy to Nov 1920, Woodside "  
Captain Joseph Heaslip from Nov 1920 Killiney  
1st Lieut Daniel Byrne Belarinda Park St, Dunloughaine  
2nd Lieut Wm Meighegan Dackey.

From the time of the reorganisation of the Irish Volunteers in South County Dublin, the various Companies and units had parades every week and, in addition, the officers, N.C.O's and leaders of Special Services attended classes of instruction. At weekends all the Companies were engaged in rifle and revolver target practice, grenade throwing, route marches and manoeuvres in the Dublin and Wicklow

maintains and on practically all such occasions they were harassed by the attentions of members of the R. I. C. and motor and foot Patrols of British military.

As the members of the various Companies became proficient they undertook, by stages, more dangerous tasks until finally, they were ready to take part in active operations against enemy posts and installations and, attacks on and engagements with enemy personnel.

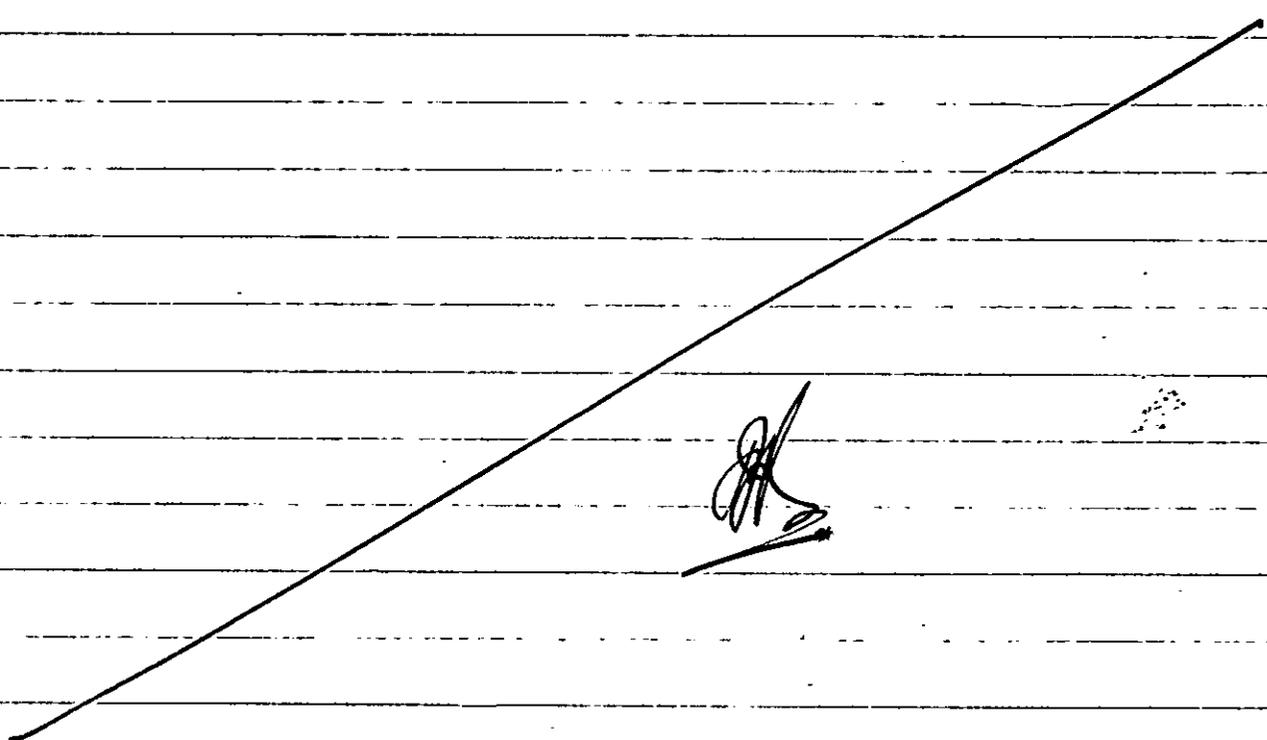
Set out hereunder is a list, in chronological order of the more important of the operations and actions referred to. This list does not include numerous other effective operations which were carried out during these years (1918-1921) eg., Sniping of enemy posts; raids for arms, ammunition, mails, supplies; Beef and goods; County Council Rates monies and documents; manufacture of grenades; destruction of telephone and telegraph lines and railway signal cabins; seizure and destruction of enemy property eg., Post office bicycles, mail trucks, telephone linesmen's equipment; Blocking and trenching bye roads as well as work undertaken at the instance of Sinn Féin (Parliamentary, Local Elections and Publicity) Dail Éireann (Courts and Loan) and Chief of Republican Police etc.,

It will be observed that there were a large number of what appear to have been, unsuccessful barracks attacks in this Battalion area. In no case, so far as I am aware, were any of the listed attacks initiated for the purpose of

capturing the barracks concerned. All the R.I. C. Barracks in this area were stoutly built, were strongly garrisoned and were situated in built up areas. They were well protected with steel shutters, barbed wire entanglements and other defensive works and, as a result, were impregnable against the light armament and grenades available to attackers. The areas were also thickly populated with a none too friendly people and it would have been impossible to move a sufficient force of armed men, unnoticed, into position at any of the barracks. Another hazard was the nature of the terrain - which ~~was a maze of roads~~ carried several main roads that were criss crossed with a maze of bye roads, laneways, accommodation walks and two railway lines, that a considerable number of armed personnel, (which was not available) would have been required to scout and guard these roadways in order to prevent the attacking party and also themselves from being cut off or surrounded. Consequently, all the attacks which took place were carried out on (1) the specific instructions of the Brigade or G.H.Q. for the purpose, only, of relieving pressure on the city units on certain occasions i.e., "Bloody Sunday" 21/11/1920 and Destruction of Custom House 25/5/1921, and (2) in an effort to inveigle the garrisons and, or, reinforcements from neighbouring posts to

come out into the open where they could be attacked at one of the several ambush positions which had been prepared in connection with the attack. In only one instance did the R.I.C. emerge from their post when the ~~attack~~ <sup>shooting</sup> had ~~ceased~~ <sup>and that was in Dundrum,</sup> and they were promptly ~~engaged~~ <sup>attacked</sup> with grenades as they were assembling in front of the Barrack - suffering several casualties. In addition to the attacks, Sniping operations were also carried out, almost nightly from Jan - July 1921; These operations were undertaken with a view to disturbing and if possible, damaging the morale of the garrisons, which had already suffered considerably from continual confinement to their posts, and in this, it is believed considerable success was achieved.

A rough sketch indicating the locations of enemy posts in and adjoining the Battalion area is attached.



*[Signature]*



10  
10

# List of Operations.

1918.

- Febry-July Assembly of grenades in Munition workshop at John Kavanagh's, Meadowbrook, Dundrum, and at Y. Horan's, Blackrock. ✓
- July Irish Volunteer Hall, Dundrum, raided by R.I. C. and military. Captain Lammie escaped., J. Lemley, J. Dillon, M. Weddick and D. Kenny arrested and later sentenced to terms of imprisonment in Belfast Gaol.
- Aug Destruction of R.I. C. rifle range and accommodation Hut at Meadowbrook, Dundrum. ✓
- Aug Raid on R.I. C. Magazine at Balally and capture of 8 boxes gelignite, 400 detonators and 50 yds fuse. Engagement with R.I. C. when retiring. ✓
- Sept Raid for arms on Barringtons, Eden Park, Dundrum; during raid two men in civilian attire, believed to have been Army officers on leave, staying in house, attacked raiders and an exchange of shots took place. Following a struggle with one of the men and an appeal by Mrs Barrington the two men surrendered and were disarmed.
- Sept Destruction of military rifle range at Licknack. ✓
- 1919  
May Capture and destruction at Licknack of military field kitchen and 2 mules, in charge of two unarmed soldiers.

1919

Aug Attack on military raiding party in Deansgrange ✓

Sept Raid on residence of Captain Goff, Dundrum  
Leathic Goff disarmed, in addition 1 revolver,  
1 shot gun, quantity assorted ammo. Captured  
as well as minute book, list of subscribers,  
and other books in connection with British  
Prisoners of war work.

Nov Capture and destruction of military Ambulance  
on roadway between Tichnock & Glencullen ✓

1920  
April } General raid for arms - almost 150 houses  
in area visited, mostly loyalists ✓  
{ Destruction of Income Tax records at Bray. ✓

May Attack on lorry military at Brinkan on Bray Rd ✓

May Destruction of Post office, Telephone and Telegraph  
apparatus in Kiltinan, Dackey, Dunlaoghaire,  
Blackrock, Sandyford, Foxrock, Dundrum ✓

May Raid for arms at British Army officer's house  
at Newcastle, Colwicklow. Captured arms  
transported by rail to Bray on Commandeered  
Railway truck.

May Destruction of vacated R.I.C. Bks at Stepaside ✓

12 May 8th Destruction of vacated R.I.C. Bks at Kill-o-the-Grange.  
During this operation 2 I.R.A., Lieut Tom Dunne,  
and Quartermaster Pat Meaney were badly ✓  
burned and died in hospital on 14th and 21st  
May, respectively.

- 1920  
13 May W. J. McLeah, employee of Right Hon L. Weldon P.C.,  
shot dead in his home at Killiney. ✓  
(see note on index card)
- May Raid on Harcourt St. Railway Station and capture  
of a quantity of arms. Consigned to  
R.I.C. in Rathdunn Co Wicklow. ✓
- May Raid on Dunlaoghaire D.M. Police Station - several  
revolvers captured. Armed policeman disarmed ✓
- 25 May Railway men & dockers (majority of whom attached  
to I.R.A.) at Dunlaoghaire refuse to handle  
British munitions.
- June Seizure of 2 Military Ambulances & stores in  
Railway Goods Yard at Bray and their  
subsequent destruction. ✓
- June Attack on Coastguard Station Dunlaoghaire. ✓
- July Raid on Mail train at Dakey Railway Station  
and capture of a considerable quantity  
of supplies & military stores consigned to  
military in Counties Wicklow & Wexford. ✓
- July Attack on R.I.C. Barracks Bray. ✓
- Sept Raid for arms on Fletcher's, Deansgrange -  
occupants fired on raiders who were obliged  
to retire after an exchange of shots.
- Sept Party of I.R.A. engaged on tree felling (road block) operation  
on Dangle road were surprised by two local military. In  
ensuing engagement one I.R.A. - bullet was wounded.

- 1920
- Sept Attack on Dunderum R.I.C. Bks. ✓
- Oct " " " " " " ✓
- Nov Raid on American Oil Company Tanker at North Wall. 3 rifles, 1 revolver and 250 rounds ammo captured. There was some trouble with the Brigade about this operation and the raid on Heaveount St Rly Station in May 1920 as the scenes of both these operations were outside our Battalion area. ✓
- 21 Nov Attacks on R.I.C. Barracks in (1) Bray; (2) Leabintee; (3) Kinniskerry and Dunderum. These attacks were carried out on specific orders of Brigade in an effort to draw reinforcements from city so as to relieve pressure there. The attacks continued until early hours of Monday morning 22nd. ✓
- 21 Nov Attack on Armoured Car at Temple Hill, Blackrock ✓
- Nov (see entry on page 14)
- Nov Attack on Army military at Klapfer's Grove, near Kinniskerry on Bray Rd. 1 soldier killed 3 wounded. ✓
- Dec when removing an arms dump from Bellevue, Proterston to Bannaullia in a commandeered Napier Super six motor car a military tender was encountered, ~~and~~ called on car to halt and opened fire. I.R.A. returned fire

and after a running fight along the roads to the mountains the greater speed of the Napier car enabled it to eventually outdistance the military lorry and reach the Barnaculla dump safely. No I.R.A. Casualties.

10 Dec 1920. Volunteer Wm Owens shot dead by military i/c of Major Shore, during raid on Sinn Féin Hall Shankill. Several unsuccessful attempts were made subsequently to get Shore. ✓

Dec Attack on Naval Base, Dunlaoghaire, garrisoned by military in addition to normal naval personnel. Attack lasted 3 hours. Casualties unknown. ✓

Dec Attack on R.I.C. patrol in Main St., Dundrum. 1 R.I.C. wounded. ✓

Dec Attack on military patrol in Dalkey. members of patrol retire in disorder without making any attempt to fight. ✓

Nov Raid on Railway Stn, Dunlaoghaire, and seizure of a quantity of ammunition consigned to R.I.C. in Rathdrum. When leaving the station the raiding party was fired on by B+T's. Raiding party returned fire and escaped with ammo, without casualty. ✓

1921  
January Raid on Stillorgan Rly Station and capture of supplies consigned to military in Conniserry. ✓

15  
15

1921  
January

Attack on Lavy military at Golden Ball. Lavy  
raced away. ✓

5 Jan

all County Council Rate Collectors in Bally  
area visited - documents & monies seized!  
(£1,100 taken from Mr Sutton Kiltinan)

18 Jan

Attack on Lavy military at junction of Bird Avenue -  
Roebuck - Belonskeagh Rds. by 4 I.R.A. riflemen  
and 2 bombers. Lavy completely disabled  
and occupants killed or wounded by two  
direct bomb hits. One of attacking party  
became violently mentally deranged and the  
remaining 5 members had a very difficult  
job disarming and restraining him and  
getting him to a place of safety so that he  
would not <sup>fall into enemy hands and</sup> be a source of danger to himself  
and his comrades. Reinforcements arrived  
before it was possible to ~~collect~~ <sup>attempt</sup> to collect  
the arms of the dead and wounded  
soldiers.

4<sup>th</sup> February

Unknown man found shot dead near Lamb Doyle,  
Balally. The local I.R.A. have no information as to  
how this man met his death or whether any one organisation  
or person was responsible for it.

12<sup>th</sup> February

Attack on Lavy in Lurries at Merrion. The I.R.A.  
party of ten armed with rifles and grenades  
occupied positions along the route for about  
1/2 mile. Severe enemy casualties and  
2 civilians shot dead.

February

Engagement with military during a road trenching  
operation near Steparide. 1 I.R.A. wounded. ✓

1921

February

Attack on R.I.C. Barracks, Dundrum. ✓

19 March

(see note on max card)

Capt Atkinson British Army wounded in his home Killiney ✓

15 March

Attack on mixed party of B.T.'s and military at Blackrock.  
1 enemy killed, 6 wounded. ✓

7 March

Attack on mixed party of military and Auxiliaries in  
lorry and tender on Marine Road and in Grange St,  
Dunlaoghaire. Several auxies wounded. ✓

21 March

Attack on R.I.C. patrol at Rosemount, Dundrum,  
2 R.I.C. wounded - were permanently disabled  
and never resumed duty. other members of  
patrol and reinforcements from Barracks  
were attacked by outposts on Railway  
Bridge at Dundrum Str. ✓

22 March

Attack on Auxiliaries in Royal Marine Hotel,  
Dunlaoghaire. 3 Auxiliaries killed. at least ✓  
one wounded. 1 I.R.A. (Lieut Jim Mc Intosh)  
killed.

28 March

Attack on party of Auxiliaries in tender at Temple Hill, Blackrock. ✓  
Tender disabled by direct bomb hit. several auxies & 1 I.R.A. wounded.

March

Attack on R.I.C. Barracks Cabinteely. ✓

Mar

Engagement with B.T.'s during destruction of  
Streamstown Bridge. ✓

April

Road trenching party on Churchtown Rd at  
Churchtown Park surprised by two  
parties, from different directions, of R.I.C. ✓  
and B.T.'s a running fight ensued  
which lasted for almost 2 hours and was eventually  
broken off in vicinity of Milton.

17  
17

1921  
April

Large quantities of clothing belonging to Auxiliaries and military officers in Dublin Castle and other barracks in city seized in Milltown and Dundrum Laundries and destroyed.

These operations were repeated weekly until enemy ceased sending soiled clothing to these laundries. ✓

April

Party engaged in demolition of Kelasson's Bridge attacked by a large force of military and Auxiliaries who had penetrated ring of outposts, owing to the defection of one of our outposts. They advanced to within 50 yds of bridge unnoticed. When challenged by bridge sentries they opened fire with machine guns and in the ensuing exchange which lasted for over an hour 1 I.R.A. and 3 enemy were wounded. Two of wounded enemy reported died later. ✓

April  
~~May~~

Attack on Dundrum R.I.C. Barracks. I.R.A. Party advanced to positions behind wall on Railway Accommodation walk and attacked lean-to and Barracks. Machine gun put out of action & gunner wounded. ✓

April  
~~May~~

Enemy soldiers on Dadder Banks, Lambert's Lane and other rendezvous with girl friends were held up and ordered to divest themselves and were returned to city minus all clothing except trousers & shirt. These soldiers, under the guise of harmless counting, were engaged

18  
18

1921

on Intelligence work. These operations were continued at irregular intervals until the soldiers & their girl friends ceased visiting the area ✓

April Telephone & Telegraph apparatus seized in all Post offices & Telephone exchanges in South County Dublin ✓

April Attack on patrol of military and B+T's in lanes at William Park, near Booterstown. enemy casualties unknown. ✓

April General attack on R.I.C., B+T and military posts in Barracks, Courthouse, Royal Hotel and Coastguard Station Bray. Shooting lasted for 2 hours. Several B+T's and civilians wounded ✓

Engagement with military at Wyatville Road, Ballybrack ✓

Destruction of bridges at Shanganagh & Bird's Glen. ✓

Engagement with military during road trenching operation at Shanganagh. ✓

19 April Attack on R.I.C. Barracks, Dundrum, by 7 riflemen who fired only 1 round each at intervals. R.I.C. continued to fire from Barracks for many hours after attackers had withdrawn. ✓

1921

April Attack on mixed patrol of Auxiliaries and B.T.'s near Bray R.I.C. Barracks. 1 Auxie and B.T. wounded. ✓

April Attack on R.I.C. Barracks Cabinteely ✓

April attack on lorry military at Jamestown Sandycove lorry raced away occupants shooting wildly - casualties unknown. ✓

April Attack on private car carrying Colonel McLeah and escort lorry at Kilgobbin. two vehicles put on speed & got away. later reported that at least 1 member of escort party wounded. ✓

April Attack on residence of Mr Cross (Orangeman) in Ballycorus, rendezvous of Sergeant Dunny, Royal Artillery, Tallaght Camp, military I.O. South Dublin. He and other Intelligence personnel visited Cross's house occasionally and overnight. The attack continued until shortage of ammo. forced I.R.A. to retire. The house was staunchly defended. I.R.A. (Peter Little) wounded. It was reported that 1 occupant of house was killed & 1 wounded. ✓

18 April Attack on Cabinteely R.I.C. Barracks ✓

May Second attack on Cross's residence, Ballycorus; at least 1 occupant wounded. 1 I.R.A. (Comdt. A Mac Donnell) wounded & taken to hospital. see W.S. 1768 for full account. see note on page 20.

1921

NOTE - Dunny was taken from his home in Inchicore on 18 May 1921 by members of the 4th Ball a.S.U. and was executed near Bunnin.

- May Destruction of Jamestown bridge, Sandyford. ✓
- May Attack on military lorry patrol near Jamestown. ✓
- 6 May Attack on Leabuteely Barracks (R.I.C.) ✓
- 6 May Attack on Bray R.I.C. Barracks. ✓
- 10 May Attack on Leabuteely R.I.C. Barracks with grenades from a motor car at front entrance and with rifles in rear. Casualties admitted by R.I.C. but no details given. ✓
- 12 May Attack on Leabuteely R.I.C. Barracks. 1 I.R.A. wounded - dies on 28 May. ✓
- 13 May Attack on Leabuteely R.I.C. Barracks. 1 B+T (Const. Skates) shot dead by I.R.A. sniper. ✓
- May Large consignment of Postmen's uniforms, boots and bicycles for Post Offices in Dundrum, Stillorgan, Lucan, Sandyford, Kilternan, Shankill & Bray captured at Dundrum Railway Station. The bicycles were replacements for upwards of 12 seized in March & April. ✓

21  
21

1921.

May.

Consignment of 600 khaki tunics, trousers and puttees sent from Dublin Castle to Dantony Dye works, to be dyed R.I. b. blue (for use of B+T's) was seized at works, sprinkled with benzene and petrol, set alight and destroyed. A party of Auxiliaries passing in tenders at the time were attracted by the explosion of the ignited benzene & petrol rushed to the scene. A sharp engagement ensued. I.R.A. party eventually escaped across river Dodder which runs beside the works. The Auxies then tried, but failed, to extinguish the blazing pile of clothing (uniforms). ✓

9 May

Attack on R.I. b. Barracks, Dundrum. When the attacking party had withdrawn a number of R.I. b. and B+T's came out of the Barracks presumably for the purpose of conducting a search for the attackers, and they were attacked with grenades by a bombing that remained in a concealed position close to the Barracks. 1 I.R.A. wounded. Enemy casualties unknown - at least 2 grenades exploded in the midst of the assembled enemy personnel. This is the only occasion on which R.I. b. / B+T's came out of Barracks following an attack. ✓

15 May

Execution of Peter Graham, spy, on Killiney Golf Links. ✓

22.  
22

- 1921
- 16 May Attack on R. I. C. cycle patrol near Foxrock.  
R. I. C. retire in disorder leaving one bicyclist behind. ✓
- 19 May Execution of Arthur Barden, Lechurchtown, employee  
A. Guinness Son & Co Ltd., spy, outside  
Newtown House, Landscape Rd., Lechurchtown. ✓
- 22 May Attack on military lorry at Foxrock, 1 soldier wounded. ✓
- 25 May Attacks on (1) Dundrum R. I. C. Barracks; ✓  
(2) Leaburteely R. I. C. Barracks (twice); ✓  
(3) Kimmiskerry R. I. C. Barracks; ✓  
(4) Military patrol on Bray Road near  
Stillorgan. Several military wounded; ✓  
(5) Attack on Naval Base and Wireless  
Station, Dunlaoghaire ✓  
(6) Attack on lorry military, Alma Rd.,  
Monkstown. ✓

These attacks were carried out, on orders from  
G.H.Q. on Brigade, in an effort to relieve pressure  
on city units following the destruction of the  
Leinston House.

- 26 May Attack on Naval Base & Wireless Station, Dunlaoghaire,  
when the attack was about one hour in progress.  
an armoured car leading a party of troops  
from the Naval Base advanced up the Marine Rd.  
Another patrol from the Wireless Station proceeded  
via Clarence St. Both patrols were attacked  
on the way and shortly after entering  
George's St. they (British patrols) clashed and  
opened fire on each other. They suffered ✓

1921

23  
23

1 killed and 5 wounded before realising their mistake.

30 May Volunteer Lemmy Murphy shot dead in his home in Foxrock by British Forces. Before leaving the house the raiders attached a label to Murphy's body bearing the inscription - "Executed by I.R.A." This allegation was refuted in a subsequent issue of "An t-Oglach".

30 May Attack on R.I.C. patrol at Kill-o-the-Grange.

30 May Party of I.R.A. returning from attack on R.I.C. patrol at Kill-o-the-Grange, encountered a party of R.I.C. at Monaloe under Capt. Cullen who opened fire on them. A short engagement followed before both parties retired safely.

May Attack on military lorry in Beattie St., Dублин. Driver shot dead, lorry crashed, arms captured, lorry destroyed.

June During demolition operation on Milltown Bridge two lorries military approaching bridge were attacked by outposts in position at Nine Arches bridge and were then engaged by main covering party near bridge. A sharp engagement followed and continued until demolition party had retired a safe distance.

1921

24

24

June

Attack on mail car, carrying mails from Anulaighaire to Dublin Castle, and armoured car escort, outside Ruby Lodge, Blackrock. Engagement lasted only a few minutes. No I.R.A. casualties. Gunner in armoured car wounded. ✓

June  
(? end May)

Attack from behind corner wall of Kilm Park at Merrion, on large Essex private motor car conveying Major King, I.O. Auxiliary R.I.C. from his heavily guarded home in Monkstown to Dublin Castle. The car, particularly the wind screen, was riddled with bullets, but it managed to continue its "race" through the position. No I.R.A. casualties. Enemy casualties, if any, never disclosed. ✓

June

Attack on Dundrum R.I.C. Barracks. Attackers used "mud balls" (yellow marl clay) which contained gelignite and fuses - these were hurled on to the roof in an effort to get them to adhere to it so that it would be penetrated in the subsequent explosion. Small bottles of petrol were then available to be thrown into the openings in order to start fires in the roof. The operation was carried out under heavy fire. Not one of the "mud balls" adhered to the roof, it was apparently too steep. The petrol was never used. Operation was called off after about 20 minutes when it was obvious that it could not be successful. ✓

June

Attack on Dundrum R.I.C. Barracks at 3pm. Sniping

1921

was kept up for some time in the hope that the garrison would pursue attackers and be caught in a prepared ambush or that reinforcement would likewise be caught. Garrison did not leave Barracks & reinforcements did not arrive - attackers obliged to retire after 2 hours. ✓

June Attempted execution of Inspector Bell, I.M.P. at top of Carysfort Avenue. Fire was opened too soon by one of execution party and as a result Bell escaped. He seldom appeared outside the Barracks afterwards so that it was impossible to contact him before the ~~June~~ ✓

June Demolition of Olsson's Bridge, Milltown, completed after many operations over a period of 3 months. On at least few occasions the work was interrupted by approach and subsequent engagement with enemy forces. A new bridge was built in 1925. ✓

June During demolition operation on Ballinteer Culvert a party of R.I.C. and B.T.'s approached position on foot and were attacked by outposts and later by main covering party. R.I.C. wounded. ✓

June During demolition operation on Sandyford Road bridges the position was attacked (with surprising accuracy) with rifle grenades. These were fired from the R.I.C. Barracks over 1/2 mile ✓

1921

26  
26

away. They ~~obviously~~, ~~had~~ noted the distances of various targets around the barracks, as three of the grenades landed within 10 yds of the bridge. The fact that they landed behind the wall bounding the road and bridge was a lucky strike for the members of the demolition party, otherwise, they would have suffered the full impact of the explosion which was taken by, and partly shattered, the wall. The member of demolition party retired safely but, the armed covering party met and engaged a <sup>superior</sup> party of R.I.C. and B.T.'s on the Railway line and it took about 2 hours before they were finally shaken off in the vicinity of Kilmacud. ✓

11 June ~~(? event)~~ Attack on convoy of over 20 vehicles <sup>of military & Black & Tans,</sup> escorting General Dyer (returning from India) from Dunloughaire to Dublin Castle. Attack launched from behind boundary wall of Blind Archway at Mission Gates by a party of 14 I.R.A. riflemen & bombers. Engagement lasted about 10/15 minutes. No I.R.A. casualties. It was reported that 10 enemy were killed and 15 wounded but such high figures seem to be discounted by some of the participants. The officers and men who took part in this operation were complimented in a subsequent issue of "An t-Oglach". ✓

18 June Capture and execution of Lieut Breege of Magazine Fort, Phoenix Park and companion at Murphystown, Sandycove. He & his companion were on intelligence work & they were travelling in a motor car & were accompanied by 2 girls from Dunloughaire. ✓

1921

27

27

- June Attack on military in camp (under Canvas) in Powerscourt Demesne, Kinniskerry. military casualties, if any, never disclosed. ✓
- June Engagement with military foot patrol near Casheenmines Railway Station. ✓
- June Attack (? attempted execution) on Detective Sergeant Dillon at Newtown Park, Blackrock. Dillon was badly wounded. ✓
- June Three I.R.A. attempted to hold up 2 civilians driving on motor cycle and side car (whom they suspected as enemy personnel) on Churchtown Rd lower, near entrance Milltown Golf Links. Side car passenger drew revolver and wounded one member of hold up party (Charles Phelan). although fire was opened by other two men of party they made their escape, apparently unhurt.
- 4 June Attack on mixed party of Auxiliaries and B.T.'s in lorries near Clisson's Bridge - several enemy wounded. no I.R.A. casualties. ✓
- 11 June Attack on convoy of R.I.C. in lorries & private cars with armoured car escort in Blackrock. ✓
- 28 June Attack on Cahinteely R.I.C. Barracks. ✓
- 3 July Attack on R.I.C. patrol in Carnelscourt. 1 R.I.C. wounded. ✓
- 8 July Execution of Andrew Knight, Inspector Dublin United Tramway Co. spy, near Sandycove. ✓

1921

8 July

Attack on lorry patrol of R.I.C. in Windy Arbour, Dundrum at 3pm. Lorry raced away, occupants firing indiscriminately. ✓

? July  
(later during  
Ince)

Four officers Dundrum Company held up and disarmed lorry of 8 B.T.'s (of 8 revolvers and ammo) at Bawnacount and released 4 handcuffed prisoners (Republican Police). While searching the B.T.'s for papers - four lorries of R.I.C. and B.T.'s travelling from Wicklow or Wexford to Depot arrived on scene and opened fire. A severe engagement ensued and after about 5 minutes the hold up party and 4 prisoners were lucky to have made their escape unscathed. ✓

Shortly after the Ince came into operation on 11th July 1921 Training camps were set up in each company area for N.C.O.'s and men.

A Battalion camp, under Canvaas, was organised at Barnaculla, Sandyford and all officers and senior N.C.O.'s received an intensive training there over a period of several weeks.

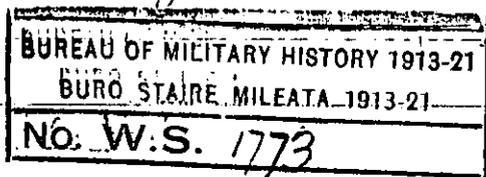
The Battalion and Company officers also attended the Brigade camp at Glenasmole. ✓

Before concluding this statement I would like to pay a tribute to the gallantry, self-sacrifice and devotion of the Volunteers of this difficult <sup>area</sup> with whom I had the honour to serve, particularly - Dick Doyle, Tom Leavitt, Pat Quinn, Denis Denny,

Sean Cusley, Maurice Kenny, Jack Foley,  
 Tommy Moran, Pat Janka and also,  
 the members of Cumann na mBan who  
 were so helpful, especially - May Doyle, Balally;  
 Kate Harding, Churchtown; Elizabeth McHugh,  
 Sandycroft; Ada Smith, Windy Arbour;  
 May and Josie Dillon, Dundrum;  
 Lois Mc Donnell, Shankill; the Flanagan sisters,  
 Blackrock and Mary O'Brien, Dalkey.

I would also like to express appreciation  
 of the invaluable assistance received, by  
 way of meals and, or, shelter, from  
 the Misses May & Rosy Deham, Rosemount;  
 Mrs Tierney, Milltown Hill; Rev. Mother Flanagan,  
 Sisters of Charity, Mount St. Ann's, Milltown;  
 Sisters Rose and Winifred, Sisters of Mercy,  
 Laughlinstown, Mr & Mrs Murphy, Clonskeagh;  
 Mrs Lucy Gordon, Beacon Hill, Dalkey (also of  
 Irish Lace Shop, Mary St.); Mrs Jeffares, Grove  
 Cottage, Blackrock; the Misses Rosy and Mollie  
 Gallagher, Main St., Dundrum -

without the assistance, encouragement  
 and prayers of these loyal people the task of  
 the fighting arm of the movement in this area  
 would have been impossible. May God have  
 mercy on all - Volunteers, Cumann na mBan & helpers -  
 who have passed from us and may he protect the  
 fast narrowing circle of those who are <sup>still</sup> with us.



J. Brennan  
 31st January 1962.