

ORIGINAL

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21  
BURO STAIRÉ MILEATA 1913-21  
NO. W.S. 438

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BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.

STATEMENT BY WITNESS

DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 438.....

Witness

Michael Francis Reynolds,  
Corlea,  
Longford.

Identity

Company Commander Irish Volunteers,  
Longford 1918 - .

Commandant 1st Battalion Longford Brigade  
Irish Volunteers.  
Subject

- (a) National activities 1917 - 1921;
- (b) Shooting of District Inspector Kelleher,  
Granard, 1/10/1920;
- (c) Military engagements, Co. Longford,  
1919 - 1921.

Conditions, if any, stipulated by Witness

Nil

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Form B.S.M. 2.

# ORIGINAL

STATEMENT BY MICHAEL FRANCIS REYNOLDS,

Corlea, Longford

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21

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NO. W.S. 438

I joined the Volunteers early in 1917 at Killoe.

Hubert Wilson and Ned Cooney (afterwards Major Cooney in the Army) took me into the Volunteers. There was no oath taken by the Volunteers then. There was a Company existing.

John Walsh was the O/C of this Company. He was a native of Longford and was an ex British Army man. We paid no subscriptions of any sort. We had the use of the local Hall and we paid our levies through running dances in this hall. We had parades for training at least once per week. Mick Gormley and James Sheeran, who had experience in the British Army, did the training and later Pat Garrett from Dublin gave us instruction. We had a few small calibre revolvers - seven or eight - and some shot guns. We had no service weapons of any sort.

During the conscription crisis our strength increased to about two hundred. When the crisis was over, our numbers dwindled down to about one hundred. This was still a high figure for a company at this time. Walsh was now deposed as Company Commander. He had declared he would not come out if the Conscription Act had been enforced. I was then elected Company Commander. P. Quinn was 1st Lieutenant. Tom Quinn (not a brother) was 2nd Lieutenant. Frank Gormley was Company Adjutant. He later took charge of the Company when I was appointed O/C of the Battalion. P. Quinn went to the United States, and Jim Trapp was then appointed 1st Lieutenant. We attended the meetings during the South

Longford election but had no further part in it, as we were North Longford area.

I know that a Battalion organisation was in existence before the General Election of 1918. Sean McKeon was Battalion O/C. Frank Davis was Quartermaster, and Seán Duffy was Adjutant. I do not remember who was Vice O/C of the Battalion - I think it was Sean Connolly. Clonbroney was "A" Company, Killoe "B", Columcille "C", and Ballymore "D". The Company Commanders were Hugh Hourican ("A" Company), myself ("B" Company), Pat Finnegan ("C" Company) and Mick Mulligan ("D" Company). Our training parades were carried on as usual now, and Pat Garrett brought a couple of rifles with him for this purpose. We also had a couple of .22 rifles, with which we had some firing practice, but we had no practice with the service rifles.

During the 1918 elections we were very busy canvassing for the Sinn Féin candidates. There was a big Redmondite following in the locality. Part of our duty at this time was to guard the ballot boxes and polling stations and to escort the polling boxes to Longford for the counting of the votes. When the Dáil assembled early in 1919, they assumed responsibility for the Volunteers and henceforth we were known as the I.R.A. and we all now took an oath of allegiance.

Early in the summer of 1919 a general raiding for arms was carried out all over the area, as a result of which we collected a few Winchester rifles, about a dozen revolvers of different pattern, but serviceable, and a large number of

shot guns - about seventy all told - also, a large amount of shot gun ammunition. Some of the shot guns were unserviceable. We made plenty of buckshot and filled it into the cartridges for the shot guns. I would say that we filled some thousands of cartridges thus.

On the 6th January, 1920, Drumlish R.I.C. Barracks was attacked. This was a Battalion (1st) operation, assisted by some members from the Ballinamuck area. The barracks was a detached house, two-storey high. The plan was to put a mine under the gable end and thus blow the end out of the house and rush the barracks. For this operation we had six service rifles, one Howth Mauser. The remainder were armed with shot guns. The garrison comprised about six R.I.C., reinforced by about 14 soldiers who were under a Sergeant. The mine was an ordinary cartwheel box filled with gelignite for explosive. When thrown through a window or such, this was covered with cottonwool to prevent it smashing on contacting any hard substance, such as, a flagged floor. One of these mines was thrown through the fanlight of the door, in this case, but failed to explode. The mine that was then placed under the gable end also failed to go off. Apparently, the gelignite was frozen. The garrison refused to surrender to our demands. We kept up small arms fire on the barracks until it was near daylight, and then withdrew. We had no casualties and I do not think that the garrison had any either. I believe that, if the police had not the assistance of the soldiers, they would have surrendered.

After this, the R.I.C. vacated a number of their

barracks and concentrated the garrisons in larger centres. On one particular night - I think it was in April - we burned all those vacated barracks. This same operation was carried out throughout the whole country and indicated how widespread the I.R.A. organisation had become.

Some time in January, 1920, it was planned to attack and capture the R.I.C. Barracks at Edgeworthstown (Mostrim). I was in charge of the Longford-Edgeworthstown road area and the roads on that side. I had the 2nd Battalion under me for this operation. The Lancers from Longford came out the Ardagh road and, as a result of this movement, the operation was called off. No contact was made either with the R.I.C. or the Lancers.

It was now planned to attack Ballinamuck R.I.C. Barracks. This was a very strong post - the strongest in the Midlands - and was built with a view to defence. It had plenty of loopholes and turrets in the corners and was surrounded by a high wall. There was a parapet round the eave of the roof, with a valley behind it. The garrison strength was about fourteen or fifteen R.I.C. Sean Connolly spotted the parapet and the valley, and planned to set the place on fire by throwing bombs on to the roof, followed by petrol in tins and motor car tubes, or vice versa. The surrounding countryside was well held by strong units of Volunteers, but no actual blocking of roads was done. Seán McKeon was at Graigue with about 150 men, mostly armed with shot guns. Graigue was on the Longford side and secured the road from Arva as well.

Connolly got on to the top of the ball alley wall, and from there he hurled the bombs on to the roof. He had men underneath handing up the bombs and petrol containers to him in "chain bucket" fashion. I was in charge of the rifle men at the corner of the graveyard. Our job was to cover off Connolly and to control the entrance to the barracks. We fired very little, as there were no targets to fire at. The windows were barricaded. Connolly threw the bombs on to the roof (cartboxes filled with gelignite) and followed this with the petrol. This set the roof alight. The police retired to out-offices at the rear of the barracks and remained in safety there. They did not surrender. The attack was rather late in starting and, as it was just breaking day, we withdrew. As we left, the barracks was an inferno of flame. We had no casualties and I don't think the police had any either.

Some time in August, 1920, the Lancers barracks in Longford was raided and an amount of rifles and ammunition secured. I was not in this operation, but I sent in some men for the job. The following night, the R.I.C. barracks in Ballymahon was captured. This was planned and carried out by the 1st Battalion, although it was not in their area. We had the assistance of men from other units in blocking roads and so forth. Ballymahon Barracks was a semi-detached building, two storey high, and garrisoned by about twelve to fifteen R.I.C. men. That was their strength, as far as I can remember. There were steel shutters on all the windows of the barracks.

The plan was to bore from the second-next house into the house adjoining the barracks. This house was occupied by a Protestant family that was considered hostile. From this house, it was planned to get on to the roof, which adjoined the barrack roof, smash a hole in the barrack roof and drop a bomb, similar to the ones used at Ballinamuck, through the hole. I was in charge of the rifle men in front of the barracks and had about nine men under my command. My task was to ensure that the police did not get out while the operation of smashing the roof was taking place. Other men, including Gormley and Sheeran, were at the back with hand grenades to throw, if possible, through the back window.

Connolly got through the roof of the adjoining house and made a hole on the roof of the barracks. We kept up fire on the front of the barrack while this was going on. The garrison returned our fire and threw out percussion bombs through the upper windows. The garrison were shouting: "Up Kilmallock!". Connolly threw a bomb through the hole in the barrack roof and, when this exploded inside the barracks, the police shouted that they would surrender. McKeon ordered them to come out with their hands up, which they did. We faced them towards the railing and searched them. We found on them a number of small percussion bombs and some revolver ammunition. We dumped them into a vacant house, near the Church on the Athlone side. McKeon and the others entered the Barracks and collected the rifles and ammunition belonging to the garrison. As well as their rifles, we also got a number of revolvers and ammunition, also a lot of

grenades in sealed boxes and a couple of telephones. There were no casualties on our side. The Sergeant of the R.I.C. was wounded in the hand. All the roads leading to Ballymahon were well blocked for this operation and especially so on the Athlone side, which was a large enemy garrison centre. They took the captured material to our area and disposed of it there. Seán McKeon was in charge of this operation, and Seán Connolly, who was a very cool individual, was in charge of the work of breaking through the roof of the adjoining house and the barrack roof and of dropping the large bomb or mine into the barracks.

Arva R.I.C. Barracks was captured in September, 1920. Originally, it had been planned that, as well as Arva, other barracks, including Mohill, Ballinamore and Granard, would be attacked at the same time. I was to take charge of the attack at Mohill, Connolly was to take charge of Ballinamore, McKeon, Granard, and Duffy, Arva. The previous night, at a joint meeting of the Leitrim and Longford Brigade Staffs at O'Reilly's of Drumlish, information was given by the Leitrim men that the enemy were alerted in that area and had reinforced the various barracks and opened a new barracks in Mohill. It was then decided by this meeting to call off all the attacks except Arva. I was not at Arva and did not have any direct part in the attack and capture of the barracks.

On the 6th October, 1920, a Republican Court was being held in Ballinalee. We got information that the police



were coming out from Longford to raid this Court. We decided to ambush the police at Rhine Hill (townland) on the main Longford-Ballinalee road. This was a Company operation. We had six rifles and about thirty shot guns, and about forty men all told for this job. When we were in position, McKeon and three others arrived and joined us. We were there for some hours when we noticed a tender load of military and a car load of police proceeding on a parallel road to the one we were holding. They turned on to the main road at Doherty's Cross-roads and proceeded into Ballinalee, having bye-passed our position. We immediately changed position to attack them on their return. They only went into Ballinalee and turned back immediately, and, on reaching Doherty's cross-roads, wheeled off again to the right and again bye-passed our position. They stopped opposite us on the other road and used field-glasses to have a good look at us. They then made off at high speed and did not return that day. They were always out of effective range, so there was no use in opening fire on them.

District-Inspector Kelleher of the R.I.C. was shot in Granard on the last day of October, 1920, and Constable Cooney was shot the following day in the Clonbroney area. Cooney's wife was living in Ballinalee and he used to visit her there. It was well known that he was spying and doing Intelligence work for the police. I don't know the reason for the D.I. being shot. It was feared that the Tans would burn Granard and Ballinalee as a reprisal for these shootings.

McKeon went to Granard on the night of the 22nd November. The local Tans came out to start operations, and McKeon and his party fired on them and they withdrew. He now had information that they would burn Ballinalee, so he gave sufficient arms to the Granard Battalion and instructed them as to how they were to behave to meet any further attempt. He himself returned to Ballinalee. He called out all the men of the local Companies that he could muster, and put them in picked positions around Ballinalee. He ordered me to arm all the men I could, to take up positions at Doherty's Cross-roads, to hold ourselves in readiness there, and to secure Esker Hall, which I did. I had about forty men, all armed. Four had service rifles, and the remainder had shot guns and some grenades. At about 1 a.m., I received a dispatch from McKeon that he did not think anything would happen that night, and that we were to dismiss and return home, and await further instructions. I dismissed my party accordingly. Some of my men lived near Ballinalee and, before they reached their homes, the fight was on in the town, but we took no part in it.

The next day, my whole Company was mobilised and helped in the occupation of Ballinalee. Ballinalee was occupied for a long period. My job was to man the Longford road in the area, Doherty's Cross and the Bridge of Ballinalee. We had a telephone rigged up at Doherty's Cross and tapped into the local circuit, and were in communication with McKeon at Ballinalee. Our instructions were to let any—

enemy into Ballinalee, and then to keep them in by holding the road. I also had a further mission, to prevent reinforcements reaching such a party. One day a lorry load of soldiers came along, went on into Ballinalee, where they collected the wives of Constables Cooney and Josephs and their belongings, and returned again. They did not interfere with anyone in the town, and we did not interfere with them. At this time, we had instructions not to fire on the military unless they started the action, as they were looked upon as friendly, more or less.

About this time, the North Longford Column was started officially. It comprised initially: Seán McKeon in charge, Seamus Conway, Frank Davis, Seamus McKeon, Mick Kenny, The "Bun" McDowell, Seán Duffy, The "Bug" Callaghan, Mick Gormley, Seán Sexton, James Sheeran, Hugh Hourican, Tommy Early, Joe Keenan, "Nap" Farrelly, Tom Brady, Pat Cooke, Mick Mulligan, Jack Hughes, Jack Moore, Jim Killane and myself. They are all that I can remember at the moment, but there were others joined it later also. Each man was armed with a service rifle, a cloth bandolier and about fifty rounds of .303. From now on, we were full-time soldiers (unpaid), and we took to the country and lived on the country.

The Column now pulled out of Ballinalee and proceeded to Ardagullion to ambush a patrol that was in the habit of travelling from Longford to Granard via Edgeworthstown. This affair did not come off. No patrol ever turned up. I was not with the Column at Ardagullion. While the Column

was at Ardagullion, the Tans came into Ballinalee and took over Pat Farrell's premises, converting it into a barracks. They fortified it with barbed wire and sandbags, and established a garrison of about twenty-five Tans there. I immediately proceeded to Kieran's of Drumeel and met McKeon there. Arrangements were made to attack the Tans at Farrell's, and I was detailed to hold the Longford road at Doherty's Cross to deal with any reinforcements that might come from Longford.

I mobilised the whole Company. All armed men were put in positions ready to fight, and the men, for whom there were no arms, were used to block the roads. The main road was blocked at Doherty's Cross-roads. All side roads were blocked further back towards Longford. By this, it was hoped to force the enemy to travel via the main road to Doherty's Cross, where we could deal with them. We could hear the attack proceeding in Ballinalee and see the numerous Verey lights that the Tans sent up, but no enemy reinforcements came out. We remained there until the fighting in Ballinalee had ceased, and then dismissed. The men who were not on the run returned to their homes.

The Tans now evacuated Farrell's house, which was badly damaged, and took over the Schoolhouse and Father Muntford's, and converted them into barracks. They also took over Reynold's at the cross-roads in the centre of the village. They fortified their new premises with sandbags and barbed wire, and laid land mines connected with trip wires around them. A regular siege of those places now

began. Every night some of the Column would proceed into Ballinalee area and fire a few shots at the different garrisons. My own Company often indulged in those tactics also. It was really an effort on our part to keep the Tans "nervy" and to harass them and keep them indoors. When we fired on the Tans' new barracks, they usually replied with all the weapons they had, including machine guns and bombs, and thus wasted an enormous amount of ammunition.

After the attack on Farrell's, the Tans burned Duffy's, Connolly's, Early's, O'Hannigan's and Herraty's, and McKeon's forge. Nothing of a big nature took place during that year until after Christmas.

I joined the I.R.B. in 1918. We had a local <sup>m+r</sup> ~~centre~~ <sup>circle</sup> of which I was <sup>Centre m+r</sup> ~~head~~. When McKeon was arrested, I was appointed County Centre. Frank Gormley was Secretary of the local centre, and amongst the members I recall were: Tom Quinn, Hugh McGloughlin, Jem Lee, Joe Lee, James Trapp, Pat Reynolds, Michael Carlon, Michael J. Reynolds, Pat Cooney, Edward Keogh and James Sheeran. All these men were also Volunteers. All the principal operations were planned through this centre. Some spies were also dealt with by this organisation. Jobs of this nature were always carried out by the members of the <sup>Circle m+r</sup> ~~centre~~ and the ordinary Volunteers would not be asked to handle them. As far as I remember, we paid a small subscription on joining, but no subscription afterwards.

In January, 1921, portion of the Column and members of -

the Columcille Company - about ten - under my command proceeded to Arva to ambush a patrol of Tans and R.I.C., which patrolled the town regularly every night at 10 p.m. This party was usually about ten strong. Our party was about twenty, all told. I was in charge of the main party, and Seamus Conway took charge of a second party which took up position on the Cavan end of the town. My party occupied a position at the head of the Fair Green, behind a fence. We could see the barracks from our position. The patrol came out from the barracks, and we opened fire on them at about 150 yards' range. They flung themselves down on the street and rolled into cover on the sides. They were on both sides of the street. They all got out of our view and did not return our fire. There was now nothing to fire at and, as the enemy did not make any further moves, we pulled out and returned to billets. I do not know if they suffered any casualties but, personally, I believe that some of them must have been hit. Conway's party got a few shots also, but I cannot give any details of this. We had no casualties or losses. After this, we returned to Aughnacliff, the Columcille men returning to their homes.

Subsequent to this, the harassing tactics against the enemy garrison in Ballinalee were continued. Some of the Column would go into that area almost nightly and fire a few shots at the enemy posts. The garrisons of these posts would reply, opening up with all weapons and expending an amount of ammunition on thin air. They often kept up this

firing for very protracted periods.

In January, 1921, about ten or twelve of the Column were in a house convenient to Ballinalee. I think this house was Kelly's. We were having some tea when we heard an explosion and some shots. We heard a voice, which we recognised as McKeon's, shouting: "Come on, boys". We ran in the direction of McKeon's voice, and met him making for the house we were in. He was alright. The Tans were still at Martin's cottage and had the women - Mrs. McKeon and her daughter - (Sean's mother and sister) and the two Miss Martin's with them. The Tans were holding the women with them for protection, knowing that we could not fire on them while the women were there without endangering their lives. We had to let the Tans get back to Ballinalee, bringing the women with them. The Column remained in that area until the next night.

We now moved to the Columcille area and then disbanded for a week. Each member was to go to his own area and find out all the information he could. A number of the men had the 'flu and badly needed some rest. We were to mobilise in the same place in one week's time. I came to Cooney's of Doorock. The following night, a dispatch came from Mick Heslin in Longford to the effect that there were two trains, loaded with military and preceded by a pilot engine, travelling from Sligo to Dublin on the following morning. It was night when this dispatch arrived. Some of the column were mobilised and proceeded to Clonwhelan to ambush this convoy. When they got to Clonwhelan. the last train was

just passing through, and they were too late to take any action against it. The remainder of the Column never got started. I understand that the information about the trains came from Collins in Dublin and that the information was delayed in transit in Longford. The man who brought the information from Collins was not known to anyone in Longford and was, therefore, treated with suspicion and had great trouble in making contact with the I.R.A. there. If the information had come in time to allow for full preparation and planning, the last train could have been easily dealt with.

The Column were all together now, all armed with service rifles and ammunition and in the Bunlahy area. On the morning of the 2nd February, we moved to the Clonfin district to ambush a patrol of Tans that were in the habit of travelling from Granard to Ballinalee by this road. They usually returned by a different route. At 6 a.m. we moved to Clonfin and placed a concrete type mine in the centre of the road. We covered it with hay for camouflage, strewing the hay along the road. The column took up position on an old rath on one side of the road, and in a sandpit on the other side. The "Bug" Callaghan was in charge of exploding the mine. Our position gave us a good field of fire and provided practically no cover for the enemy. Our orders were that no one was to fire until the mine went off. Portion of the Column were also holding a position further back on the Granard road. This was to prevent reinforcements from Granard getting to the scene.



Nothing happened during the day and, as evening came on, we were considering retiring when the enemy came from Granard. They consisted of two tender loads of Auxies. ("Tenders" were types of light, fast lorries). The "Bug" exploded his mine, blowing up the rear portion of the first tender and smashing the back axle, which brought it to a halt. The second one pulled up close behind. All the occupants jumped out and made for cover. I don't think any of them were injured by the explosion. The only cover available to them was bog drains on the side of the road, which were full of water. They jumped into these and were in water practically up to their necks; and remember this was early January. Their Lewis gunner jumped off with his Lewis gun and, planking it on the middle of the road, opened fire. He just got firing one shot burst, when he was shot. The No. 2 of the gun tried to man it then, but he was also shot. The gun did not come into action again.

The remainder of the Auxies fought in the water until they were practically all put out of action. McKeon was shouting at them all the time to surrender. They eventually put up a white handkerchief. All of them that were fit to do so came out on to the road with their hands up. The Column closed in on them and searched them. They had a big number wounded as well as some killed. We dressed their wounds as best we could. We collected the arms and ammunition. We got one Lewis gun, complete with practically its whole supply of ammunition, about twenty rifles, twenty-two service revolvers, some smaller revolvers and a couple of

repeating shot guns. We burned the damaged tender, and left them the good one to bring the wounded back to Granard. McKeon was speaking to the officer in charge of the Auxies and shook hands with him. He asked McKeon what he was going to do with his men, and McKeon said he would not harm them. This officer was badly wounded and was actually dying at the time.

McKeon and one or two of the others were still on the road with the Auxies when the enemy reinforcements arrived. The remainder of the Column were in a position off the road. The reinforcements pulled up short of the ambush position and, fanning out, tried to encircle us. McKeon and the others joined us and we then withdrew, the enemy following us. We were very much overloaded, as we were carrying the captured material as well as our own arms. We had to cross a bog and our progress was very slow. A few of us kept engaging them, while the others withdrew. On reaching the Camolin river, we would have to cross by means of a wooden bridge. There was no cover near this bridge. We decided we could not cross the bridge in face of the enemy, so we took up positions and engaged them there. They returned our fire but made no attempt to close in on us and, as darkness began to fall, they broke off the fight and withdrew, and so did we.

One of our men - Brady - got a slight wound in this fight but he was able to carry on without assistance. We

moved to Rodger's of Aughkilmore and had a meal there. We then moved to the Columcille and Aughnacliff areas where we went into billets. We had no casualties except - Brady - slightly wounded. There were only five or six Auxies unwounded at Clonfin.

In May, 1921, the Column moved to Fyhora to ambush a patrol of Tans and R.I.C. that usually patrolled from Arva to Moyne daily. Part of the Column billeted in a house, named Reilly's, in the early morning. Early in the morning of the same day, two Tans came across the fields towards the house. Our men, who were in the house, shot the two Tans in the street, in front of the house. The whole Column now moved to the Crott mountain and awaited the enemy to come out from Arva, but they did not come. The Column now returned to Columcille. I was not with the Column at Fyhora, as I was not well at the time.

Some time after Clonfin - I think early in April - McKeon was arrested in Mullingar. I was now appointed O/C of the Battalion, and Seamus Conway was appointed O/C of the Column. Frank Gormley now became Company Commander of Killoe Company. I still remained with the Column and acted in a dual capacity as member of the Column and Battalion O/C.

In May or June, 1921, some four or five of the Column and about twenty other Volunteers from Killoe and Drumlish area took up positions on the Drumlish-Ballinalee road, with the object of ambushing a patrol from either Ballinalee or Longford. We held this position each night for about

fourteen nights or longer. No enemy ever came that way, so we called the operation off. I was in charge of this operation. For arms, we had seven or eight rifles, the remainder being armed with shot guns. One night towards the end of the period and just at nightfall - being after 10 p.m. - two men, Peadar Conlon and ~~Michael~~ <sup>THOMAS</sup> Kelleher were proceeding to Roscommon. Kelleher had dispatches for someone in that area, and Conlon was proceeding to some other district to instruct in the Lewis gun. I was in O'Reilly's business house when one of the girls, a shop hand, who was upstairs, shouted that the Tans were coming. I rushed to get to where my men were. As I came out the back way from the house and opened the gate, I saw Auxies on the street. A few shots were fired. Conlon and Kelleher had run into the Auxies. They returned the fire, but Kelleher was killed and Conlon was wounded. Conlon carried Kelleher back to the Church gate. Kelleher was dead at this time. Conlon put Kelleher in a cart, taking the dispatches and his gun from him, and made his way back to Ballinamuck. He was brought from there to Reynold's of Coma where he was treated. When we heard the shooting, we got into position to ambush them at Ohill but they did not come that way. They went on to Longford.

The night before the Truce we attacked the Tans' Barracks at Reynold's in Ballinalee. About thirty of us took up attack positions. This party included about four members of the Column, the remainder being local Volunteers. We occupied positions around Heratty's and Hannigan's, and opened fire on the Barracks. We were nearly all armed with

rifles for this. We kept up fire on the post for about half an hour, and then withdrew. The enemy replied with all they had, and the other post at the Schoolhouse joined in also. We had no one hit, and I cannot say if the enemy had any casualties either.

The Truce found us still fighting fit and well in a position to carry on the fight. The summer time was not favourable to us for operations, as hours of daylight were too long and to the advantage of the enemy. The winter months, with their short days and long nights and darkness, were our "ally". Supplies of ammunition were very low but we were hoping to have this augmented from Headquarters and by making some captures. Further supply of arms was also required.

SIGNED:

M. J. Reynolds

DATE:

12. 10. 50

WITNESS:

Matthew Barry

DATE:

12. 10. 50

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