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## BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.

## STATEMENT BY WITNESS

# DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 527

### Witness

Norbert O'Connor, 4, Prince of Wales Terrace, Merrion Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin.

Identity.

Brother of Lieut.-Gen. Rory O'Connor, executed 1922.

### Subject.

Biographical note on his brother, Rory.

# Conditions, if any, Stipulated by Witness.

Nil

File No. 5. 1801

Form B.S.M. 2

STATEMENT OF MR. NORBERT O'CONNOR, 4, Prince Of Wales Terrace, Ballsbridge,

Dublin.

Roderic (Rory) Ignatius Patrick O'Connor:

Born 23 Kildare Street, Dublin, on 28th November, 1883, being the third son of John O'Connor, Solicitor.

Educated at St. Mary's College, C.S.S.P., Rathmines, and Clongowes Wood College, S.J.

Took B.E. and B.A. degrees in the then Royal University, after which he was on the engineering staff of the then Midland Great Western Railway, Ireland, before emigrating to Canada in 1910 where he obtained an appointment on construction work on the C.P.R. and afterwards on the Canadian Northern Railway. During this time was responsible for the construction: of some 1,500 miles of railroad.

Returned to Ireland, I believe, at the request of Joseph Plunkett, 1915.

At the time of his death on the 8th December, 1922, was the senior member of the G.H.Q. Staff, I.R.A. which remained Republican, being D.E. (Director of Engineering) and O/C,I.R.A., Britain.

Sustained wounds in 1916 Rebellion.

Authority for foregoing -

(Signed) Norbert O'Connor (Brother of the late Lieut.-Gen. O'Connor) 14/8/50.

Rory was personally in charge of organising and

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carrying out the escapes from Strangeways Gaol, Manchester, in 1920.

2. He was in charge of the escape of Robert Barton from Mountjoy.

3. He was in charge of the Liverpool fires.

4. He was also concerned in the escape of the 26 prisoners from Mountjoy Gaol.

(Signed) Norbert O'Connor

WITNESS: S. Ní Ciosáin

6.6.51.

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