

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21
BURO STAIRE MILEATA 1913-21
W.S. 5/100

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NO. W.S. 560

ORIGINAL

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BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.

STATEMENT BY WITNESS

DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 560

Witness

- (a) James O'Mahony, Clounderreen, Timoleague, Co. Cork.
- (b) Denis Crowley, Kilbrittain, Co. Cork.
- (c) John Fitzgerald. *CLASHERRAGH, KILBRITTAIN, Co. CORK.*

Identity.

Company Officers "B.1" Company (Kilbrittain)
1st Battalion Cork III Brigade 1917-1921.

Subject.

(Activities of "B.1" Company (Kilbrittain)
1st Battalion, Cork III Brigade 1917-1921.

Conditions, if any, Stipulated by Witness.

NIL

File No. S.1.788

ORIGINAL

ACTIVITIES B.I. COY. 1st BATT. III BDE. 1917-1921.

PERIOD

1st April 1917 to 31st March 1918.

Organised by Daniel Manning who was aided by some local men, B.I. Coy. was formed in March 1917. During this period the full Coy. was paraded twice weekly for drill &c. and all members took part and several route marches to outside areas, viz: Bandon, Timoleague, Innishannon, Ballinaspittle for organising purposes.

January 1918 to March 31st 1918.

During this period an armed training camp was held at the Lake House, Maraboro' for the purpose of manufacture of buckshot, shrapnel, bombs and equipment for the Coy. All the men engaged being trained in the use, cleaning and repairing of all arms. Several men 'on the run' from outside areas extended this camp and went through a course of training with the local men. The following took part:-

B.J. O'Driscoll
 James O'Mahony
 David O'Sullivan
 P. Crowley
 Daniel Manning
 J.J. O'Mahony
 Denis Manning

W. Hurley
 M. O'Neill (deceased)
 P. O'Sullivan
 John Fitzgerald
 T. Holland
 C. Crowley
 John O'Neill

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D. Crowley, Coy. I.O., who, by orders of O/C. had openly no connection with the Volunteers and remained unsuspected by the enemy, forwarded all dispatches as directed and was constantly on R.I.C. observation duty; living next the local R.I.C. Barracks, he was enabled to procure all information required re night patrols etc. and was in contact with two sympathetic local R.I.C. men from whom he obtained prior information all raids on houses of Volunteers. This camp was held on until the end of May - all these engaged there being 'on the run' and frequently inquired for by raiding parties of R.I.C. during the latter three months of this period.

February, 1918.

All arms, principally shotguns and ammunition, were quietly collected from sympathisers and stored in dumps at Kilbrittain, Clonbogue, Cloundereen and Maraboro. Full Coy. engaged

March

The houses of ten loyalists' families in the coy. area were raided for arms, all raids being carried out in one night: Names of the men who took part:-

B.J. O'Driscoll
 J.J. O'Mahony
 David O'Sullivan
 M. O'Neill
 C. Crowley
 D. Manning
 J. Cunningham
 M. O'Brien
 L. Crowley
 Denis Manning
 T. Murphy
 J. O'Leary
 C. O'Leary
 P. Barrett

James O'Mahony
 John O'Neill
 W. Hurley
 P. Crowley
 John Fitzgerald
 M. O'Sullivan
 P. Crowley
 J. O'Brien
 D. O'Brien
 T. Holland
 J. Kelly
 D. O'Regan
 J. Barrett
 Jeremiah O'Neill
 (Knockpogue).

RESULT.

5 small rifles
 3 revolvers
 12 shotguns
 1200 rounds ammunition
 assorted.

D. Crowley was on R.I.C. observation duty as before, procured hours of routine of patrols and arranged for immediate communication by sympathetic R.I.C. men of intended raids or any change re hours of patrol duties. etc.

March 1918.

Resistance to conscription. Full company engaged. Coy. organised public meeting of all parishioners and made house-to-house collection for anti-conscription fund; meeting was addressed by local P.P. and Lieut. W. Hurley, after which all men of military age were immediately enrolled as Volunteers and put through a course of instruction in drill, etc. in view of the local R.I.C. Barracks. These recruits were mobilised twice

weekly for drill etc. until all danger of conscription passed off.

March 1918

The following men marched to Snugmore - 15 miles distant - and took part in the proceedings for the re-statement of an evicted tenant-farmer. On the return journey they had to cross country for some miles in order to avoid arrest by military patrols who attempted to encircle the district:-

B.J. O'Driscoll	P. Barrett
M. O'Brien	John O'Neill
W. Hurley	L. Crowley
J. Barrett	J. Cunningham
James O'Mahony	W. Kearney
Daniel Manning	Denis Marming
David O'Sullivan	C. Crowley
John Fitzgerald	P. Crowley
P. O'Sullivan	T. Holland
M. O'Neill	Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue).

1st April 1918
to
31st March 1919.

Engagement.

Training camp at Lake House.

Names of men engaged.

Same names in previous Camp list.

<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Casualties</u>
May 1918	Raiding for arms. Ahiohill	Brian J. O'Driscoll W. Hurley John Fitzgerald M. Crowley Con Crowley	Few shotguns 1 revolver 50-80 rounds shotgun ammunition.	One I.R.A. man seriously wounded.

1st April 1918
to
31st March 1919
(continued).

Con O'Mahony, then O/C. Ahiohill Coy. and 'on the run' at the time, took part in the training camp at Lake House Maraboro. While there he solicited the aid of a few Kilbriittain Volunteers for the purpose of raiding some loyalists' houses in his own area for arms. In response to his request the aforesaid five men cycled to Ahiohill - fifteen miles distant - and, having successfully raided a few houses, they went on to that of Bradfield. Before the remainder of the party had surrounded this house, M. Crowley, aided by C. Crowley, an Ahiohill man, all armed with revolvers, quickly forced the front door opposite to which was the stairway cut off from view by a heavy curtain hanging at the foot. Immediately M. Crowley stepped into the hall he received in the chest the full charge from a shotgun fired from the head of the stairs through the curtain. His comrades immediately returned the fire while the wounded man was carried to a nearby house where he was quickly attended to by a doctor who forbade any further removal. His comrades removed him that night to the house of the local Catholic Curate where, under armed guard, he remained for some weeks after which he was brought back to his own company area for convalescence. Very weak at the time, he was but a few days at a local Vol's house when his presence there became known to the local R.I.C. The Coy. I.O., who was in constant contact with the R.I.C. men, obtained prior information of an immediate raid for him, and he was quickly removed to the house of Miss Fitzgerald, Maulnaskinlahane, a few hours before the R.I.C. from Kilbriittain and headquarters Bandon raided for him. After some time he was removed to the house of Mrs. Dineen, Knocknagillagh, where he was cared for until convalescent.

May 1918.

H. Thornton, G.H.C Organiser, visited the area and for several weeks put the company through an intensive course of training in the use of arms. Drill in extended formation, guerilla tactics, etc. He was 'on the run' at the time, but made Kilbriittain his headquarters while

carrying out his duties in the adjoining areas and the following men, on different occasions, accompanied him as guards during a period of six months:-

John O'Neill	Michael O'Neill
James O'Mahony	J.J. O'Mahony
John Fitzgerald	D. Crowley
P. Crowley.	

<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
Guards at election.	Waterford.	B.J. O'Driscoll John Fitzgerald James O'Mahony P. Crowley M. O'Neill Denis Manning.

Fearing arrest on return journey these men left the train at Upton and took a cross country route to their company area. At Bandon station this train was intercepted and searched by R.I.C. from headquarters who made inquiries for the above mentioned Kilbrittain men.

1st April 1918
to
31st March 1919
(continued)

On August 15th 1918, under command of H. Thornton, G.H.C. Organiser, the full company took part in route march to Lady's Well, Timoleague. Owing to presence of military - police reinforcements in the town - the Vols. were demobbed nearby and all made their way across country to Lady's Well. Towards evening as the result of a slight clash between R.I.C. men and some Volunteers two of the latter were arrested and held prisoners in the R.I.C. barracks for some hours after which they were released unconditionally.

1918.

General Elections, 1918

Full Company engaged. Coy. organised local area, made house-to-house collection for funds, took part in organising and were present on duty at monster public meetings in local towns, made house-to-house collection for election funds.

Oct. 1918.

The full coy. marched to Clogagh to funeral procession of Lt. William Hurley of Baurleigh.

March 1919.

Engagement.

Location.

Names of men engaged.

Cattle drive.
Sabotage of cargo
of timber

Kilbrittain Castle
and Burrin Pier,
Kilbrittain.

John Fitzgerald
Michael O'Neill
P. Crowley
D. Crowley
D. Manning
David O'Sullivan
Jerh. O'Neill
(Knockpogue)
J. Slattery.

James O'Mahony
John O'Neill
Cns. Crowley
Dan Manning
P. O'Sullivan
John O'Leary
Jerh.J. Aherne

By orders Bde. Hqrs. the above took part in armed cattle-drive from Kilbrittain Castle and in the sabotage of a cargo of timer awaiting shipment at Burrin Pier. These activities were due to land and labour trouble, including the dismissal of Volunteer workmen by loyalist owners of Kilbrittain Castle, who, having purchased the estate a few months previously, were working under R.I.C. protection.

March-April.

With the aid of R.I.C. protection work was carried on on a very small scale and under the greatest difficulties, while Vol. activities increased parades of the full Coy. being held twice and sometimes thrice weekly for drill etc. despite the increased vigilance of R.I.C. patrols and frequent raids by R.I.C. from hqrs. for wanted men.

April.

The following men raided the houses of some loyalist families and interrogated the members

regarding arms: they were known to have previously possessed and on having been assured that all had been handed over to the police they warned these people against any future contact with the enemy or interference with the activities of Vols. some of whom were employees of loyalists:-

Names of men engaged

James O'Mahony	Michael O'Neill
P. Crowley	John Fitzgerald
C. Crowley	John O'Neill

April - May	<u>Operations</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Names of men who took part</u>		<u>Result.</u>
	Search for buried rifles and ammunition.	Knockbrown, Kilbrittain, Old Court, Ballinaspittle.	M. O'Neill T. Holland C. Crowley J. O'Mahony P. O'Sullivan David O'Sullivan	P. Crowley John O'Neill John Fitzgerald D. Manning J.J. O'Mahony J. Barrett.	Abortive
1st April 1918 to 31st March 1919.	The abovementioned Vols. took part on six occasions - at night time - in trenching operations on the lands of Knockbrown and Old Court - latter an area 10 miles distant - in an effort to locate some rifles and ammunition buried by the Fenians. An old man, one of four who dumped the stuff, gave all the guidance possible but, owing to the obliteration of all old signs, marks and fences, he found it difficult to locate the exact spot.				
April-May 1919.	The Vols. cut many deep parallel and cross trenches but were forced to desist owing to increasing activity of military and R.I.C. patrols in the district.				
May 1919.	Failing to cope with Volunteer activities the local police were reinforced by a military attachment of 40-50 quarters at Kilbrittain Castle and in telephonic communication with the local bks. 400 yds. distant. The military were immediately active, cycle squads patrolled the district by day, while squads on foot patrolled different roads at night time and the guidance of the R.I.C. they soon got to know the homes of all prominent Vols. A patrol of five soldiers and one R.I.C. man, all armed, left the military post every night to visit Burrin Pier, 2-3 miles distant, and returned to post about 4 a.m.				

June	<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of Volunteers engaged</u>		<u>Result</u>
	Disarming of military patrol Five soldiers One R.I.C. man.	Rathclarin.	John Fitzgerald John O'Neill J.J. O'Mahony C. Crowley Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue) T. Holland David O'Sullivan	James Mahony P. Crowley M. O'Neill Denis Manning J. O'Leary P. O'Sullivan D. Manning	5 rifles, one revolver, 200 rds; amm. captured. 1 Vol. seriously wounded. 1 soldier wounded

Jeremiah O'Neill Maryboro procured transport and drove the wounded man to Ahichill - 15 miles distant. D. Crowley was on scout duty between his house and the military post until his brother got back from Rathclarin.

On the night of 16th June a party of 14 Volunteers all unarmed except two, one of whom carried a shotgun and the other a revolver lay in ambush at Rathcarlin, about a mile from the Post and disarmed this patrol on their return journey. As the leader of the patrol - a sergeant and an R.I.C. man came abreast of the last man of the ambushade, all but one were pounced on and disarmed. This last soldier was some yards behind his comrades and, as M. O'Neill rushed him, he had time to partly raise his rifle in defence and struck at O'Neill's head with the rifle butt, splitting open his forehead, but the latter, though

June 1919.

bleeding profusely, held his position until one of his comrades came to his aid, after which he dropped into a state of semi-consciousness. His comrades rendered first aid while Jerh. O'Neill (Maraboro) procured transport and drove the wounded man to Ahiohill where he was put in care of a doctor. He was accompanied by Con Crowley who remained with him as armed guard for some weeks. Two of the disarming party had to travel 3-4 miles across country to their homes while those who had attended O'Neill had got their clothes bespattered with blood and after safely dumping the captured arms, these men had to dump their clothes and be in bed before the expected search parties arrived from the post. The brothers Crowley and Manning lived on the estate, their homes within 200 yards of the Castle, so it was imperative they got home before search parties left the post. One of the disarmed soldiers freed himself and his comrades of their bonds immediately the Vol. guards had left them and all quickly made their way to the R.I.C. Bks. from where they telephoned the military post. The houses of Crowleys and Manning were raided immediately - within 20 minutes of their owners' return, while those of Mahonys' and O'Neill's were raided within half an hour. Fitzgerald's and O'Leary's being done about the same time. The raiders in each case being in a very hostile mood. All Vols. were stripped and closely examined for wounds, while their clothes were carefully scrutinised for blood marks. During the ensuing week the homes of O'Neills and Mahonys were raided on 17 occasions; those of Mannings and Crowleys on 25 occasions; those of J. Fitzgerald and J. O'Leary, 4 miles distant, were raided regularly at 7 a.m. every morning, while there were numerous raids on the houses of several other Vols., the raiders everywhere searching for a wounded man and inquiring the whereabouts of Con Crowley who had been 'on the run' since the previous March.

Several military search parties were out every day during the following month - closely searched any likely hiding place within half a mile radius of the military post. The strength of the night patrol to Rathclarin was trebled and that of night road patrols doubled, while all travelled in extended order. All persons residing in the locality were ordered to be in their houses at 10 p.m. and anyone met by the patrols after that hour was closely searched, questioned and threatened while the soldiers openly threatened that any Vol. caught at night-time would be shot. The homes of all prominent Volunteers were frequently raided by military and police during this period, but all efforts to capture the "wanted" men proved abortive.

Those activities continued while the military remained at the Castle till the end of August 1919, a most difficult period for Vols. as all had to attend bi-weekly parades at oft changed venues and had to travel 3-4 miles across country to their homes after 10 p.m. It was an exceptionally trying period and one of considerable risk for dispatch bearers, especially at night-time, as they had to travel many miles across country in order to avoid military night patrols, who generally lay in ambush and crossroads and byroads, while they had to return the same way and get to their houses before daybreak in order to avoid the vigilance of early morning patrols.

August

P. Crowley and J. O'Leary represented training camp at Glandore.

August.

Following the negative results of the numerous raids and searches after the ambush at Rathclarin, the local R.I.C. sergeant - one of the two sympathetic men with whom the I.O. had been in contact - was removed to R.I.C. hqrs. Bandon, degraded in rank and replaced by a most hostile man. The Coy. I.O. immediately made contact with the former man in Bandon and arranged channels of communication through which this man supplied most valuable information re hqrs. activities in this and outside company areas and during the whole period up to the truce.

September.

A meeting of Sinn Fein Club, composed chiefly of Vols. and their sympathisers, was held at Kilbriittain despite D.O.R.A. ban then in force. This meeting refused to disperse on being ordered to do so by 2 R.I.C. men who then left and returned, armed with rifles intending to arrest some of the more prominent Vols., but these got away under 'fire', Daniel Manning, secretary, salvaging the Club funds and records. The following Vols. were present at the meeting:-

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Daniel Manning | Denis Manning |
| James O'Mahony | John O'Neill |
| D. O'Regan | D. O'Brien |
| T. McCarthy, Coolshinagh | P. O'Sullivan |
| David O'Sullivan | J. O'Regan |
| J. O'Brien | J.J. O'Mahony |
| R. O'Regan | Jerh. O'Neill, Knockpogue |
| John Fitzgerald. | |

September-October

Arrest of Denis Manning, J. Fitzgerald, John O'Neill, Patrick O'Sullivan, charged with illegal assembly at Kilbriittain in Sept. and held prisoners in Cork Jail. These men were on two occasions brought under R.I.C. escort from Cork jail to Bandon for trial. By orders of O/C. the full company attended the trials with the idea of a possible rescue, but the enemy guard was far too strong for any such attempt to be made. In one of several baton charges on last day of trial, Vol. T. Butler received severe head wounds which necessitated immediate medical treatment. The following sentences were imposed and served in Cork jail :-

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Denis Manning | Four months |
| John O'Neill | Four months |
| John Fitzgerald | Three months |
| P. O'Sullivan | three months. |

October 1919.

Early in October, a Volunteer, unsuspected by the enemy of any such connection with the National movement, was detailed for observation duty on the movements of two R.I.C. men - a sergeant and a constable - with whom were to be shot. These two men, unless when out/raiding parties, never left the vicinity of the bks. except to visit a publichouse across the way at irregular intervals. During November and December a scout was placed on special duty in this publichouse and in contact with man on duty outside until 11-12 p.m. On 17-20 occasions between 24th Oct. and 15th Dec. Volunteers waited in the vicinity ready to enter the ambush at signal from the observer, but all attempts proved abortive, as the 'wanted' men could not be got together and the ambush party, having already run considerable risk by coming so often, could not be in position regularly because of the frequency of R.I.C. raiding parties in the village and the close proximity of ambush position to the barracks. On Dec. 15th an order was issued to shoot one of the wanted R.I.C. men and this was executed on the 16th. The man on outside observation duty got the ambush party into position and had to remain close by to signal the 'wanted' man as a second unwanted R.I.C. man was due too and did pass by a few minutes before the ambush took place. As the ambush party got into action this man obliterated all signs of their previous position and severed telegraphic

connection between the barracks and Kinsale, while a second Vol. on duty outside the village severed connection between the barracks and Bandon, with the result that headqrs. had no knowledge of the affair until next day when great numbers of R.I.C. men came on the scene. The local sergeant was immediately removed and replaced by sergeant from headqrs. who had previously been stationed in the area and was known to be hostile to the Volunteer movement.

February One man of B.I. Company fired on and wounded an R.I.C. man at Drimoleague.

do. One man of B.I. Company took part in the shooting of R.I.C. man at Bandon.

do.	<u>Engagement.</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>		<u>Result.</u>
	Attack on R.I.C. Bks.	Timoleague	John Fitzgerald J. O'Leary T. Butler James O'Mahony C. O'Neill J. Kelly C. Crowley P. O'Sullivan L. Crowley C. Hurley David O'Sullivan M. Collins Jerh. Fitzgerald J. McGrath J. Cunningham T. Murphy Denis O'Sullivan.	John O'Brien M. O'Neill Jerh. O'Neill D. O'Brien J.J. O'Mahony P. Holland M. O'Brien J. O'Neill (Knockpogue) J. Roche J. Barrett C. McCarthy D. Cowhig D. O'Regan T. McCarthy J. Hayes, Flaxford	Attack repulsed.

February P. Crowley and D. Crowley arrested at 2 a.m. by R.I.C. from Bandon, taken to Cork jail and later interned at Wormwood Scrubbs until following June. O'Neill and Mahony brothers raided for on same occasion but escaped arrest. Prior information of these raids had been obtained from R.I.C. men at hqrs. Bandon, at midnight, but, being suspected of national sympathies and under surveillance at the time, he was unable to send the message through the pre-arranged channels of communication with the result that it arrived too late.

February John J. O'Mahony was arrested during round-up by enemy forces and sent uncharged to Cork Jail.

February 1920. In the vicinity of the village on three occasions during the last week of February six men of B.I. Coy. took part in prepared ambushade for Kilbritten R.I.C. Sergeant, all attempts abortive. Sergeant in question was removed to Hqrs. at the end of February and was replaced by a less hostile man.

March In the vicinity of the village two men of B.I. Coy. fired on and seriously wounded an R.I.C. man after which the garrison of six was reinforced by four. Michael O'Neill and Daniel Manning were arrested by military at Maryboro after being under 'fire' for half an hour. M. O'Neill and J.J. O'Mahony were interned at Wormwood Scrubbs until June. Daniel Manning served sentence of three months in Cork Male Prison for presence at illegal meeting at Kilbritten in previous September. Mails, incoming and outgoing, were raided on three occasions till correspondence was censored and the sum of fifty pounds Government Funds captured in one raid was confiscated. Names of the men who took part:- C. Hurley, James O'Mahony, John Fitzgerald, John O'Neill,

C. Crowley, J. O'Leary.

C. Hurley, James O'Mahony and C. Crowley took part in an attempted attacks on Baltimore and Ballydehob R.I.C. Barracks.

Period 1st
April 1920
to
31st March 1921
April.

One man of B.I. Coy. took part in ambush of R.I.C. at Upton when two R.I.C. were killed.

April

Two members of B.I. Coy. shot R.I.C. man at Castleview (outside area).

do.

Mails were raided on three occasions. The following men took part:-

C. Crowley, John O'Neill, Denis Manning, J. O'Leary, J. Fitzgerald.

do.

Ballinaspittle R.I.C. Barracks (vacated) demolished. The following men took part:-

J. Fitzgerald, J. O'Leary, D. O'Brien, Denis Manning, J. Roche,

J. Butler, T. Butler, P. O'Sullivan, David O'Sullivan, J. Ryan,

T. Murphy, J. O'Neill (Knockpogue), M. Collins, D. O'Regan, T. Connolly, J. O'Regan,

John Hurley, John Barrett, J. O'Brien, D. O'Brien, M. O'Brien,

J. Cunningham, John J. O'Neill, L. Crowley, C. McCarthy, J. Kelly,

T. Holland, T. McCarthy, T. Fitzgerald, Denis O'Sullivan, Richard O'Regan,

T. McCarthy, Jerh. Donovan, C. O'Leary, M. Hallissey, J. McGrath,

Jerh. Hayes, D. Cowhig, J. Hayes (Burrin), W. Kearney.

Armed guards held the Kilbrittain, Bandon and Kinsale main roads during the work of demolition, the majority of men having turns at pick, shovel and armed guard duty.

May

Three men of B.I. Coy. took part in ambush of four R.I.C. men at Timoleague, where three R.I.C. men were killed.

May

Mails incoming and outgoing were raided on four occasions - military cycling squads escorted the mails often but at irregular intervals during this and the following months. This escort came two or three times each week, sometimes on two or three alternative days, and on the first occasion narrowly missed the Volunteers hold up by being too far behind the mail-car. Same men took part in these raids.

June

Acting I.O. received definite information from sympathetic R.I.C. man Bandon, that Kilbrittain Castle was to be immediately re-occupied by military and, by order of the Bde. O/C., it was burned down that night. This was an operation of considerable risk for all those engaged owing to the frequency of enemy raiding parties in the district at the time, while the Castle was within four hundred yards of the local R.I.C. Bks. now garrisoned by fifteen R.I.C. and Black and Tans.

Several workmen and a young family with their belongings had first of all to be evacuated from the top stories and the building was so big and solid that in order to insure its hasty but complete destruction, sacks of light firewood had to be taken to the top stories and dozens of doors had to be smashed up in order to start strong fires at different points, also many windows had to be smashed and several floors broken through in order to obtain sufficient air-currents to get the whole building well alight in a short time.

June With the exception of a small number of men some of whom were in prison at the time, a few on duty elsewhere, the full company took part in this operation. Armed guards were posted in the village road 200 yards from the R.I.C. Bks. on the Bandon-Castle Road and at the entrance gates on the Kinsale-Kilbrittain road during this operation which took three hours to carry through. Several men were on scout duty, some in the vicinity of the village some in adjoining districts on the lookout for the presence of raiding parties.

June.	<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of Volunteers engaged in attack.</u>		<u>Result.</u>
	Attack on Howes Strand C. Guards Station	Howes Strand, Kilbrittain	C. Hurley M. O'Neill. P. Crowley John O'Neill C. Crowley Denis Manning M. Crowley Dan Manning J. O'Leary.	John Fitzgerald D. O'Brien P. O'Sullivan J. O'Brien David O'Sullivan Jerh O'Neill (Knockpogue) M. O'Brien	Station taken by surprise. Vols. captured 10 rifles, 5000 rds. ammunition and equipment.

D. Crowley was on police observation duty, procured required information re patrols and arranged for immediate communication of information regarding enemy movements. Scouts Tom Fitzgerald, Denis O'Sullivan, M. Collins and C. O'Leary, local scouts, reported that the old garrison of six C. Guards at Howes Strand had been reinforced by four and that all of them were armed with rifles. Station and garrison were from then on kept under close observation day and night by local scouts. Further reports showed that a few members of the garrison left the station on a certain each week and went by boat three miles across the bay to the bigger C. Guards at Courtmacsherry. B.I. decided to raid the station and effect its capture by surprise if possible. On appointed day, the boat being left as usual with four members of the garrison, 16 armed Volunteers managed to get unseen by the sentry to within 25-30 yards of the station at 3 p.m. when all but the sentry was indoors. Denis Manning quickly held up the latter with a revolver and his comrades led by C. Hurley immediately rushed into the station and quickly held up and disarmed four members of the garrison found on the ground floor, after which two men on the top storey, on the advice of their disarmed comrades, agreed to surrender their rifles to the raiders.

June Mails were raided twice during this month by following men :- John Fitzgerald, P. Crowley, John O'Neill, N. O'Neill, M. Crowley.

July Two men of B.I Coy. shot an R.I.C. man in Bandon,

July	<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged in actual attack.</u>		<u>Result.</u>
	Attack on Marine Station.	Howes Strand, Kilbrittain.	C. Hurley Jerh O'Neill (Knockpogue) P. Crowley D. Manning M. Crowley Dan Manning Denis O'Sullivan T. Murphy David O'Sullivan.	M. O'Neill John O'Neill C. Crowley P. O'Sullivan M. O'Brien J. O'Leary D. O'Brien John Fitzgerald J. Roche	Surrender of garrison. Vols. captured 15 rifles, 10,000 rds. of ammn. and equipment.

July

Local Scouts

Jerh. Fitzgerald
P. Fitzgerald
M. Mahony

Armed Scouts

J. O'Brien John O'Driscoll
J. Cunningham J. Kelly
M. McCarthy J. Barrett.

Names of reserves.

C. O'Leary M. Hallissey
C. Connolly L. Crowley
M. Regan T. Fitzgerald
Jerh Donovan M. Collins
J. McGrath J. Hurley
T. McCarthy J. Regan
T. McCarthy J. Slattery
D. Cowhig J. Hayes (Burrin)
T. Butler J. Butler
T. Crowley J.J. O'Mahony.

Coy. I.O. on police observation duty in contact with local R.I.C. men as before and arranged for immediate communication of information regarding enemy movements.

Immediately after the capture of Howes Strand C. Guards Station in June the garrison of ten C. Guards was reinforced by five marines and all were again armed with rifles. The garrison and station were constantly under observation by local scouts, who, soon after the arrival of the marines, reported that the garrison possessed a machine gun and that they had already started work on the demolition of a low fence about 25 yards from the building which it enclosed on three sides. As this fence was the only available cover for an attacking party, B.I. Coy. officers decided to attack the station immediately.

The above members of the company mobilised at Clonbogue at 10 p.m. and were reinforced by fifteen men from Ballinadee, Bandon and Timoleague. C. Hurley then assigned arms to the above men of B.I. Coy. and ordered the remainder to fall in as reserves in the immediate rear of the attacking party their duties being to rush into the station immediately it was captured, some to arm equip themselves quickly with the captured arms, while the remainder packed up surplus ammunition equipment etc. for immediate transport across country.

Howes Strand Station was situated on a narrow promontory about three miles from the much bigger C. Guards Station across the bay at Courtmacsherry, where shooting at the former could be plainly heard and within 9 or 10 miles of Bandon and Kinsale, while raids by military and R.I.C. from latter town were of frequent occurrence in the locality especially on the house of John Fitzgerald in the vicinity. Although guns and ammunition were available at Clonbogue for the reserves C. Hurley considered his armed force sufficient to capture the station but determined that the attack should be carried out with the utmost speed and determination, lest in case of a prolonged fight his men should be hemmed in by enemy forces before he could get back to more open country. In sections and preceded by scouts the Vols. travelled four miles across country to an untenanted farmhouse within a quarter of a mile of their objective. Here, fearing the arrival of enemy raiding parties at the home of J. Fitzgerald nearby, 6 men were detailed for armed scout duty on the Bandon-Howes Strand and Kinsale-Howes Strand roads. From midnight, a patrol boat - the presence of which had been reported by scouts on several previous occasions - which had entered the bay at nightfall, continued to throw a powerful searchlight on the station at intervals of an hour until near daybreak when the boat slipped out to sea; because of this delay it was almost daylight when the Vols. quickly moved into their already allocated positions. Back of a low fence they covered the building on three sides and immediately opened fire on the windows under cover of which C. Hurley armed with Mills bomb and revolver, Denis Manning with sledge, J. Hartnett (latter Timoleague) armed with revolver, rushed up to one door, while John Fitzgerald,

M. O'Neill and C. Lehane (latter Timoleague) got up to the second door and in the din created by the heavy fire of the Vols. replied to by rifle fire of the garrison from the top storey, these men strove hard to smash their way into the building. Both parties were subjected to rifle fire from the nearest windows, all of which were sand-bagged, and it was with the greatest difficulty and considerable risk that Manning and Lehane were able to use their sledges effectively under cover of their comrades' revolver fire on these windows, the main entrance door barred from within and of great strength withstood the assault until board by board it was battered to splint-wood, but C. Hurley's door was soon smashed in and armed with bomb and revolver he quickly rushed up the stairs followed by Manning and Hartnett, two armed Marines coming through a doorway at the head of the stairs were held up by Hurley; these were quickly disarmed and forced into the next room where seven of the garrison were taken completely by surprise, covered by three guns from the doorway and seeing the bomb ready in C. Hurley's hands they quickly obeyed the latter's quickly-spoken order "Hands up". All were hastily disarmed and leaving Manning and Hartnett on guard over prisoners and arms, Hurley dashed into the next room where he captured one Marine in the act of firing out the window. Armed Volunteers were by now all over the building and four of the five remaining Marines were quickly captured and disarmed. The last man - the Station O/C. - definitely refused to surrender even when he would be bombed but, as C. Hurley moved up to cast in the bomb, one of the prisoners begged permission to be allowed to reason with his comrade. This was granted and capitulation of the last man quickly followed.

Within a quarter of an hour of the capture of the station the Vols., now strengthened by section bearing captured arms, were moving quickly in sections and in extended order across country to Clonbogue where the men were immediately dismissed, with orders to get across country to their respective areas, while the Coy. officers and a few chosen Vols. hastily placed all arms and equipment in dumps on the lands of John Barrett.

July 1920.	<u>Proposed ambushade for military.</u>	<u>Location</u> Railway bridge Bandon- Innishannon Rd.	<u>Names of men engaged.</u> C. Hurley, P. Crowley M. Crowley M. O'Neill	<u>Result.</u> Abortive.
do.	<u>Prepared ambushade for military.</u>	<u>Location</u> Black Quarries, Bandon- Kilpatrick Rd.	<u>Names of men engaged</u> C. Hurley P. Crowley M. Crowley M. O'Neill J. O'Neill Jn. Fitzgerald	<u>Result.</u> Abortive.
do.	The following men attended Feis at Ballinadee for the purpose of disarming an expected military patrol which did not arrive. O/C. assigned arms to the following and allocated positions and duties of all :- <u>ARMED:</u> C. Hurley, James O'Mahony, P. Crowley, Denis Manning, John Fitzgerald, M. O'Neill, J. O'Neill, M. O'Brien, D. O'Brien, C. Crowley. <u>UNARMED:-</u> L. Crowley, D. Manning, R. Regan, C. O'Leary, J. Barrett, D. O'Regan, J. O'Regan, T. McCarthy, T. Butler, J. Kelly, T. McCarthy (Keelnamaul), J. Butler, J. Cunningham, J. O'Brien, P. O'Sullivan, J.J. O'Mahony, T. Holland, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), David O'Sullivan, W. Kearney, D. Cowhig, J. McGrath, John Hurley, Jerh. Hayes (Flaxfort), Jerh. Hayes.			
August 1920	<u>Engagement.</u> Attempted attack on R.I.C. Bks. (with column).	<u>Location.</u> Innishannon	<u>Names of men engaged.</u> C. Hurley, M. O'Brien, Patk. Crowley, D. O'Brien, Jer. O'Neill (Knockpogue), M. O'Neill, M. Crowley, Jas. O'Mahony	<u>Result.</u> Abortive.

Names of men engaged.

John Fitzgerald, Con McCarthy
P. O'Sullivan, C. Crowley.

August 1920	Engagement	Location	Names of men engaged.	Result
	Prepared ambushcade for military lorries - two days.	Brinny-Bandon Road.	James O'Mahony, John Fitzgerald, P. Crowley, P. O'Sullivan, M. O'Neill, M. Crowley.	Abortive

By order of Batt. O/C. all the above, except J. O'Mahony, left Brinny ambushcade and returned to Coy. area with orders to carry out ambush of R.I.C. patrol at Granfeen.

August	Engagement	Location	Names of men engaged.	Result
	Prepared ambushcade for R.I.C. patrol.	Granfeen, Kilbrittain	John Fitzgerald, M. Crowley, John O'Neill, David O'Sullivan, Denis Manning, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), M. O'Neill, J. O'Leary, J. Roche, J. Barrett, P. O'Sullivan, D.O'Brien, P. Crowley, J. O'Brien, J. Kelly, M. O'Brien.	Abortive.

Scouts:- T. Holland, J. Butler.

At irregular intervals during the previous few weeks an armed patrol of 10-12 local R.I.C. Tans travelled in extended order about a mile across country to a hill which overlooked a large section of the Coy. area, their object, presumably, observation of Volunteers' movement for the benefit of raiding parties. For three successive days the abovenamed Vols. lay in prepared ambushcade at Granfeen for this patrol which failed to turn up as expected. These men slept in a barn half a mile distant every night returning to the ambushcade each day at daybreak and remaining until darkness set in.

August	Engagement	Location	Names of men engaged.	Result
	Mails were raided on four occasions this month. Official returns from local barracks to hqrs. were captured; one of these reports stated 'No arms' was held by the Vols. of Kilbrittain district. The following men took part:-		P. Crowley, John Fitzgerald, Michael Crowley, Michael O'Neill, C. Crowley, John O'Neill, J.J. O'Mahony.	

August-September.	Engagement	Location	Names of men engaged.	Result
	Armed training camp.	Clonbogue, Kilbrittain	James O'Mahony, P. Crowley, John Fitzgerald, C. Crowley, M. O'Brien, John O'Neill, M. O'Neill, M. Crowley.	
	D. Crowley, Coy. I.O., on constant R.I.C. observation duty during Camp period, forwarded all dispatches and directed men from outside areas to camp as directed.			
	Coy. O/C. took advantage of Camp as a period of special training for Coy. All members of Coy. were engaged at armed sentry, scout and transport duties. Coy. O/C. assigned duties of men every day, each man having turns at night and day duty at sentry-scout.			

Sept. 1920.	Engagement.	Location.	Names of men engaged.	Result.
	Prepared ambushcade with column.	Farnabush	James O'Mahony, Patrick Crowley, John Fitzgerald, John O'Neill, Michael O'Neill.	Abortive.

do.	Engagement.	Location.	Names of men engaged.	Result
	Ambush of military lorries with Column.	Newcestown	John Fitzgerald, P. Crowley, James O'Mahony, John O'Neill, M. O'Neill.	
	Armed training Camp.	Ballymurphy	James O'Mahony, John Fitzgerald, P. Crowley, M. O'Neill, C. Crowley, Jn. O'Neill.	

October.	<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>	<u>Result.</u>
	Prepared ambuscade for military lorries (with column)	Farnahoe	James O'Mahony, P. Crowley, C. Crowley David O'Sullivan, John Fitzgerald, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, John O'Neill, D. O'Brien.	Abortive
	Michael O'Neill and John Fitzgerald returning from Ballymurphy to Clonbogue where they were to arrange some matters re Toureen ambush were arrested by military raiding party soon after entering Coy. area. Held in Cork for some weeks, after which they were interned in Ballykinlar until the general amnesty, Xmas 1921.			
October 1920	Ambush of military lorries (with column)	Tooreen.	James O'Mahony, P. Crowley, David O'Sullivan, J. Roche, C. Crowley, P. O'Sullivan, John O'Neill, D. O'Brien.	
October	Prepared ambuscade for Curfew Patrol (with column)	Bandon town.	Same men who took part in Toureen ambush (above).	<u>Result.</u> Abortive. - Usual military curfew patrols failed to turn out.
October.	<p>Mails were raided three times this month by the following:- Denis Manning, P. Crowley, John O'Neill, J. O'Leary, J.J. O'Mahony.</p> <p>Coy. started collection of arms fund. Owing to frequency of enemy raiding parties in the area the work entailed of collection was spread over period of three months. Stock had to be seized from ten loyalist families, nationalists non-sympathisers. The seizures and sales of these entailed much risk for all concerned and the drovers had on all occasions to be supported by armed guards. On one occasion the owner of seized stock traced them to a fair where they were being held for sale by Vols. He boldly claimed the stock and was about to create a scene when two armed guards close at hand quietly forced him to leave the fair and held him under arrest until the stock was disposed of.</p> <p><u>Names of men engaged as collectors arms fund:-</u> Daniel Manning, J. Cunningham, Denis O'Regan, John O'Neill, C. Crowley, T. Holland, J. Kelly, J.J. O'Mahony, Jerh. Fitzgerald.</p> <p><u>Names, Drovers of Seized stock:-</u> J. Butler, T. McCarthy (Keelnamaul), M. Hallissey, Jerh. Coughlan, Jerh. J. Ahern, M. Collins, D. Cowhig, John Hurley, M. McCarthy, Denis O'Sullivan, P. Burke, T. Butler, J. Hayes, J. Slattery, T. McCarthy, Jerh. Hayes (Flaxfort), Jerh. Donovan.</p> <p><u>Armed guards for seizures - drovers :-</u> John O'Neill, Denis Manning, David O'Sullivan, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), C. Crowley, P. O'Sullivan.</p> <p><u>Salesman:-</u> Jerh. O'Donovan.</p>			
October.	<p>The following men took part in commandeering four large drums of petrol from Golf Links Hotel Harbour View; drums were stored in dumps at Clonbogue and Glánduff. Petrol was afterwards used for the burning of Castle Bernard, Sealy King's house, the Bandon Union:-</p> <p>P. O'Sullivan, D. O'Sullivan, C. Crowley, J. Butler, T. Butler, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), Denis Manning, J. O'Brien, D. O'Brien, John O'Neill, J. McGrath, Jerh. Hayes, D. Cowhig, John Hurley, John Barrett, Jerh. J. Ahern, J. Cunningham.</p>			
October.	<p>Coy. I.O. arranged meeting between Sgt. Kelby, the O/C. local garrison, and C. Hurley, Bde. O/C. and Lieut. P. Crowley, who hoped they might enlist his aid in the capture of the bks. The R.I.C. sergeant refused required aid.</p>			

November. Full Coy. marched to Desert - 14 miles distant - in funeral procession of Captain Michael O'Brien.

C. Crowley and J.J. O'Mahony arrested by Auxiliaries at Coppeen, held prisoners (under assumed names) for several weeks at Macroom Castle, after which they were interned at Ballykinlar until Xmas 1921.

<u>Engagement.</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
Attempted ambush of military lorries.	Lapham's Cross, Upton (with column).	James O'Mahony, P. Crowley, John O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, David O'Sullivan, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary.
Ambush of Auxiliaries.	Kilmichael (with column)	John Roche.

November Mails were raided on three occasions by the following:- P. Crowley, J. O'Neill, James O'Mahony, D. Manning.

November Coy. started preparations for manufacture of bombs. etc. for attack on Kilbrittain R.I.C. barracks which were within seven miles of Bandon and 11 miles of Kinsale and Clonakilty each garrisoned by strong forces of military and R.I.C. This building, detached, stood in the centre of the village about 20 feet from the roadway. It was strongly fortified with barred windows protected by heavy loop-holed steel shutters and had portholes in each wall for the dropping of bombs. A strongly built porch protected the main entrance while barbed wire entanglements to which were attached light tin cans covered the square and surrounding walls. Several nights were spent in the manufacture of shrapnel bombs, etc. in a disused barn in vicinity of Clonbogue.

The following men were engaged in these operations:- David O'Sullivan, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), J. & D. O'Brien, John O'Neill, John Barrett, John Kelly, Denis O'Regan, John O'Regan, John Slattery, Denis Manning, Dan Manning, J. Cunningham, M. Crowley, P. Crowley. D. Crowley on police observation duty.

December 1920. Mails were raided on two occasions by the following:- John O'Neill, Patrick Crowley, John O'Leary and James O'Mahony.

December 1920. The following men attended Timoleague Fair for the purpose of taking part in disarming an expected military patrol:- Patk. Crowley, John O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, D. O'Sullivan, J. O'Brien, J. Cunningham, R. O'Regan, W. Kearney, J. Barrett, T. McCarthy, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary, D. O'Regan, J. O'Regan, L. Crowley, J. Kelly, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), T. Fitzgerald, T. Holland.

<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged with charging party.</u>	<u>Result</u>
Attack on R.I.C. Bks. Full Coy. engaged.	Kilbrittain.	John O'Neill, James O'Mahony, David O'Sullivan, Dan Manning, W. Kearney, J. Barrett, J. Roche, Patrick Crowley, J. O'Leary, T. Murphy, Denis O'Sullivan.	Attack repulsed.
Names of riflemen who covered front of barracks:- P. O'Sullivan, J. O'Neill, (Knockpogue), D. O'Brien, W. Whelton, D. O'Reilly.			
Names of men who placed explosives against barrack wall:- Denis Manning, John McGrath, Jerh. Hayes (Flexfort), Con Leary, C. McCarthy.			

Immediate covering party armed with revolvers on barracks square:- Michael Crowley,
Daniel Aherne.

<u>Reserves.</u>	<u>Scouts.</u>	<u>Armed Scouts at Village entrances.</u>
T. Butler, J. Butler, J. O'Brien, Jerh. J. Aherne, John Driscoll, John M. Aherne.	M. O'Mahony, John O'Mahony	T. Holland, T. Connolly, M. McGrath, R. O'Regan.

I.O. on police observation duty.

Names, armed road - blockade - guards.

With the exception of the following who were in prison during that period the remaining members of B.I. Coy. were on duty at the various road-blockades:- C. Crowley,
J.J. O'Mahony, J. Fitzgerald, M. O'Neill.

Towards end of December P. Monohan and M. Crowley prepared explosive charges for attack on barracks, they placed powerful charges of Tonite in two specially constructed wooden boxes each of which was affixed by strong hinges to the ends of two planks 10" x 4" x 4" each charge detonated and wired ready to be set off by exploder. The evening of attack B.I. Coy. at full strength was mobilised at Clonbbogue and there joined by men from outside areas when the O/C. aided by the Coy. O/C. assigned specific duties to each and all. During attack on the barracks all six roads from Bandon, Kinsale and Clonakilty were blockaded and held by armed guards about half a mile outside the village. Six Vols. of B.I.Coy. with others from outside areas were detailed for duty on each of these roads. Many of these being chosen for these positions because they were experts at tree felling and on that dark night experience was necessary to get some of the heavy trees down quickly in the required positions. All of these men except one each road were armed and remained in duty at the blockades while the unarmed men at each of these points and had orders to remain there as dispatch bearer in the event of the arrival of enemy reinforcements during the attack. Four men of B.I.Coy. for detailed duty of armed scouts at entrances to the village.

Five tall men of B.I.Coy. were allocated the duty of carrying the explosives through the village and placing them against the barrack wall as directed. They were aided by three men from outside areas who had volunteered for that duty. A section of Vols. including six men of B.I.Coy. all unarmed were ordered to fall in as reserves in the immediate rear of the charging party, their duties being to enter the barracks when captured for the purpose of collecting the arms, equipment, etc.

About 12 p.m. the column moved off towards the village, the explosives being carried on horse-drawn vehicle. Arrived at entrance to village, James Butler in stockinged feet scouted the whole position and procured reports from men on observation duty. He then acted scout for riflemen taking up positions covering front of the barracks. Followed by P. Monohan, holding wires, eight Vols. in stockinged feet then shouldered charges to their objective and getting through the barbed wire entanglements quietly as possible they laid the charges against the barracks front wall one at each side of the porch. Three Vols. standing on square closely covered the barracks windows with revolvers during the operation. P. Monohan under cover of barracks wall then worked the exploder but failed to set off the charges. The charging party with reserves quietly entered the village in the rear of men

December 1920.

carrying explosives and had taken up positions in shelter of large houses about forty yards from the barracks where they awaited expected explosion, one section ready to rush the breach while the remainder were to take up positions nearer the barracks. A rifle fire came from the barracks as the exploder was being tried. This was returned by covering party opposite while the charges were bombed in an effort to set them off but all efforts failed and the attacking party in extended order then withdrew from the village, all members in turn being exposed to heavy rifle-fire from the barracks, for a distance of 150 yards at which points many of them narrowly escaped being shot.

December

<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
Column surprise	Gaggin	John Roche.

December

All Vols. were ordered to go 'on the run'. On day following attack on barracks several lorries of tans and R.I.C. arrived from Bandon, they had to cut away barbed wire to get down explosives which were removed to hqrs. They re-set wire entanglements on a much more effective form than heretofore, half the breadth of roadway being taken in with square in network of barbed wire four feet high. Wire protection on walls was also strengthened and a large tree at the back was cut down.

January 1921.

<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>	<u>Result.</u>
Attack on R.I.C. Bks.	Kilbriain	Full Coy. engaged.	Attack repulsed.

The full company was engaged in this attack, the majority of Volunteers holding same positions as in previous attack, the procedure of attacking party was also similar except in the form of explosive which on this occasion was mobile charge Tonite in box filled with hand-grip to be carried by one man. This charge was carried by Denis Manning covered by M. Crowley with revolver. Both bootless, Manning got part way through barbed-wire and cast the explosive to the barrack wall. He lighted the fuse and had barely got clear before Verrey lights went up and rifle fire came from the barrack windows. This was returned by Vols. in nearby positions whilst all awaited the expected explosion which failed to materialise, and once again the attacking party retreated as before, all men being exposed to intensive rifle fire for a distance of 150 yards. When explosive for this attack was being prepared, several of the detonators in possession of Coy. were tested and found alright, but the one used must have been a dud as information was afterwards procured from R.I.C. men that the fuse had burned right up to the detonator.

January

<u>Engagements</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
Skirmish with military raiding party (with column).	Near Quarries Cross.	M. Crowley, J. Roche, J. O'Leary, John O'Neill, C. O'Leary, D. O'Brien, Denis Manning, W. Whelton, C. McCarthy, D. O'Reilly, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), D. Aherne, Patrick O'Sullivan, David O'Sullivan.
In prepared ambushade for military lorries.	Mawbeg one day with column	Same men as above.

January	<u>Engagements</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
	In pre. ambuscade for military lorries one day.	Laragh with column.	Name names as previous page.
	In occupation Bandon town.	With column.	Same names as above.
			When Column occupied Bandon D. O'Reilly was killed in action Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue) went through barbed wire entanglements with explosive charge which he affixed to military barracks gateway, the opening of which would set off charge. He retrieved same charge before column retired.
	Attack on Innishannon R.I.C. Barracks.	Innishannon with column.	Same names as above.
January 8th.	Arrested during round-up by military and R.I.C. :- Denis O'Sullivan, C. Connolly, M. Hallissey, Jerh. Fitzgerald. Interned at Ballykinlar until general amnesty.		
January	Mails raided twice by the following:- Patrick Crowley, James O'Mahony, Daniel Manning, T. Murphy.		
February 4th	Patrick Crowley shot by military. D. Crowley and Daniel O'Neill arrested. Charged with giving false names to military, served three months Cork Jail after which Crowley was released and O'Neill was interned at Spike until general amnesty 1921.		
February 4th	<p>Above took place at Maryboro during round-up by exceptionally strong forces of military and R.I.C. from Bandon, Kinsale, Clonakilty and Courtmacsherry. This was the first of three most intensive enemy efforts made in B.I.Coy. area during this and the following month. In an encircling movement taking in small portions of all adjoining areas, viz: Bandon, Ballinadee, Ballinaspittle, Timoleague, and Clogagh, they gradually closed in on Coy. area where any house with the exception of a few in isolated positions by the sea were raided; all men from sixteen to sixty years being arrested and brought to Kilbrittain Village. Here, after being closely scrutinised by R.I.C. men from local and outside areas, all unwanted men under armed guard of Black and Tans were forced to take part in demolishing two houses which had been burned by Auxiliaries on the night of January 14th. Fourteen men including but two Vols. were taken prisoners to Bandon Military Barracks from where all but the latter were released in the course of three weeks.</p> <p>A second large-scale round-up by enemy forces towards the end of this month and a third during the following month proved abortive. No Volunteers being arrested in Br. Coy. area.</p>		
	<p>Names of men engaged as armed guards during wake of Lt. P. Crowley at Maryboro:- J. Butler, John M. Aherne, David Cowhig, R. Regan, J. O'Brien, J. Cunningham, John McGrath, T. Butler, William Kearney, John Hurley, J. Kelly, Jerh. Hayes (Burrin), P. Bourke, Jerh. Hayes (Flaxfort), C. Connolly.</p> <p>During funeral procession of Lt. Patk. Crowley to Clogagh - a distance of 4 miles - the full Coy. was engaged, the majority, scout duty over a wide area owing to the expected hold-up of funeral procession by enemy forces.</p>		

February 1921.	Engagement	Location	Names of men engaged.	Result.
	Prepared ambushade for Black & Tans (on four occasions).	Kilbriittain	Denis Manning, C. O'Leary, John O'Neill, J. Cunningham, W. Kearney, Jerh. Donovan, T. Murphy, T. McCarthy (Baltinakin), J. O'Brien, R. O'Regan.	Abortive.

A few armed Black and Tans often visited the Post Office in the precincts of the village and about 150 yards of the barracks. As sbovenamed Vols. lay in ambushade on last occasion two Tans approached, but the accidental discharge of a rifle in this ambushade position gave them timely warning and they got safely back to barracks under rifle fire of Volunteers.

Engagement.	Location.	Names of men engaged.
Sniping of R.I.C. barracks (on 3 occasions).	Kilbriittain.	Denis Manning, James O'Mahony, John O'Neill, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary, C. McCarthy, P. O'Sullivan, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), M. Crowley, J. Roche.

February All main roads and several intersecting byroads in Coy. area were trenched. Main roads were twice re-filled by enemy and immediately reopened by Volunteers. With the exception of Column members and a few men on special duty, dispatch bearers and scouts - the full Coy. was engaged at road trenching operations on four occasions and including the nights of the 15th and 16th, during this month. The work was done under strong armed guard while all Volunteers had turns at pick and shovel and armed guard duty.

February 15th Took part in attempt to blockade Kinsale Drawbridge:- Denis Manning.

February 15th A bridge on the main Bandon-Kilbriittain road was demolished during night of 15th from dawn until 4 p.m. on the 16th. The following men lay in ambushade nearby with orders to snipe occupants of two supply lorries if they came that way:-
T. Murphy, T. McCarthy (Baltinakin), D. O'Regan, J. Kelly. Result:- Abortive.

February 15th Volunteers trenched intersecting road at Maulnaskimlahane during night of 15th, from dawn to 4 p.m. on the 16th. The following men lay in prepared ambushade in the vicinity expecting two supply lorries from Bandon might come that way in an effort to get through to Kilbriittain R.I.C. barracks: J. McGrath, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), John Driscoll, C. McCarthy, T. Connolly, J. O'Brien, J. Cunningham. Result:- Abortive.

February 16th.	Engagement.	Location	Names of men engaged.	Result.
	Surprise by military.	Chrushilanive Cross.	J. O'Brien, John Barrett, Jerh Hayes (Flaxfort), John Driscoll, Jerh. O'Neill (Knockpogue), John McGrath, John Cunningham, T. Connolly, C. McCarthy.	J. O'Neill, J. McGrath, T. Connolly, C. McCarthy were killed in action.

These men were quietly surrounded by one of several enemy road patrols on duty in the Kilbriittain-Bandon-Ballinadee area that night. Two squads of B.I.Coy. were at work on intersecting roads within a few hundred yards of Christilanive Cross when their comrades were surrpunded. Denis Manning was that night engaged with section of Ballinadee Coy. in demolition of Ballinadee Bridge.

February 7th	Engagement	Location	Names of men engaged.
	Attack on R.I.C. barracks (with column).	Drimoleague	M. Crowley, J. Roche, D. O'Brien, John O'Neill, J. O'Leary, D. O'Sullivan, W. Whelton.

February	<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
	Occupation of town (with column)	Bandon	M. Crowley, J. Roche, W. Whelton, B. O'Sullivan, John O'Neill, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary, D. O'Sullivan, R. Regan, J.O'Brien.
February 1921	<u>Engagement</u>	Occupation of town. Skibbereen (with column)	M. Crowley, J. Roche, J. O'Leary, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary, J. Roche, W. Whelton, P. O'Sullivan.
February 1921.	Surprise by military with Column.	"Burgatia House" (Lord Tom's).	J. O'Neill, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary, J. Roche, W. Whelton, P. O'Sullivan.
	bks. (on occasions).		W. Kearney, John O'Neill, D. O'Sullivan, J. Kelly, W. Whelton, D. O'Brien.
"c	B.I. Coy. executed local spy.		
"	Trenches were being constantly refilled by enemy with commandeered labour. Volunteers aided by commandeered labour working under armed guard cut many fresh and wider trenches and had all rubble carted away. Owing to intensive activity of enemy raiding parties and night road patrols these operations had to be got through as quickly as possible. All available members of Coy. took part in these operations on four occasions this month, All men having turns at pick and shovel and armed guard duty.		
"	<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
	Prepared ambush for military lorries.	Shippool (with column).	Same names as Crossbarry ambush.
"	Ambush, military lorries	Crossbarry	M. Crowley, J. Roche, J. O'Leary, David O'Sullivan, D. O'Brien, W. Whelton, P. O'Sullivan.
March	With Batt. Column the following men were "standing to arms" at Rathrout while Brigade column lay in prepared ambush at Shippool:- Batt. Column O/C. James O'Mahony, John O'Regan, D. O'Regan, John Kelly, J. O'Brien, J. Cunningham.		
	Bde. O/C. Charles Hurley killed in action by enemy forces at Crossbarry.		
	With column the following marched in funeral procession of Comdt. C. Hurley:-		
	J. O'Neill, M. Crowley, James O'Mahony, J. Roche, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary, W. Whelton, Patk. O'Sullivan, David O'Sullivan.		
March	<u>Engagement.</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
	Attack on R.I.C. Bks. (with column).	Roscarbery	M. Crowley, J. O'Leary, J. Roche, D. O'Brien, Patk. O'Sullivan, W. Whelton, David O'Sullivan, J. O'Neill.
April	Ambush of military lorries (with column).	Aultha Wood, Dunmanway	J. O'Leary, J. Roche, D. O'Brien, Patrick O'Sullivan, W. Whelton.
"	Sniping of R.I.C. Bks. (six occasions)	Kilbriittain	J. Keely, Denis Manning, M. Crowley, J. Roche, D. O'Sullivan, J. O'Neill, W. Kearney, R. Regan, C. O'Leary, W. Whelton, J.O'Leary, John Hurley, John Slattery.

April One Tan standing at barracks door was seriously wounded by sniping party. This Tan died on the road to Bandon when the lorry ran into a freshly cut trench.

Enemy made desperate efforts to keep open communications with Kilbrittain R.I.C. Barracks. Enemy military parties and road patrols were constantly having trenches re-filled by commandeered labour. The Volunteers were forced to carry out extensive trenching operations on 3 occasions while squads were often at work cutting fresh trenches on different roads. All available members of B.I.Coy. engaged on these operations on four and five occasions during this month.

May.	<u>Engagement.</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
	Occupation of town (with column).	Bandon.	M. Crowley, J. Roche, D. O'Brien, J. O'Leary, P. O'Sullivan, W. Whelton, D. O'Sullivan, J.O'Neill
May	Sniping of R.I.C. Bks. (seven occasions).	Kilbrittain	D. Manning, W. Kearney, C. O'Leary, James O'Mahony, T. Murphy, D. O'Sullivan, P.O'Sullivan, J. Roche, J. O'Neill, T. McCarthy (Baltinakin), J. Kelly, R. O'Regan, W. Whelton.
May	Skirmish with Auxiliaries (with column).	Rosscarbery	M. Crowley, W. Whelton, J. O'Leary, Patrick O'Sullivan, D. O'Brien, J. Roche.
May	Sniping of R.I.C. Bks. (with column, on one occasion).	Kilbrittain	Full Company engaged. Barracks heavily sniped from four points by section of brigade column and full section of local snipers. Remainder of Coy. were on scout duty in surrounding districts during this operation.
May	James O'Mahony took part in sniping of Innishannon R.I.C. Barracks.		
	The following men took part in seizure of three motor cycles from loyalists in Coy. area:- T. Butler, J. Butler, D. Cowhig, Jerh. Hayes (Burrin), John Hurley, Jerh Hayes (Flaxfort), P. Burke. To avoid being traced, cycles had to be removed in carts and were placed in a dump on the lands of Jerh. Hayes, Burren, who had charge of dump in which was also stored various odds and ends of military equipment, a few commandeered bicycles and a partly dismantled field gun, the refitting and use of which was at one time considered by the Volunteers.		
May	M. Crowley took part with Bde. column squad in attack from motor car on military in football field, Bandon.		

June	<u>Engagement.</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Names of men engaged.</u>
	Occupation of town (with column)	Bandon	J. O'Neill, James O'Mahony, Patk. O'Sullivan, David O'Sullivan, D. O'Brien, J. Roche, J.O'Leary W. Whelton.
Same date	Arrest of Ld. Bandon Burning of Castle-Bernard	Castle-Bernard Bandon.	John O'Neill, J. O'Mahony, J. Roche, Denis O'Brien.
do.	Arrest of Sealy King, Burning of residence.	Bandon.	Patk. O'Sullivan, C. O'Leary.
do.	M. Crowley took part in arrest of solicitor, Clonakilty.		
June	Prepared ambushade for military (with column).	Snave Bridge, Bantry.	M. Crowley, J. O'Leary, J. Roche, J. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, W. Whelton, D. O'Brien.

May	<u>Engagement</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Names of men engaged</u>
June 1921.	Occupation of town (with Bde. Col.)	Bandon	M. Crowley, J. O'Neill, J. O'Mahony, P. O'Sullivan, J. Slattery, D.O'Sullivan, W. Whelton, J. Roche, J. O'Leary, T. Murphy, D. O'Brien, J. O'Brien, R. Regan, W. Kearney, J. Kelly.
Same date	Union burned	Bandon.	
June	Dismantling portion of Timoleague Rly. line in prepared ambushade for military train.	Inchy Bridge Timoleague	J. O'Mahony, J. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, D. O'Sullivan, J. Roche, D. O'Brien, W. Whelton.
June	Sniping R.I.C. Bks. on 7 occasions	Kilbriittain	W. Whelton, J. O'Leary, J. Roche, D. Manning, C. O'Leary, James O'Mahony, J. O'Neill, J. Slattery, J. Kelly, P. O'Sullivan, D. O'Sullivan, T. Murphy, T. McCarthy, J. O'Brien, D. O'Brien.
do.	Occupation of town (with column)	Skibbereen	Usual column members engaged.
June	Extensive and continuous road-trenching operations were carried out; all members of Coy. were engaged at this work three times during this month.		
July	Sniping R.I.C. Bks. 3 occasions.	Kilbriittain	Denis Manning, John O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, C. O'Leary, J. Roche, C. O'Leary, D. O'Sullivan, J. O'Leary, D. O'Brien, M. Crowley.

SNIPING OF KILBRITTAIN R.I.C. BARRACKS.

Besides the aforementioned sniping attacks by members of B.I. Coy. on local R.I.C. barracks there were numerous similar attacks by men from outside areas and column members passing through or resting in the area. These attacks were at irregular intervals, sometimes on alternative days, sometimes several times in one week, with the result from early April to the Truce except when raiding parties were present in the area the members of the garrison were closely confined to barracks and but occasionally visited opening shutters or doors during daylight hours. Water was carried in from the pump 10 yards distant under cover of rifles at night time and for all other requirements they depended on headquarters, Bandon, for supplies which arrived at irregular intervals.

With the exception of a few occasions when sniping attacks were carried out simultaneously from different points, all attacks were from one point at 250 yards' range and the garrison on all occasions returned the fire using explosive bullets and rifle grenades.

An experienced scout was always required to precede sniping parties to this position while on many occasions, owing to frequency of enemy raiding parties in the area, a few armed scouts were on duty at outside points for some hours preceding and during these attacks. On several occasions a Section of enemy mobile column was known to lay in ambushade near this position during the night and early mornings and on one such occasion this enemy party prior to departure, were examining position as the Vols. sniping party were approaching preceded by a scout.

On a few occasions sections of enemy raiding parties who heard the shots of Vol. sniping party in the distance were rushed in lorries to surround the position. All such efforts failed, but the sniping party narrowly missed being caught inside the cordon on a couple of occasions. This position, the only point from which the barracks could be sniped, in

front was one of considerable risk for all those engaged as the sea was within a few hundred yards on two sides and a straight main road cut through the third side while the barracks commanded a wide stretch in front.

LIST OF KEY HOUSES IN COY. AREA.

P. O'Neill, Maryboro; J. O'Mahony, Cloundereen; P. Crowley, Kilbrittain; D. Cullinane, Burrin; R. Fitzgerald, Maulnaskimlahane; J.J. Ahern, Granfeen; M. Fitzgerald, Clashreagh; W. O'Driscoll, Burrin; J. O'Brien, Clonbogue; C. O'Sullivan, Glenduff.

Bde. and Batt. staff officers and all Vols. entering B.I. Coy. area called first at one of the above mentioned houses where information of enemy movements and meals were at all times obtainable and where contact was made with local scouts in the vicinity, whose duties were observation of enemy movements in the locality, to arrange for contact of callers with Coy. officers, transport etc. and to act as dispatch bearers or armed guards for staff officers meeting in or holding consultations in these houses. The houses of W. O'Driscoll, D. Cullinane, and J.J. Ahern never having fallen under suspicion of the enemy were generally the billets of these men where many suffering from colds and illness were cared for. With exception of Col. members the majority of members of B.I. Coy. took part in these duties allocated by Coy. O/C. During the latter 7-8 months the house of J.J. Ahern in an isolated position was a regular calling place for staff officers and men who often rested there for the night. A nearby bridge connecting the Clonakilty-Bandon-Kinsale roads was much used by I.R.A. men passing to and from Ballinadee, Ballinaspittle and Clonbogue areas and his duty during this period, unless otherwise ordered, was to have this bridge and surrounding area under constant observation and to act as scout, armed guard and dispatch bearer for these men when required during the daytime, while D. Manning aided by local men when necessary took over their duties at night time.

1st Nov. 1920
to
1 July 1921

NAMES OF MEN ENGAGED AS ARMED GUARDS AND ARMED SCOUTS.

No. 1. During this period the Bde. Col. was billeted in Coy. area on 8 or 9 occasions and always remained for one night and the following day.

No. 2. Six Bn. meetings were held in Coy. area. Col. members from outside areas constantly passing to and fro often rested in the Coy. area.

On all above occasions Coy. was obliged to provide a specified number of armed guards and armed scouts, and whilst the majority of members of Coy., excluding Col. members, acted as such on various occasions, Coy. O/C. generally assigned these duties to the following on occasions one and two above:-
W. Kearney; Dan Manning; R. Regan; C. Connolly; J. Cunningham, J. Hayes; (Burrin); John Driscoll; J. Butler; T. Butler; J.J. Ahern; Jerh. Hayes; T. McCarthy (Balinatkin), J. O'Brien; John Hurley; D. Cowhig; J. Barrett; J.M. Ahern; T. Murphy; J. O'Regan; L. Crowley; J. Kelly.

ROAD TRENCHING. Road trenching operations were continuous for four months, all main roads and a network of byroads which had become well-known to enemy during previous raiding expeditions were kept trenched so that all vehicular traffic had to enter fields at various points. The Vols. were forced to carry out much of this work at night time, choice of time depending on movement of enemy raiding parties and the whereabouts of enemy mobile Column whose exceptionally quiet and rapid night movements in conjunction with movements of raiding parties made it a factor of considerable risk for all road-trenching squads. Large scale day and night raids were of frequent occurrence, sections of raiding parties forcing commandeered labour to re-fill all trenches encountered. On various occasions strong parties of military patrolled different roads at night time, their approach being most difficult to detect while especially in dry weather the noise created by the coming and going of horse-drawn vehicles used to cart away all rubble from trenches was a source of grave danger for those engaged, as such noise could be heard at a great distance in the stillness of the night.

Aided by commandeered labour, all available members of Coy. took part in these operations on numerous occasions. The work necessarily rushed being carried out under armed guards while members of Coy. had turns as pick and shovel and guard duties.

April 1917
to
Oct. 1919.

DUMPS.

All Coy. arms were stored in three dumps and the following were responsible for their safety and the cleaning and oiling of all arms:-

Maryboro'	Michael and John O'Neill
Kilbriain	Patrick and Denis Crowley
Cloundereen	James and J.J. O'Mahony.

October 1919
to
11th July 1921.

All Coy. equipment, explosive, ammunition and all arms except when in use by I.R.A. were stored in dumps on the lands of John Barrett, Clonbogue, who was responsible for the safety and care of dumps and the cleaning and oiling of all arms. In latter work he was aided by John O'Brien and J. Cunningham.

Oct. 1920
to
Feb. 1921.

In order to secure the greater security of the main dumps by lessening the risk of any telltale signs in their vicinity, John Barrett and John O'Brien constructed a dump on the lands of the latter. This dump was used for the temporary storage of arms, ammunition or explosives, about to be required and immediately after use by Vols. John O'Brien was responsible for the security of this dump.

11th July 1921

A small dump at Maryboro and another at Clashavanga were used for the temporary storage of small arms and rifles.

Daniel Manning and Jerh. O'Neill (Maryboro) were responsible for the safety of dumps and care of arms.

Feb. 1921
to
11th July 1921.

A dump in Knockpogue Wood contained several rifles and a number of shotguns for use of sniping parties and road trenching squads. Denis O'Regan and John O'Regan were responsible for safety of this dump and the care of arms, aided by L. Crowley in latter duties.

October 1920
to
11th July 1921.

Patrick O'Sullivan (Glanduff) and John O'Brien were responsible for the care and safety of petrol dumps on their respective farms.

DISPATCH BEARERS

Dispatch bearers to Bandon and Ballinadee:- Denis and John O'Regan.

" " " Ballinaspittle:- Jerh. Fitzgerald

" " " Timoleague John Hurley

" " " Clogagh Richard O'Regan

By order Coy. O/C. Jeremiah O'Donovan did duty as dispatch bearer to Bde. headquarters.

" " " " Richard O'Regan did duty as dispatch bearer to Battn. headquarters

OUTSIDE
COY.
AREAS

John O'Mahony acted as dispatch bearer within the Coy. area and owing to incessant and intensive enemy activity his duties were continuous.

DRIVERS FOR ARMED BDE. AND BATTN. STAFF OFFICERS AND COLUMN MEMBERS
FROM COY. TO OUTSIDE AREAS.

Denis O'Regan, T. McCarthy, (Keelnamaul), John O'Brien, J. Kelly, J. Cunningham,
John O'Regan, John Hurley, R. Regan, Jerh O'Neill (Maryboro), Jerh. Hayes (Burrin)-
D. O'Regan, T. Murphy, J. O'Donovan.

TRANSPORT OF COLUMN SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT ETC. TO OUTSIDE AREAS.

Sept. 1920
to
Truce.

Same names as above, including J. Butler.

SNIPING SQUADS, KILBRITTAIN R.I.C. BKS. FEBRUARY 1921 to 11th JULY 1921.

The following took part in sniping attacks on:-

<u>2 occasions.</u>	<u>3 occasions.</u>	<u>4 occasions.</u>
J. Slattery	T. McCarthy, Balinakin	T. Murphy
John Hurley	Richard O'Regan	J. Kelly
J. O'Brien	W. Kearney	

Remaining members aforementioned took part on numerous occasions, local men only taking part by orders of I/C. when the required number of Column-trained members were not available. J. Butler was Chief Scout for sniping parties while the following did scout duty at points outside the vicinity of a position on several occasions:- J. Slattery, D. Cowhig, John O'Mahony, J. O'Regan, D. O'Regan, J. Hurley, Jerh. J. Ahern, J. O'Brien, J. Cunningham, T. McCarthy, Jerh. O'Donovan, T. Fitzgerald.

ACTIVITIES OF B.I. COY. 1917 - 11th JULY 1921.

Considering the incessant and intensive enemy activities and the multiplicity of Vol. activities in Coy. area during this period, the lapse of time since then, also the absence of many of those concerned, the foregoing report is given as substantially correct, but probably not quite definitely accurate as regards the exact positions or duties of all individual men in Coy. area at all specified times or places. Also there are probably several omissions of ambushade positions (outside areas) which proved abortive, and other operations in Bde. and Batt. areas in which some members of B.I. Coy. took part in 1920 and 1921.

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21
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NO. W.S. 560

81782

ADDENDUM TO STATEMENT OF

'B' I COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, CORK III BRIGADE.

1. Approximate strength during the period, outside the temporarily swollen strength at Conscription in 1918 :-

70

8 killed in action.

2. Officer personnel with any changes during period :-

1917-1918.

Captain Denis Manning (3 months' period in 1917).
1st Lieut. Brian O'Driscoll.
2nd Lieut. James O'Mahony.

Sept. 1917 - August, 1918.

Captain Brian O'Driscoll.
1st Lieut. James O'Mahony.
2nd Lieut. John Fitzgerald.

1918-1919.

Captain James O'Mahony.
1st Lieut. John Fitzgerald. (Arrested Oct.-Nov., then P. Crowley, 1st Lieut, and M. O'Neill, 2nd Lieut.)
2nd Lieut. Patrick Crowley.

1919-1920.

Captain James O'Mahony. (Became Battn. Adjutant in Feb. 1920).
1st Lieut. Patrick Crowley.
2nd Lieut. Michael O'Neill.

Feby. 1920.

Captain John Fitzgerald.
1st Lieut. Patrick Crowley.
2nd Lieut. Michael O'Neill.

July, 1920.

Patrick Crowley, transferred to Brigade or Battalion Staff.

August, 1920.

Michael O'Neill - appointed Battalion Vice Commandant, then Michael O'Brien, 1st Lieut. and John O'Neill, 2nd Lieut.

Novr. 1920.

Captain John Fitzgerald (Arrested in November).
1st Lieut. Michael O'Brien.
2nd Lieut. John O'Neill.

Nov. 1920. (Contd.)

Captain Michael O'Brien (Died in November.)
1st Lieut. John O'Neill.
2nd Lieut. David O'Sullivan.

Dec. 1920.

Captain John O'Neill.
1st Lieut. David O'Sullivan.
2nd Lieut. John O'Leary.

1921.

Captain John O'Neill. (Held appointment up to
1st Lieut. David O'Sullivan. (Truce.)
2nd Lieut. John O'Leary.

Throughout the period the following appointments were held by the same men :

Company Adjutant - John O'Brien.
Company Quartermaster - Daniel Manning.

4. Arms dumps were constructed well away from roads and dwelling houses and were made by tunnelling into the end of a ditch to the length required, pushing in the box containing rifles or other armament and blocking the opening with stones or sods and covering the end, to look as the original ditch did before. No Company dumps were ever discovered though enemy personnel often stood up on ditches actually on top of where dumps were.

Petrol dumps were constructed in the same way and petrol or paraffin in tins were stored there prior to any job involving destruction of buildings by burning.

After the Rathclarin Ambush in June, 1919, the captured rifles were dumped temporarily under a large stone flag in a dry flagged drain leading from the lavatory of the school house at Burren, about two miles from the scene of the ambush, and were thence removed safely.

5. There was an I.R.B. Circle in Kilbriain and Brian O'Driscoll, then (in 1918) Company Captain, was first centre of the circle. ~~At this active~~ Members of the Company were I.R.B. men ~~to the~~ totalled approximately 25.

Signed: James O'Mahony Bn. Adj't.

John Fitzgerald Coy. C.O.

Denis Crowley Coy. I.O.

Witnessed: [Signature] Lt. Col.

Date: 10th. May, 1951.

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