

ORIGINAL

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21
BURO STAIRE MILITARA 1913-21
No. W.S. 1,059

ROINN  COSANTA.

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.

STATEMENT BY WITNESS.

DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 1,059

Witness

Seamus Bevan,
Colaiste Mhuire,
Ballygar,
Co. Galway.

also Ballydavid, Co. Kerry.
Identity.

Member of Fianna Eireann, Dublin,
1914 - .

Subject.

Propaganda leaflets dropped by British
in Waterford, 1920 - .

Conditions, if any, Stipulated by Witness.

Nil

File No. S.467

Form B.S.M. 2

W.S. 1,059

ORIGINAL

W S. 1059

SECOND STATEMENT BY Mr. SEAMUS BEVAN,
Colaiste Mhuire, Ballygar, Co. Galway,
also Ballydavid, Co. Kerry.

Somewhere in the early months of the year 1920 an airship of the type that flew over Dublin City after the Rising in 1916 appeared over Waterford City and dropped leaflets. I picked up one of these leaflets in Barrack Street, Waterford, and the following is a general idea of its contents:-

In large black type the heading read :-

"TO MEMBERS OF THE I.R.A."

Then followed a short paragraph impressing the idea that the officers of the I.R.A. were deluding the members by referring to them as "Soldiers". It then laid down the necessary qualifications of "a soldier". Then followed an extract from "The Laws of International Warfare" dealing with the capture of soldiers on active service and explained that I.R.A. men captured in civilian clothes after an ambush could expect no treatment but that meted out to Treason Felons. The last paragraph was an exhortation to their being deluded by their officers and to pay attention to their every-day business.

This document was in my possession until sometime around the end of the war, April 1945, when I gave it to Commandant Olaf MacNeill in the Royal Hotel, Bray, he being O/C. of the Troops stationed in Bray at that time.

(Signed)

Seamus Bevan

Date:

10th. January 1955.

Seamus Bevan.

10th January 1955.

Witness:

Sean Brennan Lieut.-Col.

(Sean Brennan) Lieut.-Col.