



North and South Elevations Survey of F Block, Marlborough Barracks, now known as McKee Barracks. Construction of the barracks began in 1888 and took approximately 4 years to finish. It was primarily used by Cavalry units of the British forces until it was handed over to the National Army in December 1922 and was renamed in 1926 after Brigadier Richard McKee of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), killed in Dublin Castle during the War of Independence in 1920.

Chosen by Captain Sarah Colclough, Staff Officer, The Military Archives.

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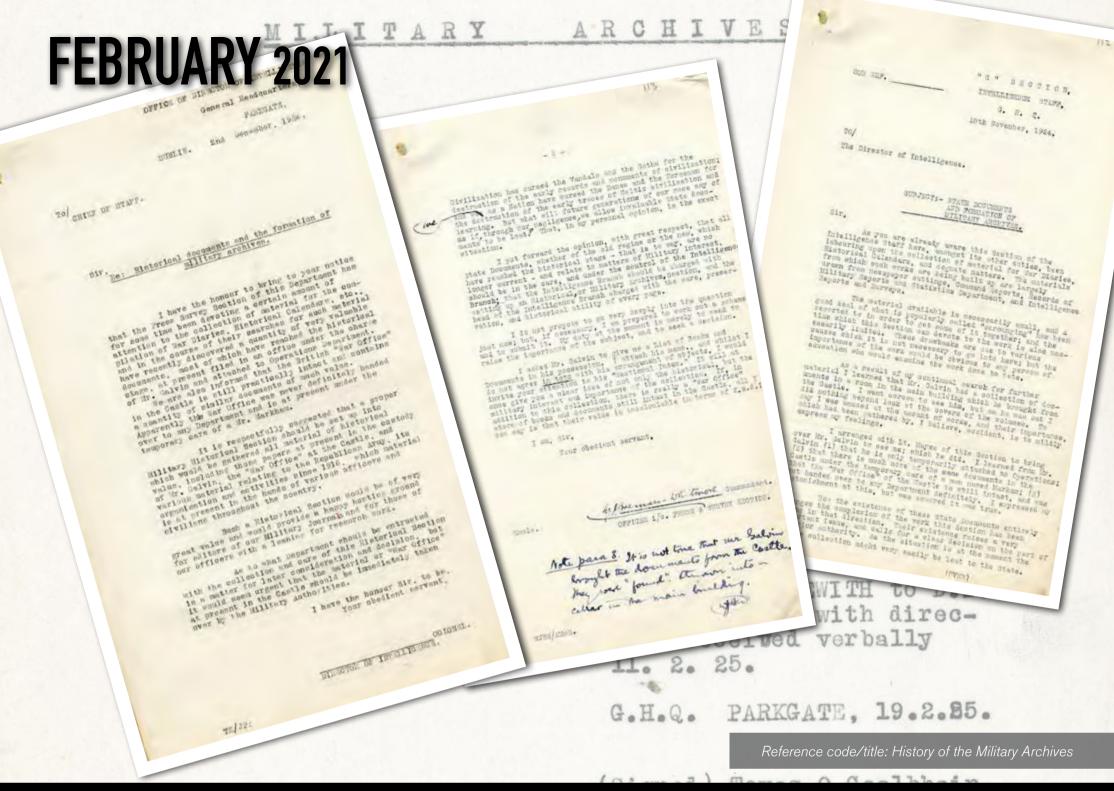
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Two letters from Colonel MJ Costello (Director of Intelligence) and Commandant WJ Brennan-Whitmore (Intelligence Staff Officer). These letters contain the earliest references to the requirement to establish a Military Archives. The initial impetus was in order to assist with the verification of claims under the Army Pensions Act 1923 and Military Service Pensions Act 1924. The Draft Establishment, written in 1925 by Thomas Galvin (records clerk), describes the scale of their ambition for the Military Archives. This ambition would only be fully realised in 2016, thanks to the work begun by Commandant Peter Young in the late nineteen-seventies to re-establish the archives.

Chosen by Commandant Daniel Ayiotis, Officer-in-Charge, Military Archives.

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Dr Bridget Lyons Thornton was the first female veteran to successfully apply for a pension in respect of her service during the Revolutionary Period. She was also the first female commissioned Officer in Óglaigh na hÉireann, gazetted a Lieutenant based in St Bricin's Hospital. She contributed a witness statement to the Bureau of Military History. This ornate Certificate of Service was awarded to her for service with the Air Raid Precautions Organisation during the Emergency 1939-1946. She later supported the case for the introduction of a Women's Service Corps in the Defence Forces.

Chosen by Archivist Noelle Grothier.

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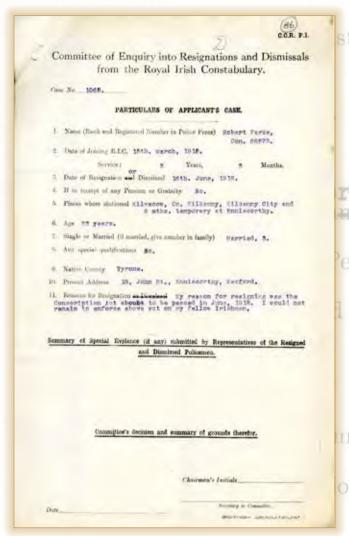


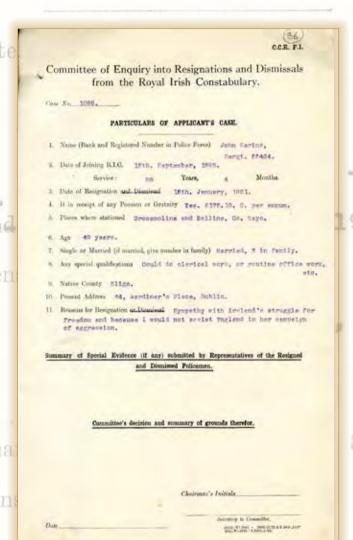


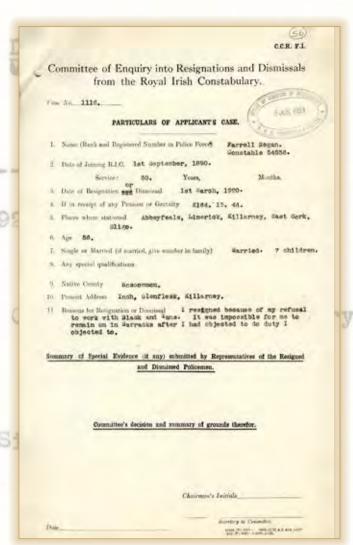
Case No. 1072.

### **APRIL 2021**

#### PARTICULARS OF APPLICANT'S CASE.







9. Native County

Kerry.

Reasons for Resignation or Dismissa

10. Present Address

331, East 19th Street, New York City, U.S.A.

Reference code/title: MIPR-03-13, Military Intelligence and Press Analysis Collection



A sample of Royal Irish Constabulary (R.I.C.) compensation claims. A committee was established 28 November 1922 by Kevin O'Higgins, T.D. Minister of Home Affairs, to enquire into resignations and dismissals from the R.I.C. The committee were required to look into the cases of men who resigned or were dismissed between 21 January 1919 and 11 July 1921. The majority of applications held in Military Archives state their reason for resignation or dismissal as being: sympathy with the national movement, objection to treatment of the population by the Black and Tans, and objection to conscription.

Chosen by Archives Volunteer Gerry McCann (retired Sergeant, Air Corps).

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### MAY 2021





Óglaigh na hÉireann

These photographs depict one of the last attempts at talks between some of the leaders from the Pro- and Anti- Treaty factions, to try and mend the divide between them. The photos are part of the Brother Allen collection, which is now held by Military Archives. Sadly there is not very much detail about the location and circumstances of these 'peace talks', other than they are thought to have taken place in May 1922. The photos themselves are poignant in the relaxed, friendly attitude on display, especially considering the fate of Lynch and Mellows and the years of bitterness that followed the Civil War.

IE-AL-IMG-252: (left to right) Seán MacEoin, Seán Moylan, Eoin O'Duffy, Liam Lynch, Gearóid O'Sullivan, Liam Mel-

Chosen by Archivist Hugh Beckett.

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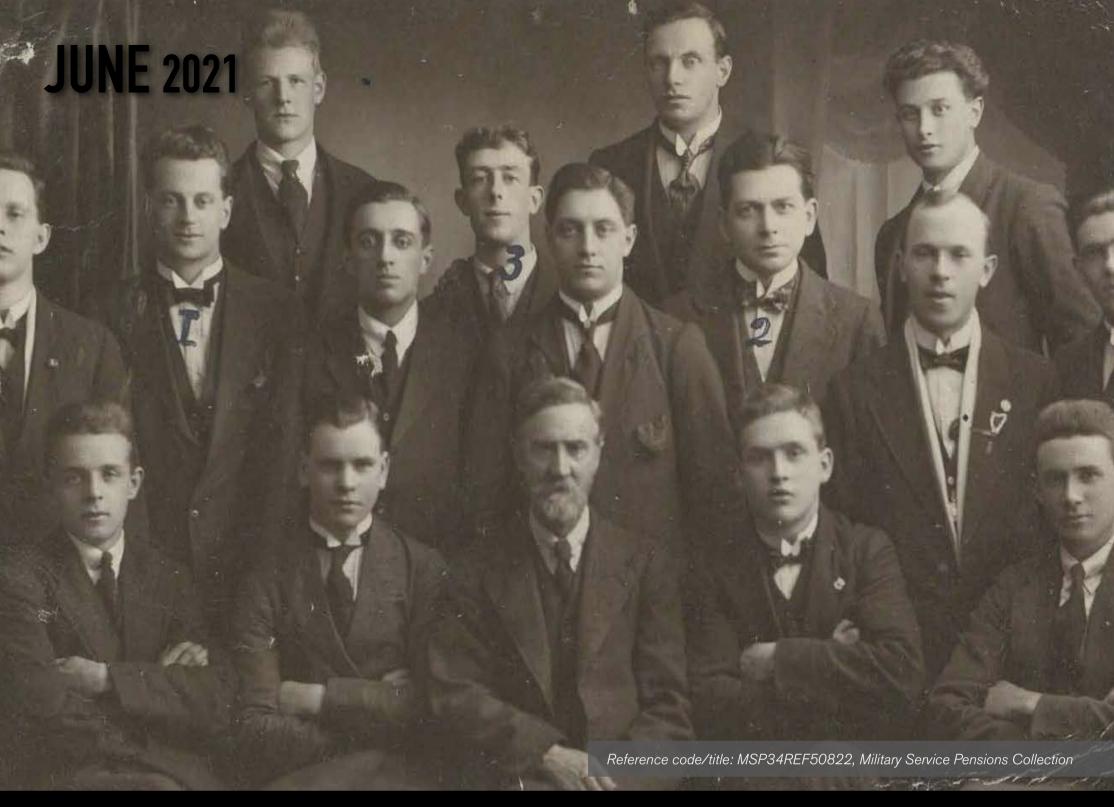
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In November 1920, the IRA in England began its armed campaign. The Manchester IRA's campaign effectively ended in April 1921 following a police raid on an Irish club during which one IRA member was shot dead and three policemen were wounded. The resulting trial in June 1921 saw 16 IRA members convicted to a combined total of 121 years imprisonment. This photo, which shows 16 Manchester IRA members following their release from prison in February 1922, is included in the pension application of James Walsh (MSP34REF50822). Numbers show Captain Charles Harding (1), Commandant Patrick O'Donoghue (2), and James Walsh (3).

Chosen by Archivist Cécile Gordon, Project Manager, Military Service (1916-1923) Pensions Collection.

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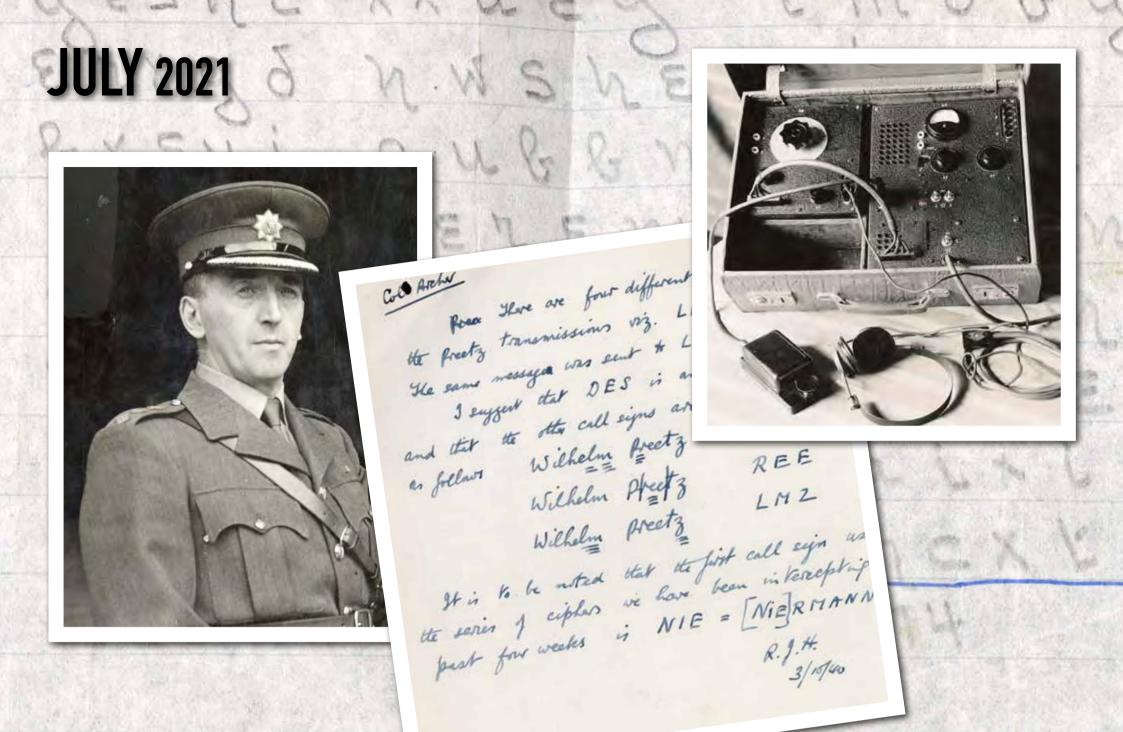
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The G2 (Military Intelligence) collection dating from the Emergency is a work in progress and will be a key focus over the coming years. Cataloguing has yielded a number of new discoveries including evidence of the Wilhelm Preetz case, handled by codebreaker Richard Hayes (Director of the National Library). These documents include: a memo to Colonel Liam Archer (Director of Intelligence) from Hayes dated 3 October 1940; a photo of Colonel Liam Archer; a photograph of a radio transmitting set discovered in rooms rented by Wilhelm Preetz on Westland Row, Dublin; and the 'Preetz Cipher' written in pencil.

Chosen by Archivist Lisa Dolan.

Reference code/title: G2-0265, G2 Intelligence Collection

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Michael Collins, Richard Mulcahy, Kevin O'Higgins and other officers outside the Pro-Cathedral, Dublin at Arthur Griffith's funeral 16 August 1922. Griffith died from a cerebral haemorrhage, 12 August 1922. Collins was killed less than a week later, 22 August 1922.

Chosen by CQMS Tom Mitchell.

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The Minister of Home Affairs,

Dublin.





MANUFACTURERS.

Dear Sir.

On three different occasions we wrote to you re Permit for Electric Sparklers without having an answer. These goods are absolutely harmless and we want a Permit to bring them into Cork and Dublin. we have sold thousands of these in England, and the Minister of yome Affairs there gave us a Permit on our first application, and we cannot understand why you should ignore our correspondence. This is a commercial item and as business is bad and dull enough in the south of Ireland we require all the assistance we can get so as to keep going.

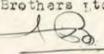
We enclose you a further sample for your examination.

windly give your immediate attention to this letter and you will oblige,

Yours truly.

Muscrave Brothers 1td.

Reference code/title: DOD-A-4874, Departmental A Files





Within this file, there are appeals by large industries seeking to end, or gain exemptions to, a prohibition on hazardous goods such as kerosene or electrical equipment, with thousands of pounds worth of chemicals and items being prohibited from entering the Free State without a permit. This letter is just one of these requests, with an honest take on the disruption the hand over to the Provisional Government was having on merchants. The letter includes a free sample of sparklers (not something you want sitting around in your archive).

Chosen by Archivist Stephen Brady

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## OCTOBER 2021





The aircraft depicted above is a Martinsyde Type A Mark II. This was the first aircraft purchased by the fledgling Irish State in October 1921 at a cost of £2,600. It was capable of carrying four passengers and a pilot and its initial task was to be on standby near London during the Treaty negotiations, in case talks broke down and Michael Collins needed to leave urgently. This situation did not arise and it was later transported to Ireland by ship. The photo above was taken in 1923 for the 24 February edition of "An tÓglach".

Chosen by Archives Volunteer Richard Cummins (retired Lieutenant Colonel, Air Corps).

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# NOVEMBER 2021 DIRECTOR DUBLIN ZOO

DE :

Dear

Reference code/title: 1INFGP-02-28, United Nations Operations in Congo Collection PRCN-0073-01-01, Private Collection

Dear Sir,

In the way that soldiers have, our boys have acquired a monkey. They want to bring the monkey home " even if they have to give it to the Zoo".

They have asked me to make enquiries as to the possibility of

- a. Bringing home the monkey, -leaving him with the Zoo for a limited time, then being allowed to bring him to Limerick.
- b. Bringing home the monkey as an outright gift to the Zoo .
- c. What regulations, inoculations etc are required.

We expect to be returning to Ireland around 10th November, 1961.

Yours Sincerely,

( M.F. QUINIAN)

1st Infantry Group Irish .

COMDT

DESCRIPTION OF MONKEY
Small - less than 3 ft
Tail - about 2 ft



The 1st Infantry Group served overseas in the Congo between May and November 1961. Letters within the Overseas Congo collection make reference to their group mascot, a monkey named Bertie. Commandant M.F. Quinlan wrote to the Director of Dublin Zoo and Royal Zoological Society of Ireland on the 19 October 1961 to ask whether it would be possible to bring Bertie from the Congo home to Ireland. The group were due to return to Ireland in November 1961 and hoped to bring Bertie with them.

Chosen by Archivist Linda Hickey.

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# **DECEMBER 2021**







Reference code/title: Officer's Dress Uniform - 1935



In October 1935 the new Dress Uniform for officers was introduced. Thirteen uniforms existed and the style of the tunic denoted Mounted or Dismounted Corps. Dismounted was single breasted while Mounted is shown as the General Officer example. The General's uniform was black with scarlet and gold facings. A very ornate scarlet collar with gold braid edge, oak leaves and acorns. The Plastron front has six gold buttons each side and two at the top. The ornate cuff is 177mm high. This particular uniform was worn by General Daniel McKenna, Chief of Staff 1940 – 1949.

Chosen by Archives Volunteer James Perkins (retired Flight Sergeant, Air Corps).

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#### 2021 Calendar - Archivist's Choice

The Military Archives has been the official place of deposit for records of the Defence Forces, the Department of Defence and the Army Pensions Board since 1990, as defined in the National Archives Act, 1986. Our brief is to collect material from the foundation of the State up until the present day, including records from overseas missions. From as early as 1924, the National Army, recognising the importance of the Revolutionary period, undertook to preserve historical documents from that time. Some of the earliest collections preserved by the Military Archives include the Collins Papers, Civil War Operations and Intelligence Files and Civil War Captured Documents, which continue to be accessed in our Reading Room today.

As well as serving the evidential, legal and heritage needs of the Defence Forces and the Department of Defence, we provide a range of public services such as family history queries, academic research and supporting television and radio documentaries. We also facilitate visits for second and third level educational institutions along with providing briefings on our collections to various interested groups.

Our 2021 Military Archives Calendar is made up of individual choices from the Archives Team. The Military Archives team is made up of military personnel, civilian archivists, and volunteers, volunteers have been a key part of our team since the mid-1980s. In order to highlight some of our collections, 12 team members were asked to choose an item from a collection that they worked on, or that they had come across, that stood out for them personally. Instead of one theme, we wanted to use this year's calendar to illustrate the broad range of material. The collections featured include: Maps, Plans and Drawings; Military Intelligence and Press Analysis (Civil War); Brother Allen; Military Service Pensions Collection; G2 (Intelligence); Collins Barracks Museum; Private Collections; Department of Defence "A/" Files; United Nations Operations in the Congo; and our Uniforms Collection. Our online and reading room collections can be found on our website www.militaryarchives.ie. Here you can also find our image gallery, previous calendars, online exhibitions and more.



#### CALENDAR 2022

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#### 2021 Calendar - Archivist's Choice

The Military Archives has been the official place of deposit for records of the Defence Forces, the Department of Defence and the Army Pensions Board since 1990, as defined in the National Archives Act, 1986. Our brief is to collect material from the foundation of the State up until the present day, including records from overseas missions. From as early as 1924, the National Army, recognising the importance of the War of Independence, undertook to preserve historical documents from that time. Some of the earliest collections preserved by the Historical Section include the Collins Papers, Civil War Operations and Intelligence files and Captured Documents (Civil War up to 1925), which continue to be made available today.

As well as serving the evidential, legal and heritage needs of the Defence Forces and the Department of Defence, we provide a range of public services such as family history queries, academic research and supplying material for television and radio documentaries. We also facilitate visits for second and third level educational institutions along with providing briefings on our collections to various interested groups.

Our 2021 Military Archives Calendar is made up of individual choices from the Archives Team. The Military Archives team is made up of Military Personnel, Civilian Archivists, and Volunteers. Our volunteer staff have been a key part of our team since the mid-1980s. In order to highlight some of our collections, 12 team members were asked to choose an item from a collection that they worked on, or that they had come across, that stood out. Instead of one theme, we wanted to use this year's calendar to demonstrate a range of material. The collections featured include: Maps, Plans and Drawings; Military Intelligence and Press Analysis (Civil War); Brother Allen; Military Service Pensions Collection; G2 (Intelligence); Collins Museum; Private Collections; Departmental A Files; United Nations Operations in the Congo; and our Uniforms Collections. Our online and reading room collections can be found on our website www.militaryarchives. ie. Here you can also find our image gallery, previous calendars, online exhibitions and more.



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