

2016 MILITARY ARCHIVES CALENDAR 2016

Cover Image:

IE/MA/PC/0336 - Mrs Furlong - 1916 aftermath postcard showing Carlisle Bridge, Sackville Street and Eden Quay.



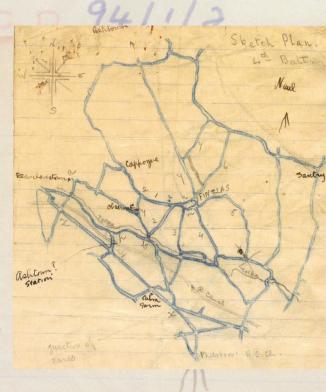


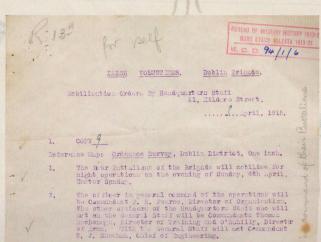
www.militaryarchives.ie

JANUARY

Images: IE/MA/BMH/CD/105/2/6 Senior Irish Volunteer Officers in training camp in [Athlone] 1915 (left). BMH CD094 1 2 Sketch Map for manoeuvres (top right). IE/MA/BMH/CD/094/1/6 Cropped part of the Mobilisation Order, dated 3rd April, 1915, for the Easter Manoeuvres (bottom right).







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JANUARY:

During 1915, there was an increased focus on expanding military training for the officers and men of the Irish Volunteers. Large-scale training exercises, such as the Easter Manoeuvres held in North Dublin, were a helpful 'dry-run' to aid planning for a potential insurrection.

The Military Council of the IRB was set up the following May, linked to efforts by Roger Casement and Joseph Plunkett to gain support for a rising from the Germans.

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FEBRUARY

Images: IE/MA/BMH/CD/045/02/14 Photograph of Banna Strand, taken from evidence used in

Roger Casement's trial (left).

IE/MA/BMH/CD/045/02/14 Photograph of the collapsible boat used by Roger Casement to get from the German submarine, U19, to the shore at Banna Strand, taken from evidence used in Casement's trial (top right).

IE/MA/BMH/CD/189/2/3 Photograph of the car which crashed into the River Laune at Ballykissane Pier on Good Friday, 21st April 1916 (bottom right).







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FEBRUARY:

German arms for the rising were sent to Ireland aboard the S.S. "Libau", which was disguised and renamed as the "Aud". It anchored at Inistooskert on 20th April 1916, but there was no sign of either Roger Casement, or the party of Irish Volunteers travelling there in two cars to help bring the arms ashore.

While steaming away, it was intercepted by British ships and the ship was scuttled by the crew on 21st April. Casement did not reach Banna Strand off the U-Boat U19 until the early morning of the 21st April, while all but one of the Volunteers, in one of the cars, were tragically drowned when it crashed into the River Laune off Ballykissane Pier that same night.

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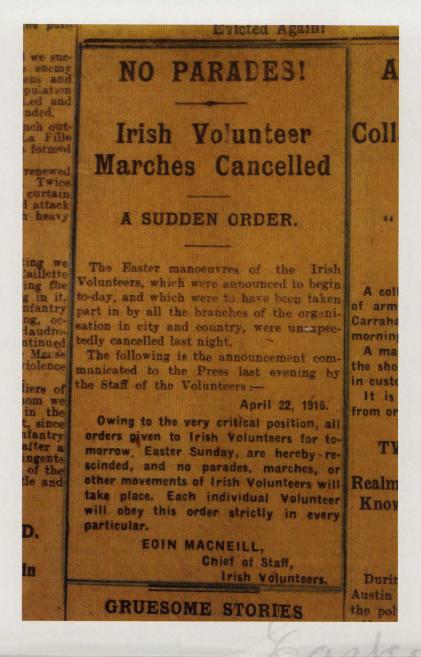


MARCH

Monday

Images:

IE/AL/1916/246 (courtesy of the Allen Library) The countermanding order from Eoin MacNeill as it appeared in the Sunday Independent on 23rd April 1916 (left). IE/MA/BMH/CD/288/4 Letter, dated "Easter Sunday", from Eoin MacNeill, Woodtown Park, Rathfarnham, Co. Dublin, to Reverend Father Eugene Nevin, C.P., authenticating his countermanding order which appeared in that day's "Sunday Independent" (middle).



Tuesday

Wednesday

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BURO STAIRE MILEATA 1913-21.

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Sunday



IE/MA/BMH/P/17 close-up of Eoin MacNeill taken from the group photograph of released internees at the Mansion House. (above).

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Thursday

Friday

MARCH:

Eoin MacNeill, having apparently only heard about the Rising plans on the 20th April, may have been persuaded from cancelling these plans when he was told that a shipment of German arms was soon to be landed down in Kerry.

However, once the news filtered through of the failed operation and the scuttling of the 'Aud', among other things, MacNeill made the decision to issue the countermanding order in the Sunday Independent to reach as many of the Irish Volunteers as possible. Senior members of the Volunteer Executive, including Connolly, Ceannt and MacDonagh, hastily met up later on Easter Sunday and decided to go ahead with the rising as previously planned.

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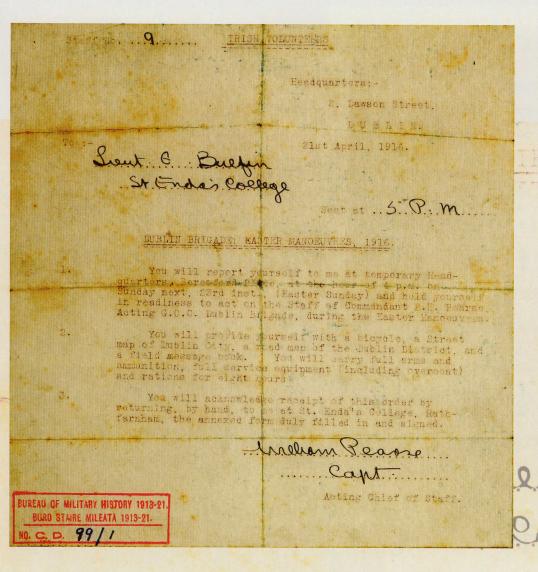


APRIL

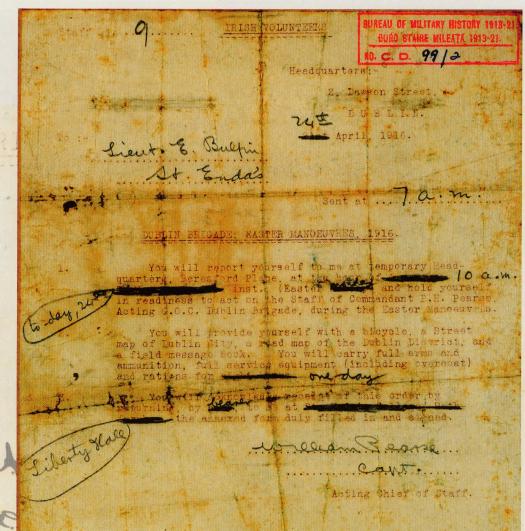
Images:

IE/MA/BMH/CD/099/1 First
Mobilisation Order, 21st April 1916,
to Eamon Bulfin for Easter manoeuvres,
signed by William Pearse, Captain. (left).

IE/MA/BMH/CD/099/2 Second Mobilisation Order, 24th April 1916, to Eamon Bulfin for Easter manoeuvres, amended and signed by William Pearse, Captain (middle).



Opening of new Military Archives



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APRIL:

Even though the countermanding order had thrown preparations into chaos, members of the Volunteer Executive met on Easter Sunday (without Eoin MacNeill) and decided to go ahead with the rising.

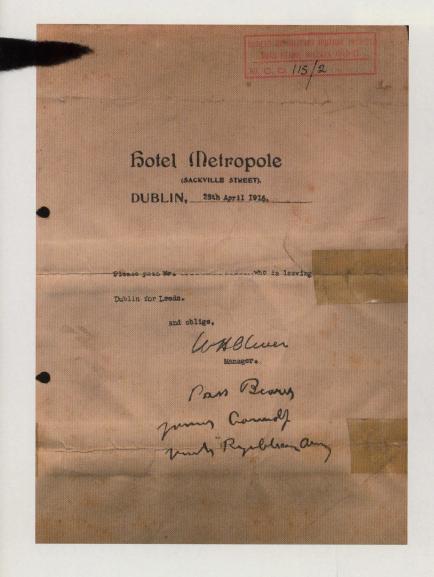
Their main problem was getting word out to as many Volunteers as possible that all operations were back on and there was no time to print a new mobilisation order, so they had to quickly amend the previous one from the 21st.

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MAY





Images: IE/MA/BMH/CD/115/2 Metropole Hotel Pass countersigned on 25th April by James Connolly (left).

IE/MA/PC/0336 Mrs Furlong – Easter Rising aftermath photograph showing remains of Metropole Hotel (above).

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MAY:

Members of 2nd Battalion, Dublin Brigade, who paraded for action in the north east inner city area were ordered to consolidate and return towards the GPO, as some of the preplanned posts that were being held were becoming untenable as British forces advanced.

Once at the GPO, a group under Lieutenant Oscar Traynor was ordered to occupy and fortify the Metropole Hotel, ejecting the guests and setting up a secure pass system for entry, while also tunnelling through the buildings down towards Abbey Street, to link the whole block together.

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