

2/48459. 7.6.21.
Wt. 41081/3705 200M. 3/49 V.P.Co. 51-5307.

W035
125
/42

16/ 228/30

Army Form A3091 (Foolscap)

Cover for Documents

Nature of Enclosures.

Bounts Martial Privileges.

Parish Jordan to 5 others

Laying War at Kilmeena 19/5/21

INSPECTION
PERMITTED
UNDER
S 5(4)

Notes, or Letters written.

CLOSED
UNTIL

2023

PROCEEDINGS of a* Court of Inquiry.

*N.B. — The Form being applicable to any Board of Officers, or Committee, or Court of Inquiry, this blank to be filled in accordingly.

The proceedings should be signed by each Officer composing the Board, etc.

assembled at Westport.

on the 21st day of May 1921.

by order of Colonel Commandant J.G. Chaplin, D.S.O.

Commanding Galway Brigade.

for the purpose of enquiring into and reporting upon
the death of Constable Henry Beckett, R.I.C.

PRESIDENT.

Certified that
no Field Officer
was available to
act as President.

Captain A.V.H. Wood, 2nd Border Regiment.

MEMBERS.

Lieut P.J.H. Cobb, 2nd Border Regiment.

Lieut T. Gronow, 2nd Border Regiment.

IN ATTENDANCE.

The Court having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to
take evidence.

1st Witness.
=====

Sergeant F.Greegan R.I.C. being duly sworn states:-

On the 19th May 1921 at about 1530 hours, I was with a party of police in two Crossleys and 1 Ford Car. We were proceeding to NEWPORT. On reaching CLOONEEN, KILMEENA, we were ambushed by about sixty men. We got out of our cars and after about quarter of an hours fighting Constable BECKETT was shot in the head and killed immediately.

(Signed). F.Greegan, Sgt. 59658.

2nd Witness.
=====

District-Inspector P.Donnellon, R.I.C. being duly sworn states:-

I have viewed the body lying in the R.I.C.Barracks and identify it as that of Constable H.BECKETT of Westport Police Barracks, who was shot in the ambush on the 19th May 1921.

(Signed). P.Donnellon, D.I.

3rd Witness.
=====

Constable S.A.Blythe, R.I.C. being duly sworn states:-

On the 19th May at about 1530 hours I was one of a party of police proceedings from Westport to Newport. We were ambushed at KILMEENA and after the first volley we got out of our cars and after about 20 minutes fighting I saw Constable BECKETT who was near me fall down. When I reached him I found he was dead, he had been shot in the left eye and the bullet came out on the top of his head. He was also hit in other places. After the fighting was over we put the body in a Crossley and took it into Westport Barracks. I identify the body as that of Constable H.BECKETT. His age was 27 yrs.unmarried.
Sd. Blyte S.A.

4th Witness.
=====

Doctor French O'Rorke of Westport, being duly sworn
states:-

About 1800 hours on May 19th., I examined on the road-
side at KILMEENA, adjacent to Father Conroy's house, the body of
Constable Henry BECKETT. I found a bullet wound entering left
eye and going out by occiput, also a very large wound through
thigh. Death was instantaneous and caused by gun-shot wounds.

(Signed). F.French O'Rorke.

V E R D I C T.
=====

The Court having duly considered the evidence laid before
it are of the opinion that Constable Henry BECKETT was wilfully
murdered by a person or persons unknown during the ambush of
police at KILMEENA.

Signed at WESTPORT, this 21st day of May 1921.

(Sd.). A.V.H.Wood, Captain.
2nd Border Regiment.

PRESIDENT.

(Sd.). P.J.H.Oobb, Lieut.
2nd Border Regiment.

MEMBERS.

(Sd.). T.Gronow, Lieut.
2nd Border Regiment.

I concur.

(Sd.). J.G.Chaplin, Colonel.
Colonel Commandant.
The Galway Brigade.

Galway.
May 27th 1921.

For the remarks of the G.O.C.

Curragh Camp.

Major-General.
Commanding 5th Division.

Any reply to this communication should
be addressed to :—

THE UNDER SECRETARY,
DUBLIN CASTLE,
and the following number quoted.

CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE

DUBLIN CASTLE,



45293

Transfer of unconvicted prisoners
from Galway to Liverpool Prison.

748459
757508

Deputy Adjutant General,

I am directed by the Lords Justices to request
that you would have detention orders by the C.M.A. for
Liverpool Prison sent here as soon as possible for the
under noted prisoners recently transferred there from
Galway Prison

I In the form in Second Schedule to the R.O.I.R. for

748459

1. John Cannon of Westport : levying war
against the Crown at Kilmeena, Co. Mayo on
the 19th May, 1921; date of Commitment
Warrant 23rd June, 1921.

748459

2. Patrick Moran of Westport : similar charge
and dates.

Co. Mayo. 757508

3. Thomas Loftus : ambush of Police at Clydagh;
date of Commitment Warrant 5th July, 1921.

II For detention as persons committed on remand
until it has been determined whether they are
to be proceed^{ed} against for

748459

1. John Pierce of Westport : attempted murder of
Police; date of Commitment Warrant 26th Sept. 1921.

Co. Mayo

757508

2. & 3. Eamonn Gannon & Bartley Hegarty : Bally-
castle ambush; date of Commitment Warrant,
7th July, 1921.

The above named prisoners were detained in Galway
Prison on detention orders^{similar} to those referred to above.

W. F. O'Connell 2-12-21

Galway,
30-11-21.

Copy to :- H.Q., 5th Division.

Colonel Commandant.
The Galway Brigade.

(about on duty)

JK

CENTRAL REGISTER
G.H.Q., IRELAND
PARKGATE, DUBLIN
230601821

25

No. 2/RO/337.

748459

To:-
G.H.Q., Ireland.

Reference 2/RO/336 dated 4-6-21, 6-7-21 and
2/RO/337 dated 3-9-21.

May instructions now be issued in the case of
the following men :-

John Cannon Westport. ✓

Thomas Nolan Castlebar. •

Patrick Malley Newport. ✓

Patrick Moran Newport. ✓

John Pierce Dublin. ✓

These men are charged with Levying War against
the Crown at Kilmeena.

Patrick O'Malley has been in Hospital in Dublin,
but is now fit for removal.

Thomas Nolan was released without prejudice under
C.R.I.C. 2/48459/.R.O. dated 22-10-21.

Will you please say if he should be re-arrested.

Subject to the suspension of political cases, this
case is now ready to proceed.

Galway,
30-11-21.

Copy to :- H.Q., 5th Division.

V. Underhill
for Colonel.
Colonel Commandant.
The Galway Brigade.
(Absent on duty)

JK

HEADQUARTERS
R. O. BRANCH
23 SEP 1921
COMMAND

C O P Y

THOMAS NOLAN

The Hospital Ward,
Kilmainham Jail.
Dublin.
10.10.21.

50th

To:-
The Adjutant.

Sir,

Through you I wish to inform your Authorities that I apply for release on the following grounds. As you are aware, I am now incapacitated as I had a leg removed in King George V. Hospital. This serious operation has undermined my health very much so that at present I am almost a wreck physically. I was removed to this prison on the 8.10.21 and am detained in this hospital ward here so that I cannot get much exercise on crutches. I hope you will give this appeal your earnest consideration.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) Thomas Nolan.

HL

16-9-21

R.A.M. L

16th September 1921.

Answered by (15) on file
AB 19.9.21

HL

IN ATTENDANCE.

The Court having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to
take evidence.