

Donegal County Archives

P/183

**The papers of Superintendent
JOSEPH MURRAY**

Superintendent Joseph Murray

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Introduction to the papers of Superintendent Joseph Murray

The collection of archives relating to the life of Joseph Murray was donated to Donegal County Archives in 2010 by Mr Murray's son, Patrick. The collection has been given the overall reference number P/183 and has been divided into sections including Accounts of Joseph Murray's life; Training and Career in Education; War of Independence & Early Truce; Early Civil War; GAA; Personal Life; Tributes; Pension; Pensions of Others; Photographs; Membership of Garda Siochana; Ephemera.

Joseph Murray was born in County Monaghan on 15 March 1893, son of Charles and Mary Murray. He attended the local Christian Brothers School in Monaghan until 1909. He trained as a teacher in St Patrick's College, Drumcondra. He was awarded a First Grade Certificate of Merit in the college after two years of study, qualifying as a teacher in July 1914. Among the papers in this collection are the original teaching certificates obtained by Murray in 1914 at St Patrick's College and the memorandum of agreement between himself and the principal of Bundoran National School which employed him as assistant teacher from 1916. (P/183/2/2/3).

Before being appointed to work in Bundoran he had worked for short periods in Monaghan and Loughrea, Co Galway. In 1923, a former principal of the boys' school in Bundoran, Reverend Quigley, testified to Murray's excellence as a resident master with this school in Bundoran stating: 'during that time he gained the highest esteem by his splendid fidelity to his duty and his kindness and success with his pupils'. (P/183/2/3/3).

For some of this time he lived in the boys' orphanage in Bundoran. He became involved with the GAA and the Gaelic League, life long interests.

Clearly identified as a man with leadership qualities from a young age, in late 1917 Murray was asked by Ben Maguire, independent TD for Leitrim, to organise a company of the Volunteers in Bundoran. Initially Murray did not take a rank and stayed in the background as an intelligence officer, thus preventing too much attention being drawn to his activities. During the definitive 1918 General Election Murray campaigned for Sinn Fein candidate P J Ward in Killybegs and the surrounding area. (P/183/1/3)

Irish Volunteers companies were organised into battalions in south Donegal by the end of 1919. Bundoran was the No. 1 Battalion, with Companies from Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Belleek, Kinlough, Tullaghan, Ballintra and Donegal Town.

Mid 1920 to mid 1921 saw the greatest level of IRA activity in south Donegal during the War of Independence. Murray became involved in various raids and attacks on the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) and British forces, including a raid on the Customs office in Ballyshannon on 30 May 1920. Other activities included a raid on the RIC barracks in Belleek in September 1920 (P/183/3). Among the documents in this collection are Murray's Sinn Fein membership card for 1921 – 1922 (P/183/3/13).

Following the arrest of two important local figures, Thomas McShea and John Johnston in early April 1921, Murray was elected Vice Officer Commanding (O/C) at a meeting of Battalion staff and Company officers. After the murder by the RIC of the father of Captain James Connolly, the captain of Kinlough Company, Murray became more openly active. He left the orphanage where he had been staying and resigned his post there. Shortly after this, he directed a raid on the Bundoran railway station and the destruction of Belfast goods which had been boycotted (P/183/1/3). Raids on post offices and businesses in Bundoran continued until the Truce on 11 July 1921 (P/183/3/6).

Included in the collection are army manuals, memoranda and telegrams and reports on activities from the First Battalion, Fourth Brigade (P/183/3).

A Truce was announced between the British forces and the IRA on 11 July 1921. The richest collection of archival material dates from the period of the Truce to the outbreak of Civil War. Included is correspondence between Colonel Wickham and Eoin O'Duffy, both in Belfast, relating to the theft of a typewriter from Ballintra railway station goods store on the 20th of July- a breach of the Truce (P/183/3/7/1) and other letters relating to a threatening letter (P/183/3/7/3) and the dismantling of the Donegal Vindicator's printing press (P/183/3/7/2). Activities deemed to be acceptable that took place during the Truce included the continued training of Volunteers and 'field engineers', and Battalion and Brigade meetings as the documents in the collection reflect. (P/183/3/8).

Joseph Murray's rank during the War of Independence/Truce period varied from 'Adjutant' in the Fourth Brigade, First Northern Division, to Officer Commanding (O/C) to Vice Brigadier. Ranks were not established entities at the time, yet it is worth noting that the majority of memoranda in this collection do not refer to the correspondents by name, only by rank.

Memoranda also refer to British prisoners, notably Albert Thompson and Albert Yorke (P/183/4/4/13 - P/183/3/4/14), both of whom were captured by the IRA during the War of Independence.

In spite of the maintenance of a Truce, breaches occurred and one of the worst of these took place from 27th May to the 1st of June, 1922 in Belleek and Pettigo when battles took place between the IRA and the B-Specials. Several documents

refer to these crucial events which resulted in the deaths of four members of the IRA and several B Specials (P/183/4/1/1 – P/183/4/1/13); (P/183/4/4/24).

During the Truce even prior to the Civil War individuals were held in prisons and prison camps, as a number of the documents indicate. For example, in a letter written in December 1921 to the Belfast Prison Governor Murray asked for permission to visit two IRA prisoners who were in jail in Derry, charged with the murder of a police officer (P/183/3/8/19). There are also a few letters written from people in prison camps, including one from a Michael O'Loughlin, detained in Finner Camp (probably by Pro-Treaty forces during the early period of the Civil War) for, in his own words, 'obeying the orders of the man who was above me since the start. If we did not obey them we would be told we were cowards – we got no money out of the whole show only what we lost.' He asks to be let out on parole though he does say that he 'can't complain of our treatment as I could live here for the rest of my life....but I have six acres of meadow to cut ...'. (P/183/4/3/1).

Other notable documents in this time period include memoranda from Seán MacCumhaill (McCool) to Murray as Vice Brigadier, summoning him to Council meetings (e.g. P/183/4/4/1). Shortly after the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty (6 December 1921), a memo was issued to Murray which reflected the increasing desperation of the Army to prevent a split during the rapidly brewing political storm. G. Glennon, a Divisional Adjutant, ordered that 'no volunteer is to take part in any discussion on the present Peace Treaty as a member of the Army. The Army as such is to be kept free from politics and any man wishing to express his views may do so through a Sinn Fein Club. ' Aware that the British Army and B Specials were still keeping an unwelcome presence in the locality, an IRA memo warned Murray and other Army personnel to 'take every precaution for their own safety, keep a vigilant eye on the movements of B Specials, insure all arms are under control, and to take step to prevent any 'incendiary action by specials'. (P/183/4/4/11).

By March that year the political situation had worsened and the Commandant General at Drumboe Castle noted that an announcement in that day's *Irish Press* called for a convention which was 'prohibited by order of the Dáil Cabinet' and ordering him to instruct 'all responsible officers that no delegates are to be allowed to attend any such convention that is to be held on Sunday.' (P/183/4/4/17).

The Onset of the Civil War and the decisive split in the IRA are flagged in the collection by references in memoranda and despatches to the 'Executive Forces' meaning the burgeoning forces of the Anti-Treaty IRA. Examples are in the archival material relating to the Belleek/Pettigo battles in May and June 1922. A 1st Division memo to Murray reports that the B Specials 'crossed Lough Erne and took up position in Magheramore Castle' and were 'later...attacked by 'Executive Forces' about Belleek and battle ensued.' (P/183/4/1/6). Another report to Murray

on 27 May warns of a greatly increased level of activity from the Executive Forces, and cites numerous raids, especially on motor garages, threats of violence, and arrests made of men alleged to be cattle thieves. The report also states that 'it has since come to my learning that these men have been handed over to the Dáil troops in Sligo'. (P/183/4/5/3).

Correspondence includes of those like Daniel Harkin, captured by the Pro-Treaty forces. (P/183/4/3/11). This handwritten statement of August 1922 refers to his arrest on the evening of 8 July outside the chapel in Bundoran and subsequent detention without charge. Among the original despatches and memoranda are two undated handwritten memos from Seán Mac Cumhaill to Vice-Brigadier Murray, one commanding Murray to preside over brigade council meetings in Ballyshannon training camp and Ballybofey HQ. (P/183/4/4/1).

Also included in the collection are a number of newspaper accounts of key events during the Civil War, including the deaths of Michael Collins and Arthur Griffith and the first anniversary of the Anglo-Irish Treaty (P/183/4/6/1 - P/183/4/6/5).

The collection also includes a file of correspondence mainly between Murray and the Department of Defence relating to Murray's application for a military pension under the 1924 Military Service Pensions Act (P/183/8/2/1). There are also a number of handwritten letters from fellow former members of the IRA, to Joseph Murray, supporting his application. (P/183/8/2/2 - (P/183/8/2/7). The collection also consists of letters written by men in the 1930s, seeking the support of Murray for their own military service IRA pensions and in many cases supplying details of their participation in the War of Independence and their involvement with Murray (P/183/9/1 - P/183/9/11).

There are a small number of photographs, such as a portrait of a young Joseph Murray in early garda uniform (possibly taken in 1923); a photograph of Murray in army/garda cap and greatcoat, holding a gun (1921-23) and photographs of him in Garda uniform, probably in the 1930s (P/183/10/1 - P/183/10/3). There is also a postcard photograph of 24 young men including Murray during the War of Independence. All are carrying guns (P/183/10/4).

Lastly the collection contains several letters and newspaper cuttings of tributes to Joseph Murray, on leaving particular Garda posts, on retirement and on death. His War of Independence Service Medal is part of the collection (P/183/7/3). One letter written in 1939 on his departure refers to the 'impartiality, unparalleled consideration, fairness and genuineness with which you always met us as an officer and a comrade,...as a deep and heartfelt regret at your departure from our charge' (P/183/7/1/4). Another letter praises him for his 'genius' in developing the Local Defence Force (LDF) during the Emergency years while he was stationed in Killaloe (P/183/7/1/5).

Lastly a unique handwritten poem by Joseph Murray entitled The Tricolour which begins: 'Immortal as the ivy plant which clings on wall and tree when autumn leaves have fled...' The poem is testimony to the strong sense of patriotism felt by Murray which is reflected not just in his own words but in the actions which are so well documented in these papers. (P/183/11/1/1).

Donegal County Archives and Donegal County Council are delighted to be the recipient of this prestigious collection which is of such military and political historical significance and would particularly like to thank the Murray family, especially Mr Patrick Murray who donated the collection to the Archives.

Dr Niamh Brennan,
Archivist
Donegal County Archives
June 2011

P/183/1 **Accounts of the life of Joseph Murray**

P/183/1/1

Typescript account of the life of Joe Murray to his retirement, on 14 March 1958.
1 document.

P/183/1/2

Handwritten account of the life of Joe Murray, 1893 – 1975, including education, War of Independence, career as garda, GAA and Gaelic League involvement.
1 document.

P/183/1/3

Account of activities of Joseph Murray during War of Independence:

The document is bound and typescript. The cover is handwritten as 'Military Historical Society statement given by Brigadier Joe Murray, O/C with Brigade, South West Donegal, 4th Northern Division, to Colonel Seamus Conway for the Army. My history of Events 1917 – 1922'.

Murray states that he was approached by Mr Ben Maguire, now Independent TD for Leitrim, with a view to organising a company of Irish Volunteers in Bundoran. At that stage Murray did not take a rank but worked behind the scenes and as an Intelligence officer for the Company. When his school closed due to flu in 1918, he accepted the job as electioneering agent for Sinn Fein candidate, PJ Ward, in Killybegs, Teelan, Carrick and Glencolmcille, during the General Election. Murray resided with a sister of Ward who was elected as a TD and who was also in the fourth brigade. He refers to a pre-election meeting in Ballyshannon addressed by Eamon de Valera. Also refers to a meeting at which Maud Gonne did not show; mentions a ban by British authorities in 1920 of GAA matches and despite this of going ahead with such games; and refers to the organisation of companies into battalions.

Murray describes the first major event he was involved in as a raid on the Customs office in Ballyshannon, 30 May 1920. He describes his work in Gortahork while attending Irish college, being transferred to Cloughaneely Company, First Donegal brigade. He details the surrender of R.I.C. men at a fair day in Gortahork on 6 August 1920; attacks on barracks at Bundoran and Ballyshannon; and a surprise raid on Belleek barracks.

After the murder by the RIC of the father of Captain James Connolly, captain of Kinlough Company, Murray says he became more openly active, left the orphanage where he had been staying and resigned his post there. Other attacks included at Tempo, County Fermanagh, and the destruction of Belfast boycotted goods at Bundoran railway station in April 1921.

Murray was elected vice Officer Commanding (O/C) at a meeting of battalion staff and Company officers after two arrests (Tom McShea and Pappy Johnston). The Fourth Brigade comprised three battalions.

1 document.

P/183/1/4

Letter from Seamus Conway, Bureau of Military History, to Superintendent Joseph Murray, 18 May 1956, stating that the bureau is anxious to have a record of his activities and of his unit's activities in Donegal from his first association with Sinn Fein and the Irish Volunteer movement until the Truce in July 1921. Conway states that any statement he gives will be treated with the 'utmost secrecy' and will not be 'released for perusal until 50 years hence, when future historians will be able to record an accurate picture of the period for future generations.' He states further that he has already received statements from Patrick Breslin, Denis Houston and John McMonagle. James McCole's statement is not finished yet.

18 May 1956

1 item.

P/183/2 Training and career in education

P/183/2/1

Certificates

P/183/2/1/1

St Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, First Grade Certificate awarded to Joseph Murray, in July 1914, 'having fulfilled all necessary conditions as to conduct, religious knowledge, method of teaching...and passed the college examinations in Music and Irish.' Signed by principal of college.

1 item.

P/183/2/1/2

St Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, Certificate of Training awarded to Joseph Murray, having successfully completed a two years' course in the college in July 1914, and having duly registered as a trained teacher by the Commissioners of Education. A handwritten testament from the Principal of the college testifies that Mr Murray 'gave every satisfaction to the college authorities and to the professors by his strict observance of college rule and application to study.'

July 1914

1 page.

P/183/2/2

Memoranda

P/183/2/2/1

Handwritten memorandum from J E Flynn, on headed St Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, notepaper, to Joseph Murray, stating the Very Rev Michael Quinn, adm, Parochial House, Armagh, will have a vacancy for a teacher on 1st October next. 'Vocal music essential'. Requests Murray to make application for the post.

10 October 1914

1 item.

P/183/2/2/2

Memorandum of an agreement made on 5 October 1914 between Rev. H. Brennan, local manager of St Brendan's Boys National School, and Joseph Murray, in which the school agrees to employ Murray from 10 September 1914; with salary allowed by the Commissioners of National Education, Ireland.

Signed in presence of Owen Killoran, Loughrea, national teacher. Signed by H Brennan, manager, Joseph Murray and William Kelly, inspector.

5 October 1914

1 item.

P/183/2/2/3

Memorandum of an agreement made between Very Rev. P. Cannon McDonnell, PP, local manager of Bundoran Boys School and Joseph Murray in which the school agrees to employ Murray as assistant teacher from 3 October 1916; with salary allowed by the Commissioners of National Education, Ireland. Signed Canon McDonnell, manager, Joseph Murray and C.P. Dardis, inspector.

30 November 1916

1 item.

P/183/2/3

Correspondence

P/183/2/3/1

Typescript Letter from the Office of National Education to Joseph Murray, assistant teacher, Bundoran, (Roll 11554), informing him that his revised salary scale from 1 April 1920 is £230. Gives details on increments accruable.

April 1920

P/183/2/3/2

Extract from handwritten letter from [] to Joseph Murray, referring to a Miss McMenamin, Ballintra, stating that she 'failed to gain a pass at the [] examinations' and asking that Murray 'interest' himself in her case and advise her as to what course she should adopt in the circumstances. States he thinks 'she would to my mind make a splendid teacher'.

Undated. 31 August 19[]

1 item.

P/183/2/3/3

Handwritten testimony by Reverend [] Quigley, PP, Rock com, Co Monaghan, Feb 1923, stating that Murray was a resident master with this school in Bundoran for some years. 'During that time he gained the highest esteem by his splendid fidelity to his duty and his kindness and success with his pupils. I felt always when leaving for a few hours that the school and all things great and small belonging to it would be faithfully attended to by Mr Murray. It is a pleasure to recommend him for any post of trust or fidelity. He is a teetotaller.'

February 1923

1 item.

P/183/3

War of Independence & early post truce

P/183/3/1

Amy personnel

P/183/3/1/1

Handwritten list of 2nd battalion 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division, Company Officers of Special Services and Section Commanders and Battalion staff

1 December 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/1/2

Handrawn map of stations, routes a and b, (for staging ambushes or avoiding RIC patrols?). Goes from Cloghan to Gleneely, Lissmullyduff, Ballymongan, Lettercran, Pettigo, Ederney, Belleek, Ballyshannon, Ballintra, Donegal, Laghey, Townaswilly.

19 Dec 1921
3 pp. (1) – (3)

P/183/3/1/3

Handwritten list giving battalion personnel, those 'loyal and those 'for []' No names of individuals given.

Undated
1 item.

P/183/3/2 Manuals

P/183/3/2/1

Oglaigh na hÉireann Department of Training General HQ, Memo No 3, Orders for Guards and Sentries.

Printed 6 pp.
Undated

P/183/3/2/2

Oglaigh na hÉireann Training Manual: Irish Republican Army Official Publication.

Undated
22 pp

P/183/3/2/3

Publication: Oglaigh na hÉireann: The organisation of the Irish Republican Army.

Undated
30 pp

P/183/3/2/4

Oglaigh na hÉireann Engineering Handbook No.1; Irish Army Official Publications Includes introduction by Director of Engineering, June 1921.

Good condition.

1 booklet. 82 pp.

P/183/3/3

Blank IRA materials

Material includes Oglaigh na hÉireann, Ballyshannon Command, 1st Northern Division, permit card for [blank] to be out of doors during curfew hours at Bundoran tonight. It had to be signed, dated and returned to barracks the next day. No name or date on it. (1921). Also includes blank Oglaigh na hÉireann battalion, 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division reports 1921, reports of Battalion Captain of Transport and Supply; blank time sheets per station; and blank Oglaigh na hÉireann headed letters; blank service sheets.

C 10 items.

P/183/3/4

Memoranda from 1st Northern Division

P/183/3/4/1

Memo headed in print 'Oglaigh na hÉireann Brigade Headquarters 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division', from [J J David?] and A. G. Yorke, stating that for the past month 'being held as hostage in the hands of the IRA we were treated in the best possible way and have no fault to find with anyone.'

8 March 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/4/2

Handwritten pencilled report from 1st Battalion, 'South Donegal Brigade' for April 1921, stating the strength of company is 40, there have been two meetings and no general parades. States that acting on instructions from brigade 'dismantled Donegal Vindicator Printing machinery for hindering Belfast boycott. Machinery repaired soon after. Enemy military policy carry on as last month.'

Signed 'Adjutant'

April 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/4/3

Handwritten pencilled report from 1st Battalion, 'St Donegal Brigade' for May 1921, stating the strength of the company is 40; there have been three meetings and that they are 'arranging for pushing of Belfast boycott principal work for month. Military and police go out less often than last month.'

Signed 'Adjutant'.

May 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/4/4

Handwritten pencilled report from 1st Battalion, 'South Donegal Brigade' for June 1921, stating the 80 bags of oatmeal were destroyed with brushes and other goods at Donegal railway stations 'being from and through Belfast. Enemy military and policy active at beginning of month but not so active towards end.'

Signed 'Adjutant'.

June 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/4/5

Handwritten memorandum 'in haste' from brigade O/C to [], requesting [] to 'notify Battalions Commandants that the news of Truce as it appeared in the press is to be taken as official.

With envelope.

11 July 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/5

Correspondence

Letter from P Mac[] to Joe, City Hotel, [Derry], undated, thanking him for his kindness to 'us and also to say we got your parcels alright after your departure from the maiden city.' Says ceilidh was well advertised. Says is sending Murray a 'black list' that 'was circulated here, all those names mark out people who paid 50 pounds as a fine of course. Says pen is running out and cannot write much more.

Undated. [1921]

1 item

P/183/3/6

War of Independence Report

A Company 1st Battalion reports for IRA

Handwritten pencilled report for April - June 1921 written by Jim Murphy on a children's exercise book. Lists arrests by crown forces including of Thomas McShea, Patrick Johnston and others, raids on railway station, military activity during the month in the district, election of officers, town raid planned for Bundoran which 'fell through, enough members did not attend', successfully carried out since, arrests during month, raid on post office in Bundoran, arrest of members not attending meetings or musters, holding up of Kinlough postman, trenching of roads, bridges blown up in border areas

(1) – (4)

April - June 1921

4 pp

P/183/3/7

IRA raids and threats after the Truce (11 July 1921)

P/183/3/7/1

26 July 1921

Letter from Colonel Wickham, Lieutenant Colonel, Divisional Commissioner's Officer, Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC), Belfast, to Owen (Eoin) O'Duffy, Liaison Officer, St Mary's Hall, Belfast, 26 July 1921, regarding a typewriter stolen from Ballintra railway station goods store on the night of the 20th of July. States that he received a report from Donegal on this and that he is 'unaware by whom the theft was made' but forwards the report as a suggestion exists that it was the work of Sinn Fein. Says the typewriter was the property of John Stewart Hamilton, JP.

Includes copy note by O'Duffy to Wickham, 28 July 1921, stating that he encloses copy of report received from RIC and asking [] to make a careful enquiry into this matter and 'if possible trace the missing machine...it must be returned if located.'

July 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/7/2

Letter from E.D. MacAdams, North of Ireland Publishing Co., (publishing Derry Weekly News, Donegal Vindicator, Donegal Independent and Fermanagh New), East Port, Ballyshannon, 27 July 1921, to Mr Eoin O'Duffy, Liaison Officer, requesting his assistance following the dismantling of their printing press in May and removal of parts. Says it was the machine for printing the newspapers and

An Dáil 'though this particular one had not been re-started after my release.' No explanation was given, except 'we had evidence that it was not the work of Crown forces', 'I have since discovered by personal enquiries that it was the work of the IRA.' Speculates that the reason was their firm had published Derry business cards and that some of the firms were 'on the boycott list for trading with Belfast.' Comments that they were not asked to withdraw them though they did receive an order at the end of June, which they obeyed.

MacAdams states that his father is editor of the above newspapers and proprietor. Asks that 'under the terms of the Truce' the IRA would return the parts of the machine still missing, without which the papers cannot be restarted. Adds that 'the loss of all books etc in raids was a serious blow financially and headquarters has no money to spare for propagand newspaper, so I do not really see my way, but the restoration of the machine would be a help. We were innocently in fault...'

Pages torn at edges.

3 pp (1) – (3)

27 July 1921

P/183/3/7/3

Threatening letters re 'traitors':

Covering note, 29 July 1921, from Director of Information, 1st Northern Division, Derry City, to O/C, Donegal Battalion asking him to investigate enclosed and report at once.

Enclosed are two copies of a note of phone message from liaison officer, Belfast, [Eoin O'Duffy) to liaison officer, Derry, for Derry Journal, 27 July 1921 stating that 'On 15th inst. Patrick Meehan, Donegal, received the following threatening letter- 'Donegal Battalion, IRA: Beware of you employing traitors and informers. So the sooner you clear informer McHugh out of your shop the better and don't supply him or if you do we will deal with you in a different way. Reprisals will follow. So beware of the IRA. They are on your back. Give him no goods Signed OC IRA.' States that a copy is being forward to the Division I.O.

27 – 29 July 1921

(1) – (3)

3 docs.

P/183/3/7/4

Letter from O/C [] to Brigade Adjutant [Murray], stating that he wants reports for liaison officers on the following: the theft of Stewart Hamilton's typewriter at Ballintra; Mr McAdam's printing machinery; and a threatening letter served on Patrick Meehan, Donegal; and enclosing the correspondence. In the first two cases he states that he 'merely wants to know have the orders already issued been complied with.' In the third case 'investigation is necessary and a report

made at once. The offenders if traced should be taught something about discipline.' Also refers to meeting of Belleek battalion.

11 August 1921

1 page.

P/183/3/7/5

11 August 1921

Letter from O/C, HQ, No. 4 Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to officers of Belleek Battalion, on matters relating to the new 'disposition of boundaries of divisions'. The O/C states that he relies on officers to 'fall in with the decision of HQ and states that Belleek's O/C has been appointed by him to take charge of the new Ballintra battalion. Says it is a very 'opportune time for organisation and for knitting our units together'; states that 'we will either have to fight on or we will have peace. I don't know which. But in either case the IRA require training and discipline. If we have to fight the country will have to depend on us for protection and defence, if we have peace it will look to us the only available machinery for taking charge of our affairs.'

11 August, 1921

1 page.

P/183/3/7/6

Letter written in now faded ink, from H. Q, 4th Brigade, 1st Battalion, to Brigade O/C:

'Yours to hand. The following is my explanation for the [] permit to E[] Connolly and his daughter Miss B. Connolly asConnolly reported to me that he had obtained passage to [] himself and his daughter. He brought a []...John Doherty, S.F. representative for Bundoran H.Q to prove [] identity [by your orders], this brigade was in a wretched state at the time no organisation no [police officers] appointed etc. It was at its ..to use ...desertion. I was told at the time that men of military age were not to be held back and

That I had only a short time come from Glasgow and had been in [] before when his daughter had been born and reared and he was glad to bring her back again [...ing to the state of her health. I understood who that his permit would be looked for on that side of the [water??] and that if it were not [] he would be held back. I warned him to that effect. I wish to explain also that I had absolutely no intention in the main of being as strong [who introduced him. At the time I did not know to whom he would apply for a permit and did what I thought was best under the circumstances. I had been appointed adjutant of brigade for a short time before that and had no copies of the general orders. I [] regret that the blunder there made,punishment ...GH.2 ...names...for my mistake....still doing my utter best in the circumstances. ' (1) – (3)

19 August 1921

3 pp.

P/183/3/8

General IRA correspondence during the early months of the Truce, 1921

P/183/3/8/1

Handwritten letter from Divisional Q/M to Q/M, 4th Brigade acknowledging receipt of arms return, 10 July.

27 July 1921

1 Item.

P/183/3/8/2

Handwritten letter from S Ó Fairbheateraigh [], Mansion House, Dublin, to Brigade Adjutant, stating that he is enclosing a query from Minister for Home Affairs and that that he needs a report 'on this matter at once, whether you issued this pursuit, whether you signed it as dated etc and if so why you did so. As a serious view is taken...'

No report attached.

[Late July/Early August 1921]

1 page.

P/183/3/8/3

Handwritten note from o/c, 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Ulster Division, to Brigade Adjutant, reporting that a raid took place at Ballintra station on Tuesday night during which a typewriter 'consigned to Capt Hamilton, Brownhall, Ballintra, was taken. Volunteers had no connection with the affair.' Asks what action should be taken.

Scribbled note on rear ordering adjutant to get up notices stating that the raid had nothing to do with the IRA.

23 July 1921

1 page.

P/183/3/8/4

Handwritten letter from O/C, Pettigo, to [] No. 3 Battalion, 4th Brigade, reporting that a battalion meeting is to be held on Saturday evening and suggesting recipient of letter and representatives come by last train. Reports arrest of Ederney.

2 August 1921

2 pp

P/183/3/8/5

Handwritten letter on Oglagh na hÉireann, Divisional HQ, 1st Northern Division notepaper, from S. O. M., Divisional Engineer, to O/C, no 4 brigade, noting that the engineering captain is to send a report showing the state of organisation of engineers and military operations carried out in last month. Reports to include on railways, bridges and fords in their area.

3 August 1921

1 page.

P/183/3/8/6

Handwritten letter from o/c, hq, no. 4 brigade, 1st Northern Division, to Brigade Adjutant, apologising for having to leave on short notice and asking if he 'ever got your thermos flask'. Asks that he issues instructions to battalion o/c's regarding appointment of battalion O/Cs and quartermasters and Company captains and police O/C's. Orders that battalion council meetings to be held every fortnight and brigade meetings at end of month in Bundoran. Also orders that Carty of Belleek is to remain commander of the former Belleek Battalion as well as of Ballintra.

2 pp

4 August 1921

P/183/3/8/7

Notification to Brigade Adjutant from HQ, No 4 Brigade, of training of engineers and introducing a brigade engineer who is to commence training. Encloses letter from Divisional Engineer, S O M, HQ, 1st Northern Division (1 August 1921) detailing an alteration in the system of organisation for 'more efficient training of field engineers.' In each battalion in future an area will be marked off for a field engineering unit of at least 20 men.

12 August 1921

2 pp

P/183/3/8/8

Handwritten letter from [], Divisional Quarter Master, 1st Northern Division, to O/C, No 4 Brigade, reporting that the 'arms return for each month are to be sent in not later than the 15th of the month.

Includes separate note from divisional quarter master to O/C, no 4 brigade, on same date, regarding the raising of money 'by concerts, sports etc if possible.' Enclosed are blank IRA report sheets.

Condition of documents fair. Some torn.

12 August 1921

4 items

P/183/3/8/9

Letter from Bundoran [OD], Derry, to [], written in surreptitious language. Writes: 'with reference to what you were speaking to me about in Bundoran I had a talk with the Boss here and he says 'the orders you spoke to me about is [sic] genuine and should be carried into effect.' Refers to 'trying to play the double game'.

22 August 1921

1 page.

P/183/3/8/10

Handwritten note from O/C, no. 4 Brigade, on headed notepaper of the Hotel Russell, St Stephen's Green, Dublin, to Brigade Adjutant, notifying him that he must attend a divisional meeting in Derry on 28th and to notify other officers accordingly.

23 August 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/8/11

Handwritten letter from [Seosaimh MacSuibhne?], Divisional Comdt, Oglaiigh na hÉireann Divisional Hq, 1st Ulster division, to Adjutant, No 4 Brigade, stating that Philip O'Doherty, organiser, has been ordered to proceed at once to Castlefin to report for service to the O/C. States that the adjutant is to make arrangements for his accommodation during this time. 'The staff can only blame themselves if he slacks in his work in the area.'

30 August 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/8/12

Handwritten letter from Owen Gallagher, Hut 19 C Company, Ballykinlar Camp No 1, to Joe Murray, thanking him for his recent letter and cigarettes, commenting that 'as welcome a release would be, they were nearly wild for a smoke'. States that he saw 'Alo once through the wire. I could only ask him how he was enjoying himself...a pity he did not come into this camp.' States that he sees that Joe 'is having a great time around Bundoran. Plenty of games in the park. I suppose you will soon commence the league. I hope your team will have better luck this year. What do you think of the times now will we have war again. It is looking like it at present.'

31 August 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/8/13

Handwritten letter from [], Gortnalee, Belleek, Co Fermanagh, 13 September 1921, to [], stating that he has arranged a battalion meeting for next Sunday at 'the usual place.' Says he was down in [] and they are 'building up their ranks fairly well. The companies of Donegal, Ballintra Laghey, were also there.'

13 September 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/8/14

Handwritten letter from Acting O/C, Drumboe HQ, to O/C, 3rd Battalion, 25 September 1921, seeking a more detailed report of his work, and telling him to 'get an explanation from [] 'Ederney as to why he was absent from the battalion council.'

Enclosed with letter is receipt for £30 from O/C 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division for 'levy of £10 per battalion and to meet expenses of div. o.t.c'.

25 September 1921.

1 item.

P/183/3/8/15

Handwritten note from O/C to Adjutant, No. 4 Brigade, stating that a divisional training camp begins next Monday; that all brigade O/Cs, brigade staff and battalion commandants will attend; each officer to provide himself with proper clothing and blankets; each battalion area to pay a levy of £10; all to report as required.

9 October 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/8/16

Handwritten letter from M.A. Carroll, Hut 15 F company Camp 2, Ballykinlar [prison camp], 27 Oct 1921, to Joe Murray, regretting he has not written more often but must write home on Sundays and to [blank] on Wednesday, so cannot write as often to others. States he had a visit from Owen Gallagher, who now believes 'ladies should not smoke'. Tullaghan 'looks like becoming a famous place.' Says he got no football news and supposes 'you had no matches lately, it must have been a very successful year for the club...you have your hands full...that is nothing new to you...there are good many here who know you, Monaghan has a big representation in camp.'

2 pp.

27 Oct 1921

P/183/3/8/17

Official Notification by letter to 'Mr J. Murray N.T. from Brigade Adjutant, HQ, No. 4 Brigade, 1st Northern Division, notifying him that he has recently been appointed to position of Brigade Vice-Commandant, and that he will be 'responsible for the efficient discharge of duties connected with your office.'

Envelope attached.

20 December 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/8/18

Typescript note headed 2nd Batt, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division IRA: from Adjutant for O/C, 2nd Battalion, to the Vice Commandant, 4th Brigade, stating that a battalion council meeting will be held at the hall, Ballintra on Friday 23 Dec 1921 and to attend punctually.

21 Dec 1921

1 page.

P/183/3/8/19

Handwritten letter from Joseph Murray, Park Street, Monaghan, to Governor, Belfast Jail, 29 December 1921, asking permission to visit 'prisoners McShea and Johnston, at present charged with murder of police in Derry jail. States that he is a national teacher in Bundoran, 'their native place' and is at present on holidays at home in Monaghan. Murray states that the prisoners' mothers are anxious that he should visit them and asks are parcels allowed.

On rear is a handwritten reply from the governor, HM Prison, to Murray, stating that a visit is allowed on any weekday.

29 December 1921

2 pp

P/183/3/8/20

Handwritten letter from the Brigade Adjutant, No 4 Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to Vice-Brigade Commandant (Joseph Murray), requesting him to attend a brigade council meeting in Donegal the following Saturday at 7 pm. On the agenda are reports from battalions, report on Special Services (report by Murray), communications, Ogligh, finance and general matters. Wishes him a happy new year.

Handwritten on this letter in blue biro is the note 'last meeting of brigade council prior to split.'

[] December 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/8/21

Typescript Note from James Boyle & Co., solicitors, Lifford, Ballybofey. 'Liam O'Duffy arrested 19/13/1920: Derry jail to April 1921 and from April 1921 to November 1921, Belfast Prison.

Undated, Nov – Dec 1921.

1 item.

P/183/3/9

British breaches of the Truce

P/183/3/9/1

Typescript letter from Owen O'Duffy, liaison officer, Oglaiigh na hÉireann, St Mary's Hall, Belfast, to Joseph Murray, Bundoran, thanking him for informing him of breaches of the Truce by the 'enemy' in Ballyshannon. Says he is taking the matter up with their authorities.

Note in black ink beside word 'Ballyshannon': 'Kesh RUC Barracks.'

With envelope attached addressed to Bundoran Orphanage.

28 July 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/9/2

Typescript letter from Owen O'Duffy, liaison officer, Oglaiigh na hÉireann, St Mary's Hall, Belfast, to Joseph Murray, Bundoran, thanking him for informing him of breaches of the Truce by the 'enemy' in his area. Says it would be better for him to take no other action than reporting to O'Duffy at present, that he has made a strong report to the company inspector and very likely it will have effect.

Note in black ink beside words 'your area': 'Kesh RUC Barracks.'

With envelope attached.

12 August 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/10

Telegrams in 1921

P/183/3/10/1

Telegram sent by Murphy, Chief Liaison Officer, Dublin, to Joseph Murray, St Joseph's orphanage, Bundoran, telling him to meet him in Kesh, Fermanagh today.

With envelope.

5 November 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/10/2

Telegram sent by liaison officer, Ballybofey, to Carrolls Drapers, Bundoran, asking that he 'send Murray to Stranorlar tonight ...call at McCalls.'

With envelope.

9 November 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/10/3

Telegram sent by Murphy, Chief Liaison Officer, Dublin, to Joseph Murray, St Joseph's orphanage, Bundoran, , asking him to ask investigation officers to wire him if they are making any progress...he should 'have news one way or another.'

With envelope.

11 November 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/10/4

Telegram sent by Sean B. McManus, Irvinestown, Fermanagh, to Joseph Murray, Floods Hotel, Pettigo, stating that he cannot go.

With envelope.

13 November 1921

2 items.

P/183/3/11

Oglaigh na hÉireann Memoranda in 1921

P/183/3/11/1

Handwritten memo from HQ No 4 Brigade, to the Adjutant, 1st Northern Division, Dungloe, stating that he will be going to Dublin. States that during his absence he [Murray] must take charge; must notify all battalion commandants that there is to be 'no misapprehension about the truce. Active operations against the enemy are the only operations that are suspended. Organisation and internal work is to be increased and preparations made for war. No false hopes are to be indulged in.' Asks that commandants recommend suitable men to act as battalion o/c police. Torn at edges, on fragile tracing paper.

17 July 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/11/2

Weekly memorandum No. 16 from Oglaigh na hÉireann, 7 Oct 1921: the subjects are: the return of commandeered vehicles; levy being imposed by Volunteers; return of account books to local authorities; and engagement with the enemy during the Truce.

7 Oct 1921

2 pp.

P/183/3/11/3

Weekly memorandum No. 17 from Oglaigh na hÉireann: the subjects are: police work and police (IRA) force; employment in civilian capacity; complaints from Sinn Fein Clubs that Volunteers are 'standing aloof' from work of the clubs; interference in civil administration not allowed; interruption of 'industrial life, Court-martial of Cork Volunteer Brian Martin.

21 Oct 1921

3 pp

P/183/3/11/4

Special memorandum on levies and collections, reporting that no pressure is to be applied when collections take place and referring to complaints.

'Signed' by Cathal Brugha, minister for Defence. [no signature].

25 Oct 1921

1 item.

P/183/3/11/5

Memo from The Irish Volunteers General Headquarters: General Orders. The subject is Enemy deserters. The General Order of 22 June 1921 has been cancelled and this order is substituted. The order states that some enemy deserters have recently turned out to be spies, that they 'are of little use to us'; and that they should be arrested and examined. Orders that those men 'felt to be bona fide deserters' should be sent to the nearest port home; and not in future be allowed to 'associate generally with Volunteers, or with the people or to remain freely in any area.'

26 October 1921

1 page.

P/183/3/11/6

Special Memorandum from Oglagh na hÉireann, concerning enemy evacuation of barracks, RIC, Military and Auxiliary; the evacuation of private residences which have been used as divisional and brigade headquarters; and the issue of policing. States that 'pending the setting up of a regular police force the present company police shall be disbanded as such and returned to their respective volunteer units' and 'the old order whereby the volunteers were entirely responsible for public order and public safety will be temporarily reverted to.'

26 Jan 1922

2 pp.

P/183/3/11/7

Special Memorandum on Irish Inland Fisheries. A decision has been made to allow the existing regulations to continue in force and 'the present board of Conservators of Fisheries must remain responsible for protection of fisheries in their districts'. By order of Chief of Staff.

Attached is typescript annotated note giving name and address of clerks to boards of conservators of fisheries in Donegal, Ballyshannon and Letterkenny.

21 March 1922.

2 items.

P/183/3/12

Reports during Truce in 1921

P/183/3/12/1

Ballintra Battalion No 4 Brigade Report for Month of August 1921

Handwritten report giving numbers of enemy troops in locality, enemy RIC in locality, A and B Specials, auxiliaries, names of enemy agents, enemy officers, collectors of taxes, enemy post offices, railway stations.

August 1921

6 pp

P/183/3/12/2

Weekly reports 30 Sept – 31 Dec 1921

Weekly reports issued by No 4 Brigade, Oglaiigh na hÉireann, battalion 2 and engineers' weekly reports (battalion no 1)., various companies (e.g., A, B, C, D, G) giving information on meetings held, report on battalions, organisation, average total men on parade, brief on proceedings of meetings (e.g., recruitment of men, drills etc).

Report dates are 30 Sept, 15 Oct, 6 Nov, 3 Dec, 4 Dec, 10 Dec, 11 Dec, 17 Dec, 18 Dec, 24 Dec, 31 Dec 1921.

30 September – 31 December 1921

11 items.

P/183/3/13

Sinn Fein Membership Card

Sinn Fein Membership card.

Certifying that Joseph Murray of Bundoran is a member of Cumann Padraig Pearse, Bundoran for the year 1921 – 1922. Sean Carrtach, President. E. S. Ua Ceallaigh, Secretary.

1 item.

1921 – 1922

P/183/3/14

Joseph Murray's Notebooks & notes

Notes taken in handwritten notebooks by Joseph Murray following the Truce, and leading to the Civil War.

P/183/3/14/1

Notebook of Army activities:

Red hard backed notebook. The notebook lists the names of army personnel; notes the parades held; records the times of the arrivals of goods trains; records the draft minutes of 3rd Battalion Council meetings held on 10 December 1921; and 2nd Battalion meeting held on 28 February 1922.

Notes of events taken place are recorded; for example, 'Handed prisoner Alfred Thompson over to British military at 5 pm on Thursday 23 Feb 1922'. Includes notes of visits to Finner Camp, and of despatches sent.

Both back and front of notebook used.

1921- 1922

1 item.

P/183/3/14/2

Blue copybook, noting meetings of 2nd battalion and listing trainees' names and location of training. Notes on expenditure.

1921 - 1922

Two pages torn out.

1 item.

P/183/3/14/3

Pink copybook containing pencilled notes outlining main events in Donegal and Fermanagh, particularly in Bundoran and Pettigo and also Belleek from the Truce onwards. Refers to use of Ballyshannon and Donegal workhouses for training.

23 Feb 1922

6pp of book used up.

1 item.

P/183/3/14/4

Handwritten list of the names of Ballyshannon Company, some names crossed out. Some with 'RIP' written beside the names. (List may have been written at later stage.)

c. 1922

1 item (4 pp).

P/183/3/14/5

Ammunition lists

Lists include a handwritten list of ammunition, written on back of envelope. E.G. '2 Mauser rifles.' '3 lee enfield rifles long.' Also includes list of arms , ammunition and numbers of parades for No. 2 Ballintra Company, Pettigo and Ederney.

2 pp

(1) – (2)

1922

P/183/4 After the Treaty and early Civil War

P/183/4/1

Pettigo and Belleek battle and events May- June 1922

P/183/4/1/1

Typescript account [by Murray] of the Pettigo stand made by 'less than one hundred IRA volunteers against overwhelming numbers of British forces and lasting over a week...[beginning] Saturday, May 27th, 1922. This amounted to a battle between B Specials and British soldiers from Fermanagh and the IRA. During the week a party of Specials apparently shot and wounded two girls in Donegal and 'terrorised the people.'

Undated; 1922.

5 pp

P/183/4/1/2

Derry People newspaper account (August 22, 1953) entitled 'War of Independence recalled at unveiling of Pettigo Memorial. Minister for Defence on the nation's right to re-unity.' Refers to those who fought in this battle, including Murray.

Poor condition, should be copied.

22 August 1953

1 item.

P/183/4/1/3

Letter from John Travers, 5 Shandon Road, Phibsboro, Dublin, to Joseph Murray, 15 April 1952, thanking him for his sub of one guinea towards the Pettigo memorial and apologising for the delay in replying.

15 April 1952

1 item.

P/183/4/1/4

Memorial card to those members of the IRA who died for Ireland at Pettigo and surrounding districts, including Paddy Flood and 'comrades.'

[1953]

4 pp

P/183/4/1/5

Note from 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to Adjutant, 1st Northern Division, stating that 35 volunteers from Fermanagh and Tyrone have come across the border on the run from [B] Specials, ten from the 2nd Northern Division. Reports that the 'Specials daily bring a machine gun into Pettigo and train it on the barracks occupied by IRA. Up to the present however they have not fired on the barracks.' Reports of other breaches of Truce by B Specials, including firing of shots across the border at Lettercran; and reports that there is no food or bedding for refugees; and only a small supply of ammunition in Pettigo barracks. Asks should they take into custody a magistrate, W.W. Reid who resides in Donegal and acts in Fermanagh, stating that he sat as magistrate at the arrest of Eddie Monaghan, Captain of B Company. Reports on arrests by Specials of John Moss, Edward McHugh, Tim Murphy, Frank Morgan, John O'Donnell and that 'almost all the Volunteers have to leave their homes.' Asks are Specials to be arrested and detained.

26 May 1922

5 pp.

P/183/4/1/6

Report from Oglagh na hÉireann, 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division, to O/C, 4th brigade, on the events of 27 May. Reports that the Specials crossed Lough Erne and took up position in Magheramore Castle. Later were attacked by 'executive forces' about Belleek and battle ensued. Firing continued next day, resulting in death of one Special. Says he arrived with 'Drumboe' [castle] troops yesterday.

29 May 1922

2 pp.

P/183/4/1/7

Reports from Oglagh na hÉireann, 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division, to O/C, 4th brigade, that everything is quiet at Belleek though the Specials have not gone away completely yet.

30 – 31 May 1922

2 pp

P/183/4/1/8

Report from Oglaiġ na hÉireann, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to O/C, 4th Brigade, reporting on continued fighting in Belleek. Reports removal by their men of 'telegraph instrument' and replacing it again. Plus removal of cash and money orders to the chief clerk. Notes that some of the local company and police were patrolling the streets of Ballyshannon due to an outburst of firing from the 'top of the Protestant church which struck both the workhouse and our new barracks in the mall'. Claims that the 'Executive forces did the firing' and that the 'Regulars in Rock barracks fired a few rounds back.' Reports that all inhabitants of Belleek 'both protestant and catholic' left the town last night but returned today.

(1) – 4)

1 June 1922

4 pp

P/183/4/1/9

Report from Oglaiġ na hÉireann, 2nd Battalion, 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division, to O/C, 4th brigade, reporting on events at Belleek since 27 May, ending the report by stating that the Specials 'retreated to an island further up Lough Melvin at nightfall on Monday, and have not since appeared at the scene.'

Note on same day at 1 pm, notes that there are 'some British military forces with artillery advancing from Enniskillen towards Pettigo.'

2 June 1922

2 pp.

P/183/4/1/10

Report from Oglaiġ na hÉireann, 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division, to O/C, 4th Brigade, noting that everything is very quiet at Belleek and that there are '11 or 14 men from Pettigo who did not yet turn up.'

1 page.

Torn.

5 June 1922

P/183/4/1/11

Report from Oglaiġ na hÉireann, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to O/C, 4th Brigade, stating that 'the funeral will leave Donegal workhouse tomorrow Saturday at 1 pm for Clar graveyard, with the Donegal police having made arrangements.'

Note on same day that all is quiet at Belleek and that the 'British are about the battery and cliff and were looting.

Also included is unsigned report from Oglaiġ na hÉireann, 4th brigade, 1st N. Div, to o/c, 4th brigade, stating that things quiet today, with occasional sniping.

9 June 1922
1 page.

P/183/4/1/12

Souvenir booklet of the Unveiling of Martyrs Memorial at the Diamond, Pettigo. Monument is erected to memory of Patrick Flood (Pettigo), William Kearney (Co Tyrone), Bernard McCanny (Tyrone), William Deasley (Tyrone) who 'gave their lives for Ireland on the 4th June 1922 in the last stand against British forces.' Includes their photos and ages.

15 August 1953

(1) – (2)

2 copies.

P/183/4/1/13

Envelopes with notes on the Pettigo shelling incident. Also handwritten note.

C.1922

(1) – (4)

4 pp

P/183/4/2

Telegrams after the Treaty

P/183/4/2/1

Telegram from Second Rifle Brigade, Finner to IRA Police, Ballybofey, reporting that this battalion moves to Strabane the next day and that he will send someone to see rifleman Thomson at the weekend.

16 Feb 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/2

Telegram from Stephens to Joe Murray, Bundoran, stating that Britton is dead and that the inquest is in Donegal this evening.

16 Feb 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/3

Telegram from [Sam], Dublin to Joseph Murray, regarding addressing letters to 65 Eccles Street.

22 Feb 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/4

Telegram from Sweeney, Ballybofey, to Joseph Murray, telling him to come to Ballybofey today.

25 Feb 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/5

Telegram from McDermott, Donegal, to Carroll, Draper, Bundoran, asking him to 'tell Murray am gone to Pettigo'.

[] 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/6

Telegram from Home Affairs, Dublin to [] regarding Brigadier O'Flaherty, IRA, instructing him to bring before Republican Justice and remand in custody for 8 days pending instructions, regarding addressing letters to 65 Eccles Street.

17 Feb 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/7

Telegram from [] McMullen, Ballyshannon, to Joseph Murray, N. T. [national teacher], Bundoran, stating that he will be 'unavoidably absent until Wednesday.'

20 Feb 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/8

Telegram from Dalton, Dublin, to Commandant General Sweeney, Drumboe Castle, Stranorlar, regarding the Thompson murder case.

4 March 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/2/9

Telegram from 'Commandant General', Ballybofey, to Joseph Murray, Bundoran.
Message is in code. With envelope.

22 [] 1922

2 items.

P/183/4/3

Correspondence

P/183/4/3/1

Letter from Michael O'Loughlin/Loughlin

Handwritten letter from Michael Loughlin, Bundoran A Company, 3rd Battalion [] Finner Camp, to [], stating that he was arrested 12 days ago by Comdt. McGowan; that he is detained since but 'can't complain of our treatment as I could live here for the rest of my life....but I have six acres of meadow to cut and some force grass...I have no one to do the work for me at home. Comments he was only obeying the orders of the man who was above him since the start. 'If we did not obey them we would be told we were cowards – we got no money out of the whole show only what we lost.' Asks that he be let out on parole. Also says was told he was a 'looty since I came here, though I never got worth out of anything only what I lost.' (4 pp)

Attached is typescript letter signed by five people including E Frank Naylor, rector of Finner and chancellor of Clogher, Michael MacCarvill, Catholic clergyman, Bundoran, and three other clergymen, addressed to Brig. J. Murray, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, Irish National Army, Military barracks, Ballyshannon, asking that Michael O'Loughlin 'only son of feeble and aged parents, who are tenants of a farm of about 18 acres..., much of it under crop and that Michael is sole farm worker and his family is totally dependent on him and requests his release even if it's only temporary.

Undated [1922]

2 items.

P/183/4/3/2

Letter from T. Daly, Belleek, to Vice Brigadier, concerning a court case coming up at Enniskillen in which three volunteers are witness. The case involves a car accident 'where a unionist...seeks damages from Belleek Creamery.' Daly states that the last time they 'had these witnesses kidnapped but now if they don't appear the creamery will be decreed for almost 5 pounds and the suppliers to the creamery (usually Catholic) will suffer'. Daly asks for Murray's advice on the

matter. Daly adds that the witnesses will probably lose their jobs if they don't attend the sessions. The letter is written in pencil.

1 February 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/3/3

Correspondence regarding shooting of Captain H Britton and James Gallagher by British soldiers. Includes handwritten note from [] to vice brigadier, 4th brigade, 1st N. Div. (15/2) Reports that Britton in a very serious condition and Gallagher 'practically hopeless.' Reports that their assailant, 'a man named Wilson said to belong to D. Company of Rifle brigade was arrested at Laghey by F Company today' and that he heard he was a deserter. Expresses 'suspicion that some evilly disposed enemy, P[] engineered this thing but this must be treated with the greatest reserve'.

Two other memos included, referring to a prisoner by the name of Alfred Thompson, D Company, Rifle Brigade, London, as the murderer of both Britton and Gallagher who died 16 February. Another note refers to a 'Home Affairs' reply regarding the case of Thompson, that he is to be taken to Sligo gaol.

Includes list of expenses 'incurred by witnesses at summary of evidence in the case of Alfred Thompson. (torn.)

15 Feb 1922 - c. April 1922

(1) – (4)

4 items.

P/183/4/3/4

Handwritten letter from battalion commandant, HQ 3rd Battalion, No. 4 Brigade, 1st Northern Division, IRA, to Vice Brigadier, stating that he received a 'despatch from S[eán] McCool to have parades called for Sunday 2nd April and get those willing to join or affirm their allegiance to a republic and send on result of each company....well of course we are taking no heed to these despatches but we are having the ordinary battalion council and I wish you to come.' Fears a 'split' in this battalion.

2 April 1922

2 pp

P/183/4/3/5

Handwritten letter from battalion commandant, HQ 3rd Battalion, No. 4 Brigade, 1st Northern Division, IRA, to 'brigadier', stating that he received a despatch from the brigadier to send 'men here on the run home across the border again. The men here think their brigadier was in Dublin at the convention so they don't want to follow his footsteps so they say if they don't they don't know that they are to do but they would like word from their commandant. We are not releasing them without your orders. Specials are still raiding around here as usual'.

May 1922
2 pp.

P/183/4/3/6

Handwritten Letter from T. Daly, Brigadier, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, Finner Camp, Ballyshannon, to Brigadier Joseph Murray, demanding 'an immediate explanation and apology for the detention of seven of our men by your forces at Drumboe Castle last night'. Demands return of arms and ammunition and motor tools and says will take action otherwise, commenting that he has not 'interfered with any of your troops in this area'.

1 May 1922
1 page.

P/183/4/3/7

Handwritten letter from Andrew Graham, The Rock Barracks, Ballyshannon, to O/C, No 4 Brigade, referring to his letter of 24th (June) and asking him to call to him as soon as possible as he has 'something particular to say.' Note on accompanying envelope in Joseph Murray's handwriting says Graham is a B Special from Clady.

1 July 1922
2 items.

P/183/4/3/8

Typescript letter on headed Rialtas Sealadach na hÉireann (Irish Provisional Government) notepaper from Shaun P Mac Manus, Accountancy Office, Civic Guard Depot, Little Denmark Street, Dublin, writing on behalf of his wife's brother 'who is somewhere in Tyrconnel' having had to leave Tyrone, 'owing to the attention of the Specials some time ago'. Says he does not know which camp he 'wandered into', that he had been at Oakfield Park, Raphoe, and that his name is Hugh McGinn of Tamlet, Eskra, County Tyrone, and was on the old Co Monaghan Flying Column.

12 July 1922
1 item.

P/183/4/3/9

Letter from 'M.M.' to [Murray], stating that his brother cannot meet him after all as he was 'unavoidably called away'.

A note on the rear of the letter in Joseph Murray's handwriting states that M.M. is Ma[nus] Murphy from Bundoran.

1 August 1922
1 page.

P/183/4/3/10

Handwritten letter from John Johnston to Joe [Murray], notifying him that three of his sisters were putting calves out of a meadow on Monday evening and were 'deliberately fire on by out posts the bullets grazing them.' Says their house is directly in the line of fire and that they only venture out 'at the risk of our lives.' Says his mother is 'a complete wreck'. Asks that he would see to it and allow them to go out to the meadow to work.

With envelope.

1 August 1922

2 items.

P/183/4/3/11

Handwritten statement of Daniel Harkin, Finner Camp. Reports that as he was leaving the county area to escape capture after the arrest of his brother, he sought refuge 'in the Executive Billet at Donaghmore House, Castlefin'. When it was taken over by Free State forces 'Com Gen Sweeney allowed him to proceed to the G[reat] N[orthern] Hotel Bundoran as a refugee'. States that on the evening of July 8th he was arrested outside the chapel in Bundoran and detained without charge. Asks to be released on parole so he can go home.

3 August 1922

1 item; 2 pp

P/183/4/3/12

Undated handwritten note headed Dungloe, Wednesday: 'I came here today and expected to find some of our men here. You will come tomorrow or next day and bring QM Gallagher of Pettigo and a good man from No ? Bring blankets or covering of some kind. Also change of clothes etc. Expect you all tomorrow or at latest next day. If you are teaching get a few days off. S. O F', O/C.

Miniscule document, torn from notebook.

C.1922

1 item.

P/183/4/3/13

Envelopes, addressed mainly to O/C, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division. Some annotated at a later stage.

1922

C 10 items.

P/183/4/4

Despatches and memos, 1922

P/183/4/4/1

Two undated handwritten memos from Seán Mac Cumhaill [McCool], Commandant, Adjutant to Vice-Brigadier (Murray). One memo is a request for Murray to attend a Brigade council meeting in Ballyshannon training camp on 29th []. Reports that he is bringing all special service captains with their monthly reports and comments that he is sorry Murray has been ill and wishes him well for a speedy recovery. The second memo, from Ballybofey HQ, says he has been instructed by the O/C to call a brigade council meeting, at which Murray will preside, at Ballybofey barracks.

[Early] 1922

2 pp.

P/183/4/4/2

Undated handwritten memo from [] to [Murray], stating that he had mobilised on Tuesday, and reports on the strength of the company including officers and numbers of arms.

1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/3

Typescript memo from G. Glennon, Divisional Adjutant, Divisional HQ, 1st Northern Division, Oglagh na hÉireann, to Vice Commandant, No 4 Brigade, ordering that 'no volunteer is to take part in any discussion on the present Peace Treaty as a member of the Army. The Army as such is to be kept free from politics and any man wishing to express his views may do so through a Sinn Fein Club. '

3 January 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/4

Handwritten request from Adjutant, 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, to Vice Brigadier, ordering him to attend a battalion council meeting in Ballintra that evening.

8 January 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/5

Handwritten note on headed paper: 'Oglaigh na hÉireann, 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, from Adjutant to Vice Commandant, 4th brigade, stating that he is enclosing a copy of a circular to each company O/C and asking that he contact the battalion o/c and ask him to appoint Joe Maguire 'as he seems to be a bit put out on hearing about the [] chap' but doesn't want him to 'push the thing if the o/c thinks the other man would suit but merely to keep the chap in your mind as he seems to wish to remain in the locality and to work up in the volunteers.'

9 January 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/6

Handwritten report on incident from O/C., D Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, of a discharge of shots 'to the danger of the population' by the driver of a motor car passing through Ballintra towards Ballyshannon. Claims the driver's name is McBride, policeman's son. Asks for instructions.

13 January 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/4/7

Handwritten request from Sean MacCumhaill [McCool], Commandant, Brigade Adjutant, to Vice Brigadier [Murray], ordering him to attend a divisional council meeting in Butt Hall, Ballybofey, to 'answer any questions relating to your work.'

17 January 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/8

Handwritten note from P. McDermott: 'There was nothing of importance at a meeting on 24th. Those from below Ballintra did not attend and I don't know why. Everything appears going on fairly well.'

26 Jan 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/9

Handwritten request from Battalion quartermaster to O/C, No. 4 Brigade, for return of ammunition borrowed for training at Tullaghan camp.

9 February 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/10

Memos, handwritten and typescript, from Oglaiigh na hÉireann to Vice-Commandant (Murray) in relation to various meetings, including 'special services', battalion council meetings, brigade convention, (14 March), including one of all 'battalion O/C's ('other than those suspended') and company commissioned officers (30 March).

11 February - 31 March 1922

6 items.

P/183/4/4/11

Typescript Memorandum, from 2nd battalion, 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division, Oglaiigh na hÉireann, to each Company O/C, ordering that each officer and man take every precaution for their own safety, keep a vigilant eye on the movements of B Specials, insure all arms are under control, and to take step to prevent any 'incendiary action by Specials.' Orders each Company to immediately take over any enemy station which has been evacuated. Volunteers who had worked as police are to be disbanded until a regular police force is established.

11 February 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/12

Handwritten note from Adjutant, 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to Vice-Commandant, 4th Brigade, reporting that two prisoners have been transferred to a prison camp there, had been arrested 'I believe as reprisal for arrest by northern government of IRA men from no 1 batt. I notice mention of amnesty by prov. Govt in today's press. Please let me or the camp o/c have instructions.' Says one prisoner was transferred to hospital.

11 February 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/13

12 Feb 1922

Albert Yorke:

Handwritten Memorandum, from Sr M Aidan, Rock Hospital, Ballyshannon, to [] and despatched by J Daly, stating that prisoner Albert Yorke is improved this morning and taking plenty of nourishment, breathing easily. Also includes same dated memo from [Mullen] reporting that Yorke's condition is improving though he 'is not yet out of danger' and has flu and pneumonia.

1 of pages badly torn.

2 pp

P/183/4/4/14

Albert Thompson, prisoner of IRA

Note from Adjutant 1st Brigade, 3rd Western Division, to Vice Commandant, 4th Brigade, reporting that he had received prisoner Albert Thompson safe for remand in custody. Attached is note from [] No. 4 brigade, to Vice Brigade O/C, stating that he can be interviewed by Major Reilly and suggests having a 'number of the guard' present at interviews.

21 February 1922

3 pp

P/183/4/4/15

File of 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division handwritten reports including:

Signalling report; engineering department monthly report- including of men trained, fieldwork etc'; timesheet for each station; reports on reports from a, b,c, d, e, f, g and h company from lieutenant of signalling; report on scouting and dispatch: 'dispatch work is getting along all right except in a few cases. The only black spot is between Laghey bar. And Meenacarin'; reports of 'special services'; dispatches sent, giving dates, times and destinations.

22 February – 6 March 1922

(1) – (21)

21 items.

P/183/4/4/16

Handwritten note from [], Divisional HQ, Drumboe Castle, Stranorlar, to Vice-Commandant, 4th Brigade, reporting that an enquiry leading up to the imposition of a curfew in Ballybofey and subsequent events will be held at Drumboe Castle on 26th (Feb).

Includes note from Vice Commandant to O/C, 1st Northern Division, stating that he charged two men with commandeering two motors in Ballybofey.

[faded and difficult to read]

With envelope.

24 – 25 February 1922

3 items.

P/183/4/4/17

Typescript note from Commandant General, Drumboe Castle, to Vice-Commandant, 4th Brigade, noting that an announcement in today's Irish Press called for a convention which was 'prohibited by order of the Dáil Cabinet' and ordering him to instruct 'all responsible officers that no delegates are to be allowed to attend any such convention that is to be held on Sunday.'

Attached is headed 'Oglaigh na hÉireann' paper stating that enclosed is copy of instructions re general convention. (7 March.)

7 - 23 March 1922

2 items.

P/183/4/4/18

Handwritten copy of a despatch from Seán McCool [MacCumhail], Adjutant, Brigade HQ, No 4 Brigade, to Vice-Brigadier. States that the despatch was 'sent to the O/C by the Commdt. General'. The despatch orders the return of all cars seized in 'your area' and one motor bike also taken. The immediate 'release' of all cars and motor bikes 'except those owned by Belfast people' is ordered. Also ordered that no cars 'are to be commandeered again until further orders.'

24 March 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/19

Copy of typescript memo from Oglai na hÉireann, Office of Adjutant General, Beggar's Bush, to all divisions and brigades, notifying them of the existence of a fund amounting to \$25,000 which was granted by the White Cross to the prisoners dependents fund, to aid IRA prisoners returning to civilian life and in need of financial aid. Clarifies that this means 'volunteers who were on active service during the war and who have returned to their 1917 position.' The persons qualifying for aid must be 'desirous to be engaged in a civil occupation.' Divisional and brigade O/Cs are asked to draw up a list of those who are entitled to aid under this scheme.

Annotated: 'Copy to each batt o/c. 30 April 1922 and to no 4 batt 1/5/22.'

Letter torn at edges. Faded purple ink.

30 April 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/20

Typescript memo from [], Commandant on Staff, Office of Chief of Staff, General HQ, Beggar's Bush barracks, Dublin, to O/C, 4th Brigade, stating that he is in receipt of his report regarding the dismantling of barrack equipment at Finner Camp and that he is directed by the Chief of Staff to say the matter is receiving attention. Notes his 'remarks re Mrs McShea and I will see if something can be done for this poor woman.'

17 May 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/21

Typescript circular issued by C Uí Cuinneagan, Assistant Divisional Adjutant, Oglagh na hÉireann, Drumboe Castle, Stranorlar, to all divisional and brigade engineers, requesting the names of attested tradesman, a report dealing with the state of engineer organisation and training and information on which training officers are available.

26 May 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/4/22

Handwritten carbon copy of memo from P. McDermott, Adjutant, 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade to the Adjutant, 2nd Battalion, reporting that last Friday the Brigade's medical officer's car was fired on by 'persons at Union Hall near Ballintra', narrowly missing him. States that he has heard there are B Specials in the area and 'likely to cause trouble and to search the locality for arms and to obtain information as to the culprit. Orders the Ballintra Company captain to post men at McMenamins, Ballintra, and others at Drumhone Creamery, those who know the locality well, who will act as guides for a search party leaving Ballyshannon going to Ballintra. Reminds them to instruct men 'to cause the least possible inconvenience to the people in the search.'

Also included is above instructions issued to the /C, D Company from Adjutant, second battalion.

(1) – (3).

30 May 1922

3 pp.

P/183/4/4/23

4 June 1922

Handwritten note from Battalion Adjutant, to Brigade Adjutant, reporting that one of the men is not well and needs a doctor, and asking if it is McMullin who attends to him.

1 page.

P/183/4/4/24

Handwritten note from P McDermott, Adjutant to O/C, 4th Brigade, reporting that the British forces have shelled the Battery in Belleek and that it is rumoured that 'the Executive fired first. None of our men were engaged as far as I know.' McDermott states that he has not heard of any casualties.

With envelope.

8 June 1922

2 items.

P/183/4/4/25

Handwritten letter of recommendation from E. Cassidy, Brigade Quartermaster to O/C, 4th brigade, stating that he has known Michael McDonough 'for a number of years and have always found him to be steady and trustworthy in every respect. He was not in the Volunteers owing to being in rather delicate health during their formation but he is quite capable of undertaking volunteer duties entrusted to him.'

17 July 1922

1 page.

P/183/3/4/26

Handwritten memorandum from J Glennon, Divisional Adjutant, on headed paper of 'Oglaigh na hÉireann 1st Northern Division Divisional Headquarters, Drumboe Castle, Stranorlar. To O/C, No 4 Brigade [Joe Murray]', ordering Murray to 'immediately mobilise' his brigade and 'keep all men standing for further orders', to 'keep in touch with all units', 'be well informed as to movements of executive forces'; and 'to keep in touch with headquarters'.

Undated. 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/5

IRA Reports in 1922

P/183/4/5/1

Official Oglaigh na hÉireann, 4th brigade, 1st Northern Division, reports for A. C, G, E, H, Companies in early 1922 giving number of parades held, officers present, captain, proceedings of meetings held (training, parades and drills, court-martialling of volunteers who fail to report). One report highlights a meeting held to ascertain the number of volunteers willing to join the 'regular' army (29 April). Six reports and one blank report.

7 pp.

28 January 1922 – 27 May 1922

(1) – (7)

P/183/4/5/2

Handwritten report from James P O'Carroll, Battalion Adjutant. 4th Battalion, 4th Brigade, to O/C, 4th Brigade.

Reports that he has just witnessed Executive Forces removing a large amount of wood, iron and corrugated iron from Finner Camp and states that the material was conveyed by motor lorry to a yard belonging to Bernard Brady (spirit

merchant and member of Executive Forces). Says wood was for boarding floors; reports that more material is being removed.

12 May 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/5/3

Handwritten report from James P O'Carroll, Battalion HQ., 4th Brigade, to Brigadier J Murray, 4th Brigade, reporting 'several incidents of an unlawful nature' since his last report on the 5th May. Reports great activity from 'Executive forces' (Anti-Treaty IRA), including numerous raids, especially on motor garages, threats of violence against the proprietor on one occasion, arrests made of men 'alleged to be cattle thieves, and it has since come to my learning that these men have been handed over to the Dáil troops in Sligo.' Incidents include the removal of camp material from Finner on to motor lorries which were then 'conveyed to houses in Bundoran and district belonging to executive members'.

Reports that Executive Forces arrested poachers and took them to Finner Camp. Also reports on the condition of Companies of Fourth Battalion and on the suspicious behaviour of two members of Executive Forces'.

27 May 1922

4 pp

P/183/4/5/4

One page [part of] report by [], 4th Brigade, reporting that British forces opened fire in Belleek on 22nd and in Pettigo, with no damage done. Reports also that Executive Forces opened fire on 'our troops' at West End, Bundoran on 23 July 'while they were raiding for to restore looted property; no casualties.'

24 July 1922

1 page.

P/183/4/6

Newspaper accounts during the Civil War

P/183/4/6/1

Extract from Irish Independent recounting the sudden death in Dublin of President Arthur Griffith.

14 August 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/6/2

Extract from Irish Independent with photographs of national troops (pro Treaty) during operations in Donegal.

22 August 1922

3 pp

P/183/4/6/3

Irish Independent newspaper announcing the sudden death of General Michael Collins. The newspaper includes articles about his life and photographs.

Most of the newspaper is intact but in poor condition.

24 August 1922

1 item.

P/183/4/6/4

An Saorstat/The Free State newspaper 'Michael Collins Memorial number'. Includes articles about Collin's life and photographs including at Croke Park

30 August 1922

8 pp

P/183/4/6/5

Extract from the Irish Independent newspaper reporting the 'birth of Saorstat Eireann' - the coming into effect of the Anglo Irish Treaty of 6 December 1921.

Includes photos of the Treaty signatories and brief histories.

Piece torn, delicate

6 December 1922

1 item.

P/183/5

GAA

P/183/5/1

Letters from Aodh Ó Dalaigh (Hugh Daly) to Joe Murray, asking him for an article to mark the special edition of County Donegal Historical Society's *Donegal Annual* on the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) under the heading *How the Tan Ban was broken*.

Included are several handwritten drafts of Murray's replies to Daly, stating that he would not write the article and that Daly had snubbed him in the past. The letter states that it was not the RIC or the Black and Tans which banned Gaelic hurling match during the War of Independence but the British government and published

in memos to that effect, stating that it was reinforced by the British military and by the RIC.

(1) – (18)

31 December 1966; 8 April 1967

17 pp.

P/183/5/2

Book entitled Cumann Luthchleas Gael.

Described as Official Guide, containing constitutions and rules of the GAA. Hardbook.

1961

1 item.

P/183/5/3

Two newspaper articles, one entitled Spotlight on the Gaels, describing how Donegal defeated Cavan at Gavan Duffy Park at Clones, County Monaghan (10 March 1963).

The other article reports on Superintendent Joseph Murray's visit to the match.

From HS Annual on the GAA.

10 March 1963

2 items.

P/183/6 Personal life

P/183/6/1

Invitations issued to Superintendent Joseph Murray including for:

Consecration of Bishop of Kilmore, Rev Austin Quinn and menu, Cavan (September 1950) Cumann Seanchais Co Dhún na nGall, Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey. (1956)

Dinner in honour of Judge Sheehy, 1955, Farnham Hotel, Cavan; Farewell dinner from the Garda to Der VC Ellis at officers' mess, 1958.

Invitation and Souvenir of centenary of foundation of Poor Clare convent, Cavan, ay 1961 Consecration of the Cathedral of SS Patrick and Felim, Cavan, 14 Sep 1947 Cavan Co Council invite to blessing and formal opening of county clinic Cavan, 23 May 1955 plus lunch menu.

1955 - 1958

12 items.

P/183/6/2

Wedding anniversaries cards and poems

Two anniversary cards plus two handwritten poems written in ink by Joseph Murray; one to[] on their diamond jubilee, 1903 to 1963; another is a Golden anniversary poem, for 'Furlong- Murphy, 1912 -1962'. Both signed by Murray. Also includes draft untitled poem by Murray.

5 items.

P/183/7 Tributes to Supt Joseph Murray

P/183/7/1

Correspondence

P/183/7/1/1

Undated letter of tribute to Joseph Murray signed by Liam S Sweeney, M McDonagh, John Ward, Joseph C Mulreany, [] McManus, John G McGuigan, [] MacG [], P McCusker, Edward Copeland, Matthew Lynch, Frank Flannigan, J.M. McCutcheon, Thomas McGrath, Thomas Goodwin and others.

It is addressed to Brigadier Joseph Murray, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, IRA: 'We, the guards of Brigade Headquarters College St, Barracks, Ballyshannon, beg you to accept this little token of our esteem. We wish you the best of luck and good fortune in your new position. We will not forget the good times at college Street nor the kindness which we ever received from you.'

1923

1 page.

P/183/7/1/2

Letter from Patrick Cooney, Secretary, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Bailieborough, to Mr Murray, stating that at a meeting of Bailieborough AOH Organisers of Bailieborough Green Walk on 19 July he was instructed to forward to Murray a copy of a unanimous resolution that the Bailieborough Division of the AOH and Organisers of the Bailieborough Green Walk held on 19 July, 'We do in the very fullest degree record our appreciation of Superintendent J. Murray and the guards under his control for the very efficient and at the same time very kind and gentlemanly manner in which they have discharged their duties on all the streets of the town and on all the roads leading to the town on the occasion of the

..green walk.’ State that with Murray’s assistance this ‘monster big day has passed over without an unhappy incident.’

31 July 1931

2pp

P/183/7/1/3

Undated letter from J. T. Finegan, Honorary Secretary, St Anne’s, TAS, Bailieborough, Cavan, to Mr J Murray, expressing gratitude for his kindness in directing the recent whist drive, lauding his and P McIntyre’s ‘experience and ability’. Finegan congratulates the people of Westport ‘in having the services of a distinguished officer of the Garda who can fill the exalted position with becoming dignity and at the same time command the respect and esteem of all sections with his outstanding personality.’

c.1932

1 page.

P/183/7/1/4

Letter from Wm O’Keeffe, district clerk and Garda, to Supt Joe Murray, Killaloe, stating that he is presenting to him a 9.5 mm pathe projector, asking that he accept it as a token of ‘our admiration and appreciation for you whilst in our charge, as a souvenir of our golden opinion of you for the impartiality, unparalleled consideration, fairness and genuineness with which you always met us as an officer and a comrade,...as a deep and heartfelt regret at your departure from our charge’.

States that he hopes ‘that the dawn of each new day will bring increased happiness for you and yours, and the realisation of all you wish for.’ States that ‘we envy the district force you have taken over...’

9 September, 1939

1 page.

P/183/7/1/5

Correspondence between Garda Commissioner, An Garda Siochana and Mr G M Ross, District Staff Adjutant, Parteen, Ardnacrusha, County Clare, relating to the wishes of the latter to make a presentation to Supt Joe Murray as a thank you for the work done by him for the Killaloe Local Defence Force (LDF) during the Emergency. Includes a letter from the Commissioner, 18 March 1941, stating that while the commissioner appreciates the tribute being paid to this officer’s work and the generous motives prompting the presentation, he cannot accede to the request.

Includes a letter from Ross to Murray, expressing appreciation of his work since the formation of the Local Security Force (LSF), stating the LDF reached its high standard of efficiency thanks to his ‘genius’ in organisation of it in Killaloe; and

expressing regret that regulations will not allow the LDF to make a small presentation to him.

Includes drafts of a letter from Austin Brennan and Patrick McDonnell and George M Ross, of LDF, 9 March 1941, to M. J. Kinnane, Chief Commissioner, Garda Siochana HQ, Dublin expressing regret that they cannot make such a presentation, reminding him of Murray's role in the IRA during the War of Independence, his rank as brigadier, his work in the GAA and Gaelic League and his success in organising the Local Security Force in the area. Also refers to his 'charitable disposition' and 'his endeavour in all matters for the social uplifting of the people'.

9 March 1941 -18 March 1941

C.6 items.

P/183/7/2

Newspaper article tributes

P/183/7/2/1

Newspaper articles paying tribute to Superintendent Joseph Murray on his transfer to Cavan from Killaloe.

15 September 1945

1 item.

P/183/7/2/2

Newspaper articles concerning the retirement of Superintendent Joseph Murray (March 1958). Various newspapers.

15 – 28 March 1958

3 articles.

P/183/7/2/3

Three copies of newspaper article reporting on the death of Superintendent Joseph Murray, Donegal Democrat.

17 January 1975

3 items.

P/183/7/3

Medal

War of Independence Service Medal granted to Joseph Murray.

In original box.

P/183/8 Retirement and pension

P/183/8/1

Certificate of Military Service

Military Service Pensions Act 1924, Certificate of Military Service for Superintendent Joseph Murray, 31 Cathedral Rd Cavan, outlining his period of service with 'Oglaigh na hÉireann being from 1920 to 1923.

20 Feb 1956

1 item.

P/183/8/2

Correspondence relating to Joseph Murray's application for a military pension

P/183/8/2/1

Correspondence relating to the application of Joseph Murray for an IRA pension under the 1924 Military Service Pensions Act.

Includes two copies of a letter from Joe Murray to the Secretary, Department of Defence, Dublin, both annotated, regarding his application for an IRA Pension. In his letter Supt Murray recounts his life and activities during the War of Independence, and giving specific details of his involvement with the Bundoran battalion and also other IRA battalions. Murray states that he encloses original documents showing reports for each of the Ballintra and Pettigo battalion areas for July 1921, written in his handwriting; and an original report in his own handwriting of a brigade council meeting in July 1921 (not enclosed.)

Includes letters from the Department of Defence seeking forms to be filled out; and a copy of the form filled out by Murray.

In this form, dated 15 March 1955, he gives his home address then, 31 Cathedral Road, Cavan, gives as his referees Major General Joseph Sweeney (Red Cross, Dublin), P J Ward, County Registrar (Lifford), Thomas McShea, Ardfarna, Bundoran. He states that he enlisted [in the Irish National Army?] 'about March 1922', at Divisional HQ, Drumboe Castle, his unit was Brigade HQ, Barrack Street, Ballyshannon, Fourth Brigade, 1st Northern Division; and that he resigned on 1 February 1924.

Includes Garda Síochána Commissioner's Office memos on retiring ages for garda, particularly those in 'respect of services rendered prior to the 12 July 1921 (Date following the Truce). 17 July – 30 September 1955.

Includes letter from Supt Murray, 4 November 1955, to Secretary, Department of Defence, inquiring as to the present position with regard to his application for a

pension and stating it is urgent as he must retire in 1956 if he does not have a certificate of military service. Enclosed is reply from Department, saying his application is under consideration.

Includes handwritten letter from [Austin] Brennan to Murray, 8 December 1955, stating that he has discussed his case with Judge Sheehy and he agreed to hear his case on 11 January 1956.

Enclosed is a further copy of a letter from Supt Murray to the Secretary, Department of Defence, stressing the urgency of the case and adding that 'failure to obtain my certificate before that date would mean my being robbed of the extension of two years granted to serving officers of the Garda Siochana who have pre-Truce active IRA service and service in the National Army after its formation..' (15 February 1956).

Enclosed is copy letter from Murray to Ard Cheannphort, Monaghan, 18 February 1956, stating that there is no point in him applying for the post of chief superintendent unless he obtains his IRA certificate in time 'to enable me to avail of the two years extension of service being granted to those who can produce this certificate.'

Handwritten note is enclosed, from [] stating that: 'The certificate is with ...Department of Defence for signature. Supt Murray will probably be informed in the course of the next week or two.' (17 February).

Handwritten letter from [] Sheehy, 31 Oaklands Drive, Rathgar, Dublin, to Murray, stating that on receipt of his letter he acted at once and the enclosed docket will show how matters stand. If he does not hear word by 3 March, he states that he will ring the Department of Justice. (18 February 1956). Includes letter from Board of Assessors, Glasnevin, Dublin, to Murray directing him to attend for examination before the board, and to bring with him any witnesses (22 December 1955).

11 February 1955 -18 February 1956

46 pp.

(1) – (46)

P/183/8/2/2

Handwritten letter from Thomas McShea to 'whom it concerns', 3 Jan 1956, stating that he has read pages one and two of report dated 11 July 1955 by Supt Murray of Cavan to the Secretary of the Department of Defence, in connection with his application for an IRA military pension certificate, an account of his activities in the Bundoran battalion area up to the time of McShea's arrest in April 1921. States that it is an accurate account of events.

3 Jan 1956

1 page.

P/183/8/2/3

Correspondence relating to the granting of free TV licence, electricity and travel to veterans of the War of Independence.

Includes draft handwritten letter from Joseph Murray to Department of Defence, stating that while it was good to have marked the veterans of the 1916 Rising it was just as important to reward veterans of the War of Independence that followed the Rising. Includes letter from the Department of Defence to Murray, approving of free electricity and of tv/radio licence.

Includes copy letter from Joseph Murray to Secretary, Department of Defence, 30 August 1968, acknowledging receipt of travel card. Includes newspaper extracts on the subject.

9 February - 29 August 1968

13 pp

P/183/8/2/4

Two typescript copies and one handwritten copy of a letter from Henry McGowan, late O/C, Fourth Brigade, 1st Northern Division, 2 January 1956, Naveny, Ballybofey, to 'whom it concerns', certifying that Joseph Murray was appointed adjutant of the fourth brigade, 1st Northern Division in May 1921, under McGowan's command.

3 pp

2 January 1956

P/183/8/2/5

Two typescript copies and one handwritten copy of a letter from Michael Doherty, o/c, Ballybofey Battalion, Fourth Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to 'whom it concerns', stating that he has read an attached document which refers to the arrest of ex-commandant Henry McGowan, in June 1921, and an investigation by Brigade Adjutant, J. Murray, and that he is prepared to give evidence regarding this event.

3 pp

[1956]

P/183/8/2/6

Handwritten and two typescript copies of a letter from James Murphy, ex-O/C, Bundoran company, Bundoran Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to 'whom it concerns', testifying to Joseph Murray's account of his activities in the IRA.

3 January 1956

3 copies.

P/183/8/2/7

Typescript copy of a letter from Thomas McShea, ex-O/C, Bundoran Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, to whom it concerns, testifying to Joseph Murray's account of his activities in the IRA.

3 January 1956

2 copies.

P/183/8/2/8

Letter from P. J. Brennan, Bureau of Military History, 26 Westland Row, Dublin, to Supt Joseph Murray, Garda, Cavan, thanking him for his evidence given to the Bureau through Colonel James J. Conway, and stating that it has been placed in the Archives.

25 Jan 1957

1 page.

P/183/9 Military Pensions of others

P/183/9/1

Material relating to the application by Patrick Hugh McDermott for a military service IRA pension. Included are a handwritten in blue pencil account by Joseph Murray of the involvement of Patrick Hugh McDermott in the War of Independence in Donegal, he resided in West Port, Ballyshannon. States he held the following ranks continuously from 1920 - 1922: adjutant of Ballyshannon Company of South Donegal Brigade, 1st Northern Division; adjutant of second battalion, fourth brigade, 1st Northern Division and adjutant of 4th brigade. States McDermott was 'energetic' in various activities in his IRA roles. States that a strong force of British troops was stationed at Finner Camp, till after the Anglo-Irish Treaty was signed. Further states that the military barracks in Ballyshannon town was occupied by British troops most of the time. Murray comments that the RIC had ceased a lot of its functions and the Sinn Fein court functioned 'without interruption in the company areas.' He comments that local authorities transferred allegiance to Dáil Eireann and funds collected by the Council wasn't lodged in the bank but handed to local trustee who in turn handed it to the Council. Lists principal operation of Ballyshannon company including capture of Belleek barracks in August 1920, destruction of enemy goods at the GN Railway Station, Ballyshannon; throwing an enemy car into the sea at Ballyshannon, raids for arms about July 1920; raid of income tax offices; much more detail included. Included is handwritten copy of letter to Murray from McDermott, 9 March 1954, stating that he encloses 'a very long winded document and perhaps you will kindly peruse it, cutting out and correcting adding, altering, parsing etc of it to get it into whatever you consider best shape...' Also included is a typescript undated (c1950) account signed by McDermott, formerly of Ballyshannon, concerning his

activities during the War of Independence and after the Truce. Included in his description are the capture of Belleek RIC barracks, acquisition of an ambulance from the workhouse, destruction of enemy goods at railway stations, ammunition raids etc, theft of Ballyshannon local authority documents, membership of White Cross, Ballyshannon branch; training during the Truce period at Tullaghan, County Leitrim, breaches of Truce, sniping across Donegal-Fermanagh border; activities of the Irregulars (Republicans); refugees accommodated at the Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran; vacating of Finner by British.

Includes three letters, two typescript and one handwritten, from Patrick McDermott, Stranorlar, to Supt Joseph Murray, 27 May – 14 June 1954, concerning his application for a military service IRA pension, and stating that he was unsuccessful in the past in his application. Seeks information from Murray as to when he was appointed Battalion Adjutant, Ballyshannon, when he was appointed brigade adjutant.

39 pp.

March – June 1954

P/183/9/2

Handwritten letter from Edward S. McGrane to Supt Murray, requesting a reference for the IRA as he is applying for a military pension. Says was in command of 3rd battalion under Danny Gallagher, over special services, reporting to Murray once a month.

With envelope.

19 November 1934

2 items.

P/183/9/3

Handwritten letter from John Johnston to Murray, requesting a reference as he is applying for a military IRA pension; asks that Murray refer to 'a few instances in which you and I soldiered together namely raiding the shops and station.'

With envelope.

20 January 1935

2 items

P/183/9/4

Handwritten letters from T[homas] McShea to Joseph Murray, regarding the filling of military pension application forms by men who had served with the No 1 Battalion. Includes Mick Gillespie's request for reference from Murray.

4 pp

13 March; 8 April 1935

P/183/9/5

Correspondence between Seamus O'Donnell of Ballyshannon and Supt Joseph Murray, regarding O'Donnell's application for an IRA military pension. Includes letter (undated) from O'Donnell to Murray, seeking a recommendation, and a copy of reply from Murray, certifying that O'Donnell held the rank of brigade captain, Director of Transport and Supplies in the Fourth Brigade, 1st Northern Division, from July 1921 to the end of June 1922. States that Murray was Vice Brigadier of the brigade during this period.

Includes a letter from O'Donnell to Murray, asking for specific dates; and envelopes.

Includes letter from O'Donnell to Murray, 29 December 1937, regarding a problem that has arisen in his application for a military pension, in that originally he had stated that he had been a member of the Irish National Army, then had said he had no connection with the Army.

1935 - 1937

5 pp

P/183/9/6

Handwritten letter from Louis Finlay, Bundoran to Supt Joseph Murray, seeking a reference in connection with his application for an IRA military pension. Claims he did 'police duty' from 1920 to 1922.

29 June 1935

2 items

P/183/9/7

Correspondence re Michael Munday

Handwritten letter from Alby Munday to Supt Joseph Murray, 20 March 1937, seeking a reference in connection with his application for an IRA military pension including that he was imprisoned while in Co Monaghan. Says he was examined before a board on the 26yh. Attached is letter from S. O'Donnell certifying he knew Munday of Dunmuckrum, Ballyshannon, as captain of Ballyshannon Company, IRA pre truce and that he 'was a reliable officer quite capable in his post as captain.'

Attached is copy of typescript letter from Murray with stamp of Garda, Gorey on letter, to whom it concerns, certifying that he has known Michael Munday of Dunmuckrim since 1916 and that he was captain of Ballyshannon company of IRA from almost its inception in 1917, testifying to his efficiency and to his activities; recommending his for a pension.

28 April 1937

5 pp

P/183/9/8

Handwritten letter from Phil Timoney, Quay Street, Donegal, on torn lined paper. to Supt Joseph Murray, [] April 1937, seeking a reference in connection with his application for an IRA military pension, stating that he was adjutant from 1919 to Truce, 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Northern Division, and was active in burning barracks, in raids for arms, burning courthouse etc. Enclosed is copy letter, 9 July, of recommendation from Murray, stamped with Garda Gorey stamp. Timoney served a term of imprisonment in the SS Argenta in Belfast.

April 1937

4 pp

P/183/9/9

Correspondence regarding James Gallagher, deceased. Included are typescript letter from the Department of Defence to Supt Joseph Murray, regarding the application of Mrs Catherine Gallagher, Lackrum, Donegal in respect of her deceased son, James, and including an extract from the Donegal Vindicator of 17 February 1922 relating to his death by shooting. 2 October 1937. Also includes letter from M.J. Hughes to Supt Murray, 11 Sept 1937, regarding enquiries he made relating to Gallagher's shooting (13 Feb 1922) and death the following day.

September - October 1937

3 pp

P/183/9/10

Correspondence regarding application for a military service IRA pension by John James McGonigle, The Mall, Ballyshannon.

Includes handwritten letter from Edward Cassidy, draper and outfitter, Ballyshannon, to Supt J. Murray, 18 June 1940, stating that McGonigle was one of the original organisers of the Volunteers in Belleek area and had continuous service from 1912 onwards, being Captain of Belleek Company from 1917 – 1922 and Battalion Adjutant for Belleek area in 1920 – 21.

McMonigle also writes to Murray reiterating the above details and including involvement in engagements in Pettigo. Includes typescript letter from Murray, stamped Killaloe Garda to whom it may concern, certifying that McGonigle was a member of the Volunteers and the Old IRA. 18 June 1940 – 10 July 1940.

June – July 1940

4 pp

P/183/9/11

Handwritten letter from [] to Joseph Murray, stating that he was unable to reorganise the 'old fourth brigade, 1st Northern division' as requested by Murray as his wife had a stroke on 5 Feb 1954 and died from a second serious stroke on

7 Sept in the Mater in Dublin. Writes that Murray has advised him to apply for an IRA pension, but that the time frame for doing this is now short and he will have to travel to Bundoran to gather dates and other data. States that he has given Murray as his reference and has asked others to be referees too.

States in letter that he was a member of the IRA from its inception in South Donegal and held various battalion and brigade ranks up to the rank of vice-brigadier pre-truce, till the army split when Murray appointed him brigade o/c in place of Sean O'Flaherty 'RIP'. In this rank he joined the Garda in 1922[?]. States that 'it was I who took Finner and the two barracks in Bundoran and Ballyshannon from the Guardians. I saved Belleek battalion from being handed over by [] of Belleek to the Irregulars. I took part in most of the army work including along the border including Belleek and Pettigo. Writes that on Murray's instructions 'I went in [charge] of troops from Drumboe to the relief of Pettigo when it was shelled.

1954

2 pp

P/183/9/12

Miscellaneous material from the 1930s to the 1950s, mainly envelopes short notes, memo 'for income tax purposes' with a list of names of his Murray relatives and dates of deaths;

c1930 - c1950

7 items

P/183/10

Photos

P/183/10/1

c.1923

Black and white head and shoulders portrait of a young Joseph Murray in early garda uniform. Two copies. Undated, c. 1923.

2 items.

P/183/10/2

Black and white photograph of Joseph Murray in army/garda cap and greatcoat and holding a gun, standing against a wall. C. 1921-23; 1 photo

C1921 - 1923

1 item.

P/183/10/3

Two sepia and one larger black and white head and shoulders photographs of Joseph Murray in Garda uniform. One with cap and one without cap. C. 1930s. Three copies.

C 1930
3 items.

P/183/10/4

Sepia postcard photograph of 24 young men during the War of Independence. They are in a rural setting, all carry guns and wear jackets, shirts, ties and caps or hats. Includes Joseph Murray.

1920s.
1 item.

P/183/10/5

Black and white print of Supt Joseph Murray and garda colleagues, seated and standing. No date. C1940.

C.1940.
1 item.

P/183/10/6

Black and white print of Supt Joseph Murray and colleagues of the Garda Siochana.

No date. C. 1950.
1 item.

P/183/10/7

Two newspaper photographs of former Supt Joseph Murray. Taken at a commemoration function of over 160 members of the Co Donegal Historical Society in Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey, with other Old IRA men, Major General Joseph Sweeney, Mr Joseph P. McGinley, Mr Dominic O'Kelly. They were there to celebrate the golden jubilee of the 1916 rising. April 1966.

Also included in one of the photographs is Rupert O'Coilainn, president of the DHS.

April 1966
2 items.

P/183/10/8

Black and white photograph mounted on cardboard of 16 men all but two of whom are in garda uniform, sitting outside a functional building (barracks? Bars on window). Photo: Rosemary Power, Cavan.

Undated

P/183/10/9

c.1940s

Black and white photograph of men in function room, with chandelier overhead. Men are in evening dress, Murray in garda uniform.

P/183/11

Ephemera

P/183/11/1

Poems and Songbooks

P/183/11/1/1

Handwritten poem by Joseph Murray entitled *The Tricolour* beg., 'Immortal as the ivy plant which clings on wall and tree when autumn leaves have fled...' Middle verse is headed 'White' and last one 'Orange'. Note at end says written in 1920 but never published.

3 pp.

P/183/11/1/2

Three songbooks

Irish Minstrel- A Collection of songs for use in Irish schools, 2 editions, (1906, 1909)

The Erin Songbook (undated, c.1900)

3 items.

P/183/11/2

Newspapers and Magazines

P/183/11/2/1

Newspaper article entitled Vatican Tribute to Irish Social Code, a lecture given at 'Vatican City', Rome, by Reverend John Ryan, SJ, UCD.

15 Oct 1938

1 item

P/183/11/2/2

Cuimhneachan 1916

Cover of brochure for Comortais Liteartha, Ceoil and Ealaine: literary, music and art competition for Remembering 1916.

1966

1 item.

P/183/11/2/3

Oidhreacht: 1916 – 1966: Commemorating the 1916 Rising, Review magazine.

1969

1 item

P/183/11/2/4

History of Fermanagh

Flyer advertising *The Fermanagh Story* by Peadar Livingstone; and newspaper extract relating to the book; and envelope.

1939

4 items.

P/183/11/2/5

Photo from magazine of Reverend Anthony V. Carroll (Kwoshu, Korea)

1932

1 item.

P/183/11/2/6

Pictorial Records of 31st Eucharistic Congress 1932 in Dublin.

Veritas

1932

1 item.

P/183/11/3

Irish National League Membership card, Ballyshannon branch

Member is Patrick Kerrigan, Ballyinaemuck.

Signed Bernard Kelly and B. Treacy, Hons Secretaries.

On rear are 'objects of the league' including 'to put an end to rack renting, eviction and landlord oppression' and the 'means proposed to effect these objects'

Very delicate condition, torn at sides and top.

29 Oct 1880

1 item.

P/183/11/4

Album Artisque: Paris

Prints of photos of Paris in colour.

Cover torn.

No date (c1920)

1 item.

P/183/11/5

Constitution of Ireland

Copy of Bunreacht na hÉireann, 1937.

Damage to front and back pages.

1937

1 item.

P/183/12

Membership of Garda

P/183/12/1

Garda Directories for the years 1943, 1956 (2 copies, one without cover) and 1968.

1943, 1956, 1968

4 items.

P/183/12/2

Handwritten copy of poem or acrostic' written by Joseph Murray, after the taking over of Dingle District, Garda, Co Clare, Feb 1923 during the Civil War. Says it was published in one of the first issues of Irish Leabhair, the Garda monthly Magazine in the first year of the Garda Force.

2 February 1923

1 item.

P/183/12/3

Certificates

P/183/12/3/1

Certificate (teastas) I scrúdú Gaeilge awarded to Joseph Murray, certifying that he can carry out his duties in the Garda Síochana in Irish.

15 February 1941

1 item.

P/183/12/3/2

Garda Síochana Certificate of Service, for Patrick V Murray, son of Joseph Murray, who held the rank of garda and who retired in May 1991 after 27 years of service with his service categorised as exemplary. With envelope and letter from Assistant Commissioner.

With envelope.

May 1991

1 item.

P/183/12/4

Garda whistle.

P/183/13

Newspaper Articles

P/183/13/1

Irish Independent newspaper 25th anniversary articles commemorating the signing of the Treaty in December 1921

Irish Independent,

Condition: fragile, pages torn.

6 December 1946

1 item.

P/183/13/2

Article on the coming into effect of the Republic of Ireland Act, including a piece on the 1916 Rising and a report on a special message by John A. Costello, T Taoiseach.

Sunday Independent.

Condition: fragile, pages torn.

17 April 1949

1 item.

P/183/13/3

Undated newspaper article 'The personality of Michael Collins' by P. Belton, Belfield park, Drumcondra.

Newspaper unknown.

Undated.

1 item.

P/183/13/4

Short article on death of Emmet McGarry.

Newspaper unknown.

Undated.

1 item.

P/183/13/5

Series of articles in the Irish Independent on partition and the Revolutionary Years, 1916 – 1923.

(1) – (7)

11, 13, 14 October 1971

7 items.

P/183/13/6

Series of articles reproducing extracts from Conor Brady's book on the Garda, Guardians of the Peace.

17 – 20 June 1974

5 items.