

Michael Collins Papers (Military Archives of Ireland)

A/0897 – I.R.A. Intelligence Reports on Civilians accused of giving information to, and associating with, British Forces, during the War of Independence in counties – Cork, Kerry, Waterford, Limerick

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3rd Battalion, Kerry No. 2

Full name: Elizabeth Sheehan

Occupation: R.O. Employed by Kenmare R.D.C.

Address: Lahilla, Kenmare

Offences: Keeping company with R.I.C. during hostilities, and suspected of giving information.

Evidence Available: Battalion I.O. will prove that she was constantly in company with R.I.C. during hostilities.

1st Battalion, West Limerick

Full name: Bridie Ambrose

Occupation: Telegraphist

Description: Dark complexion, Black Hair Brown Eyes Age 24 Height 5' 3"

Address in Ireland: Bishop St Newcastle West

Is person still residence there: yes

Address abroad if left Ireland: --

Offences giving dates and places and particulars in detail: Giving information to R.I.C. Walking with B& Ts. When off duty she used spend her time at R.I.C. Barracks. She used have military inside Post Office sorting mails with her. She is still very hostile.

Short summary of evidence in support of charges, giving names of witnesses: Any Volunteer could and can confirm this.

2nd Battalion, Cork No. 5 Brigade

Full name: Kate Acton

Occupation: Shop Assistant at Willneckers

Description: Tall. Heavily Built. Strong Rough features. Blue eyes.

Address in Ireland: Bridgetown Skibbereen.

Is person still residence there: Yes

Address abroad if left Ireland:

Offences giving dates and places and particulars in detail: Companion of Black & Tans and Soldiers. Confidently supposed of giving information against our forces. She is guilty of statements also as well as Marjorie Young. (see report on that woman).

Short summary of evidence in support of charges, giving names of witnesses: From personal observation, I consider this person guilty in the first degree.

1st Battalion, Kerry No. 1 Brigade

Full name: William Allister

Occupation: Bookkeeper at McCowen's Shamrock Hills

Description: 5' 8", Foxy, Bald, with red complexion. Fair moustache. About 35

Address in Ireland: c/o Spicer's Dominick St, Tralee

Is person still residence there: Yes

Address abroad if left Ireland:

Offences giving dates and places and particulars in detail: Kept company withg Aux's R.I.C. and assisted in entertaining them. Was able to keep out during curfew & hold musical parties for them during curfew hours.

Short summary of evidence in support of charges, giving names of witnesses: [blank]

2nd Battalion, Cork No. 5 Brigade

Full name: Henry Alcock

Occupation: Shopkeeper's Son

Description: About 28 years of age, Medium Height, high curly hair. Light blue eyes. Talks with a slight lisp.

Address in Ireland: North St. Skibbereen.

Is person still residence there: Yes.

Address abroad if left Ireland:

Offences giving dates and places and particulars in detail: Served in the English Army. Since then he has been a close associate with both R.I.C. and military & was without doubt a noted spy. On the night of _____ when our column had been in action in Skibbereen & had left it, he accompanied a search party of military and police & flashed a light in the faces of several people who were halted by the enemy. Since the truce he received a severe beating one night subsequently was awarded £1000 compensation by Judge Hynes.

Short summary of evidence in support of charges, giving names of witnesses: I have examined this case closely although it has been hard to trace any information given by him. I have no hesitation in stating that he has been guilty in the first degree.

2nd Battalion, Cork No. 5 Brigade

Full name: Eily Alcock

Occupation: Shopkeeper's daughter

Description: Medium height, Dark hair, Thin features, Rather good-looking

Address in Ireland: North St, Skibbereen

Is person still residence there: Yes

Address abroad if left Ireland:

Offences giving dates and places and particulars in detail: A constant companion of soldiers & Black & Tans. Is a sister of Henry Alcock & was as actively engaged as he was in procuring and handing over information against us. She was a most dangerous person in this respect.

Short summary of evidence in support of charges, giving names of witnesses: I am perfectly confident of this woman's guilt. Although I have no direct evidence against her only that of suspicion.