

# AN T-ÓGLÁC

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## CARRY ON!

The order for all Irish Volunteers at the present time is to carry on as usual. Political controversy in the ranks must be discouraged.

For the present the paramount necessity in the interests of the country and the public safety is to maintain that splendid solidarity and discipline which has made the Army of Ireland honoured and loved everywhere. A number of factors making for political and social disorder exists at the present moment and at this crisis it is essential that the Army should remain steady, carrying out its ordinary routine duties with the same efficiency as in the past, and everywhere proving itself now, as always, a defender of the common rights of all and a steadying influence in the temporarily disturbed life of the community.

## GENERAL NOTES

Cloisimid go bhfuil Liam O'Rinn chun an tarna foillsiú de "Sli na Saoirse" a chur fê chlóg mhoill. Isé rud atá i "Sli na Saoirse" ná leabhar drille i nGaedhilg i gcóir Oglách na h-Eireann. Gheobhfair le hobair Airm na h-Eireann. Fuair an leabhar duais ag an Oireachtas; do ghlac G.H.Q. leis go hofigeamhail tar éis dóibh beirt do cheapadh chun é mhion sgrúdú go haireach. Ba cheart go mbeadh éileamh maith ar an dtarna cur amach.

## SIGNALLING LAMPS.

*General Description.*—This is an oil lamp in which the light is concentrated by a 6 inch lens (bull's-eye.)

It is fitted with a screw to secure it to the stand, which is the same as that used with the heliograph.

A flat wick  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches in width is used in a circular burner, and its height is regulated by a pinion which passes through an opening in the back of the lamp.

The reservoir holds  $\frac{3}{4}$  pint of kerosene oil, which will burn for about 10 hours. Openings in the body of the lamp covered by wire gauze serve as ventilators. One of these may be used to write by.

A metal chimney, one spare spring, and a wooden fork are carried inside the lamp.

A shutter is fixed inside the lamp in front of the flame. It is worked by a button on the outside of lamp.

The cowl stack and cowl (the latter attached to the lamp by a chain) are removable. When the lamp is used they are put into position and protect the flame from wind, but when the lamp is not in use the cowl stack is removed and placed inside the lamp by being reversed. It fits round the felt jacket covering of the glass chimney, which is always kept on the burner. The cowl in this case is put in the proper lower end of the cowl stack.

The spare glass chimneys in felt jackets are also carried inside the lamp, by being placed between the shutter and the lens. An oil can to hold two pints of oil, a pair of scissors, and a wooden case to hold six glass chimneys, packed with cotton waste and spare wick, are also fitted inside the box provided for each lamp.

Weight of lamp complete 14lb., of box 14 lb., range of lamp at home about 5 to 7 miles.

*To Trim the Lamp.*—(i) Remove the cowl, and take hold of the lower edge of the felt jacket with the left hand, and lift out the cowl stack with the right hand with care, as a rule the glass chimney with its felt jacket comes up with the cowl stack. Raise the felt jacket until it clears the glass chimney, and remove it, then take out the chimney itself.

(ii) Raise the latch at the back of the lamp, and take out the reservoir.

(iii) Unscrew the burner, see that it, the reservoir, and wick are thoroughly clean. Nearly fill the reservoir with kerosene; be careful always to use oil with a flashing point of  $150^{\circ}$ , as it gives the best light. Turn up the wick until about only an inch only projects below the burner, then screw the burner into the reservoir; when in correct position the pinion head should be at right angles to the reservoir.

Care should then be taken to turn up the wick through the burner before screwing it in, for if the whole of the wick is below it gets so twisted from the action of turning, that it becomes very difficult afterwards to raise the wick evenly, and impede the oil rising from the reservoir.

(iv) Having screwed in the burner, turn down the wick, pick off with the thumb and forefinger any charred portion, and rub it, with the

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## AIRE AN GHUNNA.

Taréis lámhachta bion istig sa bhairille salachar on geartrais (cartridge), pe aca bhion pileur sa chartrais nó ná bion. Nuair a bhion pileur sa chartrais bion blúirini miotail meascuithé ar an salachar taréis lámhachta. Niceal an miotal san, a baintear den phileur agus é ag dul thrid an mbhairille. Glantar amach cuid den tsalachar le gach urchar ach fanan fuighlach nách mór a ghlanadh amach chò luath 'sis féidir é. Tangan meirg agus salachar eile ar an dtaobh istig den bhairille, leis, nuair ná bion an gunna in usaid.

Glanadh an bhairille. Ni mór duit piosa eudaig bhuig do sholáthar, eudach a ghlanfidh na rianta casta (grooves, rifing) gan diobháil a dheunamh doibh. Plainneud (flannelette) an t-eudach is fearr chuige, Gearr amach piosai dhe. Biodh gach piosa tuairim cheithre n-ortalach ar faid agus dhá orlach ar leithead. Fliuch piosa dhiobh le hile. Gheoir an ile cheart ó éinne dhiolan gunnai agus a mbainean leo. Cuir an t-eudach isteach i lúb an réitíteora ba cheart duit fhàil in éineacht leis an ngunna. Bion piosa prais ar an gceann eile den réitíteoir. Bain an bolta den ghunna ar fad agus leig an práis isteach sa bhairille i dtro go dtíocfa sé beul an ghunna amach. Cuir bonn an ghunna ar an dtalamh. Beir greim ar an réitíteoir agus tarraing amach d'aon tarrang amháin e, gan leigint do cuimilt den taobh istig den bhairille. Dein e sin aris agus aris eile godti go mbeidh an ile imithe thrid an salachar. Ansan cuir piosa eudaig thirm in ionad an euduig ilithe agus bi ag deunamh an chleasa cheudna godti ná beidh aon phioc salachair sa bhairille. Mara mbeidh an gunna an teastail uait go ceann tamaill aris, aimsig piosa eile eudaig agus tareis fiorbheagainn ile chur air tarraing an réitíteoir thrid an mbairille aon uair ambain eile. Coimeadfidh an beagainn ile sin an mheirg uaid. Glan an bairille le ceirtin ilithe mar sin gach la mas féidir e ach na biodh se i bhfad gan glanadh agat uair ar bith agus nuair a theastoidh uait an gunna d'usaid aris glan an ile amach as an mbairille le piosa eudaig thirm. Glantar an bairille direach tareis lámhachta i gcomhnuí mar, ma fhagan tu gan glanadh i bhfad e cruadh fidh an salachar agus be se anadheacair agat e ghlanadh amach in aon chor. Ba cheart oibreacha an ghunna choimead glan, ilithe, i gcomhnuí, go mormór an ascailt. Bain an salachar di sin le ceirt thirm ar dtuis agus ansan glan go maith le ceirt ilithe i. Gheoir na ceirtini cearta i siopa gunnai ar bith. (o "Shli na Saoirse" do sgríobh Liam O Rinn. Ta cur amach eile den leabhar do fhoillsin aige.)

## DEFENCE OF VILLAGES.

If it is decided to occupy a village, either in the main zone of a defensive position or as a supporting point in rear, every effort should be made to organise an obstinate defence. Such places, strongly held, not only assist in breaking up the attack, but may be of great assistance in driving out the enemy, should he succeed in penetrating the position. It will, as a rule, be advisable to regard a village as a section of the position, and in no case should the main highway through a village form a boundary between adjacent sections of defence. The superior commander will decide whether a village, situated in a position, is to be occupied or not.

The suitability of a village for defence depends on:—

- (a) The nature of its surroundings.
- (b) The extent and shape of the village itself.

As regards the latter point, villages lying end-on to the enemy can often be made strong against flank attack, and may, therefore, be useful on the flanks of a position.

For the defence of a village, a definite garrison should be detailed under the command of a selected officer. The latter will be responsible for selecting the main and any interior lines of defence, for dividing the village into sub sections, for allotting to each a proportion of the garrison, for arranging for a central hospital for wounded men, and for notifying the position of his headquarters. A general reserve should be retained in the hands of the commander to deliver counter attacks against any of the enemy's troops who may succeed in entering the village and to man the "keep" if one is prepared.

Each subordinate commander should consider the preparations for the defence of his sub-section in the following order:—

- (i) Improvement of the field of fire.
- (ii) Provision of cover and preparation of buildings for defence, much of which may be done concurrently with (i).
- (iii) Provision and improvement of communications.
- (iv) Provision of obstacles and barricades.
- (v) Arrangements for extinguishing fires.
- (vi) Ammunition supply.
- (vii) Food and water.
- (viii) Removal of sick and wounded.
- (ix) Retrenchment.

The firing line should usually be entrenched in front of any buildings to prevent casualties from shells which burst against their walls, and arrange to bring a powerful volume of fire on the best lines of attack.

Guns and machine guns should not, as a rule, be located amongst buildings, as there is considerable risk of their being discovered in such a position, in which case they are likely to become the object of concentrated hostile fire. Concealed positions in rear and to a flank should preferably be selected from which to flank a village and bring a cross fire on the enemy.

probable lines of approach, and from which they can be more easily moved in accordance with the progress of the battle.

If, as is often the case, important bridges are located within the village definite instructions as to their value to the commander should be obtained before defence preparations are commenced.

## TRAINING.

The importance of training cannot be over estimated, for it is the preparation of the Officer and the man for the duties he shall carry out in War.

To defeat the enemy is the ultimate aim of all training.

The Officer is the leader and instructor of his men. He must always remember that to maintain discipline he must possess the confidence of his men in his professional ability. But it is often the case that he may be called upon to assume responsibilities beyond those of his rank. Therefore he must train himself by a sound system to acquire the habit of quickly and correctly appreciating a situation; of arriving quickly at a decision; of translating that decision into suitable orders, and to ensure the rapid execution of those orders.

In the absence of actual fighting experience, the constant study of military problems, and the handling of troops in the field, can alone give the Officer the capacity for grasping a situation, and deciding the best course of action.

It is not alone necessary to know what is the best course of action, but you must have the determination to put your orders into execution at all hazards. The more difficult the situation the greater is the need for resolute action.

Men who will resolutely attempt the seemingly impossible when the occasion demands it, will often gain a victory in circumstances in which more cautious methods would fail.

Factors such as the feeling of self confidence and power which springs from a thorough training, the spirit of the offensive, the determination to conquer at all hazards, patriotic feelings, the power of endurance, all tend towards the attainment of moral force, and it should be the constant aim of all ranks to cultivate them during their period of training.

The non commissioned Officer forms the connecting link between the Officer and the man. He must be proficient in the duties which are performed by the rank and file, such as Musketry, Close and Open Order Drill, Revolver, Bombing, Scouting, etc., and should be capable of instructing them in their duties.

He must also receive special training, and be given opportunities of practising these duties, so that he may be fitted when the time comes to take his place as an officer.

The soldier's duty in War and Peace alike is to carry out the orders given by his leader, so long as he remains under his control. Should he find himself beyond the control of his leader, he must act intelligently with the spirit of the orders he has received.

The development of intelligence and self reliance, combined with discipline and skill with Arms, will, therefore, form the principal features of the training of the soldier.

## WIRE OBSTACLES.

A low wire entanglement can sometimes be usefully employed in undergrowth. It can be made by driving pickets into the ground, so as to leave 12 or 18 inches projecting. The tops of these pickets are then joined to one another with wire.

High wire entanglement forms a very effective obstacle. It should be as wide as time and material will allow, but the width need not be uniform. It should be greatest where the fire of defence is least effective. It will be more difficult to remove if it is constructed in two zones with a small space between the parts.

The stouter the posts that are used, the better; but if they are very large, it will be difficult to drive them into the ground, while their stability suffers if holes have to be dug for them. They should average 4 to 5 inches in diameter, and 5 to 8 feet in length.

The outside posts must be well stayed, especially those nearest the defenders, and, to render the passage of the obstacle by means of hurdles, planks, etc., more difficult, the posts should be driven in at irregular intervals (5 to 8 feet), and to varying heights (averaged 4 feet.) With the same object, large nails may be driven into the heads of the posts.

Each post should be joined with taut wire, head to foot and foot to head, to all the adjoining ones. The wire should be wound round the posts and secured by staples, which may be made of the wire itself. Barbed wire should then be hung in festoons to the posts by short lengths of wire.

*It is essential to the efficiency of the obstacle that it should be impossible to crawl under it without the use of cutting tools.*

To ensure something being done at once and throughout, it may be advisable to order the construction of a fence of so many strands between the selected points which will form a nucleus for the finished obstacles.

Trip wires may be put in front of likely points of attack. They should be in lengths of about 10 yards, fastened at each end to a stout peg, hammered flush with the ground. The wire should be quite loose, and should be tightly coiled up before use so that it may be curly when placed in position.

**SIGNALLING LAMPS** (*Continued from page 1*)

wood, quite even with the top of the burner. Never cut the wick unless absolutely necessary. If a new wick is required it should be inserted dry, and should not exceed six inches in length.

(v) Any kerosene found on the outside of the burner or reservoir must be removed.

(vi) Now place the reservoir in position, let down the latch, put on the glass chimney, and add the metal chimney.

(vii) Next put the cowl stack into its place, and drop the cowl into the top, taking care that they fit properly.

(viii) The bearings of the shutter should be kept well oiled and free from rust and dirt; a mixture of ragoon and kerosene oil is a good lubricant.

*To light the Lamp*—(i) Turn up the wick slightly.

(ii) Lift the glass chimney straight up with the thumb and finger of the left hand, until it just clears the top of the gallery, then apply, with the right hand, a match to the wick and replace the chimney; if the chimney is too hot to be lifted up by the fingers, it should be done by aid of the wooden fork, which is made so as to fit the choke of the glass chimney.

(iii) Take special care that the chimney is pressed down, and that it rests evenly in its gallery; any air space at the bottom of the chimney will have the effect of destroying the whiteness of the flame.

(iv) Close the door and keep the flame low for a few minutes, after which the wick can be turned up a little.

The maximum light is obtained when the flame reaches the lower edge of the metal chimney. Take special care that the lamp does not smoke.

Should the flame be "spinking" it is evident that the edge of the wick is not even. As this "spinking" will prevent a proper cone of flame being secured, the lamp should be extinguished, and the wick rubbed down quite evenly.

(v) If the night is windy, the door and air guards must be kept quite closed, but if it is still and close, both should be opened. It may even be advisable to remove the cowl. A mineral oil flame requires all the air one can give it, but it cannot stand wind. The supply of air, therefore, must be regulated according to the weather. In damp weather, wipe the glass chimney quite dry inside and outside before lighting the lamp. If there is moisture in the choke of the chimney, the glass is likely to crack when heated by the flame.

(vi) When using the lamp the charred wick should be occasionally removed, or the flame will be affected.

*To Extinguish and Pack up the Lamp*.—(i) Extinguish the lamp by turning the wick down until only a small blue flame appears. Let this remain for a minute or two and it will die out. Then remove the cowl and cowl stack.

(ii) Lift the metal chimney, taking hold of it by means of cotton waste, a small quantity of which should always be carried for this purpose, as well as for cleaning, in each lamp. Put the metal chimney into its holder. Allow the glass chimney to cool and then put on the felt jacket.

(iii) Next reverse the cowl stack, dropping it into position over the felt jacket, and put the cowl in the base of the cowl stack. Be careful always to keep the felt jacket on the glass chimney when the lamp is not in use.

(iv) Unscrew the lamp from the stand.

(v) If the lamp has only to be taken for a few miles it is easily carried in the hand, but for long journeys it should invariably be packed in its box.

*To align the Lamp*.—(i) If the stations are very far apart the lamp should be aligned during daylight, as it is a difficult matter to aim on the distant light after darkness has set in. This precaution is not necessary if the range is moderate. The lamp is aligned by looking through the sighting tube and bringing the cross wires to bear on the distant station. If the lamp is on a stand, the adjustment is obtained by moving the legs.

(ii) If the signaller receives intimation that his light is not bright, he should first look to see if the wick is sufficiently turned up, and that the lens, glass chimney, etc., are clean. If however, the lamp itself is correct, he should, as soon as the distant station shuts off his light, keep the lamp in the position it occupied at that moment.

(iii) It will be found an assistance sometimes, when working at long ranges, to place a flag pole or a couple of stones on the ground in the alignment, as these will show the position of the distant station should the position of the lamp have been accidentally disturbed.

(iv) The direction of the distant station can be fixed by day by means of three pickets, whose tops must be in an exact line between the proposed position the lamp will occupy at night and the distant station. When a spare stand is available and the weather allows, the opening of night work will be facilitated by aligning the place of aligning pickets as described above, as the lamp may be shifted accidentally, and the pickets further ensure means of resetting the lamp in the event of light having been turned temporarily in another direction during the night.

*To Signal with the Lamp*.—(i) The shutter is worked in the same manner as the dummy key.

(ii) Care should be taken that the shutter is fully opened for dots as well as dashes. Some signallers have a tendency to cut the dots too short, but this should be carefully guarded against.

(iii) The diagram on box illustrates the method of arranging four lamps for transport on a pack animal, two on each side.

