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## YOUTH & S ORGANISA

The above committee invite financial assistance from Youth tions within the Limerick Co area.

Information regarding the hea such assistance may be giver form in which application shou obtained from the undersigned Applications will be received t the **9th September, 1983.**

Note: Youth and sports club federations or other group application **only** through si groupings.

SEAN O LUACHRA,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
58 O'Connell Street,  
Limerick.

# COL. AUSTIN BRENNAN

□ COL. AUSTIN Brennan, of Vernon Ave., Clontarf, Dublin, and late of Meelick, who died at the weekend, was for a period in 1919, Brigadier of the East Clare Volunteers.

Dublin, sent word to Austin to press Dev's nomination. During that campaign Austin Brennan drilled openly and was arrested along with his brothers and fourteen other Claremen. In Cork, Mountjoy and Dundalk jails they organised the famous hunger strike on which Tom Ashe died from forcible feeding.

His promotion by GHQ was ironic in that he replaced his brother, Mick, who had been reprimanded for his action in raiding the GPO in Limerick just before Christmas, and succeeded in removing £1,500 to buy guns for his men.

Col. Brennan was very active all during the Black-and-Tan War, and led several ambushes throughout East Clare.

Col. Brennan was one of three brothers who were in charge of military activities in Clare against the British, during the War of Independence. Indeed, some of his comrades of the era attributed to him to be the bravest of the trio — no slight praise when the daring actions of his brothers as recorded in history are considered.

For some years while he lived on the family farm at Meelick, Col. Brennan was prominent in Fine Gael activities in Clare. He was one of three F.G. candidates who contested a Dail seat in the 1948 General Election. A few years later, he sold the family farm in Meelick and took up residence in Dublin.

During Easter 1916, Austin Brennan was officer in charge of the Meelick Volunteers who were on stand by at Bunratty Castle, awaiting guns they thought might be shipped up the river. His brother, Paddy, had motorbiked to Loop Head, to await the arrival of the "Aud" and Mick was in conference with Commandant Colivet and other officers in Limerick.

Col. Brennan's last visit to Meelick was in 1971, when he delivered the oration at the grave of Christopher McCarthy and Michael Gleeson, two officers of the famous East Clare Flying Column, who were shot on Woodcock Hill during an ambush on a train carrying a party of auxiliaries and Black and Tans.

In 1917, Mick Brennan was the first choice of many of his comrades as candidate for the East Clare election. He, however, suggested Eamon de Valera, and from

Col. Brennan was buried in Balgriffin Cemetery, Dublin, last Monday. He is survived by his wife, Christina; sons, Austin, Desmond, Niall and Michael; daughter, Colette; and brothers, Paddy and Michael and sister, Margaret.



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