

## Kilmichael Ambush

Hi my name is Luke McCarthy. I am from Shanaway west Ballineen. The first lorry contained 9 auxiliaries slowed almost to a halt 35 yards from ambush position by Tom Barry himself on the road. Upon his command to fire the lorry a hand grenade was thrown by Tom Barry into the open cab. A furious man to man battle broke out then took place with some of the other auxiliaries killed using rifle butts and others killed using batonets. The British later claimed that some of the dead were slain with axes. But Tom Barry dismissed their claims out of hand. All 9 British in the first lorry were killed. A second lorry was ambushed by the second I.R.A squad. The auxiliaries called to surrendered them attack when I.R.A man emerged from cover killing 2 auxiliaries. Many of Tom Barry's men were shaken from what they had seen. However Tom Barry restored discipline by making them form ranks and to perform drills before they marched away.

I got this story from my *Anne McCarthy*