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4th Class
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West Cork, Stories of the Revolution 1916-1923

My Great gran uncle Willy Nagle (born 1920) was a young boy during the Irish War of Independence. During this time the Black and Tans in West Cork under the command of General A Percival of the Essex Regiment were billeted in the Red Strand. It was their practice to take local men as hostage for fear of ambush.

One morning Percival and the Black and Tans called to Willy's house but seeing Willy's father (my great great grandfather Jerry Nagle) feeding a small boy, Willy, Percival had a change of heart and left without incident.

As a young boy Willy loved to watch the ships passing the Galley Head. In 1937 at 17 years of age Willy joined the Royal Navy .He travelled the world and had many stories to tell of his time at sea during World War II. When the world war was over Willy joined the staff office at Malaga Headquarters in Singapore which was to form the British Military Administration. There, he had cause to encounter the commanding officer who had surrendered Singapore to the Japanese a general A Percivil no less, whom he had last met as a boy in West Cork!



West Cork. Stories of the Revolution 1916-1923

My great grand uncle Willy Nagle (born 1920) was a young boy during the last War of Independence. During this time the Black and Tans in West Cork under the command of General A Percival of the Essex Regiment were billeted in the Red Strand. It was their practice to take local men as hostages for fear of ambush. One morning Percival and the Black and Tans called to Willy's house but seeing Willy's father (my great great grandfather Jerry Nagle) leading a small boy, Willy Percival had a change of heart and left without incident. As a young boy Willy loved to watch the ships passing the Galley Head. In 1937 at 17 years of age Willy joined the Royal Navy. He travelled the world and had many stories to tell of his time at sea during World War II. When the world war was over Willy joined the staff office at Malaga Headquarters in Singapore which was to form the British Military Administration. There, he had cause to encounter the commanding officer who had surrendered Singapore to the Japanese a General A Percival no less, whom he had first met as a boy in West Cork.

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