

RAIDHFIL MAUSER

Ba é Peter Paul Mauser a dhear an raidhfíil a ainmíodh as. Mar an 'Howth Rifle' ab fhearr eolas air in Éirinn. Ba é a chéad raidhfíil cartúis é ag Arm na Prúise sa bhliain 1872. Dearadh réabhlóideach a bhí ann do na 1870idí ach faoin mbliain 1914 bhí raidhfíil níos nua-aimseartha fós, an Mauser Gewehr 1898, in úsáid ag Arm na Gearmáine. D'admhaigh Pádraig Mac Piarais fúthu, go luath tar éis iad a bheith tugtha i dtír, go raibh siad "[of an] antiquated pattern, without magazines, and are much inferior to the British Service Rifle".

Cé gur raidhfíilí seanchaite a bhí iontu faoi 1916, bhí siad éifeachtach mar airm agus d'úsáid siad urchar ba mhó ná urchar an British Lee-Enfield. Ach b'uafásach an aisléim, mar a fuair an tÓglach Tom Walsh amach: "In the excitement I did not heed

the lectures and did not hold the gun correctly. The result was that [the first time I fired it] the butt hit me under the chin and knocked me out". Míbhuntáiste eile a ghabh leis ná an chumhacht íseal lámhaigh. Níorbh fhéidir leis ach 4 nó 5 urchar a scaoileadh sa nóiméad ós rud é nach raibh aon armlann aige. Oileadh saighdiúirí in Arm na Breataine an tráth sin chun 15 urchar a scaoileadh sa nóiméad lena raidhfíilí Lee-Enfield, a raibh armlann 10 n-urchar acu.

Raidhfíil Mauser Déanamh 71

Meáchan: 10.3 lb (4.7 kg)
Calabra: 11 mm (0.43 orlach)
Armlann: gan armlann, urchar aonair
Ráta Scaoilte: 5 urchar sa nóiméad
Raon: 3,200 slat (2,930 m)
In úsáid in Éirinn: 1914–1923

THE MAUSER RIFLE

The Mauser rifle, which quickly became known as the 'Howth Rifle', was designed by Peter Paul Mauser. In 1872, it became the first cartridge rifle adopted by the Prussian Army. The rifle's design was revolutionary for the 1870s, but by 1914 the German Army was using the more modern Mauser Gewehr 1898 rifle. Pádraig Pearse admitted shortly after the landing that the Mausers were of an "antiquated pattern, without magazines, and are much inferior to the British Service Rifle".

Although technically obsolete, the Mauser was an effective weapon, firing a larger bullet than the British Lee-Enfield. However, it had ferocious recoil, as Volunteer Tom Walsh learned: "In the excitement I did not

heed the lectures and did not hold the gun correctly. The result was that [the first time I fired it] the butt hit me under the chin and knocked me out". The other disadvantage of the rifle was its low-rate firepower, firing only 4 or 5 rounds a minute since it did not have a magazine. Soldiers in the British Army at the time were trained to fire 15 bullets a minute with their Lee Enfield rifles, which had 10-round magazines.

Mauser Model 71 Rifle

Weight: 10.3 lb (4.7 kg)
Calibre: 11 mm (0.43 inches)
Magazine: no magazine, single-shot
Rate of Fire: 5 rounds per minute
Range: 3,200 yards (2,930 m)
In Irish Service: 1914–1923