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Ballingard,  
Ballynacally,  
County Clare.

The Secretary,  
American Committee for Relief in Ireland,  
Standard Hotel,  
Harcourt Street, Dublin.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your circular letter of the 6th. instant I beg to inform you that the loan of £4 0 which the Irish White Cross advanced me was in respect of the ~~loss~~ burning of my furniture, hay, straw, car, creel and other out-door effects on the 2nd day of June 1921.

About 4.p.m. on that date seven motor lorries containing Military and Blackand Tans ~~and~~ Police halted on the roadside outside my dwelling house, situate at Ballynagard, Ballynacally, in a remote part of the county of Clare. The occupants of the lorries then took out my furniture, set fire to and completely destroyed same. At the same time they destroyed by fire a rick of hay and a rick of straw, also a common car creel and other outdoor effects.

I am tenant of a small farm out of which I have to maintain myself, my wife and five children, so that you will easily understand that the action of the persons mentioned left me practically destitute.

I have applied under the Criminal Injury Acts for Compensation to the amount of £515, as so far this is apparently the only means of keeping alive the claim for damages for injuries of the kind suffered by me. The claim however, has not yet been heard owing to the fact that the County Court Judges in Martial Law areas were <sup>and</sup> were/are prohibited from hearing claims for damages for injuries perpetrated by the armed forces of the British Government.

Yours faithfully,

John Cusack.