

Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial

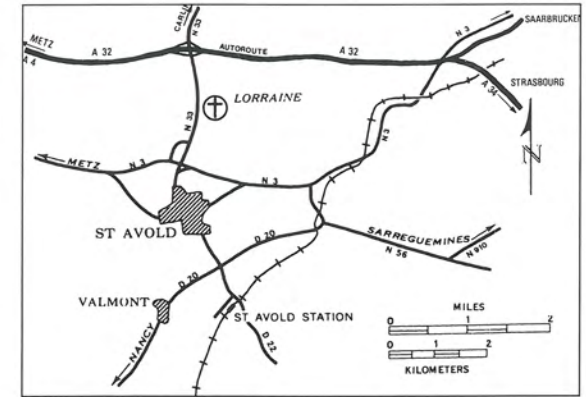


The American Battle Monuments Commission



Chapel Interior facing Altar

Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial



LOCATION

The Lorraine American cemetery is situated three-quarters of a mile northeast of the town of St. Avold (Moselle), France on Highway N-33. St. Avold, which lies 28 miles east of Metz and 17 miles southwest of Saarbrücken, can be reached by automobile from Paris (220 miles) via toll autoroutes A-4 and A-32 in 4 hours. From the St. Avold exit of A-32, Highway N-33, cemetery signs will lead the visitor to the cemetery. The St. Avold train station, located 3 miles from the town, can be reached by rail from Paris, Gare de l'Est, in approximately 4 hours; taxicabs are

available in the vicinity of the station. There are hotels at Metz, Saarbrücken and St. Avold.

HOURS

The cemetery is open daily to the public between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (The cemetery is closed on January 1 and December 25. It is open on all other U.S. and host country holidays.)

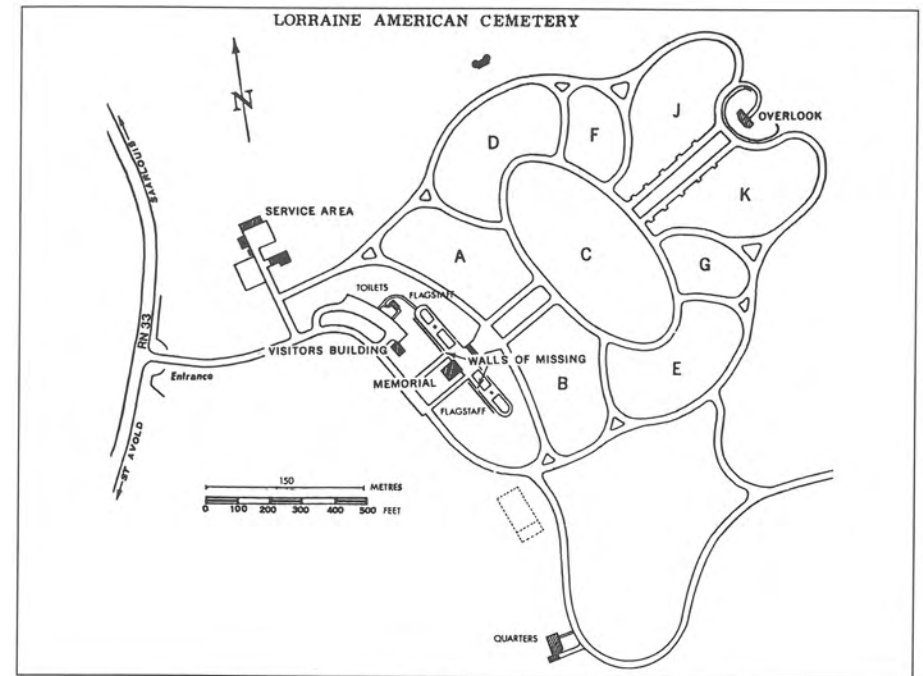
During these hours, a staff member is on duty at the Visitors' Building to escort relatives to grave or memorialization sites.



Cemetery Entrance



Aerial View of Cemetery



Location of Cemetery Features

HISTORY

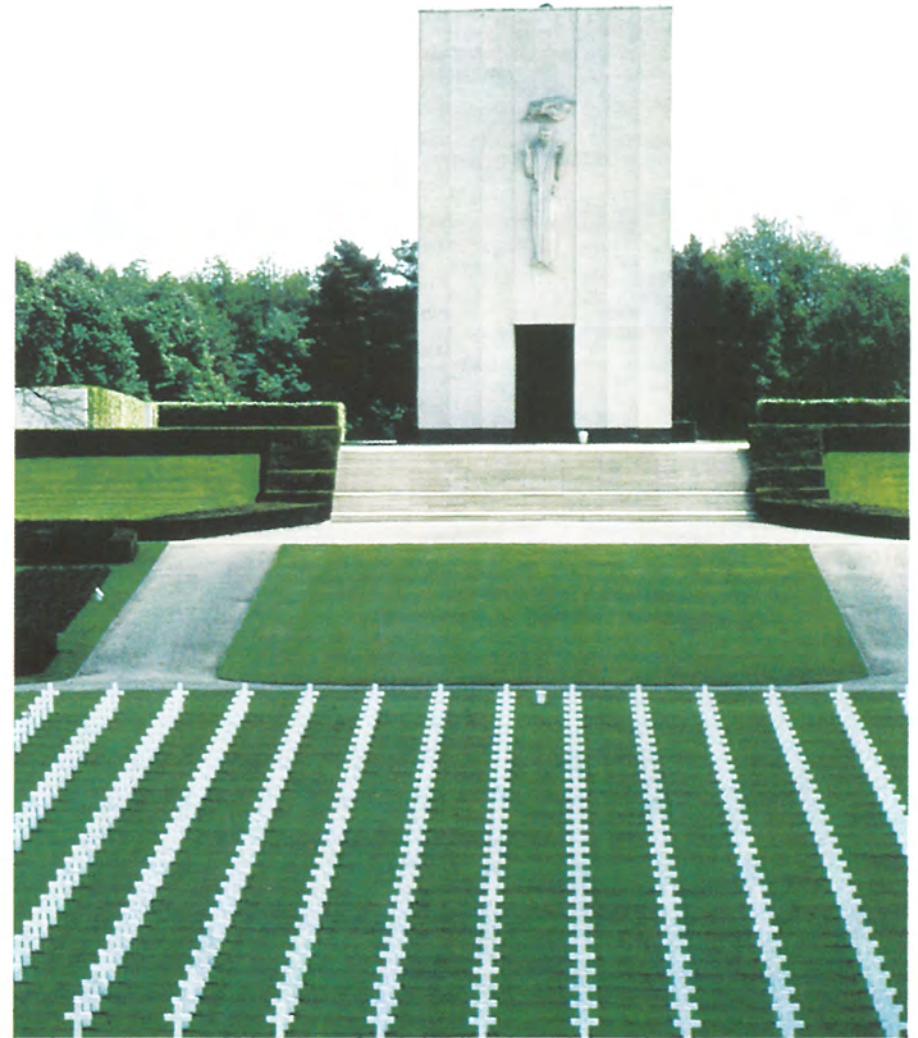
The U.S. Third Army resumed its pursuit of the enemy across France early in September 1944, after a brief halt because of a shortage of fuel. Except at Metz, where extremely heavy fortifications and resistance were encountered, the U.S. Third Army advanced rapidly and crossed the Moselle River. By late September, Nancy was liberated and a juncture with the U.S. Seventh Army, which was advancing northward from the beaches of southern France, was made near Epinal. Upon the joining of these two Armies, a solid Allied front was established extending to the Swiss border.

Throughout October, the two Armies pushed aggressively eastward against increasingly strong resistance. The U.S. Third Army drove toward the Saar River and the U.S. Seventh Army into the Vosges

Mountains, as the enemy fortress at Metz continued to resist. On 8 November 1944, the U.S. Third Army launched a major offensive toward the Saar River. During this offensive, the main fortress at Metz was encircled and it capitulated on 22 November. Its outer forts, however, did not surrender until 13 December. Bypassing this resistance, the U.S. Third Army continued to advance, capturing Saarguemines on 6 December 1944. By mid-December, several bridgeheads had been established across the Saar River and the U.S. Third Army had begun preparations for breaching the Siegfried Line. Meanwhile on 11 November, the U.S. Seventh Army to the south launched an attack eastward capturing Saarebourg on 20 November 1944. Moving rapidly, it outflanked, then penetrated the vital Saverne



Sculpture of St. Avold



East Facade of Memorial

Gap in the Vosges Mountains. Sending the French 2d Armored Division to liberate Strasbourg on the Rhine River, the U.S. Seventh Army turned northward advancing along the west bank of the Rhine against the defenses of the Siegfried Line, simul-

taneously aiding the U.S. Third Army's operations to the north.

Throughout these operations, the U.S. Ninth Air Force and the U.S. First Tactical Air Force rendered vital air support to the U.S. Third and Seventh Armies, respectively,

despite severe rainstorms and cold weather.

The progress of the two U.S. armies was halted temporarily by the enemy's final major counter-offensive of the war, which began in the Ardennes Forest on 16 December 1944. Officially designated the Ardennes-Alsace Campaign, it became known as the "Battle of the Bulge." The U.S. Third Army moved quickly northward to counter this threat, as the U.S. Seventh Army and the French First Army to its south extended their lines northward to cover more front. The second phase of the enemy's final counteroffensive was launched on New Year's eve against the U.S. Seventh Army and the French First Army. The assault began as a drive for the Saverne Gap followed by an attack across the Rhine toward Strasbourg. After furious fighting on all fronts in bitterly cold weather, the last major enemy offensive was halted and the U.S. Third and Seventh Armies resumed their assault on the Siegfried Line. The line was soon broken and all enemy units were cleared from the west bank of the Rhine. In March 1945, the two U.S. armies crossed the Rhine River and began their drive into Germany.

SITE

The cemetery site covers 113½ acres of rolling landscape on the west edge of the Saar mining region. Immediately to the north and east are natural stands of oak, pine and other trees; these have been extended by a planted enframement around the northeast and south sides.

A temporary American military cemetery was established on 16 March 1945 about one-half mile to the south of the present cemetery. The surrounding area was liberated by troops of the 80th Infantry Divi-

sion on 27 November 1944. When the permanent cemetery was built, the present site was chosen because of its superior location, prospects and aspect. It is the largest American military cemetery of World War II in Europe. Buried here are 10,489 of our military Dead, representing 41 percent of the burials which were originally made in this region. Most of those interred here gave their lives during the advance to the Rhine and the advance across Germany in the spring of 1945. Construction of the cemetery and memorial was completed in 1960.

ARCHITECTS

The architects for the cemetery and memorial were Murphy and Locraft of Washington, D.C.; the landscape architect was Allyn R. Jennings of Oley, Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LAYOUT

The Lorraine American Cemetery is entered from Highway N-33 at the west end of the cemetery. From the main entrance, a linden-lined avenue leads past the service and utilities area on the left and rises gently to the right toward the Visitors' Building and parking area. A short distance southeast of the Visitors' Building, at the crest of the hill, is the memorial flanked by Walls of the Missing on either side. A flag-staff from which the American flag flies daily, stands in front of each wall. A broad flight of steps lined with yew hedges descends from the east front of the memorial to the graves area. A dual path enclosing a grassy mall leads one-third of the way through the graves area where it separates to encircle a wide oval grave plot. Beyond the oval plot, the paths continue and the ground rises to a knoll on which an overlook affords a prospect of the entire cemetery as well as of the countryside for miles to the west.



Military Operations in Western Europe

THE MEMORIAL

The memorial, which consists of a tall rectangular tower and the Walls of the Missing extending to the north and south thereof, is normally approached from the rear (west) side. This tower, 67 feet high, is of Euville limestone from the region of Commercy near the Meuse River some 70 miles to the southwest; its walls are carved with bold vertical flutings. The dark stone of its base is Belgian "petit granit." On the west facade is a sculptured roundel bearing the obverse of the Great Seal of the United States; high on the tower are three superimposed angels of Victory each bearing a laurel wreath, designed by Walker Hancock of Gloucester, Massachusetts.

The entrance to the memorial building is at its east side through tall bronze doors. Above these doors, carved in Euville stone, is a tall (26 feet) figure of St. Avold extending his blessing upon those who rest here or who are commemorated on the Walls of the Missing. "St. Avold" is another spelling of "St. Nabor," a Roman Christian soldier who was martyred about A.D. 303 in the reign of the Emperor Maximian; above his head is an Archangel with trumpet.

INTERIOR

On the far (west) wall opposite the door are five sculptured figures lighted from the north by a tall window. This group represents the eternal struggle for freedom, typified by the youthful figure in the center; flanking him are typical religious and military heroes who, throughout history, have taken part in this struggle — King David, Emperor Constantine, King Arthur, George Washington. The sculptor of these figures and of the exterior figure of St. Avold was Michael Lantz of New Rochelle, New York;

all of the sculpture was carved by Jean Juge of Paris.

Beneath the five figures is inscribed:

OUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN — ENDURING ALL AND GIVING ALL THAT MANKIND MIGHT LIVE IN FREEDOM AND IN PEACE. THEY JOIN THAT GLORIOUS BAND OF HEROES WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE.

The wall bearing the sculptured figures which form the background of the chapel is of Massangis limestone from the Cote d'Or region of France; beneath the figures is the altar of French green Antique Patricia marble upon which is inscribed this text from St. John X, 28:

I GIVE UNTO THEM ETERNAL LIFE AND THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH.

The stone pews are of Euville limestone.

The east, west and north interior walls are of French yellow Salamandre travertine limestone from west-central France; the base course is of Ruoms, a compact limestone from south-central France. The memorial floor is of Buxy, a French compact limestone from Burgundy, with green Antique Patricia marble inlays.

On the left (south) wall is a large map in colored glazed ceramic portraying military operations in western Europe from the landings in Normandy until the end of hostilities. A smaller map inserted in its lower right-hand corner: "FROM THE MOSELLE TO THE RHINE" records the fighting in the region of St. Avold.

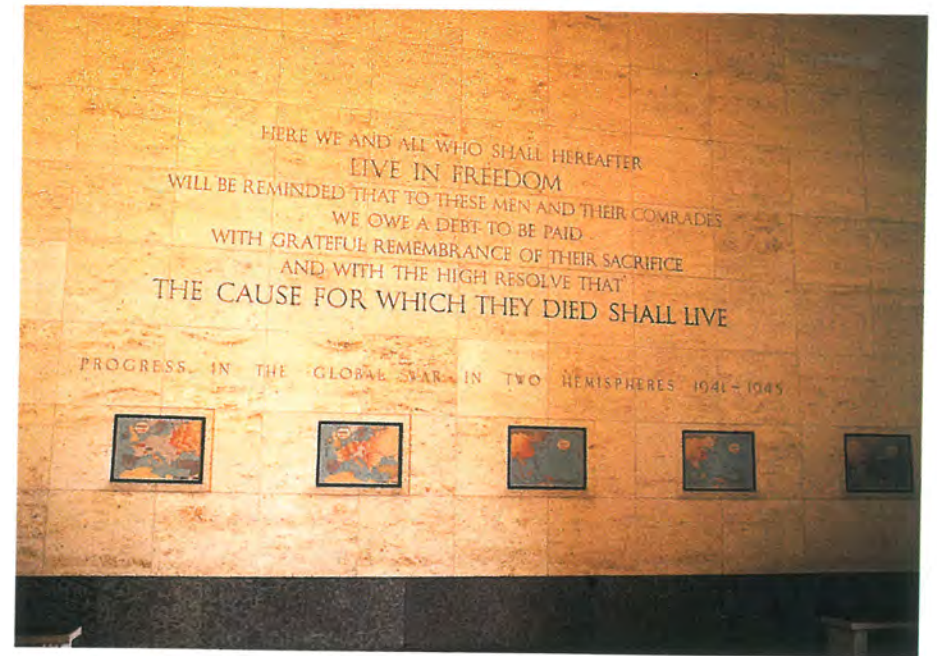
The maps were designed by Pierre Bourdelle of Oyster Bay, New York and Georgette Pierre of Paris from data furnished by the American Battle Monuments Commission; they were fabricated by Miss Pierre. Accompanying these maps are inscriptions in both French and English, of which this is the English text:



Graves Area with Memorial and Walls of the Missing



View of the Overlook



Key Maps and Inscription

ON 6 JUNE 1944, PRECEDED BY AIRBORNE UNITS AND COVERED BY NAVAL AND AIR BOMBARDMENT, UNITED STATES AND BRITISH COMMONWEALTH FORCES LANDED ON THE COAST OF NORMANDY. PUSHING SOUTHWARD THEY ESTABLISHED A BEACHHEAD SOME 20 MILES IN DEPTH. ON 25 JULY, IN THE WAKE OF A PARALYZING AIR BOMBARDMENT, THE U.S. FIRST ARMY BROKE OUT OF THE BEACHHEAD WEST OF ST. LO AND WAS JOINED ON 1 AUGUST BY THE U.S. THIRD ARMY. TOGETHER THEY REPULSED A POWERFUL COUNTERATTACK TOWARDS AVRANCHES. CRUSHED BETWEEN THE AMERICANS ON THE SOUTH AND WEST AND THE BRITISH ON THE NORTH, AND ATTACKED CONTINUOUSLY BY THE U.S. EIGHTH AND NINTH AIR FORCES AND THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, THE ENEMY RETREATED ACROSS THE SEINE.

THE ALLIED GROUND AND AIR FORCES PURSUED VIGOROUSLY, SUSTAINED BY THE HERCULEAN ACHIEVEMENTS OF ARMY AND NAVY SUPPLY PERSONNEL. BY MID-SEPTEMBER

BRITISH AND CANADIAN TROOPS HAD ENTERED THE NETHERLANDS; THE U.S. FIRST ARMY HAD REACHED THE GERMAN BORDER; THE U.S. NINTH ARMY HAD FREED BREST; AND THE THIRD ARMY HAD REACHED THE MOSELLE IN FIRM CONTACT WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH AND FRENCH FIRST ARMIES ADVANCING NORTHWARD SINCE 15 AUGUST FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN. THE OPENING OF THE PORT OF ANTWERP ON 28 NOVEMBER MATERIALLY EASED THE LOGISTICAL BURDEN. METZ FELL ON 22 NOVEMBER AS THE THIRD ARMY MOVED INTO THE SAAR. ON ITS RIGHT, THE SEVENTH ARMY, AIDED BY THE FIRST TACTICAL AIR FORCE, DROVE TO THE RHINE AT STRASBOURG, WHILE FRENCH FORCES FREED MULHOUSE.

THE ENEMY LAUNCHED HIS FINAL MAJOR COUNTEROFFENSIVE ON 16 DECEMBER IN THE ARDENNES. PROMPT TACTICAL COUNTERMEASURES AND THE SUPERB FIGHTING OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN BROUGHT THIS EFFORT TO NAUGHT. A CONCURRENT OFFENSIVE LAUNCHED BETWEEN



East Facade of Memorial and Wall of the Missing

SAARBRUCKEN AND COLMAR MET THE SAME FATE. DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH THE WEST BANK OF THE RHINE WAS CLEARED IN A SERIES OF SWIFT MANEUVERS. THEREUPON, IN RAPID SUCCESSION, AMERICAN FORCES SEIZED A BRIDGE AT REMAGEN, CROSSED THE RHINE AT OPPENHEIM, THEN STAGED WITH THE BRITISH, NORTH OF THE RUHR, THEIR MAJOR ASSAULT. SWEEPING ACROSS GERMANY, THE ALLIES MET THE ADVANCING TROOPS OF THE U.S.S.R ON THE ELBE TO FORCE THE COMPLETE SURRENDER OF THE ENEMY ON 8 MAY 1945, 337 DAYS AFTER THE INITIAL LANDINGS IN FRANCE.

High on the wall above the maps, as well as on the opposite (north) wall, are the flags of these components of our military services: Air Corps, Armor, Cavalry, Christian Chaplain, Jewish Chaplain, Chemical Warfare Service, Coast Artillery Corps, Corps of Engineers, Field Artillery, Infantry, Medical Depart-

ment, Military Police Corps, Navy Infantry Battalion, Ordnance Department, Quartermaster Corps, Signal Corps and Transportation Corps.

Above the doorway is a stand of two United States and two French national flags flanking a 13-star Betsy Ross flag.

On the north wall are six color photographs of maps showing progress in global war in two hemispheres from 1941 - 1945.

Above these photographs is the inscription taken from General Dwight D. Eisenhower's dedication of the Golden Book in St. Paul's Cathedral in London:

HERE WE AND ALL WHO SHALL HERE-AFTER LIVE IN FREEDOM WILL BE REMINDED THAT TO THESE MEN AND THEIR COMRADES WE OWE A DEBT TO BE PAID, WITH GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF THEIR SACRIFICE AND WITH THE HIGH RESOLVE THAT THE CAUSE FOR WHICH THEY DIED SHALL LIVE.

Flanking the door, to the right, is the dedicatory inscription:

IN PROUD REMEMBRANCE OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HER SONS AND IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THEIR SACRIFICES THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A French translation thereof appears to the left of the door.

THE WALLS OF THE MISSING

Extending to the north and south of the tower and facing the graves area are the Walls of the Missing upon which are inscribed the name, rank, organization and State of 444 men of the United States Army and Army Air Forces.* These gave their lives in the service of their country, but their remains have not been recovered or identified. Their names include men from 43 different States. At the end of the walls is this inscription as well as a French translation:

HERE ARE RECORDED THE NAMES OF AMERICANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY AND WHO SLEEP IN UNKNOWN GRAVES.

THE GRAVES AREA

The graves area is reached by a broad flight of steps from the front of the Memorial. It consists of nine plots laid out about the axis in a symmetrical pattern, divided by gracefully curved paths. The headstones are set in straight lines in each of the plots.

These 10,489 Dead who gave their lives in our country's service came from every State in the Union, and the District of Columbia, as well as from Puerto Rico, Panama, Canada, the United Kingdom and Mexico.

One hundred and fifty-one of the headstones mark the graves of

*It will be recalled that during World War II the Air Forces still formed part of the United States Army.

"Unknowns." Among the headstones are 28 instances in which two brothers lie side by side. Among the headstones, also, is one which marks the burial of three men whose names are known and who were buried together; a bronze tablet covers the grave and records their names. There are four Medal of Honor recipients whose headstones are inscribed in goldleaf.

These inscriptions are engraved upon the Euville stone pylons at the overlook:

NORTH PYLON:

TO THESE WE OWE THE HIGH RESOLVE THAT THE CAUSE FOR WHICH THEY DIED SHALL LIVE.

THROUGH THE GRAVE AND GATE OF DEATH MAY THEY PASS TO THEIR JOYFUL RESURRECTION.

PLANTINGS

The whole cemetery is enclosed within a plantation of Scotch pine interspersed with groups of beech, oak and maple. Color has been introduced not only by the flowering shrubs already mentioned but also by means of long borders of pink polyantha roses, both on the memorial terrace and flanking the central mall. North and south of the Memorial, large masses of *Rosa rugosa* and *Cotoneaster horizontalis* link the terrace with the burial area, while further groups of *Rosa rugosa* in association with scarlet roses provide additional color at the intersection of the paths, north and south of the burial area.

Flanking the Memorial Tower on each side are massive hedges of European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) backed by lindens (*Tilia vulgaris*).

In the graves area are informal groups of trees consisting principally of English oak (*Quercus robur*),



View of Graves Area



Inscribed Pylon at Overlook

honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*), white and red flowering hawthorns (*Crataegus oxyacantha*) and the pagoda tree (*Sophora japonica*). Flowering shrubs have been grouped in the open grass areas and include hibiscus, philadelphus, hydrangea, lilac and buddleia.

At the far (east) end of the central mall is the knoll and overlook, backed by a group of trees with shrub underplantings in which predominate the dwarf horse-chestnut (*Aesculus parviflora*), snowball hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborea*), *Cotoneaster horizontalis* and St. Johnswort (*Hypericum prolificum*).

VISITORS' BUILDING

The Visitors' Building and parking area are situated at the end of the entrance drive, just southwest of the Memorial. It contains the superintendent's office and a comfortably furnished room where visitors may rest, obtain information, sign the register and pause to refresh themselves. A staff member is on duty to provide information on specific locations in any of the Commission's cemeteries, accommodations in the vicinity, best means and routes of travel, local history and other items that may be of interest.



Visitors' and Office Building



Visitors' Room



Wintery Scene of the Graves Area

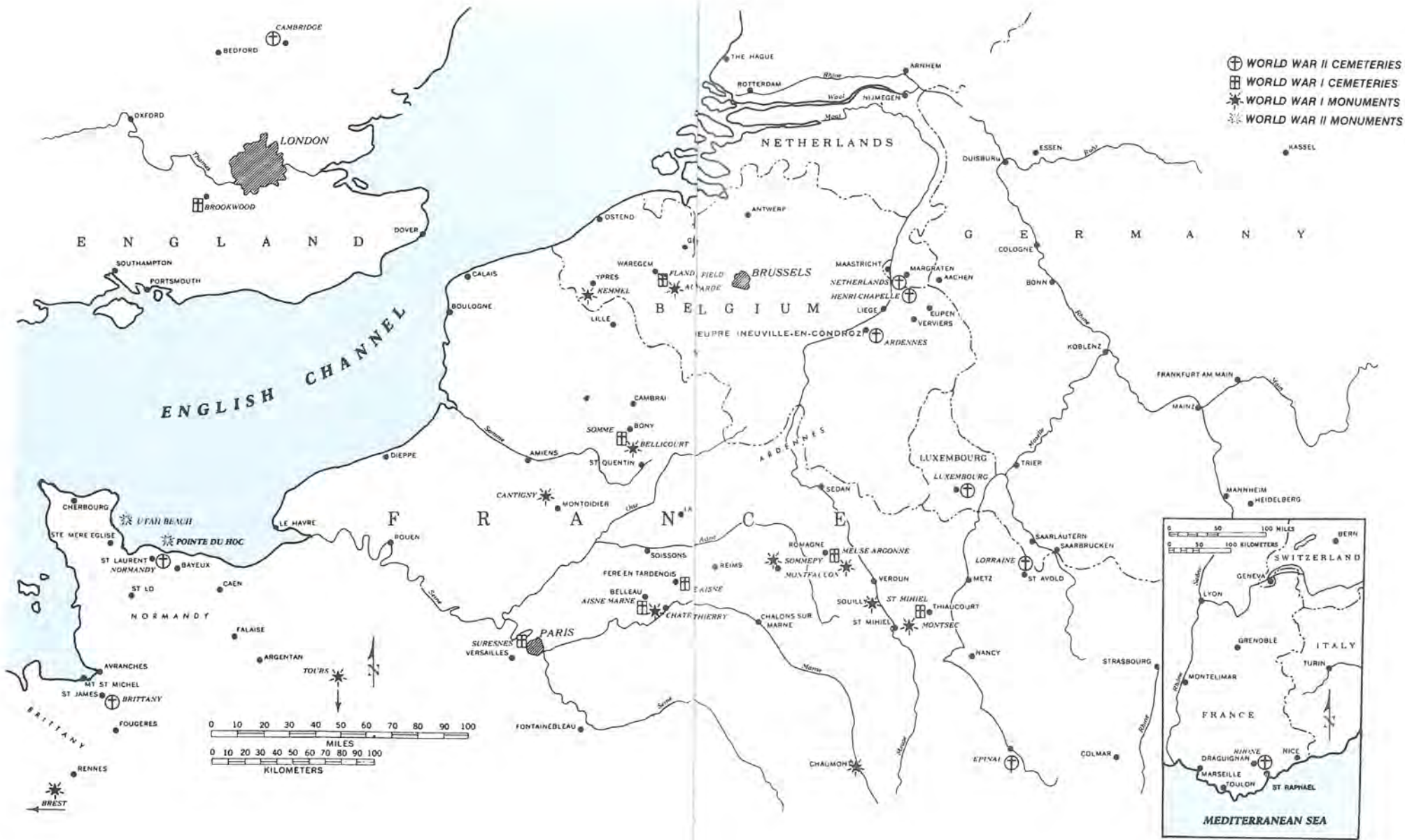


St. Mihiel American Cemetery, Thiaucourt, France

AMERICAN MEMORIALS and OVERSEAS MILITARY CEMETERIES

The AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION was created by act of Congress in March 1923 to erect and maintain memorials in the United States and foreign countries where the United States Armed Forces have served since 6 April 1917, and to control as to design and provide regulations for the erection of monuments,

markers and memorials in foreign countries by other United States citizens and organizations, public or private. It was later given responsibility for establishing or taking over from the Armed Forces permanent burial grounds in foreign countries and designing, constructing, operating and maintaining permanent



cemetery memorials at these burial sites; controlling as to design and materials, providing regulations for and supervising erection of all monuments, memorials, buildings and other structures in permanent United States cemetery memorials on foreign soil; and controlling the design of U.S. private monuments

and cooperating with American citizens, states, municipalities, or associations desiring to erect war memorials outside the continental limits of the United States. It is not responsible for construction, maintenance or operation of cemeteries in the continental United States or its territories and possessions.

After World War I, the American Battle Monuments Commission erected a memorial chapel in each of the eight military cemeteries overseas already established by the War Department, as well as twelve monuments and two bronze tablets to record the achievements of our

Armed Forces. In 1934, the World War I overseas cemeteries were transferred to the Commission by Executive Order.

The names and locations of these World War I cemetery memorials, the number of burials and the number of missing recorded at their memorials are:

World War I	Burials		Missing Commemorated
	Known	Unknown	
Aisne-Marne, Belleau, France	2,039	250	1,060
Brookwood, England	427	41	563
Flanders Field, Waregem, Belgium	347	21	43
Meuse-Argonne, Romagne, France	13,760	486	954
Oise-Aisne, Fere-en-Tardenois, France	5,415	597	241
St. Mihiel, Thiaucourt, France	4,036	117	284
Somme, Bony, France	1,706	138	333
Suresnes (See WW II also), France	1,535	6	974
Totals	29,265	1,656	4,452

World War I monuments erected by the Commission are located at or near: Audenarde and Kimmel, Belgium; Bellicourt, Brest, Cantigny, Chateau-Thierry, Montfaucon, Montsec, Sommepey, and Tours, France; Gibraltar and Washington, DC. World War I tablets are at Chaumont and Souilly, France.

By the end of World War II, several hundred temporary cemeteries had been established by the American Graves Registration Service of the United States Army. During the years 1947 to 1954 that Service, complying with the expressed wishes of the next of kin, and by authority of law, repatriated the remains of some 172,000 recovered bodies. The remainder were given final interment in the permanent military cemeteries on foreign soil, in private cemeteries overseas and in the national cemeteries in Honolulu, Sitka, Alaska and

Puerto Rico (which are now administered by the National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans' Affairs). As was the case after World War I, some remains were left in isolated graves outside of the cemeteries by request of the families who then became responsible for their maintenance.

Fourteen sites in foreign countries were selected as permanent cemeteries in 1947 by the Secretary of the Army and the American Battle Monuments Commission in concert. Their locations reflect the progress of the military operations and were selected with consideration of their accessibility, aspect, prospect, drainage and other practical factors. The World War II cemeteries with number of burials, including Unknowns, and the numbers of Missing recorded at their memorials and at three separate memorials on United States soil are:

World War II	Burials		Missing Commemorated
	Known	Unknown	
Ardennes, Neupre (Neuville-en-Condroz), Belgium ..	4,537	792	462
Brittany, St. James, France	4,313	97	498
Cambridge, England	3,788	24	5,126
Epinal, France	5,186	69	424
Florence, Italy	4,189	213	1,409
Henri-Chapelle, Belgium	7,898	94	450
Lorraine, St. Avoild, France	10,338	151	444
Luxembourg, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg	4,975	101	371
Manila, Republic of the Philippines	13,462	3,744	36,282
Netherlands, Margraten, Holland	8,195	106	1,723
Normandy, St. Laurent-sur-Mer, France	9,080	307	1,557
North Africa, Carthage, Tunisia	2,601	240	3,724
Rhone, Draguignan, France	799	62	294
Sicily-Rome, Nettuno, Italy	7,371	490	3,095
Suresnes (See WW I also), France	—	24	—

East Coast Memorial, New York City, New York	—	—	4,609
Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii	—	—	18,096
West Coast Memorial, San Francisco, California	—	—	412
Totals	86,732	6,514	78,976
<i>World War II cemeteries maintained by the National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans' Affairs</i>			
National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific			(See Honolulu Memorial)
Honolulu, Hawaii	11,597	2,079	
Puerto Rico	69	—	—
Sitka, Alaska	67	5	—
<i>Other Missing in Action Commemorated by ABMC</i>			
Korean War, Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii	—	—	8,200
Vietnam War, Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii	—	—	2,504

Use of the permanent cemetery sites on foreign soil was granted in perpetuity by the host government to the United States free of cost, rent and taxation. The temporary cemetery sites not selected as permanent cemeteries reverted to the landowners.

In 1947, an outstanding American architect was selected to design each of the World War II cemeteries, conceiving its grave plots, a chapel and battle map exhibit as complementary elements of an integral memorial to the services and sacrifices of the American Armed Services who fought in the particular region. Upon approval of their general schemes by the Commission and by agreement with the Secretary of the Army, the architects' plans of the grave plots were followed by the American Graves Registration Service in making the permanent burials of those remains which by decision of the next of kin were to be interred overseas. The timely cooperation between these two agencies contributed appreciably to the coherence of the development of the cemetery designs.

Beginning in the latter half of 1949, the permanent interments having been virtually completed, the World War II overseas cemeteries were progressively transferred for construction and maintenance to the American Battle Monuments Commission by Presidential Executive

Order. Thereupon, the remaining portions of the architects' designs were carried out, step by step — grading; installation of a system of reinforced concrete beams on piles to maintain the levels and alignments of the headstones; fabrication and installation of the headstones; construction of water supply and distribution systems, utilities buildings, roads and paths; plantings; and erection of the memorials, visitors' buildings and flagpoles.

For design of the various memorials, no specific limitations were imposed upon the architects other than budgeted cost and a requirement that each was to embody these features:

A small devotional chapel;
inscription of the names and particulars of the Missing in the region;

a graphic record, in permanent form, of the services of our troops (WW II only; however, Oise-Aisne, Meuse-Argonne and St. Mihiel WWI American Cemeteries also have battle maps).

These requirements have been interpreted in a wide and interesting variety of forms.

An important motive for the construction of the memorials is the implied undertaking by our Government to record by monuments the achievements of our Armed Services, since the erection of memorials by the troops (which in the past



Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial, Cambridge, England

unfortunately had all too often been found to be poorly designed, poorly constructed and lacking provision for maintenance) was expressly forbidden by the military services. The permanent graphic record takes the form of military maps, usually large murals, amplified by descriptive texts in English as well as in the language of the country in which the cemetery is located. The historical data for these maps were prepared by the American Battle Monuments Commission. The maps themselves were rendered by experienced artists in tasteful presentation using various media: layered marbles, fresco, bronze relief, mosaic concrete or ceramics. Another feature of interest at each memorial is the two sets of "key-maps": "The War Against Germany" and "The War Against Japan." Each set consists of three maps, each covering about one-third of the period of our participation in the war. By these key-

maps any major battle may be related to the others in time and space.

With each architect, an American landscape architect, an American sculptor and an American muralist or painter usually collaborated. Their combined talents produced the beauty and dignity of the memorials, all of which are dedicated to the memory of the achievements of those who served and of the sacrifices of those who died. The construction of the cemeteries and memorials and the execution of most of the works of art, were performed by local contractors and artists under the supervision of the Commission.

At each cemetery there is a visitors' building or room, with comfortable furnishings. Here visitors may learn the grave locations (or inscriptions of the Missing) at any of the overseas cemeteries.

Each grave in the overseas cemeteries is marked by a headstone of white marble — a Star of David for



Brittany American Cemetery, St. James, Manche, France

those of Jewish faith, a Latin cross for others. Each headstone bears the deceased's name, rank, service, organization, date of death and state or territory from which he entered the military service.

In the World War I cemeteries, headstones of the Unknowns, i.e., those remains which could not be identified, bear the inscription:

HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY AN AMERICAN SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD.

In the World War II cemeteries, the inscription reads:

HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY A COMRADE IN ARMS KNOWN BUT TO GOD.

Tablets of the Missing (which also include the names of those whose remains could not be identified and those lost or buried at sea) give name, rank, organization and state; the circumstances under which death occurred often precluded the possibility of determining the exact date.

These cemeteries are open every day of the year. Photography is permitted without special authorization, except when it is to be used for commercial purposes — in such cases, permission must be obtained from the Commission.

Unlike National cemeteries under jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, there can be no further burials in the American military cemeteries overseas except of those remains which may, in the future, be found on the battlefields. Essentially, these graves with their memorials constitute inviolable shrines.

In addition to the eight World War I cemeteries, the fourteen World War II cemeteries, eleven World War I monuments and two tablets, and the two World War II markers (Casablanca, Morocco and Papua, New Guinea), the American Battle Monuments Commission's program of commemoration includes the following:

SURESNES

At the Suresnes Cemetery Memorial, senior representatives of the French and United States governments pay homage to our military Dead on ceremonial occasions. Accordingly, 24 Unknown Dead of World War II were buried in this World War I cemetery, and two loggias were added to its chapel by the Commission, thereby converting it into a shrine commemorating our Dead of both wars.

EAST COAST MEMORIAL

To commemorate those 4,609 American servicemen, 6,185 seamen of the United States Merchant Marines and the 529 seamen of the U.S. Army Transport Service who, in or above the waters off the coast of North and South America, but outside the territorial limits of the United States, gave their lives in the service of their country, the Commission erected a memorial in Battery Park, New York City, upon which their names and particulars are inscribed.

WEST COAST MEMORIAL

Similarly, the names and particulars of those 412 Americans who gave their lives in the service of their country off the west coast of the Americas but outside the territorial limits of the United States, are recorded at the memorial erected by the Commission at the Presidio of San Francisco.

HONOLULU MEMORIAL

Although the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Honolulu is administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the American Battle Monuments Commission constructed a memorial therein, incorporating the features of the memorials in its overseas cemeteries. The names of 18,096 Missing of World War II who gave their lives in the Pacific areas (except the Southwest and the Palua Islands which are commemorated at the Manila Ceme-

tery Memorial) are recorded here as well as 8,200 Missing of the Korean War and 2,504 Missing from the Vietnam War.

SAIPAN MONUMENT is situated near the beach overlooking Tanapag Harbor on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It is part of an American memorial park commemorating the American and Marianas Dead in the Marianas Campaign of World War II. The monument honors specifically the 24,000 American marines and soldiers who died recapturing the volcanic islands of Saipan, Tinian and Guam during the period of 15 June 1944–11 August 1944.

It is a twelve-foot rectangular obelisk of rose granite in a landscaped area of local flora. Inscribed upon the monument are these words: "THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THE SONS WHO PAID THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR LIBERATION OF THE MARIANAS 1941–1945."

The **GUADALCANAL AMERICAN MEMORIAL** is located on Skyline Drive overlooking the town of Honiara, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. It honors those American and Allied servicemen who lost their lives during the Guadalcanal Campaign of World War II (7 August 1942–9 February 1943). The Memorial consists of a suitably inscribed central pylon four feet square rising 24 feet above its base. Four radiating directional walls point toward major battle sites. Descriptions of the battles are inscribed on the walls. Both the walls and the pylon are constructed of Red Calca granite.

CABANATUAN MEMORIAL is located 85 miles north of Manila, approximately 5 miles south of the city of Cabanatuan, Luzon, Republic of the Philippines. It marks the site of the



Honolulu Memorial (WW II, Korea and Vietnam), National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii

Japanese Cabanatuan Prisoner of War Camp where approximately 20,000 American servicemen and civilians were held captive from 1942 to 1945, after the fall of the Philippine Islands during World War II. The memorial also honors the heroic sacrifices made by Filipino servicemen and civilians in a mutual quest for honor, freedom and peace.

The memorial consists of a 90-foot concrete base in the center of which rests a marble altar. It is surrounded on three sides by a fence of steel rods and on the fourth by a Wall of Honor upon which are inscribed the names of the approximately 3,000 Americans who lost their lives while being held captive.

Co-located on the site are the West Point Monument, which pays homage to the 170 American and 6 Filipino graduates of the U.S. Military Academy who lost their lives during the defense of the Philippines or while prisoner of war at Cabanatuan and the Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor (a Filipino veterans organization) memorial which salutes their American fallen comrades.

POINTE DU HOC MONUMENT

Following World War II, the French erected a monument at Pointe du Hoc on the right flank of Omaha Beach, overlooking the English Channel honoring the elements of the 2nd Ranger Battalion under the command of LTC James Rudder who scaled the cliff, seized the position, and defended it against German counterattacks at a high cost of lives. The monument consists of a simple pylon on top of a concrete bunker at the edge of the cliff and appropriate inscriptions at its base in French and English. It was officially turned over to the American government for operation and maintenance in perpetuity on 11 January 1979.

UTAH BEACH MONUMENT

The Utah Beach Monument is located at the termination of Highway N-13D, approximately 3 kilometers northeast of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont (Manche), France. This monument commemorates the achievements of the American Forces of the VII Corps who fought in the liberation of the



Rhone American Cemetery and Memorial, Draguignan, Var, France



Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne, Meuse, France

Cotentin Peninsula from 6 June to 1 July 1944. It consists of a red granite obelisk surrounded by a small, developed park overlooking the historic sand dunes of Utah Beach, one of the two American landing beaches during the Normandy Invasion of 6 June 1944.

Three memorials in Washington, DC were also established by the Commission, but are now administered by the National Park Service.

The AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES MEMORIAL, located on Penn. Ave. between 14th and 15th Streets, NW in Wash. DC, commemorates the two million American military personnel and their CinC, Gen. John J. Pershing, who made up the AEF of WWI.

It consists of a stone plaza 52 ft. by 75 ft., an 8 ft. statue of Gen. Pershing on a stone pedestal, a stone bench facing the statue and two 10 ft. high walls, one along the south side of the

memorial area and one along the east. The south wall contains two battle maps with appropriate inscriptions. Inscribed upon the reverse face of the east wall is Gen. Pershing's tribute to the officers and men of the AEF: "IN THEIR DEVOTION, THEIR VALOR, AND IN THE LOYAL FULFILLMENT OF THEIR OBLIGATIONS, THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES HAVE LEFT A HERITAGE OF WHICH THOSE WHO FOLLOW MAY EVER BE PROUD."

The WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL, prominently located on the National Mall in Washington, DC between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, honors a nation united in a just and common cause.

It is the first memorial dedicated to the more than 400,000 Americans who gave their lives for freedom, the 16 million who served in uniform, and all who contributed to the war effort on the home front.

Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th century, the memorial is a testament to the spirit, sacrifice and commitment of the American people.

To learn more, visit our website at www.abmc.gov

KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Korean War Veterans Memorial, located on the National Mall in Washington, DC, was dedicated on 27 July 1995. The Memorial commemorates the sacrifices of the 5.8 million Americans who served during the three-year period of the Korean War. The war was one of the most hard fought in our history. During its relatively short duration, 25 June 1950–27 July 1953, 33,700

Americans were killed in action; 8,200 of those killed in action were classified as missing in action (and presumed dead), or lost or buried at sea. An additional 103,000 Americans were wounded during the conflict. An integral part of the Memorial is the Korean War Honor Roll, an interactive automated database, containing the names of those U.S. military personnel who died world-wide during the war.

MEXICO CITY NATIONAL CEMETERY

The Mexico City National Cemetery is at 31 Virginia Fabregas, Colonia San Rafael, about 2 miles west of the Metropolitan Cathedral and about one mile north of the U.S. Embassy. This cemetery was established in 1851 and contains a small monument over the grave of 750 of our unidentified Dead of the War of 1847. In this one acre area there are 813 remains of Americans and others in wall crypts. Care of the cemetery was transferred from the Department of the Army to this Commission on 16 July 1947. This cemetery was closed to burials in 1923.

COROZAL AMERICAN CEMETERY, COROZAL, REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

The Corozal American Cemetery is located approximately three miles north of Panama City, just off Gaillard Highway between the Corozal Railroad Station and Fort Clayton. To reach the cemetery, follow Gaillard Highway north from Panama City, turn right on Rybicki Road, and proceed about one-half mile to the cemetery. Taxi and bus service to the cemetery are available from Panama City. There are 5,320 identified "Known" Dead interred here. In agreement with the Republic of Panama, care and maintenance of the cemetery in perpetuity was assumed by the Commission on 1 October 1979.

SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC

Upon request, and without cost, the following information and services are provided to family members and friends of those interred or commemorated at ABMC's cemeteries and memorials:

- name, location and general information about the cemetery, monument or memorial;
- plot, row and grave number and, if applicable, memorialization site;
- authorization for issuance of fee-free passports for members of the immediate family traveling overseas specifically to visit an ABMC grave or memorialization site;

- a photograph of grave and/or memorialization sites affixed to a large color lithograph of the appropriate cemetery and memorial;
- best route and modes of travel in-country to cemetery or memorial site;
- general information about accommodations in the vicinity of the cemetery or memorial;
- arrangement for floral decoration of a grave or memorialization site. (Weather permitting, a color polaroid photograph of the floral decoration in place is provided to the donor).



Corozal American Cemetery, Corozal, Republic of Panama



Decorated Gravesite of a World War II "Unknown"

THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MARCH 1923



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Suresnes American Cemetery and Memorial, Seine, France