



**A Burial Service for
An Unknown Soldier of The Connaught Rangers and
An Unknown Soldier of an Unknown Regiment
Killed during the Great War**

**11:00 hours Wednesday 20 March 2019
Guillemont Road Cemetery, France**

**Service conducted by the Reverend Nathan King CF
Chaplain 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment**

The remains of this unknown soldier of The Connaught Rangers and this unknown soldier of an unknown regiment were discovered on the outskirts of Guillemont during work on a wind turbine project. Research suggests this Connaught Ranger was most likely a member of 6th Battalion who attacked the village during the Battle of Guillemont in September 1916. Unfortunately, there are still too many Connaught Rangers missing in this area from the battle to identify this man. No artefacts were found with the other casualty to suggest which regiment he belonged to. They will therefore be buried today as an unknown soldier of The Connaught Rangers and an unknown soldier of an unknown regiment.

Les restes de ce soldat des Connaught Rangers et ce soldat inconnu d'un régiment inconnu ont été découverts à l'orée de Guillemont au cours des travaux pour un projet d'éoliennes. Les recherches indiquent que ce soldat des Connaught Rangers est plus probablement un soldat du 6e Bataillon qui ont attaqué le village en septembre 1916 durant la Bataille de Guillemont. Malheureusement il manque toujours un trop grand nombre de soldats des Connaught Rangers disparus pendant cette bataille pour pouvoir tenter d'identifier cet individu. Il n'y avait pas des artefacts trouve avec l'autre soldat qui pourrait indiquer son régiment. Ils seront donc inhumé comme un soldat inconnu des Connaught Rangers et un soldat inconnu d'un régiment inconnu.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Guillemont Road Cemetery was created by fighting units in September 1916, after the Battle of Guillemont, and was in operation until March 1917. After the armistice, the size of the cemetery increased with the concentration of graves from the surrounding battlefields, including the town of Ginchy. It is from this area that these two casualties, one of whom served with the Connaught Rangers, were discovered. They can now be laid to rest alongside their comrades.

Call to Worship

Appel à Adoration

We come before God in remembrance of our fallen comrades and ask that God may receive our prayers when we call upon Him. He is faithful and just. He hears our prayers when we call. We ask that God may bless us with His presence this day and always.

All May the peace of the Lord be always with you,
and also with you.

Bidding Prayer

Prière

At this time we ask for your presence, Lord, that in darkness you may give us your light. That by your presence we may behold you and receive the blessings of your grace.

All Amen.

Gospel Reading

Lecture de l'Évangile

Read by Brigadier Mike Murdoch MBE

Deputy Colonel of the Royal Irish Regiment

John Chapter 14 v 1-3 (NIV)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

Scripture Reading

Lecture des Écritures Saintes

Read by Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Dominic Hancock
British Embassy Paris

Psalm 23 (KJV)

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.
He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death,
I will fear no evil;
For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever.

Scripture Reading

Lecture des Écritures Saintes

Read by Colonel Des Bergin

Representing the Irish Embassy in France

Romans Chapter 8 v 35-39 (NIV)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Address

Allocution

The Collect of The Royal Irish Regiment

Récitation du Régiment

Read by Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Andy Hart OBE
Royal Irish Regiment

Almighty God whose love knows no bounds grant that we, The Royal Irish Regiment, may do our duty courageously so that, undaunted by the difficulties which beset us, your will may be done and, united as members one with another may we, mindful of the valour and sacrifice of those who have gone before us, clear the way for those that follow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All **Amen.**

Committal

Enterrement

Lord, in your light we ask that we may behold your presence. We offer into your safe keeping the loss of these unknown soldiers who are not unknown to you. We offer their souls into your safe keeping this day and forevermore.

The Exhortation

L'Éxhortation

Read by WO2 Gary Wilkins
2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

All **We will remember them.**

The Last Post
Sonnerie aux Morts

Silence

Reveille

Kohima Epitaph
L'Épitaphe de Kohima

When you go home tell them of us and say:
'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'

Laying of Wreaths
Dépôts des Gerbes

Prayer
Prière

Lord God, you know each one of us by name. We are deeply known and loved by you. We offer before you the souls of the nameless, those created by you, who now behold you as Lord and friend.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer
Prière du Seigneur

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Blessing
Séparation et Dernière Bénédiction

Heavenly Father, each one is precious to you. As we offer the soul of these soldiers into your continuing care we also ask that you may bless us all with your presence as we share together in your Kingdom of everlasting peace. The blessing of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with us forever more.

All **Amen.**



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