Moving Service at Madingley Road  

MAYOR AND C.C.  

CHAIRMAN  

LAY WREATHS

NEITHER the blue Spring sky nor the clear cloves, nor the warm countryside after a sprinkling of rain lovely picture though it formed—nor even the compelling sight of aircraft visible on Oakington airfield in the distance form the picture most vivid in my memory of the American Memorial Day ceremony held at the United States Military Cemetery on Monday evening, writes the "Cambridge Daily News" Chief Reporter. What really gripped the eye as we stood, a small party, in one corner of the cemetery to join in the commemoration were the stark lines of the angular white crosses before us, now drawn up in lines forming a broad semicircle. We faced these crosses, like a silent, white congregation, and so did those 3,300 strong. The presence of the service, as the words of the service were mingled with the singing of birds in the nearby trees were borne over those last resting-places where movement was sometimes visible as the wind caught the miniature American and British flags placed on each grave.

PRIVATE CEREMONY.

Because the cemetery is not yet ready to be reopened to the public, the ceremony was a private one attended only by representatives of the American armed forces, a party from the Cambridge branch of the British Legion, the Chairman of the County Council, the Mayor of Cambridge, several relatives of those who lie buried in the cemetery, and one or two others who have close connections with it. The short service, in front of Bagdad's Council, the Stars and Stripes and Union Jack, was taken by three United States Chaplains representing the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths—Chaplains Burns, Paul J. Maddox, and Herman Bicker. Following a minute of silence, wreaths were laid by Mayor General Arthur McK. Harper, on behalf of the United States Army, Commander V. R. Cole (U.S. Navy), Colonel W. C. McFarland (U.S. Air Force), A. E. Gordon Frost (Chairman of Cambridge and District County Council), Mr. W. C. James (Mayor of Cambridge), and Mr. R. E. MacGregor (Area Secretary, British Legion).

A squad of U.S. Marines fired a volley, and a bugler sounded "Taps." The ceremony ended with the lowering of the flags to full staff of the two flags. The Union Jack was hoisted by Capt. H. W. Woodcock.

Previously, in some introductory remarks, Maj. Gen. Harper had told why the ceremony had been kept private. He mentioned that the ceremony was only United States armed forces' World War II burial ground now in existence in England, and shortly he would take over from the American Graves Registration Commission by the Battle Monuments Commission.

Legion Ceremony

Following this ceremony the British Legion party laid an American Legion wreath on behalf of friends in America on the grave of Lieut. Peter G. Lehmann.

Lieut. Lehmann was the son of Mr. Herbert H. Lehmann, three times Governor of New York State, a former head of U.N.R.E.A. Although an American by birth, he enlisted in the Canadian Air Force. His wings, as well as those of officers of officer's training class, were presented to him by his father at Trenton, Ontario. This was a rare honour and was possible because his father was the special guest of the Canadian Government as Governor of New York State.

Peter Lehmann served in the R.C.A.F. until the U.S. entered the war. He then transferred to the U.S.A.A.F. and was killed in action while returning from his 56th bombing mission over Germany. A letter from a friend says "His body will always rest in England, for his father does not wish him to be in any other place than where gave his life."

SILENT TRIBUTE.

At the graveside the Branch Chaplain, Pte. H. J. Needham, said a short prayer and the "Last Post" was sounded. During a silent tribute to fallen comrades, Laurence Baylyon, famous lines "They shall not grow old" were spoken, ending with the words "We will remember them."

Capt. A. C. Taylor then laid the wreath on behalf of the Peter G. Lehmann Post, New York. Another of Baylyon's famous lines "They shall not grow old" were spoken, ending with the words "We will remember them."

The sounding of the Reveille brought the simple but moving ceremony to a close.

The Legion colour-party consisted of Mesters T. Issacson (standard bearer), J. Lodge and R. Andrew (escort).