

WAR GRAVES

*Agreement drawn up at Brussels February 13, 1922, and signed at Paris
February 15, 1922
Entered into force February 15, 1922
Replaced January 31, 1960, by agreement of November 27, 1959¹*

Department of State files

AGREEMENT CONCERNING SEPULTURES OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN BELGIUM

Art. 1. The American Authorities will inform the Belgian Authorities of the grounds which they may desire to reserve for the soldiers of their Army killed during the war and inhumed in Belgium.

Art. 2. Inquiries will be conducted previous to these reservations by the Belgian Authorities as per usual procedure.

Art. 3. The Belgian Government will acquire the grounds which have been recognised, after inquiry, suitable for the purpose contemplated.

The grounds will include the space which may be necessary for roads of access.

Acquisitions will be made in the name and at the expense of the Belgian Government, in conformity with the Belgian Laws.

Art. 4. The Belgian Government will transfer to the United States Government, for use only, the grounds thus acquired in conformity with the above stipulations.

The American Government will bear all expenses in connection with the laying out and upkeep of the grounds as well as the building of roads which it may eventually be found necessary to establish for access to public ways. In mixed cemeteries these expenses will be shared by the Governments concerned in proportion with the number of soldiers of each nationality buried therein.

Art. 5. The Belgian Government will bear the expense of the perpetual grant of the American Graves in communal cemeteries whenever the transfer of the bodies to special places of sepulture is not deemed necessary.

Art. 6. Military Graves outside communal cemeteries are under the authority, police and direction of the Belgian Government.

¹ 10 UST 2124; TIAS 4383.

Art. 7. The present agreement applies to the grounds which the American Government has already secured for the establishment of military cemeteries.

The Belgian Government will be proprietor of those grounds and bear the expenses of purchase of same.

Drawn up in duplicate at Brussels February 13, 1922.

For the Belgian Government
The Minister of National Defence
By order: The Secretary General
BUISSERET
Paris, February 15, 1922

For the United States Government
H. F. RETHERS
Col. Q.M.C.