

War Graves: 1642/1/40

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CIRCULAR.

Copy in Circular: F.O.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
May 25, 1940.

S/E to C.D. Am. Staff

RECEIVED
JUL 1940
BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON

Sir,

I HAVE to inform you that the Imperial War Graves Commission established by Royal Charter in 1917 for the purpose of caring for the British graves of the Great War have now received a Supplemental Charter empowering them to care for the British graves of the present war. The Commission have made arrangements for receiving information about such graves from the present theatre of war and from those countries with which they are in direct touch. The Commission now desire the assistance of British diplomatic representatives in other countries where it is likely or possible that British serving officers or men may be buried, or where the bodies of members of His Majesty's Forces or of British merchant seamen who have died as the result of enemy action at sea may be washed ashore.

the competent authority

2. I request therefore that you will ask the Government of the country in which you reside to notify you without delay of any such burials or of the recovery of bodies from the sea in the circumstances described. Such information as you receive should be transmitted to me for communication to the Imperial War Graves Commission or communicated direct, if you are already in touch with the Commission.

to U.S.G. make good enough

I am, with great truth and regard,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
HALIFAX.

His Majesty's Representative

at

Washington

(024/1940)

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INDEX