

CCM/22273

~~Form to be completed up.~~

BAYLEY, F. G. (DFC) LT. R.A.F.

MEERENDRE CHURCHYARD.

BELGIUM.

|                       |                   |                         |         |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| R.F.O.                | 1.5.63            | Records library for P/A | 2/8/63  |
| <del>Mr Haskins</del> | <del>1.5.63</del> | R.F.O.                  | 19.8.63 |
| P.A.O.                | 1.5.63            | Records library PA      | 13.1.64 |
| Library (PA)          | 1.5.63            |                         |         |
| Library (PA)          | 5.6.63            |                         |         |
| Library (PA)          | 6.6.63            |                         |         |
| R.F.O.                | 18.6.63           |                         |         |
| Records PA            | 11.7.63           |                         |         |
| MR. HASKINS           | 31.7.63           |                         |         |



STATEBONDSKOMMISSIE VIR OORLOGSGRAFTE

Suid-Afrikaanse Agentskap

NUWE LANDDROSGEBOU  
EUNICEWEG

**BLOEMFONTEIN**

Telefoon 88102

Posbus 48

Tel. Adres: "WARGRAVES", BLOEMFONTEIN

Verw.

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

South African Agency

NEW MAGISTRATE'S COURT  
EUNICE ROAD

**BLOEMFONTEIN**

Telephone 88102

P.O. Box 48

Tel. Address: "WARGRAVES", BLOEMFONTEIN

Ref.: I.W.G.149

6 March, 1963.

The Director General,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
32 Grosvenor Gardens,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

BURIAL: 1914/18 WAR.

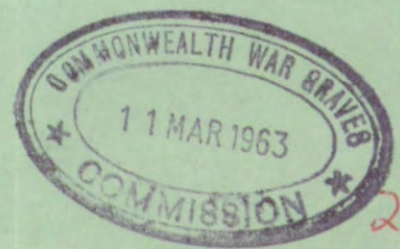
I shall be glad if you would kindly advise me of  
the place of burial, grave number, etc., of  
Lieut. Frederick Gordon Bayley, 204th Squadron, R.A.F.  
Killed in action 23/10/1918.

*Harold G. Bayley*  
SECRETARY.

11/3

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/65 (CCM22273)





235

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/65 (CCM22273)

9 WGR 1/2637

PIA

18th March, 1963.

CCM.22273

The Secretary,  
South African Agency,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
P.O. Box 48,  
Bloemfontein,  
South Africa.

---

Lieutenant Frederick Gordon Bayley, D.F.C.,  
204 Squadron, Royal Air Force  
23rd October, 1918

With reference to your letter I.W.G.149 dated 6th March, the above-named officer is buried in Merendree Churchyard, Belgium.

Merendree is a village in the Province of East Flanders, seven and a half miles north west of Ghent and three and a half miles north of the new autoroute from Ostend to Brussels. The church is situated in the centre of the village and Lieutenant Bayley is buried with four comrades of 204 Squadron in the south-east part of the churchyard.

Director-General.



D. B (1)

2nd April, 1963.

RA/40001

The Secretary,  
South African Agency,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
P.O. Box 48,  
Bloemfontein,  
Orange Free State, South Africa.

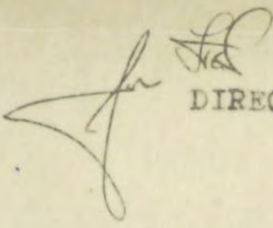
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Lieut. F.G. Bayley, R.A.F., 23.10.18

Will you please refer to your I.W.G. 149 of the 6th ultimo and our reply CCM. 22273 of the 18th ultimo.

The Commission has now been asked, as Meerendre Churchyard, Belgium in which the above named officer is buried is to become disaffected, to remove the four 1914-1918 war graves, either to the proposed new communal cemetery or to one of our war cemeteries. It is possible therefore that approval will be given for the removal of this grave to Cement House Cemetery, Langemarck, Belgium.

This information is being furnished in order that any reply you may be contemplating, may be so compiled as to contain the above data. It would therefore be most appreciated if you would say why your enquiry of the 6th ultimo was initiated.

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/65 (CCM22273)



D. B (1)

2nd April, 1963.

RA/40001

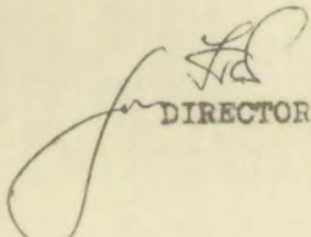
Regional Director,  
Northern Region,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
Place du Marechal Foch,  
Arras, Pas-de-Calais,  
France.

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W.G.R.1.  
Meerendre Churchyard, Belgium

Please refer to your NR/C/1456 of the  
19th ultimo.

With reference to the above, the Commission  
has received an enquiry in regard to one of the  
known casualties buried in the above named church-  
yard which may entail a delay of a few weeks  
before approval for the above named exhumation  
and concentration *may* be obtained.

  
DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
AND RECORDS.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/65 (CCM22273)

E.P.O.

Returned to you, as  
requested.

L. S. S. S.

2-4-63

←

? copy of this letter

E.P.O.

Copies of letters to N.R., and  
South African Agency attached

L. S. S. S.

Mr Sheppard  
(Records)

Could you please  
have a temporary Engineering  
file made & return to  
me.

W. H. [Signature] 2/4/4



Suid-Afrikaanse Agentskap

South African Agency

NUWE LANDDROSSEBOU  
EUNICEWEG  
BLOEMFONTEIN

NEW MAGISTRATE'S COURT  
EUNICE ROAD  
BLOEMFONTEIN

Telefoon 88102

Posbus 48

Tel. Adres: "WARGRAVES", BLOEMFONTEIN

Verw.

Telephone 88102

P.O. Box 48

Tel. Address: "WARGRAVES", BLOEMFONTEIN

Ref.: I.W.G. 149

URGENT:

16th April, 1963

The Director General,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
32 Grosvenor Gardens,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

LIEUT. F.G. BAYLEY, R.A.F.  
23.10.18.

With further reference to your RA/40001 dated 2nd April, 1963 and my reply I.W.G.149 dated 5th April 1963, I have to inform you that the reason for the enquiry of the location of the grave of the above named, was for the purpose of a visit to the grave by one of the members of the B.C.E.S.L., Pilgrimage.

The member, Mr Bayley, intends deviating to Ghent, Belgium, for the visit and is now anxious to know whether the grave will be removed prior to 1/6/1963.

The Pilgrimage tour leaves Cape Town on 19th April 1963: time does, therefore, not permit of your reply to me being transmitted to the B.C.E.S.L. National Headquarters by that date. In the circumstances, I will appreciate it greatly, if you would kindly advise the National Secretary, S.A. Legion, B.C.E.S.L., P.O. Box 8751, Johannesburg, Transvaal, direct and at the very earliest, whether the removal of the four 1914-1918 war graves in the Meerendre Churchyard, Belgium, will take place prior to the 1/6/1963, please.

In my reply to the National Secretary I shall advise him of my request to you with a view to his arranging for the transmission of the desired information, when received, to the Manager of the tour, Mr Vaughan, and further, suggest that, if necessary, to contact your office on arrival in London.

*J. Hain*  
for SECRETARY  
A.O.D.



NOTE

Meerendre Churchyard, Belgium  
Lt. F.G. Bayley, 23.10.18.

I spoke to McCarthy at the Arras Office <sup>4.30 pm</sup> today on the telephone - Taylor is away until 30th April. McCarthy will write to the local authority explaining position and asking confirmation that no removal of war burials will take place before approval is given by the Commission - i.e. at the earliest not before the end of June, 1963. He will send copy to us.

S  
Records Officer.

24th April, 1963.



29th April, 1963.

✓ RA/40001

The National Secretary,  
South African Legion,  
P.O. Box 8751,  
Johannesburg,  
Transvaal,  
South Africa.

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Dear Sir,

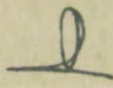
Lieut. F.G. Bayley, D.F.C. R.A.F.  
died 23.10.1918, Meerendre  
Churchyard, Belgium.

We have been in communication with our South African Agency regarding the forthcoming visit of Mr. Bayley, a member of the South African Legion Pilgrimage, to Belgium.

In view of the shortage of time, the Secretary of our South African Agency has informed us that you will very kindly pass on the following information to Mr. Bayley. We confirm that the Commission has not yet approved the proposal to remove the four 1914-1918 war burials from Meerendre Churchyard to Cement House Cemetery, Belgium and in any case this will not take place before the end of June, 1963.

We should be very grateful if you could let us know Mr. Bayley's permanent address and also details of his relationship to Lieutenant F.G. Bayley.

Yours faithfully,

  
Director-General.

(Copy passed to E. Ro.)



Headquarters - Northern Region  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Reference : NR/C/1456.

24th April, 1963.

18

Area Superintendent,  
BELGIAN Area.  
Copy to : D.E.R., London.

29.4.63

Meerendre Churchyard, Belgium.

In confirmation of telephone conversation, Winter/McCarthy speaking, the Ministry of the Interior has informed us that the Churchyard is to be desaffected. We are in touch with Head Office as regards W.G.R.I action.

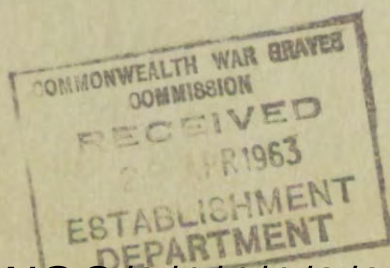
2. It so happens that among the South African pilgrims who are making a visit to Europe, there is a relative of one of the casualties in the Churchyard who will be visiting the grave during the month of June. In view of this, and irrespective of whether or not the W.G.R.I is approved, the grave is not to be moved for the time being. Would you please write to the Burgomaster, inform him that we have learnt that the Churchyard is to be disaffected but request his confirmation that no action will be taken to disturb the Commonwealth War graves since any action in this connection would be arranged by the Commission's staff.
3. Would you also arrange for the graves to be inspected and maintained to a satisfactory standard.
4. Please acknowledge.

P. H. Mc CARTHY  
for

Regional Director.

Copy to D.E.R., London.

Telephone conversation Thompson/McCarthy refers.





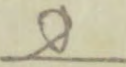
30th April, 1963.

RA/40001

The Regional Director,  
Northern Region,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
Place du Marechal Foch,  
Arras, Pas-de-Calais,  
France.

W.G.R.1.  
Meerendre Churchyard, Belgium.  
(Lieut. F.G. Bayley, D.F.C. R.A.F.  
25.10.1918).

... In regard to our minute RA/40001 of 2nd April 1963, and telephone conversation McCarthy/Thomson on the 24th April, 1963, I enclose a copy of our letter RA/40001 of the 29th April, 1963, to the National Secretary, South African Legion, P.O. Box 8751, Johannesburg, for your information.

  
DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
AND RECORDS.

30th April, 1963.


RA/40001

The Secretary,  
South African Agency,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
P.O. Box 48,  
Bloemfontein,  
Orange Free State,  
South Africa.

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Lieut. F.G. Bayley, D.F.C., R.A.F.  
23.10.1918. Meerendre Churchyard,  
Belgium.

Thank you for your letter I.W.G. 149 of  
16th April, 1963.

... I enclose a copy of our letter RA/40001 of  
the 29th April, 1963 to the National Secretary,  
South African Legion, P.O. Box 8751, Johannesburg,  
for your information.

  
} DIRECTOR-GENERAL.



CM 17/29/3 wvd  
ERD

SOUTH AFRICAN LEGION of the B.C.E.S.L. (27)

In Reply please  
quote reference No.:-  
309/310

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

(P.O. Box 8751)  
Duncan House, (3rd Floor)  
11 De Villiers Street,  
JOHANNESBURG / S.A.

9th May, 1963.

The Director General,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
32 Grosvenor Gardens,  
LONDON S.W.1. / England.

Dear Sir,

Re: Lieut. F.G. Bayley, D.F.C./R.A.F.  
died 23.10.1918. Meerendre Church-  
yard, Belgium.

7  
I thank you for your letter reference RA/40001 of  
the 29th of April, giving us information regarding the cemetery  
where the late F.G. Bayley is buried. As we did not have  
this information prior to the departure of the Pilgrimage  
party, we asked the committee to contact you whilst in London  
to obtain the required information.

I sincerely hope that they had contacted you and  
that they have the information about the grave.

Mr. C.E.R. Bayley's permanent address is :-

The Hill,  
P.O. Box 2,  
JAGERSFONTEIN / O.F.S. / S.A.

Yours faithfully,

*M. J. J. J.*

8  
NATIONAL SECRETARY.

MP/WvdW.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/65 (CCM22273)





DAAR MAG NIKS BY 'N LUGBRIEF  
INGESLUIT WORD NIE; AS ENIGIETS  
WEL INGESLUIT WORD, SAL DIE  
BRIEF BEBOET OF PER LANDPOS  
AANGESTUUR WORD.

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT  
CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE; IF  
IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED  
OR SENT BY SURFACE MAIL.

NAAM EN ADRES VAN AFSENDER  
SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

S.A. Legion of the B.C.E.S.L.,  
P.o. Box 8751,  
JOHANNESBURG.  
South Africa.

Tweede vou—Second fold



The Director General,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
32 Grosvenor Gardens,  
LONDON S.W.1.  
England.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/65 (CCM22273)



EXTRACT FROM LETTER DATED 29TH MAY 1963  
FROM K. V. VAUGHAN, CHAIRMAN OF  
PILGRIMAGE COMMITTEE OF SOUTH AFRICAN LEGION.

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ORIGINAL ON CM.17/29/3.

It would be appreciated if you could kindly furnish us with information with regard to the location of the grave of Lieut. F.G. Bayley. Apparently he was buried at Ghent, in Belgium, but we understand that the grave might be moved shortly. Any information should kindly be sent to us c/o The South African Embassy, at Paris, as soon as possible.

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copy to N. Region  
see

RA 40001  
am 7/29/63.

RA.40001

4th June, 1963.

Dear Major Vaughan,

In Mr. Mackay's absence I am writing to thank you for your letter of the 29th May. I have advised Northern Region of your new pilgrimage <sup>plans</sup> and asked them to arrange for someone to accompany your party to Ypres.

With regard to your first paragraph, we wrote to your office in Johannesburg on the 29th April to let you know that arrangements were being made to postpone the proposed transfer of the remains of four burials of the 1914-1918 War from Meerendre Churchyard to Cement House Cemetery, Langemarck, Belgium, until the end of June, so that the relative who was travelling on your Pilgrimage could see the grave in its present location. *L. P. Bayley*

Meerendre is a village in the Province of East Flanders, seven and a half miles north <sup>west of Ostend</sup> of the new autoroute from Ostend <sup>and about 10 miles from</sup> to Brussels. The church is situated in the centre of the village and Lieutenant Bayley is buried with four comrades of 204 Squadron in the south-east part of the churchyard.

We had a letter from your office dated the 9th May, telling us that the information had not been received until the Pilgrimage had left South Africa, but that you would be getting in touch with us while you were in London. Unfortunately this appears to have been overlooked.

Yours sincerely,

*e*  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Major K.V. Vaughan,  
South African Legion Pilgrimage,  
c/o Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa,  
51 Avenue Hoche,  
Paris, 8.



Records Library <sup>on</sup> 6/6/63

Please B/F to me

9. 6 63.

Lawrence  
5 6 63

K.P.O.

B/F as requested. Should you require a further B/F, would you please pass the file to R.O. (M. ALEXANDER)

Shaw 18/6/63

~~Records Library~~

Please B/F to me again

19 8 63

Lawrence 27/7/63  
CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/65 (CCM22273)

1st August, 1963.

RA.40001.  
"E"

The Secretary,  
South African Agency,  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,  
P.O. Box 48,  
Bloemfontein,  
South Africa.

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Lieutenant F.G. Bayley, D.F.C.  
Royal Air Force, 23.10.1918


Would you kindly refer to your letter IWG.149 dated 16th April, 1963.

The transfer of Lieutenant Bayley's grave from Meerendre Churchyard to Cement House Cemetery, Langemarck, was carried out on the 19th July, 1963. Lieutenant Bayley's new grave location is Plot 20, Row A, Grave 8.

Langemarck is a village and commune in the Department of West Flanders, 6½ miles north-north-east of Ypres. Cement House Cemetery is 1 mile west of the village on the south side of the road to Boesinghe.

Would you please advise the relative, Mr. C.E.R Bayley, whose address as given by the National Headquarters, B.C.E.S.L. was --

The Hill,  
P.O. Box 2,  
JAGERSFONTEIN / O.F.S. / S.A.

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL.



~~E.P.O~~

Same B/F as requested.

Hawell 1198  
63