

CANDLE IN THE WIND

A SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION

to mark

The 80th Anniversary of the end of WW2

to honour the fallen

OPERATION CHASTISE 16/17 May 1943

and to pray for

PEACE

Order of Service



Reichswald War Cemetery 16th of May 2025



Words in bold type are said by all.

Words in normal type are said by the Chaplain.

Words in italics are instructions

WELCOME & OPENING ADDRESSES BEGRÜSSUNG & ERÖFFNUNGSREDEN

CEO, Pam Flora MBE

British Consul General, Nick Russell

U.S. Consul General NRW, Preeti V. Shah

Air Attaché Berlin, Gp Capt Mark Heffron

MBEIM NRW, Nathanael Liminski

Bürgermeister der Stadt Kleve, Wolfgang Gebing

THE BIDDING/ DAS GEBOT

by the Chaplain

We meet in the presence of God surrounded by the memory of those who have given their lives in the service of their country to mark with thanksgiving 80 years since the end of WW2 and to remember especially with honour, but also with great sorrow those who suffered and died in the pursuit of peace during Operation Chastise 16/17 May 1943.

Let us pray

Ever-living God,

We remember here today with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present have been given and taken away. We pray today for all those who in bereavement, disability, and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror and commit ourselves anew to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation of all people that we may together we live in a world of freedom, justice and peace.

Through your Son who is the Prince of Peace.

All: Amen

A READING FROM GENESIS 9: 12-16 / LESUNG 1 MOSE 9, 12-1

By British Consul General, Nick Russell

And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.'

Und Gott sprach: Das ist das Zeichen des Bundes, den ich stifte zwischen mir und euch und den lebendigen Wesen bei euch für alle kommenden Generationen: Meinen Bogen setze ich in die Wolken; er soll das Zeichen des Bundes werden zwischen mir und der Erde. Balle ich Wolken über der Erde zusammen und erscheint der Bogen in den Wolken, dann gedenke ich des Bundes, der besteht zwischen mir und euch und allen Lebewesen, allen Wesen aus Fleisch, und das Wasser wird nie wieder zur Flut werden, die alle Wesen aus Fleisch verdirbt. Steht der Bogen in den Wolken, so werde ich auf ihn sehen und des ewigen Bundes gedenken zwischen Gott und allen lebenden Wesen, allen Wesen aus Fleisch auf der Erde.

THE STORY OF THE DAMBUSTER RAID - OPERATION CHASTISE 16/17 MAY 1943

The Rev'd RJ Downes BEM MTH

(Parade brought to attention)

Let us remember before God, and commend to His sure keeping those all who have died in time of War, praying that we may walk worthy of their sacrifice.

EXHORTATION / GEDENKWORTE

by Mr Wilbert Mulders - Chairman, RAFA Amsterdam Branch

***"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".

LAST POST

All should stand / Military to attention. Standards dipped - Officers in uniform only should salute at the first note Last Post and recover at the last note of the Last Post.

THE SILENCE

THE REVEILLE

THE KOHIMA EPITAPH

By Major Julie De Busschère, Deputy CO, CFSU (Europe)

(Please be upstanding)

***"When you go home, tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow we gave our today."***

WREATH LAYING

(MC to read out the wreath layers in order)

NAMES OF THE FALLEN

(Names of the fallen will be read out and a bell will ring)
CEO and Children to lay Rose Petals during the reading

FLANDERS FIELD

CEO to recite the poem

THE PRAYERS / FÜRBITTEN

by the Chaplains

The Chaplains lead the prayers for the fallen and for world peace

The response to our prayers and reflections will be

"We will remember them"

THE LORD'S PRAYER / VATER UNSER

In faith and trust we pray the Lord's Prayer each in our own language and tradition.

THE COLLECT OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

Almighty God, who makest the clouds thy chariots and walkest upon the wings of the storm, look in mercy we beseech thee upon the Royal Air Force. Make us a tower of strength to our King and to our country. Help us to do our duty with prudence and with fearlessness, confident that in life or in death the eternal God is our refuge and strength. Grant this for Jesus Christ's sake.

NATIONAL ANTHEMS

THE BLESSING / SEGNUNG

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

All: Amen

MARCHING OFF OF THE STANDARDS

Under the control of the Parade Marshall

End of the Official Service

MULTI LINK TO SCAMPTON AND STEENBERGEN

(The act of Remembrance continues)

PUBLIC CANDLE LIGHTING

(Blessing over the Candles and floral tributes)

By the Chaplain

O God of all hope and peace, our hearts are broken with the thoughts of lives lost and torn apart by the tragedy of war. Bless these candles and tributes as symbols of our prayers and thoughts for all who lie at rest in this place expressing our heartfelt desire for a better world where such suffering will be unknown.

In Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE BEACONS

(with Scampton UK & Steenbergen NL)

CANDLE LIGHTING

CEO & VIPs leads the lighting of the candles

PERFORMANCE BY CHILDREN FROM KLEVE SCHOOLS

Karl-Kisters Realschule / Freiherr vom Stein Gymnasium
Konrad-Adenauer Gymnasium / Joseph-Beuys Gesamtschule
Johanna-Sebus-Primary Schule / Montessori Schule

REFRESHMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Chaplains

The Reverend Richard Downes, Chaplain Royal British Legion Germany District
Herr Pfarrer Heinrich Kramer Militärpfarrer des Katholisches Militärpfarramt
Wesel

Standard Bearers

RBL Parade Marshal, Mr Robert Adams
RBL Rheindahlen Branch - RBL Herford Branch
RBL Osnabrück Branch - RBL Münster Branch
German Standard Party - Canadian Standard Party
USA Standards - 52 FW Spangdahlem Air Base Honor guard team
CWO (Retd) Etienne Goyens - America Europe Friendship Association

Soloists

Amanda de Waal

Band

Quirinus Band & Bugle Corps

Media / Photographer

Local Press Agencies
Photographers - Simon (Pim) Hogben / Ken Railton

Kleve Schools

Our appreciation to the to the Staff, Pupils and Parents from:
Karl-Kisters Realschule / Freiherr vom Stein Gymnasium
Konrad-Adenauer Gymnasium / Joseph-Beuys Gesamtschule
Johanna-Sebus-Primary Schule / Montessori Schule

Stadt Kleve & Organisations

Stadt Kleve / Polizei / Feuerwehr / Deutsche Rote Kreuz
Combined Air Operations Centre Uedem / Bundeswehr Garrison Kalkar

Staff of the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery



CANDLE IN THE WIND

Pam Flora MBE – Founder & Chief Executive Officer

Volunteers / Friends

A very special thank you to all our willing volunteers, for
their contribution and assistance

To you the public, thank you for attending, and may we wish you all
a safe onward journey.