



**Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission**  
**Country Report:**  
**Cyprus**



**CWGC**  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Cyprus is an island in the North-Eastern corner of the Mediterranean Sea. Until the 5th November, 1914, it belonged to Turkey and was administered by the United Kingdom; on that date, in consequence of the declaration of War on Turkey, it was annexed. It was garrisoned throughout the War by British troops; and during part of 1915 a British Convalescent Camp was placed on the island. Cyprus gained independence from the United Kingdom on 16<sup>th</sup> August 1960 and joined the Commonwealth on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1961.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) is responsible for maintaining commemorations to 382 Commonwealth War Dead at eight locations in Cyprus: Cyprus (Nicosia) Memorial; Famagusta Military Cemetery; Limassol Roman Catholic Cemetery; Nicosia British Cemetery; Nicosia Cremation Memorial; Nicosia War Cemetery; Polemidia Military Cemetery; and Troodos Military Cemetery. In addition, it also maintains 583 Non World War graves on behalf of the UK MoD at Nicosia (Waynes Keep) Military Cemetery.

**Nicosia War Cemetery**



Nicosia War Cemetery is located 4 kilometres west of Nicosia, on the Myrtou road, and inside the 'buffer zone'.

Nicosia War Cemetery was established by the military authorities during the Second World War for the burial of servicemen who died while on duty in Cyprus. A number of graves were also moved here from small civilian cemeteries in villages in different parts of the island. There are now 215 Second

World War casualties, two of whom are unidentified and four non-war casualties commemorated in this cemetery.

Within the cemetery stands the NICOSIA CREMATION MEMORIAL, which commemorates 73 soldiers of the Indian Army who died in Cyprus during the Second World War and whose remains were cremated in accordance with their faith.

Also in this cemetery is the CYPRUS (NICOSIA) MEMORIAL which commemorates 58 officers and men of the Cyprus Regiment and the Cyprus Volunteer Force who died in Cyprus during the Second World War and were buried in village cemeteries in various parts of the island. Some lie in family or collective graves where it was not possible to commemorate them with the usual Commission headstone. In total, 304 members of the Cyprus Regiment, and 29 members of the Cyprus Volunteer Force are commemorated by the Commission.

### **Famagusta Military Cemetery**



Famagusta Military Cemetery is located 65 miles from Nicosia. It contains 20 burials of the First World War.

### **Cypriot casualties**

Within our records, there are 436 individuals recorded as being from, or with family connections to, Cyprus, or serving in military units associated with Cyprus. The largest concentration of these casualties outside of Cyprus itself are at the following sites:

- ATHENS MEMORIAL, Greece – 75
- PHALERON WAR CEMETERY, Greece - 25
- PRAGUE WAR CEMETERY, Czech Republic – 17
- ALAMEIN MEMORIAL, Egypt - 17