THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM
PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVE & THE COMMONS ON FLICKR
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THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

• National museum of conflict from 1914 to present day
• 5 branches in Britain
• 600 staff
• 2 million actual visitors from all over the world
• 8 million virtual visitors to website
IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM
COLLECTIONS

• ART (paintings, posters, sculpture)
• DOCUMENTS (personal papers, literary manuscripts, government papers)
• FILM & VIDEO (amateur and professional including the official archives of NATO & British armed forces)
• OBJECTS (from aircraft and warships to firearms and medals)
• PHOTOGRAPHS (amateur and professional photography)
• PUBLICATIONS (books, journals and maps)
• SOUND RECORDINGS (historic radio broadcasts, interviews with veterans of conflict)
ROLE OF THE IWM PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVE

1. Maintains the UK national collection of photographs dealing with modern conflict.
2. Place of deposit for photographs generated by British armed forces and Ministry of Defence.
3. Vital source for students of military, social and family history, media studies, war photography, Empire and Commonwealth
4. Provides expert advice to professional managers of historic photograph collections
THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVE

- 16,000 collections
- 10 plus million images
- All conflicts 1856 – present
- 80% reportage
  20% art
- All 20\textsuperscript{th}/21\textsuperscript{st} century processes
- Born digital images now acquired in bulk
- 40,000 images online
IWM PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVE USERS

Worldwide audience, many without English as first language

- 6% heritage
- 7% education
- 9% government
- 23% commercial
- 55% private
IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM Collections Online
www.iwm.org.uk or www.iwmcollections.org.uk

• A separate data set of records derived from in-house databases
• Online sales and licensing of digital images
Exhibitions: London

90th Anniversary of the Armistice: In Memoriam
The key goals of The Commons on Flickr are to firstly show you hidden treasures in the world's public photography archives, and secondly to show how your input and knowledge can help make these collections even richer.

You're invited to help describe the photographs you discover in The Commons on Flickr, either by adding tags or leaving comments.
“Photography, once regarded as the most instantaneous of all arts, has also proved to be one of the most permanent recorders. The events and the men may pass, but the photographic plates remain ...as an indelible record. Five, or ten, or twenty five years from now, they will be shown to us and our sons, and will link the decades together in a way unimagined by our ancestors.”

Max Aitken, Lord Beaverbrook 1918