The in-between people

Adrian Schaub, 2022

The area between the river Rhine and the mountains Vosges has over centuries been the subject of hostilities between Germany and France.
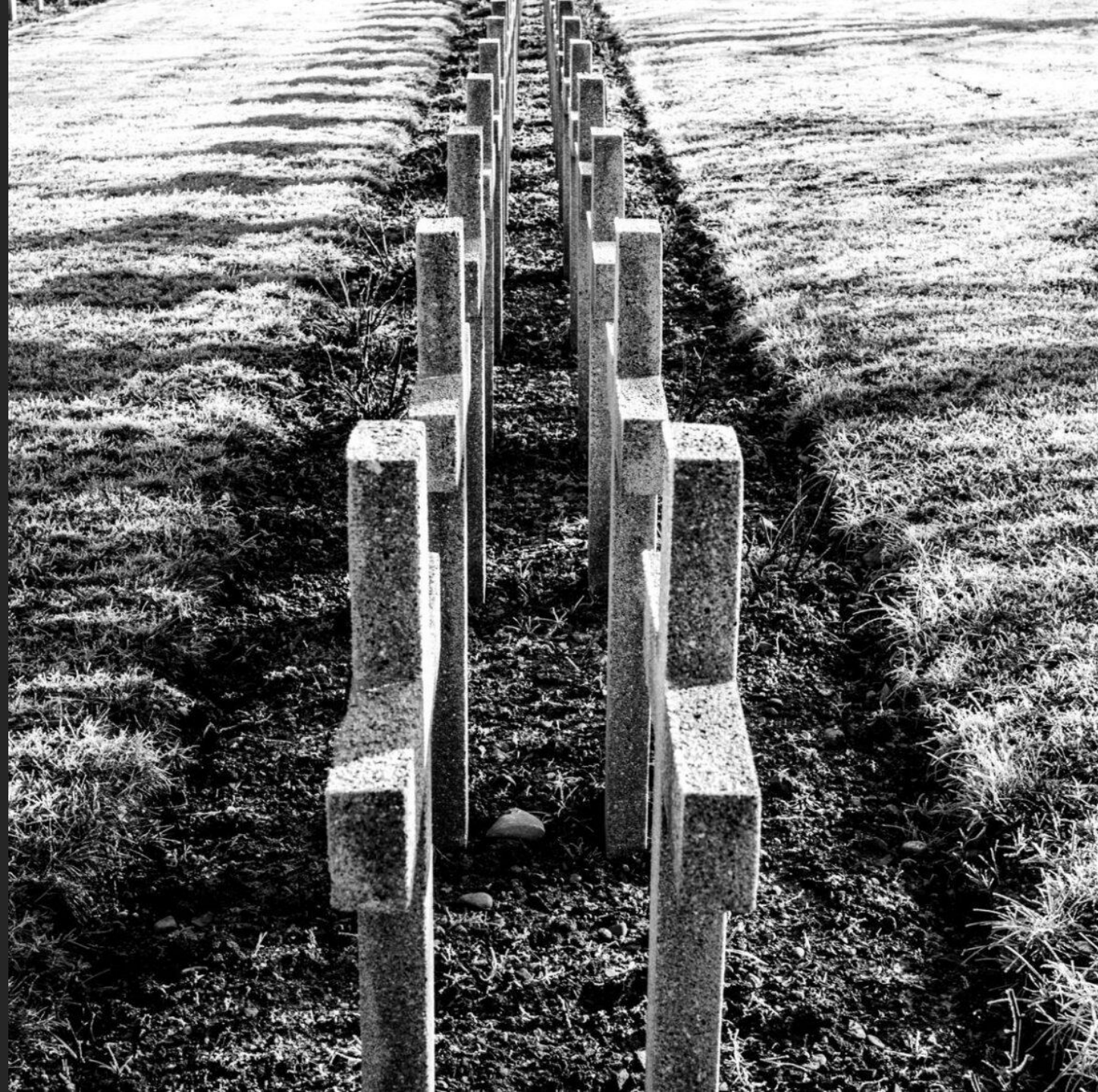
After the 30 year war, the Alsace went from the Holy Roman Empire to France in 1648. Based on the peace treaty after the franco-preussian war in 1871 it went back to the German Empire again.

Forty years later during WW1 it became the subject of violent battles between France and Germany, who both claimed historical rights to the area. The people of Alsace sat in-between the dispute. Grown up in the German Empire the younger soldiers fought naturally in the German army, whereas the elder ones had familiar and other ties to the French Empire. Even in families the views were split if the French should be seen as liberators or as occupying force.

The battles in Alsace during WW1 costed the lives of tens of thousands of soldiers, which memories are upheld in several necropoles.

Two religions, one war

In one row

Two by two

Mountain crosses

After the war

Moon over cemetry

Forrest tombs

Death list

Final rest under trees

Snowy graveyard

Shadow of death

Waves of death

Flower watching over soldier Schneider

Chapel of war soldiers

Lion of the fallen soldiers

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