

FOR YOUR TOMORROW, WE GAVE OUR TODAY

**REMEMBERING SOME SERVICEMEN WHO DID NOT SURVIVE TO
SEE VJ DAY**

PILOT OFFICER J. G. LOMAX RNZAF

Pilot, No 34 Squadron RAF

Killed in Action, 3rd January 1942 off the west coast of Malaya



James Garfield Lomax, aged 29, was part of the RNZAF reinforcements to arrive in Singapore. Attached to No 34 Squadron RAF, he was lost on a 3 aircraft sortie, to find Japanese troop ships off the west coast of Malaya. The other 2 aircraft returned safely.



Lomax and his crew, Fg. Off. S W Anderson RAF and Flt. Sgt. R F R James RAF, are buried in the Taiping War Cemetery, Perak State, northern Malaysia. Originally they were buried in the Christen Cemetery at Alor Star.



638428 LAC F. H. BOVINGDON RAF

No. 84 Squadron RAF

Killed on Active Service on 16 February 1942 in Sumatra.



638428 LAC F. H. Bovingdon RAF

- Frederick Henry Bovingdon came from Wokingham, Berkshire.
- Bovingdon enlisted on a regular engagement in the RAF in the spring of 1939. It is not known when he joined No. 84 Squadron, which served in the Western Desert and Greece, before moving to the Far East in January 1942. The aircraft arrived in Sumatra on the 27 January and the ground crew arrived by sea at Oosthaven on the 13 February. The ground crew were sent 30 miles inland to form a rear guard at an important bridge with instructions to blow the bridge when the last Allied troops had passed. It was during this period that Bovingdon lost his life.
- Having no known grave, he is commemorated on the Singapore Memorial at Kranji War Cemetery.

4393473 PRIVATE G. RHODES
1ST Bn QUEEN'S OWN
CAMERON HIGHLANDERS

Killed in Action on 14 May
1944 at Kohima.



4393473 Private G. Rhodes
1st Bn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders

- George Rhodes was born in West Gorton, Manchester on the 1 April 1917. His civilian occupation in September 1939 was a shop assistant in a booksellers.
- It is not clear when Rhodes joined the army or transferred to the Cameron Highlanders, as his service number is from the block allotted to the Green Howards. The day that he was killed the 1st Camerons were involved in fighting patrols to remove the Japanese from Treasury Ridge on the western edge of Kohima.
- Rhodes is buried in the Kohima Military Cemetery.

534323 SERGEANT W. R. MADDISON RAF
RAF Station Tengah, Singapore
Died 26 May 1943 at Haruku, Moluccas Islands.



The Under-Secretary of State for Air presents his compliments and by Command of the Air Council has the honour to transmit the enclosed Awards granted for service in the war of 1939-45.

The Council share your sorrow that
SERGEANT W. R. MADDISON
in respect of whose service these Awards are granted did not live to receive them.

534323 Sergeant W. R. Maddison RAF

- Wilson Reather Maddison, the son of Mr & Mrs W.R. Maddison, came from Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

He enlisted on a regular enlistment c1934. By December 1941 he was stationed at RAF Tengah, Singapore. Following the Japanese invasion he was evacuated to Java where he became a prisoner of war on 8 March 1942. At some time afterwards he was moved to Haruku island in the Molucca Islands.

He died on the 26 May 1943, aged 26, and was originally buried at Cape Marakee, Haruku Island. He is now buried, since 1947, at Ambon War Cemetery, Molucca Island.

926840 LAC I.K.F. BADCOCK RAFVR No. 242 Squadron RAF

Killed 29 Nov 1943 when japanese ship Suez Maru sunk north of Bali.



This scroll commemorates
Leading Aircraftman I. K. F. Badcock
Royal Air Force

held in honour as one who
served King and Country in
the world war of 1939-1945
and gave his life to save
mankind from tyranny. May
his sacrifice help to bring
the peace and freedom for
which he died.

926840 LAC I. K. F. Badcock RAFVR

- Ingerson Keith Fey Badcock came from New Milton, Hampshire. He was employed as an Auctioneer & Estate Agent and was married to Mary Badcock.
- He enlisted in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve at RAF Uxbridge in early 1940. By November 1941 he was serving with No. 242 Squadron, flying Hurricane IIB aircraft. The Squadron left by sea for the Far East on 5 December 1941, arriving at RAF Seletar, Singapore on the 13 January 1942. Subsequently served at Palembang, Sumatra & Bandoeng, Java. At some time he was transferred by the Japanese to Ambon in the Molucca Islands. On the 25 November 1943 he was one of 548 prisoners of war, a large number sick, who were loaded on the Suez Maru for transfer to Java.
- Sailing on the 26 November, the Suez Maru was torpedoed on the 29 November 1943 north of Bali by the US submarine Bonefish with the loss of all 548 prisoners of war.
- Badcock, aged 31, is commemorated on the Singapore Memorial at Kranji War Cemetery.

902459 LAC B. B. NEWELL RAFVR
No. 211 Squadron RAF
Died on 24 January 1945 at Pangkalan Bali, Sumatra.



The Under-Secretary of State for Air presents his compliments and by Command of the Air Council has the honour to transmit the enclosed Awards granted for service in the war of 1939-45.

The Council share your sorrow that LEADING AIRCRAFTMAN B.B. NEWELL in respect of whose service these Awards are granted did not live to receive them.



902459 LAC B. B. Newell RAFVR

- Benjamin Butler Newell was born in Cambridge in the 1st quarter of 1916 and was the Foster-son of Mr & Mrs E.R. Tyrell of Cambridge.
- Newell enlisted in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve at RAF Uxbridge in the autumn of 1939. Joining No. 211 Squadron, flying Blenheim IV aircraft, he saw service in Egypt & Greece before moving to the Far East. The ground crew arrived by sea at Oesthaven, Sumatra about 14 February 1942. Due to Japanese air-raids, the ground crew were transferred to Java, becoming a prisoner of war on 8 March 1942. Held in Java and at Pangkalan Bali, Sumatra where he died on 24 January 1945, aged 28.
- Newell is buried in the Jakarta War Cemetery.

**1089246 A.C.1
R. H. WILLIAMS
RAFVR**

**307 Air Ministry
Experimental Station**

**Died on 19 February 1945
probably at Sandakan,
Borneo.**



1089246 A.C.1 R. H. Williams RAFVR

- Ronald Harry Williams came from Horsington, Somerset and was the son of Mr & Mrs G. H. Williams.
- Enlisted in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve at RAF Padgate in the late autumn of 1939. It is not known when exactly he arrived in Far East. After becoming a prisoner of war, he was held in Java, Singapore and Jesselton & Sandakan in Borneo. At Sandakan the prisoners were being used to build airstrips. Following constant allied bombing in the autumn of 1944, the airstrips were no longer operational by the end of the year. As a result the Japanese cut the rice rations and then withheld the rations, resulting in an increase in the death rates.
- Having no known grave, Williams, aged 25, is commemorated on the Singapore Memorial at Kranji War Cemetery.

625094 Corporal
A. J. Watson RAF

Unit not known.

**Died on 9 July 1945 on the 3rd
death march from Sandakan,
Borneo.**



625094 Corporal A. J. Watson RAF

- Albert John Watson was born on 10 July 1921 in Cardiff, Wales the son of Mr & Mrs R. Watson.
- Enlisted as a regular in the Royal Air Force in the late autumn of 1938. It is not known when exactly he arrived in Far East or which unit he served with.

After becoming a prisoner of war, he was held in Java, Singapore and Jesselton & Sandakan in Borneo. At Sandakan the prisoners were being used to build airstrips. Following constant allied bombing in the autumn of 1944, the airstrips were no longer operational by the end of the year. As a result the Japanese cut the rice rations and then withheld the rations, resulting in an increase in the death rates. The Japanese also used prisoners to carry stores away from Sandakin. These were known as the death marches due to heavy loads and little food.

- Watson died on 9 July 1945, aged 24, on the third death march. Having no known grave, Watson is commemorated on the Singapore Memorial at Kranji War Cemetery.

The inscription on the Kohima Memorial reads:

When you go home, tell them of us and say
For your tomorrow we gave our today

We will remember them

Research Details

- **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**
- **Historical Records of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders**
- **A Bloody Shambles (The RAF in Malaya & Dutch East Indies)**
- **Scorpions Sting (The story of No. 84 Squadron RAF)**
- **The 1939 Register.**
- **War Office Casualty Rolls.**