

## DO YOU KNOW THIS WAR HERO'S FAMILY?

The Parliamentary Secretary for Defence, Senator David Feeney, today called on RSLs, historians and ex-servicemen and women to come forward if they know the next-of-kin of 12 brave Australian servicemen who died in World War II prisoner of war camps.

“In March this year, the Gillard Government announced that twenty prisoners of war who were killed while escaping during WWII will be posthumously awarded the Commendation for Gallantry,” Senator Feeney said.

“So far eight families of these servicemen have been found. We’re looking for the rest.

“I am asking RSLs, historians, ex-servicemen and women and Australian Defence Force families to come forward if they have information about the next-of-kin of these brave servicemen.

Name	From	Number	Date Executed	Execution Location
Private Alexander John Bell (29 years)	Ballarat VIC	VX73838	16 Mar 43	Thambyujayat, Burma
Sergeant Joseph Kenneth Bell (27 years)	North Melbourne VIC	VX34637	16 Sep 42	Kuala Lumpur
Private Joseph Bell (also known as Ernest) (32 years)	North Richmond VIC	VX50944, VX18156	18 Jun 42	Malaya
Gunner Thomas Stephen Cumming (30 years)	Northcote VIC	VX31670	6 Jun 42	Tavoy, Burma
Sergeant Clifford Edmund Danaher (24 years)	Ascot Vale VIC	VX31946	6 Jun 42	Tavoy, Burma
Private Victor Lawrence Gale (23 years)	Balwyn VIC	VX62289	2 Sep 42	Changi
Gunner Alan William Glover (31 years)	East Melbourne VIC	VX57043	6 Jun 42	Tavoy, Burma
Signalman Howard Frederick Harvey (21 years)	Townsville QLD	NX49419	11 May 43	Sandakan
Sergeant Caryle Benjamin Jones (27 years)	Murrurundi NSW	NX45920	22 Mar 42	Djambi Camp, Sumatra
Major Alan Mull (41 years)	Maroubra NSW	NX12243	10 Mar 43	Thambyujayat, Burma
Warrant Officer Class II Matthew Wallace Quittenton (37 years)	Canterbury NSW	VX45344	6 Jun 42	Tavoy, Burma
Gunner Arthur Reeve (21 years)	Geelong and/or Colac VIC	VX27292	6 Jun 42	Tavoy, Burma

“As Christmas approaches and we think of our Australian troops keeping our region and the Middle East safe and secure. We should take a moment to remember the time that POWs spent in camps,”the Senator said.

“Their bravery should never be forgotten,” Senator Feeney said.

This was the result of the independent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal inquiry into *Recognition for Far East Prisoners of War who were Killed while Escaping*.

Anyone who is related to any of the following men, or knows of someone who may be related, can call the Directorate's telephone enquiry line on 1800 111 321 or write to:

Directorate of Honours and Awards  
Department of Defence  
PO Box 7952  
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

Please email [lorna.clarke@defence.gov.au](mailto:lorna.clarke@defence.gov.au) for photographs and assistance in finding Australian War Memorial and National Archives records.

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