



PERSONAL **INFORMATION** **SHEET**



Name: Jeremiah (Miah) O'CONNELL

DOB: 03 January 1920

Rank: Gunner

Service Identity Number: 1426783

Service/Regiment/Corps: Royal Artillery

Unit: 965 Defence Battery, 8 Coast Regiment

Died: 1st/2nd October 1942

Personal history before the war:

Jeremiah was born to David and Margaret O'Connell on the 3rd January 1920 in Cork, Eire and was the second youngest son of nine children. Both of his parents died just before the start of the war with his mother passing in 1938 and his father in 1939.

Wartime experience:

Photographs indicate that Jeremiah (commonly known as Miah) was in Hong Kong in 1939 and posted to 965 Defence Battery of 8 Coast Regiment, Royal Artillery.

Miah was captured by the Japanese on the 26th December 1941, the day after the garrison officially surrendered, and was then held at Shamshuipo POW camp. He was embarked on the hell ship the Lisbon Maru on the 26th September 1942 and was held in the rearmost hold 3.

Personal history post war (if survived):

Sadly, Miah did not survive the sinking of the Lisbon Maru and his name is inscribed on column 5 of the Sai Wan War Memorial. He was aged 22 when he died.



Additional photos:



Photo of Miah with a chinese friend in Hong Kong in 1939



The above information was provided by Carmel Stewart who is the niece of Jeremiah O'Connell.



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