

Baker Ronald George

Name: Ronald George Baker

Born: 20 November 1916

Rank: Corporal

Service Number: 5832420

Regiment: 2nd Cambridgeshire
Regiment (Suffolks)

Died: 30 June 1980



Pre-War

George, as he was known, was married to Mary on 10 April 1939.

Wartime experience:

George enlisted on 20 June 1940, leaving behind his wife, Mary, and 4 month old daughter, Rosemary.

09 Dec 1940 - George was in Cape Town

12 Dec 1940 - Photo above, George in Cape Town

14 Dec 1940 - Left Cape Town

15 Feb 1941 - Captured at the fall of Singapore

Jan 1944 - In No. 2 Camp Thailand

May 1944 - In No. 1 Camp Thailand

April 1945 - In No. 1 Camp Thailand

07 Sept 1945 - Red Cross card from George arrived at home, saying 'I am free and in safe hands. Hope to be with you soon. My address is Recovered POW, Mail Centre, Bombay, India Command'.

No date of his release or from which prison camp.

After release George was taken to Bangkok, Thailand, then on to Rangoon, Burma.

09 Sept 1945 - He was in Colombo, Sri Lanka waiting for a ship (the HMS Corfu)

15 Sept 1945 - Arrived in India

27 Sept 1945 - Was in Port Said, Suez Canal

29 Sept 1945 - Set sail for Southampton

07 Oct 1945 - Arrived in Southampton

04 April 1946 - Demobbed



Above: George being interviewed on board the HMS Corfu – when asked about his time as a POW his reply was 'Not Good'.



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Civilian life after return:

George returned home to Haslingfield, Cambridgeshire and to Mary. He resumed his occupation as a lorry driver and eventually, drove a deliver van for a local. They also had another daughter, Diana. He was quite a force in the village, he was the local Father Christmas; School Governor; had a band and entertained the local over 60s; used to be the M/C for local Whist Drives and was also a 'Sidesman' for the local church.

Sadly, George died, quite suddenly, in an armchair, at a friends house on 30 June 1980, at the age of 63



Above: A Malayan Village (Kampung)



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