

MALAYAN VOLUNTEERS GROUP



V-J

V-J DAY SERVICE

MONDAY, 15TH AUGUST 2011

12 NOON

THE MVG MEMORIAL GARDEN

The National Memorial Arboretum

WELCOMING REMARKS

by Jonathan Moffatt

WREATH LAYING 2 MINUTES SILENCE

ABIDE WITH ME

**SATB arrangement by Lisa Ho
Dedicated to the Malayan Volunteers
of WW1 & 2**

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE Ecclesiastes Ch. 3 vs. 1-8

THE SANCTUARY

**Poem by Margaret Dryburgh,
Read daily at evening prayers,
on Banka Island**

Within the camp's confined domain
No great Cathedral reared its walls,
No pointing spire tried Heaven to gain,
No church bell sounded welcome calls,
Not e'en the smallest meeting place
Did offer us the means of grace.

A little company did dwell
Within a garage, scarce supplied
With furnishings of prison cell

So bare it was! Each eventide
They met for simple family prayers
To God commended their affairs.

DON'T LOOK BACK

By Louise Aylward

After the grief, the pain, the tears
The business of death, and what appears
To be an endless loneliness
There comes a time for quiet repose
To think of those who still are here
And dear to you – remember those.

VERY OLD CHINESE PROVERB

If there be righteousness in the heart,
There will be beauty in the character.
If there is beauty in the character,
There will be harmony in the home.
If there is harmony in the home,
There will be order in each nation,
There will be peace in the world.

MOON OVER MALAYA

Palm trees are swaying in the moonlight –
Casting their shadows o'er the sea –
What then will greet us in the morning –
Won't you stay a while and listen here to me –
For the moon is shining on Malaya –
Stars twinkle down from above –
Girls in their sarongs and kebayas –
In their kampongs they sing their songs of love –
You can hear terang-bulan and old sari-no –
Songs their mothers sang in days gone by –
From Penang to Ipoh and Malacca –
You can hear those enchanted lullabies –
For the guitars they are strumming in the moonlight ·
And the echo of those krom-changs never die –
For the moon is shining on Malaya –
And to think some day we're going to say goodbye.

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

GOD BE IN MY HEAD

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

ALONE

By Margaret Dryburgh in 1943

A meditation on community life.

PSALM 121

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
From whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord,
Which made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer they foot to be moved:
He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is they keeper:
The Lord is they shade upon they right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day,
Not the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve they going out
And thy coming in from this time forth,
And even for evermore.

THE EXHORTATION

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

We will remember them.

FEPow PRAYER

And we who are left grow old with the years,
Remembering the heartache, the pain and the tears.
Hoping and praying that never again
Man will sink to such sorrow and shame.
The price that was paid, we will always remember
Every day, every month, not just in November.

WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM.

THE KOHIMA EPITAPH

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