The Northern Territory Government has paid tribute to those who perished in Darwin’s darkest hour.

On the 74th anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin, Chief Minister Adam Giles said it was important for Australians not to forget the horror of 19 February 1942.

“We remember those who perished, those who were left behind and the indelible truth of the destruction wrought upon Australian soil,” Mr Giles said. “We also remember the resilience of the survivors and reconcile the tragic with forgiveness. This is a time for all Australians to remember, reflect and commemorate."

The Chief Minister also launched further elements of the Territory Government’s 2017 commemoration The Territory Remembers program.

“Such an important historical occasion warrants a serious commitment to commemorating the events which began in 1942 and the Territory Government’s The Territory Remembers program will deliver a number of appropriate, respectful projects leading up to the 75th anniversary next year,” he said.

“One of the signature projects is the creation of a statue of Matthias Ullungura, a hero of the first air raid on Australia. This statue commemorates the capture of the first prisoner of war on Australian soil – Zero pilot Hajime Toyoshima.

“The program will also deliver a commemorative poster and postcard, website and a vignette series which will include interviews with Australian veterans who served in Darwin, civilians and the last surviving Imperial Japanese pilot who participated in the raids.”

The government has allocated $2.25 million in funding for The Territory Remembers program.

“There will be many projects under The Territory Remembers which will be rolled out throughout the year leading up to the 75th anniversary next year,” Arts and Museums Minister Gary Higgins said.
“It will enhance the current Bombing of Darwin commemoration program and the Northern Territory’s significant military heritage through a community focussed program of events and projects, in conjunction with the ANZAC Centenary Program running from 2014-18.”

The new Territory Remembers website is www.territoryremembers.nt.gov.au. The commemorative poster will feature in the NT News and be available through Territory libraries.

ATTACHED – poster and postcard artwork

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[postcard](#)
[commemorative poster](#)