REMEMBERING THE TOP END’S ROLE IN WORLD WAR II

A special service marking the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War II will be held at the site of the last RAAF operational flight to take to off from the Territory during the War.

The Member for Goyder, Ted Warren, will represent the Northern Territory Government at the former RAAF base at Coomalie Creek, about 100 kilometres south of Darwin.

“On 15 August 1945, Flight Lieutenant Bill Maitland and Flying Officer Bill Reedy took off from the Coomalie Creek base in a Squadron 87 Mosquito aircraft,” Mr Warren said.

“It was the last operational mission launched from Australia during World War II – one hour into the flight they received the news the War was over and they returned to base.

The Coomalie Creek base is now owned by Mr Richard Luxton, who has restored the Squadron Chapel at the base to host today’s commemorative service.

“Mr Luxton and the Mosquito Aircraft Association of Australia are to be commended for their efforts in hosting this important service,” said Mr Warren.

“The Northern Territory played a unique role in World War II operations in Australia, and I am pleased to be part of the Victory in the Pacific commemorations at such an historic site.”

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