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Bombing Of Darwin History Secured For Territorians

Territory history is back home after the NT Government purchased significant records from the bombing of Darwin.

The NT Library at Parliament House will feature the new acquisitions and other historical items in a public display during February to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the bombing of Darwin.

Local Government Minister Elliot McAdam said the sacrifices of the past have made the NT the great place it is today.

“The NT Government is targeting our Territory history by adding an extensive collection of photographs and newspapers around the bombing of Darwin to the NT Library,” said Mr McAdam.

“The bombing of Darwin will be remembered as one of the darkest times in the Territory’s history.

“But from the rubble the true spirit of Territorians prevailed - they continued defending Australia and rebuilt Darwin.

“To help preserve our history, the NT Library recently purchased photos and newspapers from a Melbourne antiquarian auction.

“The collection includes well captioned photos taken by RAAF and Army servicemen that show what military life was like in Darwin from 1941 onwards.

“There are also photos of the devastation left from the bombings.

“Also acquired were editions of the Darwin Army News, including the 19th February 1942 paper.

“Ironically the leading story quotes the Lt Governor General of the Netherlands East Indies saying ‘Australia is safe from immediate attack’.

“Next month we will reflect on the 65th anniversary of the bombing of Darwin and I
encourage people to visit the NT Library to view these pieces of Territory history," said Mr McAdam.

The newspapers and photos will also be added to the Northern Territory Collection and will be on display for public viewing in the library and on the NT Library’s website.

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