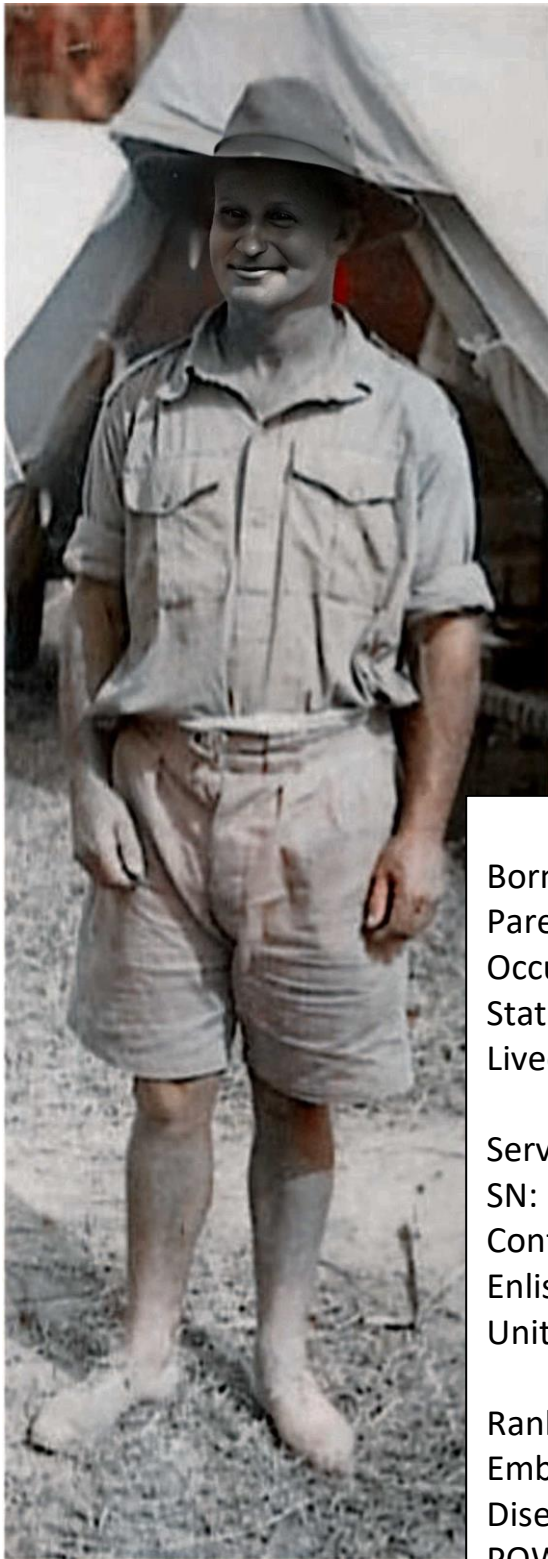


John Clyde 'Jack' Boon (1901 - 1943)



Born:	Windsor NSW
Parents:	Albert and Louisa Ellen (Beer)
Occupation:	Farmer
Status:	Single
Lived:	Neurum
Service:	Australian Army
SN:	QX14865
Conflict:	Second World War 1939-1945
Enlisted:	Kelvin Grove - 16 July 1940
Unit:	2/26 Battalion Infantry Battalion, 8 th Division, AIF
Rank:	Private
Embarked:	Melbourne – HMT "EE", 30 July 1941
Disembarked	Singapore, 15 August 1941
POW:	Yes
Died:	Thailand, 27 May 1943
Cause of Death:	Cholera
Buried:	Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery

Hellfire Pass



Over 22,000 Australians became POWs of the Japanese in south-east Asia.

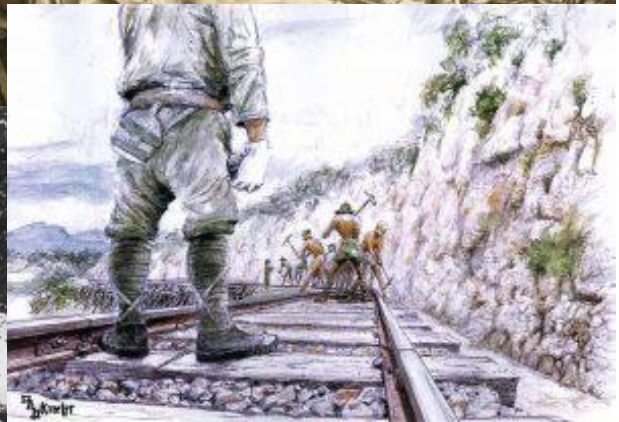
The Army prisoners were largely from the 8th Division captured at the fall of Singapore.

Throughout the war, Changi in Singapore was the main camp from which working parties were sent to other destinations and through which POWs captured in other areas were staged.

The 2/26 Battalion was split into Forces and sent to various locations including the Thai Burma Railway, Borneo and Japan.

Jack Boon was assigned to H Force, and left Changi on 5 May 1943 along with 600 fellow

Australians to join D Force in cutting Hellfire Pass, its name coming from the sight of the shadows of enslaved, malnourished, quasi-naked POWs working during the night - their shadows and the torchlights resembling scenes from hell (*courtesy of AWM*).



Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

066376

Thanbyuzayat Allied War Cemetery, Burma was situated approximately 65 kilometres south of Moulmein.

Thanbyuzayat was the starting point of the Burma-Thailand railway constructed by the Japanese using POW labour over the period September 1942 to October 1943.

It was the Japanese Administration Headquarters for POWs in Burma, and also served as a base hospital for seriously ill POWs from up country railway camps from October 1942 until June 1943, when Allied air raids forced the Japanese to abandon the site.

At the conclusion of the war in August 1945, the graves of those POWs who died during the construction and maintenance of the railway, between Thanbyuzayat and Nieké, were transferred to this cemetery (except Americans who were repatriated).

Also buried here are those who died of illness or were executed by the Japanese at Victoria Point Mergui, Tavoy and Moulmein in Burma between June and September 1942. The total number of burials is 3,771, including 1,335 Australians (*courtesy of AWM*).

Lest We Forget Jack Boon