



Media Release:

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WWII Sites recommended for Heritage Listing

The Heritage Advisory Council has announced today the proposed heritage listing of the WWII Coomalie Airfield and WWII K5 Anti-Aircraft Battery site.

Chairperson of the Heritage Advisory Council Dr Brian Reid said both sites are highly significant to the Territory and are a reminder of the impact and extent of Japanese air raids on north Australia.

“Both sites were developed specifically for use by the RAAF No. 31 Squadron Beaufighter strike bombers, the No.1. Photographic Reconnaissance Unit and the 2/1 Regiment’s 225th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery,” Dr Reid said.

“These units played an important role in the Allied Force’s campaign to drive back invading Japanese in the South West Pacific Region.

“This year marks the 66th anniversary of the Darwin bombings and it is vital that we preserve these relatively intact historic examples for future generations.

The WWII Coomalie Airfield precinct and the WWII K5 Anti-Aircraft Battery site were constructed in 1942 and are located adjacent to the Stuart Highway near Coomalie Creek.

Under the Heritage Conservation Act is it the role of the Heritage Advisory Council to assess the significance of places that have been nominated to the NT Heritage Register against criteria set out in the *Heritage Conservation Act*.

“These two sites have been assessed accordingly and meet the heritage assessment criteria under sections (h) and (k) of the Act,” Dr Reid said.

For further information on heritage listed sites in the Northern Territory go to www.nt.gov.au/heritage

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Dr Brian Reid on 0429 389 840

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