

POST FORMOSA-PACIFIC SHELLHOLE



1st September 2025

Report: OB, Post Formosa-Pacific Shellhole visit to South Africa

During August, Moth Mark Wilkie, Old Bill of Post Formosa-Pacific Shellhole visited Cape Town, Durban, and Oudtshoorn. The following report is a summary of MOTH-related activities he undertook.

Durban

9th August:

- Morning-Attended Mills Bomb Shellhole's Monthly Meeting. Presented Mills Bomb with a PFP plaque, and PFP challenge coin, and donated a PFP challenge coin as a raffle prize. Received a Mills Bomb pennant from OB Van Wyk.



- Afternoon-Met with the National Executive at Riverside Hotel to discuss proposed amendments to MOTH eligibility. Presented those present with PFP challenge coins.



10th August:

- Morning-VJ Day 80th Anniversary Talk, *Formosan Odyssey-Pacific War South Africans in Taiwan* at Warrior's Gate MOTH Shrine & Museum. Received Certificate of Comradeship and C Badge from former NC/OBOTO Moth Tony Munnik, and NVC Moth Glen Smit.



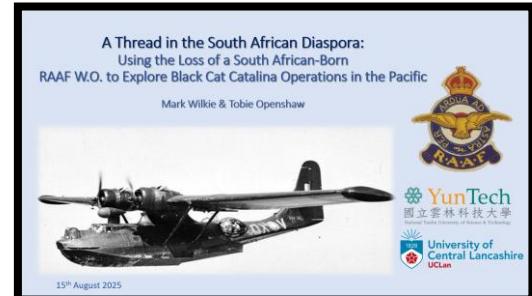
12th August:

- Morning-Visit to Warrior's Gate MOTH Shrine & Museum. Presented a set of PFP challenge coins and various PFP badges to the museum. Received a set of Warrior's Gate coasters.

Cape Town

15th August:

- Morning-Co-hosted National Yunlin University of Science & Technology, and South African Military Academy/Stellenbosch University, *VJ 80th Anniversary Conference, Springboks vs Samurai, South Africans in the War against Japan*. Presented paper *Formosa Sojourn-South Africans in Taiwan's IJA POW Camps*, and co-presented paper *A Thread in the South African Diaspora: Using the Loss of a South African-Born RAAF W.O. to Explore Black Cat Catalina Operations in the Pacific* with Moth Tobie Openshaw of PFP SH.



- Evening- VJ Day 80th Anniversary Talk, *Formosan Odyssey-Pacific War South Africans in Taiwan* at Tommy Rendle VC Shellhole. Presented TRVC with a PFP plaque and challenge coin. Received a TRVC mug from OB Calmeyer. Presented a

PFP challenge coin to CW POB De Wett. Presented a PFP plaque and challenge coin to Pip Ack OB Rosslee and DOB Van Der Schyff. Received a Pip Ack key from OB Rosslee. Presented a PFP challenge coin to Bomb Ally OB Van Der Westhuizen.



16th August:

- Morning-Placed MOTH poppy crosses at Delville Wood Memorial and Cape Town Labour Corps Memorial in Gardens on behalf of PFP SH.



17th August:

- Morning-Bomb Ally Shellhole *Annual War Commemoration Service* at the Bellville War Memorial. Laid wreath on behalf of PFP SH. Was presented with a Bomb Ally plaque by OB Van Der Westhuizen. Presented a PFP SH shirt to CW POB De Wett. Presented PFP challenge coins to Moth John Del Monte, and to Battledress OB Julie Denham.



Oudtshoorn

19th August:

- Morning-Placed a Poppy Cross at the Memorial Wall at Infantry School on behalf of PFP members Moth John Ecclestone and Johan Fritz.



20th August:

- Evening-Visited Halfaya Pass Shellhole with PFP member Moth Jaco Steenberg. Was given a tour of the superb little HP SH Museum. Presented Halfaya Pass with a PFP challenge coin. Received a Halfaya Pass pennant from OB Van Sittert. The C.P. Nel Museum, Polish Children's Memorial, Calitz Memorial Cross, and Italian POW Memorial on Outeniqua Pass were also visited.



Cape Town

22nd August:

- Morning-Visited the SAS Assegai Museum Boat (SANM), SAN Submarine Memorial, and the SA Naval Museum in Simon's Town. Met with R Adm (JG) Arne Söderlund (RT) and Cdr. Leon Steyn, Officer-in-Charge & Historian, SA Naval Museum. Took photos of bamboo cup in the museum collection that belonged to SANF POW of the Japanese that died in captivity. Placed a Poppy Cross at the SAN Submarine Memorial.

