



Media Release

Darwin City Council

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Bombing of Darwin 67th Commemoration

Around 150 veterans and survivors, many in their late eighties and nineties, from around Australia, will meet in Darwin next Thursday to attend the 66th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin.

On February 19th, 1942 Japanese forces began a bombing campaign of Darwin that claimed more than 240 lives and devastated a large part of the city. The bombing tragically marked the arrival of the WWII front line on our shores. Darwin remembers that period and honours the men and women, military and civilian, who came to her defence. Darwin City Council considers the Bombing of Darwin Commemoration Ceremony to be one of the most important events in the Northern Territory and Australian calendar.

More than 1000 people are expected to attend the ceremony on Thursday 19 February 2009 that will include wreath laying at the Cenotaph by such dignitaries as The Administrator of the NT, Chief Minister NT, the United States Consul General in Melbourne and the Lord Mayor.

This year's guest speaker is Mr Ross Pulling, Royal Australian Air Force with the 105 Fighter Control based at Berrimah.

Also as part of the morning's proceedings three RAAF F/A-18 Hornets will do a low level 'fly by' just before 10.00am and soldiers from the Royal Australian Artillery will carry out a re-enactment of anti-aircraft ground fire.

What: 67th Bombing of Darwin Commemoration
When: 930am, 19 February 2009
Where: Cenotaph, The Esplanade Darwin.
Who: Administrator, Chief Minister, Lord Mayor, Veterans

Please note that due to security requirements no media microphones are to be placed on the podium or stage area and media are requested not to approach the stage area.

Media are asked to contact Gary Haslett on 89300 504 as soon as possible for Media Passes and to arrange access to the Audio Control sound system for recording purposes.

Attached is a map of media/film production crew access and restricted areas.

Date: 09 February 2008
Contact: Gary Haslett, 8930 0504 or 0410 612 142

The Esplanade

