

Tel. No.: Liverpool Wavertree 4000.

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to:—

The Under Secretary of State,
The War Office,
Casualty Branch,
Blue Coat School,
Church Road, Wavertree,
Liverpool 15.



THE WAR OFFICE,
CASUALTY BRANCH,
BLUE COAT SCHOOL,
CHURCH ROAD,
WAVERTREE,
LIVERPOOL 15.

and the following number quoted:

Our Ref./... OR/58090/1 (Casualties)

Your Ref./.....

²⁶ March, 1943.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you, with regret, that no official information has been received in the Department since your son, No. 2336921, Signalman M.J. Mortlock, Royal Corps of Signals, was reported missing in Malaya on the 15th February, 1942.

It appears, however, from the cable which was received from your son that he arrived safely at Ringat, Sumatra, from Malaya, and presumably he was serving with the British and Allied forces still known to be fighting there.

In view of the absence of news of these forces, it can no longer be assumed that they are still operating and it is regretted, therefore, that Signalman Mortlock must now be posted as missing on the 1st February, 1943, from the Netherlands East Indies, and the posting "Missing Malaya 15.2.42" will be cancelled. This posting does not mean that hope that your son is still alive must be abandoned. On the contrary, he may eventually prove to be a prisoner-of-war, like others, a few of whom have already been reported by the Japanese authorities, or he may still be free and at large on the island.

An official notification to the above effect will be addressed to you by the Officer-in-Charge of Records, Reading, who will inform you immediately any further information is received regarding Signalman Mortlock.

I am to convey to you, on behalf of the Department, an expression of sincere sympathy in your continued anxiety.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Mr. Mortlock,
99, Wroxham Gardens,
Potters Bar,
Middlesex.