

Francis Shrimpton



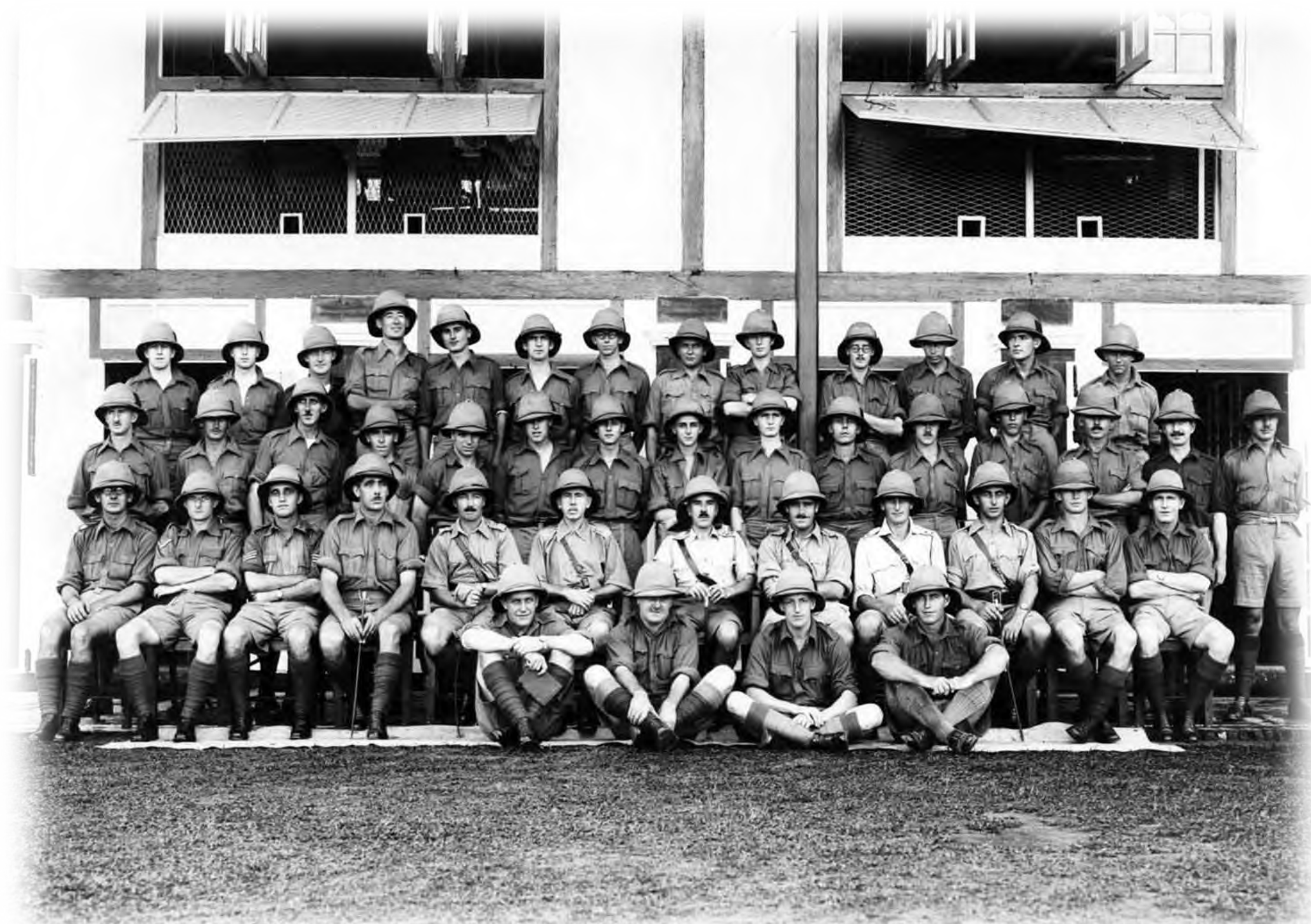
Corporal 7890, Federated Malay States Volunteer Force

Died February 13th 1942, aged 29

Commemorated at Kranji War Cemetery.

Son of Robert J Shrimpton and Marian Shrimpton, of Port Isaac, Cornwall

Robert and Marian Shrimpton came to Port Isaac from Guilford, Surrey and lived in a bungalow on the Terrace. Yvonne Cleave's mother was their cook. Robert had been a secretary to the Viceroy of India. Their son Francis was born in 1913 and was living in Malaya. He was a member of the Federated Malay States Volunteer Force. These forces were organised on a military basis by local people who realised they should be partly responsible for their own defence. The men remained in their civilian occupations and received part time training at night and weekends. The Federated Malay States (FMS) were ruled by sultans, but each had a British resident to whom the sultans were responsible. Their volunteer force totalled 5,200 men.



A troop of Federated Malay States Volunteer Force at Port Dickson, near Kuala Lumpur in Negri Sembilan

After the Japanese landed in Malaya on December 8th 1941, their forces began the invasion of the Malay peninsula and the Federated Malay States. By January 15th 1942 the entire FMS was in Japanese hands.

Francis Shrimpton died on February 13th 1942, two days before Singapore fell, and is commemorated at the Kranji War Cemetery in Singapore. As Francis died a month after the FMS was in Japanese hands, it is likely that he escaped to Singapore ahead of the Japanese. The Kranji War Cemetery contains the graves of 4,461 Second World War Commonwealth casualties who died during the battles in Malaya and Indonesia.

In Memory of
Corporal

Francis Shrimpton

7890, Federated Malay States Volunteer Force who died on 13 February 1942 Age 29

Son of Robert J. Shrimpton and Marian Shrimpton, of Port Isaac, Cornwall.

Remembered with Honour
Kranji War Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Sources:

Malayan Volunteer Forces: <http://www.malayanvolunteersgroup.org.uk/node/55>

Federated Malay States in WW2: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federated_Malay_States#WWII_-_Japanese_invasion_and_dissolution

Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore: <http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/2004200/KRANJI%20WAR%20CEMETERY>