Private ALEXANDER GEORGE MARTIN

5182332, Gloucestershire Regiment and Commando who died age 28 on 29 November 1943 Remembered with honour at the RANGOON WAR CEMETERY

The Tewkesbury Register of 8 January 1944 reported his death:

TEWKESBURY SOLDIER DIES IN ENEMY HANDS.



Mrs. E. E. Martin of Hayes Court, Barton Street, received the sad news that her son Pte. Alexander George Martin, of the Gloucestershire Regiment, died in Burma on the 29th of November, while in enemy hands. The deceased soldier was reported missing in December 1942. He was 35 years of age and an old pupil of the Abbey School; before joining the army at the age of 14 .. years, he was in the employ of Messrs. Hunters. He had been abroad for nine years and held the Army Certificate of Education, and in 1937 was the first in the Regimental light weight boxing tournament at the Madras Presidency Olympia, and held the certificate signed by the Governor. Mrs Martin has another son, Signaller James John, now serving with the Mediterranean forces.

Rangoon War Cemetery, outside the capital city of Burma, now known as Myanmar, was only created in 1948 after bodies buried in temporary cemeteries were collected in one safe place. One rarely knows specifically how a Japanese POW died but the CWGC does record that, amongst the burials, were POWs from Rangoon Jail.