



Australian Government

The Repatriation Commission

**Military Rehabilitation and
Compensation Commission**

REPATRIATION COMMISSIONER
REPATRIATION COMMISSION

To whom it may concern

MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FOR THE ALLIES MUSEUM

I am writing in support of The Allies Museum World War II Liberation of Italy and its 'United in Victory, United in History' capital campaign. Through the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Government is committed to supporting the wellbeing of those who serve or have served in the defence of our nation, and their families. A major responsibility is to ensure the service and sacrifice of our service men and women is appropriately commemorated and remembered by Australians now and into the future. I believe The Allies Museum initiative would be a significant addition to commemorations recognising our victorious effort to fight for democracy and freedom during the Italian campaign in World War II.

As we approach the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Italy, less than one per cent of the servicemen and servicewomen who served are still with us. First-hand accounts have all but disappeared. Astoundingly, nearly a century later, no cultural institution exists dedicated to preserving the lessons from this event. We must preserve this important part of history and commemorate the men and women who risked everything for the liberties many take for granted today.

Dedicated to the 1.2 million men and women from 25 countries who came together to liberate Italy from Nazi fascism, I understand that The Allies Museum commemorates the mission of the Italian people and those from the countries they fought alongside.

The Italian campaign is a legacy of unity and togetherness that saved the world from totalitarian dictatorship and laid the foundation for organisations such as the United Nations, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the European Union. For Australia, the mission of The Allies Museum to commemorate veterans, educate current servicemen and servicewomen, and inspire future generations of service will contribute to our country's overall sense of community, history, and pride, and support our nation's relationships both domestically and abroad. I wholeheartedly support this initiative.

I am more than happy to act as Australia's representative Member on The Allies Museum's advisory board, the Board of Allies.

Thank you for bringing this meaningful initiative to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that tapers off to the right.

Kahlil Fegan
Repatriation Commissioner

5 March 2025