

✓ Errors in transcript of hearing March 25, 2009
② Requested more relevant extracts from interviews



CORR.022.0159_R

April 14 2009



Lieutenant Joshua Nottle,
Commission of Inquiry into the Loss of HMAS Sydney II

Dear Lieutenant Nottle,

These are corrections to mistakes in the transcript AND quotations from interviews from Hans Linke and Reinhold von Malapert that illustrate the kernel of what they said, rather than the disjointed and I believe misleading passages that were presented for examination. I would appreciate it if both could go into the record. Naturally the interview sections as an add to a submission if that is appropriate.

Regards,

David Kennedy

Corrections to typographical or audio errors in HMAS Sydney II Commission of Inquiry hearings March 25, 2009 for David Kennedy.

2475: 3 Mark Davis (not Davidson)
2479: 9 Salamua (not Salamoia)
2479: 13 Meier (not Meyer)
2484: 36 Greter (not greater)
2486: 16 Britt (not Brit)
2489: 45 Remove quote marks from "The Radio War" (description rather than name)
2493: 32 Dienststelle (not Dienststelle)
2494: 15 and 17 Kriegstagebuch (not Kriegstage book)
2496: 24 153 to 158 (not I-53 to I-58)
2496: 27 158 (not I-58)
2502: 25 Baume (not Boehm)
2502: 27 Baume (not Boehm)
2507: 32 verascht (not "fa'ashed")
2514: 29 Back (instead of bach)
2526 :34 Edmund Abel (not Ebel)
2553: 41 Neal "John" Brown (I think not JN)

Perhaps more cohesive sections from DVD 33:

Kormoran wireless operator HANS LINKE AND DAVID KENNEDY

13.01.16

KENNEDY: Who was above and below in the radio rooms?

LINKE: Koehn was definitely above in control.

Q: Who had the Marconi transmitter?

A: That was below in Radio Room 2. And that was operated by me with the normal key.

06.16.16 LINKE: The Marconi transmitter was in Radio Room 2. Radio Room 1 was above, behind the bridge. Radio Room 2 was two decks deeper. We in Radio Room 2 were instructed when we were to operate the jammer from Radio Room 1 above. They could observe all that happened. They could see out of the portholes when and where the Sydney was and so on, and we simultaneously heard Sydney signal. And they said: 'Now . . . hit the key, jam the signals'. The Marconi was so set up and keyed that the morse signals could be heard and read. It was only that it had a modulated tone that was very penetrating. The spark gap caused all the noise because the spark jumped over. Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzt, Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzt, Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzt. Louder.

KENNEDY: Sydney tried to transmit and Kormoran used the jamming transmitter?

LINKE: Yes.

KENNEDY: That is clear to you?

LINKE: Yes.

KENNEDY: Sydney tried to transmit?

LINKE: Yes.

KENNEDY: Before the battle?

LINKE: Yes.

Kennedy and Kormoran Communications Officer Baron Reinhold von Malapert.

08.13.01:

KENNEDY: "I said to Hans Linke: 'You jammed other ships. For example freighters or tankers and so on but what about Sydney?' And he said that Sydney had transmitted, sent a signal and he thinks that an answer came from Africa somewhere, he considered perhaps Freertown, and perhaps Simonstown. Maybe it was Kilindini, Mombasa. But I wanted to ask you whether you think that in this case, Linke's memory was correct and, indeed, Sydney had tried to signal and that Sydney had jammed."

VON MALAPERT: Ah, that is completely clear. You can certainly accept that. Yes. Yes.

KENNEDY: OK.

VON MALAPERT: Yes.

KENNEDY: Whether Kormoran had sent a signal after the battle? A signal to Germany or Wenneker in Tokyo?

VON MALAPERT: (Pause) I don't know. I can't say more than that, yes.



CORR.022.0161

10.18.0

KENNEDY: Baron, Hans Linke also said that we had used the starboard underwater torpedo and it hit Sydney under the bridge. And I said that mostly they say two deck torpedoes and he said "No". What is your opinion there? The underwater starboard torpedo. Was he right?

VON MALAPERT: I can't tell you. I do not know exactly and therefore I can't say anything definite. I am now a quite simple naval officer. War service and now in Chile, where I am very glad to live and therefore I can't say much to you.

KENNEDY: I understand.

12.02.00

LINKE: Radio contact, or a signal was sent from Sydney, with the purpose of indicating . . . we said we had been intercepted by a cruiser.

Kennedy and Linke (audio)

14.15.01

KENNEDY: Did Kormoran use an underwater torpedo?

LINKE: Yes, the one, and only, underwater torpedo. We had deck, and port and starboard underwater, torpedoes. We had to aim the underwater torpedoes by turning the whole ship. Turn the ship then shoot the torpedo.

KENNEDY: Did Kormoran fire an underwater tube torpedo?

LINKE: We fired one underwater torpedo. It hit Sydney under the bridge and Sydney dipped as water flooded in. Some of us yelled hooray! Then she trimmed and came up again and took up the fight once more

17.10.03

LINKE: And then it went on with the guns going into action. 15cm guns came into play and scored hits.

Dave Kennedy
14/4/2009