

26 Clarendon Gardens
London W9 1AZ

1 November, 1989

Herr Otto Jürgensen
Gosselkoppel 35
2000 Hamburg
63-Hummelsbüttel
West Germany

Dear Mr Jürgensen

Earlier this year John Nicholas forwarded your letter of 15 February regarding my interest, as the son of a H.M.A.S. Sydney crewman, in contacting surviving members of the Kormoran crew. Please accept my apologies for the delay in writing to you, but I am sure you will understand that it was a difficult decision to make.

I am an Australian living in London with my family. My mother, who died in London last year, married my father in the late '20's (they were both English) and I was born in 1936. I have read two books about the Sydney/Kormoran action, one called "Who Sank the Sydney" by Michael Montgomery and the other, "H.M.A.S. Sydney, Fact, Fantasy and Fraud" by Barbara Winter. I expect you have read them also. John Nicholas also forwarded a letter Johannes Schneider wrote to him describing his view of the action in 1941.

Would it be possible to meet you at some time in the near future? 19 November is only a few days away and I could arrive then, but I will not be offended if this is inappropriate. I have quite a few days annual leave outstanding which I must take before the end of the year and as there are no school holidays until Christmas, I will not be bringing my family. If and when I do come I would travel by car, possibly spending a couple of days in Holland either before or after my visit. I am perfectly happy to stay in a hotel so please do not feel obliged to accomodate me for the short period I would spend in Germany.

Finally, please be assured I have no ulterior motive for talking to survivors of the Kormoran and I am well aware of the disquiet Montgomery's book has caused since publication. I am not a journalist nor potential author and have no other interest in this naval battle of 48

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years ago save that of the son of a Sydney sailor who would like to hear at first hand how he lost his father.

Yours sincerely

Edmund Jones

Father: C.P.O. P T Jones (1896-1941)

P.S. Please find enclosed a copy of a letter sent to a friend of my mother (also a Sydney widow) and passed to her during the war. I wonder if Otto Wintroth is still alive?