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Rear Admiral G J B Crabb,  
37 Lucinda Ave.  
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Dear Sir,

I seek your opinion regarding a request from Otto Jurgensen, Navigator of the auxiliary cruiser Kormoran and President of the Association in Germany.

My wife and I and several other members of the HMAS Sydney Association both from here and Melbourne, have accepted Otto's hospitality in Hamburg. Also my wife and I attended the three day Kormoran Reunion at Erlach near Ochsenfurt, Germany over the Whitsuntide of 1984 weekend, where the hotel was taken over for that period.

The Association made us most welcome and at the wind-up dinner were seated with the executive and Mrs Detmers, wife of the deceased Captain of the Kormoran. During the dinner both the Australian and German Ensigns were displayed and the fallen members of the crew of HMAS Sydney along with the fallen members of the Kormoran were honoured. Since that time we have remained in contact with the Jurgensens.

Now I come to the point. Otto is preparing the reunion for the 50th Anniversary of the action and I quote verbatim the request from his letter:-

"I would like to have wreaths with an English text laid at Sydney memorial on Martin Place in Sydney and at the Sydney Oak in Melbourne.

First problem: I do not know whether you, Alistair Templeton and Doug Price will agree with my idea of having a wreath laid in Sydney.

Second problem: Who shall lay the wreath? There is one ex Kormoran man living in Sydney, but will he be allowed to lay the wreath? If there should be any disturbances caused by laying a wreath, and moreover by an ex Kormoran man, I would have to renounce a wreath for the Sydney crew. You know my