

Interviewed Mr. Doug Pluschke on 30th January, 1993.

  
SUBM.004.0308

Doug states he had been to a Social at the Yallabatharra School. He is not sure of the date, only that it was late 1941. He was 16 years old at the time. He left after 1.a.m. for Northampton ...they were in an old truck with some of the party sitting in the back. When they arrived home, his Father was standing in front of the house which faces towards the sea and he said "There is a battle going on out there" and pointed towards the sea. It was only then that Doug observed the flash and explosions. He said he saw 3 or 4 flashes. He said they saw flashes first then explosions later ... they could just hear the gunfire. He had no doubt in his mind at all that it was gunfire. The people sitting on the back of the vehicle said they had been watching it nearly all the way from Yallabatharra School to Northampton.

Doug set up a couple of Markers for me and I was able to take a Compass reading of 272° on the area where he saw the flashes.

*D.R.E. King* 1-3-93  
D.R.E. King

I have no reason to doubt Mr. Pluschke's statement in anyway. The point I would like to make here is that the gunfire could only just be heard, or, in Doug's words "Not very loud". Information I have is that Naval Gunfire can only be heard 40 Nautical Miles maximum ... taking into consideration the lay of the land and distance from Northampton to the sea, I have allowed a distance of 50 Nautical miles to the source of gunfire.

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