



Michael tried to answer these questions and had to wait for the release of the whole body of official war records, which under the 33 year Rule was not due to take place until 1976. So Michael Montgomery returned to Australia in 1977 and began to pursue the subject in earnest.

\* Michael stated that, "In my interviews with survivors from the Kormoran for obvious reasons, I have omitted from the text the names of those who are now settled in Australia. The officers, perhaps because of the inhibiting factor of the Statute of Limitations governing War Crimes, showed similar unwillingness to depart in any significant detail from the official account, whereas the lower deck crew were prepared to express themselves with much greater freedom."

\* It was later confirmed that the HMAS Sydney could only have been sunk by a Japanese submarine as indicated in a series of cryptograms found on Dr. Fritz List, Kormoran's Intelligence Officer. When one of them was decrypted it stated, "Honour was conferred on the Kormoran .. until reinforcements arrived. In the evening conquered the victim, a Japanese gunfire attack from Japan itself."