

Commonwealth of Australia
STATUTORY DECLARATION
Statutory Declarations Act 1959

I, **ALEXANDER EDWIN MCANDREW** of [REDACTED] in the State of New South Wales, retiree, make the following declaration under the *Statutory Declarations Act, 1959*:

1. I was born in 1928 in DRUMMOYNE in the State on New South Wales.
2. I was a language teacher at high schools for 18 years and then taught languages at the University of Sydney for 22 years and have written a book on how to learn languages. Since retiring I have also researched and written local histories.
3. In or about 1995 I wrote a *story* entitled “HALF A CENTURY OF SILENCE – UNIQUE STORY OF A JAPANESE SUBMARINER IN THE PACIFIC WAR”. I have been shown a copy of the story and I confirm that I am the author of this story and that it is a work of fiction. The copy of the story I was shown is annexed hereto and marked with the letter “A”.
4. I was a teenager during World War II and I believe that the full details of the engagement between HMAS SYDNEY (II) and the German Raider KORMORAN were suppressed and that the Government also suppressed other events of the war.
5. I do not believe that the whole story regarding the engagement between HMAS SYDNEY (II) and the KORMORAN has been told.
6. My purpose in writing the fictional story was to provoke thought on what happened during the engagement between SYDNEY and KORMORAN with the hope that the truth would eventually be told.
7. In approximately 1995 I was conducting some research at the State Library when I met a Japanese student and I based the character of Michiko Takahashi on her. I refer in my story to a man named Peter Johnson. Peter Johnson is a pseudonym that I used for the purpose of the story.





8. I became intrigued in the HMAS SYDNEY (II) mystery and decided to write the story after reading books by the authors Montgomery and Frame. These books informed the content of my article in relation to the engagement between HMAS SYDNEY (II) and KORMORAN. I have not conducted any independent research into the loss of HMAS SYDNEY (II).
9. The article was never published and although the article does not contain any text that it is a work of fiction, I was never my intention that the article be viewed as factual.
10. I submitted the article to the Sydney Morning Herald and the Canberra Times newspapers, both of whom were interested in the story until I informed them that the article was fictional. Neither newspaper published the article.
11. I have also provided a copy of my article to the Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum under cover of a letter which describes it as a *story*. I described it as a story with the purpose of describing it as a fictional work.
12. I have not provided the article to any other person, institution or organisation.

I understand that a person who intentionally makes a false statement in a statutory declaration is guilty of an offence under section 11 of the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959* and I believe that the statements in this declaration are true in every particular.

Declared at [REDACTED] on the 9TH of January 2009

ALEXANDER MCANDREW

Before me

JOSHUA NOTTLE

Legal Practitioner Level 8/55 Market Street SYDNEY NSW 2000