



## USS Frank E. Evans Reunion DD 754



*J. C Campbell*

October 9, 1995

Captain B. L. Swam, AM, RANR  
HMAS Melbourne Association

Dear Captain Swan,

It is such a pleasure to hear from you, and hopefully one day soon I will have the pleasure of making your acquaintance face to face. It has been our pleasure to host some of your association members at our past two reunions. As my good friend Arthur Donnelly so eloquently told his wife Barbie, "American sailors acted JUST LIKE Australian sailors". He related that that statement had Barbie reaching for the Valium. We look forward to seeing everyone at our 5th reunion to be held in Corpus Christi, Texas in September 1996. We plan to go to San Diego for the 1997 reunion and then in 1998 we will be in the Washington, D.C./Alexandria, VA. area. We are starting to get things lined up for our trip to your lovely country for the 30th Memorial Services in 1999.

Brian, I have reread the letters from Greg Ellis, mailed after April, 1995 and Bobbie Winston's letter received in the November 1994 time frame concerning the plaques. Bob Winston asked what it would cost to buy two plaques for both Greg and himself. I had a problem understanding what Greg meant in his letter, but he did want it to go into a museum in Sidney. After the first request I sent two plaques. It was in the letter from Greg that concerned me the most when, and this is the part I have trouble reading. He says "if possible would you please forward another plaque, with *out* the bottom of it the words, "Donated by USS Frank E. Evans Association" so when people visit it they know where it came from and that the friendship of both navies are as strong as the night it all happened".

This has not caused the Association or myself any problems, except that I could not figure where the plaques were going. As you stated "Naval History has determined that your Association and mine will be linked forever". It is the purpose of our association that this part of history will never be forgotten. I will make every effort to keep you informed of all happenings in our association, including all correspondence that goes to our membership.

Brian, I appreciate your letter of concern and truly hope that this letter finds everyone in good health.

Sincerely,

J. C. Campbell