NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

Public Record Office of Victoria (PROVic), Series 2896.

Royal Commission on the Aborigines, 1877. *Victorian Parliamentary Papers*, 1877-78, vol.3.

Smyth, Robert Brough. *The Aborigines of Victoria*, 2 vols. Melbourne, 1878.

Stanner, W.E.H. 'Alfred Howitt'. *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, 1851-90, vol. 4. Melbourne, 1972: 432-5.

Surveyor-General and the Secretary for Mines. *Report on the physical character and resources of Gippsland*. Melbourne, 1874.

Thomas, William. Papers. Mitchell Library, uncatalogued MSS, set 214, Item 16.

Walker, Mary Howitt. *Come wind, come weather: a biography of Alfred Howitt*. Melbourne, 1971.

WALAWURRU, THE GIANT EAGLEHAWK:

A NOTE ON THE IDENTITY OF KUNKI

R.G. Kimber

In 1982 I had an article published in *Aboriginal History* entitled 'Walawurru, the giant eaglehawk: Aboriginal reminiscences of aircraft in central Australia 1921-1931'.¹ Since publication I have discovered an error, which in turn promoted some incorrect estimations of the ages of some Aborigines. The following note corrects these errors.

Joe Brown, a bushman, was known to some Pintubi, but he was not the key European known as Kunki, as suggested.² The bushman Sam Hazlett, who travelled in the general Kintore area 1934-36, is undoubtedly the Kunki clearly recalled.³

As I knew that Joe Brown had died in 1928, I had estimated some of the Aboriginal dates of birth on the basis of this date and other events in Joe Brown's life, as well as on descriptions of their own physical development and ritual instruction by the Aborigines at the time that they recalled the coming of Kunki. This error necessitates a re-estimate of some of the Aborigines' dates of birth. In particular, I now believe that Old Tapa Tapa Tjangala was born c.1918 and Nosepeg Tjupurrula c.1920. George Tjangala and Johnny Warangula Tjupurrula may be a little younger than their estimated dates of birth — respectively c.1920 and c.1922 — suggest, but not by more than perhaps three years.⁴

¹ *Aboriginal History* 6(1), 1982:49-60.

² *ibid*:49

³ Mark Chambers, pers. comm., 1985.

⁴ *Aboriginal History* 6(1):59.