



# Piers Akerman

## Off track on the Kokoda

**O**LYMPIC pen-pusher John Coates is under the gun, and deservedly so.

Having provoked a storm of protest with his disparaging remarks about the relevance of the Australian flag on Anzac Day, the AOC bureaucrat is now determinedly fighting a proposal to carry the

Upper House MP and Vietnam veteran who has made Kokoda a personal cause. He believes that politics and ignorance, not security concerns, are behind the Olympics officials' refusal to consider staging a relay on any part of the Kokoda Track.

