

Dire Straits - Communiqué (1979)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Once Upon A Time In The West* – 5:23
02. *News* – 4:12
03. *Where Do You Think You're Going?* – 3:49
04. *Communiqué* – 5:48
05. *Lady Writer* – 3:44
06. *Angel Of Mercy* – 4:34
07. *Portobello Belle* – 4:28
08. *Single-Handed Sailor* – 4:42
09. *Follow Me Home* – 5:49

Personnel:

- Mark Knopfler - lead & rhythm guitar, lead vocals
- John Illsley - bass, vocals
- David Knopfler - rhythm guitar, vocals
- Pick Withers - drums
- +
- Bobby Bear – keyboards

Rushed out less than nine months after the surprise success of Dire Straits' self-titled debut album, the group's sophomore effort, *Communiqué*, seemed little more than a carbon copy of its predecessor with less compelling material. Mark Knopfler and co. had established a sound (derived largely from J.J. Cale) of laid-back shuffles and intricate, bluesy guitar playing, and *Communiqué* provided more examples of it. But there was no track as focused as "Sultans of Swing," even if "Lady Writer" (a lesser singles chart entry on both sides of the Atlantic) nearly duplicated its sound. As a result, *Communiqué* sold immediately to Dire Straits' established audience, but no more, and it did not fare as well critically as its predecessor or its follow-up. ---
William Ruhlmann, Rovi

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