

eK119141  
 THE SECRETARY  
 HMAS SYDNEY II  
 COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

JUSTUS ANGWIN

3-6-08

WHEN I TURNED 17, IN 1943, I ENLISTED IN THE RAN AND SERVED, AS A TELEGRAPHIST (AND CODER), UNTIL OCT 1946. IN 1944 MY FIRST SHIP WAS HMAS HEROS. BEFORE RETIREMENT AT 65 I WORKED 12 YEARS FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY). I MARCH WITH THE FAIRMILES ASSOCIATION EACH ANZAC DAY. THESE DETAILS ARE QUOTED SO AS TO INDICATE MY CONTINUING INTEREST IN OUR NAVY - FOR WHICH REASON I WISH THE COMMISSION THE BEST OF LUCK.

YOUR INQUIRY ABOUT Sydney WILL NECESSARILY TEST ALL PREVIOUS ASSUMPTIONS (INCLUDING THE ONE-SIDED ACCOUNT PUT FORWARD ON BEHALF OF THE KORMORAN).

JUST 2 CARLEY FLOATS FROM Sydney (THOUGH PROBABLY MORE WERE CARRIED) ARE ON RECORD. ONE WAS PICKED UP BY HEROS LATE IN NOV 1941. THE OTHER, WITH DEAD BODY, TURNED UP AT CHRISTMAS ISLAND EARLY IN FEB 1942.

WITHOUT SUGGESTING THAT THE POINT COULD BE IMPORTANT, I'VE NOTICED THAT REFERENCES TO THE CHRISTMAS ISLAND FLOAT TAKE IT FOR CERTAIN THAT THE BODY THEREIN, AND NOW BURIED "SOMEWHERE" ON THE ISLAND, CAME FROM Sydney.

BUT THIS ASSUMPTION OUGHT NOT BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED, AS IT IS AT LEAST POSSIBLE THAT THE UNLUCKY SAILOR, LACKING IDENTITY DISC, COULD HAVE COME FROM KORMORAN.

Yours Sincerely

Justus Angwin