



Greg Bathgate



July 15, 2008

The Secretary
HMAS SYDNEY II
Commission of Inquiry
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SYDNEY NSW 2000

SUBMISSION TO THE HMAS SYDNEY II COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a contribution to the Commission of Inquiry. I anticipate the foregoing information will assist in your deliberations.

Now that HMAS *Sydney* has been found and photographs obtained, it is has become easier to predict and reconstruct the events that occurred after the engagement with HSK *Kormoran*. From the evidence obtained so far, the sequence of events would seem to generally accord with the German version of events. But those events per se, do nothing to explain the circumstances that led to the *Sydney*'s demise. Most central to the matter is 'how and why' the *Sydney* was positioned so close to the *Kormoran* before the action began and in this regard the German story requires careful scrutiny, as I have outlined in my recently published book, HMAS SYDNEY 1941 – THE ANALYSIS, hereinafter referred to as The Analysis (enclosed).

That the Inquiry is commissioned to report on the circumstances surrounding the loss of *Sydney*, can only be achieved with wide-ranging terms of reference. It is essential that the Inquiry seeks the cooperation of the archivists of the erstwhile allied and enemy forces. This measure (which the 1997 Parliamentary Inquiry failed to satisfactorily address) is required to confirm whether distress signals indicative of the *Sydney*'s plight, may have been intercepted by overseas intelligence services. In order to find a credible exposition, this submission hereinafter canvasses a number of Sydney-related matters, which should ultimately assist in the findings of the Inquiry.

Yours faithfully,

Greg Bathgate