

Terry Hewton,



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The Secretary,  
HMAS SYDNEY 11 Commission of Inquiry,  
Level 18,  
Defence Plaza,  
270 Pitt Street,  
SYDNEY,  
NSW. 2000.

26 November, 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

I forward details of a recent broadcast of the first hand observations of MAX VENABLES on the operational behaviour of HMAS Sydney some 48 hours or so before she went down. I offer it as a supplement to his written submissions to your inquiry. I do so independently of his submission.

I invite you to consider that those observations of his do carry some significance for your investigation and that you could usefully give them some attention accordingly. It has occurred to me that you might play them at the inquiry itself though that is for you to say I know.

In addition to the broadcast details I also forward an unpublished manuscript setting down why I think Max's observations warrant some attention. I should say that this manuscript was written as a newspaper feature and I have submitted it as such to Simon Wilkinson, Features editor at *The Advertiser* here in Adelaide, and am currently awaiting his reply. I put it to you that, whether my manuscript gets a run or not – that depends on a range of journalistic considerations and it may not do so – my account of Max's observations may well be of use to you when considered against the rest of the evidence that is before you on the subject of the sinking.

For your information I made a submission to the first HMAS Sydney inquiry along rather different lines (submission no 89.)

I am a little beyond the due date with this submission I know. My apologies. If I am too late I will understand.

Whether you accept my submission here or not all the best with your current inquiry. It's a difficult task for you I know.

Yours Sincerely,

Terry Hewton