

**Bernard O'Sullivan**

**From:** "Bernard O'Sullivan" [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 November 2006 11:25 PM  
**Subject:** Unearthing the truth, HMAS SYDNEY

Unearthing the truth of a Tragedy at Sea Published Sun Herald, Sunday, 12th November 2006

The truth is shrouded in doubt from the beginning, it assumes the body on the raft was from the SYDNEY, but it was never established to be a fact.

The Report on the Loss of HMAS SYDNEY which included a result of an investigation just after the War by the then DNI, Captain G.C. Oldham RAN, stated the construction of the Carley Float did not belong to an HMA ship, and on that basis was not ex HMAS SYDNEY.

A previous search was not successful in finding the grave, but the 'surfacing' of a person some 55 years later allows a body to be unearthed. Of particular interest is the fact the recovered remains showed that the person was originally shot with a small calibre pistol, and claiming to confirm another myth, the presence of a Japanese Submarine, which not only sank the SYDNEY, but also massacred the survivors.\*\*

In March 1942, the Japanese landed and occupied Christmas Island, in all probability there was some resistance by the civilian residents, which would have been countered by at least one of the inhabitants being summarily executed. Although this was normally carried out by the Japanese Military, with an Army Officer publically decapitating the victim with a sword, but in this instance and because it was a Maritime Operation, by a Naval Officer, who would publically execute the victim with a pistol shot to the back of the head. I feel the recent dis-interred mortal remains are those of such a murdered victim.

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\*\* (The presence of a Japanese Submarine was traced to a conversation on a Melbourne Tram between two Williamstown Dockyard workers and overheard by a person who passed it on to a newspaper, which in the absence of official naval Press Releases was duly published. Although officially denied at the time, it was quoted in Michael Montgomery's book, "Who Sank the Sydney?", where it gained more notoriety.)

Incidentally, there is very little factual evidence of the shooting of survivors in the water, it being an absolute waste of ammunition. Plus of course, that 70 nights after the sinking of SYDNEY, HMAS PERTH was sunk by three torpedos fired from Japanese destroyers, which then sailed away to continue with their Group in pursuit of USS HOUSTON. At day-break, the Japanese returned to pick up the survivors. Now that is a fact for I visit one of them who resides in the Wyong Aged Care Facility.

Bernard O'Sullivan,  
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