



HMAS SYDNEY Search Pty Ltd

MEDIA CONFERENCE

THE FINDING SYDNEY FOUNDATION SEARCH TEAM RETURNS HOME - MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

8th April 2008

The Finding *Sydney* Foundation will hold a media conference in Fremantle following the successful filming of the wrecks of HMAS *Sydney* II and HSK *Kormoran*.

Where: NWS Shipping Theatre, WA Maritime Museum, Victoria Quay, Fremantle

When: 12.30 hrs Thursday 10th April 2008

Background

HMAS *Sydney* II was tragically lost in November 1941 in the Indian Ocean off Western Australia with its entire crew of 645, following a fierce engagement with the German raider HSK *Kormoran*. HSK *Kormoran* was damaged and consequently scuttled, with 317 of her nearly 400 crew surviving the engagement.

On Wednesday 12th March, the wreck of HSK *Kormoran* was located approximately 112 nautical miles off the West Australian coast. Subsequently on Sunday 16th March the wreck of HMAS *Sydney* was located some 12.2 nautical miles from the German wreck. Filming of HMAS *Sydney* and HSK *Kormoran* was successfully completed 8th April and the vessel is currently in transit back to Geraldton to complete demobilisation activities.

Media Notes

1. The Directors of The Foundation (Ted Graham, Keith Rowe, Bob Trotter, Don Pridmore and Mrs Glenys McDonald); Commodore Rick Shalders, RAN, Senior Naval Officer WA; Ms Diana Jones, Acting CEO WA Museum; David Mearns Foundation Search Director; Dr Michael McCarthy, Curator Maritime Archaeology, WA Museum; and Lieutenant John Perryman, RANR, will be available for interview after the media conference.

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2. The SV *Geosounder* is returning to the Port of Geraldton on Wednesday 9th April, following the successful discovery and filming of the HMAS *Sydney II* and HSK *Kormoran*. Filming of this will be completed by WIN TV and made available on a pool basis. No media interviews will be conducted onboard the vessel or at the quayside upon arrival.

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