

## Bearing Arms

by ryall *Tuesday, Feb 15 2011, 8:14am*

international / prose/poetry / literature

*We hang or free OUR OWN, Ms Gillard. Your actions in relation to Oz citizen Julian Assange will seal your fate, one way or the other.*

a bull shark hangs dead on Clark Island  
its jagged jaw gapes grotesquely  
for public view;  
the shark they say, the same as took the leg  
of a young Navy diver

it followed a cruise ship into the harbour  
but the [Navy] instructor was oblivious  
to the present danger of sharks --  
frantic from the constant smell  
of jettisoned food -- it circled waiting  
for a fix like some homicidal junkie  
but none was forthcoming -- the passengers had  
disembarked,  
the abundant waste/food abruptly  
ended but not the demands  
of a shark's desire.

the incompetence of the RAN  
training in close proximity to the anchored liner  
is only matched by the shameless subservience  
of our politicians -- they imagine Washington  
has all the answers and do as instructed  
by men less competent than themselves  
but it's an Oz tradition  
to kowtow to colonial powers, I am told.

successive governments have allowed our defences to wither;  
they send our brave military to fight in criminal wars  
and deliver them to their deaths without honour or justice;  
only platitudes from incompetent superiors are offered,  
they attempt to invoke the ghosts of our fighting ANZACS  
to justify our losses in criminal American wars.

the lesson learnt at ANZAC cove was NOT to  
deliver out precious troops to foreign commanders  
to be sacrificed in needless, unjust wars -- EVER AGAIN!

would we - a SOVEREIGN NATION -- expect our brave  
service men and women to die  
for COWARDS, traitors, lackeys and thoroughly incompetent  
superiors who do not understand  
the basics of the sea?

Solitary Clark Island  
is decorated with an  
after-thought today  
a delayed response,  
a lost leg and hand.

I gazed from Darling Point wharf  
jagged teeth seen easily  
from the mainland.

how many more  
limbs and young lives would be lost to  
cowardice, incompetence and traitorous  
lackey politicians?

I recall our brave, rebellious past  
when young Australia viewed corrupt colonial masters  
with contempt and the traitorous scum that supported them  
with deserved disdain.

the shark turns slowly as it hangs  
dead  
in the wind,  
a jagged, jutting reminder.