Foreign Minister Julie Bishops's response to the letter from North Korea was predictable. Instead of taking it at face value, as an opportunity to open dialogue, defuse tensions and talk peace, she has used it to argue that sanctions and threats are 'working'. Sanctions, threats and provocative military exercises only bring the prospect of war closer. When will we have leaders who will lead us on a path to peace? For the present we are on course for yet another, pointless and unnecessary war.

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