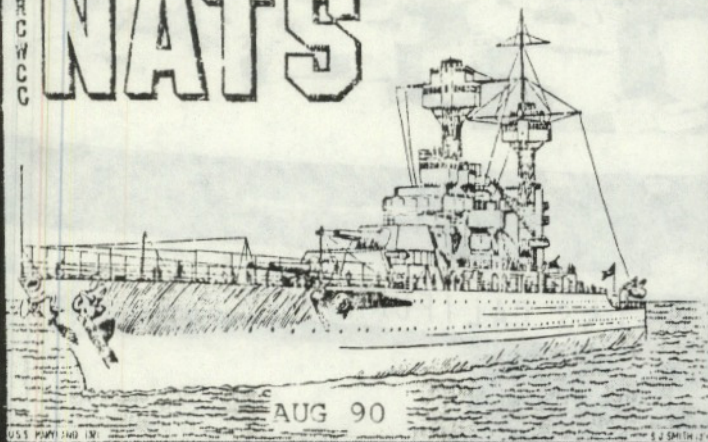


HULL BUSTERS

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NATS



JULY 9-13, 1990 ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND

Blow-by-Blow

Battle Reports

1990 NATS: SUNDAY PRELIMS

By Tom Jass

ORDER OF BATTLE

The fleets would be divided into Allied versus Axis -- TRADITION!! A quick count of the ships that were expected to battle at 1990 Nats showed that the Axis would be as heavily favored at Annapolis as the Allies had been at Knoxville in 1989. "Hail Caesar, we who are about to die salute thee."

ALLIED FLEET

The Allied fleet was composed of six BBs, one BC, nine CHs (4 piloted by rookie captains) and one CL. The units totaled 45; HMS TIGER was the only 24 second capital ship in the fleet. The Allies would have their work cut out for them if they were to avoid a reverse replay of Knoxville in '89. The Allied fleet was composed of the following fighting ships.

USS MASSACHUSETTS

James Foster was the Allied Fleet Admiral and his six unit, 26 second BB was their flagship. She was armed with port and starboard broadside guns in her B turret (poking out from each side), and three stern guns in X turret. James only runs with one pump as he is aggressive. The morale of the Allied gang was lifted to see him at Nats.

USS INDIANA

Jim Pate's six unit, 26 second BB was a work of art (beyond belief for a rookie) with two rotating guns in B turret. She was also running just one pump (powered by an .05 motor); she had been reliable at Decatur in the spring. The penalty for being dead in the water at Annapolis would certainly be a sinking. Jim has really developed a revolutionary gun and magazine system to allow two rotating (and depressing) guns in one turret.

HMIS VALIANT

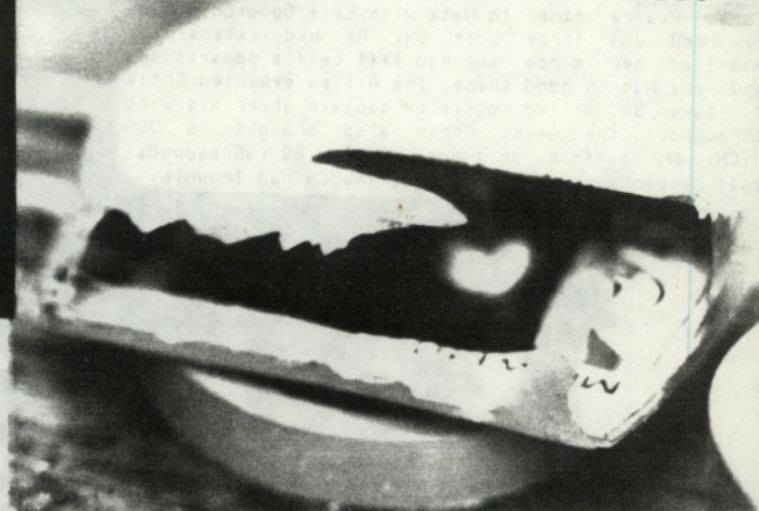
The veteran capital ship of the Allied fleet was Dan Hamilton's five unit, 26 second BB. VALIANT was

armed with one bow and two broadside guns. She always fights close in with her broadside guns. Her two pumps are effective and she has not been sunk since the Amarillo Nats. She takes damage to give some -- usually more than she takes.

HMS WARSPITE

Marty Hayes from the Maryland Attack Group (MAG) brought his British Queen Elizabeth class BB. She is a 26 second ship and Marty had armed her with two stern guns, a bow gun and one broadside weapon. Her pump had been whimpy at 1990 Spring SE Regionals -- could she stay afloat with all the 24 second Axis ships on the pond?.

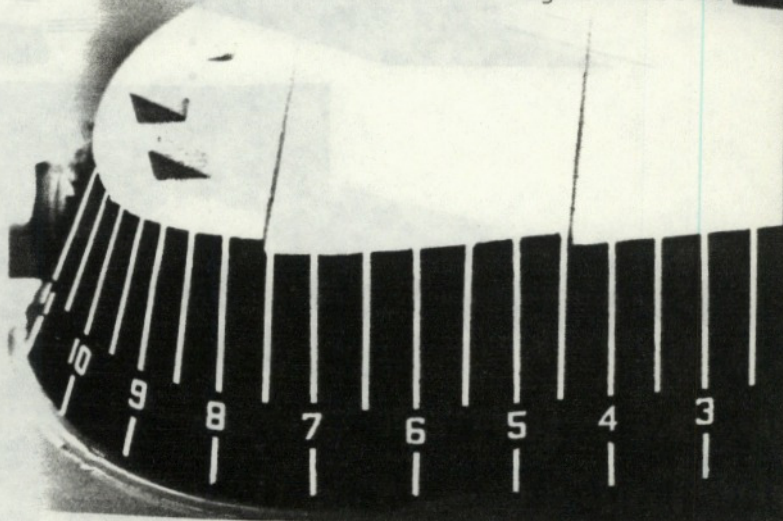
WARSPITE Turret



HMS TIGER

Tom Jass' English WWI BC is a four unit, 24 second ship -- the lone 24 second capital ship in the Allied Fleet. She is configured with two broadside guns and either a bow or stern gun and one pump. Could she successfully battle against 9 Axis capital ships which were 24 second ships? Where is John when we need him? Tom had also brought his HMS BELFAST (a CH) to Maryland, but she was strictly his backup ship.

Tiger Turret

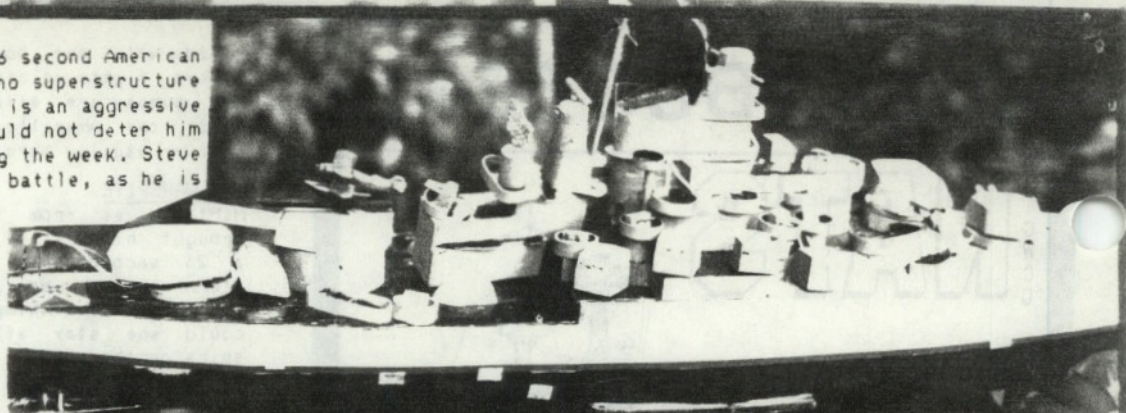


USS MARYLAND

Danny Schultz (another MAGgot) was sailing his veteran (extremely) USA five unit BB. She is a 26 second ship and looks better than ever and her reliability has increased significantly since Danny started with her. Like most WWI USA BBs she has gobs of freeboard and a clipper bow. The fast Axis BBs and BCs would surely single her out for special attention -- her pump would be tested throughout the week.

USS CALIFORNIA

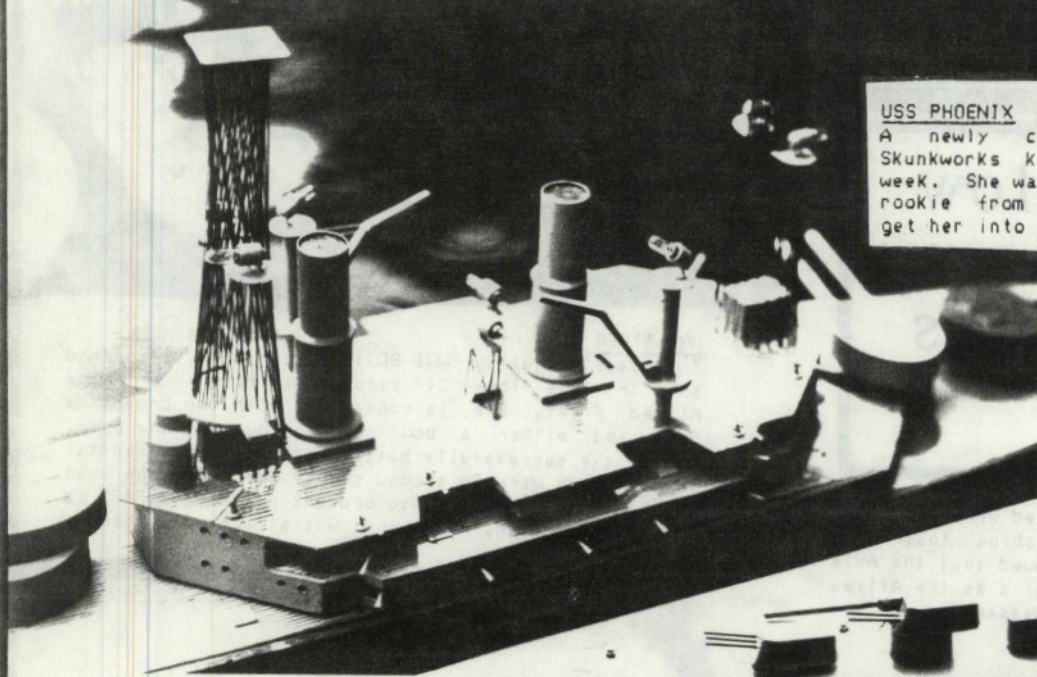
Steve Andrews' veteran five unit, 26 second American BB was really looking good with mucho superstructure detail and a new paint job. Steve is an aggressive captain and his lack of speed would not deter him from battling any Axis ship during the week. Steve swears that this was to be her last battle, as he is building a new BB.



USS CALIFORNIA BB-44

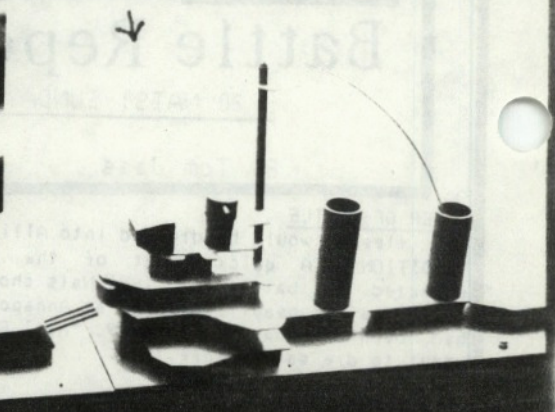
USS AUGUSTA

Chris Pearce came to Nats with Leif Goodson's much reworked USA three unit CH. He had extensively modified her since she had left Leif's possession, and she was in good shape. The Allies expected Chris to take an Allied rookie CH captain under his wing throughout the week. Chris also brought is USS MICHIGAN, a four unit pre-WWI slow BB (30 seconds) that he perhaps would battle if the CH had trouble.



USS PHOENIX

A newly completed Brooklyn class CH from a Skunkworks Kit was Paul Broring's vessel during the week. She was chrisply built and finished. Paul is a rookie from Silver Springs, MD and he was itching to get her into battle against the hated Axis hordes.



USS HOUSTON

Francis Rogowski was another rookie Allied CH captain. HOUSTON was finished in a dark gray paint scheme and she was typically armed with a fore and aft gun and a pump. Francis has battled within the MAG community but this was his first melee involving the rest of the world.

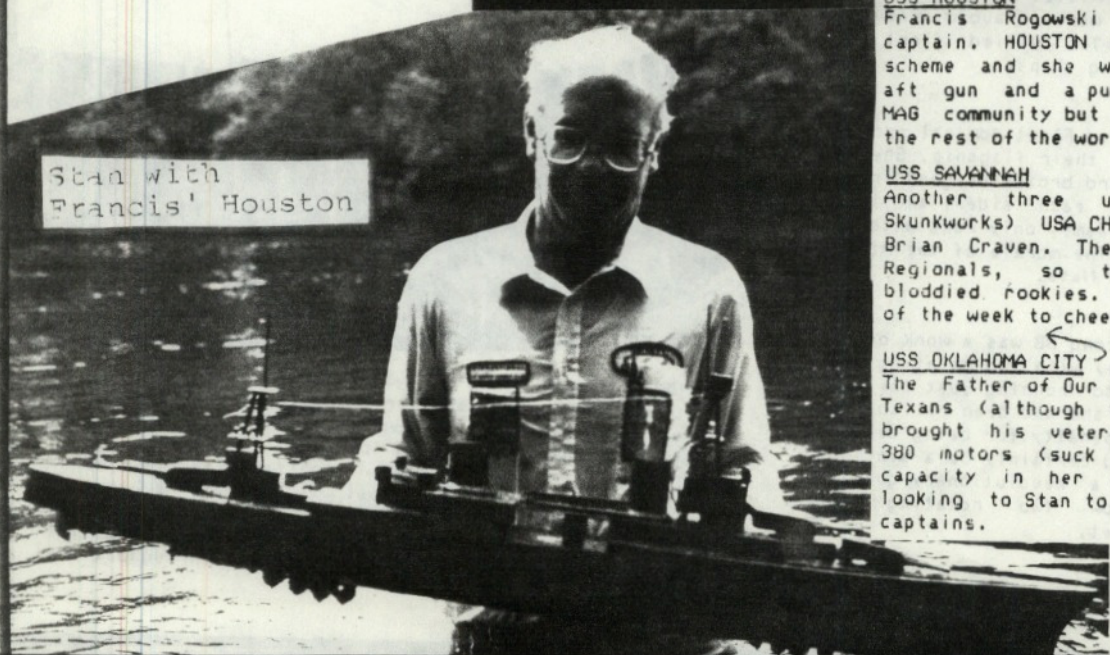
USS SAVANNAH

Another three unit Brooklyn class (out of Skunkworks) USA CH came from Texas with her captain, Brian Craven. They had battled at 1990 Spring SE Regionals, so they were rookies, but already bloodied rookies. Brian's family was with him part of the week to cheer him on and offer advice.

USS OKLAHOMA CITY

The Father of Our Hobby, Stan Watkins, came with the Texans (although Stan lives in Knoxville, TN.) and brought his veteran plastic CH. She is powered with 380 motors (suck the amps!!) but has great battery capacity in her large hull. The Allied fleet was looking to Stan to help train the numerous rookie CH captains.

Stan with Francis' Houston



USS LOUISVILLE

Ron Thibault is a MAG battler who had switched to the Allied side for 1990 Nats. Last year he piloted a DMB ZARA to an unbroken record at Knoxville. His American CH was equipped with two stern guns and a bow gun plus a pump; he would alter his two gun configuration as circumstances warranted.

USS HOUSTON

Rick Whitsell brought his rookie American CH which had been reworked since Hamilton's Spring Regional. She had been so reworked, in fact, that she made 19 seconds per 100' on her first speed run. Rick slowed her down to legal speed, but he said he felt much safer with her in her initial state. Rick has done a clean job of building his first warship.

USS MINNEAPOLIS

Sean Finley joined us from graduation at MIT (Boston, MASS) on his way to USN Nuclear Power training in Florida (see you in eight years!!). He modified his CH to fit our rules -- she had been built originally per Northwest rules. I didn't see any micro computers within her hull, but perhaps they were truly micro. Sean is a rookie and would get his first taste of gunfire even prior to joining the USN.

USS NORTH HAMPTON

Our Site Host for 1990 Nats was John French who

RED ALERT! GENERAL QUARTERS! MAN YOUR BATTLE STATIONS!

Its after Nats. and just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water again here comes a ship with a Nazi flag and it shoots you wherel. Yes there back again for more. Annoucing the Fall South Eastern Regionals. The last major blow out Battle of the year. Yes the Axis have had it their own evil ways this spring and summer. But this time those clean living, handsome, thrifty, brave, loyal, and kind hearted wonderful Allied sailors have had enough.

The South Eastern Regionals will be held on the first weekend in October, Thats October 6th. and 7th., Saturday and Sunday. We plan to have one Fleet Battle on Saturday followed by a Campaign Battle. On Sunday we plan two Fleet Battles. If time permits there will be some individual combats between these battles. There is also an outside chance of some one on ones on Friday afternoon if the lake set up is completed in time.

If you desire further information, Please call or write Dan Hamilton at 205-355-1563 Route #3 Box 558 Decatur Al. 35603. You will then receive an information packet containing more details such as the motel rates, meal planing for the group, Video tape availability, starting times, maps, and more. You must request a packet if you want one they are not automatic.

This is going to be a Club sanctioned and NAMBA sanctioned Battle. You must be a member of both to participate. All Club rules will be followed and enforced. You will be chitted per the Club rules if your ship is not legal and any violation is noted. So look thru it and check things out yourself.

The entry fee will be \$12.00 dollars this fall. We've had price increases in the past seven years in some of our areas of concern such as ribbons, trophies, and food for the battlers lunches at the lake. It also cost more to heat our English style Castle now and winter is coming you know.

We've already have a lot of people asking about the Battle and its shaping up as another Allied Axis affair right now. If you plan to attend write in soon so we get down your frequency and include you in our plans. Individuals who pay early (by September 17th) will receive priority and avoid a late fee. Entry fees are non refundable due to the items that must be purchased in advance.

See you at the Battle. May the Knights of Britian be with you.

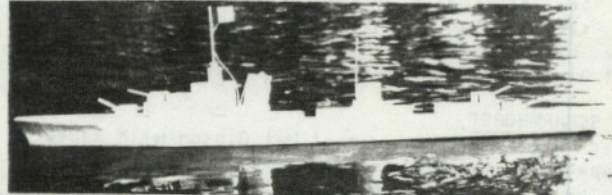
Dan

END

battled throughout the week with his veteran USA CH. John is always a factor with his ship in any battle he's in. We hoped his Site Host role would not limit his battling time, as we needed his experience to meld with our rookie CH captains.

LA GALISTONIER

Mike Deskin brought a new Frog CL that he and brother Freddy had built in the past month. She is a 22 second, two unit ship and is as long as many CHs. Mike had armed her with one stern gun and a pump. She was powered with Nicad cells rather than geill cells. Mike also had a new French DD that he would use in small ship battling and when the CL got too heavy to lug to the pond.

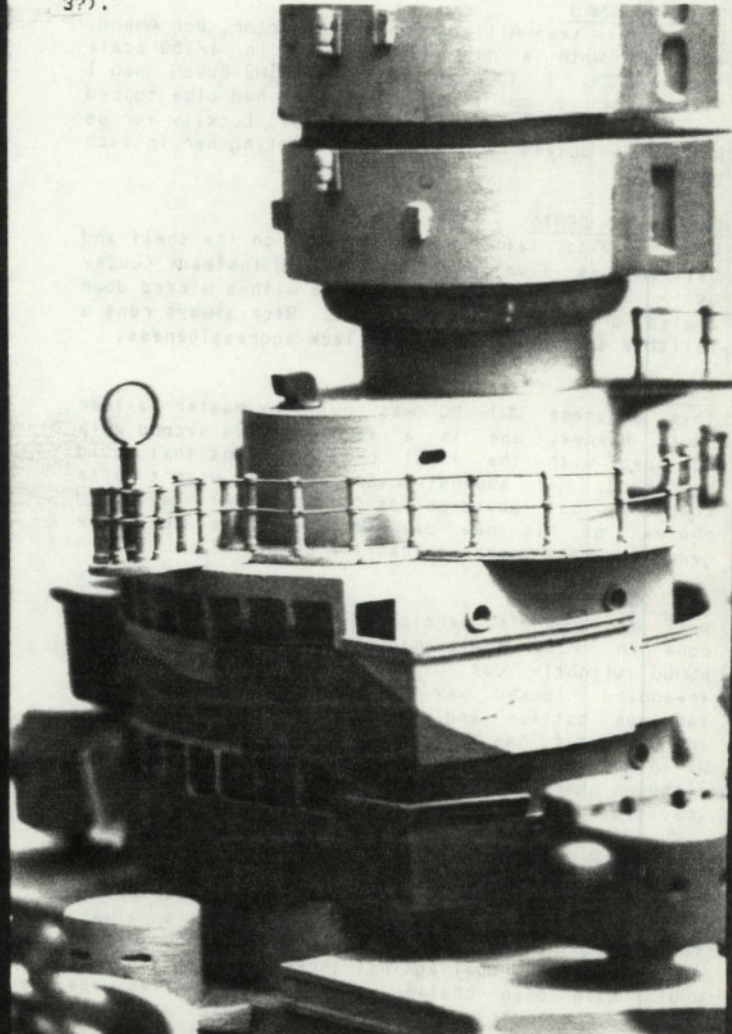


AXIS FLEET

The Axis fleet was composed of five BBs, eight BCs and one CH. Two rookies (Mike and Nathan Blattau) were captains in this fleet. The Axis fleet contained 67 units, so while the unit count was only slightly in favor of the Axis fleet, the Axis had many (MANY) more capital ship units -- 63 to 36.

DMB ROMA

One of three Axis' "U Squareds", Joe Vilar's Italian six unit, 24 second BB was the best looking, most detailed warship I have seen in the hobby -- but we would still shoot at her. Joe had done museum quality work on this ship and the TV crews who appeared at the pond during the week were also dazzled. I know she had two stern guns (or was it 3?).



BEST OF SCALE!
ROMA, Joe V.

DRM VITTORIO VENETO

Shaffer's version of the WW was built by him since the 1990 Spring Regionals at Decatur. She is a six unit BB and she was equipped with two broadside guns, two stern guns and two pumps. She had an extremely down angled gun emerging from the vicinity of B turret. We would give her our attention during the week if we could catch her with her 24 second speed.

DMB ITALIA

MAGgot Frank Pittelli made it three of a kind with his six unit BB. He installed two pumps in her and four guns -- two broadside and two stern. Is this the new "superboat" of the hobby? They all had speed (24 seconds) and power, but could they turn? Would they have to? It looked like an unlimited hydroplane heat as they planed across the pond.

DKM SCHARNHORST

Peter Futschik (or was it Mel Gibson with a beard) reappeared from Australia after a year's absence. The veteran German five unit BC was equipped with two bow guns a broadside gun and a stern gun -- all with a Geek breech. Peter builds beautiful ships and she would be a best of scale contender. Another class of Axis capital ships with 24 second speed.

DKM SCHARNHORST

The Axis GrossAdmiral, D.W. Fluegel, also brought his version of the Hun WWI BC to play with. (You see one SCHARNHORST you've seen them all!) With the Axis fleet containing 3 KONGOS, 3 SCHARNHORSTS and 3 Ws we thought we were seeing triple all week long -- talk about blurry trifocals. The three SCHARNHORST captains all possess distinctive battling styles ('nough said).

DKM GNEISENAU

Our trusty (ex- Allied) Contest Director, Bob Amend, appeared with a mini SCHARNHORST in 1/150 scale (minus 2%). I thought it was a PRINZ EUGEN when I first saw it on the water. She had blue topped turrets and was fast and powerful. Luckily for us Bob's CD duties kept him from battling her in each battle.

DMB ANDREA DORIA

Rick Schultz left his Italian CL on the shelf and battled his five unit Italian BB instead. (Lucky us!!) She is a 26 second ship with a wicked down angled broadside in B turret. Rick always runs a reliable ship and he does not lack aggressiveness.

IJN KONGO

This Japanese WWI BC was built by master builder David Haynes. She is a four unit, 24 second ship equipped with the first broadside guns that David has used. Her superstructure detail wasn't quite complete, but David builds 'em beautiful! David had photos of his new daughter, and she obviously generated more interest than the BC did.

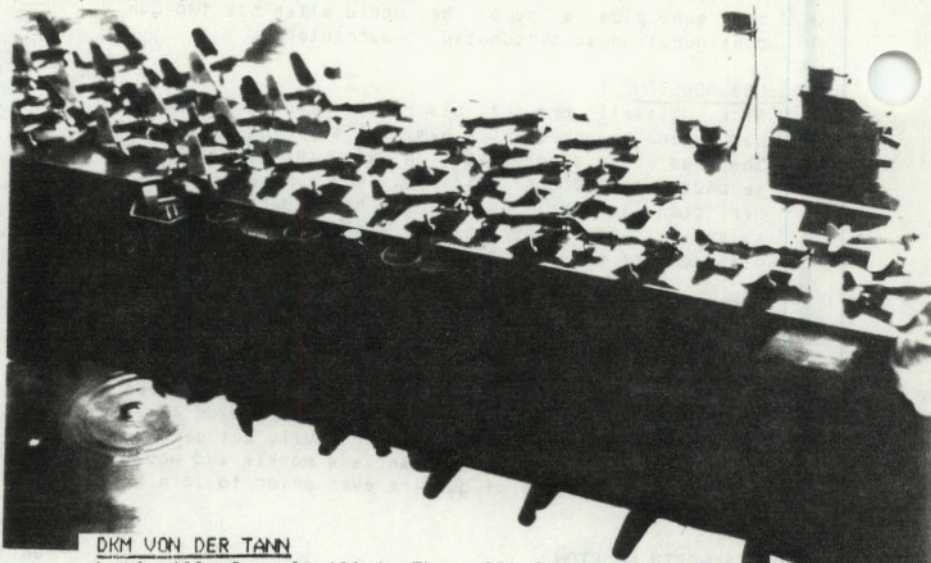
IJN HIEI

Will Montgomery's version of a KONGO class BC was done in 1/150 scale minus 2%; she looked like a KONGO slightly out of range -- but her lack of freeboard looked way out of range. Will is a fabulous battler and HIEI's wicked down angled gun in B turret has killed (quickly) many enemy ships. We planned to avoid this ship if we could -- although her 24 second speed might make our desires impossible to fulfill.

IJN HARUNA

The veteran "Green Hornet" and Kato (Gerald Roberts) made their appearance again -- last year Gerald battled cruisers at Knoxville. HARUNA is always tough and Gerald is always aggressive. The Allies did not need to duel against three KONGOS -- any one would have been challenge enough. The Allies were confused how three sister ships could show such variation in freeboard (even with HIEI built in 1/150). Gerald also brought along his Japanese fleet -- an operating, diving sub for Campaign, an IJN CL to play with, and a fleet aircraft carrier (equipped

with 30 scale airplanes and a smoke generator out her funnels). The CV was a one unit ship (a pump) that the Axis fleet would use as a convoy ship escort during Campaign. The true Queen of the Seas was present!!

DKM VON DER TANN

Leif ("I Owe It All to Fluegel") Goodson trekked up from sunny Florida with his WWI freeboard-less BC. She is a 26 second, four unit ship that turns on a dime. All week long the two VDTs (sounds like a disease) snapped at the heels of the larger Allied ships and we awarded them the title of the "yipppers". They are always trouble, but with only one pump they can be sunk if they can be hit.

DKM VONDER TANN

The other VDT bookend was captained by Nathan Blattau an experienced rookie (this was his first Nats). He and Leif battled the VDTs as a team and were always together causing trouble for Allied ships. They look alike, turn alike, and battle alike! But they are effective.

DKM KOENIG

Mike Blattau, a rookie captain from MAG, brought his German BB -- a five unit 28 second ship that was previously battled as the MORENO. She was armed with two broadside guns forward and two stern guns. She was another of the "yipppers" that bedeviled the Allied fleet all week long with her turning ability.

DKM GRAF SPEE

The transplanted Texan, Wade Koehn, showed up with his veteran CH. She is not a best of scale contender, but her two guns were working well, and we planned to test her pump early in the week. Wade has been improving this ship throughout her career, and he is building a BISMARCK (is that Allied cheering?).

SUNDAY TESTING & FOOLING AROUND

Sunday was a hot and humid day at the pond, but the pond was in good shape even if the ruts and bumps in the parking lot and access road were deeper than Grand Canyon. The portable potty at the pond site that the MAG had rented for use during the week was destroyed by vandals on Saturday night (all the rivets in the structure had been popped). A rotten way to start the week!! As the day wore on more and more warships appeared for testing and tweaking. Fluegel tried his old trick of shooting live bbs at rookie captains, but ours were prepared. We had warned them not to go out on the water without ammo; Paul Broringgave better than he got in one exchange -- he holed the Hun BC with 3 or 4 hull shots in the extreme bow. The Texas Japs did no appear at the pond until late in the day, but most ships were speed tested and shaken down by about 1400 hours.

The Captain's Meeting was held on Sunday evening at an old (really old) building on the grounds of beautiful Ft. Meade. This hut looked like something out of WWI in England. We ended up with only one or two frequency conflicts out of more than 30 battlers present. We all decided to split up into just two fleets and solve any conflicts at the pond site. D-Day was rapidly approaching!!

Blow-by-Blow

Battle Reports

Battle Report '90 Nats

Monday

Ron Thibault

8/7/90

Fluegel asked me to report on Monday's battles at Nats. This is my first time writing a report, so please bear with me. I would also like to ask those of you who's names I misspell or ships misplace in battle to forgive me.

First Battle Sortie 1

The battle started with the Axis on the far end of the pond, and the Allies on the near end by the parking lot. The exceptions were two allied cruisers just outside the Axis fleet. As "WAR" was called, Will Montgomery with his Kongo class BC Hiei steamed into the heart of the Allied fleet. Rick Whitsell's Allied cruiser the USS Houston had a broken pump switch. Therefore, Rick called 5 and ran. The rest of the cruisers engaged Will to distract him from this cruiser. While maneuvering with Will I was driven to close to shore and tried to run between a small island and shore. I picked up some moss while in the channel and slowed down considerably. As I cleared the island Will caught me on the other side. I decided my best course of action was to retrace my path and try to keep the island between us, and at least try to limit his maneuvering room.

At the captains meeting Sunday we agreed to use our local 30 sec moss rule. Our pond is popular with the local fishermen and we sometimes have trouble with fishing line and floating moss broken off the bottom fouling our props. It was stated however that one should not abuse the rule. I had picked up the moss close to shore, so figuring I was partly to blame I called 5 instead of 30 sec moss. This decision was to hurt me, as no one else worried about it while they were attacking me.

As I entered the channel I completely fouled my props and drifted across the channel.

In the mean time Francis' Houston came in with interference problems.

The already out gunned Allied side now had major problems. They were down two cruisers, with another dead in the water. They were also short a battleship, as James Foster had lost a prop just before the start of the battle and missed the sortie.

Will came over and paid me a visit as I lay in the channel. I called for help, and Steve Andrews with his California came over and lent

a hand. Steve and Will pounded on each other, as well as Will continuing to pay attention to me. Will picked up some moss in the shallows. He called 30 sec moss. About the time he got off Steve also called moss. After clearing his props Will left.

After Will and Steve left Gerald Roberts, with another Kongo class BC the Haruna, pulled up along my other side and started to unload his bow and side mounts into my ship. Luckily, a combination of his being to close and my letting the ship settle a bit, combined to cause most of his shots to hit the deck rim. The shots that hit hull caused all the damage up high just under the deck. Gerold indicated he thought my ship was sunk and resting on the bottom, but I showed him I could still move, if only at a crawl.

At this point Gerold also mossed up just as Dan Hamilton with the Valiant arrived, trapping Gerold between us and the shore. Dan got many shots into Gerold as his 30 sec ran down.

While Dan and Gerold were engaging my 5 ran out and I recovered my ship. I was still afloat but hurting.

Meanwhile back at the other end of the pond, Chris Pierce with another Houston was harrying the Italians and Wade's lone Axis cruiser the Lutzow. Chris came out about the time I did.

Gerald cleared his props and battle resumed.

Fluegel came up and distracted Dan from Gerold with a few air shots (he was out of bbs). Mike Blattau with a WWI German battleship the Koenig and Jim Pate with his South Dakota class BB Indiana were sparing and Mike got in some hits.

Will called 5. John French (North Hampton) accidentally shot Danny Schultz's Maryland and rammed Carl Shaffer's Italian BB.

Marty and Tom had gone down to the Axis side. Tom ran out of bbs and Marty defended him for a while. They ended up down at the far (Axis) end of the lake, around the little island. Tom left and Marty was battling three Axis ships. John French, who had left the battling in the Allied end, and was being chased by five Axis ships, came running down to this end. John left, but the other ships stayed. Marty now had eight ships to battle by himself.

Marty was maneuvering in small circles to escape. The Axis kept trying to cut Marty off, but he always managed to steam around the ships. As he maneuvered between each ship he would put a couple of shots into them. One of the Axis called for another to cut him off, just as Marty hit him with some sterns. Frank Pitteli was heard to say "Now serving #6" just after Marty did this. Marty managed to escape but had a terrific amount of damage.

Marty Hayes, who had previously called 5, came in with his HMS Warspite pumping heavily. The Indiana called 5. Dan Hamilton and Gerald reengaged and John French came over to join the fun. Paul Broring's Phoenix came in and the California called 5.

Dirty Dave with his Kongo entered the fight

Wills' Hiei

WANTED!WANTED!

Wanted to buy!

I would like to buy a IOWA class battleship. The hull and superstructure.Or a complete ship.

CALL ME! WRITE ME!

Brian Craven

12310 Ocean Laurel Lane

Houston Texas 77014

(713)537-8722

and distracted John. Danny Schultz and Mike Blattau started their own mini battle, until Danny ran out of ammo. Mike then went over and attacked the California, who called for help.

At this point the first sortie ran down.

The general flow of the battle had been the Allies staying on their 'part' of the lake, with the Germans and Japanese coming over to engage early. The Italians stayed on the Axis side until later in the battle, then came over to engage the Allies, who were then low on supplies.

A quick run down on the major damage and comments that I recorded.

Allied

Myself - Louisville - 720 - 8 below; 4 on;
22 above, with lots of rim dents
Steve Andrews - California - 640 - Badly chewed
up while defending me
Marty Hayes - Warspite - 655 - 5 below; 3 on;
33 above, and he lost his rudder
servo
Paul Broring - Phoenix - 165 - 2 below; several
above, his stern gun was not
tweaked right
Dan Hamilton - Valiant - 675
Jim Pate - Indiana - 70
Danny Schultz - Maryland - 360
Tom Jass - Tiger - 420
Chris Pearce - Augusta - 170
John French - North Hampton - 160
Francis Rogowski - Houston - 120
Rick Whitsell - Houston - 10
Stan Watkins - Oklahoma City - 10

Axis

Gerald Roberts - Haruna - 915 - 12 below
Will Montgomery - Hiei - 630 - 10 below; 1 on;
several above

Both Gerald and Will got most of their
damage while Steve and Dan were defending me.
Fluegel - Scharnhorst - 230 - 2 below; 13 above
Rick Shultz - Andrea Doria - 20 - 2 above,
massive superstructure damage
from Marty

Joe Vilar - Roma - 70
Frank Pitteli - Roma - 60
Carl Shaffer - Italia - 120
Lief Godson - Von der Tann - 75
Nathan Blattau - Von der Tann - 0
Futschik - Scharnhorst - 345
Dave Haynes - Kongo - 200
Mike Blattau - Koenig - 70
Wade Koehn - Graf Spree - 0

Between the sorties Stan challenged Mike
Blattau's Koenig to a drop test, which it
failed. We voted that Mike could fight Monday
but had to re-skin for Tuesday.

First Battle Sortie 2

Foster, Mike Deskin, and Brian Craven were
allowed into the second sortie. Foster had a
South Dakota BB the Massachusetts, Mike (Axis

"Put One Foot In Front Of The Other"

The most difficult things to do in our hobby is to get started.
Here is a listing of some important places and the services
that each provides:

SKUNKWORKS MFG
P.O. Box 606
Battlefield, Mo 65619
(417) 886-6425

This is a newly formed company which caters to our hobby
like no other company can. They have a catalog of parts and
prices that covers all of the areas of our hobby from pumps
and guns to rudder arms and U-joints. They have ship kits,
cases and plans. While I have not purchased anything from
this company yet, I have been on the wrong end of a few of
their guns and can attest to the quality of the equipment.



for this sortie only, to balance new entries) had a French destroyer the Magador, and Brian Craven had a US heavy cruiser the Savannah.

Just before battle started Foster's transmitter burned (literally) out and he had to skip this sortie also. At the start of battle Mike's destroyer glitched and dumped the entire magazine. Mike called 5 and ran, acquiring one hole in the process. So he had a slight negative contribution to the Axis. Brian's entry on the Allied side had a large contribution as Carl Shaffer (Axis) ram sank him.

Nathan and Francis both went out of control at the start, again, and Nathan rammed Steve Andrews' California before he regained control. Nathan's problem was latter traced to a bad receiver, and Francis also found his problem, and they were able to better participate latter in the week.

At the start both Marty and I called 5 and ran. Fluegel however spotted us and came over to visit. During the maneuvering Fluegel and I got fairly far out and during a turn I rammed him. He brought his ship in to check (no damage) and during this period Marty's and my time ran out.

In the middle of the lake there was a slug fest going on, while the rest of this was transpiring. Dan Hamilton was attacking Geroli and Will, and a V squared came over to help. Dan turned his attention to Will and got in a few hits.

Tom Jass with his Tiger was tackling some ships in another part of the lake, and Dirty Dave with his Kongo was attacking Jim Pate and his Indiana. The Indiana was seen pumping under this barrage.

There was sometimes a problem telling the

Marty Hayes
1113 Crestview Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 757-5593

Marty is a veteran battler who is the treasurer of the club for 1990. For \$12 Marty will register you with the club, send you the latest set of rules and subscribe you to Hullbusters for the year. Marty has also put out a wonderful publication call. The Manual of R/C Warship Combat. This covers just about everything in the over 70 pages of hints, how-to's and data. The price is under \$20, and if you give him a call he'll quote you a fair price. And if you are looking for electronic poppet valves to fire your gun, Marty has the latest prices.

ships apart during Nats, as there were 5 North Hampton class heavy cruisers, 3 Scharnhorts, 3 V squares, 3 Kongos, and 2 Von der Tanns present!

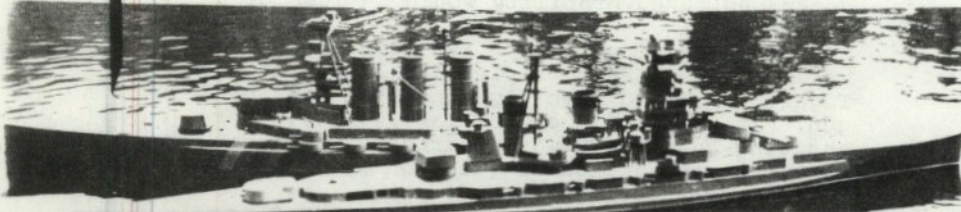
Steve Andrews was sparing with Mike Blattau in a mini battle. During the Sunday trials Fluegel had decided to test his guns on an unsuspecting Paul Broring, and Paul was now returning some of the favor to Fluegel.

Steve now turned his attention to Dave. Paul called 5, and Fleugal, Tom, Mike, and Danny Schultz started trading side mounts. Fluegel then pulled away and started some long range shooting with, I assume, his stern guns.

The Koenig called 5 out of control. Danny now attacked Frank Pitteli, who had come in to join the fun. Dan Hamilton was rammed by Will with some above the waterline damage. Will says that he was sitting still and Dan turned into him but it was still counted against Will.

Will was sitting very low in the water at this time and Frank came over to help defend him. The Tiger and then Frank called 5.

The Indiana, and Danny's Maryland came over to occupy Frank so he wouldn't get bored waiting for his time to expire. Danny called 5. Frank picked up fishing line and had to pull his boat out to cut it off.



Two Sisters, Tiger & Kong

A ram is called on the Von der Tann (Nathan). Joe Vilar attacks Danny to keep his 5 interesting. While shooting Danny, Joe becomes overly enthusiastic and hits his teammate Mike's Koenig. As Danny runs from Joe Rick Schultz (Andrea Doria) runs up and blasts away as the Maryland slides below the water, the victim of the Axis and a clogged pump.

Gerold and David Hanyes both come out. With only two Axis left on the water (fighting, rest on 5) the Allies start to gang up on the Doria and Carl's V squared.

Steve and Jim Pate chase the Doria toward Dan Hamilton. Dan takes over and is then joined by Steve. Dan gets a group of good shots into the Doria. While Rick, Steve and the Indiana call 5.

Dan then concentrates on Carl with side mounts. Carl can't get his own side mounts to bear, due to lesser maneuverability. Carl also had trouble all week with unreliable guns. Running out of side mounts Dan then hits Carl with weak stern shots.

The sortie ends in an unfortunate first battle win for the Axis.

A run down on the major damage and comments that I recorded.

Allied
 Myself - Louisville - 250 - Survived
 Steve Andrews - California - 230
 Marty Hayes - Warspite - 0
 Paul Broring - Phoenix - 235
 Dan Hamilton - Valiant - 420
 Jim Pate - Indiana - 315
 Danny Schultz - Maryland - 1910 - Sunk
 Tom Jass - Tiger - 145

D.W. Fluegel
 3524 Gray Drive
 Mesquite, Texas 75150

This swarthy seaman is also the editor of the Hullbusters and will sell back issues to any interested souls. These back issues contain a wealth of information and ideas that will keep you on the cutting edge of the hobby.

For Sale Italian Heavy Cruiser DMS Zara

Complete with 2 guns, pump (Camuati), water tight boxes (set up for Futaba standard servos), motors (3 Dumas 4.8, including pump), all fittings, wired, and one servo (rudder, Fut AM connector). Less Tx, Rx, main servos, and batteries. The ship is skinned and only needs batteries and radio with three servos to battle. The ship also comes with and open top carrying case.

\$110 (\$120 with spare set of 2 props)
 Ron Thibault, 7811 Overhill Rd.
 Glen Burnie, MD
 21060
 (301) 768-3095

Chris Pearce - Augusta - 480
 John French - North Hampton - 280
 Francis Rogowski - Houston - 10
 Rick Whitsell - Houston - 300 - Withdraw
 Stan Watkins - Oklahoma City - 0
 Brian Craven - Savannah - 10 - Ram sunk

Axis
 Gerald Roberts - Haruna - 1085
 Will Montgomery - Hiei - 80
 Fluegel - Scharnhorst - 70
 Rick Shultz - Andrea Doria - 185
 Joe Vilar - Roma - 120
 Frank Pitteli - Roma - 310
 Carl Shaffer - Italia - 285 - +600 ram sink
 Lief Goodson - Von der Tann - 30
 Nathan Blattau - Von der Tann - 20
 Futschik - Scharnhorst - 150
 Dave Haynes - Kongo - 200
 Mike Blattau - Koenig - 55
 Wade Koehn - Graf Spree - 30
 Mike Deskin - Magador - 10

Final Score
 Axis 7360
 Allied 5065

Between battles I had to change a throttle servo and I finished preparing my ship just in time to start the next battle. No rest for the weary. Danny Schultz missed the second battle, as he had to go home to repair the massive amount he had sustained in the first.

Second Battle Sortie 1

The Allies decided to try a new tactic for this battle. In the first the Allied cruisers had sort of stayed together but had not acted as a group. The cruisers were assigned as a unit, with Stan as group leader and mentor. Stan tried hard to mold us into an effective unit and as the week progressed we did improve.

The battle started with much the same grouping as the first, except that Fluegel was hovering just outside the Allied fleet. As "WAR" was called Fluegel attacked Jim Pate who then made the mistake of following Fluegel's triple stern guns. The Tiger mistakenly fires on John French as the cruisers all congregate on Fluegel.

Chris Pierce's Houston and the Savannah are again engaging the Axis on their side of the Lake. They chase Wade until Joe came to his

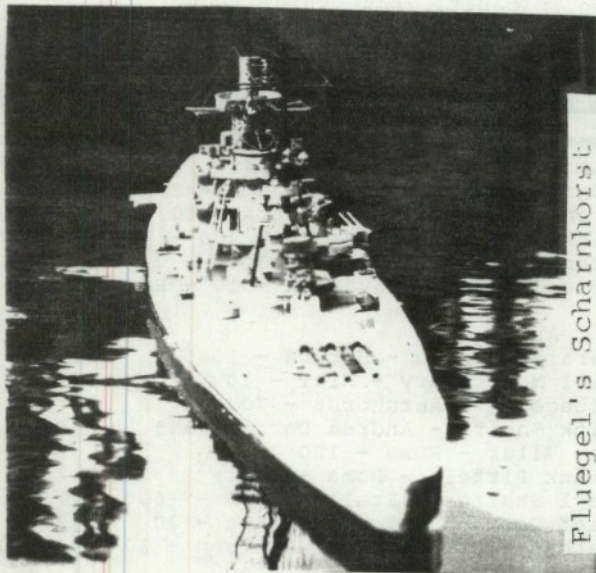
Jeff Poindexter
 8106 Coronado
 Amarillo, Texas 79110

Jeff has a number of plan sets available in 1/144 scale and I have purchased a set from him and found his work to be splendid. He may offer a host of other things and I suggest you send him a letter asking for a catalog or listing. A dollar or two for postage would be appreciated.

While concentrating on Fluegel John French is attacked by a Japanese Kongo. Two of the Japanese ram and come in for a check.

Fluegel leads the cruisers to the end of the pond, with the California following. After a while Steve says he is leaving as he can not catch up with Fluegel's faster ship.

Some of the cruisers (most had rookie captains) make the mistake of chasing Fluegel, rather than trying to stay ahead of him, and soak up a lot of the triple stern shots. Stan can be heard yelling at them to stop doing this.



Fluegel's Scharnhorst
2nd place Best of Scale

Rick Whitsell's Houston sinks from an excess of portholes provided by Fluegel and John French who turned at the wrong time and got raked limps away.

John tries to call 5 but is mistakenly told that he can't call 5 until Rick finishes recovering his ship. John's ship is mysteriously listing badly to the side opposite the damage (no cause was ever found). Shortly after Rick comes out John's ship sinks. After John pulls it out he discovers that his stern barbette had been dislodged by a shot and the water poured in this opening when the ship listed, overwhelming the pump.

About 10 sec after John gets out of the water Stan comes off. Meanwhile Fluegel who has run out of stern ammo, and says he will not fight with just a side mount, has called 5 and left.

I sailed over to the Allied launching point where Gerald Roberts' Haruna has run aground. Dan Hamilton is shooting at Gerald (who is out of control) on the port side so I go around to

the starboard and try to line up. Just about the time I do, my ship goes out of control due to the concentration of transmitters in the area and backs into Gerald, pushing him off the bar. Gerald calls ram and checks but finds no visible damage. I have meanwhile walked a little ways away and regained control.

Shortly after Gerald clears me his ship goes wild and in about 10 sec dumps all his remaining ammo in all three guns. Gerald declares 5 and limps away still barely in control. Gerald later decides that his receiver battery was dying.

The overanxious Allies then jump Bob, who was sitting in the area just coming off ram check, and he tells them to at least let him get out before shooting. I call 5 as I discover I have been running around since the couple shots I got at Gerald with no more ammo.

As I left Will was engaging Marty. When I arrived at the end of the pond Bob was sitting near the shore. He didn't chase me so I asked him why not, while putting some distance between our ships. He said he was on moss and then was going to wait for stragglers. As it turned out he had really lost a shaft (turning) and was waiting to come out later when his decreased maneuverability would be less of a hindrance.

While waiting for my five to run out we were joined by Paul Broring and Jass with the Tiger. Jass had been fighting with one working gun. In the middle of the lake we could here shouting that Marty was in trouble. Fluegel came over and joined us (also on 5). It was getting crowded at this end!

Steve Andrews called 5 and escaped a crowd of Axis by running thru a secret channel in a shallow bar. Steve had gone out that morning, before anyone else arrived, and dug the channel just for such a move.

My 5 ran out and I came in.

The Indiana comes in on a ram check pumping heavily. As he leaves Rick Schultz blasts him with the Doria's stern guns and then Nathan comes over and gets him some more.

Mike Blattau spars with Foster and gets in some hits. The Roma comes over from the Axis side of the pond to join the battle. Paul Broring comes in and the Von der Tann (Nathan) calls 5.

Dan Hamilton helps to keep the Axis off the Indiana. The Doria engages Dan, who gets in

Repla-tech
48500 McKenzie HWY
Vida, Oregon 97488

I'd like to say, "If it ever floated, Repla-tech has a plan set for it", but I think they may be missing a ship or two. The plans are inexpensive and not always in the right scale, but a catalog is a must for the workbench.

Bob Evans
115 Amazon Ave
San Francisco, California 94112
(415) 333-7880

Bob sent me his catalog free of charge! I didn't even ask for it, but it has over 75 plan sets, all in 1/144, averaging around \$15 or so. Although I have not bought anything from Bob his plans are of good quality and some are Wiswesser drawings that he has scaled with permission.

Tom Jass
312 E. Circle Ave.
Lombard, Illinois 60148

This is the headquarters for gun fittings and Allied propoganda. Tom has connections to the connections you will use on your gun system. Skunkworks offers all of these parts but Tom may have a surplus that he needs to unload so feel free to write to him for a current price listing.

Exact Miniatures
P.O. Box 402
Oxford, Maryland 21654

A catalog from these people is a must. Among the other small detailing accessories which this company offers are the finest brass prop assemblies. They are inexpensive (\$4) and add a great look to your boat. The company also offers a wide variety of knick-knacks for your ship. This company has a very fast turn-around on an order and is highly recommended.

H&R Fittings
P.O. Box 67
McHenry Illinois 60050
(815) 385-6457

Again, a catalog from these people is needed to complete your set of info. They have miniature everything! It is fine quality stuff, and they are quick to fill an order.

some hits on the Doria. Bob now comes over to attack the Indiana while Dan is occupied. Foster comes over to engage Bob but is too far away and his shots miss.

The California and Warspite both come in. The Koenig now engages Foster joined by Bob. The Doria comes in on moss check and Frank and the Roma join the battle with Foster. The Roma calls 5, and with Foster, Bob, and Mike left on the lake the sortie winds down. Major damage and comments that I recorded.

Allied

Myself - Louisville - 60 - Stayed in front of Fluegel, ran twin sterns most of Nats so didn't spend much time trying to chase people
 Steve Andrews - California - 100 - Only had two guns working
 Marty Hayes - Warspite - 425 - Big hole up front
 Paul Broring - Phoenix - 10
 Dan Hamilton - Valiant - 430
 Jim Pate - Indiana - 100 - Bad hole in the stern, right at hard material joint
 Tom Jass - Tiger - 150
 Chris Pearce - Augusta - 95
 John French - North Hampton - 965 - Sunk
 Francis Rogowski - Houston - 50
 Rick Whitsell - Houston - 1155 - Sunk
 Stan Watkins - Oklahoma City - 0
 Brian Craven - Savannah - 60
 James Foster - Massachusetts - 610

Axis

Gerald Roberts - Haruna - 670 - Quote "Blew big hole in the water."
 Will Montgomery - Hiei - 230
 Fluegel - Scharnhorst - 120

CLIPPARD PRICE INCREASE

For the first time in several years Clippard has raised their prices effective July 1, 1990. The average increase is in the 3% to 5% range. I have updated my order forms to reflect these new prices. Sorry for the increase, but inflation marches on (if more slowly than in the past).

Tom Jass
 (708) 620-5835

Rick Shultz - Andrea Doria - 225
 Joe Vilar - Roma - 30
 Frank Pitteli - Roma - 290
 Carl Shaffer - Italia - 180
 Lief Goodson - Von der Tann - 60
 Nathan Blattau - Von der Tann - 175
 Futschik - Scharnhorst - 365
 Dave Haynes - Kongo - 100
 Mike Blattau - Koenig - 150
 Wade Koehn - Graf Spree - 40
 Bob Amend - Gneisenau - 205

Second Battle Sortie 2

I forgot to turn on the recorder so missed the beginning of the sortie. I will reconstruct as best I can, and apologize to any one I missed.

Carl Shaffer had to withdraw between sorties as his ship went dead in the water the during the first sortie.

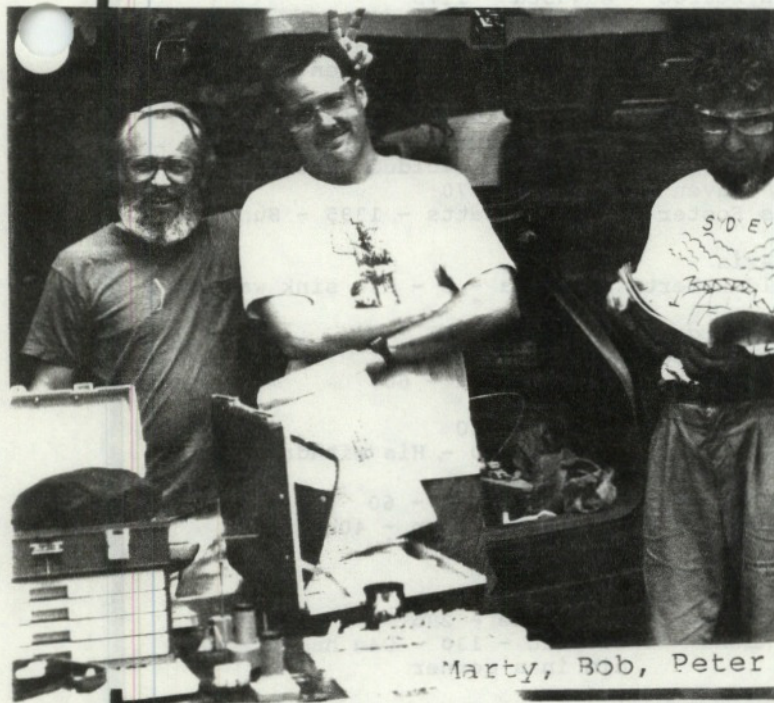
The sortie started with Fluegel coming back to see if he could find any more Allied cruiser fodder. The Allies had stationed Tom Jass (who now had all three guns working) with the cruisers, however, and Fluegel was better occupied than the first sortie. Unfortunately for the Allies Paul Broring had not had time after the captains meeting to fully charge his transmitter before he left Monday morning. The transmitter died shortly after the start of the sortie, and Paul's Phoenix drifted onto the shore. Will with his Hiei came over and ventilated the hapless cruiser. As Will finished Fluegel arrived and lined up his side mount and emptied it into the Phoenix. Fluegel said it was replanking time for that side. Paul was unfamiliar with the rules and pulled the ship out before it sank, effectively declaring it sunk. When Paul was told this he said if he had known he would not have pulled it. The Axis decided to cut him a break, they had clobbered the Allies anyway, and counted it only as a sink.

While Fluegel was attacking Paul, Dan lined up on Fluegel, but his guns were weak and did not do much damage.

During this time the Indiana had gotten lost behind and island. While Jim Pate was maneuvering his ship back and forth to try to spot it he was rammed or backed into someone and put a large hole in his ship. The next thing he knew he spotted his superstructure floating. I do not know if this was eventually counted as a ram sink or not. Jim did call RAM but could not recognize the other ship.

At this point I noticed that the recorder was off and turned it on.

Chris' Augusta is not fairing well on the Axis end of the pond. Chris got a little to



Marty, Bob, Peter

Materials:

Most of your materials can be acquired at your local hobby store or hardware store.

Use aircraft ply for ribs, rather than three ply hardware stuff. The aircraft ply has more layers and will last longer.

Jet glue and an accelerator are handy, so is the solvent!

Lexan plastic film is great for superstructure. But painting with dope can cause it to be brittle.

Tools:

Get a dremel-ROTO tool. These are the heart of any workbench. A good supply of drill bits and grinding bits go a long way, but make sure you have tons of cut-off disks.

Get some single edged razor blades, and some bandaids.

Most of the other tool will be the usual assortment that compliment any workbench: Sandpaper, files, soldering iron, pliers, wrenches, saw, etc...

aggressive and attacked Dave's Kongo with a number of other Axis near by. Dave trapped Chris against the shore. After Dave finished Gerald pulled up and pounded the Augusta's port side. Leif then took a turn and the Augusta sank about three minutes later.

Nathan ramed Lief's Von der Tann and opened a gapping hole. Lief manages to bring it in and patch, but both were out a while.

The Axis gang up on Dan Hamilton and Foster comes over to help. Dan and Foster are about the only active Allies left on the lake and are now engaged in a running battle with about half the Axis fleet. Bob slows down and drops out for a while, as the action moves to the end of the pond on the Allied side.

Dan rams Foster in the confusion and both come in on check. Foster finds damage on the starboard stern and tries for several minutes to patch it. The duct tape he tried first did not stick, and it took him a little while to find regular patching material (his equipment was on the other end of the pond). Some of the Axis captains started to complain loudly about the amount of time being taken and Foster got a little hot under the collar. Foster "launched" his ship by throwing it into the water, filling it up so much that it sank shortly thereafter.

Foster did stay up long enough to get in some more battling however. He engaged Frank upon battle resuming, and Dan engaged Nathan's Von der Tann. Joe Vilar lines up and hits Foster with stern guns, while Foster reengages Frank. Frank runs into the weeds while maneuvering, but manages to free himself after only a short time. Frank calls 5 and leaves after getting free.

Mike Blattau now spars with Dan, and Foster returns Joe's fire. Joe then turned his attention on Dan. For awhile it was "Side Mount City" on the pond. Joe runs out of side mount ammo and Foster rakes him with sterns as he disengages. Nathan gets in good side mount shots on Dan while Foster and Joe were engaged. Wade Koehn who had spent most of the sortie on the Axis side, "staying away from the 5 and 6 unit BBs", came over and picked at the edges while the BBs were side mounting each other.

Foster sinks and Joe Vilar runs aground bow first on the big island. Gerald Roberts' Haruna also sinks. Gerald's ship was afloat at the end of his 5 but the decks were awash before he could touch it. His pump was hooked up backwards all day and, of course, didn't work at full efficiency.

Dan runs over to attack Joe's helpless V squared. Mike and Nathan chase Dan and get in several hits while Dan is concentrating on Joe. While maneuvering to get in shots, Dan runs aground across the channel from Joe. Mike and Nathan start vying for shots (with both ships and words). Dan manages to get off, but just as he does Nathan bumps him back on. Dan calls ram and pushes his ship back out.

Dan gets into position and starts pounding

Joe. The first salvo "launches" a lifeboat, which lands upright and floating on the pond. We all make comments about the crew abandoning ship. As Dan continues to hit Joe, more and more superstructure is destroyed, as well as holes opening in the hull. As his starboard superstructure amidships disintegrates Joe can be heard screaming in agony. Joe had won second place in the scale competition at our Precision Steering event. He will have to do a lot of work to repeat that win.

Joe's time runs out and he recovers his ship. The lifeboat, meanwhile, had capsized and the crew presumably drowned.

Dan continued battling with Nathan and Mike. Nathan rams Dan, who calls it, you could see a hole above the water line. Dan says that he will count the hole, but not patch it, so that battle can continue. Nathan gets a couple of side mounts into Dan. Dan calls 5 and leaves with Nathan and Mike following, but unable to over take him (all ships running same speed).

The sortie and battle end with another Axis victory.

A run down of the damage and various comments:

Allied

Myself - Louisville - 65
 Steve Andrews - California - 390
 Marty Hayes - Warspite - 410
 Paul Broring - Phoenix - 1685 - Sunk
 Dan Hamilton - Valiant - 1210 - Ram damage and chewed up after battling half the Axis fleet with Foster
 Jim Pate - Indiana - 1130 - Sunk, (not counted as ram sink)
 Tom Jass - Tiger - 165 - "had all three guns working"
 Chris Pearce - Augusta - 1175
 John French - North Hampton - Sunk first sortie
 Francis Rogowski - Houston - 20 - Was ignored by Axis as they concentrated on cripples
 Rick Whitsell - Houston - Sunk first sortie
 Stan Watkins - Oklahoma City - 10 - "Had gun problems both sorties so avoided battle."
 Brian Craven - Savannah - 70
 James Foster - Massachusetts - 1385 - Sunk

Axis

Gerald Roberts - Haruna - 0 - His sink was not scored
 Will Montgomery - Hiei - 455
 Fluegel - Scharnhorst - 190
 Rick Shultz - Andrea Doria - 60
 Joe Vilar - Roma - 165
 Frank Pitteli - Roma - 140
 Carl Shaffer - Italia - 0 - His withdraw was not scored
 Lief Goodson - Von der Tann - 60
 Nathan Blattau - Von der Tann - 40
 Futschik - Scharnhorst - 415
 Dave Haynes - Kongo - 150
 Mike Blattau - Koenig - 70
 Wade Koehn - Graf Spree - 295
 Bob Amend - Gneisenau - 130 - Dan had trapped him in a corner

Final Score

Axis	11525
Allied	5010

End

Electronics:

Most of the electronics consist of an open or closed circuit. I think it would be a good idea to have a working knowledge of batteries and terms, such as a "short". Even the veterans have trouble with with the electric systems.

Batteries are another area that you will have to decide on what is "right." Some people love Gates X-cell batteries, but they can be hard to find. Many people buy new or used gell cell batteries, but there is no single solution to this and you may want to shop around based on your time and \$\$\$.

The majority of the electronics can be purchased at Radio Shack or an electronic outlet store.

Radio control units:

This is a personal choice, but it should be a popular brand that has years of experience and parts and servicing available. Don't be drawn in by low prices if you have to send your check along with four box tops to Battle Creek, Michigan. You pay extra for the brand name, but it is worth it. You will want at least four channels, at most six.

End

The wife's view point of Nats. by Mindy French

Last year when our guys returned from Nats and told me that we were hosting in 1990, I said fine. "But Mindy, John is the site host." It took several minutes to sink in, after I was told what it involved. I thanked Marty for all of the extra work for me to do. Lucky for me, the other club members jumped in and helped. Marty did a lot for Nats! As July approached everything started to fall into place, and some plans fell apart. Beth Schultz and I went to Price Club (a discount store) and bought the food for the lakeside dining (I cook it and they buy and eat it.) I could not find kangaroo meat for Peter though. I contacted the Johnney on the Spot about the portable John. It was to be delivered on Friday, the 8th. at 2:00 pm. (which meant that I would only have to leave work one hour early.) On Friday, I went to work and got a call that the truck had broken down and the potty can't be delivered until Saturday morning. I said fine - and thought to myself, "what else can go wrong." - I left early anyhow. Now you have to realize that I now had to get up early to be at the lake by 7:00 am. It takes a good 20 minutes from my house to the lake, and I hate to get up early! But also I had to remember that John, who is my partner for life, is the site host and I must support him. So I met the Potty man, paid for the potty and had Don chain it to a tree. Then I left the lake to collect my family, and take John to the motel to greet the guys as they came in. Thinking this was his job, I left him there alone and like the dutiful wife that I am, I went home and did his yard work.

Sunday morning, I got a wonderful phone call from Will. It seemed that the youth of the are had peeled my potty like a banana. Boy, was I ticked. I called the police so Marty could file a police report for NAMBA. Boy, was I having fun. If this was what the rest of the week was going to be like then I may leave town (John wishes) for the week. I called Beth for the lowdown on everybody or at least to tell me a little of what to expect.

On Monday, I dropped my son off at school and proceeded to the lake with grill and sodas. I parked my truck and got out to find John and tell him that I was there. Now, you have to understand that I have not met any of these guys from out of state before. I have let John go on to the other events alone. As I am being introduced to these guys, I realized they are nothing like the way the battle. Let's put it this way, all of you out of state guys were the greatest, but I want to thank a few of the most outstanding war mongers, Tom and the fearless Von Admiral Fluegel, you guys can hug me anytime. I have to say you two stick in my mind as all right guys even if one, Fluegel, is Axis. Now, Tom, your friend, Mark is another subject. He was great, but I hope he builds Allied. Gerald, your wife should be very proud of you, Anyone who comes from Texas and gets an interview on the local TV station and his picture in the local paper too. - that's star quality. Beth Schultz gave you a star button, wear it with pride, you deserve it even if you are Axis.

I also want to apologize fro all of the running around everyone did. Next year, things will be closer (we hope). Mary and Dan Hamilton who arrived fashionably late to the banquet (the map was right), but at least you made it. Poor Peter and Mike didn't.

Now I want to say a very special thank you to all of the Maryland Attack Group for all their hard work, Jane, you were the best for opening your home to these war mongers and their wives (girl friends) on many nights and coordinating Friday nights banquet, thank you. Beth, Linda, Marie and Kathy your help did not go unnoticed. Also to the out of town wives and girl friends: Nancy Whitsell, Karen (who was Mike Deskins Lady friend) and Harriet Pearce, Chris's mother to mention a few, you were all great.

When I returned to work this past week, my boss asked how my vacation was, I said okay, but I am glad to be back at work. Of course, I was asked what we did, and I got this weird look from everybody as I explained my vacation activities. I said I was glad that war monger week is over.

I hear my bass coming so i better sign off before he catches me wasting Federal funds writing a letter for a magazine. Ok, til next year. I hope to see all of you, real soon. So come up to our regionals We have my kind of cooking at everyone of them. Keep cool and keep battling and see ya at next years Nats. Good Luck to Frank and Linda Pittelli as they are your site hosts for 1991.

News From Florida Ghost Fleet by Buddy Friend

Well almost all of our members attended the regionals in Decatur. We had a ball an got to meet new people in the deal as well. We had quite a few rookies in our group so we did have our share of problems.

Greg Wilson had his brand new North Carolina BB. He did get his feet wet, he sank twice but always had a smile on his face! Leif Goodson took his BC VonDer Tan and we did good for the Axis side.

Don Cole borrowed Leifs Lutsow and got his feet wet by sinking a few times. He is a nice guy, I'm glad he is building a cruiser for the Allied.

Mike Smith is a new member, he borrowed and ran a convoy ship for the Axis. He is working a North Dakota BB.

Buddy Friend took his veteran the Indiana polis. Also took the New USS Oregon City due to Fregy. problems was not able to use it. Only managed to sink once this time and did a fair amount of damage to the other side.

All in all we had a great time and look forward to it all again. We are working out problems and repairing ships to get ready for sea duty as soon as possible.

More great news, there is a new member in the Friend house hold! A bouncing baby girl was born June 8, 1990. Her name is Kate Sarah Friend. Both mother and daughter are doing well.

We have a few members coming in hopefully soon. We are working to have a regionals here in March of 91. Still have a few details to work out. When we get it all set up we would like to invite every one down.

That's all for now, we look forward to seeing all our friends again.

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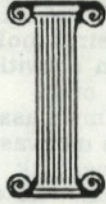
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Start articles with a title and a "by" line.

Send articles and/or subscription money to:
Herr Fluegel 3524 Gray Drive Mesquite Texas 75150

President's Column

By Tom Jass



1990 NATIONALS

1990 Nats are over -- a great time was had by all, but especially by the Axis who avenged their one-sided loss at Knoxville in 1909 by whumping us Allies even worse this year. The pond was great for battling and most of us took advantage of the location to visit the U.S. Naval Academy and Washington, D.C. on the "off" afternoon on Wednesday. MAG hosted a wonderful Nats, and their wives are to be doubly thanked for all the effort they expended to make the 1990 Nats a successful and fun event. The daily battling is described elsewhere in this issue (and later ones), so I'll just say that the Axis shut us out (pulled a bagel) during the entire week.

It was great to see the best crop of rookies ever at Annapolis. Brian Craven (and family) and Jim Pate came from Texas, Rick Whitsett and family drove in from KC, Missouri, Sean Findlay came from MIT in Boston prior to his enlistment in Nuclear Power school for the USN, and Francis Rogowski, Paul Broring, and the Blattau twins (Nathan and Mike) are all new MAG members from Maryland. Their ships were pretty (generally) and they battled effectively (generally) and I think they all had an exciting week. All except Mike and Nathan drove CHs and they all got better and better as the week wore on. It was also a treat to see Peter Futschik from Down Under again -- he adds class to our group.

The Friday night Rules Meeting once again dragged on much too long. We did have several complex and complicated rule proposals on the agenda, but we handled them in a reasonable time. Where we always bog down is when the floor is opened for proposals. I feel that complex rule changes must be analyzed and discussed in HULL BUSTERS prior to their being sprung at the Rules Meeting. Rule changes of the nature of changing the Ship List from displacement tonnage to draft measured in feet (or using only one book as the source of the Ship List) are too complicated to vote on out of the blue. Draft may be a valid measured parameter, but without a proposed list of draft for each ship class how can anyone vote on an informed

basis? We all need to complete our homework and publish it in Fluegel's rag -- even if he doesn't like to publish too many rules proposals.

Oh, yes -- the Board voted (while drinking beer alongside Marty Hayes' swimming pool) to reject the BISMARCK speed challenge of Curly Barrett. The vote was 4 to 1. Each voting member remarked how tough the job was to come to a feeling of certainty about the issue and they all felt that Curly's efforts were extremely thorough and complete.

EDITORIAL -- RULE PROPOSALS

I guess that I can use this forum to do some lobbying for the Rule Proposals that you will be voting on in the next few weeks. I support all the proposals that were approved at the Rules Meeting. I especially feel that the following ones are important for the GENERAL good of our hobby:

Rudder only for turning

Speed by length of ship

Maximum down angle on guns

Barrels exiting from turret face

1991 ISSUES

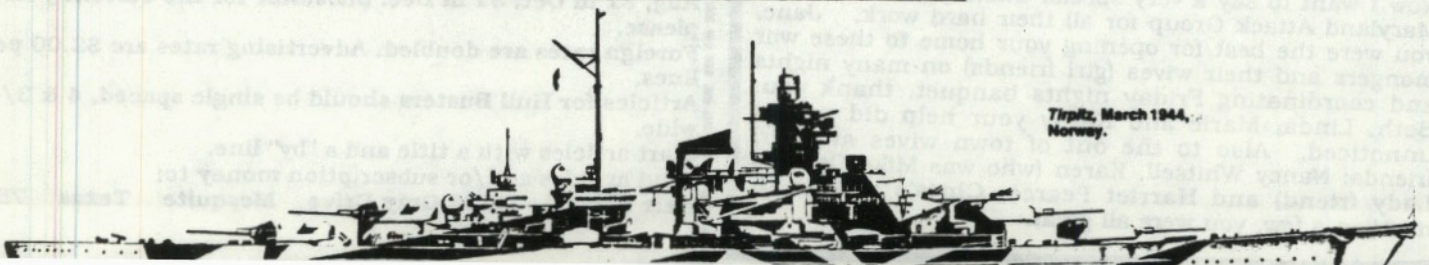
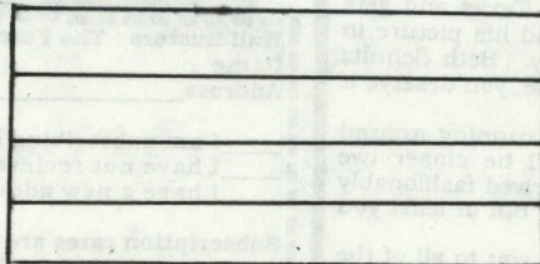
We must remain in close contact with the R/C manufacturers and the FCC for the status and direction of the 1991 Narrowband Frequencies. We must have a volunteer scout out a midwest site (Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky?) for future Nats. We have too many active members in Texas, Florida and Maryland to continue to use sites which require 15 to 30 hours of driving to reach. If you live in that general area and are willing to do some scouting for a site, contact me.

In closing, your 1990-91 Executive Board is:

Tom Jass	President
Gerald Roberts	Vice President
Marty Hayes	Treasurer
Wade Koehn	Secretary
Will Montgomery	1991 Nats CD

Thanks to all of you for your support and help during the past year. With your continued help and cooperation we can continue to make our "magnificent obsession" even better in 1991!!

HULL BUSTERS VERY LIMITED
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Tripitz, March 1944,
Norway.