



# All Guns Blazing!

## Newsletter of the Naval Wargames Society

### No. 220 – FEBRUARY 2013

#### EDITORIAL

Don't let the same people do more than their fair share each month. Articles for AGB and Battlefleet are welcome from all Members. Review a book, or let us know your opinion on a set of Rules etc. Any historical period actual or "what if" scenario.

The Naval Wargames Society has had an invite to put on a game at Colours this year (14th and 15th Sept at Newbury, Berkshire). Anyone interested in helping to run a game on behalf of the NWS or suggestions on the game to run, please contact Simon Stokes reasonably soon as we need to plan the game and submit the entry form.

Welcome to new members, Phil Russell, Jeff Chorney, Michael Clark, Al McDonald, John Collison, Everett Sharp, Mark Gardiner, Charles Carter, Mark Saunders, Sylvain Rheault and Warren Greene. (USA and Canada well represented.)

<http://www.beiyang.org/dingyuan/bd.htm> Control and click to follow this link supplied by new NWS Member Everett Sharp. 10 Years of pictures showing building a high standard replica Ship.

<http://www.lanacion.com.ar/1547741-buscan-evitar-el-hundimiento-del-un-buque-de-la-armada>

Thanks to Stuart, for this link which shows that water should never be under estimated. The Royal Navy came close to losing HMS NOTTINGHAM several years ago now when She hit rocks near Australia. More recently HMS ENDURANCE came close to sinking when She sprung a leak in Antarctic waters. View the trouble that a broken 6 inch pipe caused for the Argentine Type 42 Destroyer, Santisima Trinidad.

Rob Morgan sent me an interesting letter with details of how the Waddington's game "Buccaneer" set his imagination in action many years ago and how he drew up his own additional rules introducing ship to ship battles to the sailing around the Caribbean collecting treasure game. He wrote to Waddington asking if it was possible to obtain extra ships for the game and much to their credit, Waddington supplied the pieces free and in different colours. This enabled the young Rob to have British, Netherlands and Spanish fleets firing broadsides and battling on his tabletop. This illustrates how Naval Wargaming can be played without spending a lot of money while you dip your toe in the water, so to speak. If you find you like it and its fun, you can move on to purpose made games with squares or hexagon movement rules. Ship models are increasingly available in various scales and prices if you enjoy the open seas of your table top and range finding by ruler. Whether you spend modestly or lavishly, don't leave your imagination behind. Tweaking game rules is not unusual when the rules leave something lacking. If a rule change works for you, share it via the pages of All Guns Blazing.

Somewhere in the World, the Sun is over the yardarm.

Norman Bell  
[normanpivc@gmail.com](mailto:normanpivc@gmail.com)

## VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

February 2013

Chairman: Stuart Barnes-Watson

What a month! I confess that being an antipodean, the English winters usually brings on a morose mood, but what an exciting January. The latest edition of Battlefleet is excellent (I'm so inspired by Dave Manley's article), awesome job, thank you Jeff Chorney, our new editor in Canada. Sticking on our Canadian members, one of my clients and now member, Bernhard Holmock is currently working in Kabul. Go safe, from all of the NWS. Bernhard has been inspired by the theme of the next Salute game, Jason and the Argonauts. A Cod Wars type game. And this is the crux of this month's address. The strength of the Society is its membership. In the Royal Navy the motto is the 'Team Works'. I noticed this first hand in the Royal Navy Reserve. Unlike the Army (I was a TA Lieutenant in the early 80's), once a crew embarks aboard ship (my ship was HMS Argyll), everyone has to work together. The crew is so small, everyone is vital, and has to do their job. The same is true of our Society. My New Years Resolution was to get new members, and I ask all our members to endeavour to do the same. If you're a solo naval gamer, stuck in the middle of nowhere, tell your neighbours about your passion (naval history) and ability to make a game out of it. Interest aroused, your neighbour might find a new hobby, and provide a worthy opponent. Thanks largely to a local non member wargamer, two new members in Devon have joined (Chas has rejoined...an original member of the NWS), which in turn has resulted in regular monthly meets. In short, every member is a crewman, and has a responsibility to the ship. Talk about your interest; don't assume others are not interested. Let your editors know. We want to know what you are gaming in Canada, New Zealand, Spain, Netherlands, USA etc. We want to know what you want to sell, buy etc. Books, models, games etc. Let the AGB editor know.

### **Plymouth Association of War gamers Show 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2013**

I attended as a trader and ambassador to the NWS. The result was miles above my expectations. Myself and Roger Dawson from Coastline Models will be putting on the 'Attack on Pearl Harbour' in 1/1250 next year. The Show itself was a real morale booster. In general, wargame shows are shrinking, many suppliers turning to internet only sales. But Plymouth clearly bucked the trend. My local club in Bideford put on an awesome ACW Hampton Roads game in 10mm scale. All the ships are hand made. Another Plymouth gamer displayed a Dystopian naval game. Looked superb, and I am not a fantasy gamer. Others told me that I should have been here on Saturday. There was a 1/6000 Leyte Gulf game, complete with islands. Naval wargaming is clearly very popular. It's time to tell your editors of your experiences and to encourage others to join the ship.

Review by Rob Morgan.

### "Classic Kits" By A. Ward.

My original review and photograph, dealing with this delightful book, which was available during most of 2012 from 'The Works' discount bookshop (150+ branches in the UK) at a ridiculously cheap £5.99, vanished somewhere in one of the 'missing' AGB's of last year, but nevertheless, even now, if you can find a copy remaining at the one of the shops it's an awesome and nostalgic read. I was fascinated by the book's account of 'Eaglewall Kits' that short-lived, Sussex based company of the early 60's, which produced a range of 1/1200<sup>th</sup> scale WWII waterline wargames models (with a full hull option in all cases). They were intended for wargames, undoubtedly, for

as well as being waterline, they came in groups, not unlike the later Airfix *Bismarck-Hood-Prinz Eugen-Cossack* set up. I bought several of them as a teenager, they came boxed at around 2/- or 2/6d\* quite expensive at the time. I still have my Eaglewall *HMS Ajax*, but sadly the kits of *Altmark* (10/10!) and the U-Boat tenders *Saar* and *Acheron* and the little rack of tiny U-boats I once owned are long gone. The book provides full-colour box art work for a dozen or more 'Eaglewall Kits'. I certainly had no idea that there had been an RN Corvette and US Destroyer Escort produced in a single pack! Don Featherstone, in 'Naval Wargames' mentions the kits as being elusive, to be found, and this was in 1965 or thereabouts, only in small shops in back streets. True. He thought; though almost certainly he was wrong in this that there had been some Italian WWII ships issued as well as an escort carrier. (\*Two shillings = 10p and two shillings and sixpence = 12 and one half pence, for our younger members).

Ward's book mentions a complete display of the Eaglewall range- however many and whatever they are, it seems there was no list, in a model shop in Dorking. According to John Briggs of the Solo Wargamers Association, it's called 'Dorking Models' and the display is said to be wonderful. Now I've never been to Dorking, but I'll bet there's an NW member not far from there, who knows the shop and the display.

What a magnificent feature that would make for All Guns Blazing! Unique and irreplaceable in naval wargames history.

Rob Morgan... Jan 2013.

Supplementary comment from Stuart:-

The Italians were made by Pyro, before Revell took them over. You may be interested in this link

<http://www.steelnavy.com/EaglewallBook.htm>

for online list go to <http://www.galerie-maritim.de>. Bernt and Birgitta are the founts of knowledge re 1/1200 ship models.

Dorking, Surrey, home of the NWS for many years.

## MYSTERY SHIP



What nationality, what class?



### Pretty Ships!

I'm always trying to sell the idea of naval wargaming to the 'landlubbers' in the various historical societies; first as a cheaper option than buying yet another £150+ of time-consuming 28mm ploughboys, hours to paint and base and swept away by the first whiff of grapeshot; second as a decent and speedily gamed change from massive terrain set-ups- well how much 'land' do you put on the board, eh? There are other reasons of course.

Mind you, there's greater potential in ships than many 'naval' wargamers recognise. Since the early 1970's I've used warships as an educational tool in the classroom. It works, and with a bit of luck one or two of the youngsters who handled men-o'-war in those little encounters will still be setting sail-somewhere. At the early stages in some of those demo and participation games, I realised that it was the colours and spectacle of the Napoleonic and ECW figures which attracted would-be young wargamers. So I tried something other than the 1/1200<sup>th</sup> line of battleships or of monitors chasing the solitary Confederate ram.

Back in those halcyon days, you could still buy the old Airfix 'Santa Maria' model, the little one about 1/300<sup>th</sup>-ish, scale, and I invested in a small collection. Here's one, re-created into a single sail sort-of-cog. The model base was flattened with a hot blade to sit on a card base, two of the masts were abandoned to the spares box, and in this case because it's a flagship I removed the 'Airfix'



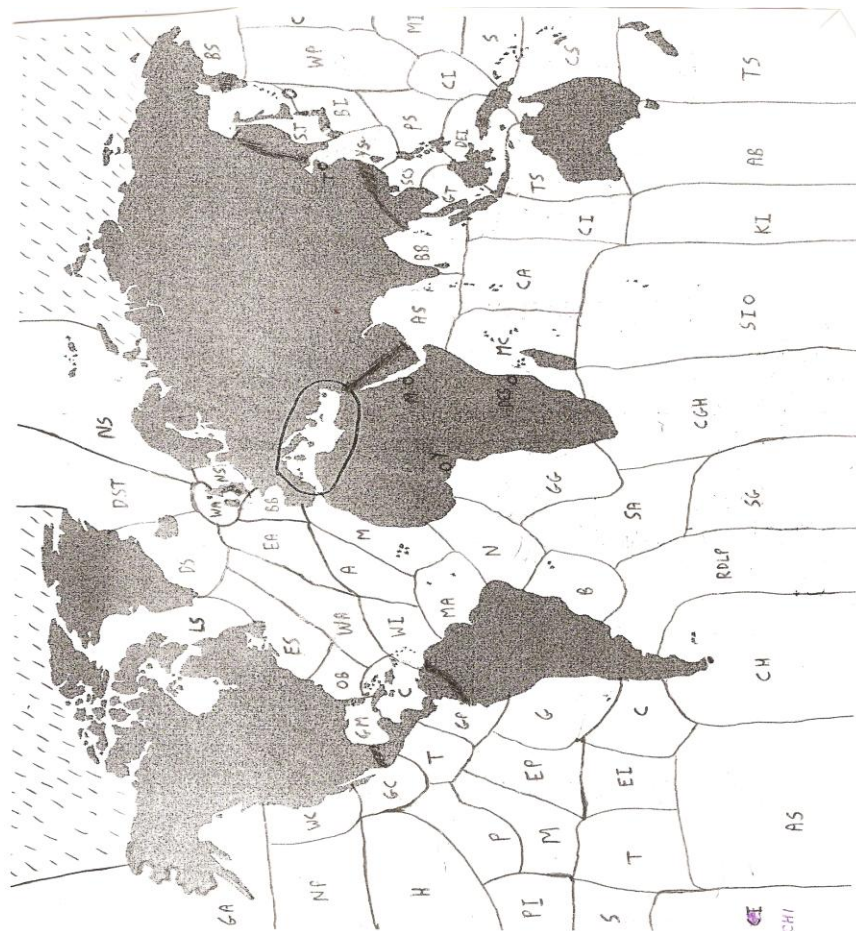
mainsail and added one from the old Heller Viking Longship with engraved dragon et al. The flag's from 'Games Workshop' (which does have it's place, after all, look at the rapid sales of that overpriced 'DREADFLEET' game!), and everything else is fairly basic; ship's boat added, a canvas awning aft and a few more flags. There are still some eight or nine of these robust little craft in my collection, and yes, they do still come out to play. Why? Well, they are pretty, and of course in a game where there are say six or seven people around the table everyone gets a ship to fight with, even the Umpire occasionally!

The rules are also simple, and probably well known, written in the early 80's the Welsh Maritime Association's modified medieval ship rules – for one ship type, few weapon types and potential for fire, boarding and even sometimes sea monsters!

Not Jutland, nor the North Cape, but good fun for kids and grandparents too. Sadly, the cost of this little flotilla now in this hefty, recognisable and robust scale would be pretty gruesome, but there are a few models about, and you only need a few of them to start off a couple of beginners with an hour's game.

Rob Morgan.

## KAISER'S KORSAIRS



If you were wondering about the locations for some of the battles in previous Kaiser's Korsairs, the letters in the Sea areas on the map will help.

#### **Move 10**

Anglo-French success at Yaounde (GG) as allied troops storm ashore against tough opposition. Gunfire support added by RN and French ships ensured success. Port secured. That maybe the headlines in the Times, but not the Melbourne Gazette which leads with 'Fremantle burnt....where next?' The cruiser **Konigsberg** sailed into Fremantle harbour in broad daylight, sank 5 ships including a trooper, then boarded and sailed off with a fully laden collier. The only defence was a couple of AEF field guns, which were quickly silenced.

Where next? Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne or Auckland or Wellington from von Spee, Darwin from **Konigsberg**!!!!

The Australian Prime Minister is under extreme pressure to recall the Australian ships to home waters.

Other gen includes numerous sightings from neutrals of an armoured cruiser operating in the Windward Islands, as well as light cruiser sightings off the South American Coast. But NOT verified.

#### **German Move 10**

**Konigsberg** enters the Timor Sea and attacks the new port of Fremantle, serving Western Australia (formerly New Holland). The defences were merely a couple of antiquated field pieces that were quickly silenced before sinking 5 ships: SS Wairuna (3947 ton), SS Arahura (1596 ton), SS Karitane (1376 ton), trooper SS Maheno (5282 ton), SS Tuatea (112 ton), and a prize crew boarding and capturing the collier SS Koolanga (2900 ton). No damage incurred, Kaiser delighted, another Iron Cross awaits!

**Karlsruhe** sinks the steamer SS Orbita (1100 ton) and sailing ship Slavi (800 ton) in the Windward Islands.

**Yaounde (GG)** in the German Kameroons has been bombarded and taken by an Anglo-French naval force of considerable size, ships include battleships and armoured cruisers. This is no longer available to the Central Powers.

Tsingtao is still besieged, but holding out, and Rabaul (Solomons) and Samoa the only remaining German colonies not under attack.

All other ships unsuccessful.

#### **Move 11**

**TSINGTAO FALLS!** The last major German supply/repair base has fallen to combined Japanese and British assault. Scuttled in the harbour were the destroyer S90, gunboats Jaguar, Iltis, Vaterland and Otter.

In the Windward Islands the cruiser HMS Suffolk again gets lucky and surprises the armed merchant cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm whilst coaling. The action is brief, fires rapidly engulfing the ex liner. The collier was scuttled, a British prize. From the survivors it was learnt that she had been operating solely in the North Atlantic and off North Central America, sinking 4 ships.

Admiral Craddock has been ordered to Cape Horn via Southern Atlantic and Rio de la Plata to close this escape route. Admiral Jerram's battle squadron is already positioned in the Cape of Good Hope Station. Admiral Patey has recalled his ships to the Coral Sea.

The GHQ have ordered the sailing of an ANZAC convoy from the Tasman Sea (TS) to the Arabian Sea (AS) for the attack on Mesopotamia (IRAN/IRAQ) to bounce the Ottomans out of the war. The Japanese have already offered escorts, but this must be lead by a Commonwealth Admiral....Patey.

Pressure has been put on the South American countries to cease supplying coal and provisions to combatant nations. Strong concerns regarding Argentina, Chile, Colombia & Ecuador. Mexico is in Civil War and currently lawless. Pressure is being put on the USA to intervene and end the anarchy. Nothing can be done to prevent coal sales in Mexico.

Von Spee?...vanished again. This is why the ANZAC convoy must be heavily protected.

#### **German Move 11**

Black week for the Central Powers overseas. Tsingtao finally falls to the Japanese. The gunboats and destroyer are scuttled to avoid capture. Only Rabaul (S), Samoa and German South West Africa (CGH) remain to shipping. Fighting is fierce in German East Africa (MC) and the Rufiji River remains open.

In the Windward Islands, **Kronprinz Wilhelm** was surprised whilst coaling and sunk by the armoured cruiser HMS Suffolk.

The only success was **Karlsruhe** sinking the steamer Gairloch (1100 ton) in the Caribbean.

Following at sea replenishment, **Schwarzenwald** and **Sao Paolo** were scuttled in the Australian Bight.

Coal is now the main concern. Daring raids like Konigsberg's on relatively undefended allied ports are one option; the German Ettappen still has stocks at CGH, N, C, T and CH.

#### **Move 12**

The Japanese are sending troops and warships to occupy the Caroline Islands (CI), Marshall Islands (MI) and Solomons (S). As soon as is convenient it is hoped to station Empire troops on these Islands.

Foreign Office officials confirm that coal has been recently purchased by German agents in Coronel, Chile. The collier, SS Chevington, is months overdue in Britain.

No sightings, but the Russians have agreed to the light cruiser Zhemchug attaching herself to Admiral Jerrams China Sea Fleet. She's currently off Vladivostok in the Western Pacific (WP).....6 x 4.7", endurance 6.

#### **German Move 12**

**Karlsruhe** in the Caribbean sinks the steamer SS Cedric (2300 ton)

**Dresden** in the Galapagos Islands intercepts and sinks the French sailing barque 'Bonhomme' (700 tons)

**Konigsberg and Leipzig** successfully re coal.

All other ships do not sight allied shipping.

#### **Move 13**

Walvis Bay (CGH) has fallen to German South West Africa forces.

Cocos Island's (CI) wireless transmitter has been repaired and is operational.

Singapore (GT) has expressed concern over the lack of wireless communication from the liner SS Victoria (12700 ton) bound from Singapore to Manila. On board was the British ambassador to the Philippines. Likely cause, German raider.

#### **German Move 13**

**Rabaul** reports the Japanese invasion and capture of both the Caroline Islands (CI) and Marshall Islands (MI). The Solomons and Rabaul are now under direct threat of invasion.

**Nurnberg** has exhausted her coal supply and is towed into the unoccupied island of Ile Amsterdam (French) by Scharnhorst. Reduced to a skeleton crew to man her guns, crew remaining to live off the land until fleet returns with coal.

**Gneisenau** gets her first success, sinking the steamer SS Penguin (1000 ton) whilst patrolling off Ile Amsterdam (SEI).

**Konigsberg** stops and sinks the liner SS Victoria (12700 ton) in the Gulf of Thailand.

**Karlsruhe** continues her success in the Caribbean, sinking the steamer SS Lossarch (1700 ton) and sailing ship St John (900 ton).

**Leipzig** sinks the steamer SS Fanlon (1500 ton) in the Eastern Pacific.

Windhuk in German South West Africa (CGH) reports heavy fighting on the South African border, but no sign of naval activity and coal stocks intact and transferred from Luderitz to Walvis Bay, now captured by German troops.

More next month.

### **Naval Wargames Weekend, 2013**

The Naval Wargames Society and the Explosion Museum of Naval Firepower are holding the third weekend of naval wargaming at the museum in Gosport over the weekend of June 22nd and 23rd 2013. The emphasis of the event is on games and getting together, and we had a lovely selection last year. This year there may well be some trade stands attending too. We are on the lookout for volunteers to run games at the event. If you'd like to put on a game on either or both days please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Plenty of space and tables are available and there should be room for upwards of ten tables available of varying sizes. There is also a large outdoor area where it is hoped a WW2 surface action will be played out using 1/600 models and a 1/600 "ground scale" for some of the weekend. Space is available in the museum grounds for camping over the weekend. Admission to the museum for the weekend will be free for those running games.

The aim of the event is to provide a forum where naval (and other) gamers can come together to run and/or play in each others' games. Games can be as long or as short as you like, and the intention is to include a few participation games so that members of the public can join in too. Traders who would like to attend



would be more than welcome - please contact Nick Hewitt for details of arrangements.

For more details or to book a table for a game for all or part of the weekend please contact Nick Hewitt nh "at" pnbpt "dot" co "dot" uk or me, **David Manley**. Contact details for the Explosion Museum are as follows:

Explosion! Museum of Naval Firepower  
Heritage Way  
Priddy's Hard  
Gosport  
Hampshire  
PO12 4LE  
United Kingdom

Telephone: 023 9250 5600  
Fax: 023 9250 5605  
Mobile: 077 8741 5382

A brief report on the 2011 and 2012 events can be found here:

<http://dtbsam.blogspot.co.uk/2011/08/naval-wargames-weekend-gosport.html>

<http://dtbsam.blogspot.co.uk/2012/07/naval-wargames-weekend-june-23rd-2012.html>

More information on the museum can be found here:

<http://www.explosion.org.uk/>

### “War in History”

I've mentioned this very useful academic publication on several occasions. Yes, it's usually found in university or specialist libraries, but articles, if referenced can be obtained from local libraries through the British Library system.

In this case it's.....

‘War in History’, 19 (3) 2012. ...pp 379-395. “Royal Navy Fleet Tactics on the Eve of the Second World War.” By J. P. Levy of Hofstra University New York, USA.

This is an overall impression of the 1939 Fighting Instructions compared to pre-war Japanese and American thinking. Full of insights! The Royal Navy went for short range fighting and night actions, says Levy, to compensate for the ‘relative inferiority’ of their guns, and the potential ‘effects of plunging fire’. He reports that at Jutland, the ‘best scoring’ British battleship the fleet flagship HMS Iron Duke scored 7 hits out of 43 shots fired from her main battery. He compares this to the action off Calabria on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1940, which lasted only eleven minutes, and in which the Italian Cesare fired 74 rounds, and Cavour 41 without a single hit. While HMS Warspite, the best of the British ships present, fired 17 salvos (Levy determines this was perhaps 100 rounds) and scored only one relatively ineffective hit, on Cesare. He adds, interestingly, that the air power of HMS Eagle was just as ineffective in the fight. Levy also considers the Bismarck-Hood encounter, Guadalcanal and regards the concept of victory in a decisive battle with heavy guns, rather than aircraft, proved as elusive and impossible to attain in the Second as in the First Great War.

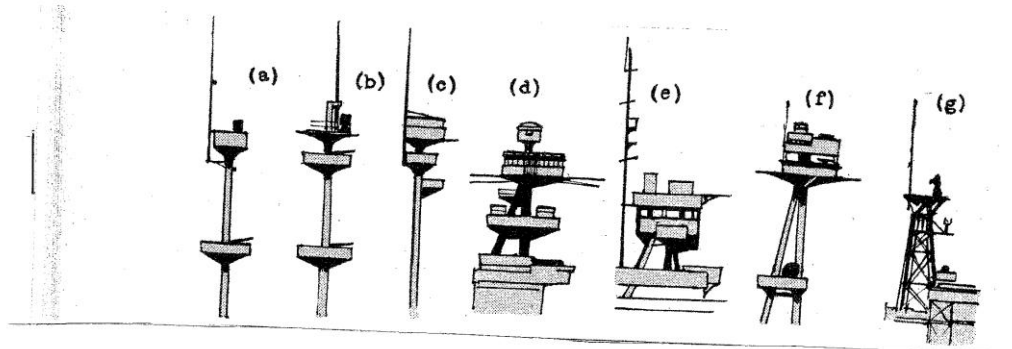
Rob Morgan.

## QUIZ NUMBER 21.

1. Name the Flag Officer lost in HMS Royal Oak.
2. In the 1952 'naval cuts' exercise, the number of flag officers was to be cut by a quarter. How many were there before the cuts?
3. Who met at the Kentish Knock at Portland and at Dungeness?
4. A rare, and I dare say, sad, three part early fifties RN question next..
  - a). Name four battleships announced to be scrapped.
  - b). How many Battleships remain?
  - c). Name them.

Picture Question, oh, alright line drawing!

Which ships had these masts?



## Battle Report

### Devon Squadron

#### Battle of the Malacca Straits 1963

##### Background

Modern naval wargames seem to be NATO vs USSR in the North Sea, actions dictated by carriers and submarines. From a wargames point of view, not my favourite. Yet there are numerous possibilities for surface to surface actions amongst lesser foes; Arab-Israeli wars, Indo-Pak wars, Cyprus 74, and my favourite the Indonesian confrontation. A genuine reason to pit the Royal Navy against the USSR. During the years 1962-66 tensions between the Commonwealth and Indonesia reached a peak. Indonesia was the USSR's ally, coveted Malaysia, wanted Brunei, and had just got East Timor from the Dutch (another option!).

The major flashpoints were the Straits of Malacca, the busiest sea lanes in the world, very narrow, and the coast and rivers of Brunei.

##### Forces

The Commonwealth navies always had a carrier, cruiser, 22 destroyers/frigates, plus numerous minesweepers and patrol craft based on Singapore. With good reason, as the Indonesian fleet consisted of a cruiser, 6 subs, 18 destroyers/frigates, plus numerous smaller warfare vessels including missile armed fast attack craft. For this night action, a Commonwealth navy patrol in the Malacca Straits clashes with an attempted Indonesian regular army incursion into Malaysia.

##### North

Indonesian ships heading East-West in three lines:

Katula (Kronstadt, PG), Hasanudin (Albatros F), Pulau Roon (T43 minesweeper)

3 large powered junks with troops

Anda (Jaguar MTB), Palau Ras (R boat), Torani (PC)

Commonwealth ships heading North in a single line abreast:

Sri Kedah (PG), Picton (Ton MS), HMS Loch Fada (F), Upton (Ton MS), Sri Perak (PG)

##### South

##### The Action

The Commonwealth squadron proceeded at half speed through the night, their radar tracking numerous vessels, but with no indication of intent. Each blip needs to be lit up for formal recognition, or stopped for boarding.

These lights are sighted by the blacked out Indonesian ships. Pre-empting their foe, the Southern flank ships open up with their 3", 40mm, 20mm. Messages are sent for the Northern flank force to make maximum speed to head off and cover junks.

The Indonesians were level with the Picton when firing commenced, out of range of both Upton and Sri Perak's 40mm. The Commonwealth squadron was restricted to forward guns only.

As with all naval games, getting maximum firepower prevailed. Sri Kedah was first to go, riddled with 40mm, followed by Picton losing her 40mm gunners and catching fire. She retired from the action, burning, eventually to sink.

The Commonwealth line headed North East towards the action. Meanwhile, the northern escort crossed in front of the junks and joined action.

Loch Fada broke through the southern escort, passing the Palau Rengat and Anda to port, Torani to starboard, in an attempt to get at the junks which were steering off North West. At rapid fire range, both the former were despatched, but not before Torani had knocked out Loch Fada's fore turret, and started a fire.

The Indonesian forces were now heading South West, covering the junks, whilst the Commonwealth forces altered course to the North into a desperate attempt to stop the landings.

The combined fire power of the Indonesian ships rapidly took effect. Torani accounted for Sri Perak, whilst Upton, 40mm wrecked, flooding, and bridge wrecked, attempted to divert fire from Loch Fada in her gallant surge towards the junks.

With both her 4" turrets knocked out, 40mm starboard, on fire, Loch Fada reluctantly turned away South West, leaving Upton to her doom.

The remaining Indonesian ships re grouped around the junks and proceeded due East. In the distance to the South West they saw an explosion the fire reached Loch Fada's magazine.

#### Aftermath

A clear Indonesian victory, highlighting the possible perils of patrolling the Straits during the Crisis. Such an action would have had major repercussions, with both fleets rushing to re enforce. Tiger vs Sverdlov, Battles, Darings, Cavaliers vs Skorys and Rigas. Russian and British 60's jets clashing in the air, together with WW2 US Mustangs and Invaders.

The participants went away, wanting more, soon.

#### Models

Only 1/1200 scale provides the relevant ships. And cheaply. Contact [stuart\\_barnes\\_watson@hotmail.com](mailto:stuart_barnes_watson@hotmail.com) for current listings.

Sri Kedah & Sri Perak (Oceanic)

Picton & Upton (Minic)

Loch Fada (Clydeside)

Palau Rengat (Clydeside)

Torani (Ensign)

Anda (Star)

Katula (Star)

Hasanudin (Trident)

Pulau Roon (Trident)



Indonesian squadron



Commonwealth Squadron

Answers to last month's Quiz.

Yes, a trip around the old Fleet Air Arm, which was still a hefty little operation in the early fifties, so here we go....

1. This was Italy, and the warship 'Giuseppe Garibaldi'... The first and third were sold to Argentina, the second was sunk by the Americans at Santiago, the fourth was lost to the Austrians, and the fifth was a post-WWII build of course.

2. HMS Triumph was the cadet training carrier.

3. She operated the 'Sea Balliol' aircraft...anyone know anything about this plane?

4. HMCS Magnificent.

5. Remarkably, the old Grumman Avenger was still in FAA front-line service in 1952!

That's the air component dealt with, back to the rolling waves for this month's quiz. (See above)



## HMS MONMOUTH AND USS JOHN C STENNIS

**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013**

While the Royal Navy awaits delivery of the Queen Elizabeth class aircraft carriers, members of HMS MONMOUTH (known as The Black Duke) were given a chance to experience life onboard the American Nimitz Class aircraft carrier USS John C Stennis in the Gulf. The RN parties were shown the extensive capabilities of the huge nuclear-powered carrier, including watching several fixed-wing aircraft launches from Stennis's vast flight deck.

*"I was amazed at the size and complexity of the Stennis, and am looking forward to the delivery of the Queen Elizabeth Carriers; if they are anywhere near as capable as the Stennis we will have quite a formidable ship to operate," said the Black Duke's Medical Officer Surg Lt Steve Woolley RN, 27 from Plymouth. "We were very well looked after by our American counterparts and it was a great day for all lucky enough to get across."*

Fifteen members of the USS John C Stennis also visited HMS MONMOUTH for a taste of life in the RN. They were treated to an extensive tour of the Type 23 frigate and enjoyed the full range of hospitality onboard. i.e. a few beers.

## **SIGNAL PAD!**

Next time: More from Rob Morgan; with some photographs if I can master the scanner. The Kaiser's Korsairs, to misquote Churchill, "it's not the end of the beginning but it is the beginning of the end". Plus one or two surprises, maybe.

### **JOINING THE NAVAL WARGAMES SOCIETY**

If you have been lent this newsletter and would like to join the Naval Wargames Society, please follow this link to join our Society:

[www.navalwargamesociety.org](http://www.navalwargamesociety.org).

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## **NWS Events and Regional Contacts, 2012**

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### **NWS Northern Fleet – Falkirk East Central Scotland**

Kenny Thomson, 12 Craigs Way, Rumford Grange, Rumford, Stirlingshire, FK2 0EU

Tel: 01324 714248

e-mail: [kenny.thomson@hotmail.com](mailto:kenny.thomson@hotmail.com) - Website: <http://falkirkwargamesclub.org.uk/>

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Falkirk Wargames Club meets each Monday night at 7pm with a variety of games running each evening. Naval games are popular with 2 or 3 run each month. Campaign games sometimes feature in our monthly weekend sessions. Games tend to be organised week to week making a 3-month forecast here a waste of time. Please get in touch if you'd like to come along.

- Popular periods – Modern (Shipwreck), WW1 and 2 (GQ), WW2 Coastal (Action Stations), and Pre-dreadnought (P Dunn's rules)
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### **NWS North Hants [Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday]**

Jeff Crane 31 Park Gardens, Black Dam, Basingstoke, Hants, 01256 427906

e-mail: [gf.crane@ntlworld.com](mailto:gf.crane@ntlworld.com)

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### **DEVON and the West Country**

Several Members are based in Devon and to add to all the other advantages that living there brings, you can now met up for a Naval Wargames afternoon/evening/all day on a regular basis.

Contact Stuart Barnes Watson to arrange the details.

[Stuart\\_barnes\\_watson@hotmail.com](mailto:Stuart_barnes_watson@hotmail.com)

3 Clovelly Apartments, Oxford Park, Ilfracombe, DEVON, EX34 9JS

Tel: 01271 866637

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