



BULLETIN

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No. 169

July, 1998

Foreign Navy Ships

by
Mike Prero

Talk about *tough* categories! This one is murder! But...it's a great area to collect in, *AND* it dovetails into your U.S. Navy Ship interests in a number of ways. For example, many of these foreign navy ships are ex-US vessels which have been sold to other countries, so don't be surprised if many look familiar to you naval experts.

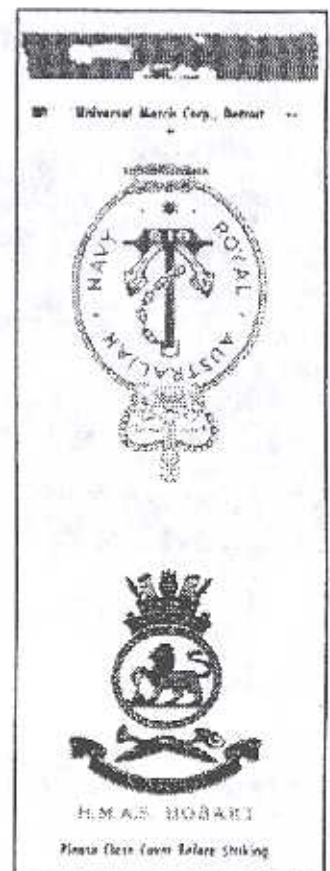
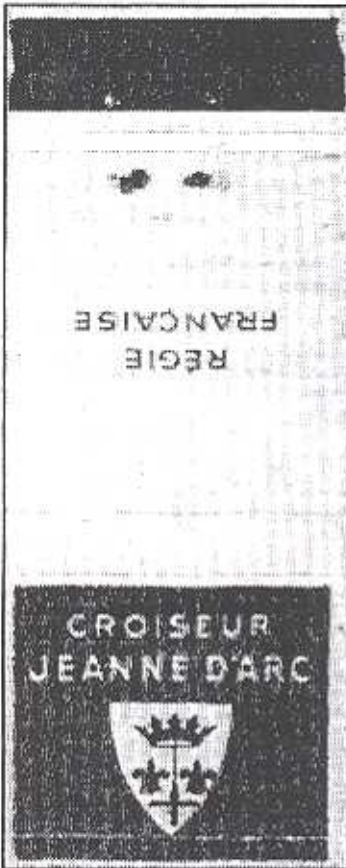
Since Canada is not counted as "foreign," Canadian navy ships don't qualify here. In fact, they constitute a category in



and of themselves. Any other country, though, is fair game. Pictured with this article are covers from French, Spanish, Brazilian, English, and Australian navy ships, but there are certainly other countries which you can find available. In our April 1988 issue, for example, we pictured a cover from a Japanese training squadron.

You rarely see any of these covers in auctions, so trading is about the only way you're going to find these gems, especially trading with foreign collectors, but you should be aware that many foreign collectors don't put the same premium on *unstruck* covers that we do, so you might want to specify that ahead of time. Also, beware of flats. An English collector recently sent me a cover from the British aircraft carrier Ark Royal...it was beat up, but still...

I have no idea how many covers are available. I only have about 20 foreign navy ships, but Bill Thomas, FL, had 45 as of May 1993. Anyone have more than that?



AMCAL RESULTS

May's AMCAL in Bakersfield saw 103 collectors and four visitors in attendance. Forty-four of these were from out-of-state, and, of course, Fred Latimer was there from England. Eighty-four people attended in the scrumptious Irish Barbecue, and 80 people were at the concluding banquet. The raffle took in \$447.86, the Chinese Auctions netted \$227.00, and the big auctions brought in a total of \$13,347.00 [the amount raised by the Casino Nights activities wasn't available as of this writing].

AMCAL Contest Awards:

Most Caddies Donated: Dan Bitter
 Shucking Contest Winner: Carol Ziegler
 Leprechaun Bowling Winner: Loren Ross
 Room Decorating Winner: The Baileys
 Golfer of the Year: Fred Latimer

AMCAL Display Awards:

Best Transportation: 1st - Ellen Gutting
 2nd - George Winter
 3rd - Emily Hiller

Best H/M/R: 1st - Janet Johnk
 2nd - George Winter
 3rd - Frank Donato

Best Single: 1st - Beth Denes
 2nd - Paula Borton
 3rd - Nancy Bailey

Best Group: 1st - Gene Sayler
 2nd - Jackie Goodyear
 3rd - Ellen Gutting

Best Set: 1st - George Winter
 2nd - George Bruckman
 3rd - Emily Hiller

Best Irish: Ellen Gutting

Best of Show: Jackie Goodyear

Individual Display Awards:

Duke Rohrer Memorial: Fred Latimer
 Carolyn & Lowell Schultz Mem: George Winter
 Jim Molfett Memorial: Jackie Goodyear

Best Hotel Display: Janet Johnk
 Walter Hubbard Memorial: Bill Thomas
 Edgar Marshall Memorial: Bill Thomas

Club Display Awards:

Angelus MC Best Combo: Beth Denes
 Casino MC Best Casino: Fred Latimer
 Denver Strikers MC Most Diff: George Winter
 Kitty MC Best Kitty: Stella Williams
 Long Beach MC Best H/M: Janet Johnk
 Mermaid MC Best Mermaid: Cindy Sayler
 Rocky Mountain MC Best 'Western': E. Gutting
 San Diego MC Most Unusual Group: Ellen Gutting
 Sierra-Diablo MC Best Small Cate: Ellen Gutting
 United Eastern Best 'Green': Stella Williams

RMS Area Award:

Ellen Gutting [for Leprechaun display]

New AMCAL Officers:

President - Jene Lyle
 Vice-President - Janet Johnk
 Secretary - Steve Rohrer

Convention News & Impressions:

Outgoing President Dave MacNally put together a wonderful convention. A good time was had by all. The new Doubletree management of the hotel certainly doesn't seem to have hurt anything. Room-hopping and the food were great, including the green champagne! The weather was even very mild [Thanks, El Nino!]. A vote was taken and there will be only one casino night at next year's get-together. The theme will be "circus." Start saving your pennies and making your plans!

Sierra-Diablo glossary of hobby terminology...continued

Palladium Ballroom Set - 1942 set of 16 20-strikes featuring personalities.

Palmer Match - Palmer box trademark; 1924-1930s.

Palmer Match Co. Akron, OH-based company; 1924-late 1930s.

Pan Am 30s Sets - two 1956 sets of 15 30-strikes each; first set is Black, blue, white; second set is tan

Pan Am Movies Set - 1979 Allenco set of 50 20-strikes featuring in-flight movies [*New Zealand*].

Pan-American Match Corp. - Puerto Rican-based company formed by merger of Universal, Federal and Virginia Match Corp.; 1939-c. 1950.

Pana Match Corp. - defunct NYC-based company; no dates available.

Panel - a section of the outside of a cover (i.e., front panel, back panel).

Panorama Set - *see Contact Set*

Parlor Matches - larger than kitchen matches, but smaller than fireplace matches; became obsolete with the appearance of safer matches; 1800s.

Parlour - old Eddy box trademark; c. 1864-?

Passenger Lines - *see Ship Lines*

Patented Sept. 27, 1892 - Diamond manumark famous as one of the earliest; 1896-1909 [*there were other variations later*].

Patriotic - category for covers featuring patriotic slogans or pictures; largest sub-division would be World War II Patriotic [*see World War II Patriotic*].

Pats - abbreviation for Patriotic.

Pearlstone - Superior trademark for its covers with fine horizontal ridges running the width of the cover [*not to be confused with Satin*]. Claude Aube's collection numbers 478+.

Peerless Match Co. - defunct RI-based company; dates not available.

Penn-Ohio Matchcover Club - PA-based club; 1977-present.

Pennsylvania Match Co. - Bellefonte, PA-based company; merged with other companies to form Federal Match Co.; ?-1923

Perfect 36 - Diamond trademark for its 36-strike covers; larger than 30-strike size, but smaller than 40-strike size; 1948-c. 1952. 612 currently listed.

Perkins Americana - a long series of sets (and a few singles and variations) engineered by collector Edgar A. Perkins focusing on American events and locations; saddle carries "Americana" plus Indian head; 234 numbered sets, however a few are singles; sets are made up of 5 diff. color covers; 1957-1977.

Personalities - category for covers which show or mention a famous personality; often used interchangeably with VIPs; Jim Moffett's collection numbered 2446.

Petite - trademark for small box (manufacturer/dates ?)

Petty Girls - 9 Superior Girlie sets designed by artist George Petty; 1948-1968.

Philly-Quebec Enrg. - Canada-based club; 1972-present.

Phillumenist - a matchcover collector.

Phillumenistische Gesellschaft - Germany-based club; ?-present.

Phillumeny - the hobby of matchcover collecting.

California Tour: 17

Death Valley

Indians knew it as Tomesha, "Ground Afire." On the hottest day on record, the temperature peaked at 134°F. On a normal summer day, when air temperature is a brisk 120°, ground temperature on the valley floor can be 200 degrees. It has the hottest, driest climate in North America. It's also the lowest point on land in the Western Hemisphere...It's Death Valley, California.

Incredibly, it's been home to four successive Native American cultures. Last to arrive were the Shoshone, who settled there about 1,000 years ago. In 1849, emigrants looking for the California gold fields accidentally stumbled into the valley, and eventually prospectors came looking for gold and silver. In 1873, borax, the so-called white gold of the desert, was discovered in Death Valley, and its harvesting and mining soon followed. Twenty-mule teams operated from 1883 to 1889, carrying the borax out of the valley, over passes in the Panamint Mountains and through the desert to the railroad station at Mojave.

In 1882, Bellerin Tex Bennett founded the Greenland Ranch, and in 1888 he sold the property to the Pacific Coast Borax Company, which renamed it the Furnace Creek Ranch. In 1927, in response to growing interest in the area, the company opened the Furnace Creek Inn to provide more luxurious accommodations to travelers. The Fred Harvey Company assumed operation of the inn in 1956 and purchased the property in 1969.

It was officials of the Pacific Coast Borax Company who brought the beauty of Death Valley to the attention of the National Park Service. On February 11, 1933, President Hoover signed a bill creating Death Valley National Monument, and 61 years later, Congress made it a national park.

Death Valley National Park has more than 3.3 million acres of spectacular desert scenery, interesting and rare desert wildlife, complex geology, undisturbed wilderness, and sites of historical and cultural interest. Bounded on the west by 11,049 foot Telescope Peak and on the east by 5,475 foot Dante's View, Badwater is the lowest point (-282 feet) in the western hemisphere.

The area has more than 350 miles of unpaved and 4-wheel drive roads, providing access to wilderness hiking, camping, scenery, and historical sites. Special attractions include Scotty's Castle, eight different ghost towns, and pristine sand dunes. The best time to visit is in the early spring—the cactus is in bloom, you can see wild groups of donkeys, and the heat hasn't started yet!

There is a good representation of covers from Death Valley in my own Parks collection, I count 17 20-strikes and 5 30-strikes, most of which are from the Furnace Creek Inn—and I know there are more out there.



HOSPITALITY BY FRED HARVEY

(619) 798 2845

RESERVATIONS

Death Valley, CA 92228

PO BOX 187

& Ranch Resort
Furnace Creek Inn



“Ol’ Blue Eyes” Closes Out the Twentieth Century

Frank Sinatra, an American icon of music, films, and television, died on Thursday, May 14th. He was the first teenage idol the country had ever seen, and 11-time Grammy winner, and a two-time Academy Award winner. For 63 years, he entertained America, becoming the biggest entertainer of the twentieth century

By the time I was born, Sinatra was already part of an earlier generation. My genre was into Rock & Roll, and he seemed something from the past, but I grew up watching all his movies and following all the news reports of the “Rat Pack.” As with so many things in life, I really didn’t appreciate his music until I was older, but what great music it is—and writer Gore Vidal noted, “I would say that half the population of the United States over the age of 40 was conceived while their parents were listening to his records.”

Francis Albert Sinatra was born on December 12, 1915, in Hoboken, NJ. His career was launched by his appearance in 1935 on the “Major Bowes Amateur Hour” as part of the “Hoboken Four.” He won that contest, and that’s what brought him to the notice of the powers that be. In 1939, he wed Nancy Barbato. Eventually they would have three children: Nancy, Frank Jr., and Christina.

In the same year, he joined Harry James’s band. Probably his most popular song from this period was “All or Nothing At All.” In the following year, he joined Tommy Dorsey’s band, where he always said he learned to sing from a trombone. His big hits at this time were “Polka Dots and Moonbeams” and “I’ll Never Smile Again.” In 1942, he began his solo career, giving concerts at New York’s Paramount.

It was also in the 1940s that Sinatra began his Hollywood career, appearing in musicals such as “Anchors

Away” and “On the Town.” In 1946, he won his first oscar for “The House I Live In.” In 1951, he wed actress Ava Gardner, and his career ebbed with his divorce a short time later. It was revived, though, with his performance in “From Here to Eternity” [*my personal favorite*], and for which he received his second oscar in 1954.

Over the next 40 years, he made movies such as “The Man With the Golden Arm,” “Manchurian Candidate,” songs the likes of “Strangers in the Night,” and “That’s Life,” married actress Mia Farrow and divorced, then married Barbara Marx. He retired briefly in 1971. President Reagan gave him the Medal of Freedom in 1985.


He packed a lot of life into his life!

Frank Sinatra



Frank Sinatra

RESORTS INTERNATIONAL HOTEL CASINO



RESERVATIONS (609) 340-6434

SINATRA
of Resorts, Atlantic City

Highlights

Our next meeting will be on Sept. 12, our annual Picnic. More details later.

Our new membership roster is enclosed with this bulletin. It took us awhile to straighten out the membership list [more about this in our next issue's editorial]. The long-awaited new membership cards will soon be forthcoming, so hang on.

Our usual scrumptious refreshments this time were augmented by a surprise birthday cake, courtesy of Peggy Leslie, for Allyson Prero, just turning 15 [she's also just getting her driver's permit, so anyone in the Northern California area might want to stay off the roads for the next six months...]

Tom Tresnak had his fabulous Dennis the Menace set on display [this set will be featured in the Nov/Dec RMS Bulletin].

Membership Report: 706

New Members

704. Franz, Robert, 61 Roosevelt Blvd., Florham Park, NJ 07932
Collects: General—full-books

705. de Wit, William Box 134, Clandeboye, Manitoba, ROC OPO
Collects: Any picture sets, U.S. Com. Foreign, Supermarket Sets.

706. Guoninga, Chuck, 8318

Avenida Castro, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Collects: Gas Stations/Oil Co., Aircraft related, auto-related, Hwy 99-Ca.Or.Wash., Hwy.395 Ca.Nev.,Or., Wash., Cowboys, Rodeos, Bucking Horses

Change of Categories

670. #378. Mark Quilling, add: "Trail's End" covers (w/image), mileage/distance charts, pre-'70s back-strikers, Australian, lobsters, mermaids, "Hallmark," covers stating proximity to Disneyland or Disney World, and covers w/stories, poems, funny sayings, or tales on the inside (not lists of services).

Change of Address

697. Dace Mahanay: 213 N. 10th St., Memphis, TX 79245

Ads

COUNTY SEATS! .25 cents each. Send me your want list. Mike Prero, 12659 Eckard Way, Auburn, CA 95603

WANTED: Second Movie Type 6 covers of: Tom Keene #44 (red) and Movita #75 (orchid). Unstruck covers only, please. Write first to Don Marquette, 2601 S. Houston, Fort Smith, AR 72901-7317

WANTED: Camel 30-strike Trades—especially "Girlie-Type covers" (such as #122, 126, 274, 576) for a display I'm putting together. I have Philadelphia and

many other cities available for trade! FMI and my want list contact: Jim Benes, 13 Munsee Dr., Cranford, NJ 07016, 908-709-0499, JamesBenes@aol.com

WANTED: Kennedy and Johnson presidential White House covers or full-books. Will buy or trade. Mark Quilling, 1000 Edgerton St., #1313, St. Paul, MN 55101-3958

WANTED TO PURCHASE OR TRADE: for Second Movie Type #6 covers #44 Tom Keene (red) and #75 Movita (orchid). Please write first to Don Marquette, 2601 So. Houston St., Fort Smith, AR, 72901-7317 or e-mail to donmarq@aol.com

WILL TRADE: for "Recommended by Duncan Hines" covers. The Ed.

Around The Country

RMS CONVENTION - August 9-16, Holiday Inn Airport, 6902 27th St., Moline, IL 61265 (Tel: 309-762-8811). Room rate is \$60+tax for 1-4 people. Theme is *Matches and Magic on the Mississippi River*. More info coming, but you can always contact RMS President Linda Clavette.

5TH ANNUAL AMCC SWAP-FEST - September 17-20, Holiday Inn North, Dayton, OH (937-278-4871). Room: \$66+tax. Dealers tables, display

Happy Birthday!

Benbrook, Jack.....	7-1
Drowley, Diana.....	7-1
Eggleston, Kay.....	7-1
Nichols, John.....	7-2
Unruh, Gary.....	7-3
Spangler, T.A.....	7-5
Buck, Richard.....	7-15
Lawton, Mildred.....	7-15
Cooke, Jenny.....	7-16
Heskett, Robert.....	7-18
Hall, James.....	7-19
Kennaday, Dave.....	7-23
Lauck, Richard.....	7-26
Dixon, Barbara.....	7-29

room, two big auctions, games, discussion groups, and more. FMI: AMCC, POB 18481, Asheville, NC 28814 or call 828-254-4487 (E-mail: bill@matchcovers.com)

CONNECTICUT MC 25TH ANNIVERSARY SWAP-FEST - October 9-11, Holiday Inn, 4 Sebeth Dr., Cromwell, CT 06416. Rooms \$79-tax. FMI: Carol Stone, POB 231, Somers, NY 10589-0231

KEYSTONE LEHIGH-VALLEY '98 FALL WEEKEND: Nov. 5-8, Morgantown HI, PA (Tel: 610-286-3000; ask for Maggie) [the Hershey Chocolate factory is right down the road-somebody knew what they were doing!]; Room rate is \$61-tax. Bingo, auctions, room-hopping, displays, albums, awards, sumptuous banquet, Friday night Halloween Party, and much more. FMI: Joyce Loveless, 610-494-2714.

'90s Revisionism Catches Up With Mickey Mouse!

Mickey Mouse, 70 years old this year, is getting a make-over, along with other familiar Disney characters. No more cutsey, innocuous, not-a-care-in-the-world pet mouse. Mickey's about to become "more in tune with his true rodency and the edgier times" and become a harried, '90s kinda creature.

"Our focus groups told us that these characters did not have enough attitude," said exec producer of the Toon Disney Channel Tobert Gannaway, who's in charge of the make-over.

3-DENVER STRIKERS 401-333-3333

I'm all ears for
AMCAL



1991

RMS



1991

DENVER STRIKERS
wish you luck

Our Condolences

We have been informed that Lyle Simpson, SD #372, passed away on May 29th. Lyle was a Sierra-Diablo member for quite a few years.

Our sincerest condolences to his family.

COMING UP



Aug: "Lighthouses"...a popular semi-small category.

Sep: "Satins"...Rich, luxurious, unique...yet largely unsung in the hobby.

Oct: "Reno Casinos"...They have had better times!

SIERRA-DIABLO...we're the hottest club in the hobby!

The Sierra-Diablo Bulletin is a monthly publication of the Sierra-Diablo Matchcover Club. Deadline for all submissions is the 10th of each month. Any information herein may be reproduced with appropriate credit line. Dues of \$5 (individual), \$6.50 (family), \$7.50 (Canada/Mexico) or \$7.50 (outside N. America) are payable to the Sierra-Diablo Matchcover Club, c/o Janet Johnk, 6 Truman Dr., Novato, CA 94947.

You can reach the Ed. on line at RMSED@psyber.com for help with Bulletin/hobby questions, concerns or problems.