

CMH NEWS LETTER

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VOL I NO. 2

NOVEMBER 1966

Something new has been added to this month's Newsletter. We have advertisers. Please note them well, patronize them, and tell them your'e a member of C.M.H. Actually, these advertisers are more like sponsors who are interested in our organization and it's aims. They are helping to defray the cost of paper, stencils, etc. necessary to produce this monthly letter. If you know a businessman who might be interested, let us know, or better yet, show him your copy of this letter and sell him a page or two.

WELCOME to new members: Duncan Ackley, Bob Black, Jim Coleman and Dennis Nimm.

COLLEGE LIBRARY REQUESTS SHIP DISPLAY FROM C. M. H.

By: Thomas Herman

Mr Tannenbaum, Head of the Regis College Library, has made it known that he would like The Colorado Military Historians to develop a display to be placed on the first floor of the New Library Building and our project will be in three parts:

(1) Naval Wargames (2) Warships of the Second World War (3) Naval Battles

Mr Tannenbaum has suggested that the largest display case be used to recreate a naval battle that took place during the Second World War. This would be accompanied by charts and a description of the battle being represented. The second case would contain a copy of Jane's Fighting Ships with models of ships from various countries. Each ship would have a card with the ship's statics (armour, guns, speed, etc.) and a very short history. The third would be devoted to the Fletcher Pratt Naval Wargame with more ship models. They would like German, British, American, Japanese and Italian ships represented.

A definite date has not been set, but they would like to have this display during the first semester. The Colorado Military Historians will receive full credit for the display.

Just off the record, the Regis College Library is the only one in the Denver area that has made any attempt to get the original Fletcher Pratt Naval Wargame Rules. They have been working on it since September.

We urge all club members to help on this project. It could lead to other display (Napoleonic figures, Aircraft, Tanks, Artillery etc.) and also, we beleive, create a good deal of interest in the C.M.H.

OUTLINE FOR NOVEMBER PROGRAM: by Mike Kuhls

THE RISE AND FALL OF CAVALRY OR THE FALL AND
RISE OF THE FOOTMAN.

I. THE FALL OF INFANTRY 378-1066 AD

- a. Deterioration of the Legion --- Adrianople 378 AD
- b. Reorganization : Chalons 451 AD Lasilinum 554 AD
- c. France Hounts Up --- Tours 732 AD
- d. Northmen and Magyars-Reading, Edington, Mersberg, Lechfeld
- e. Armies of the Saxons-Hastings 1066, Dyrhachium 1081

II. BYZANTINE PERFECTION 500-1000 AD

- a. The first truly professional army.
 1. Excellent Troops
 2. First Book of Tactics
- b. Arms and Organizations
" Turma " was Basic Unit
- c. The Crusades and the Fall of the Byzantine Empire - 1150

III FEUDAL CAVALRY 1066-1515

- a. Non- existence of the Arts of War
- b. Infantry of secondary importance
- c. Fortification and Siege Warfare developed
- d. Crusades --- Epitome of the perversion of the Art of War

IV. FALL OF THE HORSEMAN & RISE OF THE FOOTMAN

A. Swiss 1315-1522

1. Weaponry --- Pike & Halberd
2. Columns --- Echelon, Wedge and Hedgehog
3. Swiss Supremacy was dominate in the battles of: Morgarten, Laupen, Senpach, Arbedo, Grandson, Morat
4. Swiss Decline
 - a. Stereotyped tactics & Landschnecht
 - b. Spanish short sword --- Ravenna 1512
 - c. Fortified position --- La Bicoca 1522
 - d. Artillery- Marignano 1515
 - e. Loss of dicipline --- 1525

B. English 1282-1500

1. Weaponry --- Longbow (Welsh) and Men at Arms
2. Formations - 3 "Battles" flanked by Archers
3. English Supremacy --- shown in the battles of: Orwin Bridge, Falkirk, Bannockburn, Greycy, Poitiers, Agincourt, Formigny, Patay.
4. War Of The Roses --- very little known of military value

C. Miscellaneous

1. Hungarians vs. the Turks 1350-1500
2. Jan Ziska's Method of defeating Cavalry by mobilizing Infantry into wagons --- 1400-1500

" When one seeks the cause of the successes of great Generals, one is astonished to find that they did everything to insure them "

--- Napoleon ---

BRITISH BATTLESHIPS OF W.W. II by: Dan Jones

SHIPS	BUILT	Tonnage	SPEED KNOTS	ARMOR		AIR- Deck CRAFT	TORPEDO TUBES	ARMAMENT
				Belt	Turret			
<u>Class</u>								
Queen Elizabeth	1913	32,700	24	13"	13"	5 1/2-7"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Barham	1914	31,100	24	13"	13"	5 1/2-7"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Malaya	1915	31,100	24	13"	13"	5 1/2-7"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Valiant	1914	32,700	24	13"	13"	5 1/2-7"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Warspite	1913	30,600	24	13"	13"	5 1/2-7"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
<u>Class</u>								
Royal Sovereign	1915	29,150	21.5	13"	13"	2-5 1/2"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Ramilies	1916	29,150	21.5	13"	13"	2-5 1/2"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Resolution	1916	29,150	21.5	13"	13"	2-5 1/2"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Revenge	1915	29,150	21.5	13"	13"	2-5 1/2"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
Royal Oak	1914	29,150	21.5	13"	13"	2-5 1/2"	0	8-15" 12-6" 8-4"
<u>Class</u>								
Nelson	1925	33,950	23	14"	16"	6 1/2"	2	9-16" 12-6" 6-4.7"
Rodney	1925	33,900	23	14"	16"	6 1/2"	2	9-16" 12-6" 6-4.7"
<u>Class</u>								
King George	1939	35,000	29	15"	16"	6"	0	10-14" 16-5.25"
Prince of Wales	1939	35,000	29	15"	16"	6"	0	10-14" 16-5.25"
Duke of York	1940	35,000	29	15"	16"	6"	0	10-14" 16-5.25"
Anson	1940	35,000	29	15"	16"	6"	0	10-14" 16-5.25"
Howe	1940	35,000	29	15"	16"	6"	0	10-14" 16-5.25"
Vanguard	1944	42,500	29.5	14"	13"	6"	0	8-15" 16-5.25"
<u>Battlecruisers</u>								
Repulse	1916	32,000	29	9"	11"	3"	8	6-15" 20-4.5" 20-4"
Rencwan	1916	32,000	29	9"	11"	3"	0	6-15" 20-4.5" 20-4"
Hood	1918	42,100	31	12"	15"	3"	4	8-15" 12-5.5" 8-4"

NOTES : Three British Battleships and two Battlecruisers were sunk during W.W.II
 The Royal Sovereign became the USSR ARCHANGELSK in 1944. The remainder
 all survived the war and were scrapped between 1948 and 1960. War losses
 are as follows: ROYAL OAK sunk by U-47 in Scapa Flow, 13 Oct. '39; HOOD
 sunk by the BISMARCK off Iceland 24 May '41; BARHAM sunk by a U-331 in the
 Mediterranean 25 Nov. '41; PRINCE OF WALES and REPULSE sunk by Japanese
 Aircraft off Malaya 9 Dec. '41.

OUTLINE OF OCTOBER'S PROGRAM: by W.A. Richards

"The Will of Zeus, The Wrath of Jupiter"

I. PRIMITIVE WARFARE

- A. Palaeolithic and Neolithic man (30,000-2,000 B.C.)
 - 1. Battle against nature took man's full time
 - 2. Lack of organized society and weapons made large scale warfare unknown
- B. Bronze Age
 - 1. Made weapons available
 - a. First weapon, bronze dagger
 - b. Lengthened into a sword
 - c. Attached to a pole, became a spear or lance
- C. First Recorded Military Campaign
 - 1. Battle of Kaddish (1288 B.C.)
 - 2. Egyptians under Ramses II vs. Hittites
 - a. Approximately 20,000 men on each side
 - b. Chariots were used by both sides.
- D. Graeco- Persian Wars (500 B.C.)
 - 1. First disciplined units
 - 2. Emergence of infantry, cavalry, and archers
 - 3. Aeschylus states, " A contest between the bow and the spear"
(and the spear won)

II. ALEXANDER THE GREAT

- A. Alexander's army
 - 1. Professionals, not citizen levies
 - 2. Improved phalanx
 - a. Sixteen ranks deep
 - b. Twelve -foot pikes
 - c. Flanked by hypaspists (guards)
 - 3. Cavalry
 - a. Offensive
 - b. Defensive
 - 4. Light Infantry
 - a. Peltast, light defensive armour
 - b. Fought from open formations
 - c. Highly trained
 - d. Archers and javelin men
- B. Alexander was first to realize that commander's proper function was to direct the fighting of others and not to fight himself
- C. Arbela (331 B.C.) Classic battle
 - 1. Graeco- Macedonian Army, Alexander
 - a. 40,000 infantry
 - b. 7,000 cavalry
 - 2. Persian Army, King Darius
 - a. 200,000 infantry
 - b. 200 Chariots
 - c. 15 elephants
 - 3. Ended in a rout of Persians

III. THE ROMAN LEGION

- A. The Maniple Legion
 - 1. Originally militia from levies
 - 2. Poorly trained
 - 3. Primarily defensive
- B. Became professional about 400 B.C.
 - 1. Pay introduced
 - 2. Experienced
 - 3. Conquered Italian peninsula
- C. Composition
 - 1. 4,000 to 6,000 men
 - 2. Three divisions per legion
 - 3. Ten maniples each division
 - 4. Rome usually maintained four legions
- D. Tactics
 - 1. Open order, checkerboard formation
 - a. Allowed rear divisions to charge through
 - b. Gaps filled with mobile maniples
 - 2. Used short swords

IV. HANNIBAL

- A. Military genius of Carthage
- B. Second Punic War (219-202 B.C.) Hannibal invaded Italian peninsula resulting in the Battle of Cannae (216 B.C.)
 - 1. Romans, Consuls Varro and Paulus
 - (1) 70,000 Infantry
 - (2) 6,000 Cavalry
 - 2. Carthaginians, Hannibal
 - (1) 40,000 Infantry
 - (2) 10,000 Cavalry
 - 3. Casualties
 - (1) Romans, 48,000
 - (2) Carthaginians, 6,700
 - 4. " The Perfect Battle " --- A stronger force was surrounded and eliminated by a weaker one marking the high water mark of military achievement of the Ancient World
 - 5. Principles of War are eternal

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Art of War on Land	Lt. Col. Alfred H. Burne
Decisive Battles	Fuller
The Art of War	Arthur Birnie
Early Greek Weapons	Snodgrass
Alexander the Great	Wilcken

" When one seeks the cause of the successes of great Generals, one is astonished to find that they did everything necessary to insure them"
----- Napoleon -----

THE PURPLE HEART

By Ray Freelove



Taken from Bob Bard's excellent publication
"MILITARIOT", July 1966

"The Gen'l. ever desirous to Cherish a virtuous Ambition in his Soldiers as well as to foster and encourage every species of Merit, directs that when ever any singular meritorious Action is performed the Author of it shall be permitted to wear on his Facings over the left Breast the Figure of a Heart in Purple Cloth or Silk edged with narrow Lace or Binding. Not only instances of unusual gallantry, but also of extraordinary Fidelity and essential service in any way, shall meet with a due Reward. Before this Favor can be conferred on any Man, the particular Fact or Facts on which it is to be founded, must be set forth to the Commander in Chief accompanied with a Certificate from the Commanding Officer of the Regmt and Brigade to which the Candidate for Reward belonged, or other uncontestable Proof, and upon granting it in the Name and Regmt of the Person with the Action so certified are to be enroled in the Book of Merit which will be kept at the Orderly Office. Men who have merited this last Distinction to be suffered to pass all Guards and Sentinels which Officers are permitted to do"

From the Original General Orders
issued by General George Washington
Newburgh, New York, August 1782

The Purple Heart, created by General Washington is believed to be the first Military decoration for bravery given by any country without respect to rank. Included in the order creating the award, Washington said "The road to Glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus opened to all. This order is also to have retrospect to the earliest days of the war, and to be considered as a permanent one"

Notwithstanding Washington's injunction that the award was "to be considered as a permanent one", subsequent to the Revolution the Purple Heart fell into disuse. Only three were awarded.

On the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington, February 22, 1932, the award was reinstated by the War Department "By order of the President of the United States, the Purple Heart established by George Washington at Newburgh, New York ... is hereby revived out of respect to his memory, and military achievements.

Prior to the early part of World War II and the adoption of the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart was authorized for meritorious service as well as for wounds received in action. Today, it is utilized solely as an award for wounds received in action.

Description of the present Purple Heart: Obverse - purple heart within a light bronze border, a profile of General George Washington. Above heart, shield of Washington's coat of arms between sprays of green leaves. Reverse - below shield and leaves a raised bronze heart with words "For Military Merit"

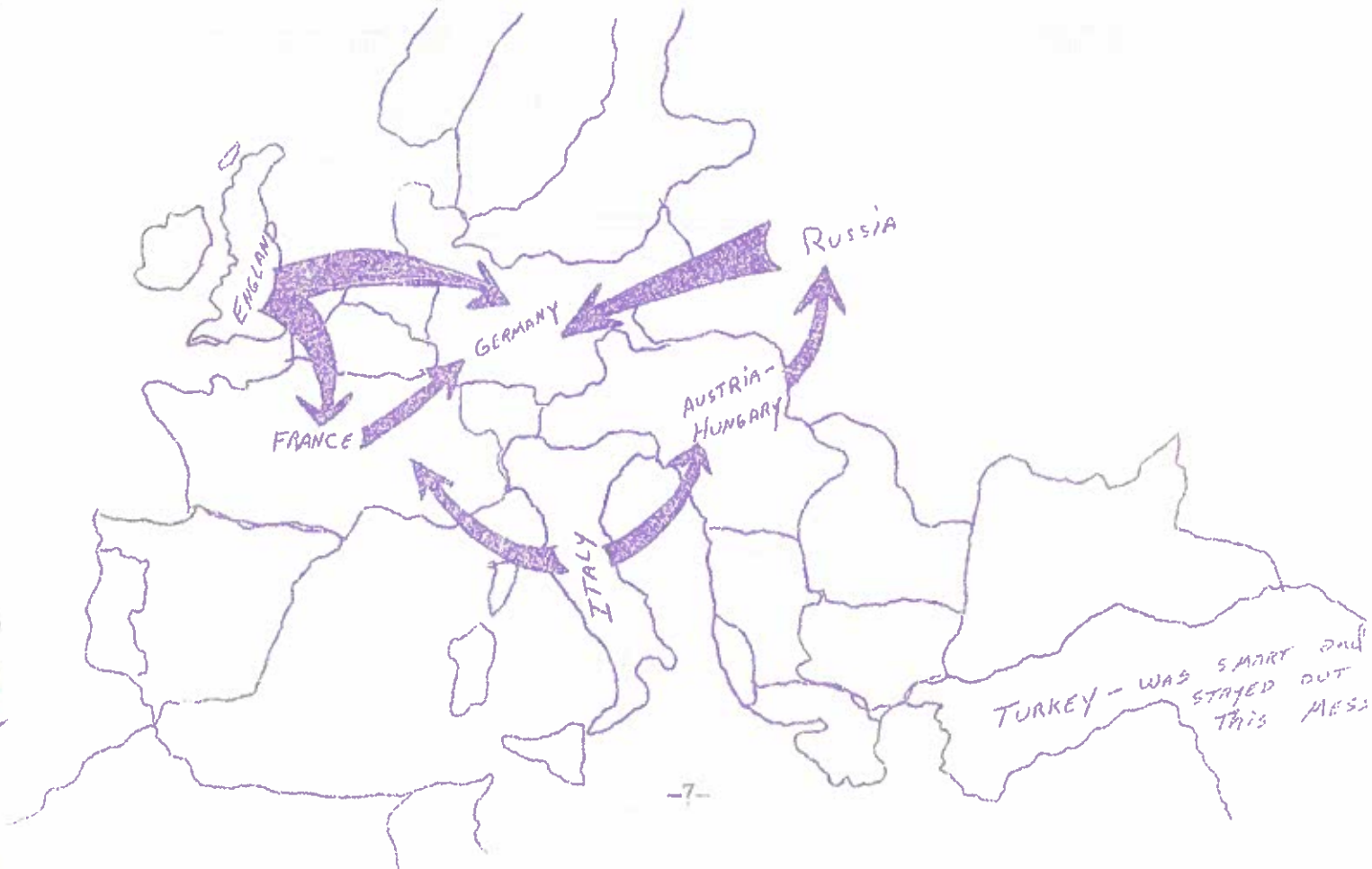
Ribbon - Purple with narrow white edges.

WAR GAME REPORTS

THE DIPLOMACY GAME OF OCTOBER 22, '66

COUNTRY	DIPLOMAT	NUMBER OF PROVINCES AT END
ENGLAND	TOM HERMAN	10
ITALY	MIKE KUHL	9
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY	AUSTIN MOORE	8
RUSSIA	DICK MOORE	3
FRANCE	DAN JONES	0
GERMANY	ED MEYERS	0

The early years of the new century saw Germany swamped by her many friends France, England and Russia. Squabbles then quickly developed. 1902 found Russia overextended into Germany and Austria- Hungary attacked her southern flank. France attempted to overwhelm Italy but was turned back. France disappeared under the heel of the Italian boot and the ash of John Bull's cigar. These steadfast allies then aided Russia in dispelling Austria-Hungary's hopes of world domination. 1906 found England dominating all of Northern Europe while Italy was still jockeying to eliminate Austria-Hungary in the south with Russian help.



Forty-two miles east of the island of Malta, a British Task Force met a combined Axis fleet and a fierce battle erupted.

The British entered the battle with the RENOWN at the head of a column, followed by the PRINCE OF WALES (P.O.W) and a cruiser destroyer force. Turning into line of Battle placed the RENOWN 35,000 yds from the KONGO and 38,000 yds from the LITTORIO. The two Battle Lines closed range; LITTORIO and KONGO concentrated their fire on the RENOWN. The RENOWN managed to reply to the AXIS guns five times before she was sunk. The RENOWN registered 80% hits from the 5 salvos she fired; most of the shells fell on the LITTORIO which was never hit after the RENOWN went down.

While the RENOWN was fighting for her life, the P.O.W. was trying to get the range on the enemy ships.

Both fleets had a light cruiser and destroyers, but they were held back while the giants exchanged blows.

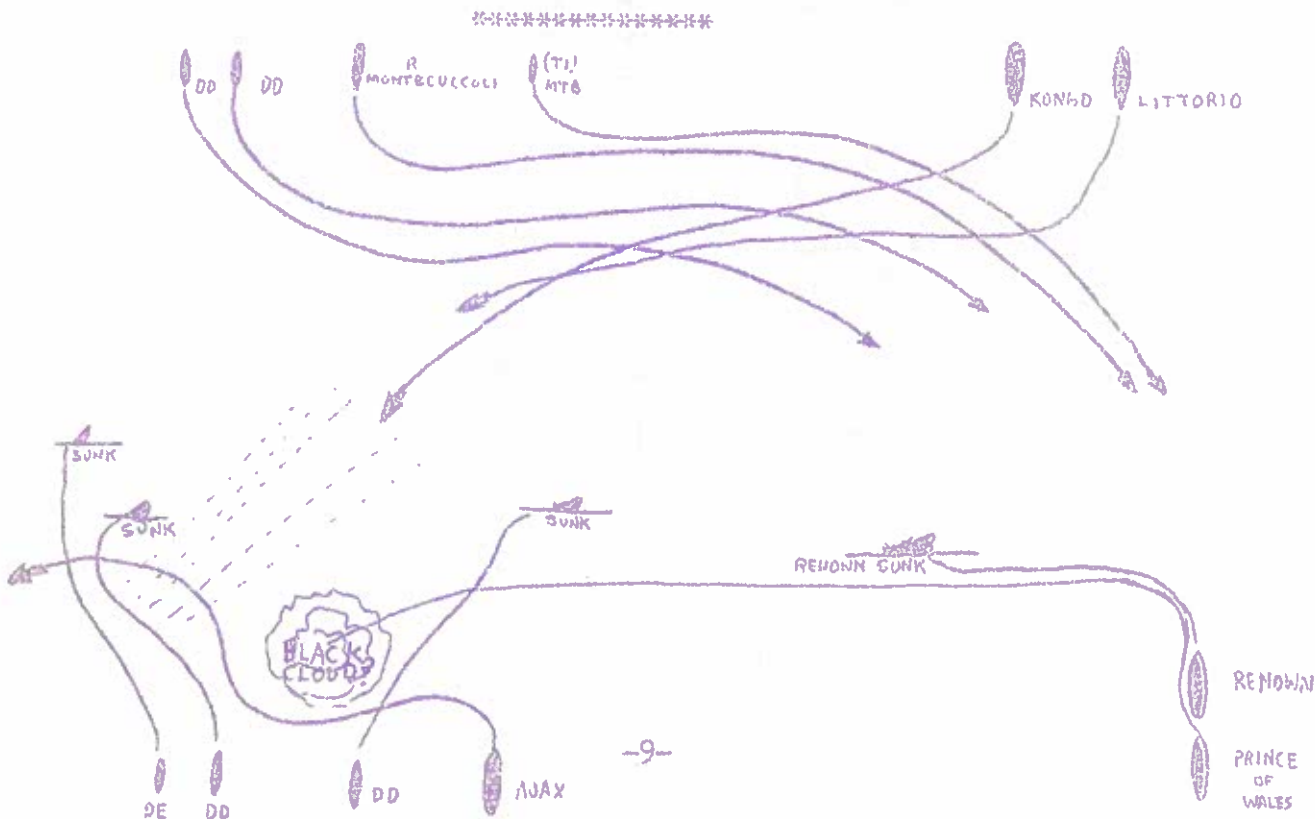
After sinking the RENOWN, both ships took on the P.O.W. The P.O.W. concentrated her guns on the KONGO, which was the nearest target. As the two Axis Battlewagons started turning, both fleet commanders sent out their lighter ships to launch torpedo attack.

The British torpedo attack came first. The danger was so great that all the Axis ships, including the light Cruiser and destroyers, had to fire at the attacking British cruiser destroyer force. This attack gave the P.O.W. a much needed breather and allowed her to score more hits on the KONGO.

All British torpedoes missed their target. The cost of the attack was a destroyer and destroyer escort sunk by the KONGO and a destroyer sunk by Kaptain Kuhls' cruiser-destroyer force. The British light cruiser AJAX retreated to Malta.

After the torpedo attack LITTORIO dropped 8 15 inch shells on the P.O.W. leaving it with 2 -4" guns and making five knots.

Then out of nowhere a huge black cloud appeared over the P.O.W. causing the AXIS to lose contact. (It was rumored that the cloud was caused by Dick Moore and Bob Jones crying)



BOOK REVIEW

THE BALLOON BUSTER by: Norman S. Hall

This is a brief biography of Frank Luke Jr., American World War I Ace. The Author fails in his attempt to depict how the Arizonian's early childhood formed a man that was the most undisciplined, wild, masterful and effective American flyer to take part in W W I.

Luke's exploits in France are legendary, however, and if the first two thirds of the book were skipped, the accounts of his combat experiences make exciting and informative reading. The author has included copies of Frank's combat reports and a tabulation of his deeds which included five kills in ten minutes and death behind enemy lines after a pistol shoot out with his would be captors.

Disappointing as the written material is, the inclusion of Luke's reports raises this book to a position worthy of attention for persons interested in this niche of history.

Reviewed by (and available from) Austin Moore

In addition to full length articles we need fillers for spaces like this one!

PARDON OUR ERRORS DEPARTMENT

Addition to the Chart "Japanere Battleships of W W II" page 5, October issue. Add 7 aircraft for the YAMATO and MUSASHI and 3 aircraft for all others. Also, on the footnote on losses add, YAMATO sunk, south of Japan, 7 April'45.

OMI NEWSLETTER

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