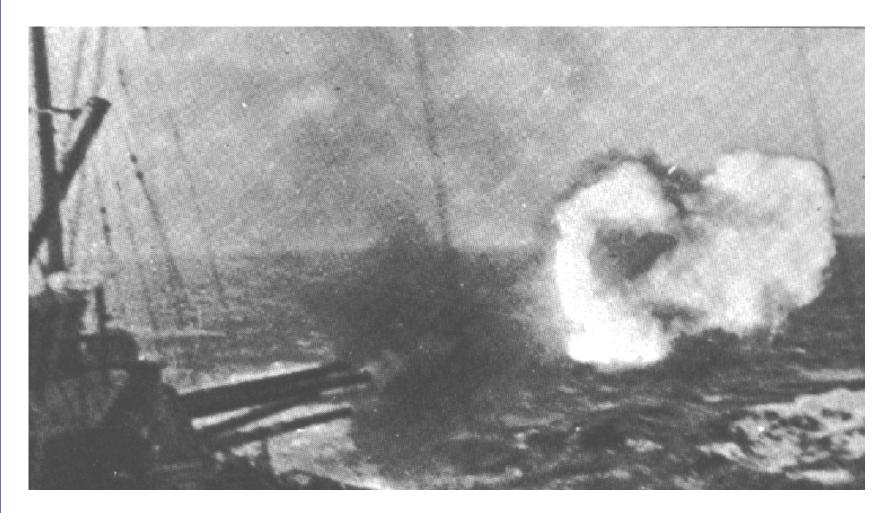


# Politics of Naval Warfare

Presentation by Admiralty Trilogy at Cold Wars '00

#### Naval Warfare



#### Now, <u>THAT'S</u> what we're talkin' about!!

Admiralty Trilogy - Politics of Naval Warfare

# "Why?"

- War is about obtaining on one side or the other, by force, the result which persuasion or diplomatic negotiations have been unable to bring about
- Questions of self-interest, disputed territory, rivalries of political influence or, economic supremacy



# "Why?" (cont)

"Nor shall we forget, among the prime causes for war, the bitter commercial strife in which all civilized nations are now engaged for the conquest of the world's trade, and the pacific appearance which masks a threatening future"

- Captain G. Darrieus, French Navy,

War on the Sea, 1908



#### Reasons to Fight

- Commerce Colonies Cash Flow
- Power Prestige Perceptions
- Suspicion Suspense Sophistry
- Economics Ego Environment



# So Why Have a Navy?

- Pursuit of national interests
  - "The future is upon the sea . . ."
  - "Millions for defence, not one cent for tribute!"
  - "The necessity of a navy springs from the existence of peaceful shipping, and disappears with it, except in the case of a nation which has aggressive tendencies, and keeps up a navy merely as a branch of the military establishment."
- Because preparing for war is like an insurance policy premium; the price you pay just in case, but hope you never have to use it.



### What does a Navy do?

- Defend or establish command of the sea
  - Freedom of navigation,
  - Security of commercial transactions,
  - Circulation of the flag, and
  - All that represents the active life of a great nation
- Destroy an enemy's ability to defend or establish command of the sea
- Command of the sea is always temporary base upon the location and forces on site

# Historical Examples

- Russo-Japanese War Gave Japan total freedom of movement and supply in Korea
- Spanish-American War Gave America control of the war (Pacific and Caribbean)
- American Civil War Union cut off supplies and support to Confederacy
- Chile-Peru War Gave Peru control of coast for movement and re-supply
- Napoleonic War(s) Permitted England to pick and choose where and when to resist Napoleon;
  and prevented invasion of England

# What Type of a Navy?

- Driven by political choices and overall warfare goals (national objectives)
- Influenced by technology, geography and cost
- Influenced by world events
- Influenced by potential adversaries and their capabilities (current and future)



# Historical Examples

- Armored Rams
- Armored Cruisers
- Battleships (pre-Dreadnoughts)
- Torpedo Craft
- Dreadnoughts
- Battle Cruisers
- Submarines
- Super-Dreadnoughts
- Aviation (Aircraft, Airships, etc.)

# Purpose of a Navy

- "To seek out the enemy, to come up with him and to beat him with superior force."
- Keys to winning a naval battle or war at sea
  - Speed of action/No waste of time
  - Taking action/Going on the offensive/Seizing the initiative
  - Proper Prior Planing and Preparation
- 'Best defense is a good offense'
- "A nation's fleets are the reflection of its naval policy . . . a bond between the execution of a naval program and the foreign policy of a country"

# Historical Examples

- Athenian Fleet against Persian Fleet at Salamis
- English Fleet against the Spanish Armada
- French Fleet versus English in American War of Independence in Chesapeake Bay
- American Fleets versus Spanish at Santiago Bay, Cuba and Manila Harbor, Philippines
- Japanese Fleet against Russians at Tsushima and Port Arthur



### How to Use a Navy

- Naval Superiority the decisive battle at sea
- Control of the Sea Lanes/Commerce Protection
- Commerce Raiding/Cruiser Warfare
- Naval Blockade
- "Power Projection" Influence ashore
  - Shore Bombardment/Interdiction
  - Amphibious Landing Support



### Historical Examples

**Big Battle** Battle of Tsushima Battle of Trafalgar English/Dutch Wars **Commerce** Protection Napoleonic Wars **Commerce Raiding** Hundred Years War American Civil War Blockade Napoleonic Wars American Civil War **Power Projection** Napoleonic Wars Crimean War



# Understanding Naval Warfare

- Navies are used to pursue national interest and objectives
- Better prepared Navies with advanced planning and doctrine win victories
- Navies are comprised of ships, which are built for a specific purpose, with specific constraints
- Destroying an enemy's Navy grants you freedom to do what you want, when you want, and where you want

### Practical Application in Gaming

- Set the stage for a battle or campaign
- Goals What do we want; why there is a war?
- Objectives Why are we fighting here?
- Who's there? Define the assets available
- Events leading up to the battle or campaign (including any "intelligence")



Put the battle scenario into perspective

#### Five Critical Parts to a Scenario

- Operational Situation
- Tactical Situation
- Forces
- Orders
- Victory Conditions

Note: Set Up and Environment are also important to the actual game play of the battle scenario, but are outside the scope of this discussion - more tactical in nature Admiralty Trilogy - Politics of Naval Warfare

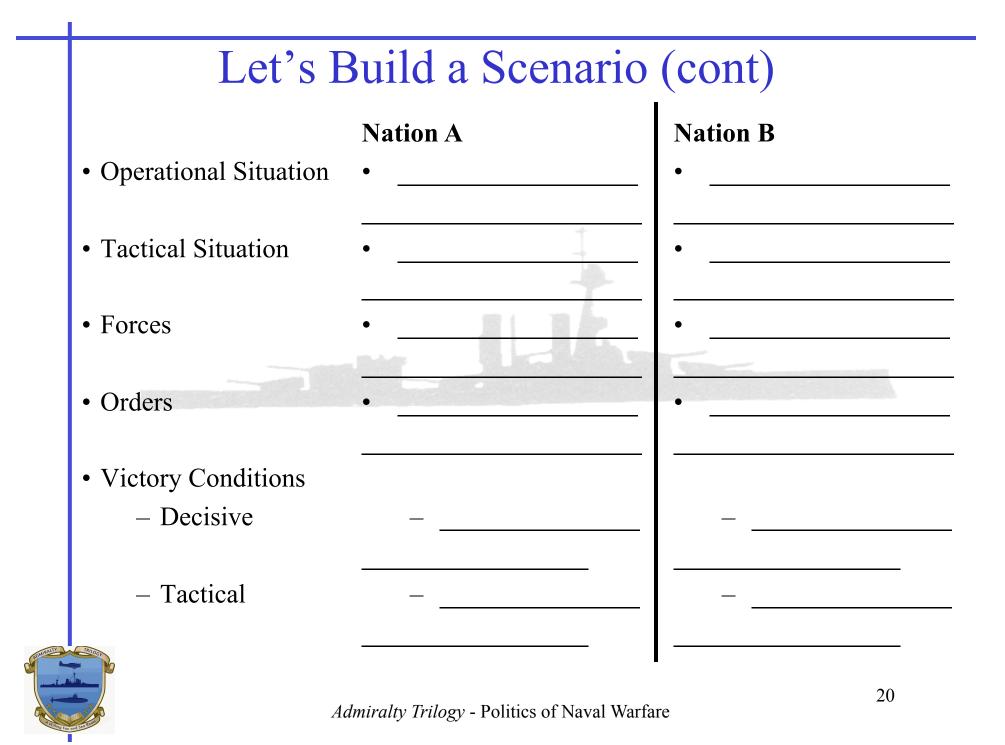
# Let's Build a Scenario

- Situation
  - Nation A wants to expand colonial possessions in South Seas as part of recent economic growth.
  - Nation B has prime island of Oz in the targeted area as long-held and profitable colony.
- National/Political Goals
  - Nation A wants to take Oz from Nation B.
  - Nation B wants to keep Oz.
- Naval Assets
  - Nation B has aging Navy; older ships used to enforce colonial dictates and protect commerce from pirates.
  - Nation A is building new warships to "protect" colonial interests.

# Let's Build a Scenario (cont)

- Geography
  - Oz is distantly located from both Nations A and B.
- Naval Objectives
  - Nation B want to defend Oz.
  - Nation A wants to achieve control of the seas.
- Recent Events
  - Nation B is mustering a Fleet in home waters to send to Oz to help resist any invasion by A.
  - Nation A is mustering a Fleet in home waters to take control of the seas and building an invasion force to conquer the colony of Oz.





	Let's Build a Scenario (cont)		
		Nation A	Nation <b>B</b>
	Operational Situation	• Fleet A and invasion force	• Fleet B enroute to Oz to
		enroute to Oz.	repel invasion force
	<ul> <li>Tactical Situation</li> </ul>	• Fleet A is hunting Fleet B	• Fleet B seeks to get
		and found it	between Fleet A and Oz
	• Forces	• 8 BB, 4 CL, 16 DD	• 8 BB, 4 CL, 16 DD
	• Orders	• Attack and destroy Fleet	• Prevent Fleet A from
		B, then land forces.	landing invasion force.
	<ul> <li>Victory Conditions</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Decisive</li> </ul>	• All BBs in Fleet B are	• All BBs in Fleet A are
		sunk/crippled (2:1)	sunk/crippled (2:1)
	– Tactical	• All BBs in Fleet B are	• Some BBs in Fleet A are
		sunk/crippled (1:1)	sunk/crippled, but at least
FOMBALTY	THEORY		4 BBs in Fleet B survive to
		<i>Admiralty Trilogy</i> - Politics of Naval Warfa	repel invasion 21

# Conclusion

- The politics of Naval Warfare provides the context for fleet engagements; it is the background and root cause for the battles that fleets must fight
- Clear objectives and orders remove ambiguity from action and clear the decks for victory
- The best scenarios are put into context; that way players understand what they need to do to win
- Players should never have to ask a question
  about what are they supposed to do

#### So Let's Get Started!

