



LETTERS

Sirs:

After a ten year absence from wargaming, a friend of mine and I purchased *BattleTech* and *Hammer's Slammers*. After merrily blasting each other to bits, we feel your magazine is going to add to campaigns of conquest. Enroll me!

—Richard Middlekauff

(subscription form enclosed)

Dear Richard;

Most happily we will enroll you. Better than that, I think we may have anticipated you a little bit. Check out the "Small Campaign BattleTech Blues" next issue. With its tables for rolling buildings, resistance, booty and possible defenders, you should be able to add a bit more to your continuing campaigns with a healthy dose of random uncertainty. Is that town down the road friendly? Did somebody sow the road with vibra-bombs? Or is there a Locust or worse lurking nearby? One never knows . . . but the dice never lie.

Dear Mr. Rogan;

What is the ship pictured on the bottom of page 189, Vol. 3, No. 3?!!

Could it be a SFIC ship?

Could it be a ship of the Loyal States Alliance?

Could it be a ship of the Chaniviev Alliance?

One quick, random thought about the ship: the warp engineering section and the engine(s) may even be U-shaped — there is an intake or flush vent in the forward part of the section, and a landing bay, clamshell doors at the rear. There may be only one rather fatter warp engine under the landing bay, or there may be two short warp engines on either side of the bay attached at the juncture of the U; or is it a "V"?

Yours very truly,
and thoughtfully,

Todd J. McDaniel

P.S.: Who designed this ship, also, please?

Glad you asked, Todd. That's the Federation-made Flammaron-class Large Research Vessel, a general-purpose exploration and scientific research vessel with labs for over 70 separate scientific disciplines. By chance, it just happens to be one of the vessels featured in "Jaynz Ships of the Galaxy" this month. It'll be easy to spot — it's the one with the pages of deck plans showing the layout in excruciating detail. Hope you like them.

To answer your other questions, the engines are indeed twin mounts, and they are in fact much shorter than is commonly seen. The Flammaron, not being a warship, need not have long nacelles with all their back-up radiators, intercoolers and ducting; like the Monarch-class merchant vessels, their engines can be much shorter. No vessel known has engines of a "U" or "V" shape, probably because there's no advantage to making them that way.

The designers are J.M. Kuzee, who produced the hull shape and configuration, and my own humble self, who provided the numbers. The deck plans are by Jason Svaib, jr., one of the guys our Art Director pals around with.

—P.R.