



Lancaster Bomber

War Front – Sun Shower by Indian Ridge

Who would have thought?

When worldclass stallion Danzig was 24 years old, he conceived what in normal circumstances could well have been career-end crop of 38 foals. Among them a bay colt named War Front, destined to become one of Danzig's most accomplished stallion-sons next to Danehill and Green Desert. Danzig wasn't finished yet by any means, having three more crops. Those included Champion Sprinter US Ranger, and Hard Spun, G1 winner and sire of G1 winners. Danzig last-ever runner came from his final crop of 25 foals, conceived at 27 years; named All Together he raced 54 times for 9 wins and half a million in earnings.

War Front was lighter raced, as a G1 placed G2 winner of 4 races in 13 starts. He retired to stud at Claiborne as a 5yo in 2007, commanding a stud fee of between \$10k to \$15k in his first five years. Today, in 2019, he's risen to become the highest priced stallion in the USA, with a fee of \$250k.

Who would have thought?

War Front should have a good few years to come, if the 'other' great Danzigs are anything to go by. Green Desert was pensioned at age 28 and died when 32. Danehill had a paddock accident which took him away prematurely when 'only' 17. War Front's legacy should last. To date he has 21 sons at stud, the majority having started their second careers between 2017 and 2019, so haven't yet had runners. Expectations are high.

An evaluation of War Front's female line suggests his SigAnc (Significant female line Ancestor) to be 6th dam Sunny Vale, who features prominently in the kin-breeding of his best runners.

Another G1 producing sire from War Front's female line is Dynaformer, who has Sunny Vale as his 4th dam. Dynaformer and sisters have a startling presence in highclass War Front runners.

Gr1 winning siblings Lines Of Battle (named Helene Super Star in Hong Kong) and full sister War Flag are out of the mare Black Speck, half sister by Arch to Dynaformer.

Gr1 placed Gr1 winner Homesman is out of My Annette, half sister by Red Ransom to Dynaformer. Homesman's 3-part brother US Ranger, twice Champion European Sprinter, is from Danzig's second last crop.

The dam of Gr1 winner Fog Of War is by Galileo out of Riskaverse, a daughter of Dynaformer from the Missy Baba female line.

The dam of Royal Artillery, Gr2/Gr3 placed in UK and France and now a stallion at stud in USA, is by Dynaformer.

All of which might be more than mere coincidence.

Following the SigAnc trail, Sunny Vale is close kin to Lady Lawless (SigAnc in the female line of Missy Baba/Lassie Dear), to Change Water (female line of Fall Aspen), Con Game (female line of Seeking The Gold).

Sunny Vale, her daughter Secret Valley and that one's daughter Secret Promise (all in War Front's bottom line) are all three close kin to stallion Bold Reason. The latter is a noted influence in the pedigree of Sadler's Wells, which adds another piece to the War Front puzzle.

Gr1 full siblings US Navy Flag and Roly Poly are by War Front out of a mare by Galileo (Sadler's Wells), and are bottom-line kinbred Sunny Vale x Burgoon Maid (female line also of Jungle Cove).

Gr1 full siblings Brave Anna and Hit It A Bomb are by War Front out of a mare by Sadler's Wells, and are bottom-line kinbred Sunny Vale x Evening Belle.

2yo Gr1 winner Fog Of War (current 3yo) is by Galileo out of Riskaverse (Dynaformer) from the Missy Baba female line – combining the best of all worlds.

On to Lancaster Bomber.

Most notable of his female line ancestors is the mare Fantan, his 6th dam. She's a daughter of Ambiorix, and is closely kinbred through that stallion's dam Lavendula, 2nd dam

PICK OF THE BUNCH

Suitable mares for Lancaster Bomber could include

Sunny Vale's female line descendants, incl Dynaformer (Admiral Kitten, Rock Of Rochelle), Albert Hall;

Sunny Vale's kin-links, incl Missy Baba/Lassie Dear (Sportsworld, Al Mufti, Captain Al, Duke Of Marmalade, etc., etc), Change Water (Fall Aspen, Fort Wood, Cozzene (Jackson, Noordhoek Flyer), Laramie Trail), Con Game (Seeking The Gold (Windrush, Lecture, Willow Magic, Erupt), Burgoon Maid (Jungle Cove), Bold Reason (Sadler's Wells (notably Fort Wood, Vision Of Clarity (Pathfork), etc.;

Tourbillon (widespread, notably Joy, Djebel, Ambiorix);

Marchetta female line descendants, notably through Sweet Lavender/Lavendula (notably Dynasty, but widespread), Turn To (Sir Gaylord, Hail To Reason), Aurora (Alycidon, Acropolis (Fort Wood's son Horse Chestnut, Toreador), Borealis (Right Approach), and also leading to Fantan descendants, incl Politician, Sweet Turn (Jessamine (The Sheik by Al Mufti), etc), Ragusa.

Sweet Lavender and 3rd dam Marchetta. All three prominent elements in modern day pedigrees.

The kin-breeding comes through Lancaster Bomber's SigAnc Jug Of Wine, who continues to feature in the kin-breeding along the bottom-line – in Lancaster Bomber's highclass 4th dam Mariel (Relko) and her multiple Gr1 winning daughter Sarah Siddons (Le Levanstell).

Back to Fantan, who also is the dam of full siblings Ragusa and Ofa, by Ribot. Ragusa was a topclass racehorse (rated Timeform 137), and is sire of sires. Ofa is grandam of South African champion Politician and of the mare Sweet Turn, whose female descendants are widespread in SA.

Lancaster Bomber's 3rd dam Sarah Siddons (rated 122) left an impressive legacy. Her daughter Princess Patti (TFR 124) won the Irish Oaks, and had Gr2 placed son Parthian Springs (Sadler's Wells) to become a stallion.

Sarah Siddons's son Seymour Hicks (TFR 125), a Gr2 winner and subsequent stallion, was by Ballymore – son of Ragusa, making for close inbreeding to Fantan. Seymour's full sister Gertrude Lawrence was unraced grandam of European Champion 3yo filly Leggera (TFR 125), by Sadler's Wells.

It may be of significance that Sarah Siddons's pedigree shows a strong influence of Tourbillon, from her sire le Levanstell, damsire Relko and Fantan's sire Ambiorix.

An added note about US Classic candidate War Of Will, by War Front out of Visions Of Clarity. The latter is by Sadler's Wells, has doubles of Turn To and Djeddah, and is close kin to War Front's grandam Lara's Star. War Of Will is half brother to Pathfork, whose daughters therefore might suit Lancaster Bomber.

Where from here

The two halves of the pedigree of Lancaster Bomber give a variety of options.

War Front leads to Sunny Vale descendants, notably Dynaformer (quite rare in SA; in Admiral's Kitten, Rock Of Rochelle) and Albert Hall. War Front also leads to Sunny Vale kin-links, as in Missy Baba/Lassie Dear (descendants aplenty in SA), Change Water (Fall Aspen, dam of Fort Wood), Con Game (Seeking The Gold), Burgoon Maid (Jungle Cove). Then there the strong link with Bold Reason, leading to Sadler's Wells. Note Admiral Kitten's sire Kitten's Joy, by El Prado (Sadler's Wells) with dam from female line of Portage (dam of Change Water, leading to Fort Wood, by Sadler's Wells).

Coolmore's interest in War Front will no doubt results in a high number of mares with Sadler's Wells/Galileo with War Front offspring in years to come. That will tell us more.

The female line of Lancaster Bomber leads to Marchetta/Sweet Lavender/Lavendula, which is widespread in SA, and also includes Source Sucree, Perfume, and stallion Turn To (with sons Sir Gaylord, Hail To Reason). Interesting in this respect is Dynasty, by Fort Wood, and with grandam Joy Petite bringing Tourbillon and Lavendula doubles. Other Marchetta descendants include Aurora, the dam of Alycidon, Acropolis (in Horse Chestnut, Toreador), Borealis (in Right Approach).

Fantan leads to Politician's offspring, and to Sweet Turn descendants, notably Jessamine, but widespread