

Scene opens in the Secretary of War's office. Drinkard is idling time. President Buchanan rushes in.

PRESIDENT

Drinkard, an American army has landed on disputed territory-- And it happened five weeks ago. (Thrusts the paper at him.)

(In panic): We must get a commanding general out there--on San Juan Island--before England invades--if it hasn't already! (Every word emphasized): I am responsible to preserve the peace until the question of ownership is resolved.

DRINKARD

My God. Mr. President, whom would you suggest?

PRESIDENT

God!

DRINKARD (dryly)

Scott might be more available.

PRESIDENT

The people will certainly accept Scott, but Harney is in command out there. Will he?

DRINKARD

(firmly) Scott is his superior. Harney will acknowledge that.

PRESIDENT

Harney generally only acknowledges Harney.

DRINKARD

This time, Mr. President, Harvey will acknowledge someone else--and it's going to be Scott.

PRESIDENT

How long will it take him to get there?

DRINKARD

They say it takes about 5 weeks. And Scott is 72 years old.

PRESIDENT

God, have mercy.

BLACK OUT

STATION BREAK?



Scene opens with Ent galloping across the land. As he nears the group of men (Hubbs, McKay, Cutlar, Oaks--possibly include Pickett and army), he holds a newspaper high and yells. All look. Ent halts quickly, dismounts and runs to give Hubbs the newspaper.

HUBBS

(Looks quickly at headline, then reads even more quickly, gulping the news down. He gasps and all the men wait.) Hubbs: (shaken): Austria--Austria won the war for us!

MEN

Austria? How. (laugh).

HUBBS (looking at paper, then back up disbelievingly)

By losing to France. They say Austria supplies the world with victories -- Europe can count on her losing almost every battle.* This time Austria lost--for us! (Look). (Holds out newspaper.)

(Note to writer: Develop political problem in more detail here.)

MEN

Yeah, so what?

HUBBS

The articles were about Austria's battle at Solferino. Austria lost. If it hadn't produced a loss, England would have been at war.

CUTLAR

Ah, she couldn't handle two wars.

HUBBS

Yeah. The British here didn't know for sure what was going to happen. So they restrained their fire.

CUTLAR

(rising to his feet). God save the Queen. (laughter)

OAKS

She's already saved. Let him save us. (more laughter).

ENT

Ain't he already done that (fumbles for time) . . . 'round 1800 years ago?
(Men somewhat shocked) (Some laughter) (Cutlar rolls eyes upward; takes deep bow.)

MC KAY

Guess his shingle is still hangin' out there, (laughter)

CUTLAR

Hope so. I've got a lot of business for him. (laughter).



MC KAY

(After noise has subsided): I wonder what's goin' ta' happen next.

OAKS

Ain't enough happened already?

MC KAY

Yeah, I reckon we could use a little less happenin'.

HUBBS

That's why General Scott is sitting over at Port Townsend. He'd like a little less happenin' around here, too.

OAKS

We'll probably get even more protection, so less can happen.

ENT

Like the British Royal Marines.

HUBBS

Yeah. I wonder how Scott's going to react.

SLOW DISSOLVE

Scene opens on Scott reading the reports. Looks stern and closes the book with a slam.

Damn!
Lieutenant.

Yes, Sir!

Ever heard of patriotism? *

Yes, Sir.

Ever heard of indiscretion?*

(Nods affirmatively)

Never combine the two. Combustibles.* Very combustible materials.

Yes, Sir.

(Thinking) (Then) I'll have a letter to dictate.

The lieutenant scrawls . . . as Scott talks.)

(very slowly) To His Excellency, James Douglas, Esquire, Governor of the Colony of Vancouver's Island.

The undersigned, lieutenant general and commander in chief of the United States Army . . . submits to His Excellency . . . the following proposition.

(Scott waits as camera takes CU of Lieutenant writing.)



SCOTT

(Slow, measured tones) It is proposed . . . that each nation . . . shall occupy a separate portion of San Juan Island . . . a force not exceeding one hundred men . . .

(As he talks his voice will gradually be phased out)

for the equal protection of their respective countrymen in their persons

(audio out at approximately word countrymen.)

(See full text of letter below.)

DISSOLVE

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY
Fort Townsend, October 25, 1859.

The undersigned, lieutenant general and commanding in chief the army of the United States, having been drawn to this frontier by the apprehension of some untoward collision of arms between the forces of the United States and those of Great Britain in and about the island of San Juan, the sovereignty of which is claimed by both nations, does not hesitate, in the great interests of peace assumed to be as important to one party as the other, at once to submit for the consideration of his excellency the following proposition, to serve as a basis for the temporary adjustment of any present difficulty, until the two governments shall have time to settle the question of title diplomatically.

Without prejudice to the claim of either nation to the sovereignty of the entire island of San Juan, now in dispute, it is proposed that each shall occupy a separate portion of the same by a detachment of infantry, riflemen, or marines, not exceeding one hundred men, with their appropriate arms only, for the equal protection of their respective countrymen in their persons and property, and to repel any descent on the part of hostile Indians.

In modification of this basis any suggestion his excellency may think necessary, or any addition he may propose, will be respectfully considered by the undersigned.

This communication will be handed to his excellency by Lieutenant Colonel Lay, and aidecamp of the undersigned, who has the honor to subscribe himself.

With high respect, his excellency's obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT

His excellency, James Douglas, Esq., C.B.,
Governor of the Colony of Vancouver's Island
and its dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

Dissolve to Steve shown dropping his gun -- wipes brow.

Juan de Fuca resheathes his sword.

Whew!

STEVE

Mon Dieu! Back to King Arthur's table.

DE FUCA

You know him?

STEVE

By reputation,

DE FUCA

It'll take more than his table for this. (Pause) We could try Pickett. He just got a new shipment of vegetables.

STEVE

(Looking down) (Wistfully): I see them. Let's use that rock for a negotiation table. See what it gets us.

DE FUCA

I'm afraid another war. Look, the British Royal Marines are setting up camp on the north side of San Juan

STEVE

And Pickett is on the south side. (Starts toward rock.) This could be a verbal siege. Are we down to mutton?

BEGIN DISSOLVE TO NEXT SCENE

Yeah . . . and the sentries are beginning to march.

STEVE

I'm afraid it's going to be a long one. Harney's decoy didn't work. There is war.

DE FUCA

AUDIO (Voices - cries - all muffled)

(sadly) The Civil War.

STEVE

Civil? War is never civil. And this boundary line will still be a question.

DE FUCA

He settles down

DISSOLVE TO MARCHING SOLDIERS



During this interval, camera pans in on the two American soldiers marching.
And on British sentries. The soldiers march for this 12-year period.

The voices tumble over each other in haste and anxiety.

VOICES

- o There's a civil war going on, don't ya' know?
- o There's no time to settle that boundary issue.
- o Arbitration. Arbitration.
- o It is not the policy of the United States to arbitrate in matters of territorial dispute.
- o The King of Sardinia would be a good choice.
- o The senate has adjourned. It did not ratify the question of the water boundary.
- o We're at war. Don't ya' know?
- o The Senate will discuss no other business than that related to the civil war.
- o Let the King of the Netherlands arbitrate.
- o I say the King of Prussia.
- o England has declared neutrality.
- o Yah? Well, her ships haven't. They're sinking the north's merchant fleet.
- o Refer the matter to the President of the Federal Council of Switzerland.
- o No, the King of Norway and Sweden.
- o Major General George Pickett led the charge at Gettysburg.
- o But the south lost anyway.
- o Hoorah, the north has won.
- o Charge England.
- o Charge England? We'll just annex Canada for compensation.
- o Then we won't have to settle the San Juan boundary.
- o Canada objects.
- o Get the King of Italy to arbitrate. BEGIN SLOW DISSOLVE
- o Get any friendly sovereign.
- o The Senate won't ratify anything.
- o We'll buy San Juan Island.

MERGE



OVERLAY: SECRETARY OF STATE, HAMILTON FISH?

Scene opens from a dissolve from soldiers and shouting voices to Fish shouting for order (has gavel)

FISH

Order. Order in the country.

(still loudly) We will call a (each word emphatic) joint high commission to settle all questions of the Civil War and . . . the northwest ^{water} boundary.

VOICES

Can anything be settled?

STENTORIAN ENGLISH VOICE

Appoint Lord DeGrey!

FADE OUT



In contrast to the last scene this begins very quietly:

The two men are sitting informally by Fish's fireplace. They talk as if a heated discussion has been going on for quite awhile but now they are quite genial; they understand each other very well.

LORD DE GREY

(decided tone) Arbitration, Mr. Fish.

FISH

Arbitration? (Incredulously) Do you think we need an arbitrator to tell us what we said in 1846? *

LORD DE GREY

Apparently. I must tell you Fish that Britain will not cede San Juan Island any other way. Britain will not sell it--she won't sell British Columbia--that you want so very much. Britain will not trade San Juan--not even for a section of Alaska.

FISH

(resignedly) We could abrogate the treaty and negotiate the border afresh. Britain could cede all of Canada. Why don't you call a referendum? *

DE GREY

(Indignantly but somewhat humorously) Is that what you did before the Civil War for the south?

FISH

(Looks the other way to hide his embarrassment). (Then turning back, begins slowly):

Lord De Grey, President Grant said he would agree to arbitration only as a last resort, and only if all other problems from the Civil War are resolved--all of them. And, furthermore, (each word emphatically said) we will only consider arbitration if only two channels are suggested--Haro or Rosario.

DE GREY

But that is not normal procedure in arbitration.

FISH

That will be the procedure of the United States.

DE GREY

(Slowly rising) (Disappointed . . . but resigned): (slowly) I shall consult the government of Great Britain.

FADE OUT



JUAN DE FUCA

That did it. That . . . is . . . a . . . fish with a hook in his mouth.

STEVE

What do you mean?

DE FUCA

Fish persuaded De Grey to restrict the choice between Rosario or Haro Channels because he knew any arbitrator would select the San Juan Channel.

(De Fuca takes out a map.)

STEVE

Where'd you get that map? It's modern.

DE FUCA

You forget, I have access to the finest libraries.

STEVE

Yah, then you should have the finest explanation.

DE FUCA

I do. Usually an arbitrator may select a choice of his own if he feels the options given were not suitable. In this case, there is some valid problem with each channel. Naturally, the arbitrator then would select the middle channel because -- because it's a compromise and legally correct.

(De Fuca indicates with his finger:) Here's Haro. Here's Rosario. And here is the correct one: the middle channel. It's between the disputed area.

STEVE

Ah, Fish knew it. I see. And then San Juan would be lost to the United States. By restricting the choices, he has taken a gamble.

DE FUCA

A big one. And he's still got an ace left.

FADE OUT

Fish and Lord de Grey have just arrived. Fish takes off his gloves; de Grey, his frock coat.

FISH

(exultantly) We did it. The Commission is finished and the claims are ready for settlement. I'm sorry, de Grey. It was the Alabama that was the big problem. But it sank our merchant fleet.

DE GREY

The Alabama was a problem. But now it's the arbitration of San Juan Island, England's point of honor. (Pause) By the way, you gave England the right to select the nominees for arbitration. We grant you the right of final choice.

FISH

Ah - yes.

DE GREY

(more formal tone): You gave us a choice of the Czar of Russia, the King of Brazil or the German Emperor. England has narrowed the choice to two: Brazil or Germany. The United States may choose between those.

FISH

(very slowly) The United States will . . . choose . . . Kaiser Wilhelm I of Germany.

FADE OUT



JUAN De Fuca

(Gets up from a sitting posture.) Starts collecting his things.

STEVE

(shoving his gun back into a sack). (Half panicky): Where are you going?

De Fuca

To Germany, of course.

Steve

How'll you get there?

De Fuca

With my ship. 'Think I'll try out the new Panama Canal.

Steve

Won't going by ship be a little slow? (Smiles)

De Fuca

Slow? It's taken 12 years just to get an arbitrator. Besides I can get some sailing in.
(Pause) Say, what about some sandwiches?

Steve

(Bustles about in his sack.) (Hands DeFuca several.) That's enough for three years.

DeFuca

Mutton?

Steve

(Looks at label on deFuca's sack.) No, Pork. (Looks again.) Salted, vintage 1859.

DeFuca

(Grimaces as he realizes what pork it is, drops sack.) I'll take the date, instead, if you please.

Steve (Grins)

(Looks at watch). It's August 1871. (Squints): And the Kaiser's just accepted the arbitration request. Ya' better get going.

De Fuca

(Starts rather hurriedly down the rocks.) Steve waves and as DeFuca disappears, becomes wistful and somewhat sad. (Fade Out on Steve.)

OVERLAY: WHITE HOUSE, AUGUST, 1871

More formal setting. Grant and Fish are both seated. Grant is just handing Fish a memo. Grant is very relaxed.

GRANT

Here it is, Fish. You did it.

FISH

(reads aloud) The German Emperor is pleased to accept the invitation of her Britannic Majesty and the United States to decide finally and without appeal which of the claims, Rosario or Haro Straits, is most in accord with the terms of the treaty of 1846.

CUT TO EXULTANT EXPRESSION ON FISH'S FACE.

GRANT

(leans back in chair) So, what are our chances?

FISH

It was Bancroft's suggestion that we select the German Emperor. I hope he is right.

GRANT

. . . and our chances?

FISH

One problem was our neutrality in the Franco-Prussian war. We could not forget that France helped us in the revolution. But I did write a very sympathetic letter to Prussia.

GRANT

. . . And?

FISH

(more hopefully) Germany is struggling to get ahead in the industrial revolution. So are we. Germany envies Britain's colonies and admires our tenacity.

GRANT

What about Bismarck?

FISH

Bismarck? (Smiles.) He loves America.

GRANT

Won't he influence the Kaiser on our behalf?

FISH

The Kaiser is said to be a man of absolute integrity. He won't allow Bismarck to do that. It's said that the Kaiser can't be bought.



GRANT

What about Bancroft? Isn't he friendly with the Kaiser?

FISH

Yes, and Bancroft wrote that we should not worry about the San Juan issue. He's going (smiling) to present our case in English and German--with gilt bindings, he said.

GRANT

(laughs) The gilt bindings will decide the case in our favor, I'm sure. Who's presenting the English case?

FISH

Captain James Prevost, one of the boundary commissioners. He knows every rock in those channels. (Pause) But he doesn't know German.

GRANT

I hope he doesn't find out about the gilt bindings.

FISH

(chuckles). (more slowly) There is one more problem, Mr. President.

GRANT

Yes?

FISH

The Kaiser's son, Crown Prince Frederick, is married to Queen Victoria's daughter.

GRANT

(Leaning forward) Ah, so that's it. Whether that blood will be thicker than the waters of the Haro Channel.

BLACK OUT

OVERLAY: BERLIN, 1872
Unknown to each other, Juan de Fuca and Steve have both arrived at the Kaiser-
schloss in Berlin.

Juan de Fuca is anxiously coming down the steps. Steve is running up--a map
in his hand.

Both confront each other with surprised joy.

Steve! JUAN DE FUCA

Captain! STEVE

How'd you get here? Why? DE FUCA

STEVE
The how, later. Why? The Kaiser's going to need a pen--to sign the arbitration.
(Takes one out.)

DE FUCA
(gasps). It's one of Griffin's.

STEVE
I took the last one. But we gotta' hurry. The rebuttals are on.

DE FUCA
Hurry? This palace is over 600 feet in length--and I've lost my latitude
reading.

~~STEVE~~ *de Fuca*
(Holding map): We're at 52 degrees, 32 minutes and 5 seconds. We should be at
6 seconds--that should be about two corridors north. Come on.

DE FUCA
(Following rapidly):

Scene opens in palatial, stately surroundings at the end of the presentation of the rebuttals to the American and British cases.

The first chamberlain is now ready to present the final participants.

CHAMBERLAIN

(loud voice): Your Imperial Majesty, Mr. George Bancroft, American Ambassador to Berlin.

BANCROFT

(Advances to proper place): Your majesty, I present to you the rebuttal of the United States government to the case of the government of Her Britannic Majesty. (Hands the case to the first chamberlain who places it on the desk in front of the Emperor.) The United States of America proudly claims Haro Channel as that channel most in accord with the Treaty of 1846. (Bancroft slowly bows and waits, standing erectly.)

CHAMBERLAIN

(loud voice) Your Imperial Majesty, Captain James Prevost of the Royal Britannica Navy.

PREVOST

(Advances to proper place): (Majestically): The government of Her Britannic Majesty, in pursuance of Article XXXVI of the Treaty of Washington of 1871, have drawn up and now lay before his Majesty the German Emperor as Arbitrator--the second and definitive statement, in reply to the case presented in the name of the United States government. * (Prevost hands case to the chamberlain who places it on the desk). (As he does): God save the Queen!

KAISER

(Looks from one to the other.) (Looks at the cases.) (Very much perplexed.)

SCENE SLOWLY DISSOLVES

to

KAISER (Alone)

(Mumbling): God save the King . . . (looking up) (Then down at the cases) from this situation.

(Begins to pace floor.)

DISSOLVE



Juan de Fuca and Steve are shown sitting or leaning in the alcove above the Kaiser's salon.

JUAN DE FUCA

(shakes his head)

Decisions. Queen Victoria's husband was Albert the Good--of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. And her daughter, Victoria, is married to even more of Germany, the Kaiser's son!

STEVE

You mean, Crown Prince Frederick--the better, no doubt.

JUAN DE FUCA

Not for you . . . in this situation. The princess favors Britain, of course . . . and the prince favors the princess.

DISSOLVE TO KAISER STILL PACING THE FLOOR--

RETURN DISSOLVE TO DeFuca/Steve

DE FUCA

(continuing as though there had been no interruption)

And Bismarck will be no help. The chancellor loves everything American. He'd settle the case in a second--in favor of the United States . . .

STEVE

And wrap the decision in gilt bindings.

DISSOLVE TO KAISER STILL pacing

VOICEOVER

DE FUCA

He can't decide.

STEVE

(pensively): He can't--yet. He doesn't have Griffin's pen.

DISSOLVE



Scene dissolves into Kaiser now standing quietly in front of the table, a pen in his hand.

He fingers the pen--checks the point--looks at a document--bends over to sign it-- (pause). Straightens up thoughtfully.

KAISER

(starts pacing again): Ach, it is difficult being a king under a chancellor like Bismarck.* And worse being Emperor.

(more thoughts). Yet these governments have trusted me . . . to decide this boundary line in an unarbitrary fashion. (more pacing).

(Stops, stands erectly): It is not my decision, nor my sentiments.

(Straightens up, stops pacing and rings a bell firmly.)

CHAMBERLAIN

(The chamberlain comes hurriedly in.) Your Majesty?

KAISER

(In a commanding voice): In the name of the German government, secure for me the best legal experts in the country . . . two jurists and one cartographer.

CHAMBERLAIN

Of course, your Imperial Majesty. They will be at your command.

(Bows and begins to leave)

FADE OUT

Scene opens in the same alcove as before. Steve and deFuca expel a lot of suspense.

JUAN DE FUCA

Whew! A panel. The escape hatch. What's the date, Stefano?

STEVE

(looking at watch): Why, it's July 3, 1872 . . . it's been 13 years since . . . McKay and Hubbs came back with the flag.

DE FUCA

(Uses glass): I can't tell if the soldiers are still marching or not.

DISSOLVE To soldiers marching in a very tired fashion.

STEVE

(Looks) They're marching--they're just getting a little tired after 12 years. (Then down at salon): Captain! They're selecting the experts.

DE FUCA

(Also looking down at salon): Ah, Bismarck's been around, I bet. It says the Kaiser will personally await the report of the panel. (Further scrutiny) (more slowly): They have . . . three months . . . to study the issue.

STEVE

We've studied it for 26 years. Huh, I guess we can wait three more months. (Puts head back on pillar) (Sounding bored). Who'd they get?

DE FUCA

(looking down): Dr. Ferdinance Grimm, Vice President of the Supreme Court of Berlin -- was a University of Bonn professor.

SHOT: LONG, THEN CLOSE UP OF GRIMM

STEVE

Hm'm. Not bad. Who's the distinguished one?

DE FUCA

(peers). Let me see. That's Professor Heinrich Kiepert! He's published three atlases - studied under Karl Ritter and is chair of Geography at the University of Berlin.

SHOT: LONG, THEN CLOSE UP SHOT OF KIEPERT.



STEVE
That guy's going to go places. Who's the third?

De FUCA
Oh -- uh-hh.

STEVE
Oh! (Looks down). But who is he?

DE FUCA
That's Dr. Levin Goldschmidt from Danzig . . . a jurist . . . was a professor at Heidelberg. Now he's a member of the Supreme Court of Commerce of the Reich.

LONG, THEN CLOSE UP SHOT OF GOLDSCHMIDT. DeFuca: Brilliant guy.

STEVE
But we've got to wait 3 months for his brilliance. (Tries to get settled more comfortably.)

DE FUCA
It should be a short 3 months. The German makes a career out of being on time. (Then happily enthused that Steve is there): How'd you do it? How'd you get here?

STEVE
Pan American.

DE FUCA
What is that?

STEVE
(laughs): It's a 20th century device . . . to fly. How about your trip?

DE FUCA
Nostalgic . . . but there were heavy seas. Think I'll go back by light waves.

STEVE
Light? (Pause) Say, you are always going to tell me about where . . .

DE FUCA
I came from. Yeah. Boy, there we have the most advanced equipment.

STEVE
We?

DE FUCA
Yeah, I owe allegiance to another king, now.

STEVE
(persistently) Which king?

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DE FUCA
One that's out of this world. (Pause) Skilled in mediation . . . arbitration.

STEVE
Well, what does he arbitrate?

DE FUCA
The most difficult situation of all -- between God and man. ^{Person} (Suddenly): Stefano,
the panel is ready. I told you it would be fast.

STEVE
(Rises partly up from his seat. Looks down.) Captain (shocked). Captain!
Even . . . they . . . don't . . . agree. It's unbelievable!

DISSOLVE

Rev. 9-25-85

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Ferdinand Grimm, Prof. Heinrich Kiepert, Dr. Leven Goldschmidt
 Scene opens with panel seated. The discussion has already been in progress.
 All three are rather grave.

DR. GRIMM

(sighs). Gentlemen, I had hoped we would have a unanimous opinion to present to the Kaiser, but I see, Dr. Goldschmidt, after analyzing your report, that we do not.

DR. GOLDSCHMIDT

Dr. Grimm, I analyzed our commission carefully and interpreted it to mean that we were to determine only the true sense of the treaty. If the wording is clear, as it exists, no further clarification is needed.

PROFESSOR KIEPERT

But the wording is not clear. The two governments have haggled over 13 words since 1846. And it is still ambiguous.

DR. GOLDSCHMIDT

Perhaps not. The treaty of 1846 required two things: 1) that the boundary line begin at the 49th parallel, and 2) that it would go southerly through the middle of the channel that separates the continent from Vancouver's Island.

PROFESSOR KIEPERT

Correct. And the Gulf of Georgia which is at the 49th parallel extends about 1/4 of a degree south.

DR. GOLDSCHMIDT

Exactly. (Takes Vancouver's map). Allow me to show you . . . Even tho' the maps of that time were defective, it does show that the Gulf of Georgia is the body of water at the 49th parallel.

(Traces lines as he talks): Notice that only the Gulf of Georgia actually separates the continent from Vancouver's Island. The Rosario Channel divides the mainland from other islands (as well as Vancouver's) . . . (pause) and Haro Channel only separates Vancouver's Island from other islands.

In addition, the treaty requires that the line go southerly through the middle of the channel that separates the continent from Vancouver's Island. Only the middle channel fulfills that. Haro veers slightly westerly . . . and Rosario slightly easterly before continuing south. In any event, the legal and mathematical middle line would be this third channel. (emphatically) And that would leave this contested island, San Juan, to the British.

(Possible reaction shot to Steve.)

DR. GRIMM

(draws breath): But we are bound by the terms of our agreement to decide only between Haro or Rosario--which of those two are most in accordance with the true interpretation of the treaty?

PROF. KIEPERT

Piggish parties, what?

GRIMM

(chuckle). Doesn't that remind you of some other country? (Hastily) But, excuse the digression?

Ah, gentlemen, we must decide between one or the other. (To Dr. Goldschmidt): Dr. Goldschmidt, Professor Kiepert and I also agree that the middle channel most fulfills the sense of the treaty. But we have promised a decision.

GOLDSCHMIDT

But when in doubt (and you must agree, in this case, there is much doubt), the interpretation must be in favor of equal treatment of both parties. I say neither of the channels given us for consideration is in accord with the wording of the treaty. *

(There is a moment of rather shocked silence.)

GRIMM

But we have not been given the normal privileges of international law -- to determine a new or alternate boundary line.

GOLDSCHMIDT

Should we take the steps necessary to get a new treaty to include that option?

GRIMM

Neither country requested it. Odd.

KIEPERT

The border problem began in 1818. It's now 1872. Maybe if England and the United States wait 50 more years, they may have a boundary line.

(chuckles)

GRIMM

Both countries want a decision now. And it is to be final and without appeal.

✓ (softer voice). There is historical evidence in favor of Haro Channel. Even before the treaty was written, the American Ambassador in London wrote to Secretary of State Buchanan that the boundary line would probably go through Haro Strait.

GOLDSCHMIDT

Had it only been written in the treaty.

GRIMM

The result desired by both high contracting powers is to see the controversy ended. If we request another arbitration treaty . . . the objective would not be attained.

(Pause) Dr. Goldschmidt, in this situation that confines us to a choice none of us likes, what is your decision?

GOLDSCHMIDT

If the treaty confines us only to a decision between Haro and Rosario Channels, I would agree that Haro has a slight technical advantage. If the treaty, however does not absolutely rule out the middle channel as a choice, I must adhere to my firm opinion that neither Haro nor Rosario is most in accordance with the true sense of the treaty.

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GRIMM

Then, gentlemen, with your consent (nods to Goldschmidt) -- even though yours is most reluctantly given, I shall prepare an arbitral award designating Haro Channel as that channel most in accord with the meaning of the treaty. Professor Kiepert has, within our constraints, favored Haro as well.

GOLDSCHMIDT

Will the reasons be given in the award?

KIEPERT

If they are, there may be another war.

GOLDSCHMIDT

(thoughtfully): And the Kaiser is innocent of these deliberations. He could be criticized. ✓

KIEPERT

And our recommendations as well.

(All chuckle)

GRIMM

I'll request our reports to be withheld for many years . . .

GOLDSCHMIDT (slumping into chair)

(somewhat amused): To think that Bismarck once said that "the supreme fact of the 19th century was that Britain and the United States spoke the same language . . ." ✓

KIEPERT:

(Exhaling--if he smokes): But only you, Goldschmidt, know how to read it. ✓

SLOW DISSOLVE

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revised

Scene opens in same alcove.

DE FUCA

(shocked). Apologies to Lord Aberdeen. His treaty was correct. . . . But it took Goldschmidt to figure it out.

STEVE

(chuckling): And Hamilton Fish was right when he asked Lord deGrey if we needed an arbitrator to tell us what we said in 1846.

DE FUCA

(Looking down.) Stefano, the Kaiser is reading the arbitral award.

STEVE (anxiously)

I've got to get Griffin's pen down there . . . but I'm not on the Kaiser's list--he's got 50 classes of society--I saw that when I arrived.

DE FUCA

My Kaiser receives everyone . . . but, never mind, I'll take the pen down for you--I can always turn into a statue if I'm seen.

STEVE

(quickly gives de Fuca the pen)

De Fuca leaves.

BLACK

Followed by dissolve into a hand (De Fuca's) putting the pen on a table.



The experts are assembling near the Kaiser's desk.

The First Chamberlain appears with the document in his hand. He sees a new pen on a table, picks it up, admires it, and takes it.

The panel comes to attention.

The Chamberlain gives both the document and the pen to the Kaiser.

KAISER

(To the panel): Accept my most sincere thanks, gentlemen, for your research. I shall concur with your decision.

The panel members look at one another. The Kaiser looks at the pen.

(said quite naturally): Ach, a new pen. And this one has a very sharp point.

(It's Griffin's best.)

The Kaiser slowly signs the document as

VERY FAINT STRAINS OF THE STAR SPANGLED
BANNER BEGIN AND CRESCENDO AS

CAMERA SLOWLY FOCUSES ON DOCUMENT
REMAINING ON THE INITIAL HEADING

"WIR WILHELM"

THEN PANS DOWN AND DISSOLVES TO NEXT SCENE



Scene opens (music continuing in the background) as Juan de Fuca walks in.

JUAN DE FUCA

(again, an elaborate 16th century bow). Senor Stefano, allow me to be the first to congratulate you.

STEVE

(amused) At least until Grimm releases the documents.

DE FUCA

(realistically--the excitement is over): I'm glad I don't have to swim back. See you on San Juan. I'll have to pick up my equipment.

STEVE

(puzzled): Equipment?

DE FUCA

(bluntly): My immortality. I left it on the bluff.

STEVE

If I get there first, I'll save it for ya'. (Pause) (Anxious) Say, I gotta' get that pen to give back to Griffin. Pickett said to protect all property, British or otherwise.

DE FUCA

I'll pick it up on my way out. (looks) I say, Bancroft has just received the award.

STEVE

(chuckles) Goldschmidt's handiwork would have looked quite different.

DISSOLVE

(Still in Berlin courtroom scene.)

Bancroft is holding the arbitral award and slowly and happily reads:

BANCROFT

We, William, by the grace of God, German Emperor and King of Prussia--after hearing the report made by us by the experts and jurists summoned by us upon the contents of the interchanged memorials and their appendices

Have decreed the following award.

Most in accordance with the true interpretation of the treaty concluded on the 15th of June 1846

VOICE FUSION with ~~Hamilton Fish~~ (next scene) by the word "accordance" with slow dissolve to Fish.



(White House)

Scene opens to Hamilton Fish also holding document and reading impressively:

FISH

(Overlay with Bancroft recitation to allow smooth edit):

Most in accordance with the true interpretation of the treaty concluded on the 15th of June 1846 between the governments of Her Britannic Majesty and of the United States, is the claim of the government . . . of the . . . United States of America.

DISSOLVE AT POINT OF UNDERLINE TO FOLLOWING SCENE



CREDITS

As Hamilton Fish reads the award, scene dissolves to Lyman Cutlar spading hard in his garden. He looks somewhat worried but continues his work. (Bibliography)

Rim of figures: Scope narrows for Cutlar to center.

Kaiser Wilhelm)
Three experts) actors
Court staff)

English lords) actors
and staffs) Continues digging in center of screen.

Rest of cast)
minus starring)
roles) Cutlar starts finding small potatoes

As general credits are almost over, camera pan to McKay, Oaks and Hubbs walking toward Cutlar. In the distance, riding fast, is Ent.

Hubbs has arbitration document (possibly alternate credit for Kaiser Wilhelm here). Hubbs starts reading document and when award to U.S. comes, Cutlar yells (his caption)--at the same time he finds a gigantic potato. As he admires it, camera pans slowly to:

All presidents)
and staff) Camp Pickett where the captain is in his tent (captioned)
All other U.A.) happily writing and aides giving occupation orders.
military)
figures) Possibly show some dismantling of camp.

Slow fade to:

Griffin)
Joe Friday) . . . at the flag pole with Joe Friday and Griffin (credited)
Staff?) half sadly, half angrily preparing to let the Hudson
Bay Company flag down.

Alternate)
Joe Friday) . . . shown canoeing to Ft. Victoria

Hornby)
Prevost) slow dissolve to
Richards) Ft. Victoria where Prevost, Richards and Baynes (captioned)
Baynes) are leaving the fort; zoom to James Douglas (credited)
James Douglas) who slowly and bitterly closes the fort gates.

Crowley)
Music credits) (Possible consideration of instrumentation of "God Save the Queen" (also Great Gates of Kiev (if used at Ft. Vancouver)). Last view of Douglas' face as the gates slam shut.

BLACK: 2 seconds

At first appearance of deFuca and Steve (next scene) use immediate captions.

Pig with ribbon



Steve and deFuca are standing on the original rock site (as at first scene). Now credited. Juan de Fuca looks for his immortality, finds it and pockets it happily. It is a scroll. Steve is at first amused, then pensive, as he observes de Fuca.

STEVE

You are leaving.

DE FUCA

(reluctantly). I'm in a strait betwixt two . . . channels. But, yes, I must leave. (Picks up spyglass.)

STEVE

(Sudden joy): Maybe I could go with you--I've had court experience now, you know.

DE FUCA

(slowly) But not under the right king. I think you must go back to the 20th century.

STEVE

(Dubiously) Like a fish thrown back into . . . into the middle channel?

DE FUCA

(laughs) Now, yes. (Seriously): But let me give you something with a sharp point. ~~(Hands Steve Griffin's pen.) (Steve laughs.)~~ And here's something ~~more.~~ (Hands Steve his sword.)

STEVE

(Gasps). Thanks. (Admires it differently this time; it's his.) And it's two-edged.

DE FUCA

There's only one thing sharper.

STEVE (looks for the answer)

DE FUCA

Semantics . . . the semantics of San Juan. (De Fuca is still busy getting organized to leave.) (Before Steve can comment, De Fuca throws Steve his cape.) And take this. (DeFuca is revealed standing in jeans.) (And Steve gasps again with delight.)

Say, Stefano, I could use your watch--stratosphere entry synchronization, you know.

STEVE

(Quickly takes off his digital watch, happy to have something that deFuca could use.)

DeFuca puts the watch on and Steve begins to wrap the cape around him. Steve suddenly remembers that the scroll of immortality is still in the cape and fishes around for it. He finds it, brings it out. Captain, Captain, you forgot something! He looks for deFuca but he is already disappearing in fog--out of reach. (Shouting) Your immortality!

DE FUCA

(shouting) I don't need it. I brought it for you. Keep it if you want it -- the story of the world's arbitration! (voice fading). 'Gotta get my glass out.

Now POV from Juan deFuca. Steve quickly opens scroll (zoom in on "The Good News according to San Juan")(first page) with subscript "published in the year of your Lord . . . now . . . and forever." Steve reads, then looks up again. DeFuca is a tiny figure. Steve squints. Points to scroll.

POV de Fuca: Glass slowly narrows to a small circle of Steve, sword flung high in one hand, scroll in the other. Triumphant.

TRIUMPHANT MUSICAL ENDING.



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