

## #705 The Defeat of the Spanish Armada – Sir Francis Drake, part 1

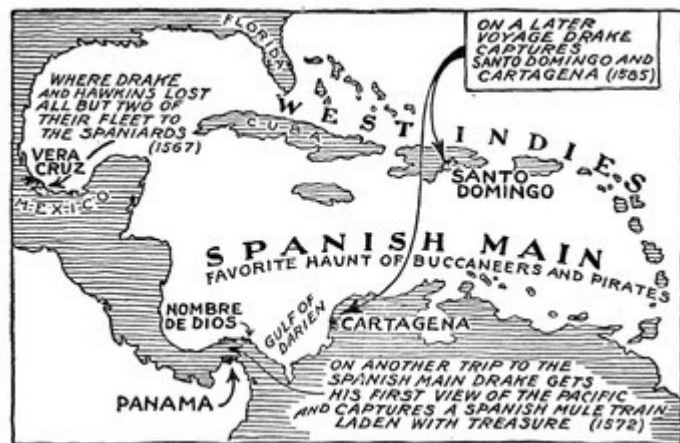
A lookout rushed to report the news to Sir Francis Drake, Vice-Admiral of the English fleet, who was playing lawn bowls on Plymouth Hoe. In this hour of supreme national crisis, so the legend goes, Drake remained cool and calm. “We have time enough to finish the game,” he stated, “and beat the Spaniards, too!” With that, he went back to his game.

Drake playing bowls on Plymouth Hoe as the arrival of the Spanish Armada in the Channel is announced



**Sir Francis Drake.** From 1566 to 1569, Drake sailed on two slave-trading voyages organized by his cousin, Sir John Hawkins, a famous sea dog. Hawkins obtained slaves in Africa and sold them in the New World to West Indian plantation owners. The Spanish objected to the voyages, not wanting English ships sailing in Caribbean waters. In 1567, Drake commanded the *Judith* on Hawkins's second expedition. Near Veracruz, Mexico, the Spaniards attacked, killing many English sailors and sinking several English vessels. Drake returned to England, hating the Spaniards and seeking revenge.

**The Dragon.** From 1570 to 1572, Queen Elizabeth I sent Drake on looting missions to the West Indies. In 1572, Drake seized several Spanish ships off the coast of Panama. He captured the port of Nombre, looted the town, and ambushed a mule train carrying silver across the Isthmus of Panama. From then on, the Spaniards called Drake *El Draque*, meaning *The Dragon*.



**Voyage around the world.** Drake's most famous voyage began in December 1577. He and more than 160 men sailed from Plymouth in several ships. Drake and the queen had secretly planned that he would loot Spanish ships and colonies along the Pacific coast of South America. That is exactly what happened. The Spaniards had left their coastal ports unguarded because until then, only Spanish ships had sailed the Pacific. Drake also captured a Spanish ship, the *Cacafuego*,

and stole its cargo of gold, silver, and jewels. Loaded with treasure, Drake's ship, the *Golden Hinde*, sailed north along the Pacific coast of North America.



Drake had planned to return to England through the Straits of Magellan at the tip of South America, but he now feared the Spanish. So he decided to sail home by way of the Pacific and Indian Oceans. He reached Plymouth on September 26, 1580. In less than three years they had sailed around the world. The voyage made Francis Drake a national hero.

The Golden Hinde

Here is #705–Doc 1, a map of the 1577-1580 around the world voyage of Francis Drake.

[Click here](#) for #705–Doc 1

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**Key Understanding** (which is the same as is in Unsealing #703): *The dragon gave Protestant England power. Sir Francis Drake was entirely involved in the story of the Spanish Armada, both in 1587 and 1588, as a part of the fulfillment of Revelation 13:2. Through the Dragon's (Drake's) sea power, the Dragon gave Protestant England power, seat, and authority, which would result in the birth of the Beast out of the sea, Protestant America.*

*Revelation 13:2 (KJV) And THE BEAST [out of the Sea] WHICH I SAW WAS LIKE UNTO A LEOPARD, and HIS FEET WERE AS THE FEET OF A BEAR, and HIS MOUTH AS THE MOUTH OF A LION: and THE DRAGON [reflected through Sir Francis Drake's – *The Dragon's* – victory at Cadiz in 1587 and the victory over the Spanish Armada in 1588] GAVE HIM [the Protestant Beast out of the Sea] HIS POWER, AND HIS SEAT, AND GREAT AUTHORITY.*

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