



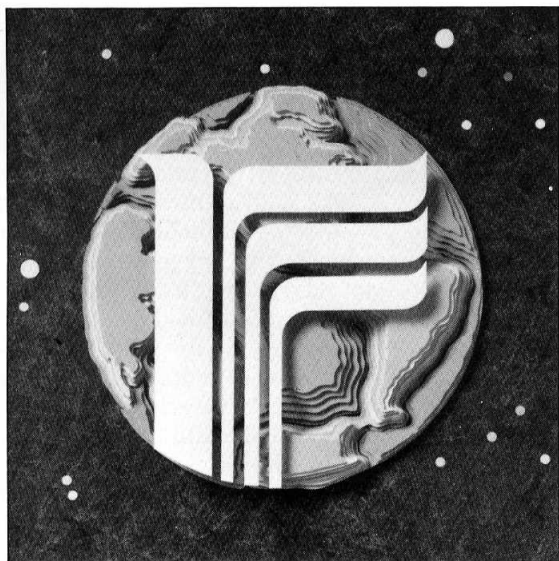
## A *Vasa* gunport replica

For the man or woman who has everything, the *Vasa* Gallery of Edina, Minnesota, is promoting a limited edition cast bronze replica of one of the lion's head gunport covers salvaged when the Swedish warship *Vasa* was rescued from its watery grave in Stockholm harbor. The *Vasa* has

become one of Sweden's most popular and important tourist attractions, especially since the ship was unveiled last year in its own magnificent museum (see **Sweden & America**, Spring 1990). Thousands of visitors have been thrilled by the multi-tiered display building which allows them to see the glorious 350-plus-year-old *Vasa* from many different angles.

Owning a piece of the 1628 ship would probably be the ultimate Swedish souvenir, but of course Swedish authorities would never allow the smallest sliver from her hull to end up on someone's mantelpiece. For those who can afford it, the next best thing may be the opportunity to buy the replica gunport covers emblazoned with a roaring lion staring as fiercely from your library wall as it was once meant to scowl at enemy sailors. The bronze gunport replicas measure 30x32 inches and weigh approximately 110 pounds. The mold for these pieces was made directly from the original gunport cover by experts at the *Vasa* Museum. The subsequent casting was done using the "lost wax" method, then tinted and patined to Museum standards. No more than 500 of these gunport replicas will be sold.

Price? . . . you had to ask. *Vasa* Gallery Inc. (7322 Ohms Lane, Minneapolis, MN 55439) is charging \$24,500 for each replica. OK, so it isn't for everyone.



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