



**HOUSTON SHORT RANGE
BATTLE PRACTICE A SUCCESS**

All hands are justifiably elated over the excellent Short Range Battle Practice fired by the good ship HOUSTON on Thursday afternoon. The ship fired a day ahead of schedule because of the possibility of unsettled weather beginning Friday. The weather on Thursday afternoon was far from being ideal for shooting but nevertheless, the ship turned to and fired a smart, business-like practice, completing the whole exercise in about two hours and forty-five minutes.

It is against regulations to publish the number of shots, hits and scores. Suffice to say the ship made a high merit, the highest since the present standard scores have been in effect. Turret II made an "E" and shot the practice in unusually fast time. Turret I missed attaining an "E" by two hundredths of a point. The crew of Turret II, forty-five men, receive prize money amounting to twelve dollars per man and the same number of men in Turret I receive prize money amounting to eight dollars per man.

The following Gun Pointers and Gun Captains qualified first or second.

Gun Pointer First Class

2nd Set Tur. I— Garcia & O'Neil
1st Set Tur. II—Highstreet & Chmielewski.

2nd Set Tur. II— Butler & Hennessey
1st Set Tur. III— Ritchie & Gustafson
2nd Set Gun-1, 5"—Lewis & Westfall
1st. Set Gun-4, 5"—Rader & Stoddard

Gun Pointer Second Class

1st. Set Tur I— Adams & Head
Gun Captains 1st Class

Tur. I— Acuto - Brown - McCormick

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WELL DONE

COMCRUSCOFOR is highly pleased with splendid performance of cruisers which have completed SRBP and particularly notes the improvement made by each ship over former practices.

CEREMONIAL GANGWAY TO GO

No doubt many of the new members of the crew have often wondered just how the ceremonial gangway must have appeared when rigged on the stb'd side of the foc'st'le. Their visions of someday seeing this famous ladder rigged will never be realized for soon it shall be a thing of the past on board the HOUSTON.

The purpose of this gangway was primarily for the use of Flag Officers and their Staff, but recent years have proven the necessity of a ceremonial gangway on this type of ship, could be dispensed with. Before it shall become a part of the gone and forgotten past of the ship it may not seem amiss to give a short outline of the history of this gangway.

No less than three Admirals, two vice Admirals and three Rear Admirals have used it, while their flag flew from the HOUSTON main.

Admirals of the British, French, Japanese, Portugese, Italian, Dutch, Chinese and German Navies have used it. Innumerable Ranking Army Officers of the different major powers have also boarded the HOUSTON via this ladder.

Among a few of the ranking personages in other branches of Government service of ours and other Nations to

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**ROTARY CUP WON BY 2nd DIV.
FOR FIRST TIME**

The "Rotary Club Cup", emblematic of supremacy in SRBP on board the HOUSTON, was donated to the ship by the Rotary Club of Houston, Texas in 1930.

This cup which has been the center of spirited competition among our target busters during the past six years, has, until this year, always eluded the diligent efforts of the Quarterdeck division, even though Turret 2 has proudly displayed the "E" with a hash mark.

This was during the gunnery years 1932-33 and 1933-34 when Turret 3 also displayed the "E" with a hash mark.

During the past year the cup has been on display in the 1st Division part of the ship, that division having won the cup for the first time last year.

In the first year of competition, 1931-32 the 5th Division won the cup, relinquishing it to the 3rd for the following two years before coming back to take it in the 1934-35 SRBP.

YARD OVERHAUL

In accordance with the recommendation of forces afloat the CHICAGO and HOUSTON will exchange overhaul periods next summer at the Navy Yard, Mare Island, Calif. This exchange has been approved by Chief of Operations.

The HOUSTON will go to Mare Island on 10 May, 1937. The date of completion is 6 August and will leave the yard on 10 August, 1937.