



HOUSTON FIRES GUNNERY PRACTICE

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During the past week the Houston was busily engaged in firing various gunnery practices. The Aviation unit started the ball rolling last Saturday afternoon when they fired their Free Machine Gun Practice. The unit made a very creditable showing. When all the scores have been compiled and compared, the Houston Unit should be at or near the top of the list.

While operating off San Clemente Island in company with various cruisers of the Scouting Force, three practices were fired; namely, Anti-Aircraft Spotting, 3rd Battle Anti-Aircraft Practice "B" and 1st Advanced .50 cal. Machine Gun Practice. Although no exceptional scores were made by the Houston on any of these practices, they were outstanding because of the smoothness with which they were executed and because of the total lack of any casualties. Every man knew his job and did it.

MR. DAHL PROMOTED

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Saturday, 26 September, Mr. Dahl, Senior aviator of the Houston Aviation Unit received his Lieutenant's Commission and was sworn in by Capt. G. E. Baker. Lieut. Dahl is a member of the Naval Academy class of '27 and although he has only been on the ship for a short time, he is very well thought of by all hands. The BLUE BONNET in behalf of the Officers and Crew wish to take this opportunity to congratulate him on his promotion.

RED CROSS

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The following statistics cover the year July 1, 1935 to June 30, 1936, and include the services of the Field Director's Office and of the Los Angeles, Long Beach and San Pedro Chapters of the American Red Cross to Navy, Army and Coast Guard personnel in this area:

FIELD DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Investigations concerning: -

Special order discharge	75
Furloughs	164
A.W.O.L.	10
Other social problems	704
Family problems	1,097
Relief Given or Arranged	648
Government Claims	468
Men's personal problems	857
Miscellaneous	91
Letters Received	2,844
Letters sent	3,530
Telegrams received	156
Telegrams Sent	154
Loans made amounting to	\$3,471.00

(Most of these loans were made for transportation to enable men to return home in cases of serious illness or death in their families.)

CHAPTER SERVICES:

Number of families of active service personnel assisted	1,131
Number of field visits	3,109
Amount of relief given families of active service men	\$5,144.04

How the American National Red Cross may assist Navy Personnel

By agreement with the Navy Department, the American National Red Cross extends the following type of service to Navy personnel and their families:

- (a) To arrange for furnishing relief

(Continued on Page Four)

HOUSTON TO GO TO SEA

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Monday morning the Houston will go to sea in company with the Fleet for a three day Tactical Exercise. Upon the completion of this Exercise the Houston will return to Long Beach, arriving probably Wednesday evening. Thursday she will again go to sea for a vibration test and should be back in port sometime Thursday evening. During the last part of the week, the Gunnery Department will observe the Chester's Day Spotting Practice and will drill for Long Range Battle Practice.

BASEBALL

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Houston Nine Loses to Vestal in Fall Series Opener

Being handed their first set back, nevertheless gaining valuable experience, our baseball team is still in the running in the Fall-Series.

Tomorrow, Sunday, the team faces the Medusa nine at Navy Field, Long Beach, in their second game of the series.

From what has been learned about the decks during the past week the Medusa nine is in for a tough game.

Our nine may have had luck in preceding games but they are out to chalk one up in the column at the expense of the conquerors of the Louisville nine.

In their last game the team showed power in hitting but a decided weakness in the pinches while on the field.

Lefty Salmon started against the Vestal and went well until the fifth when the results of too few practices began to tell. Rimmer, as always, came through to stem the tide, al-

(Continued on Page Two)