

way I can remember it. The beam was so wide she kept rubbing all the way and scratching.

[Could you hear the metal scratching?]

Certainly, you could hear it. They went through into L.A.. We had liberty there and went into Frisco and took ~~ont~~ supplies and headed right out to Pearl Harbor.

[Do you remember anything unusual that occurred during trial run, when it fired the guns the first time or you know the various trials or even going out into the North Atlantic, into the Pacific?]

I remember vaguely some. Everybody was wondering what was going to happen to that ship when they fired those first salvos. Could she take it or would she break apart? Would there be an ~~explosion~~? There was just a little frightful feeling I felt among certain people, especially me down in the pit. I never saw anything like it in my life. You would never imagine the feeling I had when that big sixteen inch breech came towards me at that particular time. It was just an awesome thing and I just straightened up with myself feeling of fright, I'll tell you that. And then it eased off.

I went on all guns onboard the ship except the five inch. I never was in the five inch gun mount. I started off with fifty calibers on deck, water cooled, way back. Then they repaired them and put the twenty's on and got rid of the fifties.

[Forty, twenty, but you never went on a five inch thirty-eight.]

I never went in the turret and I thought they were quite a gun, really a great gun.

[Were you in any of the battles on one of the guns?]

Oh yes, I was on the guns. I was on the twenty millimeters and I was on the forties.