

To the black gang, who had been getting acquainted with the engine rooms and plant for two months or more, there was nothing particularly new about the ship, but to the rest of the crew it was big and easy to get lost in. For days men continued to be late for muster because they had lost their way from their quarters to the division parade. However, there were no reported cases of malnutrition because of anyone losing his way to the mess deck. Another trouble was that no one knew anyone else and if a man didn't want to work he could quickly lose his identity and no one could find him. This confusion lasted for about a week, then things began to settle down, or should I say shakedown?

The morning after commissioning, the ADMIRAL CAPPS was moved across the bay to Naval Supply Depot, Oakland, for her initial loading. The two catch-phrases and pass-words of the crusing work were, "round-the-clock", and "all-hands evolution". The first referred to a system of working in shifts, 24 hours a day. The second referred to everybody working at the same time. The combination of the two will make everyone who participated remember that work as the toughest on the ship. Everything from 5" shells to paper clips had to be loaded and when one considers the expanse of the No. 3 hold and the fact it was filled with beans, flour, sugar, coffee, and numerous other edibles, one will realize that it was an enormous job.

After ship was loaded we went out into the bay to swing compass, adjust degaussing, perform several other necessary evolutions before starting out on the shakedown cruise. It was on 29 September that we sailed from San Francisco for San Pedro to

begin the shakedown cruise. We took our time on the way south so that we would have a chance to get the crew organized and acquainted with the ship and have a few drills so that there wouldn't be complete confusion when the San Pedro Shakedown Group started running us through the mill.



Part 20 min. BATTERIES open up on TARGET

A brief description of the shakedown period is as follows:
DRILLS, DRILLS, DRILLS, liberty, DRILLS, DRILLS, TESTS,
DRILLS, liberty, TESTS, DRILLS, DRILLS, TESTS, liberty,
..... (for ten days)