
Scuttlebutt from the CO

- Mike Duffy, CO

CO's Scuttlebutt - January
- Mike Duffy, CO

Happy New Year and welcome to 2006! With the shuffling in of 2006, the North Texas Battle Group will be electing new officers. Before we do that I want to say thank you for all those that served in 2005. Additional thanks goes to everyone in the club that helped organize the 1st ever North American Big Gun Open. Several of those that helped were unable to attend, that dedication to the club deserves a big thank you.

Of all the goals we set for 2005, I am most pleased with the number of build sessions we held. Without it I don't think we would have realized as many new ships on the water as we did this year. Other clubs have battle seasons and build seasons; we are cursed and blessed with having both seasons co-existing. It is important that we regularly hold build sessions so that we can pass along the skills needed to new members. I do not believe it is an exaggeration to say that this is the most important aspect in continuing the growth of our club.

We should all be proud of organizing and holding the first ever North American Big Gun Open. We stated early that the scale of the event was not as important as building a template and president of the event. We accomplished that. With the hindsight of our first event, we can see where improvements can be made. It is my hope that more will be able to attend this year, I believe that with the success of the first year and implementation of improvements we can realized this.

Who has thought about last the filming of the episode for R/C Insider last March? That was by far my favorite event of 2005. There was so much carnage, so many targets on the water, so much shooting. Forget for a moment about the fact that some of the rules were waived, the battle

January Events:

08-January 1:00 PM	Election Meeting Star Brand Ranch, Kaufman
21-January 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Battle Setup Start of Battle

pond was reduced – what made all that shooting possible was the number of armed captains at a battle. Since March we have added at least 4 new ships with new captains to the club. That increases the target potential by a huge factor. I want to challenge all active captains to attend as many battles in 2006 as possible with a minimum of one fully operational ship. The “fun” factor for all goes up for all when we have more than 8 ships at a battle. We can have more elaborate scenarios, longer battles, team tactics come in to play and more CARNAGE.

By the way, the video that was produced was very good. We all agree that the production quality of our episode was by far the best of any Inside R/C other episodes to date. Much of that credit would go to Alan our cameraman. However, the way we presented our hobby and explained it made it a very good show.

I am confident that the NTXBG is in good shape as my term comes to an end. I'm looking forward to 2006. As Mike Weber ascends to the CO position and we elect the rest of his admiralty, please support all of them to make 2006 our best year. I am very pleased that we have set forth a set of goals that will continue to challenge our club and push us to grow. Remember to reach these goals, varying effort from each of us will be required. Again, thank you all for your help during my term as CO. Good luck

December Battle Report – No battle was fought in December

Treasurer's Report

- Wreno Wynne, Treasurer

Annual Summary:

Beginning Balance:	\$763.37
Receipts:	
Membership Dues,	
15 individual, @ 20 each	\$300.00
Family Membership	
2 Dues @ \$30 each	\$60.00
Battle Assessments	\$395.00
Fund Raiser Sales	\$60.00
NABGO	\$617.00
Gifts	\$5.00
Equipment	
Reimbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Collected in	
Period	\$1,437.00
Expenditures:	
Shows	\$46.36
Food	\$39.13
NABGO (other than	
CO2)	\$552.38
Ammunition	\$0.00
CO2	\$47.00
Newsletter	\$82.04
Equipment	\$500.00
Other	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$1,266.91

Net Change for Year to
Date: \$170.09

Ending Balance: \$933.46

There are still some appropriations that have been voted on that have not yet been transacted. Let's be more active in ensuring business is transacted in a timely fashion. If you have any transactions as such please submit the amounts so they can accurately be accounted for every month.

-Michael Weber- XO

Safety Report

- William Jowers, Safety Officer
- Notes by Michael Webe, Xo

This year we continued our spotless record of no injuries during any event. This record is rather important to us as we continue to look for other locations to battle and will help our efforts with fund raising for our not for profit corporation.

Let's all be aware in the coming year of our safety responsibilities and keep a clear eye to the future to identify areas where we can make our events even safer. Lets work to always be proactive and not reactive to keep our membership and spectators safe.

North Texas Battle Group Board of Admiralty (Club Officers) – 2005:

Commanding Officer (CO): Mike Duffy
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The Littorio (Italia) Class

Displacement: **41377 t.** Length: **237.8 m.** Width: **32.9 m.** Draft: **10.5 m.**

Engine: **4T 8B**
(T=Turbine, B=Boiler) HP: **140000** Propellers: **4** Speed: **30 kts.**

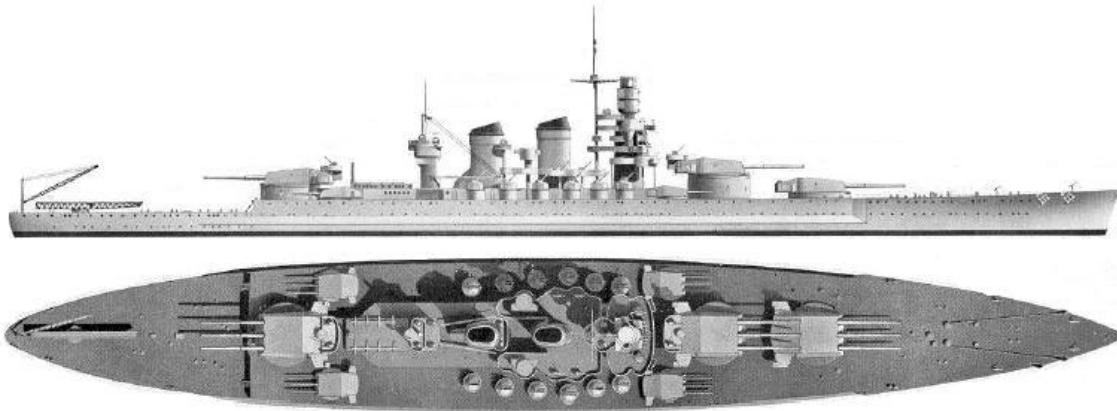
Fuel: **4000 t.** Range: **4580@16**

Armament: **9x381 , 12x152 12x90 , 20x37**

Torpedo Launchers: Mines: Airplanes: **3**

Armor: side **350 mm.**, deck **100 mm.**, turret **350 mm.**

Crew: **120 officers, 1800 petty officers and sailors.**



The battleship of the Littorio class, which in 1943 was renamed Italia, were the only Italian battleships armed with triple turrets, two forward and one aft, configuration typical of those of other navies. These ships had a power plant capable of generating 140,000 HP distributed over 4 propellers, while the Cavour had only 93,000 HP over 2 propellers. These new units, both for their seagoing and fighting performances, were comparable to those of other navies. Unfortunately, they were not equipped with RADAR.

While the protection of the Cavour class battleships was the original dating back to 1914-15, the new units had a more modern armor similar to the one adopted by other navies such as in the British Battlecruiser H.M.S. Hood, the battleships H.M.S. Nelson and H.M.S. Rodney, the German Graf Spee, the French Richelieu, or the Japanese Yamato.

The armor was not built by vertical plates, like the Cavour, but by two layers of plates placed an

at angle protruding on the high part and caving on the lower one. The external plate was 350mm thick and at about 600mm a second armor of about 36mm served as a shield against shrapnel. The horizontal armor was designed against the new aerial bombs and was organized over three bridges. This protection was inadequate against the new German rocket bombs, which were able to penetrate the vital parts of the battleship Roma and blow it apart.

Underwater defenses were particularly taken care of, on both the Cavour and Littorio class with the adoption of an "absorbent structure" invented by General Umberto Pugliese. This structure was made of a large cylinder of low resistance contained in a stronger structure filled with liquid and completely surrounding the inner cylinder. The explosion of a torpedo was to cause the external bulkhead to give way and the pressure generated by the explosion would be transferred by the liquid and absorbed by the internal cylinder thus preventing damage to the internal bulkhead.