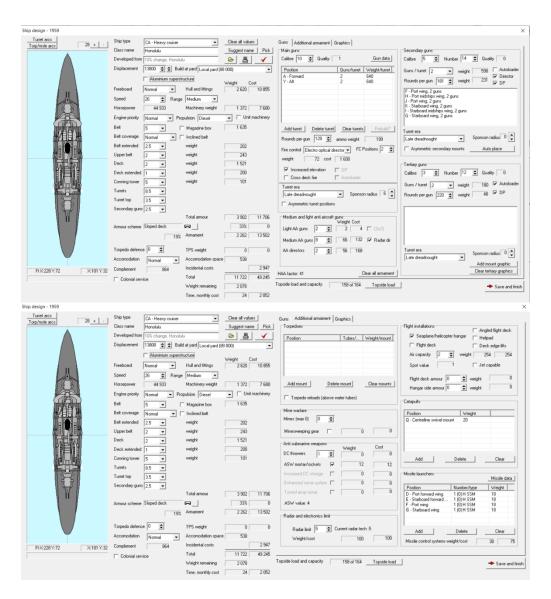
From: Axel Moreaud

Sent: Sun, 11 Feb 2024 23:27:25 +0100

To: rtw3contest@gmail.com

Subject: RTW3 Cruiser contest, category 2



The USS Honolulu was an armoured cruiser from 1899. With the 1900 Naval Disarmament Treaty, the USN was left with little to work with, and decided to have the Honolulu, amongst other ships, go through various refits and rebuilds. It remained in active service even after the treaty had expired, having become somewhat of a "mascot" of the navy, and would become the US' first missile cruiser in 1947 after an extensive modernisation. A common tale about the ship following the modernisation features a young sailor excited to serve on the US' most "modern" warship only to find out it's the same old ship that their grandfather served on decades ago. Its most notable achievements, other than its long (and mostly quiet) service life, was its involvement in the Franco-American war in the 50s, where it humiliated the French navy by

damaging a French aircraft carrier at close range in the Battle of Marie-Galante. She would also showcase the extensiveness of US damage control in the Battle of Cape Ortegal as she took no less than 8 missile hits from French ships and still managed to limp back to port, allowing the rest of the US fleet to take down the opposing French ships.

Now she is awaiting yet another refit, both to extend her service life and to please older sailors' and captains' odd affection for the old ship. The latter hoping, perhaps foolishly, that she'll still serve on for decades to come.