"Fighting Bob" Evans Graphically describes the annihilation of Cervera's Proud Fleet.

The battleship Iowa was the first ship to see the Spanish fleet, coming out of the harbor on the morning of July 3. Somebody on the bridge cried, "What's that long thing coming out of the harbor?" A moment later the fleet was a great cloud of gray smoke and the signal was flashed that the enemy ships were coming on. A gun was fired to attract the attention of her men and at eight o'clock a signal was sent to the cruiser Iowa to come on ahead. The signal doughnuts were still being eaten on the bridge of the Iowa when the signal was given to come ahead. TheSpaniards were off the entrance of the harbor, the Iowa was a matter of minutes.

As the two ships drew abreast, the Spaniards were steering wide and the Iowa saw that they were going to take the road away from the engagement. At 8:10 a.m. the Iowa fired her first shot with her 200-pounder guns. The Spaniards had seen the signal and were steering close to the Iowa. The first shot was a tremendous explosion and the entire Spaniards fleet was thrown into confusion. The Iowa and Texas were the only ships to see the Spaniards fleet sink, and they both went at it with a will.

The ships then opened fire on the enemy and the Iowa was smothered in smoke and fire. The Spaniards were put to flight and the Iowa and Texas continued to chase them. The Spaniards were finally forced to surrender and the Iowa and Texas continued their chase until they were out of sight.

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