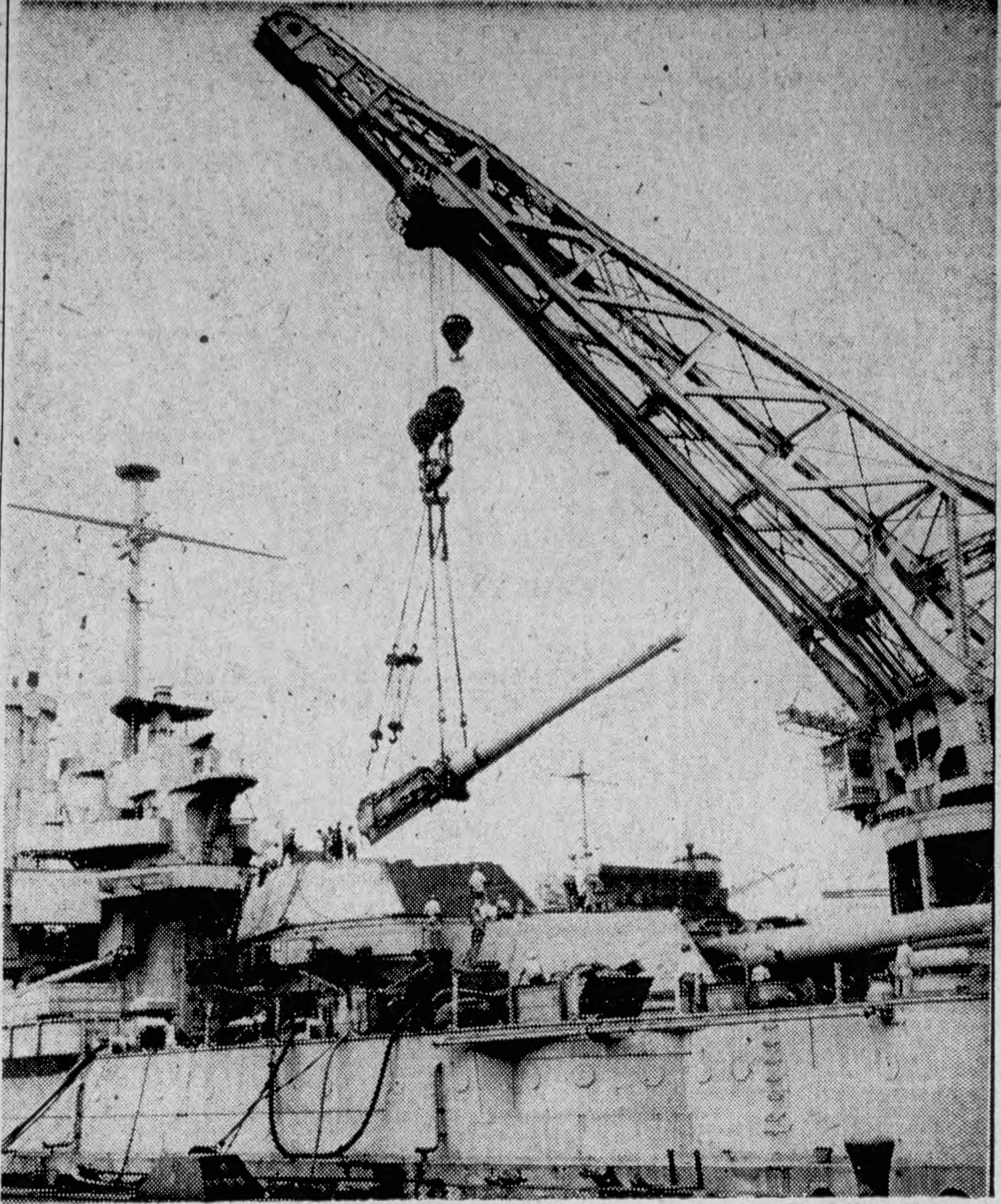


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IDAHO SCRAPPING OPERATIONS BEGUN—A towering crane of the Navy Yard lifts a huge 16-inch gun from the top forward turret of the veteran battleship Idaho as large-scale scrapping operations on the old battleship began today. The Idaho joins the Wyoming destined for the yard scrap heap as their useful naval careers come to an end.

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28-Year-Old Battleship Headed For Scrap Heap

The 28-year-old battleship Idaho, veteran of eight engagements and 13 shore bombardments during World War II, is headed for the scrap heap, it was announced here today.

Commissioned March 24, 1919, the Idaho is tied up alongside Pier 3 at the Norfolk Naval Station where Naval Supply Depot workmen are removing equipment and stores preparatory to putting her up on the auction block. Removal of the myriad material and parts essential to the life of a battleship will require approximately three weeks.

When the Supply Depot task is completed the Idaho will be taken to the Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth where all armament and the engines, which propel the 34,000-ton battiewagon, will be removed. The navy yard work will require an estimated two months. The vessel was modernized at the Portsmouth yard in 1931.

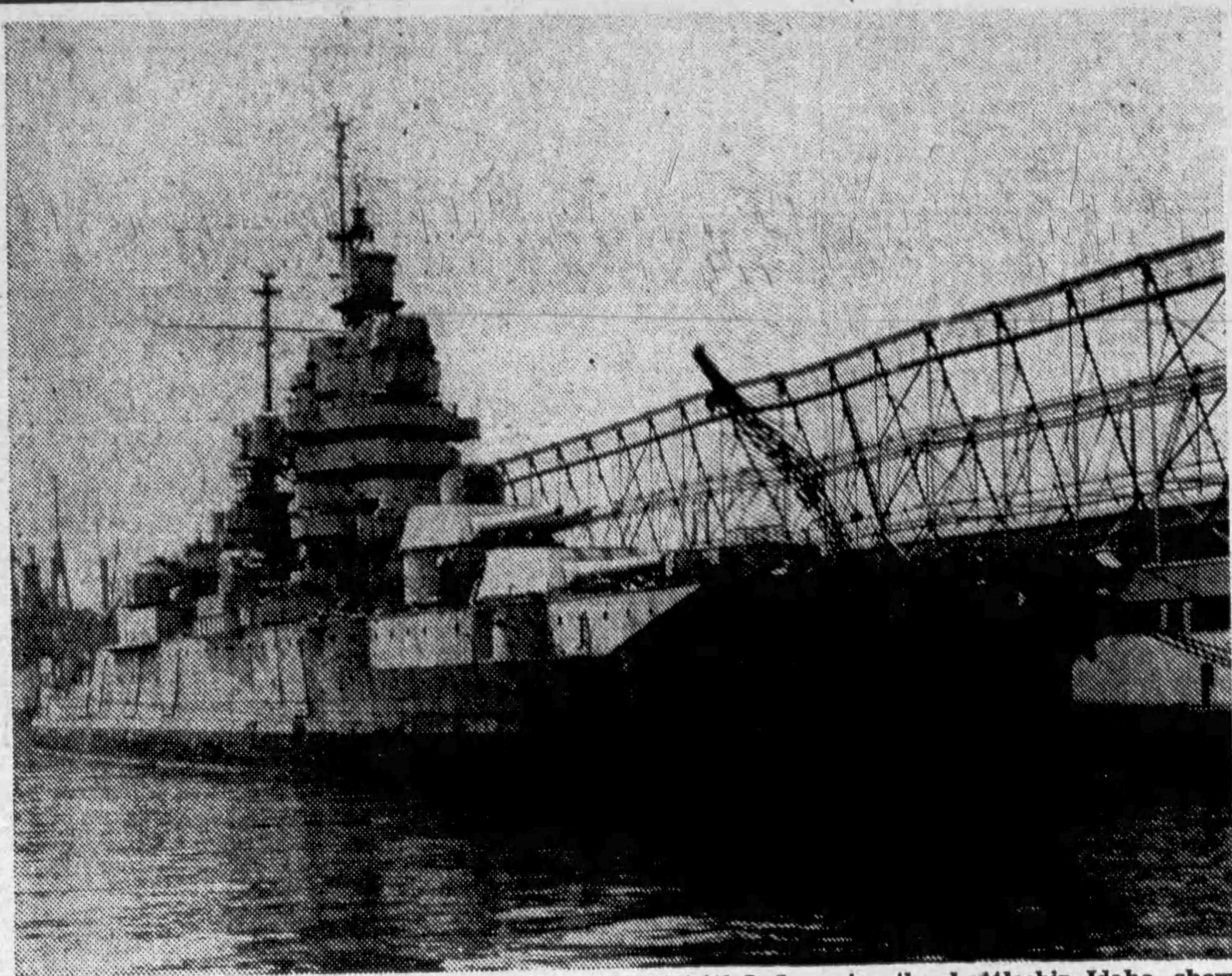
A large percentage of the material removed from the ship will be returned to the supply department for reissue while items not salvageable will be sold as scrap. Some equipment and material will be turned over to Organized Naval Reserve units in the Fifth Naval District.

The Idaho, built at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, N. J., and completed November 9, 1917, was assigned to the Atlantic Reserve Fleet after the end of the war. Later a Board of Inspection and Survey determined the ship was outmoded and recommended it be sold as a hulk for scrap.

Lieut. Louis Curra, USN, is officer-in-charge of the ship at present, assisted by Lieut. Merle E. Hall, USN, and Lieut. Joseph Panowski, USN, and a crew of 60 men. They are responsible for the security and cleanliness of the ship while she is being readied for sale.

During World War II the mighty "I" steamed 190,775 miles and fired a total of 13,000,000 pounds of projectiles at the enemy. The outbreak of the war found her on the Neutrality Patrol from which she was ordered to the Pacific and operated out of Pearl Harbor and West Coast ports. In 1943 she operated in the Aleutian and Gilberts area. The Idaho participated in the combat operations off the Marianas, Palau, Iwo Jima, where she shot down five Jap planes, and Okinawa. She entered Tokyo Bay with the U. S. Fleet after the surrender of Jap forces.

PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA, SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 1947.



TO BE SCRAPPED—A veteran of 28 years of faithful service, the battleship Idaho shown tied up at Pier 3, Norfolk Naval Station, is being readied for retirement from active Naval service. The ship is now being stripped of all stores and equipment prior to its being offered for sale as a hulk for scrap. (Official U. S. Navy photo).