REPORTED BY SAMPSON

Some Admiral Talk Officially of the Battle Of Santiago.

HONORABLY COMMENDS THE GLOUCESTER.

[illegible]

Washington, July 26—The navy department today made public the report of Admiral Sampson, Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet off the Cuban coast, of the battle of Santiago, which resulted in the destruction of Cervera's squadron. The report is addressed to Secretary Long, and is dated off Santiago, July 17, 1898. It is as follows:

U. S. S. New York, Off Santiago, July 17, 1898.

Sir: I have the honor to inform the department of the events connected with the destruction of the Spanish fleet off this harbor on the morning of the 3d instant, and of the subsequent events of the following days, which have resulted in the surrender of the city of Santiago and its military forces to the land forces under the command of Major General Shafter, and the surrender of the Spanish naval forces in this harbor to the ships under my command.

The Spanish squadron, consisting of the armored cruisers Almirante Oquendo, Vizcaya, Cristobal Colon and Maria Teresa, and the torpedo destroyers Pluton and Furor, left their anchorage in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, in column at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, July 3, and were fired upon by the land batteries and by the fleet. The Spanish ships were soon in flames and were driven ashore, one after another, to the west of the harbor entrance, where they burned and blew up later. The Spanish admiral, with the survivors of his command, was taken on board the Gloucester early in the action, but the smoke was so dense in their direction that I cannot say at which vessel he was when the fleet ceased firing. The Gloucester was sent better from your Excellency's office, with the Vesuvius, to prevent the disaster to their consorts, continued at full speed to the westward and were followed and engaged in a running fight with the Oregon, Texas, Iowa and Brooklyn, until 10:35. When the Vizcaya, then four miles from our ships, ran for beach to port and with a heavy list to port. Steed in shore and received a broadside from the Oregon at a range of about twelve hundred yards. In addition to the Spanish ships, the Furor and Pluton, which had left the harbor with the squadron, were also driven ashore and destroyed by our squadron and a general engagement at ranges ranging from 2,000 yards to point blank, which for the time was terrific, ensued. The Furor was destroyed about 9:30 a.m. The concentration of the fire of the squadron on the Furor was so complete that the officers of the Texas reported that the Furor was destroyed in ten minutes after the engagement began, two rounds thought to be the Furor and Pluton were seen to be struck and to explode and sink in the surf, the Furor sinking in shoal water, with her bow from the effective shot fire of the squadron and were forced to be abandoned by their officers and crews within sight of the harbor entrance, where they burned and blew up later. The Spanish officers and crews were taken on board the Gloucester early in the action, but the smoke was so dense in their direction and it operated so to which vessel the remainder of the Spanish officers and crews the credit belongs