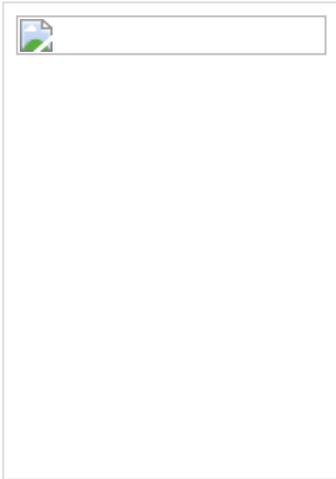


# Ship of Ghosts: The Story of the USS Houston

Posted on **January 12, 2009** by **Nyleva Corley**



Renowned as FDR's favorite warship, the cruiser USS Houston faced a bitter battle in the far Pacific after Pearl Harbor. With no hope for reinforcement, its crew saw a deadly rain of fire from Japanese bombers.

James D. Hornfischer (MBA '98; JD '01) brings to life the terror of nighttime naval battles and the valiant effort of the crew as they miraculously escaped disaster—until their luck ran out in the Sunda Strait. The Houston was finally sunk and its survivors taken prisoner.

Hornfischer's account doesn't stop there. Through journals, testimony, and historical documents, he recounts the more than three years the crew spent in the brutal jungle POW camps.

Hornfischer lives with his family in Austin. His first book, "The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors" won the 2004 Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature.

"Ship of Ghosts: The Story of the USS Houston, FDR's Legendary Lost Cruiser and the Epic Saga of Her Survivors" was published by Bantam in 2007.

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This entry was posted in **Alumni Books** and tagged **James D. Hornfischer**, **McCombs School of Business**, **School of Law**, **Ship of Ghosts**, **The Alcalde** by **Nyleva Corley**. Bookmark the **permalink** [<https://sites.utexas.edu/shelflife/2009/01/12/ship-of-ghosts-the-story-of-the-uss-houston/>].

## 3 THOUGHTS ON "SHIP OF GHOSTS: THE STORY OF THE USS HOUSTON"



Jonathan Barker, CAPT USN (RET)

on **October 24, 2009 at 7:40 pm** said:

My father, CAPT G.N.Barker , USN, was the C.O. of HOUSTON when President Roosevelt embarked in her for the cruise to the Galapagos in 1938. I have some photographs from that cruise .

Please contact me if you would like more information.

Jonathan Barker



webb warren

on **November 2, 2010 at 6:15 pm** said:

Capt Barker, my Uncle was on Marine detail (presidential detail) on that cruise. I have some documents and photos of that cruise. I would love to have more information if you have it.



webb warren

on **November 2, 2010 at 6:16 pm** said:

Capt Barker, also, I have a signature from your father on a certificate.

Comments are closed.