



Texas Navy Association

Historical Article



31st CONGRESS 2d Session. REP. COM. No. 257
IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.
JANUARY 30, 1851.

Submitted and ordered to be printed.
Mr. SHIELDS made the following
REPORT:

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the reply of the Secretary of War to the resolution of the Senate of September 30, 1850, directing him to ascertain the opinion of the officers of the Ordnance Bureau, and of the United States mounted regiments, as to the relative efficiency of the REPEATING PISTOLS, invented by Samuel Colt, and other inventors, their adaptation to the service, and the propriety of substituting the most improved repeating pistol for the common dragoon pistol now in use, respectfully report.

Commodore E. W. Moore, Texas navy, writes: "I take pleasure in stating that, while in command of the Texas navy, I had an excellent opportunity of testing the efficiency and durability of these arms. " The Texas volunteers of war were armed with Colt's pistols and carbines, which were on very frequent occasions exposed in boats

and bad weather, and I unhesitatingly assert that they are as little injured by exposure to the weather as the common musket or ship's pistol. Of their efficiency, I think it useless to say any thing.

" The Colt pistols, used by the Texas rangers before annexation, were all supplied from the navy, after they had been in constant use in that arm of the service upwards of four years ; and I know some of these arms that have been in constant use for nine years, and are still good.

" I have seen the recently improved model which has several alterations or rather improvements, which make it a better arm than those I had in use in the Texas navy, which were among the first manufactured by the inventor."