



USS LST-795

Builder: Dravo Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commissioned: 9 October 1944

Decommissioned: 29 April 1946

Disposition: Sold for commercial service on 31 October 1946 to the Suwannee Fruit and Steamship Company of Jacksonville, Florida, her ultimate fate is unknown.

Length: 327' 9" oa

Beam: 50'

Draft: 1' 6" bow, 7' 5" stern (unloaded); 8' 2" bow, 14' 1" stern (loaded -- at sea); 3' 1" bow, 9' 6" (loaded -- beaching)

Displacement: 1,625 (light); 4,080 (w/ full load of 2,100 tons)

Propulsion: 2 x General Motors 12-567 diesels, twin shafts/rudders

Range: 24,000 nm @ 9 knots

Top Speed: 11.6 knots

Complement: 111

Troops: 163

Initial Armament: 7 x 40mm (single mount); 6 x 20 mm (single mount); 2 x .50-caliber mgs; 4 x .30-caliber mgs

Commanding Officers:

LT M. H. Jackson, USCGR: 9 August 1944 - 1 September 1945

LT. Thos. H. Shevlin, USCGR: 1 September 1945 - 3 December 1945

LT Stanley B. Walter, USCGR: 3 December 1945 - 4 February 1946
LT(jg) James A. Hadley: 4 February 1946 - 29 April 1946

History:

USS *LST-795* LST Flotilla 29, Group 86, Division 172

The Coast Guard-manned USS *LST-795* was commissioned at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 9 October 1944 under the command of LT M. H. Jackson, USCGR. After a shakedown cruise and training at St. Andrews Bay, Florida, from October 19th to November 3rd, the *795* spent a week at New Orleans on post-shakedown availability as *LCT-1391* was secured to her main deck and then loaded a cargo of jeeps at Gulfport, Mississippi on November 12th.

Departing Gulfport on 13 November 1944, the *795* arrived at Pearl Harbor 13 December 1944, via the Canal Zone, and on 3 January 1945, departed for Hilo to load personnel, vehicles and equipment of the 5th Marines Division (A, B, C, H & S Batteries) after which she departed for Maui for maneuvers and landing exercises. These were completed on 17 January 1945, when she left for Kaneohe Bay, Oahu. On January 22nd, she departed for the invasion of Iwo Jima, via Eniwetok and Saipan. She arrived off Iwo Jima on 19 February 1945, and began disembarking Marine personnel and unloading their equipment for the assault. LT(jg) Donald A. Graff was wounded in action and transferred to a hospital ship. On February 24th, the *795* departed for Guam, arriving on the 28th.

On 3 March 1945, she departed for Leyte arriving on the 8th and by the 14th had completed loading personnel of the 17th Infantry Division and 718th Amphibious Truck Battalion along with 15 LVTs and three DUKWs. After rehearsals and anti-aircraft practice she departed for the invasion of Okinawa where as a unit of T. U. 55.3.4 she arrived 1 April 1945, and landed troops and equipment on Yellow Beach using LVTs and DUKWs. She also launched the *LCT-1391*. Then she beached on Orange Beach to unload ammunition. Two enemy planes were claimed as destroyed by the *795*'s gun crew during the day. On April 3rd, she retracted and anchored off "Orange One". On April 11th she was attached to Task Group 55.3. On the 12th one enlisted man was wounded by shrapnel during an air attack and on the 15th seven enlisted men were wounded in the same manner. On April 18th, she was attached to T.U. 51.22.3 as Phibs Pac Reserve Ship and from then until 12 September 1945, remained at Okinawa acting successively as Fleet Freight Ship and as part of LST Garrison Group. From July 19th to 21st, 1945, she executed the Typhoon Plan. From 1 April to 15 August 1945, there were 235 "Flash Red" warnings received aboard the *795*.

On 12 September 1945, the 795 departed Okinawa for Nagasaki, Japan, arriving on the 14th. She departed Nagasaki for Okinawa on September 20th, arriving on the 23rd. Here she executed the Typhoon Plan from September 29th to October 3rd, and from October 8th to the 11th, and then departed for Saipan towing *LST-890* on October 19th, arriving there on October 27th for 10 days availability.

On 11 November 1945, she departed for Pearl Harbor carrying 209 Naval personnel as passengers, arriving at Orange, Texas, on 28 January 1946 via San Pedro, the Canal Zone and New Orleans, Louisiana. She was decommissioned at Lake Charles, Louisiana, on 29 April 1946.

The *LST-795* earned two battle stars for her service during World War II.

Photographs:

None available.

Sources:

LST files, Coast Guard Historian's Office.

United States Coast Guard. *The Coast Guard At War. V. Transports and Escorts. Vol. 2.* Washington: Public Information Division, Historical Section, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, May 1, 1949, pp. 66-116.

United States Navy. *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships. Volume VII.* Washington: Naval Historical Center, 1981, pp. 574-742.

