



# USS LST-796

---

Builder: Dravo Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commissioned: 10 October 1944

Decommissioned: 17 April 1946

Disposition: Sold for scrapping on 22 September 1947 to the Southern Shipwrecking Co., of New Orleans.

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 Edward A. Dunton, USCGR: 9 August 1944 - 17 April 1946

---

## **History:**

### **USS *LST-796* LST Flotilla 29, Group 87, Division 173**

The Coast Guard-manned USS *LST-796* was commissioned at New Orleans on 19 October 1944 under the command of her first and only commanding officer, LT Edward A. Dunton, USCGR. After shakedown exercises at St. Andrews Bay, Florida, through 11 November 1944, she proceeded to Gulfport, Mississippi to load for operations in the Pacific Area. The 796 departed Gulfport for Pearl Harbor, via the Canal Zone, San Diego and San Pedro on November 21st, arriving at destination on December 21st, where, after unloading, she took on troops and equipment and conducted maneuvers preparatory to proceeding to Okinawa.

She arrived at Leyte on 25 February 1945, via Eniwetok, Ulithi and Kossol Passage. She proceeded from Leyte to Okinawa where she participated in the assault and occupation of Okinawa Gunto. She departed Okinawa on April 25th, for Saipan where she remained until 14 June 1945. From 10 June 1945, until 12 October 1945, she completed four round trips one between Saipan and Leyte, two between Okinawa and Leyte and one between Okinawa and Manila. Leaving Manila on 12 October 1945, the 796 proceeded to Lingayen Gulf where occupation troops and their equipment were loaded for Jinsen, Korea. Departing Jinsen on November 14th, she reached Taku, China on November 16th, to load Japanese prisoners of war and return them to Sasebo, Japan on 1 December 1945. She next went to Tsingtao, China, leaving there December 15th, for Guam.

On 29 December 1945, she left Guam for home, arriving at New Orleans on 22 March 1946, via Pearl Harbor, San Pedro and the Canal Zone. Here she was decommissioned on 17 April 1946.

The *LST-796* earned one battle star 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.

---

