



# USS LST-24

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Builder: Dravo Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commissioned: 14 June 1943

Assigned to: LST Flotilla 5, Group 15, Division 30

Decommissioned: 26 February 1946

Disposition: Sold for conversion to merchant service to the Humble Oil & Refining Company, Houston Texas. No further historical information is available.

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

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## **Commanding Officers:**

LT Arnold I. Sobel, USCGR: 14 June 1943 - ?

LT D. J. Ellsworth, USCGR: ? - 22 January 1946

LT(jg) R. A. Ekblom: 22 January 1946 - ?

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## **History:**

### **USS *LST-24***

#### **LST Flotilla 5, Group 15, Division 30**

The Coast Guard-manned USS *LST-24* was laid down at the Dravo Corporation's Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania yard on 19 November 1942. She was launched on 17 April 1943 and was sponsored by Mrs. Marguerite E. Davis. After traversing the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to Louisiana, she entered commissioned service on 14 June 1943 under the command of LT Arnold I. Sobel, USCGR. (No reports on movements until 1 February 1944.)

The *LST-24* operated in the New Georgia area from the 1st to the 6th of February 1944, and in the Guadalcanal area from the 7th to the 28th of February that same year. In the latter area she was engaged in transporting cargo and personnel in the Russell Island and Solomon Islands. On 4 April 1944, she was at Tutila, Samoa.

She participated in the invasion and capture of Guam during August 1944. She returned to Finschhafen on 11 September and then went on to participate in the Western New Guinea campaign. She landed troops and equipment during the landings at Morotai in September of 1944 and then at Leyte through October and November of 1944. Proceeding by the way of Russell Islands and Guadalcanal, *LST-24* reached Ulithi on 25 February 1945, and then Manila. She departed Manila on 21 March, stopping at Tacloban and arrived at Hollandia on 24 March 1945. She then went on to participate in the assault and occupation of Okinawa Gunto from March through June of 1945.

She was at Hollandia and Okinawa until 24 June 1945 when she departed for San Francisco via Pearl Harbor, arriving there on 9 December 1945. From there she proceeded to Galveston via San Diego and the Canal Zone. She was decommissioned and her Coast Guard crew removed on 16 February 1946. She was struck from the Navy Register on 5 June 1946. She was sold on 23 December 1947 to the Humble Oil & Refining Company of Houston, Texas, for conversion to merchant service.

The *LST-24* earned five battle stars for her service during World War II.

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**Photographs:**

None available.

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**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.

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