



USS LST-27



Builder: Dravo Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commissioned: 16 June 1943

Assigned to: LST Flotilla 11, Group 31, Division 61

Decommissioned: 9 November 1945 at Boston

Disposition: Sold to Arctic Circle Exploration, Seattle, Washington, on 17 June 1946 for conversion to merchant service.

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 Alfred Volton: 16 June 1943 - 15 January 1945

LT C. J. Gilleran: 25 January 1945- 9 November 1945

History:

USS *LST-27*

LST Flotilla 7, Group 31, Division 61

The Coast Guard-manned USS *LST-27* was laid down at the Dravo Corporation shipyard and was commissioned on 16 June 1943 under the command of LT Alfred Volton. On 4 April 1944 she was in the Mediterranean reaching Tunisia on 13 April 1944. On 3 May 1944 she was reported to have arrived in the United Kingdom for service with the upcoming invasion of Normandy. She departed England for the Normandy coast on 5 June 1944 and participated in the invasion at Omaha Beach. She remained in British waters until 2 July 1944 when she departed for Norfolk, Virginia, arriving there on 17 July 1944.

She was decommissioned in Boston on 9 November 1945. The USS *LST-27* earned two battle stars for World War II service.

Photographs:

The following images were provided courtesy of Timothy Duffy, whose father, Francis Duffy, served aboard the *LST-27* during World War II and participated in the Allied landings and liberation of France at Normandy in June, 1944.







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TEA



IN EUROPEAN WATERS—

Serving aboard a coastguard-manned LST, these Wisconsin coastguardsmen participated in the initial assault on France and since have been shuttling reinforcements to the battlefronts. Top row (left to right): Fred P. Bell, coxswain, 818 Marquette Av., South Milwaukee;

Donald J. Balza, machinist's mate, 2nd class, 1453 Harvey St., Green Bay; John Christopher, gunner's mate, 3rd class, 928 Clara St., Sheboygan. Lower row: Alvero C. Anderson, motor cabinist's mate, 1st class, Catawba; Lloyd J. Mosher, water tender, 1st class, 506 4th Av., Wausau; Francis H. Duffy, ship's cook, 2nd class, Gilman.

U. S. Coastguard photo.

LST 27

Sources:

LST files, Coast Guard Historian's Office.

Timothy Duffy.

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.

