



# USS LST-786

---

Builder: Dravo Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commissioned: 28 August 1944

Decommissioned: Turned over to USN on 29 March 1946

Disposition: 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 E. T. Ringler: 28 August 1944 - 9 July 1946

---

## History:

**USS LST-786**  
**LST Flotilla 29, Group 85, Division 169**

The Coast Guard-manned USS *LST-786* was commissioned at New Orleans on 28 August 1944. Her first and only commanding officer was Lt. Eli T. Ringler, USCG. After shakedown exercises in St. Andrews Bay, Florida, she was loaded with cargo at Mobile, Alabama, and departed for Pearl Harbor, reaching there on 3 November 1944, via the Canal Zone and San Diego.

Departing Pearl Harbor on December 16th, with three officers and 178 enlisted men of the 112th Navy CB' a she reached Saipan on 3 January 1945, via Eniwetok and returned to Pearl Harbor, January 24th, via Tinian and Eniwetok. While at Saipan she was forced to stay at sea on January 3rd, due to an air attack. She departed Pearl Harbor on 10 February 1945, for a run to Guam via Eniwetok, with enlisted personnel of U. S. Pacific Fleet Staff and FFT Fleet Hospital No. 111, with equipment, arriving on February 25th. Proceeded to Iwo Jima on 17 March 1945, with dredging equipment and MSB-1 barge in tow. Forced into Saipan on the 20th in heavy seas. Proceeded again on the 27th, arriving Iwo Jima on 2 April 1945, she returned to Saipan via Guam on April 30th, taking on 114 Japanese POWs at Iwo Jima for Guam. A trip to Okinawa returning to Saipan on 26 May 1945 followed, during which she was under submarine attack and TB-404 was taken in tow for two days due to engine trouble. While at Okinawa she underwent many air raids. On 4 June 1945, she departed Saipan for Leyte and on the 12th proceeded to San Fabian, Luzon to load cargo for Okinawa. She arrived at Okinawa on June 24th, and departed June 29th with units of the 77th Army Division and cargo for Leyte. On July 5th she departed for Cebu in convoy and after loading personnel and cargo of the 77th Division proceeded to Subic Bay and thence to Ie Shima arriving on the 23rd. Proceeding to Buckner Bay on the 25th she loaded units of the 96th Artillery Battalion for Leyte, standing out on August 1st to avoid a typhoon. En route Leyte on the 4th the convoy was under submarine attack. She arrived Leyte on August 7th.

Leaving Leyte on 9 August 1945, she stopped at Mindoro to unload on the 12th and reached Batangas on the 13th where she loaded jeeps until the 19th, returning to Subic Bay on that day and to Okinawa on 29 August 1945. By September 9th she had completed loading cargo and personnel of the 308th Bomb Wing, arriving at Jinsen, Korea on September 17th. Completing unloading on the 22nd she was underway for Hagushi, Okinawa on the 23rd, arriving on the 27th. She stood out to Hagushi on September 29th to avoid a typhoon. She next proceeded to Sasebo and remained there until 22 October 1945, returning to Okinawa on the 24th. She again arrived at Sasebo on November 21st, via Taku, North China, and again early in December, 1945, via Taku, North China. There operations involved repatriation of Japanese prisoners of war from the China Theatre.

She departed Sasebo, Japan on 16 December 1945, and reached San Francisco on 14 January 1946. On 29 March 1946, the *LST-786* was fully manned by Navy personnel.

The *LST-786* was awarded 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.

---

