

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

IST612/A2-11

Serial No. 6

U.S.S. IST 612
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif.

CONFIDENTIAL

17 January, 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief U.S. Fleet.

Via: (1) CTU 77.9.19
(2) CTU 77.9.12
(3) CTG 77.9
(4) CTF 77
(5) Commander 7th Amphibious Force
(6) Commander SEVENTH Fleet
(7) Commander Southwest Pacific Area
(8) Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet

Subject: Action Report - Period 7 January 1945 to 17 January 1945 Inclusive.

Reference: (a) PacFlt Conf. Ltr., A2-11/A12 Serial 101-45 dated 1 January, 1945.
(b) Com7thPhib Ltr., FE24/A16-3 Serial 2823 dated 12 November, 1945.

Enclosure: (A) Report of Anti-Aircraft Fire by Surface Ships - Standard Form. - p. 3

1. On 6 January 1945 at 0856 Item time, this ship got underway enroute Leyte, Philippine Islands to Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands and proceeded in accordance with cruising instructions outlined in Commander Reinforcement Group (Task Group 77.9) movement order AL74-44 for participation in the ~~phase of the~~ *Philippine* Operation. Combat load and passengers of seven (7) LVT's and thirty three (33) officers and men of the 727th Amphibious Tractor Battalion; various vehicles and 137 officers and men of Company C 632nd Tank Destroyer Battalion. Total load 737 tons.

2. Enroute to the objective several alerts were sounded but no enemy aircraft or surface vessels were seen. The voyage to the objective was marked by the lack of enemy opposition.

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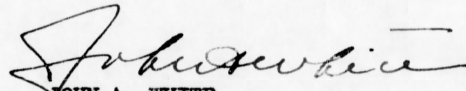
Subject: Action Report - Period 7 January, 1945 to 17 January, 1945 Inclusive.

3. At 1005 on 11 January 1945 on orders from CTU 77.9.12 this ship anchored about five (5) miles off "Blue Beach", in Lingayen Gulf and disembarked seven (7) LVT's of the 727th Amphibious Tractor Battalion with instructions for them to proceed to "Blue Beach". This ship then proceeded and anchored off "White Beach" to await beaching instructions. At 1727 ship was beached on "Blue Beach", Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands. It was necessary to construct a pontoon causeway as ship had beached approximately 75 yards from the water's edge. Considerable difficulty was encountered due to heavy surf ranging from three (3) to six (6) foot waves. Commenced unloading equipment at 2136, 11 January, 1945. Completed unloading at 0525, 12 January, 1945. Pontoons were unshackled at 0700 and retracting from beach was accomplished with no difficulty. At 0710 an enemy plane, "OSCAR" type, was sighted overhead. Opened fire (See Enclosure (A)) with other ships in vicinity but plane was not hit. Apparently this plane was on an observation mission as it circled and set course in same direction from which it had come. Ship proceeded to anchorage off "White Beach". At 0810 exploding bombs were observed at distances of approximately 900 yards and one (1) mile.

4. At 1741 on 12 January, 1945 ship got underway in accordance with CTU 77.9.12 orders and proceeded to area seaward to San Fabion transport area. Convoy consisting of 33 IST's, various LCI's, YMS' formed up. This convoy was later designated as Task Unit 79.14.7 with OTC (ComLSTGrp-24) in IST 744. Escort Commander was ComPortDiv 69 in DE 342.

5. Voyage back to Leyte was marked by the lack of a single "BOGIE" report which no doubt was a result of the excellent air coverage provided on the preoccupation of the enemy elsewhere.

6. Anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands at 1227, 17 January, 1945.


JOHN A. WHITE.

Copy To:
Chief of Naval Operations

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