

(ADVANCE COPY)

IST585/A16-3
Serial: 021

U.S.S. IST 585
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

278
Reg. No. 120
R. S. No. 0536E

CONFIDENTIAL

12 June 1945

6 0536E

From: Commanding Officer, U.S.S. IST 585
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet
Via: (1) Commander IST Flotilla TWENTY-FOUR
(Commander Task Unit 78.1.16)
(2) Commander Amphibious Group SIX
(Commander Task Group 78.1)
(3) Commander SEVENTH Amphibious Force
(Commander Task Force 78)
(4) Commander SEVENTH Fleet
Subject: Action Report, U.S.S. IST 585 - BRUNEI BAY AREA,
LABUAN ISLAND, 10 June 1945 - 12 June 1945
References: (a) Article 874(6) U.S. Navy Regulations, 1920
(b) Com7thPhib conf. ltr. serial 0563 of 10 March 1945
Enclosure: (A) Loading Report - p.5

PART I

1. This ship operated as a unit of Task Unit 78.1.16, BROWN Assault Unit, with the mission of transporting, and at DCG hour on ZEBRA Day, landing embarked portions of the 24th Brigade of the Ninth Australian Division and attached units together with their supplies and equipment on BROWN Beach, LABUAN ISLAND.
2. Loading of troops and cargo took place at Blue Beach, Morotai Island, according to schedule. See enclosure (A) for a detailed account of the amount, types, and distribution of cargo, and the number of officers and men carried to the objective area.
3. In addition to the mock invasion held in Morotai, N.E.I., staging area, 1 June 1945, numerous other drills and exercises were held aboard this ship for the benefit of the troops until the time of arrival at the objective area.
4. Both LCV(P)s of this ship were used as wave guide boats in the assault of LABUAN ISLAND. Number 1 LCV(P), Ensign Kenneth L. Gould, in charge, served as guide for the second wave and No. 2 LCV(P), Ensign Joseph Robert Lombardo in charge, was guide boat of the fourth wave to land on BROWN Beach TWO. Assault waves were composed of troops of the 24th Brigade loaded in LVTs. Wave guide boats carried Royal Australian Navy

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personnel.

PART II

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF EVENTS

- May 25 - Loaded bulk cargo on tank deck at Blue Beach, Morotai Island.
31 - Loaded vehicles and troops at Blue Beach, Morotai Island.
- June 1 - Mock invasion drill in Morotai Harbor.
4 - 1205 - Underway, forming convoy, en route to objective area.
10 - 0400 - Energized degaussing; put radar into operation; sounded general quarters.
0625 - Anchored in Berth 55, IST Area 5, Brunei Bay, British North Borneo.
0645 - Opened bow doors.
0649 - Lowered #1 LCV(P).
0651 - Sighted enemy aircraft bearing 090° relative. Plane appeared from clouds at about 2,000 feet altitude; dropped a bomb which exploded in the water off this ship's starboard quarter approximately 1,500 yards away.
0654 - Lowered #2 LCV(P). Both boats standing off fully loaded carrying Royal Australian Navy beach party and wave guide parties.
0700 - All LVTs loaded with troops and equipment.
Lowered bow ramp.
0739 - Commenced launching LVTs with assault parties for Brown Beach.
0746 - Completed launching LVTs.
0820 - #1 LCV(P) with second wave assembled at line of departure.
0825 - #2 LCV(P) with fourth wave assembled at line of departure.
0848 - #1 LCV(P) departed line of departure.
0854 - #2 LCV(P) departed line of departure.
0917.5- #1 LCV(P) beached.
0924 - #2 LCV(P) beached.
0919 - #1 LCV(P) retracted.
0926 - #2 LCV(P) retracted.
1031 - Both LCV(P)s returned to ship.
1040 - #2 LCV(P) left for beach.
1145 - #2 LCV(P) returned to ship.
1617 - Set Condition I-A, beaching condition.
1629 - Underway for Labuan Island, BROWN Beach ONE, Slot #3.
1709 - Beached. Initial landings taking place on beach to port of ship at Labuan Town. Landing being supported by gun fire from LCSs and LCI(G). Light mortar fire directed at ships.

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June 10 - 1715 - One mortar shell exploded on the beach in front of the bow of this ship approximately 200 yards away. No casualties on this ship.

1815 - Commenced unloading cargo and remainder of troops.

1910 - Main deck completely unloaded.

2025 - Commenced unloading bulk cargo from tank deck.

June 11 - 1025 - Completed unloading cargo.

1045 - Retracted from beach. Returning to anchorage.

1218 - Anchored in Anchorage Area Tare, Berth 89.

1543 - Transferred fresh water to PC 1120.

1958 - Transferred fresh water and fuel to YMS 313.

June 12 - 0917 - Changed anchorage to Tare 34.

1135 - Transferred fresh water to LCI 776.

1341 - Transferred fresh water to LCI 71.

1600 - Underway in convoy returning to Morotai.

PART III

5. Ordnance material and equipment was not used by this ship.

PART IV

6. This ship suffered no battle damage and none was inflicted upon the enemy.

PART V

7. Unloading was unnecessarily delayed at various times while on the beach. First by the lack of personnel to load vehicles and then by the lack of vehicles. It has been this command's experience that upon beaching, sufficient men and vehicles are not made available to unload the ship as expeditiously as is expected of ships.

8. It has also been this command's experience to note that complete cooperation is not always obtained from unloading parties. It is believed that if sufficient men are sent to work as an unloading party, enough vehicles are made available for unloading purposes, and greater cooperation is received from unloading parties the unloading of LSTs can be accomplished in much shorter time.

PART VI

9. Ship's personnel performed their duties admirably under

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the hazards of enemy resistance. There were no personnel casualties aboard this ship.

A.P. MORSE

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LOADING REPORT

13 June 1945

1. Total number of personnel aboard, 367; 32 officers and 335 enlisted personnel.

- A. Number of R.A.N. beach party personnel: 5 officers and 18 enlisted men.
- B. Number of American Army personnel: 1 officer and 42 enlisted men.
- C. Number of Australian troops: 26 officers and 275 enlisted men.
 - (a) Infantry: 10 officers, 145 enlisted men.
 - (b) Tank Corps: 2 officers, 3 enlisted men.
 - (c) Medical Unit: 2 enlisted men.
 - (d) Supply: 1 officer, 9 enlisted men.
 - (e) Transport: 2 officers, 20 enlisted men.
 - (f) Signal Corps, 13 enlisted men.
 - (g) Artillery: 8 officers, 34 enlisted men.
 - (h) Workshop: 1 officer, 39 enlisted men.
 - (i) Air Courier: 2 officers.
 - (j) Engineers: 6 enlisted men.
 - (k) Canteen: 2 enlisted men.

2. Total tons of cargo aboard: 584½ tons.

- A. Bulk cargo, 230 tons.
 - (a) Tank deck: 225 tons.
 - 1. Petrol, 160 tons.
 - 2. Stores, 60 tons.
 - 3. Roller conveyers, 5 tons.
 - (b) Main deck: 5 tons.
 - 1. Stores, 5 tons.
- B. Vehicles, total number, 39. Total tonnage with loads, 454½ tons.
 - (a) Main deck: 29 vehicles weighing with loads, 121½ tons.
 - 1. 10, 3-ton trucks, 40 tons.
 - 2. 2, 2½-ton trucks, 8 tons.
 - 3. 6, jeeps, 2½ tons.
 - 4. 3, water trucks, 9 tons.
 - 5. 2, 2 PDR guns, 1 ton.
 - 6. 6, 4-ton trailers, 1½ tons.
 - 7. Various items loaded on vehicles, 59½ tons.
 - (b) Tank deck, 11 vehicles weighing with loads, 233 tons.
 - 1. 11 LVTs, 200 tons.
 - 2. Various items loaded on LVTs, 33 tons.

3. Two additional LVTs loaded on tank deck weighing with loads, 42 tons.

G.P. Morse
A.P. MORSE
COMMANDING

ENCLOSURE (A)

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