## Received from James B. Simms USS LST-26 Contributed by Sara Bateman



LST 26 - South Pacific - WWII James B. Simms, U.S. Coast Guard



LST 26 Invasion in the Philippines at Layte Gulf October 20, 1944



Philippine Beach Head



LST crew members

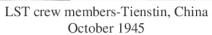


South Pacific Beach Head



LST crew members







## U.S.S. LST 26 Fleet Post Office San Francisco, California

## \_ December, 1945

## NUTICE TO ALL HANDS:

a brief history of the USS LST 26 from commissioning to de-commissioning is presented in chronological order for the general iformation of all

May 1943 - Launched at Dravo Shipbuilding Corporation, Neville

Island, Pitusburgh, Pa.

Juhe 1943 - Lieut. Eugene Kiernan, communding officer, a crew of six officers and six.y-six enlisted men reported aboard and proceeded to New Orleans for ritting out and on to Panama.

Aug. 1943 - Sailed from Panama bound for Southwest Pacific to report to Group 21, Flotilla SEVEN.

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During the period from December 1944 until just prior to the China trip, this vessel was occupied with numerous milk runs to Manile, Subic Bay, Hollandia, Finchafen, and Manus in the Admiratty Islands.

Our last extended trip covered over 9000 miles and included stops at Manus, in the Admiralty Islands, Bougainville, in the Solomons, Hollandia sw Guinea, Okinawa, Nanssi Shot Island, and rinally Tangku on the Poiho river just below Tienstein, Chins; then back to Leyte, Philippine Islands.

<sup>\*</sup>Note- last five dates should be 1945 instead of 1944

We received orders to the United States and proceeded via Samar, P.: through the Marianas, stopping at Pearl Hartor for routing to San Francisco, a total of over 6,000 miles.

During some of the invasions this ship was exposed to enemy mortar shell and sniper fire from the beach, we came out of the Jap Suicide Plane attack in Leyte Gulf on 11-12-44 with no casulaties and three Jap planes to our credit.

The 26 along with the other Coast Gurad LST'S in Group 21 has carried many hundreds of men, including Marines, Army and CB's and many tons of vital equipment and ammunition. We have had as GRoup Commander Captain's XXXX Peterson, Highes, Nelson and Lieut. Com'd.Gardner.

The Commanding Officers of the 26 have been Lieut. Kiernan, Lieut. Baquie, Lieut.(jg) Merrick(acting C.O.) and Lieut. R.B. Newell, who was relieved by your present commanding Officer.

F.k. KETCH.M, Lieut. USCGR Commanding Officer





LST. 26 JB Simms (3 Insignias / Bridge)



J.B.SIMMS LST 26

