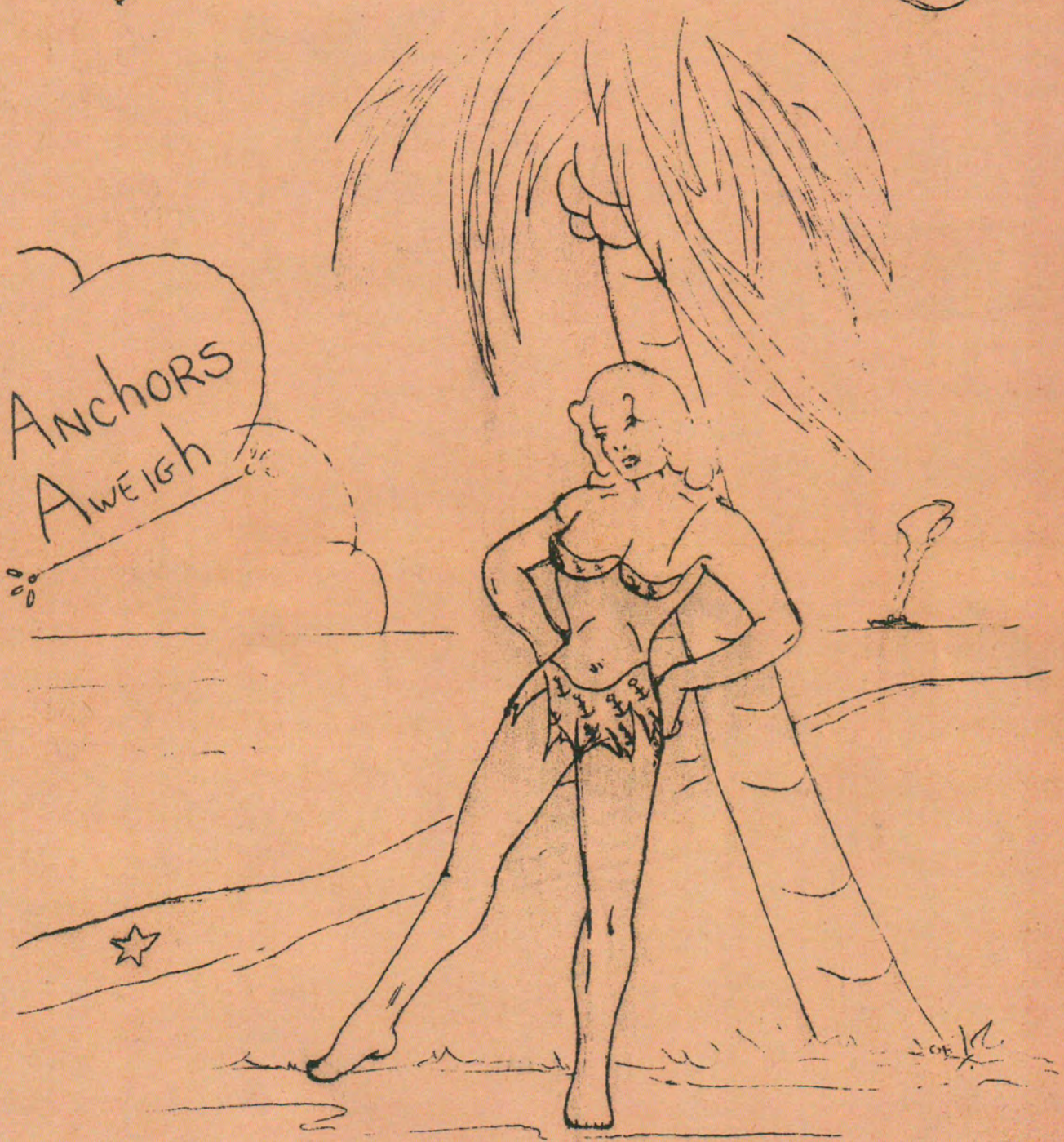


Contributed by Tom Parkinson
for his father Bill ("Parky") Parkinson MMoM USS LST-853
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LST 853



SHIP'S HISTORY

of

15 November 1945

U.S.S. L.S.T. 853

- 19 November 1944 The U.S.S. LST 853, built by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company, Seneca, Illinois, was launched this date.
- 1 December 1944 Officers and crew reported aboard. Ship placed in reduced commission.
- 2 December 1944 Departed Seneca, Illinois, enroute to New Orleans, Louisiana, by way of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers.
- 10 December 1944 Arrived New Orleans and commenced fitting out period.
- 11 December 1944 Ship was placed in full commission.
- 25 December 1944 Completed fitting out period. Departed New Orleans, Louisiana, enroute to Panama City, Florida, for shakedown cruise.
- 27 December 1944 Arrived St. Andrews Bay, Panama City, Florida, and commenced shakedown exercises.
- 7 January 1945 Annual Military Inspection held by Comdr. Wynn USN and inspection party from Amphibious Training Base, Panama City, Florida. Completed shakedown period. Took departure from Panama City, Florida enroute to New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 8 January 1945 Arrived New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 19 January 1945 Departed New Orleans, Louisiana, with load of bulk cargo for Balboa, Canal Zone.
- 25 January 1945 Anchored in Limon Bay, Colon, Canal Zone.
- 26 January 1945 A.M. Underway for transit of Panama Canal. P.M. Arrived Balboa, Canal Zone.
- 29 January 1945 Underway for San Diego, California, with twenty-three Naval enlisted passengers returning to the U.S. for rehabilitation leave.
- 11 February 1945 Moored to pier 2, Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.
- 16 February 1945 Took departure from San Diego enroute to San Francisco, California.
- 18 February 1945 Anchored in San Francisco Harbor, San Francisco, California.
- 25 February 1945 Underway for Seattle, Washington.
- 2 March 1945 Moored to Pier 90, Seattle, Washington.
- 5 March 1945 Shifted berth to Sound Construction and Engineering Company docks. Commenced taking on cargo.
- 10 March 1945 Underway from Seattle, Washington, enroute to Saipan, Marianas Islands, carrying Company "C" 1908 Engineering Aviation Battalion and equipment. LCT being carried on main deck. In company with three other LST's.

23 March 1945 Arrived Pearl Harbor, T.H., enroute to Saipan, Marianas Islands. Accomplished minor repairs to both propellers and bow doors and received aboard two 2 x 30 pontoons which were lashed to the sides.

4 April 1945 Underway from Kewalo Basin, Honolulu Harbor, T.H. enroute to Saipan, Marianas Islands, in company with eleven LST's and eight LSM's.

16 April 1945 Anchored in Eniwetok Harbor, Eniwetok, Island.

17 April 1945 Underway from Eniwetok Island enroute to Guam on second leg of route to Saipan from Pearl Harbor.

22 April 1945 Anchored in Apra Harbor, Guam. Commenced replenishing stores.

23 April 1945 Completed taking aboard stores.

24 April 1945 Underway from Guam for Saipan.

25 April 1945 Moored in Tanapag Harbor, Saipan. Discharged officers and men of Company "C" 1908th Engineer Aviation Battalion. Received aboard Company "C" 1878th Engineer Aviation Battalion for transportation to Okinawa.

27 April 1945 Underway from Saipan enroute to Okinawa in company with seven LST's, 2 LSM's, and 2 escorts.

2 May 1945 Due to heavy weather and excessive rolling starboard pontoon broke loose and drifted free despite all precautions and efforts to save it.

3 May 1945 Anchored in Hagushi Anchorage, Okinawa. Four air raids this date.

4 May 1945 Fired starboard battery at 0145 at enemy aircraft caught in searchlight and approaching ship. Port 20mm gun on LCT suffered a casualty, three men were injured by flying shrapnel, one seriously. Two other air raids this date.

5 May 1945 Two air raids this date.

6 May 1945 Beached at Green Beach #1, Hagushi, Okinawa to unload personnel and equipment of Company "C" 1878th Engineer Aviation Battalion. Six air raids this date.

7 May 1945 Two air raids this date.

8 May 1945 Completed unloading cargo and retracted from beach.

9 May 1945 Shifted berth to Nakagusuku Wan (later called Buckner Bay). Three air raids this date.

10 May 1945 Pontoon launched and cast off by G.B. working party. Two air raids this date.

11 May 1945 Launched LCT from main deck. One air raid this date.

12-17 May 1945 Anchored as before in Nakagusuku Wan. An Average of one air raid each night.

18 May 1945 Underway from Okinawa enroute to Saipan in company with seven LST's, twenty-six LSM's, and four escorts.

25 May 1945 Anchored in Saipan Harbor.

4 June 1945 Underway from Saipan Harbor enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands, in company with thirty LST's.

10 June 1945 Anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I.

12 June 1945 Underway from Leyte, P.I. for Luzon, P.I., in company with various LST's of the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

15 June 1945 Entered Subic Bay, Luzon, P.I., and beached prior to loading cargo.

16 June 1945 Completed loading troops and equipment of Co. "B", 440th Signal Heavy Construction Battalion, and retracted from beach. Anchored in Subic Bay.

18 June 1945 Underway from Luzon, P.I., enroute to Okinawa in company with eight LST's.

19 June 1945 Picked up two escorts at San Fernando Roads, Luzon, P.I.

24 June 1945 Anchored in Hagushi Anchorage, Okinawa.

25 June 1945 Shifted berth to Toguchi, Okinawa, beached bow on to beach and commenced unloading cargo.

26 June 1945 Completed unloading cargo and retracted from beach. Ship grounded on reef in Toguchi Anchorage. Ship floated free of reef with assistance of another LST in afternoon, no damage sustained.

27 June 1945 Underway for Hagushi Anchorage from Toguchi, Okinawa. Moored bow on to a pontoon causeway at Purple Beach #2, Hagushi. Loaded troops and equipment of 307th Infantry, U.S. Army.

29 June 1945 Underway from Okinawa, enroute to Leyte, P.I. in company with ten LST's and three escorts.

4 July 1945 Anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I.

5 July 1945 Underway from Leyte, P.I. enroute to Cebu, P.I.

6 July 1945 Anchored in Magellan Bay, Cebu, P.I.

7 July 1945 Underway for Danao, Cebu, P.I., Beached north of Danao Point and disembarked troops and equipment of the 307th Infantry, U.S. Army. Retracted from beach and anchored in Magellan Bay.

8 July 1945 Shifted berth from Magellan Bay to Cebu City, Cebu, P.I.

9 July 1945 Underway from Cebu to Subic Bay, P.I.

11 July 1945 Anchored in Subic Bay, P.I. Commenced three day anchor availability.

14 July 1945 Beached at Subic Beach. Commenced loading Army personnel and cargo of the Fifth Air Force.

15 July 1945 Completed loading cargo. Retracted from beach and anchored in Subic Bay.

16 July 1945 Underway from Subic Bay, P.I. enroute to Okinawa in company with fourteen LST's and three escorts.

17 July 1945 Anchored in San Fernando Roads, Lingayen, P.I.

18 July 1945 Underway enroute to Okinawa. U.S. Army air-sea rescue boat taken in tow for transport. Bridle on crash boat being towed broke loose and tow was lost. Crash boat returned to port. Convoy maneuvering off Eastern Luzon to avoid storm to north.

23 July 1945 Anchored off Hagushi, Okinawa.

24 July 1945 Underway for beaching. Beached at Hamasaki Beach, Okinawa, and commenced unloading personnel and cargo of the Fifth Air Force.

25 July 1945 Completed unloading. Underway for Buckner Bay, Okinawa. Anchored in Buckner Bay.

26 July 1945 Moored bow on at Yonabaru Landing Dock, Okinawa. Loaded U.S. Army Infantry units of the 96th Division. Cast off from dock and anchored in Yonabaru Wan, Okinawa.

27 July 1945 One air raid this date.

29 July 1945 One air raid this date.

30 July 1945 Two air raids this date.

1 August 1945 Underway from Yonabaru Wan, Okinawa, enroute to Leyte, P.I. in company with twenty-four LST's and three escorts.

4 August 1945 Submarine contacted by escort; depth charge pattern dropped. Possible hit reported. Torpedo reported fired at escort.

7 August 1945 Anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I.,

9 August 1945 Underway in company with nine LST's from Leyte, P.I. enroute to Mindora, P.I.

11 August 1945 Anchored in Mangarin Bay, Mindoro, P.I. Underway for beaching south of Bugsango Point, Mindoro, to unload personnel and equipment of Army Infantry units of the 96th Division. Upon completion of unloading returned to anchorage in Mangarin Bay.

12 August 1945 Underway from Mindoro enroute to Zamboanga, Mindanao, P.I., in company with nine LST's.

14 August 1945 Anchored in Zamboanga Harbor. Underway for beaching at San Mateo Beach, Zamboanga.

18 August 1945 Retracted from beach and anchored off San Mateo Point, Zamboanga, P.I.

19 August 1945 Underway from Zamboanga in company with nine LST's enroute to Leyte, P.I.

21 August 1945 Anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I.

27 August 1945 Underway for Batangas, Luzon, P.I., in company with twenty-seven LST's.

30 August 1945 Beached at Taloga Beach, Luzon, P.I. to load service units of the U.S. Eighth Army.

1 September 1945 Upon completion of loading retracted from beach and anchored in Batangas Bay.

3 September 1945 Underway for Yokohama, Japan, in company with sixteen LST's and one escort.

- 12 September 1945 Arrived destination. Moored bow on to Takashima landing dock, Yokohama, and unloading cargo.
- 13 September 1945 Shifted berth to anchorage in Yokohama Bay.
- 14 September 1945 Beached at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan. Commenced loading personnel and equipment of the Forth Marine Division.
- 15 September 1945 Completed loading cargo, retracted from beach and anchored in Yokohama Ko, Tokyo Bay, Japan.
- 19 September 1945 Underway enroute to Guam, M.I., in company with one LST and one escort.
- 26 September 1945 Arrived Port Apra Guam, M.I. Moored to unloading dock and unloaded cargo.
- 27 September 1945 Shifted berth to Calalan Banks Jetty.
- 9 October 1945 Underway from Guam enroute to Leyte, P.I.
- 14 October 1945 Anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I.
- 25 October 1945 Underway for beaching at Rizal, Leyte.
- 26 October 1945 Completed loading cargo. Retracted from beach and anchored in San Pedro Bay.
- 28 October 1945 Underway from Leyte, P.I. enroute to Aomori, Japan, in company with fourteen LST's and one escort.