

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

LST 244/A16-3

U.S.S. LST 244
% Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif.

SECRET

1 August 1944

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via: Commander, Task Group 53.16.
Commander, Task Force 53.
CinCFOA.
Subject: Action report.

1. In accordance with the orders of CTG 53.16 on 28 July 1944, this vessel was beached and unloading military cargo west of Asan, Guam (Red Beach, as shown in Annex "E" to CTF 53 attack order A165-44). LST's 71, 29, and 334 were also beached on Red Beach. LST 343 was beached on Green Beach.

2. At 1818 hostile mortar fire began falling among these ships. CTG 53.16 ordered all ships to retract as quickly as possible. At 1821 the firing ceased. At 1838 the mortar firing was resumed and supported by howitzers of medium calibre which put a barrage astern of these ships. CTG 53.16 ordered all ships to retract and move out of range of the hostile firing.

3. LST's 71, 29, and 334 retracted. This vessel and the LST 343 had difficulty in retracting. This vessel had been having an extremely difficult time staying on the beach and in order to counteract any chance of slipping off the beach had completely filled all its forward ballast tanks. Discharge of ballast was started at 1819 but not enough ballast had been discharged to enable this vessel to retract. The difficulty in retracting was reported to CTG 53.16 who immediately ordered the USS Apache (ATF 67) to close the beach and aid this vessel and the LST 343 in retracting. The Apache closed the beach immediately and with the aid of a line throwing gun passed a 3" messenger secured to a towing cable to the stern of this vessel. This line was over at 1912. However before the towing cable could be secured this vessel retracted under its own power. At 1918 the messenger was cast off and at 1922 this vessel's stern anchor was aweigh. The LST 343 was able to retract before this vessel.

4. This vessel suffered no personnel casualties and no material damage. This vessel did not open fire as hostile positions were not clearly defined. By order of CTG 53.16 this vessel lay to out of range of shore

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S E C R E T

1 August 1944

Subject: Action report.

batteries until 0630 King 29 July at which time it beached and resumed unloading.

5. During the entire period of action this vessel's officers and crew performed their duties calmly, efficiently, and in a seaman like manner.

L. W. Adershold
L. W. ADERHOLD

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LST FLOT 5 / A16-3
Serial 00165

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
LST FLOTILLA FIVE
AMPHIBIOUS FORCE SOUTH PACIFIC

(cwb)

c-o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California

1 August 1944.

S-E-C-R-E-T

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
CO, USS LST 244 secret ltr
A16-3, dated 1 August 1944.

From: Commander Task Group 53.16 (ComLSTFlot5).
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via: (1) Commander Task Force 53 (ComGrp3, PhibPac).
(2) Commander in Chief, United States Pacific
Fleet.

Subject: Action Report - 28 July 1944.

1. Forwarded.

2. The Task Group Commander notes with pride and satisfaction the highly commendable and courageous manner in which the Commanding Officer, Officers, and Crew of LST 244 conducted themselves under trying conditions in the face of a large concentration of enemy fire, glued to the beach as the ship was and coming from a position unknown to them, thus depriving the vessel of the opportunity to return this fire.

3. The Task Group Commander from STEMBEL lying close to off shore observed the fall of shot mentioned in paragraph 2 of the basic letter regards type of fire to which beached LST's were subjected.

4. U.S.S. APACHE in carrying out the orders of the Task Group Commander proceeding to the aid of LST 244 to pull her off the beach in the face of enemy fire is most commendable. When report of APACHE is received further comment in this respect will be made.

G. B. Carter
G. B. CARTER.

Copy to:
LST 244.

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By: NDC **NARA Date:** Dec 31, 2012

FILE NO. A16-3

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
GROUP THREE, AMPHIBIOUS FORCES
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

90/fps

SERIAL NO. 00294

S-E-C-R-E-T

7 September 1944.

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to
CO, USS LST 244 Sec.Ltr.,
A16-3 dated 1 August 1944.

From: Commander Group THREE, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet,
(Commander Task Force FIFTY-THREE).
To : Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
Via : (1) Commander Amphibious Forces, U. S. Pacific Fleet,
(Commander Task Force FIFTY-ONE).
(2) Commander FIFTH Fleet,
(Commander Task Force FIFTY).
(3) Commander-in-Chief, United States Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report - 28 July 1944.

1. Forwarded.


R. L. CONOLLY.

1 696

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By: NDC **NARA Date:** Dec 31, 2012

OM-29492

(2)

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
AMPHIBIOUS FORCES, U. S. PACIFIC FLEET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CAF/A16-3(3)

05/fl

Serial: 00965

4535

12 OCT 1944

S-E-C-R-E-T

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
CO, USS LST 244 Secret
Ltr. A16-3 dated 1
August 1944.

From: Commander Amphibious Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via : (1) Commander FIFTH Fleet.
(2) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: USS LST 244 Action Report - 28 July 1944.

1. Forwarded.

W C Mott
W. C. MOTT,
By direction.

4535

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ComFIFTHFleet File

Al6-3(2c-A)

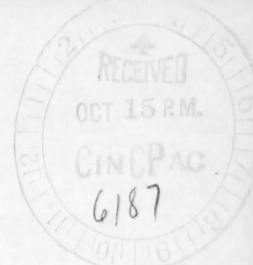
COMMANDER FIFTH FLEET
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER

Serial: 00671

SECRET
SECRET

Al6-3/July

15 OCT 1944



19406

FOURTH ENDORSEMENT to
CO, USS LST 244 Secret
Ltr. Al6-3 dated 1
August 1944.

From: Commander FIFTH Fleet.
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via : Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
Subject: USS LST 244 Action Report - 28 July 1944.
1. Forwarded.

A. C. DAVIS,
Chief of Staff.

1 696

ENCLOSURE PPP

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