

**DECLASSIFIED**

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LST397/A16-3  
Serial 281-45U.S.S. LST 397  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, Calif.Reg. No. 40 39

R. S. No.

17 March 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Commanding Officer  
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet

Via : (1) C.T.U. 77.9.12 (Commander LST Flotilla 3)  
(2) C.T.G. 77.9 Com Phib Group THREE)  
(3) Com. 7th Phib. Force  
(4) Commander SEVENTH Fleet  
(5) Commander S.W. Pac Area.

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Subject: Action Report - U.S.S. LST 397

Reference: (a) Com Seventh Phib Confidential Letter, Serial 0212 of  
17 February 1944.

1. This ship was assigned to Task Unit 77.9.15 constituting a part of T U 77.9.12 by C T U 77.9.12 Movement Order 9-44 under CANF, SWPA Operation Plan 17-44. This ship was beached at White Beach, Leyte, P. I. and loaded on 5 January 1945 with U.S. Army Tank Destroyer Battalion. This ship got underway from San Pedro Bay at 0900 on 6 January 1945 with eight other LST's and joined the main body at the entrance to Leyte Gulf at 1600, 6 January 1945, proceeding through Surigao Strait and the Mindanao Sea. The Task Unit arrived at Lingayen Gulf at 0600 11 January 1945. LST 397 was beached at 1600 January 11 1945 on White Beach but was forced to retract immediately because of bad beach. This vessel remained at anchor until 0900 12 January 1945 and was then beached at Blue Beach. The ship sustained no casualties while beaching or on the beach.

2. Four casualties were loaded on this vessel from the beach for evacuation to the first available army hospital. Three were U.S. Army stretcher cases and one a U. S. Army ambulatory. All casualties were disembarked at San Pedro Bay, Leyte, on 17 January 1945.

3. The ship was retracted from the beach at 1500 12 January 1945 and anchored off White Beach. At 1800 12 January this vessel joined convoy returning to Leyte on 17 January 1945.

No ammunition was expended by this ship during the operation and no casualties were sustained.

Advance Copy;  
ComInChE. W. Tensley  
Lieut. USNR

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