

**GROUP 109**

LSTGRP109/A16-3

**L. S. T. FLOTILLA 37**

Serial 013

Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

8 August 1945

**CONFIDENTIAL**C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-LSubject: War Diary - Period 1 July to 8 August 1945.  
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25 July 1945

0930 Departure conference of Commanding Officer's of LST's 1010, 230 730, 929 and 996 held aboard LST 1010 by Commander LST Group 109 to distribute sailing order and routing instructions to Subic Bay, LUZON. All ships reported loading completed and ready to retract from beach. Commanding Officer's directed by Commander LST Group 109 to retract from beach upon return to their ships and anchor as before in Mangarin Bay being in all respects ready to sail at 1200. LST's loaded as follows with Units of 5th Airforce: LST 1010 89th Attack Squadron and half of Headquarters and Service Company; LST 230 13th Attack Squadron; LST 730 8th Attack Squadron; LST 929 90th Attack Squadron and other half of Headquarters and Service Company; LST 996 61st Service Squadron.

1200 In accordance with previous instructions from C.T.F. 76 and C.T.G. 72.10 and in compliance with orders from Port Director Mangarin Bay MINDORO, PHILLIPINE IS. dated 25 July 1945. Commander LST Group 109, SOPA and OTC aboard LST 1010 directed LST's 1010, 230, 730, 929 and 996 to get underway and form cruising disposition of single column in above listed order enroute to Subic Bay, LUZON. Steaming on various courses conforming to channel; SOA 9.5 knots.

1505 Changed course to 313°T.

1949 Changed course to 335°T. Holding precautionary General Quarters at dawn and dusk. No escorts. Sky cloudy, Sea smooth, slight westerly breezes.

Positions: 0800	12-20.30 N.	121-01.42 E.
1200	12-20.30 N.	121-01.00 E.
2000	13-17.00 N.	120-13.00 E.

26 July 1945

Cruising as before enroute to Subic Bay, LUZON.

0023 Changed course to 017°T.

0608 Changed course to 055°T.

0638 Entered Subic Bay, LUZON, PHILLIPINE IS.

0718 Anchored in Subic Bay, Commander LST Group 109 reported with LST's 1010, 230, 730, 929 and 996 to CTG 72.10 for duty and further instructions. Sky partly cloudy, gentle southwesterly breeze.

Positions: 0800	14-45.00 N.	120-15.00 E.
1200	14-45.00 N.	120-15.00 E.
2000	14-45.00 N.	120-15.00 E.

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27 July 1945

IST 1010 anchored as before in Subic Bay, LUZON PHILIPPINE IS. with IST's 540 and 543 of IST Group 109 present.

0810 In compliance with C.T.G. 72.10 secret dispatch and 260229 of July 1945 and orders from Port Director Subic Bay dated 26 July. Commander IST Group 109 (Commander Edward W. WILSON, D, 24631, USNR) aboard IST 1010 got underway for Rendezvous Point (Lat. 14-45 N, Long. 119-56 E) to join Task Unit 72.10.6 enroute to OKINAWA, RYUKYUS ISLANDS. Task Unit consisting of 29 IST's, 16 LSM's, 14th Emergency Rescue Boat Squadron (U.S. Army) in tow; and, 4 DE's as escorts. ComCortDiv 74 (Capt. HOOVER, USN) in RUDDEROW OTC and SOPA enroute. ComLSTGroup 17 (Commander F. E. PERRIN, D, USNR) C.T.U. 72.10.6. IST's 1010 and 543 of Group 109 present in Task Unit and assigned convoy positions 31 and 12 respectively. Steaming on various courses in single column; SOA 9.5 knots.

1500 Held A.A. firing practice with two planes towing sleeves and making Uncle runs.

1620 Convoy changed speed to 4 knots and began forming 7 columns.

1745 Completed forming seven columns, IST 628 (Flagship C.T.G. 72.10.6 and Commander IST Group 17) in position 11 and IST 1010 (Flagship ComLSTGroup 109) in position 31.

1756 Changed speed to 10 knots.

2340 Changed course to 014°T. Sky partly cloudy, slight sea, gentle westerly breeze.

Positions: 0800	12-20.30 N.	121-01.42 E.
1200	14-46.00 N.	120-46.00 E.
2000	15-48.30 N.	119-38.30 E.

28 July 1945

Steaming as before enroute Subic Bay to OKINAWA.

0830 Changed speed to 7.5 knots.

1055 Changed speed to 9 knots.

1357 LSM's 29, 56, 87 90, 120, 134, 144, 180, 186, 234, 235, 256, 289 and 369 joined convoy. Convoy changed cruising disposition into 2 columns.

1622 Changed course to 088°T.

1910 Changed course to 109°T.

2043 Changed course to 090°T.

2112 Changed course to 074°T.

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28 July 1945

2112 Sky partly cloudy, slight sea, gentle northeasterly breeze. Holding precautionary General Quarters at dawn and dusk. Received reports of typhoon off Southwestern end of OKINAWA.

Positions: 0800	17-44.00 N.	120-04.00 E.
1200	18-09.00 N.	120-09.00 E.
2000	18-44.00 N.	121-22.00 E.

29 July 1945

Steaming as before.

0200 Changed course to 090°T.

0740 Convoy formed cruising disposition of 9 columns.

1412 Changed speed to 8 knots.

1430 2 rescue boats broke loose from tows due to heavy seas. Convoy changed speed to 4 knots.

1600 Changed course to 070°T. Sky cloudy, moderate swells, fresh northwesterly breeze. continuing to receive reports of typhoon in area off southwestern end of OKINAWA.

Positions: 0800	18-50.00 N.	123-05.00 E.
1200	18-52.00 N.	123-40.00 E.
2000	18-58.30 N.	124-19.00 E.

30 July 1945

Steaming as before. Changed course to 100°T. Typhoon reported 325 miles 56°T. moving west 5-7 knots. Rain, heavy swells strong southwesterly breeze.

Positions: 0800	19-00.00 N.	125-30.00 E.
1200	19-14.00 N.	125-37.00 E.
2000	18-51.00 N.	126-38.38 E.

31 July 1945

Steaming as before.

0843 Changed course to 130°T.

1119 Changed course to 160°T.

1155 Changed course to 190°T.

1220 Changed course to 220°T.

1257 Changed course to 250°T.

1618 Changed speed to 7 knots.

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31 July 1945

Intermittent showers, moderate gale from Southwest, rough Seas.

Positions:	0800	18-40.00 N.	127-39.00 E.
	1200	18-41.00 N.	127-55.30 E.
	2000	18-22.00 N.	127-15.00 E.

1 August 1945

Steaming on course 250°T. at 7 knots enroute from Subic Bay, LUZON, PHILIPPINE IS. to OKINAWA. 9 column cruising disposition.

0915 Changed course to 280°T.

0932 Changed course to 310°T.

1005 Changed course to 340°T.

1039 Changed course to 015°T.

1056 Changed speed to 7.5 knots.

1215 Changed speed to 4 knots.

1400 Changed speed to 7.5 knots. Sky cloudy, intermittent showers, moderate gale from West, rough Seas.

Positions:	0800	17-54.00 N.	126-36.00 E.
	1200	18-14.00 N.	126-30.00 E.
	2000	19-00.00 N.	126-43.00 E.

2 August 1945

LST 1010 (Flagship ComLSTGroup 109) Steaming as before enroute from Subic Bay to OKINAWA; position 31 in convoy; Commander LST Group 17 aboard LST 628 in position 11; OTC of convoy ComCortDiv 74 (Capt. HOOVER, USN) in Rudderow (DE 224).

1319 Changed course to 006°T. Sky cloudy, rough seas, fresh southwesterly breeze

Positions:	0800	20-24-00 N.	126-57-00 E.
	1200	20-46-00 N.	127-14-00 E.
	2000	21-46-00 N.	127-37-00 E.

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3 August 1945

Steaming as before.

0130 - Changed course to 345°T.

1608 - LSM 234 came along Starboard side to pick up LST 1010's cargo manifest.

Sky cloudy, moderate seas, moderate westerly breezes.

Positions: 0800	22-59-00 N.	127-57-00 E.
1200	23-33-00 N.	128-00-00 E.
2000	24-30-00 N.	127-44-30 E.

4 August 1945.

Steaming as before.

0715 - Changed course to 325°T.

0740 - Changed course to 350°T.

0817 - Changed course to 016°T.

0854 - Changed speed to 9-5 knots.

0900 - Convoy formed cruising disposition of 2 columns preparatory to entering NAHA KO, OKINAWA anchorage. LST 628 (ComLSTGroup 17) guide for column #1 and LST 1010 (ComLSTGroup 109) guide for column #2. Proceeded into harbor on various courses and speeds conforming to channel.

1220 - Anchored off NAHA KO, OKINAWA.

1406 - Pursuant to dispatch from C.T.U. 72.10.6 of 040433 July LST's 1010 and 543 of Group 109 got underway for HAGUSHI, OKINAWA.

1505 - Anchored in HAGUSHI anchorage in berth H-101. Sky cloudy, slight swells, moderate southwesterly breeze. Received verbal orders from C.T.U. 95.5.94 (LST SOPA, HAGUSHI) to darken ship at sunset; show no movies topside; no liberty for Officer's nor men; and, no facilities presently available on West side of OKINAWA for obtaining fuel, water or provisions for LST's. Emergency repairs only could be effected at ARL 12.

5 August 1945

Anchored as before in berth H101, HAGUSHI, OKINAWA.

0159 - Flash red, control yellow; General Quarters sounded. All ships in area made smoke.

0242 - Shore searchlight batteries caught enemy Air-craft in beams bearing 080°T. flying very high moving East. Shore A.A. opened fire on target which disappeared into cloud bank.

0349 - Flash blue, control green.

0358 - Flash white, control green.

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5 August 1945 - Con't.

0601 - In compliance with C.T.U. 95.5.94, dispatch 041132 August 1945 ComLST Group 109 aboard his regularly assigned Flagship LST 1010 got underway with LST's 230, 730, 929 and 996 and proceeded to NAHA KO OKINAWA to beach and discharge cargo consisting of elements of 5th Airforce.

0720 - Anchored in NAHA KO anchorage. Received verbal orders from Port Director (Lt. Carpenter, U.S.A.) of 53rd medium Port, U.S. Army to beach at ramp off Oroku Point at next high tide (1830).

1700 - In compliance with C.T.U. 95.5.94 dispatch 050831 August Commander LST Group 109 aboard LST 1010 got underway with LST's 230, 730, 929 and 996 and proceeded to southern section of How Anchorage, HAGUSHI.

1820 - Anchored in area H-91. LST's 540, 543 of Group 109 also present in anchorage.

Positions: 0800	26-20-00 N.	127-45-00 E.
1200	26-19-00 N.	127-45-18 E.
2000	HAGUSHI, OKINAWA.	

6 August 1945

Anchored as before in H-91.

0200 - Flash Red, control yellow, sounded General Quarters all ships making smoke.

0208 - Shore searchlights picked up enemy plane bearing 035°T. Shore A.A. batteries opened fire on aircraft moving Eastward and soon lost to sight.

0350 - Flash white, control green.

1708 - In compliance with C.T.U. 95.5.94 dispatch 060702 of August LST 1010 got underway to anchor close off purple beach preparatory to beaching on Purple 1 A at high tide.

1842 - Beached on Purple 1 A.

1900 - Commenced disembarking 89th Attack Squadron and Headquarters and Service Company of 5th Airforce together with their vehicles and gear.

7 August 1945

LST 1010 beached as before on Purple 1 A unloading.

0200 - Flash red, control yellow, all ships made smoke, sounded General Quarters nothing further developed.

0312 - Flash white, control green.

0525 - Completed discharging cargo.

0607 - Retracted from beach and returned to anchorage.

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7 August 1945 - Cont'd.

0638 - Anchored in berth #42 Hagushi Bay.

2055 - Flash red, control yellow. Sounded General Quarters all ships making smoke. Nothing further developed.

2112 - Flash White, control green. LST's 540, 543, 1010 and 1012 of Group 109 present at Hagushi Bay, OKINAWA.

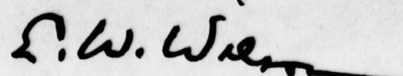
8 August 1945.

LST 1010 anchored as before in berth #42 Hagushi Bay with LST's 540, 543 and 1012 of group 109 also present.

0018 - Flash red, control yellow. Sounded General Quarters all ships making smoke.

0045 - Flash blue, control green. Commander LST Group 109 aboard LST 1010 and LST's 540, 543 unloaded and waiting for next convoy from OKINAWA to Subic Bay, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS. LST 1012 of Group 109 unloading on beach and upon completion of unloading to sail in convoy to Saipan.

5. The health and morale of Personnel on ships of LST Group 109 in this area is considered satisfactory.

  
E. W. WILSON

Copy to:

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