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Authority NND 92760F
Date 03-16-2010

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NAVPERS-134 (REV. 1-44)

DECK LOG-RE

UNITED STATES SHIP

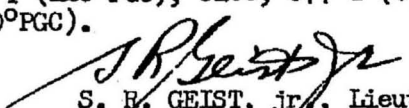
LST 884

Sunday 1 April 1945
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Events and remarks transcribed from quartermaster record by Navigator.

0000-0400

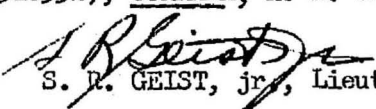
Underway on various courses at 6 knots in company with Task Group 51.8 in position #42, circling 25 miles off the Southern Beach of Okinawa, Ryukyu Isl., with radar and degaussing in operation. Flares and gun flashes observed over the island. The following course changes were made: 0000, 167°T (165°PGC); 0030, 122°T (120°PGC); 0100, 077°T (075°PGC); 0130, 032°T (030°PGC); 0200, 347°T (345°PGC); 0230, 302°T (300°PGC).


S. R. GEIST, jr., Lieut.(jg), USCGR

0400-0800

Underway as before on course 302°T, 7 knots (180 RPM). 0415 c/s to 8 K. 0500 c/s to 5 K. 0508 c/s to 3 K. 0521 Sounded general quarters; all stations manned and ready in eight (8) minutes. 0544 c/c to 347°T (345°PGC). 0548 Enemy planes reported in immediate vicinity. 0548-30 All port guns opened fire at plane. 0549 Suicide plane (Japanese) crashed into port side at the waterline just forward of the superstructure, frame 32. Ship immediately caught fire and ammunition on the tank deck began to explode. Plane crashed through shipfitters shop and unexploded bomb fell down main engine room trunk. Fire reported in main engine room. 0554 Exploding ammunition and fire deemed out of control. Made preparations for abandoning ship. Lowered stbd boat to pick up two men in water. 0554 Fire in main engine room under control, however heat and smoke continuing to increase. 0555 Order given to abandon ship. Lowered port boat, launched all rafts. 0600 Secured main engines and auxiliary engines. Main engine room filled with acrid fumes and smoke. 0605 All engines secured and all men departed engine rooms. Auxiliary engine room overhead plating red hot. After as complete a check as possible all hands were reported off the ship; Commanding Officer went over the side into LST(M) 678's small boat. As far as could be ascertained all hands in the water were picked up by the various ships standing by to render assistance, LST(M) 678, LST 838, DD 656, ATR 80. 0730 A call was issued by C.O. to LST 884's ship's company aboard LST(M) 678 for volunteers to return to the ship and fight the fire, C.O. then aboard DD 656, observing from close aboard 884. ATR 80 approached side of ship and attempted to play hose on fire and was unsuccessful. The following men volunteered and returned.

Lt. C. C. PEARSON, C.O.; Lt.(jg) R. B. DAY, Exec; Lt.(jg) S. R. GEIST, Nav.; Lt.(jg) L.B.FRYE, Eng.; Lt.(jg) H. G. BAKER, 1st Lt.; Lt.(jg) T. L. BECTON, Com. Off.; THRONEBERRY, W. C., CMOMM (551-567); HUFF, R. D. MoMM2c (512-381); TUCKER, G. H. MoMM3c (508-658); TAYLOR, J. G. CMLc (557-791); HARTLEY, H. W. SM2/c (591-268); BOSLEY, F. SKlc (581-353); HAAS, J. J. Jr. Slc(QM) (661-710); PELT, H. Slc (557-327); DIGIOVANNI, E. F. StdM2c (616-777); LANGEVIN, E. F. GM2c (521-078); BRIDGES, L. G. GMLc (200-653); SWINIARSKI, H. F. Slc (7000-179); NIMS, G. I. SC3c (594-739); McNAMARA, J. C. Slc(SC) (568-541); EICHORN, T. D. Slc (680-010); OLSON, C.R.G. F2c (662-339); HOOTEN, G. S. Cpl., USMC (318332); SCHRAMM, H. R. USMCR (549904).


S. R. GEIST, jr., Lieut.(jg), USCGR

0800-1200

Laying to dead in the water fighting fire aboard ship, 6 miles south east of Okinawa Isl., R.I. LCS 116, 118, and 119 laying alongside assisting in fighting fire. Ammunition on tank deck burning and exploding; fire working aft through the compartments toward 40MM magazines. Officers country completely burned on the portside, along with the galley and after main deck passageway. Attempting to flood tank deck and after crews quarters through main deck vents and cargo hatch to control fire. Fire cannot be fought from below decks because of exploding ammunition.


S. R. GEIST, jr., Lieut.(jg), USCGR

000-1600

Fighting fire as before. 1215 Fire under control and mainly out except for isolated spots which were being extinguished. 1230 The following crew members (*), who were aboard the LST(M) 678, returned to the ship, thus making the list of survivors aboard ship as follows:-

Lt. C. C. PEARSON, C.O.
Lt.(jg) R. B. DAY, Exec.
Lt.(jg) S. R. GEIST, JR., Nav.
Lt.(jg) H. G. BAKER, 1st Lt.

Lt.(jg) L. B. FRYE, Eng.
Lt.(jg) T. L. BECTON, Comm. Off.
*Ens. R. J. VOGELSANG, Gunnery Off.
*Ens. A. M. KRUMM, Stbres Off.

1st Div.

*AUSTIN, R. D. (675-343) Slc
*NASH, M. P. (663-061) S2c
*ZAREMBA, J. L. (609-51-31) Slc, USNR
*CARSWELL, L. H. (695-211) S2c
*YOUNG, G. H. (941-61-68) S2c, USNR
*MARBELLA, J. J. (7009-071) S2c
BRIDGES, L. G. (200-653) GMLc

*McGEE, E. C. (591-326) GM3c
*WENSLAUSKIS, J. A. (606-986) Slc
*LEE, L. L. (555-324) BM2c
*EPSTEIN, R. M. (233-576) BM2c
*O'BRIEN, J. W. (552-820) Slc
*CARRE, K. E. (101-812) CBM
*BURRELL, W. D. (561-921) CM2c

APPROVED:

EXAMINED:



U. S. N.

COMMANDING.



U. S. N.

NAVIGATOR

TO BE FORWARDED DIRECT TO THE BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL AT THE END OF EACH MONTH

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Authority NND 927605
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Date 1-16-01

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AVPERS-134 (REV. 1-44)

DECK LOG-RE

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 884 Sunday 1 April, 19 45
(Day) (Date) (Month)

1200-1600 (Cont'd.) Events and remarks transcribed from
1st Div. (Cont'd.) quartermaster record book by Navigator.

SWINIARSKI, H. F. (7000-179) Slc	*OTROBA, M. (546-218) Cox
EICHORN, T. D. (680-010) Slc	*EDWARDS, A. V. (612-043) S2c
*SCOBEE, E. S. Jr. (641-290) Slc	*FORD, F. C. (570-702) Slc
*ACHENBACH, C. A. (634-254) Slc(RdM)	
PELT, H. (557-327) Slc	
LANGEVIN, E. F. (521-078) CM2c	
*BOONE, J. D. (7022-356) CM3c	
*BROWN, J. C. (7022-580) Slc	
TAYLOR, J. G. (557-791) CMLc	

2nd Division

*BOUVIER, L. E. (650-372) MoMM1c	*EWELL, R. T. (597-043) MoMM2c
HUFF, R. D. (512-381) MoMM2c	TUCKER, G. H. (508-658) MoMM3c
*JOHNSON, W. A. (6006-323) EM3c	*GOODWIN, W. W. (508-694) Flc(WT)
THRONEBERRY, W. C. (551-567) CMoMM	OLSON, C. R. G. (662-339) F2c(MoMM)
*WOOD, H. A. (562-584) Flc	*HAGGERTY, S. J. (7022-111) EM2c
*ROZANEK, C. (623-670) Flc(WT)	*EHRETH, R. J. (227-999) Flc
*LINDON, W. V. (570-120) MoMM2c	
*CORBETT, E. C. (522-767) MoMM2c	

3rd Division

*FEIGHTNER, J. W. QM2c (7007-087)	*ADAMS, E. H. (7016-491) RM3c
HAAS, J. J. Jr. (661-710) Slc(QM)	
HARTLEY, H. W. (591-368) SM2c	
*GEARY, A. J. W. III (546-308) SM3c	
*MURRAY, J. J. (7002-836) Slc(SM)	

4th Division

*CRAIL, E. L. (7022-465) Slc	*LANGFORD, R. L. (640-667) SC1c
DIGIOVANNI, E. F. (616-777) StM2c	NIMS, G. I. (594-739) SC3c
*ELDREDGE, M. C. Jr. (619-756) StM2c	*COHEN, H. (7001-177) Slc(Y)
BOSLEY, F. (581-353) SK1c	*PLOETZ, H. H. (528-190) Phom3c
McNAMARA, J. C. (566-541) Slc(SC)	*FLOCKENCIER, F. D. (249-148) MoMM1c
	*McCLELLAN, M. M. (640-885) Slc(QM)

Marines - 2nd Division, 3D Battalion, Company "I"

HOOTEN, G. S.	318332	Cpl
SCHRAMM, H. R.	547904	Pfc

Commenced recovering bodies of marine personnel from tank deck. The following bodies were recovered:-

<u>KOCHANIK</u> , Joseph Anthony 547900 (U.S.M.C.R.)	Buried at sea
<u>DeQUAR</u> , Frank J. Sr. 924888	Buried at Zamani, Kerama Retto, Violet Beach Z-1
<u>MAGNUSON</u> , C. R. 958256	Buried at sea
<u>MATTER</u> , H. A. 822463	Buried at sea
<u>CEASE</u> , James E. 549913	Buried at Zamani, Kerama Retto, Violet Beach Z-1
<u>HAYS</u> , Ralph C.	Buried at sea
<u>KHUPA</u>	Buried at sea
<u>WESTFALL</u> , J. (POSSIBLE)	Buried at Zamani, Kerama Retto, Violet Beach Z-1

NINE other unidentified bodies found with no dog tags, one possible Japanese pilot.

Dog tag of GALLO, Joseph P. 431937 USMC found, man's whereabouts unknown. All above bodies were thoroughly burned and beyond recognition.

1400 USS AT-94 (USS YUMA) took ship in tow and proceeded to Kerama Retto, R.I. Started pumping water from aft starboard compartments to remove starboard list.

600-2000

Underway as before in tow. 1738 Passed through nets at entrance to Kerama Retto, R.I.
1938 Anchored by stern anchor in unknown depth of water to 500 ft. of cable. Set security watch. LCS 56 came alongside stbd side and fed crew. Attempted to ascertain whereabouts and status of remainder of crew by dispatch to Group Comdr. and to LST 838 and DD 656, unable to contact any of them.

000-2400

Anchored as before. 2230 Security watch reported Japanese swimmers in the water shooting at the ship. 2315 FLOCKENCIER, Forest D. (249-148) MoMM1c shot in the neck and killed and McCLELLAN, Magness M. (640-885) Slc(QM) shot in both arms and wounded while raising embarkation nets on port bow, in an attempt to repel a Japanese boarding party.

S. R. Geist
S. R. GEIST, R., Lieut.(jg), USCGR

APPROVED:

EXAMINED:

P. C. Pearson Lt. U.S.N. COMMANDING.

S. R. Geist U.S.N. NAVIGATOR

TO BE FORWARDED DIRECT TO THE BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL AT THE END OF EACH MONTH