

A Work in Progress

Presented here at the Denver reunion is the result of four years of enjoyable research, several visits to the National Archives, attendance at three reunions of the 741st Tank Battalion, uncounted phone calls and letters searching for information.

Since 50, and more, years have passed, the work is painstakingly slow; official information is difficult to uncover, often is incomplete, even contradictory, and memories are beginning to become dim.



However I have uncovered, I think, a wealth of information on our LCTs. I realize that there still are many omissions, probably many errors, etc. so this must be still regarded as "A Work in Progress."

However, it seems that it is time to print what we have and take it from there. Please help us to correct whatever omissions and corrections you find.

Most of the material we have to date is from Normandy as the assault action was on one day at one place making it easier to obtain supporting material. Myself, eighteen days before the invasion, I was plucked from being skipper of LCT 615 and assigned to relief officer of the LCT(A) 2425 with Don Sandie, group commander of the LCT(A) on Omaha. We successfully discharged our tanks and dozer at H-Hour on Easy Red. After bringing in our second load that day, carrying First Division troops, we were damaged by gunfire to where we had to abandon the craft on the beach and join the army ashore.

I need to thank, among others, Joe Suozzo, LCT(A) 2310, Bob Blegen, LCT 149, Victor Hicken, LCT(A) 2227, and Erv Kaufmann, LCT(A) 2124, for help with this project. I also need to thank Bud Farmer, LCT(A) 2310, for nurturing and supporting this project and his patience when the project took longer than expected.

This report should also be looked as Part One of three parts. The other parts, hopefully, will be reports on the LCTs in the Med and on the vast Pacific operations. We have some research for such reports, but we still need flotilla organizations, action reports, landing diagrams and individual experiences. We particularly need some from the Pacific to help us coordinate the LCT operations in that area.

Your historian,

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