

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

FEB 4 1944 Page 1

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Sat 18 Dec, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description +6 (45° W. T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)(U.S.S. LST 504 WAS PLACED IN FULL  
COMMISSION AT 0930 THIS DATE.)0930 - 1200 MOORED, PORT SIDE TO, BERTH 6,  
U.S. NAVAL STATION, NEW ORLEANS, LA.  
PORT WATCH SET.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

1200 - 1600 MOORED AS BEFORE.

R. L. Redding, Ens.

1600 - 2000 Moored as before. 1750 Moved to berth 8  
(B.W. Heller), Ens.

2000 - 2400 Moored as before

J. Bunda  
Ens. USNR

Approved:

Examined:

J. Bunda

Commanding Officer.

Em. Meyer

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 2UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Sun. 19 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description +6 (+S.W.T)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400

Moored, Port side to, Berth 8, Naval Station, New Orleans, La.

e. j. Murphy, Ens.

0400-0800 Moored as before. 0630 LST 503 cast off from starboard side. 0637 Suction failed on #2 fresh water pump. 0705 Suction restored. 0720 Tugboat "Baltimore" cast off from stbd bow.

HMuller

0800-1200 Moored as before. 0920 Power put on elevators. 0930 Power put on davits. 1030 Power cut off davits.

B.W. Heller, Ens.

1200-1600 Moored as before. 1340 Small boat davit #1 was raised. 1420 LST 503 moored along starboard side. 1525 Two 40mm guns were stowed on fantail.

J. Bunda  
Ens USNR

1600-2000 MOORED AS BEFORE. 1845 - SHORT CIRCUIT IN COMPASS BINNACLE. 1915 - COMPASS BINNACLE REPAIRED.

e. j. Murphy, Ens.

2000-2400 Moored as before.

HMuller

Approved:

Examined:

J. Bunda

Commanding Officer.

E. W. Heller

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Mon. 20 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description T6 (T.S. W.T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000 - 0400 Moored port side to at Berth 8 Naval Station  
New Orleans, La.

B.W. Heller, Ems.

0400 - 0800 Moored as before. 0735 USS LST 503 cast  
off from starboard side

*W. Buda*  
Ems USNR

0800 - 1200

MOORED AS BEFORE.

C. J. Murphy, Ems. USNR.

1200 - 1600

MOORED AS BEFORE.

R. L. Bedding, Ems.

1600 - 2000

Moored as before.

*H. Muller*

2000 - 2400 Moored as before.

B.W. Heller, Ems.

Approved:

*Wm. Buda*

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Em. Buda*

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Tues. 21 Dec. 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description 76 (I.W.T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	<u>Moored</u>	<u>Moored</u>	<u>Moored</u>
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400 Moored port side to at Berth 8, Naval Station, New Orleans, La.

J. Brudo  
Ens. USNR

0400-0800 MOORED AS BEFORE.

C. J. Murphy, Ens. USNR.

0800-1200 Moved as before.

H. Muller

1200-1600 MOORED AS BEFORE. 1530 USS EVANS MOORED ALONGSIDE.

R. L. Bedding, Ens.

1600-2000 Moored as before.

E. W. Heller, Ens.

2000-2400 Moored as before.

J. Brudo  
Ens. USNR

Approved:

Examined:

J. W. Budd

Ens. [Signature]

Commanding Officer.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 5UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Wed. 22 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description +6 (+10.W.T)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Anchored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0600 - 0400 MOORED, PORT SIDE TO, BERTH 8,  
U.S. NAVAL STATION, New ORLEANS, LA.  
C. J. Murphy, Ens. USNR

0400 - 0800 MOORED AS BEFORE.  
R. L. Redding, Ens.

0800 - 1200 Moored as before. 1105 Draft for'd:  
4½', draft aft: 13½'. 1145 Lt. Cdr. J. Cochrane USCGR,  
came aboard as pilot.

H. Muller

1200 - 1600 Moored as before. 1200 started tests for getting  
underway. 1210 Tests for getting underway completed.  
1250 Special sea detail called. 1300 Underway from  
Berth 8 Naval Station, New Orleans. 1450 Tied up to LST  
281 stb'd. side to at Naval Station, New Orleans.  
E. W. Keller, Ens.

1600 - 2000 MOORED AS BEFORE. 1821 UNDERWAY TO  
QUARANTINE ANCHORAGE. 1856 ANCHORED IN  
QUARANTINE WITH 45 FATHOMS OF CHAIN OUT.  
R. L. Redding, Ens.

2000 - 2400 ~~Moored~~ <sup>Anchored</sup> as before.

*[Signature]*  
Ens USNR

Approved:

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
Commanding Officer.

*[Signature]*, Ens. USNR  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 6UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Thurs. 23 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description + 6 (F.S.W.T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000 - 0400 Anchored in quarantine anchorage, New Orleans, La.  
H Muller

0400 - 0800 Anchored as before. <sup>0615</sup> Underway for Naval Supply Depot, New Orleans, La.. 0708 Moored at Naval Supply Depot, New Orleans, La.  
B.W. Heller, Ens.

0800 - 1200 MOORED AS BEFORE.  
R.L. Redding, Ens.

1200 - 1600. MOORED AS BEFORE. 1400 PREPARATIONS MADE FOR GETTING UNDERWAY. 1430 - UNDERWAY TO SWING SHIP AT VARIOUS COURSES & SPEEDS. 1500 - COMPENSATED SHIP'S COMPASS; MANUEVERING AT VARIOUS COURSES & SPEEDS.  
DRAFT. 5'6" FORWARD  
12' AFT.

ENSIGNS G. F. WADGE AND G. J. FRITZ, 8<sup>th</sup> U.D., ADJUSTORS  
C. J. Murphy, Ens.

Hm. 1600 - 2000 ~~At~~ Underway as before. 1830 Moored at U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, port side to. 1855 Commenced Taking aboard 20 and 40 mil. ammunition.  
H Muller

2000 - 2400 Moored as before. 2000 started tests for getting underway. 2038 Completed tests and got underway down stream. 2100 Anchored in midstream on advice of Pilot, weather too foul for navigation.  
B.W. Heller, Ens.

Approved:

Examined:

Ernest Buehl  
Commanding Officer.

B.W. Heller, Ens.  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 7UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504Friday 24  
(Day) (Date)Dec. 1943  
(Month)Zone description T6 (75W.T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Mississippi River - Downstream Below New Orleans		N 29° 23'
Long.			W 88° 43'

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0800 - 0800 Anchored in midstream of Mississippi River, 0100 made preparations for getting underway. 0130 got underway downstream. 0305 anchored in midstream of Mississippi River. Lt. Commander Zettowch, USCB, Conning. R. R. Redding, Ens.

0400 - 0800 Anchored as before. 0700 preparations made for getting underway. 0730 underway at various courses and speeds heading downstream, with Lt. Comdr. Zettowch, U.S.C.B. Conning.

0800 - 1200 Underway as before.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

J. Budd  
Lt. USNR

1200 - 1600 Underway as before. 1240 Arrived Pilot Town, changed pilots. 1420 Pilot left ship at Sea Buoy, South Pass, Mississippi River mouth. 1425 set course 069° T Speed Standard, enroute to Mobile, Ala. with Captain at the Conn.

C. W. Heller, Ens.

1600 - 2000 Underway as before. Lt. G. M. Budd, Conning. R. R. Redding, Ens.

2000 - 2400 Underway as before. Lt. G. M. Budd Conning.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

Approved:

Examined:

J. Budd  
Commanding Officer.R. Budd  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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 UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Sat. 25 Dec., 1943  
 (Day) (Date) (Month)
Zone description 16 (F5 W7)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	N 30° 03'	N 30° 05'	N 30° 07'
Long.	W 81° 13'	W 81° 30'	W 88° 43'

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

~~0000~~-0400 Underway on course 082° at 2/3 speed.

*J. Bunda*  
ENS USNR

0400 - 0800 Underway as before. 0530 Estimated should be off Mobile light but unable to sight same due to poor visibility, changed to various courses and speeds. Ensign S.A. Brye, Executive Officer Conning.

*E.W. Heller, Emo.*

0800 - 1200 UNDERWAY AS BEFORE. *R.L. Redding, Ens.*

1200 - 1600 - UNDERWAY AS BEFORE. Lt. G.M. Budd, COMMANDING OFFICER, TOOK THE CONN. CONTINUED COURSE CHANGES TO AWAIT BETTER VISIBILITY. 1440 SAND POINT LIGHT SIGHTED. BEAM BEARING TAKEN. COURSE CHANGED TO 220°. 1520 COURSE CHANGED TO 085° AT FULL SPEED AHEAD.

*C. J. Murphy, Ens.*

1600 - 2000 Underway as before. Lt. G.M. Budd, Commanding Officer, conning. 1820 - Sighted lighted buoy dead ahead. 1821 Changed speed to back-fall. 1830 - All engines stop. 1830 Lost taffrail log. 1925 - All engines ahead standard.

*J. Bunda*  
ENS USNR

2000 - 2400 Underway as before. 2035 Changed course to 120° T. 2037 Changed course to 130° T. 2115 Changed course to 110° T. 2125 Changed speed to 1/2 ahead, changed course to 090° T. 2140 Manouvered at various courses and speeds. 2300 Visibility approximately 500 yards. 2325 Bow and stem lookouts reported visibility zero. 2350 Anchored and set watch to sound fog signal.

*E.W. Heller, Emo.*

Approved:

Examined:

*G.M. Budd*

Commanding Officer.

*S.A. Brye, Ens* U.S.N.R.  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 9UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Sunday 26 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description F6 (75 W. T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	<u>Anchored</u>	<u>N 30° 26' 30"</u>	<u>Moored</u>
Long.		<u>W 87° 02' 30"</u>	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400 Anchored in 7 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain out on Bow Anchor On The Following Bearings:

Mobile Sea Buoy 105° T

SAND ISLAND LIGHT 047° T

R. L. Redding, Ens.

0400-0800 ANCHORED AS BEFORE. BEARINGS CHECKED AND FOUND TO BE CONSTANT THROUGHOUT THE WATCH. PREPARATIONS MADE FOR GETTING UNDER WAY.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

0800-1200 Anchored as before. 0813 Underway at various courses and speeds. 0925 Lt. Comdr. Wilson USCGR came aboard as Pilot. 0930 Started up swept channel at various courses and speeds. 1139 Passed towboat abeam to port.

B. W. Keller, Ens.

1200-1600 UNDERWAY AS BEFORE. 1210 NAVY TRANSPORT AK 120 PASSED US ABEAM TO PORT. 1230 Tow PASSED GOING DOWNSTREAM ON PORT SIDE. 1244 SMALL BOAT PASSED ON PORT BEAM. 1301 PASSED S.S. M.M. CONAM, ANCHORED IN QUARANTINE ON PORT SIDE. 1306 PASSED TANKER IN QUARANTINE ON PORT BEAM. 1313 MOORED AT TURNER TERMINAL, PORT SIDE TO. AT MOBILE, ALABAMA. 1345 Lt. Commander Wilson went ashore. DRAFT READINGS 5 1/2 FT. FORWARD, 12 FT AFT.

R. L. Redding, Ens.

1600-2000 MOORED AS BEFORE.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

Approved:

Examined:

Emt Bud d  
Commanding Officer.

W. Bryn, Ens USNB  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP

LST 504

Sun.  
(Day)

26  
(Date)

Dec., 1943  
(Month)

Zone description F6 (75 W.T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			<u>Moored</u>
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

2000-2400 Moored as before.

E.W. Heller, Enr.

Approved:

Examined:

[Signature]

Commanding Officer.

[Signature], Enr. U.S.N.R.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP

LST 504

Mon.

27

Dec.

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description +6 (F.S.W.P.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000 - 0400 MOORED AT TURNER TERMINAL, PORT SIDE TO AT SOUTH SLIP IN MOBILE, ALABAMA.  
R. L. Redding, Ens.

0400 - 0800 - MOORED AS BEFORE.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

0800 - 1200 Moored as before.

G. W. Heller, Ens.

1200 - 1600 MOORED AS BEFORE. 1407 STARTED PREPARATIONS FOR GETTING UNDERWAY. 1418 TUG BOATS "JOSEPH M. WALSH" AND "NIMROD" CAME ALONGSIDE. 1521 TEST COMPLETED AND GOT UNDERWAY WITH TUGS ALONGSIDE. 1550 MOORED ALONGSIDE LST 502 STBD. SIDE TO.

R. L. Redding, Ens.

1600 - 2000 Moored as before.

H. Muller

2000 - 2400

Moored as before.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

Approved:

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
Commanding Officer.

*[Signature]*, Ens. USNR  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 12UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Tues 28 Dec, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description +6 (+S.W.T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400 Moored alongside LST 502, starboard side to.  
at Turner Terminal, Mobile, Ala. *B.W. Heller, Ems.*

0400-0800 Moored as before.

0800-1200 MOORED AS BEFORE.

1200-1600 - Moored as before.

1600-2000 Moored as before.

2000-2400 MOORED AS BEFORE.

Approved:

Examined:

*J. W. Bredel*  
Commanding Officer.

*R. L. Redding, Ems. USNR*  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Wed. 29 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description +6(75W.7)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	<u>Moored</u>	<u>Moored</u>	<u>Moored</u>
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

φφφφ - φ4φφ

Moored alongside LST 502, starboard side to,  
Turners Terminal, Mobile Ala.

0400-0800 Moored as before.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

E. W. Heller, Ens.

0800-1200 MOORED AS BEFORE.

R. L. Redding, Ens.

1200-1600

Moored as before. 1300 Started preparations  
for getting underway. 1325 Set special  
sea detail. 1330 Started moving to  
south side of slip. 1350 Moored to south  
side of slip, port side to, secured special  
sea detail.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

1600-2000 Moored as before.

E. W. Heller, Ens.

2000-2400 MOORED AS BEFORE.

R. L. Redding, Ens.

Approved:

Examined:

[Signature]  
Commanding Officer.

[Signature]  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 14UNITED STATES SHIP LST 507 Thurs 30 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description +6 (F.S. W.Z.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0800-0900 Moored south side of slip, Turner Terminal, Mobile, Ala.

H Muller

0900-0800 Moored as before.

0800-1200

Moored As Before. 1030 Checked Starboard annunciator.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

R. L. Redding, Ens.

1200-1600 Moored as before.

E. W. Heller, Ens.

1600-2000

Moored as before.

H Muller

2000-2400

Moored as before.

C. J. Murphy, Ens.

Approved:

Examined:

Earl Beuch  
Commanding Officer.

R. L. Redding, Ens. USN  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 15UNITED STATES SHIP LST 504 Friday 31 Dec., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description +6 (F.S.W.T.)

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	Moored	Moored	Moored
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400 MOORED South Side of Slip, Turner Terminal, Mobile, Ala.  
R. L. Redding, Ens.

0400-0800 Moored as before.  
E. W. Heller, Ens.

0800-1200 Moored as before. 0900 Held  
fire drill.  
H. Muller

1200-1600 Moored as before.  
C. J. Murphy, Ens.

1600-2000 Moored as before.  
R. L. Redding, Ens.

2000-2400 Moored as before.  
E. W. Heller, Ens.

Approved:

J. B. Bond  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

R. L. Redding, Ens. U.S.N.B.  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.