



the heavy cruisers — three American and one Australian — sunk in the Battle of Savo Island.

Meanwhile, a detachment of its men had been sent ashore to establish an operating base at Lunga Point, and on Sept. 27 one of them, Signalman 1/c Douglas A. Munro, was fatally wounded while his landing craft was aiding in the evacuation of trapped Marines. Munro became the Coast Guard's only Medal of Honor recipient.

The *Liggett* continued to support the advance in the Solomon Islands, ending its combat service with the Bougainville invasion in November 1943. The *Liggett* then ferried battle casualties to San Francisco and after overhaul spent the remainder of the war as an amphibious-training ship operating out of San Diego.

The *Wood* and the *Dickman* had longer combat careers. Both had important roles in Operation Torch — landing troops in the vicinity of Casablanca, Morocco — in November 1942 and in the Sicily invasion in July 1943.

Thereafter, their ways parted, the *Wood* headed west to participate in the amphibious operations associated with the naval thrust across the central Pacific — Makin, Kwajalein, Eniwetok, Saipan, Palau, Leyte, Lingayen Gulf and Mindoro — while the *Dickman* disembarked troops at Salerno, Normandy and Southern France, before going to the Pacific to take part in the Okinawa invasion that practically ended the Allied advance in 1945.

The first of the smaller attack transports, the *Arthur Middleton*, seemed likely to have the shortest career, for while landing troops at Amchitka in the Aleutians on Jan. 12, 1943, it was forced aground by a willow.

Finally refloated almost three months later, the *Middleton* was towed back to the United States for repairs.

Thereafter, the ship redeemed itself by participating in seven amphibious operations: Tarawa, Kwajalein, Eniwetok, Saipan, Leyte, Lingayen Gulf and Okinawa.

Its sister ship, the *Samuel Chase*, began with Operation Torch, putting troops ashore at Algiers, and followed with the Sicily,

Salerno, Normandy and Southern France invasions before going to the Pacific in 1945.

The four other Coast Guard-manned attack transports were ready for service early in 1944. One of them, the *USS Bayfield*, landed its troops on Utah Beach, Normandy, on D-Day and spent 19 days there, sending supplies ashore and providing medical treatment for battle casualties.

It had similar functions at the invasion of southern France and then went to the Pacific to take part in the conquest of Iwo Jima, Japan.

#### HEAVY LOSSES FOR THE USS CALLAWAY

The *USS Callaway* landed troops of the 4th Marine Division at Roi-Namur, Kwa-

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*The Coast Guard was represented in the first American offensive of the war, the invasion of Guadalcanal.*

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**Below:** Five LSTs and one LSM discharge cargo at the foot of Mount Suribachi during operations in Iwo Jima, Japan, Feb. 24, 1945.

