

JOHN J. MEANY

Length, overall...441' 6"	Gross tons 7,933	Propulsion.....Recip. eng.
Beam 56' 10"	Speed (knots) --- 11	Patients 589
Draft 24' 0"	Radius (miles)--- 21,000	Cargo None

Built in 1942 by North Carolina Shipbuilding Co., Wilmington, N. C.

Former names: ZEBULON B. VANCE (ZINNIA)

Operated by American Export Lines, Inc., prior to acquisition by the War Department.

THE JOHN J. MEANY was formerly the SS ZEBULON B. VANCE, another of the Liberty type cargo vessels transferred to the War Department in November 1943 for conversion to hospital ships in accordance with regulations of The Hague Convention X, 1907.

Upon commissioning as a hospital ship, the name was changed to JOHN J. MEANY in honor of Major John J. Meany, who was killed in action in North Africa in March 1943.

Conversion was completed at Boston in July 1944 by Bethlehem Steel Co. The ship at once left for service in the Mediterranean, reaching Oran in early August, and operating to the following ports until leaving Gibraltar in late December: Naples, Palermo, Bari, Marseilles, and Leghorn.

The MEANY reached Charleston (from Gibraltar) in early January 1945, and from there made a trip to Bermuda and return before making six trips to England (the Mersey and Avonmouth) or Cherbourg. She left Southampton in September and returned to New York from where she made two trips—one to Cherbourg and Bremerhaven; the other to Cherbourg and Southampton.

The ship reached New York on New Year's Day 1946 and was withdrawn from service as a hospital ship. To help meet the demand for additional lift for war brides and children, the MEANY was promptly altered and entered this new service under her former name of ZEBULON B. VANCE, for which see page 67.