

## ACADIA

<i>Length, overall</i> .....402' 11"	<i>Gross tons</i> .....	6,185	<i>Propulsion</i> ..Turbines (2)	
<i>Beam</i> .....	<i>Speed (knots)</i> .....	18	<i>Patients</i> .....	738
<i>Draft</i> .....	<i>Radius (miles)</i> .....	8,000	<i>Cargo</i> .....	None

*Built in 1932 by Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., Newport News, Va.  
Operated prior to World War II by Eastern Steamship Co.*

IN connection with extensive combat operations in North Africa and in the Mediterranean, the Surgeon General requested inviolable hospital ships for returning sick and wounded veterans to the United States. The ACADIA was promptly adopted for this service—being the first World War II vessel so commissioned under rules of The Hague convention applicable to hospital ships.

The ACADIA had already been arranged as a "hospital transport" that carried troops outbound and patients inbound. Minor alterations, disarming and repainting were quickly accomplished by the Bethlehem Steel Co. at New York.

Upon completion of changes in June 1943, the ACADIA sailed for North Africa and operated for several months in the Mediterranean. In August 1943, while on this assignment she struck a submerged object in Oran harbor and damaged the starboard propeller.

Upon return to the United States in November 1943, the ACADIA was based at Charleston, S. C., from where she made numerous trips to the European Theatre of Operations.

In the summer of 1945 the vessel returned to New York, where ventilation was added and the ship otherwise altered by Arthur Tickle Engineering Co. for service in the Pacific. She made one trip to Manila to bring back patients, returning to Los Angeles December 20, 1945.

In January 1946, while on her second trip to Manila, however, the ACADIA was decommissioned as a hospital ship. At Manila pertinent identification was removed and she resumed service as a troopship. For additional details, see page 3.