

## FRANCES Y. SLANGER

<i>Length, overall</i> .....	631' 3"	<i>Gross tons</i> .....	19,637	<i>Propulsion</i> .....	<i>Diesel (2)</i>
<i>Beam</i> .....	79' 6"	<i>Speed (knots)</i> .....	19	<i>Patients</i> .....	1,618
<i>Draft</i> .....	28' 9"	<i>Radius (miles)</i> .....	12,000	<i>Cargo</i> .....	<i>None</i>

*Built in 1927 by Cantiere Navale Triestino, Monfalcone, Trieste, Italy.*

*Former name: SATURNIA*

*Operated prior to World War II by the Italian Government.*

THE Army Hospital Ship FRANCES Y. SLANGER was the former Italian luxury liner SATURNIA which was taken over from Italy in late 1943. She was the allocated troopship and the military dependent transport referred to on pages 55 and 301 under the name SATURNIA.

Having been first operated as a troopship by the War Shipping Administration, the vessel was sub-bareboat chartered to the War Department on 17 January 1945. Conversion to a Hague Convention mercy ship was accomplished at the yard of Todd-Erie Basin in New York between January and June 1945. The new name, FRANCES Y. SLANGER, was selected in honor of Second Lieutenant Frances Y. Slinger, the seventh nurse to lose her life in World War II, and the first American nurse to be killed in the European Theatre of Operations.

The SLANGER left New York in July 1945 and made four successive voyages to Cherbourg for patients and then an emergency trip to Bermuda to assist a vessel that was in distress. Upon return to New York in November 1945, the vessel was decommissioned as a hospital ship and altered slightly for transporting military dependents. Subsequent operation in this capacity was under the former name SATURNIA, as indicated in paragraph one above.