

# JARRETT M. HUDDLESTON

Length, overall	441' 6"	Gross tons	7,933	Propulsion	Recip. eng.
Beam	56' 10"	Speed (knots)	11	Patients	589
Draft	24' 0"	Radius (miles)	14,000	Cargo	None

*Built in 1942 by Permanente Metals Corp. (Yard # 2), Richmond, Calif.*

*Former names: SAMUEL F. B. MORSE (YUCCA)*

*Operated by Moore-McCormack Lines, Inc., prior to acquisition by the War Department.*

AS the SS SAMUEL F. B. MORSE, this was one of six Liberty-type freight ships transferred to the War Department in November 1943 for use as hospital ships. Conversion of the JARRETT M. HUDDLESTON was accomplished by Brewer Drydock Co. at New York from late November 1943 to late August 1944. The ship was given her new name in honor of Colonel Jarrett M. Huddleston, Corps Surgeon in the Fifth Army, who was killed in action in Italy early in 1944.

The HUDDLESTON left New York on her first voyage of mercy on 2 September 1944 and went to Liverpool and Avonmouth, England. She returned to Charleston, where she was based for the ensuing year.

From Charleston the vessel made nine voyages to the European Theatre of Operations, calling principally at Avonmouth, although she also went to Falmouth and Cherbourg on some of these trips. While in that area she made 13 trips between Cherbourg and Southampton from 13 January to 10 March 1945, shuttling sick and wounded.

Beginning in September 1945 the HUDDLESTON made two voyages from New York to Cherbourg and Southampton before being designated for transporting military dependents. She was accordingly decommissioned as a hospital ship in December 1945.

For information pertaining to subsequent operation of the JARRETT M. HUDDLESTON, see page 41.