

JARRETT M. HUDDLESTON

Length, overall ... 441' 6"	Gross tons 7,933	Propulsion ... Recip. eng.
Beam 56' 10"	Speed (knots) ... 10½	Passengers 476
Draft 24' 0"	Radius (miles) ... 14,000	Cargo None

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

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

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

THIS was the Liberty type freighter SAMUEL F. B. MORSE which was transferred to the War Department on 22 November 1943 for use as a mercy ship. This conversion to a hospital ship was effected at the yard of Brewer Drydock Co., at New York between November 1943 and August 1944. For details of the vessel's service in this capacity, see page 339.

Upon her discontinuance as a hospital ship in December 1945, the JARRETT M. HUDDLESTON was altered at New York for use as a dependent-carrying transport, her new capacity being 326 women and 150 children.

Although the name JARRETT M. HUDDLESTON was that selected for the vessel as a hospital ship, the name was not changed after decommissioning inasmuch as another similar vessel constructed in the meantime had been designated SAMUEL F. B. MORSE, the HUDDLESTON'S former name.

In transporting military dependents, the ship operated between New York and European ports. As of May 1946 the vessel had made three trips; one to Cherbourg, Le Havre and Southampton; one to Bremerhaven, Germany; and one to Southampton, England.

Assignment of the JARRETT M. HUDDLESTON to this duty is temporary. Disposal of the ship as surplus is expected soon after 30 June 1946.