

LOUIS A. MILNE

<i>Length, overall</i>527' 0"	<i>Gross tons</i> 9,953	<i>Propulsion</i> Turbines (2)
<i>Beam</i> 68' 2"	<i>Speed (knots)</i> --- 12	<i>Patients</i> 964
<i>Draft</i> 23' 10"	<i>Radius (miles)</i> ... 12,000	<i>Cargo</i> None

Built in 1919 by Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp., Quincy, Mass.

Former name: LEWIS LUCKENBACH

Operated prior to World War II by Luckenbach Steamship Co., Inc.

THE vessel was the former LEWIS LUCKENBACH, a freighter that was in operation 25 years before being selected for use as an Army hospital ship.

Conversion was accomplished at Boston, Mass. between 16 May 1944 and 18 March 1945 by the Bethlehem Steel Co. The ship was renamed LOUIS A. MILNE in honor of Colonel Louis A. Milne, MC, who was port surgeon at the New York Port of Embarkation from 1937 to the time of his death in 1943.

Following commissioning, the MILNE left Boston on 19 March 1945 and went to Milfordhaven (Wales), from where she returned to Charleston. After a voyage to Avonmouth in May and one to Milfordhaven and Southampton, the ship sailed in mid-July for Cherbourg, France and from there returned to New York in August.

The LOUIS A. MILNE was next ordered to the Pacific, via the Panama Canal, and reached Honolulu in early September. After repairs at Pearl Harbor, the ship proceeded to Manila, returning to Los Angeles in November. The MILNE then went to Anchorage, Alaska, and from there to Honolulu, thence to Manila (arriving in January 1946), and via Hawaii to San Francisco in early March. At San Francisco the vessel underwent extensive voyage repairs by General Engineering & Drydock Co. from March until 10 May 1946.