

## MARIGOLD

<i>Length, overall</i> ...522' 8"	<i>Gross tons</i> ..... 11,342	<i>Propulsion</i> Recip.eng.(2)
<i>Beam</i> ..... 62' 0"	<i>Speed (knots)</i> .... 12	<i>Patients</i> ..... 763
<i>Draft</i> ..... 27' 2"	<i>Radius (miles)</i> ... 10,000	<i>Cargo</i> ..... None

*Built in 1920 by New York Shipbuilding Corp., Camden, N. J.*

*Former names: OLD NORTH STATE, PRESIDENT VAN BUREN, PRESIDENT FILLMORE.*

*Operated prior to World War II by American President Lines.*

HAVING operated as a passenger vessel many years, under the names indicated above, this ship was used as an allocated troop transport to the Aleutians (for which see page 234) prior to becoming an Army hospital ship.

Conversion took place at the Seattle-Tacoma Shipyard at Tacoma, Washington, from October 1943 to June 1944. The name MARIGOLD was selected by the Office of the Surgeon General.

Upon completion of conversion work, the ship left Seattle on 18 June 1944, transited the Panama Canal, and arrived at Charleston on 11 July to begin service in the Atlantic. She made but one voyage to Europe (Gibraltar and Naples), however, and following repairs at Charleston in late September and early October, the vessel made a westbound trip through the Panama Canal for duty in the Pacific.

The MARIGOLD reached Finschhafen on 14 November 1944 and during the following month made three calls at Hollandia and stops at Milne Bay and Biak. She arrived at Leyte the day after Christmas and during the ensuing five months voyaged three times from that Philippine port to Hollandia; called at Lingayen, Subic Bay and Manila; then visited Hollandia twice before departing via Manus Island for Los Angeles, where she arrived on 12 May 1945.

Leaving Los Angeles in early July the MARIGOLD went, via Honolulu, to the Philippines again and from there to Okinawa, Tokyo and Yokohama. After stopping at Manila the ship headed east to Los Angeles where she arrived in mid-December. After extensive repairs, she departed in February for Honolulu, Manila and Subic, and returned from that voyage to Los Angeles on 9 May. In June 1946 the MARIGOLD was decommissioned as a hospital ship, and was subsequently placed in the Reserve Fleet at Suisun Bay, California.