

## ACONCAGUA

<i>Length, overall</i> .....440' 6"	<i>Gross tons</i> ..... 7,279	<i>Propulsion</i> ..... Diesel
<i>Beam</i> ..... 58' 0"	<i>Speed (knots)</i> ..... 15	<i>Passengers</i> ..... 1,609
<i>Draft</i> ..... 24' 0"	<i>Radius (miles)</i> ..... 15,950	<i>Cargo (cu. ft.)</i> ..... 52,850

*Built in 1938 by Nakskov Skibs A/S, Nakskov, Denmark*

*Operated prior to World War II by Compania Sud Americana de Vapores,  
Valparaiso, Chile.*

THE ACONCAGUA was one of three similar type vessels offered by Chile in 1943 as part of her contribution to the war effort. These vessels were purchased by the War Shipping Administration and immediately bareboat chartered to the War Department.

Conversion of the ACONCAGUA to a troopship was accomplished from August 1943 to February 1944 at Bethlehem-Key Highway Plant, Baltimore, Md., whereupon the vessel was ordered to the West Coast for service—to be based at San Francisco.

In July 1944 the vessel was assigned to Seattle. She left Seattle on 11 July 1944 for local duty in the Southwest Pacific and returned to San Francisco in November, going from there to Seattle, where extensive repairs and some alterations took place at Todd Shipyards, Inc.

Between April and November 1945 the ACONCAGUA made three trips between Seattle and Honolulu, returning to Los Angeles in late November. Tentative assignment of the vessel to Los Angeles was made in January 1946, but as no further need existed for the vessel in the Pacific she was almost immediately ordered to sail in ballast for New York for redelivery to the War Shipping Administration.

Due to change in plans for contemplated chartering of the vessel at New York, the ACONCAGUA was taken to Hampton Roads, Va., and there turned over to the WSA in April 1946 for placing in the laid-up fleet on the James River.