

FREDERICK LYKES

Length, overall	492' 0"	Gross tons	7,773	Propulsion	Turbine
Beam	69' 6"	Speed (knots)	17	Passengers	2,824
Draft	28' 0"	Radius (miles)	12,300	Cargo (cu. ft.)	52,000

Built in 1940 by Federal Shipbuilding & Drydock Co., Kearny, N. J.

Former name: SEA HOUND

Operated by Lykes Bros. Steamship Co., before acquisition by the War Department.

AFTER circumnavigating Africa counterclockwise in 1942 and then making a few Atlantic crossings as a freighter to England and Oran, the FREDERICK LYKES was bareboat chartered on 1 July 1943 to the War Department for conversion to a troopship.

Upon completion of conversion work by Todd Shipyards at New York in early November, she sailed to Europe and returned to New York via Boston. The vessel continued in service between New York and the United Kingdom until sailing from Naples in June 1944 for New Orleans.

Before proceeding to the Pacific (via the Panama Canal) she stopped at Galveston (for repairs by Todd-Galveston Dry Docks, Inc.), Key West and Guantanamo. The vessel sailed from Panama in early August for Finschhafen, Lae and Langemak. She returned to San Francisco in September and then went to Seattle for repairs and alterations by Todd Shipyards to prepare the vessel for a high priority mission to Honolulu, Eniwetok and Guam.

The ship returned in December 1944 to San Francisco, where she underwent major repairs before leaving in February 1945 for Noumea, Espiritu Santo, Guadalcanal, Hollandia, Leyte, Townsville and Biak. She returned to San Francisco from this voyage but after a brief stay in port sailed in June, via the Panama Canal for UK and Le Havre, France. Returning to Boston, she went from there to Marseilles and returned to New York.

After a trip from New York to Casablanca and one from Hampton Roads to Marseilles in late 1945, the FREDERICK LYKES was declared surplus to the needs of the War Department and was redelivered to the War Shipping Administration on 13 February 1946 at Norfolk, Va., and on the same date transferred by the WSA to Lykes Bros. Steamship Co.