

*Couverture de la plaquette*

#### THE OLD S.S. SAVANNAH

On May 22, 1819 the SAVANNAH, 1/30th the size of a Liberty Ship, with a ninety horsepower engine, collapsible paddle-wheels and unique elbowed stack left Savannah, Georgia for Liverpool on the first voyage across the Atlantic by steam. No passengers could be induced to make the crossing on the "smoking coffin" even though President Monroe visited the SAVANNAH and took a short cruise on her before she sailed. During the twenty-nine day passage Captain Rogers used his engines for only three days and eight hours for fear of running out of fuel. On her return, the SAVANNAH was converted into a sailing packet and was later wrecked in a storm off Long Island. National Maritime Day commemorates the feat of this American ship.

#### THE NEW N. S. SAVANNAH

On National Maritime Day 1958, the keel for the first nuclear powered merchant vessel, also named the SAVANNAH, will be laid in Camden, New Jersey with Mrs. Richard M. Nixon, wife of the Vice President of the United States, officiating at the ceremonies. As the keel of the new SAVANNAH is laid a new era for the American Merchant Marine will begin...the "Atomic Age". The new SAVANNAH will be 587 feet long, with a beam of 78 feet, and a service speed of 20 knots. Her full load displacement will be 21,800 tons and she will have accommodations for 60 passengers.

The old SAVANNAH on her epic voyage to Liverpool was only able to steam for three days and eight hours because of lack of fuel capacity. It is estimated that the new SAVANNAH will be able to operate for approximately three years without refueling. This, the prototype of nuclear powered merchant vessels, will be another "first" for the American Merchant Marine and a practical demonstration to the whole world of the use of atoms for peace.

It is worthy of note that four of the Nation's five maritime academies have already taken steps to prepare their graduates for the atomic age in merchant shipping. Courses in applied nuclear physics, covering the theory, design, construction and operation of nuclear reactors, nuclear energy, neutron physics, nuclear reactor principles and particle acceleration are being offered. These academies are to be congratulated on their forehandedness in anticipating the future manpower needs of our ever progressive American Merchant Marine.

#### PROGRAM

Chairman, Cdr. Steward R. Bross, USNR.,  
FOR THE AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE INSTITUTE

Music by U.S. Navy Band under the direction of Warrant Officer  
Donald Stauffer, U.S.N.

Performance by  
Drill Team of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, Long Island

Performance by  
Drill Team of the State University of N. Y. Maritime College, Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

Cadets from U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point;  
State University of N. Y. Maritime College and  
Color Guards of the Armed Forces will pass in review—  
Music by Fort Schuyler Band

Opening comments: by Chairman

National Anthem: by Fort Schuyler Band

Invocation: By Dr. Harold E. Mayo, New York Port Society

Chairman, Introduction of Honored Guests

Commander Thomas M. McQuilling, Robert L. Hague Post, American  
Legion—Announcing the winner of  
Robert L. Hague Post Merchant Marine Trophy

Introduction of Speaker

Mr. Frazer A. Bailey, Managing Director, American Export Lines

Mr. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Principal Speaker,  
Subject "Atoms for Peace"

Simultaneously with the laying of the keel of the new N.S. Savannah—  
eight bells will be sounded by Captain Frederick McMurray,  
one of the few square rigged sailors still alive

"God Bless America" by the United States Navy Band

March out by the Cadets and Armed Forces Units  
to music by Fort Schuyler Band

THE WHITE HOUSE

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY, 1958

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS a strong American Merchant Marine is essential to the economy and security of the free world; and

WHEREAS 1958 marks the year in which the keel of the N.S. Savannah, the world's first nuclear-propelled merchant ship, will be dedicated by the people of the United States to peaceful trade and commerce; and

WHEREAS the Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 20, 1933 (48 Stat. 73), designated May 22 as National Maritime Day, in commemoration of the departure from Savannah, Georgia, on May 22, 1819, of a vessel, also named the Savannah, on the first transoceanic voyage by any steamship, and requested the President to issue a proclamation annually calling for the observance of that day:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, do hereby urge the people of the United States to honor our Merchant Marine on Thursday, May 22, 1958, by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes or other suitable places; and I direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag on all Government buildings on that day. I also request that all ships sailing under the American flag dress ship on the twenty-second day of May in tribute to the American Merchant Marine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

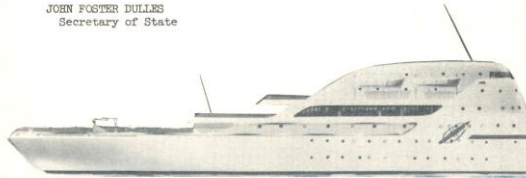
DONE at the City of Washington this tenth day of April in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-second.

(SEAL)



By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES  
Secretary of State



PROGRAM, COMPLIMENTS OF ALCOA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, INC.

*Dos de la plaquette*