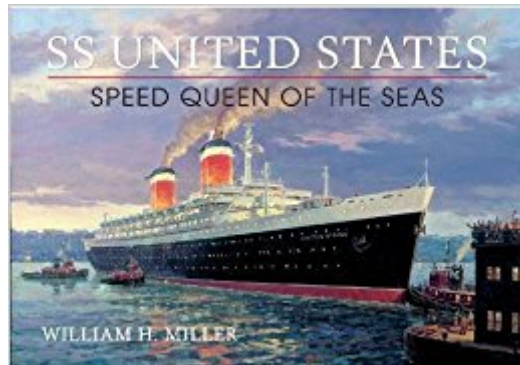




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SS United States: Speed Queen Of The Seas



Synopsis

Built in 1952 for the United States Lines, the SS United States was unlike any other ocean liner. She had been designed from the outset to serve as both a transatlantic ferry and as a troop and hospital ship in time of war. Her design was a military secret and her power plant similar to that fitted to the largest of American battleships. She could do a staggering 45kt, over twelve knots faster than her nearest rival. She soon became the ship to be seen on and the illustrious passenger lists included the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, who favoured the ship's Duck Suite. The entry of the SS United States, the largest passenger ship built in America, marked the first time since the 1850's that an American ship had held the Blue Riband. This amazing ocean liner surpassed European speed records by a huge margin and a ship as fast is unlikely ever to be built again. William H. Miller tells the story of the SS United States from her construction at Newport News to the present day. Today, she lies derelict in Philadelphia but big plans are in place to restore her and turn her back into a luxurious floating hotel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

William H. Miller has written over seventy books on ocean liners and is as likely to be found lecturing on maritime history aboard a cruise ship as he is to be found in his home overlooking the New Jersey waterfront

I received my copy of SS United States: Speed Queen of the Seas very fast in the mail. Thanks

!Upon opening the book, I was very excited at the level of pictures in the book. The book itself is nicely illustrated and the cover is of high quality. The book starts with a telling of the history of the American Cruise Line and it gives a brief history of the the Big U's running mate SS America. The pictures like I said, are great. It starts from the beginning and shows how Gibbs & Cox and the construction/engineering corps got this massive ship built from paper to reality. The pictures of the Big U in drydock and wetdock are awesome and seeing her next to the USS Enterprise CVN-65 is just amazing to say the least. The book has a combination of color and B&W images to illustrate the history of the SS United States from past to present. It was a pleasure reading through this book. I am a member of the SS United States Conservancy and adding this book to my collection was a must. Get your copy today!

Another GREAT book by Bill Miller, about America's greatest ship, bringing to light the fact that this great liner continues to survive, despite the odds against her in today's world... The S/S UNITED STATES was in every way a "World-class liner" right along with the Cunard QUEEN's, the FRANCE and ROTTERDAM, as America's "Ship Of State", and her interiors embodied "Mid-century Modern" design features representing noted U.S. designers while being fully carried out in fireproof materials. Bill included childhood photos of myself visiting the ship, as well as photos taken by friends and acquaintances who visited the liner during her heyday... Pete

Educated as a naval architect, I love to read about famous ships. With the recent rescue of the SS United States from the ship breakers in the newspapers, I have taken a renewed interest in reading about this great ship. Mr. Miller has done a great job of providing short and yet details of the construction of the SS United States, her design features for national defense purposes, her speed, comfortable accommodations, and safety. These writings are supported by both black and white and color photographs including her fading glory today. This is a book worth owning for those with an interest in America's greatest maritime vessels.

The best feature of this Bill Miller book is the pre-construction history that includes a photographic chapter of the great liners before the United States, then the "how" of the designing and building of the liner, and the great (and up-to-date) photos of the 'long sleep' as the liner lives waiting for a fresh new commercial life. I especially enjoyed the chapter on the liner "America" which included photos of the end when it ran aground and broke in half. It's like two Liner books in one!

The delivery of the book was very fast and exceeded my expectations. I have greatly enjoyed the pictures and descriptions of the various areas of the ship. I know firsthand the beauty of the ship as my husband and I, along with our children, sailed aboard her in 1968, returning to the US from my husband's military posting in Germany. The book brought back many pleasant memories of traveling on a now long-dead means of transportation. I highly recommend this book.

Bill Miller ("Mr. Ocean Liner") has turned out a very nice collection of UNITED STATES memories here. He is most prolific in his output in publications of liners of the past... One wishes that instead of quantity he would zero in on quality AND in hardback. These paperbacks simply do not last continued perusals...

A waste of money. Most pictures are of docking the ship and un-docking the ship. I almost now know the names of all the Moran Tugs.

There are several excellent books on the SS United States, but this one stands apart due to its wealth of color photographs. If you have any interest in the world's fastest liner, this book is for you.

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