



Ship Fact Sheet



SOMERSET (1946) later ADEN

Base data at 11 September 1946. Last amended October 2009

* indicates entries changed during P&O Group service.

Type	Refrigerated cargo liner
P&O Group service	1946-1967
P&O Group status	Owned by a subsidiary company
Former name(s)	
Registered owners, managers* and operators*	Federal Steam Navigation Company Ltd
Builders	Alexander Stephen & Sons Ltd
Yard	Linthouse, Glasgow
Country	UK
Yard number	608
Registry	London, UK
Official number	180927
Call sign	GJMN
Classification society	Lloyd's Register
Gross tonnage	9,943 grt
Net tonnage	5,870 nrt
Deadweight	10,530 tons
Length	150.91m (495.3ft) loa; 143.05m (469.5ft) b/p
Breadth	19.74m (64.8ft)
Depth	11.88m (39.0ft)
Draught	8.35m (27.4ft)
Engines	3-stage steam turbines double-reduction geared to 1 shaft
Engine builders	Alexander Stephen & Sons Ltd
Works	Linthouse, Glasgow
Country	UK
Power	8,000 shp
Propulsion	Single screw
Speed	15 knots
Passenger capacity	Nil
Cargo capacity	14,860 cubic metres (524,870 cubic feet) including 11,130 cubic metres (393,100 cubic feet) refrigerated
Crew	60 (25 deck, 23 engineroom, 12 purser's)
Employment	UK and North Europe/Australia and New Zealand

Career

- 21.03.1946: Launched.
- 11.09.1946: Delivered as *Somerset* to the Federal Steam Navigation Company at a cost of £452,000. She and her sister *Devon*, built on the lines of the New Zealand Shipping Company's *Papanui* class, were fitted with steam turbines because of wartime difficulties over diesel installations, and *Somerset* was notable for her extensive use of butt-welding in place of rivets.
- 18.09.1946: Left Glasgow.
- 04.12.1951: Collided with cruiser HMAS *Australia* at Sydney, inward bound from the UK.
- 12.11.1954: Renamed *Aden*.
- 17.11.1954: Management and operation transferred to The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. Employed primarily on P&O's UK/Australia cargo services.
- 06.1956: Inaugurated a new P&O Far East cargo service from Grangemouth.
- 03.09.1963: Mainmast snapped at its base at Wynyard Wharf, Auckland, killing a waterside worker.
- 1965: First P&O ship to enter the Great Lakes, on the MANZ (Montreal/Australia/New Zealand) service.
- 02.10.1967: Sold to Mitsui & Co, Tokyo, for scrap, for £105,575.
- 08.10.1967: Arrived at Kaohsiung for demolition by Nan Tay Industries Co Ltd.

- ends -