

# REGULUS

T-AKR-292: RORO-CARGO 1973 / GT

**COMPANY:**

Military Sealift Command,  
USA

**YARD INFORMATION:**

A.G. Weser  
Bremen (Germany)

**DEMOLITION:**



Aker Philadelphia Shipyard 14/9/2011 © S. Wiedner

**BASIC DATA:**

Launched: December 1, 1973  
Delivered to Sea-Land Services, Inc., Port Elizabeth, N.J.:  
March 1, 1973  
Purchased by the Navy: October 27, 1981  
Conversion started: June 29, 1984  
Delivered: August 28, 1985  
Builder: A.G. Weser, Bremen, West Germany  
Conversion yard: National Steel and Shipbuilding, San  
Diego, CA  
Propulsion system: two Foster-Wheeler boilers, 875 psi  
(61.6kg/cm<sup>2</sup>); 9500F (5100C) and two GE MST-19 steam  
turbines; 120,000 hp (89.5 MW)  
Propellers: two  
Length: 946.2 feet (288.4 meters)

Beam: 105.6 feet (32.2 meters)  
Draft: 36.4 feet (11.1 meters)  
Displacement: approx. 55,355 tons full load  
Speed: 33 knots  
Aircraft: helicopter landing area only  
Armament: none  
Capacity: more than 700 Army vehicles (including tanks,  
trucks, and helicopters)  
Crew: 43 civilians, 12 military technicians (fully operational);  
18 civilians (reduced operating status)  
Homeport: Philadelphia, PA  
(<http://navysite.de/akr/akr292.htm>)

**OWNER & FLAG HISTORY:**

**EX-NAMES:**

SEA-LAND COMMERCE	1973-81	Sea-Land Services, Inc., USA
REGULUS	1981-	Military Sealift Command, USA

#### **GENERAL VESSEL INFORMATION:**

The **REGULUS is the sixth ALGOL - class fast sealift ship**. Ships in that class are the world's fastest cargo ships. Originally **built** in West Germany **in 1973 as SEA-LAND COMMERCE** for Sea-Land Services, Inc., Port Elizabeth, N.J., the ship was **purchased by the Navy in 1981 and converted**. The cargo hold was redesigned into a series of decks connected by ramps so that vehicles can now be driven in and out of storage areas for rapid loading and unloading. Four cranes were installed - twin cranes amidships capable of lifting 35 long tons and twin cranes aft capable of lifting 50 long tons. The REGULUS was delivered to the Military Sealift Command in 1985.

Since then, the REGULUS was involved in several operations including Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990/91), Restore Hope (1992) and Operation Enduring Freedom (2001 - ). On October 1, 2007, the REGULUS was transferred to the MARAD. On October 1, 2008, the ship was transferred to the Ready Reserve Force and lost her USNS designation. (<http://navysite.de/akr/akr292.htm>)

SS Regulus (T-AKR 292) is an Algol class vehicle cargo ship that is currently maintained by the United States Maritime Administration as part of the Ready Reserve Force (RRF). She was built by A.G. Weser in Bremen, West Germany, for Sea-Land Service, Inc. and named SS Sea-Land Commerce.[1] Due to her high operating cost, she was sold to the United States Navy on 27 October 1981 as USNS Regulus (T-AK-292).[2]

Conversion began on 29 June 1984 at National Steel and Shipbuilding in San Diego, California. Her cargo hold was redesigned into a series of decks connected by ramps so vehicles can be driven into and out of the cargo hold for fast loading and unloading. She was also fitted with two sets of two cranes; one set located at midship capable of lifting 35 tons, and another set located aft capable of lifting 50 tons.[1] She was delivered to the Military Sealift Command on 28 August 1985 as USNS Regulus (T-AKR 292).[3]

When not active, Regulus is kept in reduced operating status due to her high operating cost. If needed, she can be activated and ready to sail in 96 hours.[4] Regulus took part in the Persian Gulf War in 1990. Along with the other seven Algol class cargo ships, she transported 14 percent of all cargo delivered between the United States and Saudi Arabia during and after the war.[5]

On 1 October 2007, Regulus was transferred to the United States Maritime Administration. On 1 October 2008, she was transferred to the Ready Reserve Force, losing her USNS designation.[5][6] If activated, Regulus will report to the Military Sealift Command.[2] ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS\\_Regulus\\_\(T-AKR-292\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Regulus_(T-AKR-292)))

Last update: 28/12/2013