

NS Savannah

The United States Maritime Administration and the Atomic Energy Commission jointly funded the building of America's one and only nuclear powered merchant ship under President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" program. The *NS Savannah* was launched in 1959 and went into operation in 1962 carrying cargo and 60 passengers. The ship was operated by States Marine Lines then by American Export-Isbrandstuen lines with most expenses funded by the Maritime Administration. The ship made a number of good will visits to ports around the world.

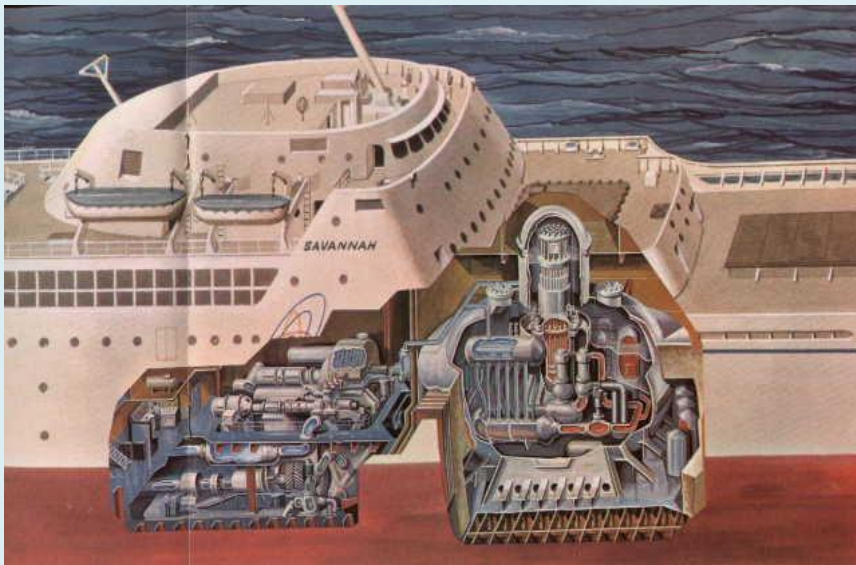
The *NS Savannah* is a sleek white ship looking like a large yacht. It was taken out of service in 1971 by the Nixon administration when they decided not to fund the operation. It was a museum in Charleston, South Carolina for a few years and now is laid up at a pier in Baltimore. Some tours are conducted. The NS Savannah Association ([N/S SAVANNAH ASSOCIATION Home Page](#)) has done some restoration and is looking for funding for a full restoration and setting up a museum. The website has an excellent virtual tour of the ship. There are also some good videos on YouTube by searching on *NS Savannah*.



The *NS Savannah* in San Diego in 1962. For safety concerns, the Port required the ship to be backed into the pier so, if an emergency occurred, the ship could be moved out of the port quickly.



The ship had a modern dining room and modern comfortable cabins. Some of the forward cabins were across the alleyway from the reactor room.



The ship's nuclear reactor created steam that drove the engines turbines. The ship could travel 330,000 miles without refueling. That is 14 times around the world.



The luxurious Lounge can double as a movie theater.



The Mess facility, looking toward the Prison's Square.

The spacious Veranda
 views onto the
 Salvo's Big Pool.

