

Ocean Joss

Ships in Focus

By Geoff Walker

Imperial Japanese Transport “Shunko Maru”



(Painting by Kihachiko Ueda)

A painting by the Japanese artist K. Uedo, taken from the public domain, depicts the IJN Transport “**Shunko Maru**”. The “**Shunko Maru**”, 4027 GRT, was sunk by USAAF Catalina PBY flying boats, off the New Guinea Bismarck Archipelago in January 1944. She had originally been built in 1936 for Yamamoto Shoji K.K. by Kawasaki Dockyard Co. Ltd, Kobe, but was requisitioned by the IJN at the outbreak of WW2.

She was powered by a steam turbine, developing 2450 SHP, single screw and had a service speed of 15.3 knots, which was fast for cargo vessels of her era.

End

References: www.wrecksite.eu, A. Ueda, Wikipedia, various online sources from which details may have been obtained and verified.

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