

Auxiliary Vessels Board Reports

1942

30 – 61

DECLASSIFIED

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

100D802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/94

In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-231EJM
(SC)AM/QB

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIALNAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

January 10, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 30.

References: (a) Buships letter C-EG3 (880) (Confidential) of
 January 5, 1942.
 (b) Buships letter C-ARS/A1-3 (880) C-ARS/L4-3
 (880) of January 7, 1942.
 (c) Director, Naval Transportation Service memo
 Op-38S, P-cw, (SC)QSL/L4, serial 0149338, of
 January 9, 1942.

1. The Board met at 0830 Saturday, January 10, in Room
 2714, Navy Department.

2. Members present were:

Rear Admiral W.S. Farber	-	Operations
Captain C. S. Alden	-	Operations
Captain E.W. Burrough	-	Operations
Commander T.J. Ryan, Jr.	-	Operations - Recorder.

3. The Board took under consideration references (a) and
 (b) in which the Chief of the Bureau of Ships requested reconsidera-
 tion of the Board's recommendation contained in Report Number 23
 dated 6 December; namely, in view of the prospective assignment of
 one ARS to the Thirteenth Naval District, the Board recommended
 against the acquisition of the CASPAR. In view of the changed situation
 since December 7, 1941, and the lack of any floating salvage facili-
 ties in the Alaskan Sector, the Board now recommends that the CASPAR
 be acquired at the earliest practicable date and assigned to the Naval
 Salvage Service now in operation under the direction of the Bureau
 of Ships.

4. The Board next took under consideration reference (c),

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which recommended in part as follows:

"....that the vessels indicated below be acquired on bare boat charters when the Bureau of Navigation can furnish crews.

"(a) TALAMANCA (AF) At present time chartered. Due Norfolk (after limited conversion) about January 17, 1942. The Bureau of Navigation is prepared to man this vessel which is destined for the Asiatic Fleet.

"(b) PASTORES (AF) At present time chartered. Due Norfolk (after limited conversion) about January 21, 1942. This vessel is destined for the Train, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

"(c) CALAMARES (AF) At present time chartered. Due to complete limited conversion at New York about January 10, 1942. This vessel is destined for the Base Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"(d) ANTIQUA (AF) At present time chartered. Due Norfolk (after limited conversion) about January 27, 1942. This vessel is destined for the Base Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet."

The nature and extent of fleet operations under way and in prospect are such that the Board is convinced of the necessity for acquiring the above vessels by bare boat charters and of the need for their assignment as fleet auxiliaries. It is recommended that this be done.

W.S. Farber
W.S. FARBER.

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DDO 202013

By

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NARA Date

116713

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Op-23E-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 07523

1st endorsement,
Navy Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

JAN 14 1942

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 30.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

H. R. Stark
----- H. R. STARK -----

Op-23E-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 07623

2nd Endorsement,
Navy Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

JAN 14 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 30.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report. The Chief of the Bureau of Navigation will advise the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships as to when the Bureau of Navigation can furnish officers and crews to man the TALAMANCA, PASTORES, CALAMARES, and ANTIQUA.

Frank Knox
----- Frank Knox -----

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

DDO 2013

By

TI

NARA Date

116113

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In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23E-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 014223NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

January 15, 1942.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 31.

References: (a) Maritime Commission letter of 5 January 1942,
to Chief of Naval Operations. (Doc. 40924)
(b) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 19 of
14 November 1941.
(c) Approval of reference (b) by Secnav 2nd
endorsement (SC) AA/QB, serial 0110138,
dated November 19, 1941.

1. The Board met at 1530 Wednesday, January 14, 1942, in
Room 2714, Navy Department.

2. Members present were:

Rear Admiral W.S. Farber	-	Operations
Captain C.S. Alden	-	Operations
Captain E.W. Burrough	-	Operations
Commander T.J. Ryan, Jr.	-	Operations - Recorder.

In addition to the members there were also present Captain Howard
L. Vickery of the Maritime Commission and Lieutenant-Commander T.J.
Murrell of the Bureau of Ships.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) which
reviewed the correspondence between the Navy Department and the Mari-
time Commission on the subject of rescue vessels originally proposed
by the Special Naval Observer, London. The Special Naval Observer
in London reported that these vessels had been instrumental in sav-
ing hundreds of lives and have assisted in inspiring confidence in
the convoy system. In addition to rescue work, assistance has been
rendered on several occasions to merchant ships requiring medical aid.

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(SC)AA/QB

Serial 014223

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The Special Naval Observer recommends also that eleven (11) of these vessels be provided.

4. The characteristics desired in these rescue vessels are:

- (a) Sheltered space for 75/100 persons including separate accommodation for rescued officers.
- (b) Sick Bay, with accommodation for a Surgeon and two Pharmacists Mates.
- (c) Cooking and Eating utensils for 75/100 persons in addition to ship's crew.
- (d) Boatage and/or rafts sufficient for crew and 75/100 persons.
- (e) Lower rubbing band (if fitted) to be "blocked in" in the way of after deck, to make a suitable place for boats to get alongside.
- (f) Loud speaker hailing apparatus to be fitted.
- (g) Small and handy boats to be fitted, where not already fitted.
- (h) Empty drums to be stowed in suitable spaces to increase buoyancy.
- (i) Extra crew to be carried for upkeep of additional accommodation and maintenance work and for cooking, etc.
- (j) Distinctive marking for the benefit of ships in convoy and for the escort.
- (k) Service respirators to be supplied to the crews of these vessels.
- (l) Provision for the following Naval ratings in addition to merchant service crew:
 - 1 Surgeon
 - 2 Pharmacist Mates
 - 1 Communication Group
 - 10 Armed Guard
- (m) Rescue Baskets and Nets as required.

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11/6/14

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- (n) Accommodation for sufficient merchant service wireless operators to enable vessel to keep continuous radio watch. (It is anticipated that with the additional listening apparatus a total of six radio operators will be required).
- (o) Range up to 4,500 miles at convoy speed with a possible speed of 12 knots for a short period.
- (p) Capable of carrying extra fuel and water for this range.
- (q) Stores and clothing for survivors.
- (r) Full scale of merchant ship defensive equipment.

4. The Board was informed that the Maritime Commission now has on hand a proprietary design for a wooden ship which substantially meets the above characteristics; but that the Maritime Commission has neither funds nor facilities to undertake the building of these vessels at the present time; that the building of these vessels in accordance with the proprietary design now in the hands of the Maritime Commission would not have a deleterious effect upon the overall ship building program.

5. In Report Number 19 the Board recommended that the Department officially record its approval for the necessity of these vessels and that the Maritime Commission be so advised. The recommendation was approved by the Secretary of Navy in reference (c). The Board now recommends that the proprietary design for these rescue vessels be obtained from the Maritime Commission and that the Bureau of Ships build eleven (11). The question of whether these vessels are to be manned by civilian or Navy crews should be left open for determination when the building has progressed sufficiently to indicate the necessity for manning.

W.S. Farber
W.S. Farber.

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By

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NARA Date

116713

Op-23E-EJM

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 014323

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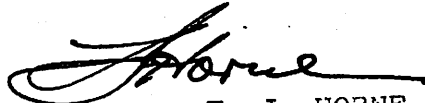
CONFIDENTIAL1st endorsement,
Navy Department.

JAN 19 1942

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 31.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.



F. J. HORNE

----- Acting -----

Op-23E-EJM

Serial 014423

(SC)AA/QB

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL2nd endorsement,
Navy Department.

JAN 19 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



Copies to:

Cominch

Cincpac

Cinclant

Comtrainlant

Combasefor, Pacific Fleet

Dist. Craft Development Board

Budget Officer, Navy Dept.

Pres. Joint Merchant Vessel Board

Spenavo London

Maritime Commission

Bureaus and Offices, Navy Dept;

Divisions of Offices of CNO (2 copies))

Busanda (3); Bunav (3) Buships (3)

Captain Lawman Finance Office, Buships

(2)

Captain Howard L. Vickery, Maritime Comm.

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Authority WD 803073
By TJ NARA Date 11/6/93

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

Op-23E-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 019423

CONFIDENTIAL

January 20, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 32.

Reference: (a) Op-20 memo to Op-23, dated January 9, 1942,
file no. (SC)N28-8.

1. The Board met at 1545 Monday, January 19, in Room 2714,
Navy Department.

2. Members present were:

Rear Admiral W.S. Farber	-	Operations.
Captain E.W. Burrough	-	Operations
Commander T.J. Ryan	-	Operations, Recorder.

In addition to the members there was also present Lieut. Commander
D.S. Rau, Communications Division of Naval Operations.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) which recommended that measures be taken to construct two cable repair ships. From information available to the Board, it appears that the Navy Department's interest in the subject matter of reference (a) derives from the importance of maintaining trans-Atlantic cables. These cables are privately owned and operated and there are now an adequate number of privately owned cable repair ships for maintenance. The immediate concern is caused by a request of the British Admiralty for release of the cable ship JOHN W. MACKAY from Halifax for operations elsewhere desired by the British. The JOHN W. MACKAY is American owned and operating under British registry.

4. The Board expresses no opinion as to whether or not two cable ships should be constructed; but, after careful consideration of the Navy's overall needs and the projected building and conversion program to fill them, recommends against the inclusion of two cable repair ships.

W.S. Farber
W.S. FARBER

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Authority WD 802013
 By TI NARA Date 11/6/14

To reply, refer to initials
 and No.

Op-23E-EJM
 (SC)AA/QB
 (SC) Serial 019523
 Serial

1st endorsement,
 Navy Department.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

JAN 23 1942

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 32.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

H. R. Stark

Op-23E-EJM
 (SC)AA/QB
 Serial 019623

H. R. STARK JAN 23 1942

CONFIDENTIAL
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2nd endorsement,
 Navy Department.

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
 To : The Chief of Naval Operations.

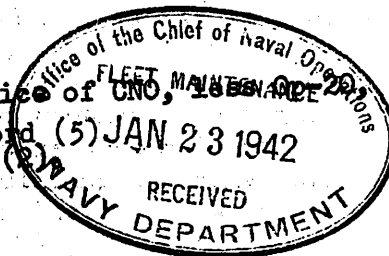
1. Returned, approved.

Frank Knox

Frank Knox

Copies to:

Cominch
 Dist. Craft Development Board
 Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
 Pres. Joint Merchant Vessels Board
 Maritime Commission
 Bureaus and Offices and Divisions of Office of CNO, 1880-1942 (2)
 Busanda (3), Buonav (3), Buships (3), Buord (5) JAN 23 1942
 Captain Lauman, Finance Office, Buships (2)



(SC) AA/QB

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Authority

WD 803073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/94

In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23E-1-EJM
(SG)AA/QB
Serial 037323NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTONCONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

February 5, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy,
Via : The Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 33.

Reference: (a) Director Naval Vessels and Aircraft Division
memorandum, Op-38C-LAC, (SC)L21-1/PT, serial
08938, of January 29, 1942.

1. The Board met at 10:45 Thursday, February 5, 1942,
in Room 2714, Navy Department.

2. Members present were:

Captain C.S. Alden - Operations,
Captain E.W. Burrough - Operations,
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter - Operations,
Recorder.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a),
which recommended that either a seatrain or other suitable ves-
sel be acquired and converted for the primary purpose of rapid
transportation of motor torpedo boats, armament and equipment to
points where their services are required. The Board considered
that the remaining seatrains are now engaged in useful service
and their acquisition for special transportation is not recom-
mended. The Board considered that motor torpedo boats can be
transported on deck of tankers and auxiliaries. Although it is
known that not more than six motor torpedo boats can be carried
on a ship of this type, this is believed to be an advantage be-
cause if the ship is attacked, a minimum of motor torpedo boats
would be lost.

4. The Board recommends against the acquisition of
any vessels for the primary purpose of transporting motor torpedo
boats.

W.S. Farber
W.S. FARBER.

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Authority

WD 80 2013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/13

Op-23E-1-EJM
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 Serial 037423
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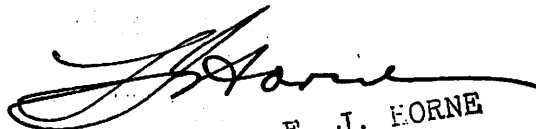
1st endorsement,
 Navy Department.

FEB 6 1942

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 33.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendation of the Auxiliary Vessels Board
 is concurred in and is recommended for approval.



F. J. HORNE
 Acting

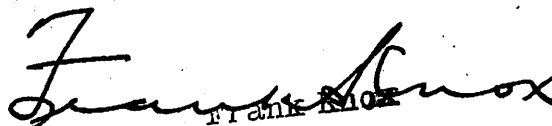
2nd endorsement,
 Navy Department.

Op-23E-1-EJM
 (SC)AA/QB
 Serial 037523
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FEB 6 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
 To : The Chief of Naval Operations.
 Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 33.

1. Returned, approved.



Frank Knox

Copies to:

Geminch
 Cinpac
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 Comtrainlant
 Gembasfor, Pacific Fleet
 District Craft Development Board

Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
 President, Joint Merchant Ves. Board
 Bureaus and Offices and Divisions of
 Office of CNO (2 copies; none to
 Op-20)
 Busanda (3), Bunav (3), Buships (6)
 Buord (5);
 Capt. Lauman, Finance Office, Buships (2)

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Authority

100-803073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/94

NAV.

ORD.

Op-212-1-212

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AERO.

Special 100-803073

BUSHIPS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 24, 1942.

Y. & D.

S. & A.

From:

The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels' Board.

M. & S.

To:

The Secretary of the Navy.

Via:

The Chief of Naval Operations.

J. A. G.

Subject:

Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 24.

M. G. C.

Reference:

(a) Coninch confidential letter 772/27-3/ 222, serial 0103, to CNO, dated February 6, 1942. Document 23123.

BUDGET

1. The Auxiliary Vessels' Board met at 10:03 February 24, 1942, in Room 2715, Navy Department.

Op. 12.

2.

Members present were:

Op. 13.

Rear Admiral W.S. Farber

Operations

Op. 14.

Captain F.B. Chapline

Operations

Captain R.H. Burrough

Operations

Op. 16.

Captain R.H. Morris

Operations

Lieut. Commander Herman Barter

Operations, Recorder.

Op. 18.

Op. 20.

As representatives of the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet, the Bureau of Aeronautics and the Bureau of Ships, the following officers were also present: Captain D.B. Duncan, Captain R.L. Cochran, Lieut. Commander J.F. Galtier, Lieut. Commander R.L. Cooper and Lieutenant J.H. Schum.

Op. 21.

Op. 22.

3.

The Board took under consideration reference (a) in which the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet, requested investigation as to the practicability of using SS SHAMROCK as a training carrier on the Great Lakes. The Bureau of Ships advised that after inspection of the subject vessel at Cleveland, Ohio, that the ship was in good condition and was considered suitable for the purpose intended.

Op. 23.

Op. 30.

Op. 31.

Op. 38.

4.

The Board recommends that the SS SHAMROCK be acquired and converted to a suitable vessel equipped for training carrier pilots as well as for training aircraft gear crews and flight deck crews. The Board further recommends that aircraft gear barriers and limited gun-line and lubricating oil supply be installed.

GPO 16-1

W.S. Farber,
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy.

Authority 100D802012
By TJ NARA Date 11/6/14

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Authority

100-202013

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

By

NARA Date

11/6/76

In reply refer to Initials

Op-23E-1-APC

(SC)AL/OP

Serial 068623

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

March 4, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels' Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 35.

Reference: (a) CominCh memo to Adm. Stark, Serial 0275,
 dated February 28, 1942.

1. The Board met at 0930 Tuesday, March 3, 1942, in
 Room 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Rear Adm. W. S. Farber	- Operations
Capt. V. D. Chapline	- Operations
Capt. E. W. Burrough	- Operations
Capt. E. W. Morris	- Operations
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	- Operations, Recorder.

In addition to the members there were also present Capt. C. E. Smith, Operations; Comdr. W. M. Callaghan, Operations; Comdr. J. T. Talbert, Bureau of Navigation; Lieut. R. W. Schurr, Bureau of Ships; and Mr. Brewster Jennings, War Shipping Administration and Maritime Commission.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) which recommended that steps be taken to acquire and man at least six tankers completing subsequent to March, 1942. The Board recommends that the SS COLINA, SS KALKAY, SS ELLKAY, SS CONASTOGA, SS JORKAY and SS EMKAY be acquired through the Maritime Commission and that conversion features be included during building, by the Maritime Commission. The Bureau of Ships should furnish the necessary plans and conversion features desired to the Maritime Commission and make the financial arrangements necessary between the Navy and the Maritime Commission.

4. As these ships are to be fleet oilers, they should be manned by Naval personnel. The Bureau of Navigation representative stated that this could be accomplished.

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Authority

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By

TI

NARA Date

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Op-23E-1-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 068623

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5. The Board further recommends that in the steam-electric type tankers of which there are now 128 building, the question of the addition of defense features be taken up with the Maritime Commission and that recommendations be made as to the number of these vessels that should have defense features included during construction.

W. S. Farber
W. S. FARBER.

Op-23E-1-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 068723

1st Endorsement

MAR 5 1942

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 35.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels' Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

W. S. Horne
W. S. HORNE
Acting

Op-23E-1-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 068823

2nd Endorsement

MAR 7 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of the report.

Frank Stux

Copies to:

CominCh

Budget Officer, Navy Department.

President, Joint Merchant Vessels' Board.

Bureaus and Offices and Divisions of Office of Chief of Naval Operations, (2 copies, less Op-20).

BuSanda (3); BuNav (3); BuShips (5)

Capt. Lauman, Finance Office, BuShips (2).

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RAN

AVB 36-
Ser # 91 re
Antigua.
(Quies AVB 35
had not then)

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RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

100-803013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/8/93

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 23, 1942

Op-23E-1-EJM

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 090123

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTONCONFIDENTIAL

March 23, 1942.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels' Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 37.

Reference: (a) Cominch letter, serial 244, of February 19, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1400 Friday, March 20, 1942, in Room 2716, Navy Department. Members present were:

Captain V.D. Chapline, Operations
Captain E.W. Burrough, Operations
Captain E.W. Morris, Operations
Lieut. Commander Herman Barter, Operations,
Recorder.

In addition to the members present there was also present Commander C.E. Eason, Staff, Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet.

2. The Board took cognizance of the fact that the NANCY LYKES had been acquired for use as a replacement for USS POLLUX. The Board recommends that only a limited conversion be made at the present time for use as a stores issue ship (AKS) and the conversion be limited in extent to that which can be accomplished during the time necessary for the installation of the defense items.

3. The Board recommends the acquisition by purchase of a suitable 10-1/2 knot tanker of approximately 80,000 barrel capacity to meet the immediate Naval demand for a tanker of these characteristics.

4. The Board further took under consideration reference (a), paragraph 2(c), which recommended that investigation be made to meet the possibility of providing Boat Accommodation Ships. Due to the urgent need for ships of all types to meet immediate wartime requirements, the Board considers that, to acquire or divert a ship for this purpose at this time, is not justified. The Board considers that sufficient boats can be transported on decks of tankers and other auxiliaries to provide the necessary service to fleet units.

W.S. Farber
W.S. FARBER.

Authority

100D803013

By

U

NARA Date

11/8/94

Op-23E-1-EJM

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 090223

1st endorsement,
Navy Department.CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

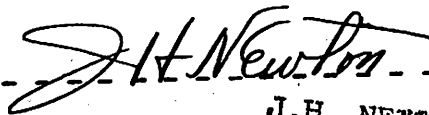
MAR 24 1942

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 37.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels' Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.



J.H. NEWTON

2nd endorsement, By Direction
Navy Department.

Op-23E-1-EJM

(SC)AA/QB

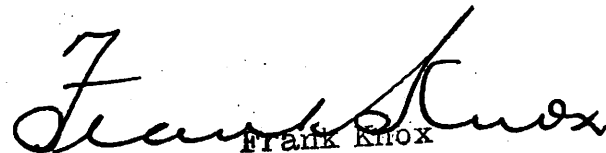
Serial 090323

MAR 24 1942

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIALFrom: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.

2. The Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of the report.


Frank Knox

Copies to:

Cominch

Budget Officer, Navy Department

President, Joint Merchant Vessels' Board

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(2 copies, less Op-20)

Busanda (3), Bunav (3); Buships (5)

Capt. Lauman, Finance Office, Buships (2), Room 2109.

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Authority

100-803013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/84

In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23Eal-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0101223NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTONCONFIDENTIAL

March 31, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels' Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy,
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 38.

Reference: (a) Buships letter AMB2-99/S41(820) over AM100-131/S41
 of March 19, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1530 Thursday, March 26, in Room 2716,
 Navy Department. Members present were:

Captain V.D. Chapline	Operations
Captain E.W. Burrough	Operations
Captain E.W. Morris	Operations
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations, Recorder.

In addition to the members present there were also present Captain A.B. Anderson, Operations; Commander E.C. Craig, Bureau of Ships; Commander Paul Goen, Bureau of Ships; Lieut. Comdr. L.K. Scott, Operations; Lieut. Commander T.G. Murrell, Bureau of Ships; Lieutenant Finn Ronne, Bureau of Ships; and Lieutenant (j.g.) G.D. Dickey, Bureau of Ships.

2. The Board was informed that the PRESIDENT MADISON was available for acquisition by the Navy and took cognizance of the urgent need for additional transports. It is recommended, therefore, that the PRESIDENT MADISON be acquired on bare boat charter, that she be converted to a convoy loaded transport (AP) and that this conversion be limited at this time to the minimum necessary for use as a transport. After inspection by the Bureau of Ships and consultation between the representatives of the Bureau of Ships and the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, if it is determined that the vessel is suitable for conversion to a Transport for Evacuation of Wounded (APH), the Board will make further recommendation in the premises.

3. The Board's attention was called to reference (a), which requests that consideration be given to the question of providing tenders for the Fleet Minesweepers (AM) now building. The Board was informed that

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the minesweepers in numbers would not be ready for service until late in 1942. The Board considers that the immediate needs for these tenders is not urgent. Due to the fact that there is an acute shipping shortage at present, the Board recommends that no vessel be designated or acquired for conversion at this time. The Board further recommends that the Bureau of Ships make an investigation and study of the possibility of converting one or more of these minesweepers to tenders for the class.

W D Chaplin

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Authority

WD 803013

By

TJ

NARA Date

116718

Op-23E-1-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0101323

1st endorsement,
Navy Department.

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APR 3 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 38.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels' Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

J. H. Newton
J. H. NEWTON
Acting

Op-23E-1-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0101423

2nd endorsement,
Navy Department.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

APR 3 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank Knox
Frank Knox

Copies to:

Cominch
Budget Officer, Navy Department
President Joint Merchant Vessels' Board
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Capt. Lauman, Finance Office, Room 2109, Bureau of Ships.

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DDO 2013

By

NARA Date

11/6/13

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23E-1-EG

(SC)AA/QB

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Serial 0108923 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

April 4, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels' Board.
To : The Secretary of The Navy.
Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 39.

Reference: (a) Cominch ltr Serial 00249 dated
March 31, 1942.
(b) Buships conf ltr C-QB/Aux. Vessels
Board (300-700) March 17, 1942.

1. The Auxiliary Vessels Board met at 1430 April 2,
1942, in Room 2716, Navy Department.

2. Members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline, Operations
Captain A. B. Anderson, Operations
Captain E. W. Morris, Operations
Lt. Comdr. Herman Barter, Operations, Recorder.

In addition to the members there were also present Captain Paul
Hendren, Operations, Captain B. J. Rodgers, representing Commander-
in-Chief, U. S. Fleet, and Commander L. A. Kniskern, Bureau of
Ships.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a),
which requested the acquisition of small transports:-

- (a) Five now
- (b) Ten more in six months
- (c) Five more in a year.

The Board recommends that the following lumber schooners now on
the West Coast be acquired by purchase or bare boat charter,
whichever method is most advantageous to the Government, for use
as small transports and utility cargo carriers and that they be
Navy manned.

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WD 802073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/73

Op-23E-1-BG

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Serial 6108923

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S.S. OLYMPIA	OLYMPIC - 45
S.S. ASTORIA	(46)
S.S. DOROTHY PHILIPS	(44)
S.S. EL CAPITAN	43
S.S. ANNA SCHAFER.	(42)

It is further recommended that the DOROTHY PHILIPS, EL CAPITAN and ANNA SCHAFER be armed and converted to Navy use as soon as possible. The OLYMPIA and ASTORIA to be armed but not converted until such time as they can be made available for conversion.

4. The Board recommends that the fifteen ALGERINE type mine-sweepers now building in Canadian Ship Yards be acquired by purchase. It is understood that three of these vessels will be completed in November, 1942, two in December, 1942 and the remainder in 1943. The Board considers that the characteristics of this type vessel upon conversion will be suitable as a small transport and utility cargo carrier for the purpose intended. The Board further recommends that the Bureau of Ships make a study and, if practicable, these vessels be converted to small transports and utility cargo carriers while building.

W.D. Chaplin

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

100D002073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/94

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Op-23B-1-EM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0109023

1st endorsement,
Navy Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

APR 6 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 39.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels' Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

Op-23B-1-EM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0109123

2nd endorsement,
Navy Department.

J. H. Newton
J. H. NEWTON
Acting

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APR 6 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank Knox
Frank Knox

Copies to:

Cominch

Budget Officer, Navy Department

President, Joint Merchant Vessels' Board

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Busanda (3); Bunav (3)/ Buships (5).

Captain Lauman, Finance
Office, Room 2109,
Bureau of Ships.

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Authority

UND 903073

By

TI

NARA Date 11/6/86

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23Eal-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0117823

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

April 11, 1942.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels' Board.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
Subject: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 40.

References: (a) Cominch letter, serial 00249 FFI/LB-3/A4-1, of March 31, 1942.
(b) Buships letter QSL/LB-3(710) of April 8, 1942.
(c) Buships letter QSL/LB-3(710) of April 9, 1942.
(d) VCNO letter, Op-39-A-bhh, Serial 47239, of March 31, 1942.
(e) VCNO letter, Op-39, QSL/LB-3(420331) of March 31, 1942. (Serial 46739).

1. The Board met at 1015 Thursday, April 9, in Room 2724, Navy Department. Members present were:

Captain V.D. Chapline, Operations
Captain E.W. Burrough, Operations,
Captain E.W. Morris, Operations,
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter, Operations,
Recorder.

In addition to the members present there were also present Captain J.T. Alexander, Operations; Captain A.B. Anderson, Operations; Captain Paul Hendren, Operations; Captain B.J. Rodgers, Office of Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet; Commander J.E. Hamilton, Bureau of Ships; Lieut. Commander T.G. Murrell, Bureau of Ships; and Ensign M.F. Healy, Operations; Admiral Vickery and Mr. Weber of the Maritime Commission and Mr. A.T. Wood, representing the office of Defense Transportation.

2. The Board took under consideration reference (a) which requested that small merchant vessels be acquired for use as Naval transports. The Board recommends that fourteen (diesel propelled vessels) out of the fifty (250' N3-M-A1 cargo vessels) being built by the Maritime Commission for the British under Lend Lease be acquired by the Navy. These vessels will embody certain characteristics desired by the Navy.

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100-202013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/78

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Serial 0117823

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in small transports. It is understood that the first vessel is due for completion in September 1942, and the rate of production thereafter, will be at one per month. The Maritime Commission representative advised that any conversion features to small transports and cargo ships desired be accomplished after the ships have been completed in order not to delay the completion dates in the building yards.

3. The Board next considered reference (b) which stated that the Bureau of Ships had been informed that the Maritime Commission was prepared to include in the SS DELORLEANS and SS DELARGENTINO, Maritime Commission Hulls 151 and 152, while building, Navy features for combat loaded transports (AP's). It is recommended that the DELORLEANS and DELARGENTINO be purchased for conversion to combat loaded AP's for the Navy. The Board was informed that the ALCOA COURIER, ALCOA CORSAIR and ALCOA CRUISER, Maritime Commission Hulls 175, 176 and 177, were having APH features included while building at the Moore Drydock, Oakland, California. The Board recommends that two of these ALCOA vessels be acquired by purchase and recommends that these two ships replace the PRESIDENT TAYLOR, previously authorized as an APH in Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 17, and if these two ships are acquired, that the PRESIDENT MADISON be not converted to an APH as considered in Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 38.

4. The Board recommends that the following vessels be acquired by bare boat charter: -- SS BLUE SUNOCO, SS FLYING A, SS GEORGE HENRY, SS TYEE and SS THOS. JEFFERSON, and that these vessels be manned by Navy crews. It is not considered necessary that any conversion work be undertaken other than essential defense features.

5. In Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 38, the Board recommended that the PRESIDENT MADISON be acquired by the Navy on bare boat charter and that she be converted to convoy loaded AP. Upon inspection by representatives of the Bureau of Ships, the report of her poor material condition which the agents refuse to correct, the Board now recommends that the PRESIDENT MADISON be acquired by purchase, in view of the expense of conversion and in view of the benefits which will accrue to the Government through outright ownership.

6. The Board took official cognizance of the desirability of acquiring the following vessels - SS AZTEC, SS MAYA, SS TOLTEC, SS MUSA and SS PLATONA. Attention was called to the fact that these vessels are now available for Navy use. It is the opinion of the Board that at the present time acquisition by purchase or bare boat charter is not desired nor justified. The Board advises, however, that if the need for these vessels becomes urgent, that they be acquired on time charter.

V.D. CHAPLINE

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Authority

DND 802013

By

TI

NARA Date

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Op-23E-1-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0117923

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1st endorsement,
Navy Department.

APR 13 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 40.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels' Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. Horne
F. J. HORNE

Op-23E-1-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0118023

2nd endorsement,
Navy Department.

APR 14 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank S. ...

Copies to:

Cominch

Budget Officer, Navy Department

President, Joint Merchant Vessels' Board

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Vice Chief of Naval Operations (5 copies each-less Op-20),

Busanda (5); Bunav (5); Buships (5)

Capt. Lauman, Finance Office, Room 2109, Bureau of Ships.

(see page 4 for add. distribution.)

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WD 80 3073

By

NARA

Date 11/6/94

OP-30E-1-EM

In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23E-1-EM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0127323
CONFIDENTIALNAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

APR 18 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels' Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy,
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
 Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 41.

References: (a) Comserforlant conf. letter serial 0812, of April 7, 1942. (have copy)
 (b) Com 14 despatch 110120 of April 1942.
 (c) Westseafron letter A4-2, serial 352, of March 13, 1942.
 (d) Com 12 letter S3, 13658-14-Li of April 8, 1942, (restricted).
 (e) Op-39A Memo to Auxiliary Vessels' Board of April 15, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1405 Thursday, April 16, 1942, in Room 2724, Navy Department.

2. Members present were:

Captain V.D. Chapline, Operations
 Captain E.W. Burrough, Operations
 Captain E.W. Morris, Operations
 Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter,
 Operations, Recorder.

In addition to the members present there were also present Commander C.E. Eason, Staff Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet; Lieut. Comdr. T.G. Murrell, Bureau of Ships; Lieut. Commander W.N. Mansfield, Operations; Ensign M.F. Healy, Jr., Operations, and Mr. S.B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) in which Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, requested that the Steamship SS CHEROKEE be acquired for use with Service Force, Atlantic Fleet. The Board was informed that it was intended to use the CHEROKEE principally in transporting personnel and material to the Caribbean bases. The Board considers that the characteristics of this vessel, namely side loading ports, arrangement of compartments, and inadaptability to ready installation of gun foundations, do not permit conversion to a combination passenger and cargo ship without extensive and costly alterations. The Board recommends, therefore, that the CHEROKEE not be acquired. It is

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WD 802073

By

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NARA Date

11/6/78

Op-23E-1-EJM
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considered that the USS STRATFORD (APA1), which has proven to be unsuitable for the Iceland duty for which she was procured, would meet most of the needs pointed out for the intended use of the CHEROKEE.

4. The Board recommends that in view of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet's orders cancelling the mission for which the SS THOMAS JEFFERSON was originally intended, that the acquisition of the THOMAS JEFFERSON, as approved in Report No. 40, be cancelled. The Board notes that the vessel is to be returned to the War Shipping Administration in accordance with the Vice Chief of Naval Operations' letter of April 13, 1942, serial 57139.

5. The Board next took under consideration reference (c), in which the Commander Western Sea Frontier requested that the ex-Ferryboat CITY OF SACRAMENTO be acquired for use with that force as a seaplane tender. The Board notes from Commander Western Sea Frontier's letter that it will be some time before VPB planes are available for assignment to the location for which the CITY OF SACRAMENTO was requested as a seaplane tender, and notes further that sea plane tenders now building will be available for service within the next few months. In view of the above, the poor material condition of the CITY OF SACRAMENTO as disclosed by the report of inspection, reference (d), the large expenditure of Government funds, and the extensive and lengthy conversion that will be required for the use intended, the Board does not recommend the acquisition of the ex-Ferryboat CITY OF SACRAMENTO.

6. The Board next considered reference (e), which stated that the French M/V MARECHAL JOFFRE was in the possession of the Shipping Administrator, and would be delivered to the Navy. The Board recommends that the M/V MARECHAL JOFFRE, be acquired by purchase from the War Shipping Administrator and that the ship be given a minimum conversion as a convoy loaded transport, and that it be Navy manned.

V.D. CHAPLINE

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Authority

UND 80 2013

By

TJ

NARA Date

116716

Op-23E-1-EJM,
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0127423

1st endorsement,
Navy Department.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

APR 18 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Auxiliary Vessels' Board Report No. 41.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels' Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

J. H. Newton

Acting

Op-23E-1-EJM
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0127523

2nd endorsement,
Navy Department.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

APR 18 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Forrestal

JAMES FORRESTAL

Copies to:

Acting

Cominch
Budget Officer, Navy Department
President, Joint Merchant Vessels' Board
Bureaus and Offices and Divisions of Office of VCNO (None to Op-20)
Busanda (5); Bunav (5); Buships (5)
Capt. Lauman, Finance Office, Room 2109, Bureau of Ships.

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WD 80 2013

By

TI

NARA Date

11/6/74

Serial 0156423

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In reply, refer to Initial

and No.

Op-23A-RIP

(SC)AI/QB

Serial 0156423

Destroyer tenders (AD)

To be converted from C-3 hulls

2882

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON

May 9, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 42.

References: (a) VCNO conf. ltr. Op-23A-RIP, (SC)AI-3/AVG, serial 0122723, of April 6, 1942.
 (b) OpNav ltr. Op-39-A-bhh, serial 66239, of April 24, 1942.
 (c) Informal memo from Op-30 dated April 17, 1942.
 (d) Comserforlant conf. ltr. FF13-9/A4-1, serial 2349, of April 26, 1942.

1. The Board met at 0900 Thursday, May 7, 1942, in Room 2724, Navy Department.

2. Members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline,	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson,	Operations.
Captain E. W. Morris,	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter,	Operations.
Ensign M. F. Healy, Jr.,	Operations.

In addition to the members present there were also present Commander Thomas P. Wynkoop, Jr., Bureau of Ships; Lieut. Comdr. T. G. Murrell, Bureau of Ships; Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield, Operations; and Admiral Vickery of the Maritime Commission.

3. The Board took cognizance of the fact that the Maximum War Effort Program includes the following types of auxiliary vessels to be constructed or acquired during 1943:

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 24 | Escort Vessels (Aircraft)(AVG) | 120,480 tons |
| | To be converted from C-3 hulls. | |
| 4 | Seaplane Tenders (AV) | 24,000 tons |
| | To be converted from C-3 hulls. | |

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Authority

WD 802013

By

TI

NARA Date

11/6/93

Serial 0156423

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Op-7-44

Serial 0156423

Serial 0156423

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 2 | Destroyer Tenders (AD) | 24,000 tons |
| | To be converted from C-3 hulls. | |
| 2 | Submarine Tenders (AS) | 12,000 tons |
| | To be converted from C-3 hulls. | |
| 1 | Repair Ship (AR) | 6,000 tons |
| | To be converted from C-3 hull. | |
| 2 | Ammunition Ships (AE) | 10,000 tons |
| | To be converted from C-2 hulls. | |
| 3 | Oilers (AO) | 18,000 tons |
| | CIMARRON type. | |

Total tonnage, 1943

214,480 tons

During 1944, the following:

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 2 | Submarine Tenders (AS) | 12,000 tons |
| | To be converted from C-3 hulls. | |
| 8 | Oilers (AO) | 48,000 tons |
| | CIMARRON type. | |

Total tonnage, 1944

60,000 tons

During 1945, the following:

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| 3 | Oilers (AO) | 18,000 tons |
| | CIMARRON type. | |

It is recommended that steps be initiated to build the 24 AVG's listed above and to build or acquire from the Maritime Commission the C-3 and C-2 hulls for conversion to the other types and the fourteen oilers listed.

4. Upon inquiry by the Board as to the possibility of meeting the building program, the representatives of the Maritime Commission and the Bureau of Ships estimated that the following vessels could be constructed at the yards indicated:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 24 Escort Vessels (AVG) | Seattle-Tacoma Shipbuilding Co. |
| 4 Destroyer Tenders (AD) | Western Pipe and Steel Co. |
| 4 Seaplane Tenders (AV) | Western Pipe and Steel Co. |
| 1 Submarine Tender (AS) | Seattle-Tacoma Shipbuilding Co. |
| 2 Ammunition Ships (AE) | Tampa Shipbuilding Co. |
| 14 Oilers (AO) | Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co.,
Sparrows Point, Maryland. |

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Authority

WD 80 2013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/96

Op-23-E-APC

Serial 0156423

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This contemplated construction program will still leave a deficiency of two vessels in the 1943 conversion program, namely, one (1) Submarine Tender (AS) and one (1) Repair Ship (AR).

5. In order to meet this deficiency it is recommended that two C-3 type vessels be acquired by purchase through the War Shipping Administration and be manned by Navy crews, one of these vessels to be converted to a Repair Ship (AR) and one to be converted to a Submarine Tender (AS). It has been brought to the attention of the Board that two C-3 type vessels, the SS HAWAIIAN PLANTER and the SS HAWAIIAN MERCHANT may be immediately available for this purpose.

6. By references (b) and (c), it has been brought to the attention of the Board that the SS JOSEPH R. PARROTT and SS ESTRADA PALMA are available for acquisition, are in satisfactory material condition and are of characteristics suitable for conversion to minelayers (CM). In view of the urgent need for additional minelayers at this time and in the future, it is recommended that these two ships be acquired by purchase, manned by Navy crews, and that they be converted as soon as practicable to minelayers, incorporating the minimum conversion features.

7. The Board then took under consideration the request of Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, reference (d), which requested the acquisition of the following type ships to be manned by Navy crews for assignment to that Force:

"(a) 6 AO's similar in type to the CHICOPEE or the SALAMONIE.

(b) 6 AK's similar in type to the ARCTURUS.

(c) 4 AF's similar in type to the MIZAR or TARAZED."

The Board, after investigation, has determined that there are no ships of the desired types at present available for acquisition by the Navy which are not now allocated to useful wartime service. From the number of vessels requested it is the opinion of the Board that the transportation of the logistic support of all bases in the Atlantic is contemplated. It has been pointed out to the Board that the shipping situation at present is so critical that the War Shipping Administration is reluctant to give the Navy any vessel for the operation of carrying cargo to bases near our coasts when these bases could be supplied by available commercial vessels. Under

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Authority

WD 903073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/73

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Op-23E-APC

Serial 0156423

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these conditions, the Board considers that the assignment of additional vessels to the Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet, is an administrative function outside the scope of the Auxiliary Vessels Board.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE

Op-23E-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0156523

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**1st Endorsement

MAY 11 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 42.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. Horne
F. J. HORNE

Op-23E-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0156623

CONFIDENTIAL2nd Endorsement

MAY 11 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank Knox
Frank Knox

See page 5 for distribution.

DECLASSIFIED

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

100-803013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/14

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0179523

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

May 29, 1942

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 44.

References: (a) VCNO memo Op-39-A-m1, Serial 77739,
 of May 17, 1942.
 (b) Comwestseafron conf. ltr. A4-2 WSF
 (95-im) (SC)Serial 352 of March 13,
 1942. (Doc. 47230)
 (c) Comwestseafron conf. ltr. A4-2 WSF
 (95-ky) (SC)Serial 501 of April 20,
 1942. (Doc. 49289)
 (d) Copy of Com 11 conf. ltr. ND11/L8-3(AT)
 Serial B(SD)-1326, WJM:mf of May 16,
 1942. (Doc. 51537)

1. The Auxiliary Vessels Board met at 1400 May 27, 1942,
 in Room 2724, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Captain C. W. Morris	Operations.
Lieut. Commander Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Commander W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. H. Bieri, Staff of the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet; Commander H. S. Jones, Lieutenant Commander T. G. Murrell, and Lieutenant Commander H. T. Koonce, Bureau of Ships; and Commander M. S. Pearson and Ensign M. F. Healy, Jr., Operations.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) which recommends the acquisition of the SS ALCOA CRUISER (MC Hull #177) for use as a Hospital Evacuation Ship (APH). This vessel is now under construction by the Maritime Commission, is being converted to an APH at Navy expense, will be completed about December, 1942, and is the same type as the SS ALCOA COURIER (MC Hull #175) and the SS ALCOA

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CORSAIR (MC Hull #176) previously acquired for this purpose. The total troop-carrying capacity of these three ships will be somewhat less than the combined capacity of the U.S.S. KENMORE (AP62), now being converted to a Convoy Loaded Transport, and the PRESIDENT TAYLOR, not now available, the two ships previously considered for this purpose. In view of the continuing need for transports and the probable urgent need for Hospital Evacuation Ships in the immediate future, the Board recommends the acquisition of the SS ALCOA CRUISER by purchase from the Maritime Commission for use as a Hospital Evacuation Ship (APH).

4. The Board took under consideration references (b) and (c) which present the necessity for the acquisition of a suitable vessel for conversion to a base seaplane tender for use on the West Coast. The Board's attention was called to the urgency of this project, to the fact that the seaplane tenders now building probably would not be available for this assignment, and (reference (d)) to the fact that the Ferry Boat CITY OF SACRAMENTO was in reasonably acceptable material condition and the only craft available on the West Coast suitable for this purpose other than ships already employed in the war effort. In view of the above, the Board now recommends that the Ferry Boat CITY OF SACRAMENTO be acquired by purchase, and that the minimum conversion to fit her for a base seaplane tender for the specific purpose intended be undertaken as soon as practicable.

V. D. CHAPLINE

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0179623

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1st Endorsement

MAY 30 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 44.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

-F- J- HORNE

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Authority

WD 803013

By

TJ

NARA Date

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(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0179723

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Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0179723

2nd Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL

MAY 30 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
 To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 44.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

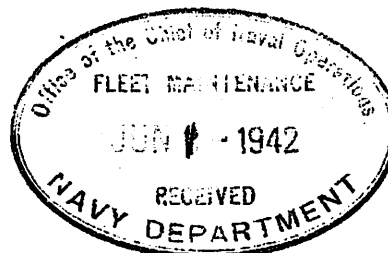
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JAMES FORRESTAL

Acting

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 BuY&D (3)
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 Gen Bd (1)
 Op-10/11 (2)
 Op-12 (2)
 Op-30 (1)
 OP&M (2)
 Budget Officer, Navy Dept. (1)
 Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
 BuShips, Room 2109 (1)



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Authority

100-903073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/74

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23K-1-EIK

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0189623

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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June 6, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 45.

References: (a) Cincpac Secret Dispatch 020627 (June).
(b) VCNO Secret ltr Op-39-A-ml, (SC)QSL/L4,
Serial 043039 of 3 June 1942.

1. The Auxiliary Vessels Board met at 1400 June 5, 1942,
in Room 2724, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Commander Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Commander W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Lieutenant Commander E. P. Rust, Bureau of Ships; Ensign M. F. Healy, Jr., Operations; and Mr. S. B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) in which the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet recommends that the M/V ROAMER be acquired for assignment to the Service Force, Pacific Fleet, and reference (b) in which the Vice Chief of Naval Operations recommends acquisition of the above vessel for the same purpose. The M/V ROAMER is at the present time allocated to the War Department, but the War Shipping Administration has expressed its willingness, with the agreement of the Army, to cancel this allocation. The Board recommends, in view of the recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet and of the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, that the M/V ROAMER be acquired by purchase from the War Shipping Administration, be manned by the Navy, and be given the minimum conversion to fit her for a small cargo and troop-carrying vessel.

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Serial 0189623

June 6, 1942.

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4. It was brought to the attention of the Board in reference (b) that the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet desires acquisition of the S/S COOS BAY (a lumber schooner) for urgent Naval use. The Board recommends, therefore, that the S/S COOS BAY be acquired by purchase for that purpose.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE

Op-23K-1-EIK

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0189723

1st Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**

June 6, 1942.

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 45.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

[Signature]

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TJ

NARA Date

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From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 45.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

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JAMES FORRESTAL

Acting

Copies to:

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Asst. SecNav

BuShips (3)

BuMed

BuPers (3)

BuOrd (3)

BuS&A (3)

BuY&D (3)

Gen Bd

Op-10/11 (2)

Op-12 (2)

OP&M (2)

Budget Officer, Navy Dept.

Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,

BuShips, Room 2109

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 By TJ NARA Date 11/6/93

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26714

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NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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June 19, 1942.

 From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

 SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 46:
 Recommendation for Acquisition of Four (4)
 Fleet Oilers.

 Reference: (a) Cincpac ltr A4-3/(18), Serial 0123 W
 dated June 9, 1942 with Cominch 1st End.
 FFI/A4-3(7), Serial 00503 dated June 16,
 1942.

 1. The Auxiliary Vessels Board met at 1000 June 18, 1942
 in Room 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lt. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain A. F. Carter, Operations; Commander J. L. Wyatt, Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Commander W. M. Callaghan, Operations; Lieutenant Commander H. T. Koonce and Lieutenant Commander T. G. Murrell, Bureau of Ships; Lieutenant (jg) M. F. Healy, Jr., Operations; and Mr. B. B. Jennings, War Shipping Administration.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) in which the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet states the immediate need for four (4) more Fleet oilers, and requests the acquisition, conversion, and assignment to the Pacific Fleet of four (4) commercial tankers. The representative of the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet recommended the acquisition of the tankers AEKAY and CATAWBA, now operating in the Pacific, and two (2) T2-SE-A1 type tankers now building on the East Coast. The representative of the War Shipping Administration informed the Board that there would be no objection to

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the acquisition by the Navy of the AEKAY and CATAWBA, and suggested as the two (2) T2-SE-A1 tankers the HARLEM HEIGHTS (MC Hull No. 319) and the CORSICANA (MC Hull No. 320), now being built by the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, and due to be completed about June 30 and July 10, 1942, respectively. The Bureau of Ships representative informed the Board that the essential material for this conversion to Fleet oilers could be made available in July and August. The Board, therefore, recommends that as soon as practicable the AEKAY, the CATAWBA, and the HARLEM HEIGHTS and the CORSICANA (or two (2) similar T2-SE-A1 tankers), be acquired for the Navy by purchase, that these ships be converted to Fleet oilers, and be manned by Navy crews to meet the urgent need set forth in reference (a).

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE.

Op-23K-1/EIK
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0204923

1st Endorsement~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JUN 20 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 46:
Recommendation for Acquisition of Four (4)
Fleet Oilers.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

J. H. Newton
Acting

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Authority

WD 802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/96

Op-23K-1/EIK

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0205022

2nd Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**

JUN 20 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
 To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 46:
 Recommendation for Acquisition of Four (4)
 Fleet Oilers.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

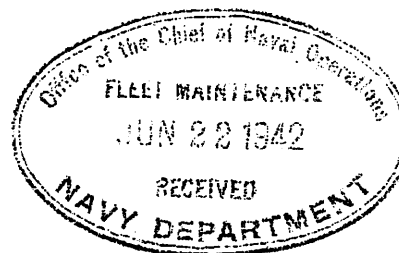
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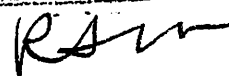
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 Op-12
 OP&M (2)
 Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
 Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
 Buships, Room 2109



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Authority

UND 803073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/8/94

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and No.Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0225223

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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July 4, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 47:

ALGERINE Minesweepers; S/S MALANTIC,
 S/S LARRANAGA, S/S EL COSTON, S/S MANA;
 FORT SUTTER.

References: (a) CominCh Secret ltr. FF1/L8-3/A4-1,
 Serial 00249 of March 31, 1942.
 (b) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 39.
 (c) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 40.
 (d) VCNO ltr. Op-39-A-ml, Serial 94739, of
 July 2, 1942.
 (e) COM 12 Restr. ltr. N4-1/LL (23039-14-J/Pr)
 of June 12, 1941, with Op-39 1st End.,
 Serial 94239, of July 1, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1030, July 3, 1942, in Room 2724,
 Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieutenant Commander Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieutenant Commander W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. J. Rodgers and Commander C. E. Olsen, Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Lieutenant Commander H. T. Koonce, Lieutenant Commander T. G. Murrell, and Mr. S. B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships; and Captain C. J. Parrish, Captain L. J. Hudson, Commander K. W. Palmer, Lieutenant Commander L. K. Scott and Lieutenant (jg) M. F. Healy, Jr., of Operations.

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NARA Date

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3. The Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, requested in reference (a) that twenty (20) vessels suitable for use as small transports and utility cargo carriers be acquired during 1942-1943: five (5) immediately, ten (10) within six months, and five (5) in 1943. The Board made a study of all suitable ships which were available or building, and recommended, in reference (b), the acquisition by purchase of five (5) lumber schooners to meet the immediate need and of fifteen (15) ALGERINE type minesweepers, now building in Canadian shipyards, five (5) of which are scheduled for completion prior to January 1, 1943, for conversion to small transports and utility cargo carriers. This report was approved by the Secretary of the Navy on April 6, 1942. It is the understanding of the Board that the negotiations for the purchase of these ships are practically completed. In order to provide the number required within six months and to complete the program, the Board recommended, in reference (c), that fourteen (14) of the diesel-propelled (250' N3-M-A1) cargo vessels now being built for the British under Lend-Lease by the Maritime Commission be acquired for this purpose. This report was approved by the Secretary of the Navy on April 14, 1942. The Board has been informed that the delivery dates of these cargo vessels are as follows: three (3) prior to January 1, 1943, and the remaining eleven (11) during 1943.

4. The Board's attention was called to the fact that in view of changed conditions and the pressing need for additional minesweepers, the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, desires that the fifteen (15) ALGERINE type minesweepers be completed as such. The Board, therefore, recommends that these ships be completed as minesweepers, and that sound gear and depth charge racks be installed while building.

5. With the cancellation of the conversion to small transports and cargo vessels of the fifteen ALGERINE minesweepers the Board again has made a thorough investigation, and has determined that at this time there are no ships built or building, other than those mentioned in paragraph (3), available for acquisition as small transports and utility cargo carriers of the general characteristics desired. The Board, therefore, wishes to go on record that the program for acquisition of ten (10) additional small transports and utility cargo carriers cannot be met within the next six months.

6. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations recommends, in reference (d), that four (4) commercial vessels, S/S MALANTIC, S/S LARRANAGA, S/S EL COSTON, and S/S MANA, now allocated to the

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Serial 0225223

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Navy by the War Shipping Administration, be acquired for use as Cargo Ships (AK), and assigned for duty to the Naval Transportation Service. The Board recommends, therefore, that the MALANTIC, LARRANAGA, EL COSTON, and MANA be acquired on bare boat charter from the War Shipping Administration, be given the minimum conversion necessary to continue them in operating service as Cargo Vessels (AK), and be manned by Navy (Coast Guard) crews.

7. In reference (e) the Commandant, Twelfth Naval District recommends the acquisition of the ex-ferryboat FORT SUTTER for a floating barracks in the San Francisco Bay Area. It is stated that there is an urgent need for an additional floating barracks suitable for housing crews of vessels undergoing extensive repairs and conversion in the Bay Area, and especially in view of the impending release of the ferryboat, S.S. HAYWARD, now loaned to the Navy for that purpose. Considering the low expense and advantage of mobility of a floating barracks relative to a stationary shore barracks in that Area, the Board recommends that the FORT SUTTER be acquired by requisition purchase, and that it be given the minimum conversion to a floating barracks.

V. D. CHAPLINE
V. D. CHAPLINE.

Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0225323

First Endorsement

JUL 6 1942

CONFIDENTIAL
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From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 47.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. HORNE
F. J. HORNE

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Serial 0225423

Second Endorsement

JUL 6 1942

CONFIDENTIAL
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From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 47.

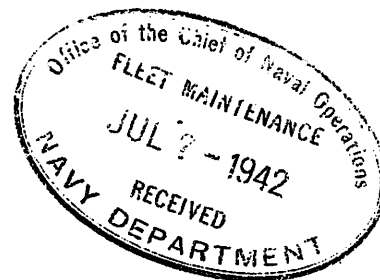
1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



Frank Knox

Copies to:

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Asst. SecNav
BuShips (3)
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Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.



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11/6/74

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and No.

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0240823

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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July 21, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 48:

MAUNA LOA (220,183); S/S LA PERLA, S/S SAN
 BENITO, S/S SAN BRUNO, S/S SAN MATEO;
 Hospital Ships for U. S. Army.

References: (a) Com 14 Conf. disp. 050220 of July 1942.
 (b) Com 14 Conf. disp. 120551 of July 1942.
 (c) VCNO Conf. ltr. Op-39-A-ml, (SC)QS1/L4,
 Serial 055539 of July 15, 1942.
 (d) CominCh Secret ltr. FF1/L-8, Serial 00608
 of July 9, 1942.
 (e) VCNO Secret ltr. Op-39-A-ml, (SC)QS1/L4,
 Serial 054339 of July 11, 1942.
 (f) J.C.S. Secret ltr. 52/1 of June 29, 1942.
 (g) CominCh Secret ltr. FF1/A16-3(4), Serial
 100593 of July 6, 1942.
 (h) S.O.S., War Dept. Secret memo. 33717 of
 July 16, 1942.

1. The Board met at 0930, July 20, 1942, in Room 2724,
 Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieutenant Commander Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieutenant Commander W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain A. F. Carter, Lieutenant Commander G. E. Lindley, Lieutenant E. E. Gates, and Lieutenant (jg) M. F. Healy, Jr., Operations; Commander J. L. Wyatt, Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Lieutenant Commander Joseph Yamin and Mr. S. B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships; and Mr. D. E. Lawrence, Maritime Commission.

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100D802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/74

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(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0240823

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3. The Commandant, Fourteenth Naval District, requests in references (a) and (b) the acquisition of the hulk MAUNA LOA (220,183) for use as a Barracks Ship in the Hawaiian Area, and it is stated in reference (c) that the War Shipping Administration has approved verbally of the request. The Board recommends that the MAUNA LOA be acquired by requisition purchase from the War Shipping Administration, and that it be converted to a nonself-propelled Barracks Ship, to be classed as a Houseboat (YHB), for use in the Hawaiian Area in accordance with references (a), (b), and (c).

4. The Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, directs in reference (d) the acquisition of eleven (11) vessels, among them three (3) Cargo Ships (AK) with reefer and general cargo capacity, for urgent use in the South Pacific Area. Reference (e) lists certain vessels which most nearly meet the requirements laid down for the AK's. The Board recommends that the S/S LA PERLA, S/S SAN BENITO, and the S/S SAN BRUNO or S/S SAN MATEO be acquired by the Navy, either through purchase or bare boat charter, whichever may be more advantageous to the Government, and converted to Provision Store Ships (AF) for assignment to the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet.

5. In accordance with the decision of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in reference (f) and as requested in references (g) and (h), the Board recommends that three (3) EC2-S-C1 hulls be acquired from the Maritime Commission for the U. S. Army to be operated as Hospital Ships (AH) in accordance with the terms of the Geneva Convention; that these vessels be converted in accordance with plans supplied by the Army and under their supervision; and that upon completion they be manned by the Navy except for the medical complement which will be provided by the Army. In view of the Navy's responsibility for these ships, it is recommended that all plans and specifications be submitted to the Navy Department for approval prior to conversion.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE

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By

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NARA Date

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(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0240923

First Endorsement

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JUL 23 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 48.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0241023

Second Endorsement

Acting

JUL 23 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

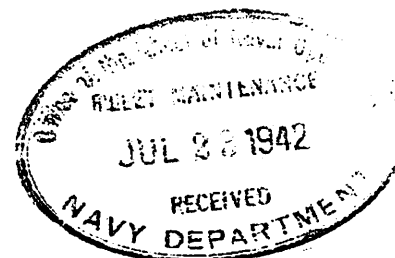
1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank Knox

Copies to:

SecNav
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Asst. SecNav
BuShips (3)
BuMed (3)
BuPers (3)
BuOrd (3)
BuSandA (3)
Gen. Bd.
Op-10/11 (2)
Op-12
OP&M (2)
Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer, BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.

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DD FORM 2013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/96

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0249023

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

July 29, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 49:

S/S GREATER BUFFALO and S/S GREATER DETROIT,
 Training Carriers.

References: (a) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report #34.
 (b) CominCh conf. ltr. FFL/L9-3/S28,
 Serial 0103, dated February 6, 1942.
 (Doc. 43123).
 (c) SecNav conf. 2nd end. (SC)AA/QB,
 Serial 058523 of February 26, 1942,
 on Auxiliary Vessels Board Report #34.

1. The Board met at 1430, July 28, 1942, in Room 2724,
 Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Comdr. H. A. Schade and Lt. E. G. Kintner, Jr., Bureau of Ships; Comdr. C. M. Bolster, Bureau of Aeronautics; Lt. E. E. Gates and Lt. (jg) M. F. Healy, Operations.

3. By reference (a) the Board recommended the acquisition of the S/S SEEANDBEE for use as a training carrier on the Great Lakes, investigation of which had been suggested by Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet, in reference (b). The recommendation was approved by the Secretary of the Navy in reference (c). This ship is now nearing completion.

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By

TJ

NARA Date

11/8/13

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(SC)AA/QB
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4. The Bureau of Aeronautics advises that additional training facilities are required and that one and possibly two similar ships will be needed for a like purpose, but suggested that only one be acquired at this time and an additional one at a later date if the previously acquired S/S SEEANDBEE proves satisfactory. Bureau of Ships advised that two similar ships, the S/S GREATER BUFFALO and the S/S GREATER DETROIT were available; that inspection indicated these ships were considered suitable for the purpose intended; that both ships were in very good material condition and were about thirty feet (30') longer than the S/S SEEANDBEE but were otherwise similar; and that a more thorough inspection had been made of the S/S GREATER BUFFALO, which vessel has a speed of approximately 18 knots.

5. The Board recommends that the S/S GREATER BUFFALO be acquired and converted to a suitable ship equipped for training carrier pilots as well as for training arresting gear crews and flight deck crews. The Board further recommends that the ship be converted in accordance with the plans of the S/S SEEANDBEE but that the flight deck be increased in length over that of the S/S SEEANDBEE, corresponding to the increased hull length; and that sufficient outriggers and a crane be provided to facilitate the handling of wrecked planes.

V. D. Chaffline
V. D. CHAFFLINE

Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0249123

First Endorsement

JUL 30 1942

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 49.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

WD 802073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/78

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(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0249223

Second Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL

JUL 30 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 49.

1. Returned, approved.

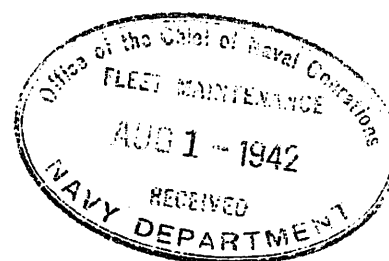
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



----- Frank Knox -----

Copies to:

SecNav
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Asst. SecNav
BuShips (3)
BuMed (3)
BuPers (3)
BuOrd (3)
BuAer (3)
BuSanda (3)
Gen. Bd.
Op-40
Op-10/11
Op-12
OP&M (2)
Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.



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Priority **NND 303073**By **TB** NARA Date **4-17****RG80 SC Correspond Bx 344 S-AA/QB**In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0255423

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

SECRETS E C R E T

August 3, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 50:

U.S.A.T. ANCON, U.S.A.T. HUGH L. SCOTT,
U.S.A.T. TASKER H. BLISS, S.S. SANTA LUCIA,
S.S. EXEMPLAR, S.S. SANTA CLARA, S.S.
MORMACSUN, S.S. MORMACSTAR, S.S. MONTEREY,
S.S. MORMACTIDE - Combat loaded transports.

Reference: (a) CominCh Secret ltr. FF1/A4-1, Serial
00723 of August 1, 1942. (Doc. 57055)1. The Board met at 0930, August 3, 1942, in Room 2724,
Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Major R. D. Meyer, Movements Division, Transportation Service, U.S.A., Capt. S. M. Warren, Development and Liaison, U.S.A.; Capt. B. J. Rodgers, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet; Lt. Comdr. E. P. Rust, Lt. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, and Mr. S. B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships; Comdr. S. W. DuBois, Comdr. J. T. Talbert, Comdr. N. E. Millar, and Comdr. E. A. Solomons, Bureau of Naval Personnel; and Capt. C. S. Alden and Lt. E. E. Gates, Operations.

3. The Board took under consideration reference (a) which directs that arrangements be made immediately for the partial conversion and the manning by U. S. Naval crews of ten vessels, specifically named, now scheduled for use in connection with pros-

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pective movements overseas of U. S. troops. Of those listed the U.S.A.T. ANCON, U.S.A.T. HUGH L. SCOTT, and U.S.A.T. TASKER H. BLISS are Army owned. The S.S. SANTA LUCIA, S.S. EXEMPLAR, S.S. SANTA CLARA, S.S. MORMACSUN, S.S. MORMACSTAR, and S.S. MONTEREY (Official No. 232,021) are owned or chartered by the War Shipping Administration. The GOETHALS (Bataan) is now under construction by the Maritime Commission for the Army. It was brought to the attention of the Board that the last-named ship would not be completed in time for this movement and with the concurrence of the representatives of the Army and the Commander-in-Chief present at the meeting, the S. S. MORMACTIDE is substituted as a replacement for this vessel.

4. The Board recommends that steps be taken to acquire for Navy use through transfer by the Army to Navy account the following ships: U.S.A.T. ANCON, U.S.A.T. HUGH L. SCOTT, U.S.A.T. TASKER H. BLISS; that the Navy acquire from the War Shipping Administration, by purchase or bare boat charter, whichever may be most advantageous to the Government, the following ships: S.S. SANTA LUCIA, S.S. MORMACTIDE, S.S. SANTA CLARA, S.S. MORMACSUN, S.S. MORMACSTAR, S.S. MONTEREY, and S.S. EXEMPLAR, or a like number of similar ships in case these are not readily available; and that when acquired these ships be Navy manned and converted to modified combat loaded transports. For the conversion of these vessels, it is recommended that provision be made for carrying the maximum number of landing boats and tank lighters, this to include adequate fuel stowage for the equipment provided, and the accomplishment of such other characteristic conversion features as may be applicable on a not-to-delay basis.

5. The Board understands that the conversions of the S.S. MORMACTIDE, S.S. MORMACSUN, S.S. MORMACSTAR and S.S. EXEMPLAR will be accomplished by the Army and paid for by the Army. The Board was informed that Naval Personnel would be given full access to these ships while undergoing conversion but to avoid legal complications which may arise as to responsibility for these ships, the details of the conversion and the financial arrangements for the payment of conversion costs, it is recommended that they not be acquired and commissioned in the Navy until the major conversion features are complete. The remaining vessels, U.S.A.T. ANCON, U.S.A.T. HUGH L. SCOTT, U.S.A.T. TASKER H. BLISS, S.S. SANTA CLARA, S.S. SANTA LUCIA, S.S. MONTEREY, will be acquired immediately, will be converted by the Navy and manned as soon as practicable after acquisition.

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6. In view of the urgency of these ships, the limited time available, and the importance of this project, the Board considers that the closest liaison, understanding, and cooperation should be maintained between the Army and the Navy in order to expedite and standardize these conversions. It is recommended that steps be taken to this end.

7. As conversions should be completed within thirty days after arrival of the ships at the conversion yards or as soon thereafter as practicable it is recommended that the priority for this work be the same as now assigned the building of all amphibious craft.

8. In order to expedite and facilitate the foregoing, it is further recommended that the classification of all correspondence with reference thereto, which will not divulge the general nature of this movement, be made CONFIDENTIAL and not SECRET.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. Chapline

Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0255523

First Endorsement

SECRET
S E C R E T

AUG 4 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 50.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

Home

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 Authority NND 703073
 By TS NARA Date 4-17

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Second Endorsement

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AUG 4 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
 To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
 SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 50.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank Knox

 Copies to: SecNav
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 BuShips (3)
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 BuSanda (3)
 Gen. Bd.
 Op-10/11
 Op-12
 OP&M (2)
 Budget Officer, Navy Department.
 Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
 BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.
 U.S. Army Chief of Staff (3)
 Op-39

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NND 803073

By

NARA Date

11/6/16

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Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0262823

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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August 7, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 51:

Acquisition of tankers for Navy use -
Recommendations on.

References: (a) VCNO conf. ltr. Op-39-F-egs, (SC)AO/L4,
Serial 049739 of June 30, 1942.
(b) CominCh conf. 1st end. FF1/A4-1, Serial
01349 of July 12, 1942.
(c) VCNO conf. memo, Op-39-A-m1, (SC)AO/L4,
Serial 055139 of July 14, 1942.

1. The Board met at 0900, August 7, 1942, in Room 2716,
Navy Department.

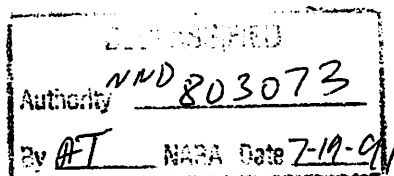
2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Commander J. L. Wyatt, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Lieut. Comdr. R. W. Schurr, Bureau of Ships; Captain A. F. Carter and Lieut. Comdr. G. E. Lindley, Ensign E. H. Morse, Jr., Operations.

3. The Board took under consideration the references listed relative to the acquisition of additional tankers for fleet use.

4. With the rapid increase in the number of Naval ships now being placed in service and contemplated, the vast expanse of operating areas, the wide dispersion of fleet units and the urgent need for ample fuel supply, the building and acquisition of tankers



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WD 80 3073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/74

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Serial 0262823

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has not kept pace with the increasing demands for their services and, as a result, the number of Navy tankers is short of present and prospective needs. In this connection the Board's attention was called to the directive creating the Army-Navy Petroleum Board which states that the Navy shall be responsible for procuring and operating such tankers as are required solely for the movement of cargoes of Army and/or Navy petroleum supplies. Tankers now owned or chartered by the Army will continue to be operated by the Army under Navy movement control.

5. The only readily available sources of supply for these tankers are from those now building by the Maritime Commission and a limited number being built for private account. After a careful study of the Maritime Commission's building program now under way and contemplated, the Board considers that the Navy should be given precedence in the acquisition of these tankers as a paramount wartime measure.

6. The Board, therefore, strongly recommends that the Navy acquire by purchase through the War Shipping Administration twenty-four (24) tankers now building. These tankers should have a minimum speed of 14.5 knots and a deadweight tonnage not less than 16,000 tons. Certain conversion work will be necessary, the main items being installation of fueling-at-sea gear, installation of armament and an increase in personnel accommodations for Navy crews.

7. Any conversion features which alter the original plans of these vessels should be accomplished by the Navy. In order that a uniform program of conversion may be established and the orderly procurement and assembly of materials be effected with a view to advancing the ultimate dates these ships will be placed in service, the Board further recommends that these ships be delivered to the Navy prior to completion of such features as will require alteration for suitable Naval service and that deliveries be made at the rate of two a month beginning in August, 1942.

8. The following tankers now building or similar ones of their type are recommended for acquisition as the most suitable for Naval use. The advantage of a single standard type is recognized but in accordance with the expressed desires of the Commander-in-Chief for tankers of greater speed, several types necessarily are listed to make up the required number:

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By

TJ NARA Date

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Builder	Builder's Hull No.	M. C. Hull Number	Estimated Delivery Date	D.W.T.	Speed
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	269	326	1942 August 31, 1942	16,400	14.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	237	Pvt. Acct.	August 31, 1942	16,400	15.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	271	329	September, 1942	16,400	14.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	272	330	September, 1942	16,400	14.5
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4378	516	October, 1942	18,100	15.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	216	Pvt. Acct.	October, 1942	18,200	15.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	239	Pvt. Acct.	November, 1942	18,100	15.0
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	276	337	November, 1942	16,000	14.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	313	306	December, 1942	16,400	14.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	235	Pvt. Acct.	December, 1942	18,100	15.5
		1943			
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4379	517	January, 1943	16,400	15.0
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	281	345	January, 1943	16,400	14.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	213	Pvt. Acct.	February, 1943	18,200	15.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	283	348	February, 1943	16,400	14.5
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4380	518	March, 1943	16,400	15.5
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4381	519	March, 1943	16,400	15.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	323	Pvt. Acct.	April, 1943	18,100	15.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	317	310	April, 1943	16,400	14.5
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4375	Pvt. Acct.	May, 1943	16,000	15.5
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	289	357	May, 1943	16,400	14.5
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4384	522	June, 1943	16,400	15.0
Sun S. B. & D. D. Co.	318	311	June, 1943	16,400	14.5
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4382	520	July, 1943	16,400	15.5
Beth. Sparrows Pt.	4383	521	July, 1943	16,400	15.5

V. D. Chapline

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By

TJ

NARA Date

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Serial 0262923

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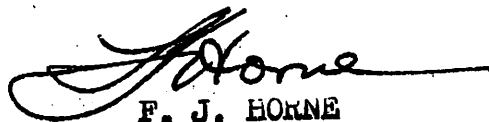
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AUG 10 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 51.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.



F. J. HORNE

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0263023

Second Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL

AUG 10 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 51.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



JAMES FORRESTAL

Acting

See next page for distribution.

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By

NARA

Date 11/8/94

In reply refer to Initials
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Op-23-CG

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Serial 9289623

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NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

AUG 31 1942

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 52.

Acquisition of vessel for conversion to mine
 Ammunition Ship (AE).

References: (a) Cominch Conf. Memo, FF1/A3-1(FF12)
 Serial 01986 of August 28, 1942.
 (b) Conservforpac Conf. 1st endorsement
 A3-1/FF12-12, Serial 0845 of August
 10, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1400, August 31, 1942, in Room 2738,
 Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. J. Rodgers, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Commander T. J. Murrell and Lieut. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, Bureau of Ships; Commander L. R. Reinken and Lieut. Comdr. Freiburghouse, Bureau of Ordnance; D. E. Lawrence, Maritime Commission; Captain C. C. Miller, Lieut. Comdr. R. P. Spofford and Lieutenant E. E. Gates, Operations.

3. The Board took under consideration the acquisition of a suitable cargo ship for conversion to a mine Ammunition Ship (AE), as requested in reference (a). Reference (b) recommended that the vessel acquired should be of at least 5,000 gross tons with good cargo booms and be employed by using 'tween deck space for the crew and for working on mines which could be delivered to mine layers alongside.

4. The Board considers that G1 type hulls being built by the Maritime Commission are suitable for this purpose after a limited conversion. Among these the SS CAPE MOHICAN, Hull Number 297, building at Pusey and Jones Corporation, Wilmington, Delaware, is due to complete October 1st, and the MS CAPE SABLE, Hull Number 225, building at Pennsylvania Shipyards, Incorporated, Beaumont, Texas, is due to complete September 18th. These ships have a sustained speed of

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fourteen knots at normal horsepower and full load displacement and after conversion will be capable of carrying over 1,000 mines. The representative of the Maritime Commission present stated that the MS CAPE SABLE is available.

5. The Board recommends that the MS CAPE SABLE, M.C. Hull Number 225, or other suitable ship (C1 type hull), be immediately acquired by purchase from the Maritime Commission, be manned by the Navy, and that the minimum necessary conversion to a mine Ammunition Ship be accomplished.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE.

First Endorsement

SEP - 2 1942

Op-23-CC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0289723

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 52.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. Horne
F. J. HORNE

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Op-23-CG
(SC)AA/QB

Serial 6289823

Second Endorsement

SEP - 2 1942

CONFIDENTIAL
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From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 52.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



----- Frank Knox -----

Copies to:

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CominCh
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BuShips (3)
BuMed (3)
BuPers (3)
BuOrd (3)
BuSanda (3)
Gen. Bd.
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Op-12
OP&M (2)
Op-30

Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
Capt. Leuman, Finance Officer,
BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.

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Authority

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By

TJ

NARA Date

11/16/13

and No.

Op-23-CC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0401023

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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September 9, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 53.

References:

- (a) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 50.
- (b) SecNav Secret 2nd end. (SC)AA/QB, Serial 0255623 of August 4, 1942, on Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 50.
- (c) S.O.S., War Dept. Secret memo. 33717 of July 16, 1942.
- (d) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 48.
- (e) SecNav Conf. 2nd end. (SC)AA/QB, Serial 0241023 of July 23, 1942, on Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 48.
- (f) VCNO Restr. ltr Op-39A-kn, Serial 115839 of September 5, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1530, September 8, 1942, in Room 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. J. Rodgers, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Commander T. J. Murrell, Lieut. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, and Mr. S. B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships; Commander W. R. Thayer and Lieutenant E. E. Gates, Operations.

3. In reference (a), the Board recommended the acquisition of certain vessels and their conversion to combat loaded transports for prospective overseas movements of United States troops. The recommendation was approved by the Secretary of the Navy in reference (b). The Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet has verbally requested that two (2) additional ships be acquired for this purpose and the Board is informed the SS MORMACYORK (241,993) C-3 type hull and the SS DELSANTOS (240,294) C-2 type hull, are available. The Board understands that these two (2) ships are undergoing conversion by the Army; that accommodations

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By

TJ

NARA Date

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for additional troops, installation of thirty-ton booms and the maximum number of davits together with increased fuel stowage capacity will be completed by the Army on or before September 12, 1942. No accommodations have been provided as yet for Navy crews. The Army expects that on September 12, 1942, these ships will be acquired by the Navy in their then present condition.

4. The Board recommends that the SS MORMACYORK (241,993) and the SS DELSANTOS (240,294) be acquired on bare boat charter through the War Shipping Administration, that the transfer be made on September 12, that the ships be manned by Navy crews, and that the maximum additional conversion be accomplished prior to the time these vessels are required.

5. As requested by the War Department in reference (c), the Board, in reference (d), recommended that three (3) EC-2-S-C1 type hulls be acquired from the Maritime Commission for the United States Army, be converted by the Navy and operated as hospital ships (AH) in accordance with the terms of the Geneva convention. The recommendation was approved by the Secretary of the Navy in reference (e). In reference (f), the Board is informed that subsequent conferences between the Bureau of Ships and the War Department in connection with conversion features, developed the fact that C-1 type hulls are more suitable for conversion for this purpose. Representatives of the Bureau of Ships present at the meeting, advise that the C-1 type hull lends itself to a greater stability because of its wider beam, and, therefore, the Bureau of Ships and the War Department have requested that C-1 type hulls be substituted for the previously authorized EC-2 type hulls.

6. The Board recommends that three (3) C-1 type hulls be acquired for this purpose in lieu of the EC-2 type hulls approved by the Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 48.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE.

DECLASSIFIED

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

WD 802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/76

Op-23-CC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0401123

First Endorsement

50008

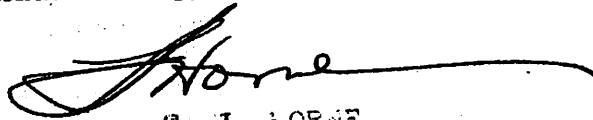
CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

SEP 11 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 53.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.



F. J. HORNE

Op-23-CC

(SC)AA/QB

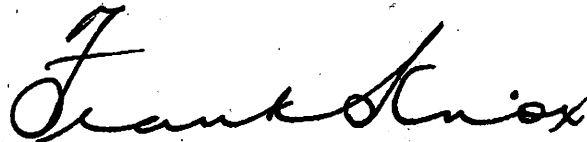
Serial 0401223

Second Endorsement

SEP 11 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



Frank Knox

Copies to: SecNav
CominCh
Asst. SecNav
BuShips (3)
BuMed (3)
BuPers (3)
BuOrd (3)
BuSanda (3)
Gen. Bd.
Op-10/11
Op-12
OP&M (2)

Budget Officer, Navy Department.
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.
U. S. Army Chief of Staff (3)
Op-39.

DECLASSIFIED

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

1000003013

By

NARA Date

11/6/84

In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23-CC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0411923NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON**CONFIDENTIAL**
CONFIDENTIAL

September 19, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 54.

References: (a) Comservforsopacfor Secret Despatch 170514 of September 1942.
(b) Secret ltr from the Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, to the Chiarmen, U. S. Maritime Commission dated September 16, 1942.
(c) Cominch and CNO Conf. ltr FF1/L9-3 Serial 01996 of August 28, 1942.
(d) Cominch, Ass't. Chief of Staff (Read.) Conf. Memo. FF1/S82-3 of July 28, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1400, September 18, 1942, in Room 2738, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Rear Admiral H. L. Vickery, Maritime Commission; Captain B. J. Rodgers, Commander H. W. Turner, Lieut. Comdr. W. E. Howard, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Commander S. W. DuBois, Commander J. T. Talbert, and Lieut. Comdr. R. S. Bertschy, Bureau of Personnel; Commander T. J. Murrell, Lieut. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, and Mr. S. B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships; and Lieut. E. E. Gates, Operations.

3. In reference (a), the Vice Chief of Naval Operations was informed that the Motor Ship KOPARA, of British registry, was required for supply operations in advanced areas and had been purchased for the Navy through the New Zealand Government for charge against reverse Lease Lend; that the ship would be manned with a Navy crew and designated as a cargo ship (AK). The Board recommends this action be approved.

Authority:

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Serial 0411923

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4. In reference (b), it was stated that the Joint U. S. Chiefs of Staff had considered the need for an increase in the number of combat loaded transports and combat loaded cargo ships; that thirty C-2, C-3, or equivalent hulls are required; that these ships would be continuously employed for war operations and should be in addition to any ships now building for Army or Navy account. Attention of the Board was called to reference (c) in which the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet directed that twenty-four ships for conversion to combat loaded transports and six ships for conversion to combat loaded cargo ships be acquired in such manner that four transports and one cargo ship be delivered monthly.

5. In view of expanding amphibious operations and possible required replacements, the Board considers it of paramount importance to provide the Navy with these additional transports and cargo ships, giving the Navy precedence in the acquisition of these ships at least to the number listed below. After careful study, the Board has determined that there are no ships available from those in service without adversely affecting the transportation problems connected with the present war requirements and, therefore, the only available source of supply is from ships now building or contemplated in the Maritime Commission building program.

6. The following ships in the Maritime Commission building program are considered the most suitable for conversion to combat loaded transports and combat loaded cargo ships and provide, as nearly as possible, the desired schedule of deliveries as indicated by the expected completion dates:

	Delivery
--	----------

M.C. Hull
and Type

Building

Name _____

Delivery Dates

Designation

GROUP I

268 - C-3
193 - C-2
388 - C-3
389 - C-3
269 - C-3

Western P. & S. Co.
Federal S.B. & D.D. Co.
Ingalls S.B. Co.
Ingalls S.B. Co.
Western P. & S. Co.

SEA BASS
AFRICAN DAWN
SEA ANGEL

11/20/42 (repl by 275) AP 78
11/26/42 (repl by 20460) AK (67)
12/15/42 AP 85
12/20/42 AP 86
12/31/42 AP 79

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By

NARA Date

11/6/13

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Serial 0411923

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M.C. Hull and Type	Building	Name	Delivery Dates	Design- nation
Group 2				
284 - C-2	Moore D. D. Co.	HOT SPUR (later AA102)	1/15/43 (repl by 288)	AP (94)
194 - C-2	Federal S.B. & D.D. Co.	AFRICAN SUN	12/21/42 (repl by 288)	AK (68)
390 - C-3	Ingalls S.B. Co.		1/15/43	AP 87
270 - C-3	Western P. & S. Co.		1/31/43	AP 80
285 - C-2	Moore D. D. Co.	DASHING WAVE	1/15/43 (repl by 289)	AP (95)
Group 3				
196 - C-2	Federal S.B. & D.D. Co.	SANTA CATALINA	2/ 3/43 (repl by 294)	AK (69)
589 - C-23	Beth. Sparrows Pt.	EXCELSIOR	2/ 1/43	AP 100
271 - C-3	Western P. & S. Co.		2/20/43	AP 81
286 - C-2	Moore D. D. Co.	YOUNG AMERICA	2/15/43 (repl by 290)	AP (96)
474 - C-2	Gulf S. B. Co.	IBERVILLE	2/15/43	AP 97
Group 4				
475 - C-2	Gulf S. B. Co.	JEAN LAFITTE	3/15/43	AP 98
590 - C-23	Beth. Sparrows Pt.	EXCHEQUER	3/21/43	AP 101
199 - C-2	Federal S.B. & D.D. Co.		3/31/43	AK 64
272 - C-3	Western P. & S. Co.	SEA SNIPE	3/12/43 (repl by 276)	AP (82)
391 - C-3	Ingalls S. B. Co.		4/ 5/43	AP 88
Group 5				
200 - C-2	Federal S.B. & D.D. Co.	(→ AGC 1)	4/ 6/43 (repl by 205)	AK (65)
392 - C-3	Ingalls S. B. Co.		4/15/43	AP 89
393 - C-3	Ingalls S. B. Co.		4/25/43	AP 90
426 - C-3	Ingalls S. B. Co.	SEA SCAMP	4/30/43 (repl by 430)	AP (91)
273 - C-3	Western P. & S. Co.		4/20/43	AP 83
Group 6				
201 - C-2	Federal S.B. & D.D. Co.	(→ AGC 2)	4/15/43 (repl by 206)	AK (66)
274 - C-3	Western P. & S. Co.		5/25/43	AP 84
427 - C-3	Ingalls S. B. Co.	SEA PORPOISE	5/30/43 (repl by 431)	AP (92)
476 - C-2	Gulf S. B. Co.		5/ 1/43	AP 99
428 - C-3	Ingalls S. B. Co.		6/ 9/43	AP 93

7. The Board recommends that the Navy acquire by purchase from the Maritime Commission the thirty ships listed, or other suitable ships of their type with comparable delivery dates. The Board further recommends that they be converted to twenty-four combat loaded transports (AP) and six combat loaded cargo ships (AK) as indicated in the foregoing list and that they be manned by Navy crews.

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100-202073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/19/14

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Serial 0411923

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8. In reference (d), the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet pointed out the urgent need for the acquisition of ~~three~~ vessels for conversion to COMBINED OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION HEADQUARTERS ships. In addition to the ships listed in paragraph 6 hereof, the following three ships building by the Maritime Commission are suitable and needed for this purpose:

M.C. Hull and Type	Building	Delivery Dates	
195 - C-2	(repl by 200) Federal S. B. & D. D. Co.	STA. BARBARA TYNDON	1/15/43 (1)
287 - C-2	(repl by 201) Moore D. D. Co.		2/15/43 (2)
202 - C-2	Federal S. B. & D. D. Co.		6/30/43 3

9. The Board recommends that these three ships be purchased from the Maritime Commission and delivered to the Navy prior to the completion of features that will require alteration for the proposed service; that they be converted by the Navy to COMBINED OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION HEADQUARTERS ships and be manned by Navy crews.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. Chapline

Op-23-CC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0412023

First Endorsement

SEP 23 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 54.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. Horne
F. J. HORNE

DECLASSIFIED

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Authority

WD 80 3073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/14

Op-23-C6

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 9412123

SEP 23 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 54.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



----- Frank Knox -----

Copies to:

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Op-12
Op-20
OP&M (2)
Budget Officer, Navy Department,
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.
U. S. Army Chief of Staff (3)
Op-39.

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RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

WD 802073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/93

Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Serial 0426723 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

September 29, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 55:

Recommendation for purchase of S/S ANTIGUA
 and S/S CALAMARES.

References: (a) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 30.
 (b) SecNav 2nd end. on Auxiliary Vessels
 Board Report No. 30, dated January 14,
 1942.
 (c) Op-39 memo, Serial 118639, of Septem-
 ber 22, 1942.

1. The Board met at 0900, September 29, 1942, in Room
 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline

Operations.

Captain A. B. Anderson

Operations.

Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield

Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain
 B. J. Rodgers, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet;
 Lieut. Comdr. E. P. Rust and Mr. R. W. Bruce, Bureau of Ships;
 and Lieut. E. E. Gates, Operations.

3. In reference (a), the Board recommended the acqui-
 sition on bare boat charter of the S/S ANTIGUA and S/S CALAMARES.
 This recommendation was approved by the Secretary of the Navy in
 reference (b). In reference (c), the Vice Chief of Naval Opera-
 tions requests that the Board consider the requisition purchase of
 these ships for conversion to Provision Store Ships (AF), manning
 them with Navy crews. The Board notes that these two ships are
 now under bare boat charter to the War Shipping Administration and
 are allocated to Navy service.

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100-202013

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4. The Board now considers it more advantageous to the Navy to acquire these ships by purchase and in view of their prospective operations in the Southwest Pacific area, it is desirable that they be manned by Navy crews. Therefore, the Board recommends that the S/S ANTIGUA (231,465) and S/S CALAMARES (212,654) be acquired by requisition purchase at the earliest practicable date; that these ships be converted to Provision Store Ships (AF), conforming to the general conversion features of the U.S.S. MIZAR and the U.S.S. PASTORES; and that they be manned by Navy crews.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. Chapline

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0426823

1st Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL

OCT 2 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 55.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. Horne
F. J. HORNE

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

100-802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/73

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

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Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0426923

2nd Endorsement
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

OCT 2 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 55.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Forrestal

JAMES FORRESTAL

Acting

Copies to:

SecNav
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BuShips (3)
BuMed (3)
BuPers (3)
BuOrd (3)
BuSanda (3)
Gen. Bd.
Op-10/11 (2)
Op-12
Op-20
Op-39
OP&M (2)
Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
Room 1717, T-3 Bldg.

DECLASSIFIED

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

WD 802073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/18/96

Op-23-CG
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0430923

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

October 3, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 56.
Acquisition of S/S SEATRAN NEW JERSEY.

Reference: (a) Cominch secret letter Serial 001126
of October 2, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1030, October 3, 1942, in Room
2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. J. Rodgers, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Mr. George A. Anthony, War Department; Colonel D. C. Watkins, United States Army; Commander T. J. Murrell, Lieut. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, Bureau of Ships; and Lieutenant E.E. Gates, Operations.

3. In reference (a), the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet directed that the S/S SEATRAN NEW JERSEY (239,688) be acquired by the Navy and be manned by a Navy crew for use in connection with the prospective overseas movement of U. S. troops. The Board is informed that this ship is allocated to the Army by the War Shipping Administration, is now undergoing conversion by the Army to provide for the transportation of approximately two hundred (200) tanks and their crews, and is due for completion October 12, 1942, at which time the Army will start loading. No accommodations have been provided as yet for a Navy crew, but the representative of the Army, present at the meeting, advises the Board that provisions for a Navy crew and other conversion items desired by the Navy will be incorporated, to the fullest extent possible, during the remaining availability of the ship.

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By

TJ

NARA Date

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(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0430923

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- 2 -

4. The Board considers that this ship is urgently needed for the above purpose and such service requires that the ship be manned by the Navy. Therefore, the Board recommends that the S/S SEATRAN NEW JERSEY (239,688) be acquired through the War Shipping Administration by purchase or bare boat charter; that the transfer be made upon completion of conversion by the Army on or about October 12, 1942; that the ship be manned by a Navy crew and classified as an Aircraft Transport (APV).

V. D. Chapline
V. D. Chapline

First Endorsement

Op-23-CC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0431023

OCT 5 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 56.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. Horne
F. J. Horne

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Authority

WD 802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/94

Op-23-GC

SC/IA/QB

Serial 0431123

Second Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OCT 5 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 56.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Forrestal
Acting

Copies to: SecNav

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BuShips (3)

BuMed (3)

BuPers (3)

BuOrd (3)

BuSanda (3)

Gen. Bd.

Op-10/11

Op-12

OP&M (2)

Budget Officer, Navy Department,

Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,

BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.

U. S. Army Chief of Staff (3)

Op-39.

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Authority

DDO 2013

By

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In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0439423

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

October 10, 1942

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 57:

Recommendation to acquire ten (10) EC-2 hulls for conversion to Auxiliary Cargo Ships (AK); and recommendation to acquire ten (10) N3-M-A1 cargo vessels for conversion to Troop and Cargo Ships, classed as (AK).

References:

- (a) Secret memo for Adm. King, dated October 3, 1942.
- (b) Comsopacfor Secret Despatch 021132 of October.
- (c) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 40, dated April 11, 1942.
- (d) SecNav 2nd End. on Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 40, dated April 14, 1942.
- (e) CominCh Secret Ltr. FF1/L8-3/A4-1, Serial 001156 of October 7, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1030, October 10, 1942, in Room 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. J. Rodgers, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Lieut. Comdr. Schurr, and Mr. S. B. Crosby, Bureau of Ships; Lieut. Comdr. R. S. Bertschy, Bureau of Naval Personnel; and Lieut. Donald Watson and Lieut. E. E. Gates, Operations.

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WD 80 2073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/74

(S) AA/QB

Serial 0439423

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3. As directed by the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, in his memorandum endorsement to reference (a), the Board considered reference (b) in which the Commander South Pacific Force urgently requested that ten (10) EC-2 type hull ships be acquired at the earliest possible date, be given a minimum conversion, and be manned by Navy crews for use in the logistic support of certain forces in the area under his command. This service is presently being performed by cargo ships of the Transport Command and these latter ships will not continue to be available for that purpose because of their prospective employment in connection with offensive operations elsewhere. The Board considers it essential to the prosecution of the war that the Commander South Pacific Force be provided with these ships at the earliest practicable time, and therefore, they should be acquired from hulls being built in the San Francisco area. A study of the Maritime Commission building program in this area discloses that from those building there will be available for acquisition ten (10) EC-2 type hulls which are due for completion at the rate of three each month, beginning early in October. Three a month is the maximum rate at which the Bureau of Naval Personnel will be able to man these ships.

4. The Board recommends that ten (10) EC-2 type hulls building in the San Francisco area be acquired by bare boat charter or purchase, whichever is more advantageous to the Navy, at the average rate of one every ten days, beginning at the earliest date practicable; that the minimum conversion be accomplished to provide for their use as cargo ships (AK) and to accommodate a Navy crew of sufficient number to efficiently operate the ships and man the standard battery installed.

5. In reference (c), the Auxiliary Vessels Board recommended that the Navy acquire for use as small troop transports fourteen (14) of the fifty (50) 250' N3-M-A1 cargo vessels being built at the Penn-Jersey Shipbuilding Company by the Maritime Commission for the British under Lend-Lease. This recommendation was approved by the Secretary of the Navy in reference (d). There has been no action taken on the acquisition of these vessels pending an agreement between the British and United States Navy as to their assignment. Minutes of a meeting of the Maritime Commission, on July 20, 1942, have been made available to the Board and disclose that when and if the British release these ships to the United States Government, the Maritime Commission is willing to turn over the contracts to the Navy. In reference (e), it is noted that an agreement has been reached with the British and assignment of ten of these ships has been made to the Navy, as follows:

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NARA Date

11/6/74

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Serial 0439423

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIALMC Hull
No.

Name

Estimated
Completion Date

463	ELIAS D. KNIGHT	December 29, 1942
464	WILLIAM LESTER	January 20, 1943
466	ASA LOTHROP	March 8, 1943
468	JOHN L. MANSON	April 29, 1943
470	OLIVER R. MUMFORD	June 28, 1943
648	JOSIAH PAUL	August 26, 1943
649	SUMNER PIERCE	September 28, 1943
650	MOSES PIKE	October 27, 1943
651	SYMES POTTER	November 27, 1943
652	CHAS. A. RANLETT	December 26, 1943

7. The Board, therefore, recommends that reference (c) be modified accordingly and that these ten vessels be acquired from the Maritime Commission as soon as practicable in their then present state of completion; that the contracts now in force with the Maritime Commission be assumed by the Navy Department (Bureau of Ships) and that the Bureau of Ships continue their construction under the contract, adding such conversion features as are necessary to convert these ten vessels to combination Troop and Cargo Ships, to be classed as (AK).

V. D. Chapline
V. D. Chapline.

Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB
Serial 0439523First Endorsement**OCT 13 1942**CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 57.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

J. H. Newton
J. H. NEWTON
Acting

DECLASSIFIED

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

WD 802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11674

Op-23-APC

(SG)AA/QB

Serial 0439623

Second Endorsement

59855

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

OCT 13 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 57.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank Knox
Frank Knox

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BuShips (3)
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BuOrd (3)
BuSanda (3)
Gen. Bd.
Op-10/11 (2)
Op-12
OP&M (2)
Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
BuShips, Room 1717 T-3 Building.
Op-39

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Authority

DDO 2013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/13

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0457523

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

October 24, 1942

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 58:

Recommendation to acquire six (6) concrete
 fuel carrying barges; recommendation for com-
 pletion of ten (10) N3-M-A1 vessels as cargo
 ships (AK).

References: (a) Comserforpac conf. ltr. A4-3/S1(1)/FF12-12,
 Serial 0940, of September 28, 1942, with
 Cincpac 1st end. of September 30, 1942.
 (Doc. 62632)
 (b) CominCh conf. ltr. FF1/A4-1, Serial 02526
 of October 16, 1942. (Doc. 63786)

1. The Board met at 1030, October 23, 1942, in Room
 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Lt. Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lt. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. J. Rodgers and Capt. C. E. Olsen, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Lieut. Comdr. Schurr, Bureau of Ships; Comdr. M. S. Pearson, Lieut. Comdr. G. E. Lindley, Lieut. E. E. Gates and Lieut. Donald Watson, Operations; and Mr. R. D. Karr, Maritime Commission.

3. In reference (a), the Commander Service Force, Pacific Fleet, requested that concrete fuel carrying barges be acquired without delay to meet the serious fuel storage problem

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100-202013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/16/16

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Op-23-APC

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Serial 0457523

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of the Naval Forces in the South Pacific and called to the attention of the Board that a number of suitable barges are now being built by the Concrete Ship Constructors, National City, California, for the Maritime Commission. The construction of these barges is such that they can be towed to the required locations and used for fuel storage, thus providing the needed fuel storage and expediting the "turn-around" of tankers serving those areas.

4. The Board considers that a minimum of six barges is required and, in view of the immediate need for these barges, the first six (6) of these completed should be acquired by the Navy. The representative of the Maritime Commission, present at the meeting, advises that the following six barges are available and that any but the first can be made suitable for the storage of aviation gasoline:

<u>MC HULL No.</u>	<u>Estimated Date of Completion</u>
634	11/15/42
635	11/25/42
636	1/15/43
637	1/25/43
638	3/ 4/43
639	?

5. The Board recommends that the above-listed concrete fuel carrying barges now building by Concrete Ship Constructors, National City, California, for the Maritime Commission be purchased by the Navy; that a minimum conversion be undertaken to accommodate Navy crews; and that provision be made for the storage of aviation gasoline in MC HULL #635.

6. In reference (b) the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, directed that the ten (10) W3-M-A1 cargo vessels being built at the Penn-Jersey Shipbuilding Company be completed as cargo vessels (AK) rather than combined troop and cargo ships, as provided in Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 57. Accordingly, this is recommended by the Board.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

100-203073

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/74

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0457623

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIALFirst Endorsement**OCT 26 1942**

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 58.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

F. J. Horne
F. J. HORNE

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0457723

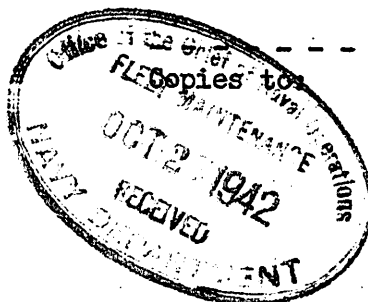
CONFIDENTIALSecond Endorsement**OCT 26 1942**

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 58.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.

Frank Knox
Frank Knox



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 Budget Officer, Navy Department.
 Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer, Room 1717 T-3 Bldg.
 Op-39

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Authority

100-802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/8/83

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0467423

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

October 31, 1942.

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 59:

Recommendation to purchase three (3) refrigeration store ships (AF).

References: (a) Cincpac Secret despatch 200457 of October, 1942.
 (b) CominCh Secret letter, FF1/A4-1, Serial 001267, of October 23, 1942. (Doc. 64403)

1. The Board met at 1600, October 30, 1942, in Room 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Comdr. Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B. J. Rodgers, Staff of Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet; Comdr. T. G. Murrell, Comdr. L. Anderson, and Lieut. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, Bureau of Ships; and Lieut. E. E. Gates and Lieut. Donald Watson, Operations.

3. In reference (a), the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet, strongly recommended that three large ships be acquired for use as Fleet Provision Storeships in the South Pacific. In reference (b), the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, directed that this be done.

4. In the opinion of the Board the lack of refrigerating store ships, the lack of storage facilities in the South Pacific, and the rapidly expanding number of ships and men in this operating area, make the necessity for such ships acute.

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NARA Date

11/6/73

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5. The Board has ascertained that there are no additional ships of this type in service which can be acquired for this assignment and that the only suitable ships are the refrigeration store ships now building by the Maritime Commission. Of the six building, the following three are the first to be completed:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MC HULL No.</u>	<u>Builder's Hull No.</u>	<u>Estimated Delivery Date</u>
BLUE JACKET	183	214	1/15/43
GOLDEN EAGLE	184	215	1/30/43
TRADE WIND	185	216	2/15/43

6. The Board recommends that the ships listed above be purchased by the Navy; that the minimum conversion required to provide for Navy crews be accomplished in such manner that the maximum refrigeration space will be preserved; and that these ships be classed as (AF).

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE.

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0467523

First Endorsement

NOV 4 1942

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 59.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

J. H. Newton
J. H. NEWTON
Acting

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Authority

100-202013

RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/8/83

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0467623

Second Endorsement

66721

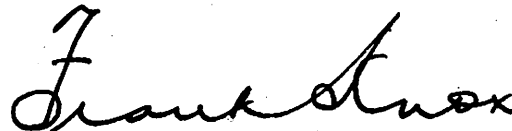
CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL**NOV 4 1942**

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 59.

1. Returned, approved.

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



Frank Knox

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Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
Room 1717 T-3 Building.
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DDO 2013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/76

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In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0475023

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

November 7, 1942

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 60:

Recommendation to acquire six (6) tankers
 (T1-M-A1); and to purchase the Fuel Oil
 Barge ERSKINE M. PHELPS (136,697).

References: (a) CominCh conf. memo. to Admiral J. M.
 Reeves, FT1/A4-3, Serial 02712, of
 November 4, 1942. (Doc. 65572)

1. The Board met at 1430, November 6, 1942, in Room
 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Commander Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Captain B.
 J. Rodgers, Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet;
 Commander T. G. Murrell and Lieut. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, Bureau of
 Ships; and Lieut. Comdr. G. E. Lindley, Lieut. E. E. Gates, and
 Lieut. A. W. Kivett, Operations.

3. The Board's attention was called to reference (a)
 in which the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, stated that
 planned operations in the South Pacific and Southwest Pacific ur-
 gently require a number of small tankers which are not obtainable
 from normal sources. The Board has ascertained that there are 28
 suitable type tankers presently being built by the Maritime Com-
 mission under Lend-Lease for the United Kingdom, classed as T1-M-A1.

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100D802013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/73

Op-23-APC

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Serial 0475023

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4. The Board considers that six of these vessels are essential at this time to operations in the areas mentioned and recommends that they be acquired by the Navy from the twenty-eight (28) tankers (T1-M-A1) being built by the Maritime Commission under Lend-Lease for the United Kingdom. Because of the completion dates, the convenient location of the building yards and the urgency of need, the following are most desirable to the United States Navy:

<u>MC HULL No.</u>	<u>BUILDERS</u>	<u>Estimated Delivery Date</u>
571)	Lancaster Iron Works,	12/15/42
572)	Perryville, Maryland	12/20/42
639)	Grays Iron Works,	1/25/43
640)	Galveston, Texas	2/ 4/43
899)	Marine Maintenance Corporation,	2/15/43
900)	Bayonne, New Jersey	3/ 4/43

The Board further recommends that following acquisition of these vessels by the Navy they be converted to provide for Navy crews and to permit the transportation or storage of both gasoline and diesel oil.

5. It has been brought to the attention of the Board that the Fuel Oil Barge ERSKINE M. PHELPS, capacity approximately 30,000 barrels, is in good material condition and available to and needed by the Navy. The Board recommends that this vessel be purchased by the Navy at the earliest practicable date and be classed as a Fuel Oil Barge (YO).

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE

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RG80 Box 524 AA/QB

Authority

100D803013

By

TJ

NARA Date

11/6/13

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0475123

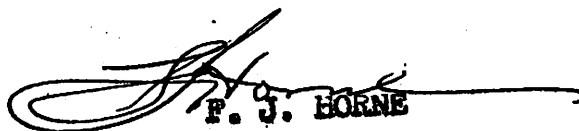
First Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL

NOV 10 1942

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 60.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.


F. J. HORNE

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0475223

Second Endorsement

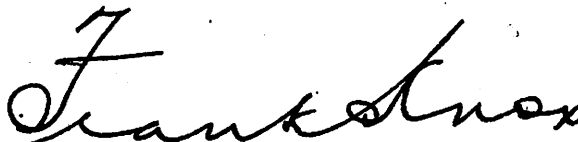
NOV 10 1942

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From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 60.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



Frank Knox

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Budget Officer, Navy Dept.
Capt. Lauman, Finance Officer,
Room 1717 T-3 Building.
Op-39

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Authority

100-202013

By

TI NARA Date 11/8/93

In reply refer to Initials
and No.Op-23-APC
(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0488423

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

November 20, 1942

From: The Senior Member, Auxiliary Vessels Board.
 To : The Secretary of the Navy.
 Via : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 61:

Recommendation to purchase six (6) additional concrete barges; recommendation S/S STEEL PIER be not acquired; S/S RICHARD PECK recommended to meet transportation needs in Fifth Naval District; BRIDGEPORT to be acquired by assignment of title.

- References:
- (a) Cincpac 1st end. Pac-16-vo, S82, Serial 02847, of September 30, 1942, on Comserforpac conf. ltr. A4-3/S1(1)/FF12-12, Serial 0940, of September 28, 1942.
 - (b) Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 58.
 - (c) Comserforpac conf. desp. 110636 of November, 1942.
 - (d) BuDocks 1st end., Q51/L4, of November 15, 1942, on Com NOB Argentinia ltr. of October 28, 1942.
 - (e) Com 5 conf. desp. 281815 of October, 1942.

1. The Board met at 1030, November 18, 1942, in Room 2716, Navy Department.

2. The members present were:

Captain V. D. Chapline	Operations.
Captain A. B. Anderson	Operations.
Commander Herman Barter	Operations.
Lieut. Comdr. W. N. Mansfield	Operations.

In addition to the members, there were also present: Commander T. G. Murrell and Lieut. Comdr. H. T. Koonce, Bureau of Ships; and Captain R. C. Alexander, Commander H. L. Challenger, Lieut. Donald Watson, Lieut. E. E. Gates and Lieut. A. W. Kivett, Operations.

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DDO 2013

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By

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NARA Date

11/6/13

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(SC)AA/QB
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3. Upon request by Commander Service Force, Pacific Fleet, in reference (a), the Board, in reference (b), recommended the acquisition of six concrete fuel carrying barges now being built on the Pacific Coast. In reference (c), Commander Service Force, Pacific Fleet, requested six additional barges of the type referred to above.

4. The Board considers there is an urgent need for six additional (a total of twelve) barges to meet an expanding fuel storage requirement of the Naval forces in the South Pacific. The barges referred to in paragraph 3 are the only barges available and are readily suitable after conversion to meet this urgent need. They are so designed that they can be towed to the required locations and anchored as fuel storage, thereby releasing tankers for continuous transport.

5. The Board recommends that Type B7-A1 concrete barges, Maritime Commission Hull numbers 1221 to 1226, inclusive, now building by the Concrete Ship Constructors, National City, California, for the War Shipping Administration, be purchased by the Navy; that a minimum conversion be undertaken to accommodate Navy crews; and that provision be made for carrying one product, fuel oil, in three of the barges, and two products, diesel oil and gasoline, in the other three.

6. In reference (d), the Commandant, Naval Operating Base, Argentia, advised that the S/S RICHARD PECK, a passenger vessel, had served its usefulness at Argentia and was available for transfer to other duty. In reference (e), the Commandant, Fifth Naval District, requested the S/S STEEL PIER be purchased and converted for use in the transportation of personnel in Chesapeake Bay. The Board considers that the S/S STEEL PIER is in such a poor material condition that an unjustifiable amount of critical material and labor, and expense would be required to fit her for any use whatsoever. These ships are similar in characteristics and the Board considers that the S/S RICHARD PECK can be substituted to meet the needs of the Commandant, Fifth Naval District. The Board, therefore, recommends against the acquisition of the S/S STEEL PIER.

7. The War Shipping Administration has suggested that the BRIDGEPORT (formerly U.S.S. BRIDGEPORT (AR2)) after the conversion now being accomplished by the War Shipping Administration be manned by a Navy crew for use as a station ship in a Caribbean port, primarily to repair merchant ships, but in addition to augment the Navy repair facilities.

DECLASSIFIED

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By

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11/6/74

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8. The Board considers that the manning of the BRIDGEPORT by a Navy crew and the command of that ship by the Navy would be advantageous to the war effort and, therefore, recommends that the BRIDGEPORT be acquired by assignment of title to the Navy for the uses above stated.

V. D. Chapline
V. D. CHAPLINE

Op-23-APC

(SC)AA/QB

Serial 0488523

First Endorsement**CONFIDENTIAL**

NOV 24 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.

SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 61.

1. Forwarded.
2. The recommendations of the Auxiliary Vessels Board are concurred in and are recommended for approval.

J. H. Newton
J. H. NEWTON
Acting

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Authority

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TI NARA Date 11/6/96

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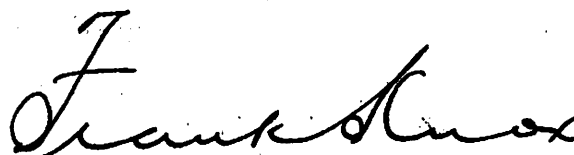
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CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

NOV 24 1942

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
SUBJECT: Auxiliary Vessels Board Report No. 61.

1. Returned, approved.
2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Ships will take the necessary action to carry out the approved recommendations of this report.



----- Frank Knox -----

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