

DECLASSIFIED

COMBATANT SHIPBUILDING

1-1-42 to 7-1-46

**DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
EOD DIR 5200.10**

P.41-1000

**Navy Department
Office of Chief of Naval Operations
Washington 25 D.C.**

DECLASSIFIED

COMBATANT SHIPBUILDING 1/1/42 - 7/1/46

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Other Pertinent Pamphlets in Op-41

Legislative Tonnage Authorizations - Extracts from Laws.

Combatant Program 1945, with copies of key correspondence.

Combatant Program 1946.

Outbacks July 1943 - January 1945, with copies of key
correspondence.

FOREWORD

STATISTICS - Sources

BuShips Reports No. 40
No. 23 Reporting Date Studies
No. 22 Monthly Summary of Vessels
No. 10 Vessels Progress Reports
No. 41 Navy Combatant Type Vessels
No. 113 Monthly Report of Disposal Action of Vessels

BuShips, NavShips-18-1-2, Naval Vessel Register

BuShips, "List of U.S. Naval Vessels"

BuShips, "Ships Data"

BuOrd Naval Vessel Register

STATISTICS - Notes

The figures under 'Have' and 'Building' in the tabulation are based on completions vs reporting for service, the latter in most cases being a month or more later than the completion date.

'Building' means under contract and not in every case that physical work has been done on the ship although the plans and planning and ordering material will be well underway in practically every case.

Vessels lost (x), or for disposal (f), are eliminated in the year in which they were stricken from the Register, which particularly in the case of those lost (x) is considerably later than the event.

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

TM/JB

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

6 November 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Naval Operations
(Materiel).

Subject: History of Combatant Shipbuilding
1/1/42 - 7/1/46.

1. This pamphlet was prepared from data on file or passing through Op-41 and covers in considerable detail the various phases of the Combatant Shipbuilding Program with which Op-41 (ex Op-05) was concerned during the period from 1 January 1942 to 1 July 1946.
2. Cognizance over similar matters relating to the Auxiliary Program, the Landing Craft Program and the District Craft Program was delegated to and carried on by Op-414 (ex Op-23).

T. Moran
T. MORAN
Captain, U.S.N.

COMBATANT CHANGES 1/1/42 - 7/1/46 OVER-ALL

	1/1/42				CHANGES								7/1/46				
	LL	HAVE	BLDG	TOTAL	Completed	AD'D GAIN		LL		STRUCK		RECLASS		LL	HAVE	BLDG	TOTAL
						+	-	+	-	dispose	LOST	+	-				
BB		17	15	32	8		-6				2		-1		22	1	23
AB		(1)													(1)		
IX		(1)													(1)		
AG		(2)									(-1)	1			1		1
GA		18	8	26	15	25	-16				-7	3			26	5	31
GB			6	6	2		-3								2	1	3
CL		20	38	58	37	32	-20		-1	-9	-3		-9	1	44	4	48
CVB					2	2	-3					4			2	1	3
CV		7	16	23	22	23	-8				-4	6	-13		25	2	27
CVL					9	2					-1	9			8	2	10
CVE		1	15	16	117	116	-16	26	-33	-35	-6	1			70	1	71
BAVG			(9)	(9)			(-3)	(1)		(-2)	(-2)		(-1)				
DD		173	206	379	385	261	-49				-59	-70	20	-87	375	21	396
DM		8		8	12						-6		12	-4	10		10
DMS		18		18							-6	-6	24	-10	20		20
APD		8		8							-14	-7	26	-11			
AVD		14		14							-5			-8			
AG		1		1							-33		39		7		7
DE			300	300	520	705	-442	66	-98	-127	-9	1	-97		297	2	299
LL								(66)	(-98)	(-3)	(-6)			21			
APD					41					-3	-1	96			92		92
IX										-1		1					
SM		1		1									1				
SS		1	112	94	206	215	255	-123	3	-2	-63	-53			212	11	223
BSS		(5)								(-2)	(-2)		(-1)				
1/1/42																	
TOTAL	1	303	558	1064	1305	1423	-686	98	-134	-300	-169	243	-242				
CHANGES																	
COMPLETED		+1385	-1385		1385												
ADDED			+1423			1423											
CANCELLED			-686				-686										
LEASED		-134							-134								
LL-RETRD.		+95						95									
DISPOSAL		-350								-350							
LOST		-169									-169						
RECLASS'D		+242	+1									243					
" -1		-242											-242				
7/1/46																	
TOTAL	1	1213	51											30	1213	51	1264

Details by types under tabs 10-15 incl.

AG counted is ex-Mississippi - used for gunnery training & experimental ship.

PRECEDENCE IN CONSTRUCTION

GROUP PRECEDENCE CNO DIRECTIVES, DATED	1942						43	1944				1945	
	1/18	3/21	7/4	8/3	11/5	11/11	10/5	2/26	4/3	4/28	12/14	4/8	10/8
LDB. CRAFT			1	1	2		1	1	1	7	6	6	
" TO CLEAR FACILITIES FOR DE						3							
AM					3	2	12	12	12	11	10	10	
OAM					2	2							
LSM(B)													1
MSD													1
APA-AKA		4	5	6	6	6	3	1	1	2	1	1	
AGC													
AVG			5	6	6	6							
ICEBREAKERS								2	2	3	3	3	
TUGS & BARGES							10	3	3	4	5	5	
PATROL	4	6	6	7	7	7	13	13	13	12	13	13	
FLEET AUXILIARIES, SELECTED											2	2	
FLEET AUXILIARIES							11	4	4	5	5.8	8	
DD							9	11	11	10	12	12	
DD 57-59	1	1											
60	1	1	3	4	4	4							
61 62	3	5	9	10	10	10							
CVB, CV, CYL							5	7	7	6	4		
CVB, SELECTED													1.7
CV, SELECTED	2	2		2	1	1							1
CV, OTHERS			4	5	5	5							4
CVE							7	9	9	7	4		
AVG		3											
CB, CA, CL						8	8	10	10	6	7	7	
CL	5	7	7	8	8	8	8						
DD, DE, BDE	6	8	2	3	3	2							
DE, DE, COMPLETING AFTER 7/30/42			10	11	11								
DD, DE, FOR PICKETS													1
DD	6	8	2	3	3	2	2	5	6	8	9	2	
DD, BRAZILIAN													9
DE	6	8	2	3	3	2	6	8	8	13	14		
SS	7	9	8	9	9	9	4	2	5	9	11	11	
ALL OTHERS	8	10	11	12	12	11	14	14	14	13	14	14	

USE PRECEDENCE REPORT

COMMENT UNDER TAB 4
 DETAILS UNDER TAB 7

CANCELLATIONS 1/1/42 - 7/1/46

APPROVED		PENDING		CANCELLED												TOTAL
COMINCH CNO	SEC NAV	PRESIDENT	CNO SEC NAV X	BB	CB	CA	CL	CYB	CV	CVL	CVE	DD	DE	SS	TOTAL	
			19 42													
DISAPPROVED		8/12/42	8/12/42								-2					
RESTORED		12/28/42									2					
SUSPENDED											(2)					
"	5/1/42	5/11/42	5/30/42	(5)	(4)											
TOTAL - 1942																
			19 43													
		8/12/42	8/12/42								1					
	5/26/43	8/27/43		5	3										8	
7/20/43			7/21/43	5												
			6/26/43		3											
8/6/43	8/8/43	8/13/43	8/12/43										205		205	
8/21/43	9/21/43	9/23/43											200			
			8/27/43										100		100	
TOTAL - 1943				5	3					1			305		314	
# DEFERRED													100			
			19 44													
3/4/44	3/7/44	9/23(43)	3/10/44												76	
3/26/44	5/28/44	"	4/8/44												2	
5/26/44	5/26/44	"	5/27/44												22	
6/2/44	6/3/44	6/7/44	6/10/44												35	
7/2/44	7/2/44	7/14/44	7/17/44												98	
9/2/44	9/5/44	9/5/44	9/22/44							3						
"	9/7/44	9/14/44	9/22/44							1					4	
TOTAL - 1944										4			135	98	237	
# PREVIOUSLY DEFERRED													100			
			19 45													
		3/22/45	3/26/45			4	6	2	6				36	18	72	
8/10/45	8/10/45		8/11/45	1		10	10		2			16	11	6	56	
11/27/45	12/5/45		12/17/45												334	
RESTORED	1/6/46		1/7/46												(-8)	
TOTAL 1945				1		14	16	2	8			16	47	24	128	
# RESTORED															(-8)	
			19 46													
	1/6/46		6/17/46									2	2	1	6	
6/10/46	6/10/46	(5/27/46)	6/17/46												1	
TOTAL 1/1/45 - 7/1/46						2						2	2	1	7	
TOTAL 1/1/42 - 7/1/46				6	3	16	20	3	8	-	16	49	442	123	686	

BUILDING PROGRAMS

APPROVED			DIRECTIVE	ADDED												
COMMON CNO	SEC. NAV.	PRESIDENT	CNO SEC. NAV.	BB	CB	CA	CL	CVB	CY	CVL	CVE		DD	DE	SS	TOTAL
											AVL	CVE				
ON ORDER 1/1/42				15	6	8	38		16		15		206	300	94	698
1942																
ASD'S BEFORE 1/1/42		ADDED 1/1/42	1942								9		43		7	59
		3/14/42	4/16/42								24					24
6/17/42		6/15/42	WAR.COM								50					50
5/13/42	8/7/42					17	19	4	10				100	420	120	690
		8/12/42				17	19		10				100	420	120	690
		8/14/42				17	19		10				100	420		566
	5/21/42	5/21/42													120	120
	8/3/42	8/7/42				17	19	4	10				100			
	8/2/42	8/7/42											420			
10/21/42	10/22/42												80			80
1942 SUMMARY																
ADDED						17	19	4	10		83		143	500	127	903
CURTAILED 9/12/42 9/14/42									-4							
RESTORED 12/29/42									+2							
SUSPENDED 5/30/42				(5)	(4)				(2)							
1943																
8/3/42		3/14/42	10/19/42								15					15
5/18/43	5/26/43	5/27/43	5/28/43	1*	4	7	1*	3					82	205	110	413
8/27/43	9/3/43	9/2/43	10/28/43							2						2
1943 SUMMARY																
ADDED						4	7		3	2	15		82	205	110	428
PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED *				1*				1*								
1944																
10/31/43	12/1/43	12/17/43	12/28/43									8				8
1945																
1/8/45	1/8/45	2/7/45	2/12/45			4	6	2	6		12	36		15	84	
CANCELLED 3/22/45 4/26/45						ALL EXCEPT					✓					
1946																
NONE																
TOTAL ADDED 1/1/42-7/1/46				-	-	25	31	6	19	2	118	261	705	253	1423	
TOTAL CANCELLED 1/1/42-7/1/46				-6	-3	-16	-20	-3	-8		-16	-49	-442	-123	-686	
NET ADDITIONS				-6	-3	9	11	3	11	2	102	212	253	131	737	

COMBATANT SHIPS - NUMBERS & TONNAGE - 7/1/46

TYPE	OVER-AGE		CURRENT COMBATANT TONNAGE				EC		LL		AUXILIARIES		ALL SOURCES					
	HAVE		HAVE		BLDG.		NO	TONS	NO	TONS	NO	TONS	HAVE		BLDG.		TOTAL	
	NO	TONS	NO	TONS	NO	TONS							NO	TONS	NO	TONS	NO	TONS
BB	10	305,400	12	454,300	1	45,000							22	759,700	1	45,000	23	804,700
AG	1	33,000											1	33,000			1	33,000
	11		12		1								23		1		24	837,700
CA			26	309,325	5	78,300							26	309,325	5	78,300	31	387,625
CB			2	55,000	1	27,500							2	55,000	1	27,500	3	82,500
CL			44	405,275	4	38,000							44	405,275	4	38,000	48	443,275
			72		10								72		10		82	913,400
CVB			2	90,000	1	45,000							2	90,000	1	45,000	3	135,000
CV	1	33,000	24	630,500	2	54,200							25	663,000	2	54,200	27	717,200
CVL			8	88,000	2	29,000							8	88,000	2	29,000	10	117,000
CVE			3	40,260	1	13,420					64	719,720	70	809,480	1	13,420	71	822,900
	1		37		6					3	49,500	105		6		111	1,772,600	
DD			375	749,070	21	46,200							375	749,070	21	46,200	396	795,270
DM			10	22,000									10	22,000			10	22,000
DMS			20	32,600									20	32,000			20	32,600
AG	5	5,850	2	3,700									7	9,550			7	9,550
	5		407		21								412		21		433	859,420
DE			196	257,025	2	2,550	100	130,250					296	387,275	2	2,550	298	389,825
APD			55	77,000			37	51,800					92	128,800			92	128,800
			251		2		137						388		2		390	518,625
SS	6	6,955	206	313,679	11	17,138							212	320,634	11	17,138	223	337,772
TOTAL U.S.N.	23	384,205	985	3,527,734	51	396,308	137	182,050			67	769,220	1212	4,863,209	51	396,308	1263	5,259,517
LEND-LEASED																		
CL	1	7,050											1	7,050			1	7,050
CVE								1	5,400	7	74,060	8	79,460				8	79,460
DF			3	3,950			16	20,650	2	2,300			21	26,900			21	26,900
TOTAL LL	1		3				16		3		7		30	113,410			30	113,410
GRAND TOTAL																		
	24	391,255	988	3,531,684	51	396,308	153	202,700	3	7,700	74	843,280	1242	4,976,619	51	396,308	1293	5,372,923

SHIPS & TONNAGE 7/1/46

COMBATANT SUMMARY 1/1/42-7/1/46 BY YEARS

	1/1/42			1/1/43			1/1/44			1/1/45			1/1/46			7/1/46			P.W. PLAN 2
	HAVE	BLOG.	TOTAL	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	HAVE	BLOG.	TOTAL	
BB	17	15	32	20	11	31	22	4	26	23	2	25	23	1	24	22	1	23	16
AB	(1)															(1)			
IX	(1)															(1)			
AG	(2)															1		1	
CA	18	8	26	14	25	39	16	25	41	17	27	44	24	9	33	26	5	31	24
CB		6	6		6	6		3	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	3
CL	20	38	58	26	43	69	32	43	75	43	25	68	45	8	53	44	4	48	43
LL																			
CVE								3	3		3	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	3
CV	7	16	23	4	35	39	10	19	29	16	13	29	21	6	27	25	2	27	25
CVL							9	2	11	8	2	10	8	2	10	8	2	10	9
CVE	1	15	16	12	85	97	35	51	86	65	21	86	79	4	83	70	1	71	66
SAVG	(1)	(9)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
DD	173	266	379	229	267	496	335	222	557	371	132	503	354	43	397	375	21	396	353
DNI	8		3	8		8	8		8	20		20	12		12	10		10	10
DMS	18		18	18		18	17		17	28		28	23		23	20		20	20
APD	6		6	5		5	20		20	26		26	5		5				
MPD	14		14	14		14	5		5	5		5	3		3				
AG	1		1	1		1	1		1	8		8	18		18	7		7	
DD		300	300		800	800	230	394	524	376	10	336	327	4	331	297	2	297	237
LL																			
APD										39	41	80	93		93	92		92	92
IX										1		1			1				
SM	1		1																
SS	112	94	206	133	187	320	178	241	419	238	64	302	206	21	227	212	11	223	186
LL+BSS																			
TOTAL	396	648	1044	484	1237	1943	918	1007	1925	1286	341	1427	1256	104	1350	1213	51	1264	1089
CHANGES DURING		1942			1943			1944			1945			1946					TOTALS
COMPLETED	143	-143		566	-566		425	-425		193	-193		46	-46					1385
ORDER		+903			+426			+8			+84								1423
CANCELLED					-34			-237			-128			-7					689
LL	-5			-101			-23			-5									-134
LL RETURNED							+8			+1			+46						+95
LOST	-16			-31			-49			-43									-169
DISPOSAL	-3						-5			227			-125						-360
RECLASSIFIED	+7	+1		+38			+123			+72			+1						+243
"	-	-9		-38			-11	-12		-71			-1						-242
END OF YEAR	484	1457	1943	918	1007	1925	1286	341	1427	1286	104	1350	1213	51	1264				
END YEAR LL			7		107			114				78			30				

CHANGES BY TYPES OF SHIP SHOWN UNDER TABS 10-15 INCL.

BLOG.
BSNIPS

7/1/46 CUSHIPS REPORT #10 PROGRESS REPORT

SHIP	NAME	BUILDER	GT	DELIVERY	NOTES
	PHILADELPHIA (48,000)	PHILADELPHIA	21		CANCELLED - NOT SURPLUS
V	66 KENTUCKY	NEW YORK	78.9	INDGT.	SUSPENDED @ NEW DESIGN.
V	CVL-43 SERPENT (14,500)	N.Y. S.B. CORP.	98.5	7/13/46	
V	47 MIGHTY "	"	87.1	12/1/46	
V	CV 34 TRIUMPH (27,100)	NEW YORK	88.3	6/21/47	
V	45 VALLEY FORGE	PHILADELPHIA	96.4	8/11/46	
V	CVB-43 COCAL SEA (46,000)	NEWPORT NEWS SBB DD	79.7	4/1/47	
	CVE-121 BRISBAUL (10,900)	COMMERCIAL IRON WKS.	97.9	9/1/46	9/1/46 COMPLETE INACTIVATION
V	-123 TITIAN	TORD - TACOMA	99.9	7/17/46	WILL NOT BE COMMISSIONED
V	CL-121 FRODO (6,000)	FEDERAL - KEARNY	88.0	10/17/46	
V	83 MANCHESTER (14,000)	BATH - QUINCY	88.0	9/27/46	
V	144 MANCHESTER (14,700)	N.Y. S.B. CORP.	79.2	9/21/47	
V	145 RONNETS	"	34.6	10/3/47	
V	CA-133 TIGARD (15,600)	"	88.8	8/29/46	
V	123 ALBANY (17,500)	BATH - QUINCY	100	6/15/46	
V	124 ALBANY "	"	98.7	1/13/47	
V	134 DELAWARE (17,000)	"	49.0	10/1/47	
V	139 SALINA	"	39.7	12/21/47	
V	148 NEWPORT NEWS	NEWPORT NEWS SBB DD	59.3	11/1/47	
V	CD-3 HANCOCK (7,000)	N.Y. S.B. CORP.	86.1	5/21/47	
V	DD-718 HANCOCK	FEDERAL - KEARNY	95.5	7/12/46	
V	711 EBBERTSON	"	72.5		AS-15, COMPLETE CERTAIN ITEMS
V	720 CASTLE	"	60.3		AS-15
V	721 W.R. THOMPSON	"	53.3		AS-15
	761 BUCK	BETHL. - S.F.	100	6/23/46	
V	762 HENRY	"	72.3	7/13/46	
V	763 W.C. LAMB	"	83.9	11/3/46	
V	764 LLOYD THOMAS	"	80.4	1/17/47	
V	765 KEBBLER	"	78.5	2/14/47	
V	766 LANSDALE	"	67.7		AS-15
V	767 S.D. OWENS	"	66.7		AS-15
V	768 HOOL	"	59.3		AS-15
V	769 AUGER READ	"	58.7		AS-15
	790 SHELTON	TORD - SEATTLE	100.	6/21/46	
	791 SERPENT	"	79.5	6/25/46	AS-15. DELIVERED PART COMPLETE
V	820 RICH	CONSOLIDATED-ORANGE	89.9	7/31/46	
V	821 JOHNSTON	"	95.0	8/23/46	
V	822 P.H. McCORD	"	80.1	10/1/46	
V	823 S.B. ROBERTS	"	86.5	1/1/47	
V	824 BASILONE	"	43.4		AS-15
V	825 CARBENTER	"	40.5		AS-15
	826 AGERHOLM	BATH IRON WKS.	100.	6/20/46	
V	827 R.A. OWENS	"	66.4		AS-15
V	828 TIMMERMAN	"	45.5	6/1/48	
	852 L.F. MASON	BATH - QUINCY	100.	6/29/46	
V	853 C.H. BORN	"	90.1	8/30/46	
	872 F.D. ROYAL	BETHL. - STATEN IS.	100	6/25/46	
V	DE-529 WAGNER	BOSTON	61.5	12/11/46	
V	540 VANDIVIER	BOSTON	74.5	10/8/46	
V	53-296 LANCET FISH	BOSTON	73.		NO DATE AVAILABLE
	350 DOGTIEN	ELCO	100	4/28/46	
V	352 HALBEAK	"	99.4	7/18/46	
V	446 TIRU	MARE ISLAND	66.5		AS-15, COMPLETE CERTAIN ITEMS
V	435 CORSAIR	ELCO	84.4	1/4/46	
V	436 UNICORN	"	46.0		AS-15
V	437 WALRUS	"	36.5		AS-15
V	489 SPINAX	PORTSMOUTH	88.0	8/9/46	
V	490 VALDOR	"	49.7		AS-15
	523 GRAMBUS	"	62.0		AS-15
V	524 PICKEREL	"	42.5		AS-15
V	525 GRENADIER	"	37.5		AS-15
51	C1				

POST WARE PLANS

	PW PLAN-1 3/3/45				* N.C. RES. 80	PW PLAN 1-A 12/14/45				PW PLAN 2 3/21/46				7/1/46 STATUS			
	ACTIVE 80%	INACT. 30%	RES.	TOTAL		ACTIVE	RESERVE	INACTIVE	TOTAL	ACTIVE	SPECIAL DUTY	RESERVE	IN- ACTIVE	TOTAL	HAVE	BLDG	TOTAL
BB	6	6	6	18	18	4	6	8	18	4	-	2	10	16	22	1	23
CB	3	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	3	3	2	1	3
CA	8	9	20	37	31	8	9	14	31	8	1	4	12	25	26	5	31
CL	20	9	27	56	48	20	9	19	48	21	1	4	18	44	44	4	48
CVB	3	-	-	3	3	3	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	3	2	1	3
CV	7	4	15	26	24	10	4	10	24	9	-	3	13	25	25	2	27
CVL	-	1	8	9	10	-	1	9	10	-	1	-	8	9	8	2	10
CVE	10	11	63	84	79	13	-	66	79	10	-	-	56	66	70	1	71
DD	135	40	200	375	367	135	40	191	366	126	4	17	206	353	375	21	396
DE	36	4	324	364	300	36	4	258	298	30	1	-	205	239	237	2	239
SS	70	20	120	210	199	90	-	109	199	90	-	-	106	186 ¹²	212	11	223
TOTAL	298	104	783	1185	1082	319	73	687	1079	291	11	30	637	969	1484	51	1535
EX-DD																	
DM						8	2	-	10	8	-	-	2	10	10	-	10
DMS						20	-	-	20	20	-	-	-	20	20	-	20
AG															7	-	7
EX-DE																	
APD						18	-	74	92	12	-	-	80	92	92	-	92
						46	2	74	123	40	-	-	82	122	129	-	129
GRAND TOTAL						365	75	761	1201	331	-	-	719	1091	1213	51	1264

* HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION #80, PASSED BY HOUSE 10/30/45

P.W. PLAN 2 - THERE ARE 11-DD & 7-SS HULLS (45-16) IN ADDITION

NOTE - COMMENT UNDER TAB 6

Resume

Building Programs

(a) Procedure.

The various steps necessary before construction of new combatant ships can be started, are:

The determination of types, numbers and characteristics of the ships.
Presidential approval and permission to request necessary legislation.
Legislation authorizing any additional tonnage needed.
Presidential authorization to award contracts or issue orders for specific ships.
Priorities on procurement of controlled materials.
Appropriations.

(b) Types, Numbers, Characteristics.

The Building Programs from 1922 to 1941 were based largely on recommendations by the General Board. During World War II CominCh coordinated strategic needs with current and prospective availability of facilities supplied by BuShips, giving due consideration to recommendations concerning types, numbers and characteristics from the Material Bureaus, the Interior Control Board (superseded by the Ship Characteristics Board), CinCLant and CinCPac, and submitted a proposed building program to SecNav. SecNav would obtain the comment and recommendations of the General Board, and return all papers to CominCh, and CominCh, generally via VCNO, would prepare final recommendations to SecNav for the President's approval. The Chairman of the Naval Affairs Committees in the House and Senate were kept informed as to proposed programs.

(c) Presidential Approval.

All the Building Programs presented to the President from 1/1/42-7/1/46 were approved except the 84-vessel program submitted 1/9/45 which was disapproved on 3/22/45 except for 12-CVE.

(d) Tonnage Authorizations.

Legislation authorizing tonnage also established the authorized composition of the U. S. Navy in underage vessels by types and authorized the President to undertake the necessary construction.

The 20% Expansion Act, P.L.-528 approved 5/17/33 added 295,412 tons to the authorized composition of the U.S. Navy; listed the total authorized tonnage by types, viz., Capital Ships - 630,000 tons, Aircraft Carriers - 175,000 tons, Cruisers - 412,524 tons, Destroyers - 228,000 tons, Submarines - 81,956 tons; and authorized the President to undertake such construction, including replacements, as is necessary to build the Navy to the total authorized underage composition as provided above.

Resume'

Building Programs

(d) Tonnage Authorizations. (Cont.)

Subsequent Acts during 1940 and 1941 added 1,642,000 tons among the various types and practically all combatant tonnage authorizations allowed replacement of lost or overage vessels. P.L. 629 approved 6/11/40 stated vessels of the following categories shall hereafter be deemed underage until the number of years indicated have elapsed since completion, viz. BB-26 years, Aircraft Carriers - 20 years, Cruisers - 20 years, Other Combatant Craft - 16 years, Submarines - 13 years.

The clauses allowing replacement of lost or overage vessels made it unnecessary to ask for additional tonnage in the case of the 413-vessel program approved 5/27/43, as the unobligated balances were sufficient for this program. On 1/1/46 there were 1,241,201 tons of combatant authorizations available.

(e) Awarding contracts or ordering construction.

The Tonnage Legislation authorized the President to undertake such construction as is necessary, and therefore it was necessary for the SecNav to obtain the President's approval for all or part of the program before construction could be started.

BuShips informed CNO when facilities were available and when construction must be started on various ships to meet the required completion dates, and CNO prepared letters to the SecNav to obtain Presidential approval.

(f) Precedence and Priority.

Precedence was the term used to indicate the relative urgency of completions among the various types of naval vessels, and carried attendant preferences in labor and material.

Priority was used in connection with military Preference Ratings and in allocations of controlled materials.

Precedence Lists, after approval by CominCh, were issued by CNO (Op-41) and were used as a basis for the Master Precedence List issued quarterly by BuShips-BuOrd.

Control of materials was vested in the President by the Acts approved 6/28/40 and 9/16/40 which he delegated in turn to the ANMB, the Priorities Division of the Council of National Defense, the Office of Production Management and finally the War Production Board. Each of these delegated to the ANMB power to prescribe and administer Preference Ratings under regulations issued by them. Critical materials were controlled by WPE under the Controlled Materials Plan (CMP).

Resume'

Building Programs

(f) Precedence and Priority. (Cont.)

Due to the lead-time, between ordering and delivery of materials, the Material Bureaus based their estimates to WPB (via OP&M) on the current and planning programs.

(g) Appropriation.

The President usually referred Building Programs to the Director of the Budget whose assistants usually called on CNO and the Material Bureaus for justification.

Appropriations likewise were justified to the Appropriation Committees by CNO and the Material Bureaus.

(h) Cancellation.

Cancellations were recommended to SecNav by CominCh, based on the progress or changes in the nature of the war, and required the approval of the President.

(i) Lend Lease.

Lend Lease construction affected the availability of facilities. The Lend Lease Liaison Office represented SecNav in negotiations between LL representatives of foreign governments and LL representatives of various bureaus and offices of the Navy Department.

Allocations under LL were handled through Admiral Reeves as Chairman of the Munitions Assignment Committee and Member of the Munitions Assignment Board under the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

The Chief of Logistic Plans (Op-40) and the ACNO (Materiel) (Op-41) were Navy members of the Joint Munitions Allocation Committee under Admiral Reeves. The details in OpNav were handled largely by the Lend Lease Office of Record (Op-40X).

The Munitions Assignment Board Washington and its sub-committees were abolished as of 11/8/45 and the MAB London as of 11/10/45.

Resume'

Status 1/1/42

(a) Combatant Ships

As shown in detail on the prefixed tabulation, on 1/1/42 we had 396-combatant ships on hand and 698 on order, or a total of 1094. In addition 42 ships had been authorized but were not on order. (9-AVG, 26-DD, 7-SS).

The ships on hand included 139-overage (6-BB, 2-CL, 73-DD, 58-SS) and 1-AVG, the AVG being redesignated CVE and classed as combatant ships in 1943.

The ships under construction do not include 9-BAVG, but do include 300-BDE because although these originally were authorized for the British, on completion most of them were retained by the United States.

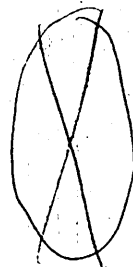
The shipyards were very active with construction for the U.S. and U.K., highest precedence being given to Landing Craft and Escort Vessels.

(b) Lend Lease.

DE. In June 1941 the British Supply Council proposed the construction of 100-BDE and in August the President approved 50 (DE 1-50) which were authorized under the Defense Aid Act of 10/28/41. In November 1941 the British requested 470 additional be constructed and the President approved the construction of 250 (DE 51-300) in advance of Congressional authorization. The 250-DE were included in the Emergency Construction Act (1799 Vessels, EC) which was approved 2/6/42.

AVG. On 1/1/42 there were 9-BAVG on order and it was planned to meet additional British requirements by allocations from our own construction.

SS. Six submarines were assigned to the British (94, 96, 105, 127, 130, 134), two had been returned SS-126, 129, and SS-80 had been scrapped.



Resume'

Building Program

1942

(a) Digest-1942

The principal factors affecting shipbuilding during 1942 were the strategic considerations of building up the fleet in order to assume the offensive as quickly as possible and the pressing need for escort vessels and aircraft carriers to protect convoys and to combat the Axis submarine menace. The economic factors were shortages of critical materials and the capacity of shipbuilding yards.

A 'Maximum Effort' program, showing estimated total requirements by types, was drawn up and approved by the President for planning purposes in obtaining priorities for material and for scheduling maximum utilization of existing shipyards. This merged into a two-year building program of 690-combatant ships which was approved by the President on 8/12/42 except for 4-CV (45,000). The program as approved included 10-CV (27,100), 17-CA (13,600), 16-CL (11,000), 3-CL (6000), 100-DD (2100), 420-DE (1400), 120-SS(1550). In October 80 additional DE were added.

Tonnage for this program was obtained by deferring 5-BB (67-71) and 4-CB (3-6) previously authorized and by the passage of legislation, HR-7184 (1,900,000 tons) and P.L.551 (Submarine Program) 200,000 tons.

To accelerate the output of urgently needed types, precedence lists were established, the conversion of 6-CL under construction to CV was directed, and half power for 183-DE (of the 500-DE program) was authorized (due to engine shortages) giving these ships 6000 SHP (20 knots) instead of 12,000 SHP (23 knots).

The President authorized the construction of 50-AVG by the Maritime Commission (Kaiser built) and a program of 24 conversions to AVG by the Navy was approved for delivery in 1943.

Anti-submarine production was pooled for assignment through the Combined Munitions Assignment Board (CMAB) machinery under the CCS.

(b) Maximum Effort Planning Program.

By the middle of 1941 it became apparent that maximum use of existing approved shipbuilding facilities would permit enlarging the shipbuilding program as early as 1942 and the so-called "Maximum Effort" program was prepared.

Resume'

Building Program

(b) Maximum Effort Planning Program (Cont.)

For the Maximum Effort, BuShips on 12/22/41 submitted statistics showing by types the numbers on hand and on order, estimated additional needs and annual replacements, and requested the total requirements be established for planning purposes including authorization and construction of ships, requests for appropriations, and estimates for material. This was reviewed by the General Board, CominCh and CNO, total requirements were established, and on 1/31/42 the SecNav approved the program as amplified and amended by CNO. On 2/6/42 CNO submitted the list to SecNav, stating that the program would tail-on after the current program, that OPM required data on the maximum effort for over-all planning of raw materials, and requested Presidential approval with the understanding that no ship in the program will be started which the President has not approved and periodical recommendations will be made to him for further construction. This was approved by SecNav Knox and endorsed O.K. in principle by the President. The Maximum Effort planning program included:

Additions - 2-BB, 6-CB, 13-CL (10,000), 4-CL (6000),
4-CV, 10-XCL, DE-100 per year, AVG (now CVE)-
24 per year,

Annual replacements: 1-BB, 2-CA, 4-CL, 2-CV, 40-DD, 50-SS.

This planning program was superseded by a 2-year program instigated by CominCh.

(c) 1943-1944 Program (690 ships)

CominCh by letter dated 4/18/42 to SecNav, stated shortage of materials may necessitate curtailment of immediate Navy shipbuilding and literal compliance with various directives would result in an unacceptable unbalance in the fleet, and recommended a review of the shipbuilding facilities and material with a view to producing during 1942-1945 the best practicable balance of combatant ships that can be completed ready for service in those years with high priority given to Carriers, to Cruisers (including 12" and 8"), to submarines, and to the Destroyers, Escorts and Subchasers that can be completed for service in 1942 and 1943. SecNav sent this to the General Board for study together with BuShips letter of 3/26/42 which indicated that, on a 2-year program proposed by CominCh, keels could be laid during calendar 1943-1944 for 765 combatant ships and enclosed a tabulation showing estimated completion dates of the current and projected programs. The General Board recommendations were reviewed by VCNO and by CominCh who concurred in the G.B. recommendations except that CominCh recommended deferring BB 67-71 (constructing in lieu thereof 3-CV and 4-CA) and adding to the list 2-CV and 6-CL for completion in 1946, the final recommendations approved 5/11/42 by SecNav being 690 ships, totalling 1,860, 200 tons:

Resume'

Building Program

1942

(c) 1943-1944 Program (690 ships) (Cont.)

4-CV (45,000)	16-CL (11,000)	420-DE (1400)
10-CV (27,100)	3-CL (6,000)	120-SS (1550).
17-CA (13,600)	100-DD (2,100)	

On 5/15/42 CominCh requested SecNav to obtain Presidential authority to initiate legislation for this program (less SS) totalling 1,674,000 tons, stating tonnage authorized under P.L. 551 approved 5/13/42 would occupy all submarine ways becoming available in 1943 and 1944, HR-7184, approved as P.L. 666 on 7/9/42, authorized 1,900,000 tons of which 500,000 was for Aircraft Carriers, 500,000 for Cruisers, and 900,000 for DD and DE. On 8/14/42 BuShips was directed to proceed with 566 vessels (above program less 4-CV (45,000) and 120-SS), verbal authority to proceed in advance of appropriations having been received from the President.

On 8/12/42 the President approved the 570 ship program (690 less 120-SS) except for the 4-CV (45,000 ton) stating the CV were not approved due to time to construct and also due to question of tactical considerations of small vs large carriers, and requested a study of the advisability of building 16-CV (11,000) for service in 8-12 months and 8 more in following 12 months. He added the war may well be over before the lapse of 3 years.

(d) Other changes

(1) 10/19/42 80-DE. BuShips requested authority to make awards for 80-DE (721-800) utilizing tonnage from the Act of 7/9/42 stating full authorization and appropriations were available. This was approved by CominCh and SecNav.

(2) 6/2/42. Conversion of 3-CL to CV. CominCh serial 0993 to SecNav recommended 3-CL be converted to CV, stating the proposed has the oral approval of the President and that 6 similar conversions previously had been authorized. This was approved 6/2/42.

(3) AVG (CVE) Programs.

3/14/42. 24-AVG annually. CNO serial 080423 to Bureaus and OPM promulgated the Maximum Effort Planning Program stating the list was correct except that 24-AVG are to be produced annually starting in 1943.

4/16/42. 24-AVG for 1943. VCNO serial 0122723 directed BuShips to arrange to construct 24-AVG for delivery in 1943. (AVG 31-54).

Resume'

Building Program

1942

(d) Other changes (Cont.)

(3) AVG (CVE) Programs (Cont.)

8/25/42. 1944 Program. BuShips letter to VCNO stated that although no directive had been received it was understood less than 24-AVG will be provided in 1944 and requested instructions regarding follow-on construction and the type desired.

10/19/42. 15-Cimarron type. Op-05 Memo for Admiral King stated the 24-ACV for 1944 had been discussed with CominCh Staff and recommended the 24-ACV be Cimarron type. This was approved by CominCh.

(a) 7/21/42. Adm. Farber Memo to VCNO requested Adm. King's decision as to whether in view of the 50-AVG building at the Kaiser plants the Navy could build 9-tenders at Seattle-Tacoma in lieu of 9 AVG.

(b) 8/3/42. This was approved by CominCh.

(4) 50-AVG Kaiser

6/10/42. Characteristics. U.S. Maritime Commission letter to BuShips stated that as directed by the President, the characteristics of a simple type of aircraft transport for the dual purpose of aircraft transport and fleet auxiliary (aircraft carrier) had been discussed at a conference on 6/9/42 and certain characteristics agreed upon, and requested confirmation of the characteristics and the probable number required in excess of 50.

Note. The number was decided on the President-CominCh-Chairman of Maritime Commission level. The characteristics were satisfactory (originally supplied by BuShips). Considerable difficulty was encountered in obtaining access by Navy personnel to the yards for inspections and supervision of plans.

(e) Escort Vessels

A JCS Memo for the President dated 10/17/42 stated in effect that merchant ships are being sunk faster than they can be built, enemy SS are being built faster than they can be destroyed, that all plans for offensive operations in progress or proposed are hampered and limited by escort shortages, and recommended 310-escorts be produced in 1943. The President informed WPB the materials for 260-DE scheduled by the Navy and 50-70 Corvettes scheduled by the Maritime Commission "must be provided". To accelerate DE-production, CominCh authorized modifying the propulsion plant of 183-DE to half power (6000 SHP) to give 20-knots instead of the 24 knots (with 12,000 SHP). Over-riding priority was given to certain CV nearing completion regardless of the effect on other new construction.

Resume

Building Program

1942

(e) Escort Vessels (Cont.)

Anti-submarine craft, including "U.S. for U.K." programs were pooled for assignment through CMAB machinery as shown in CCS118/1 dated 10/24/42.

(f) Precedence

A Directive from the President dated 5/1/42 covering priority of naval construction stated the objective for 1942 construction was the completion of those vessels which could be commissioned prior to 7/1/43 and equipment for those that can be launched prior to 7/1/43, with lower priorities for those which cannot be completed by 6/30/43 except ships of light category designed for convoy protection and for submarines which can be completed during the calendar year 1943.

VCNO Memo for CominCh dated 5/7/42 stated the above directive would indefinitely delay 9-BB, 10-CV, 6-CB, 5-CA, 22-CL and 16-AVG (now CVE). By Memo to the President, CominCh urged that ships which could be completed in 1943 and 1944 be given high priorities, and his recommendations coupled with those of the SecNav resulted in the directive being countermanded in July.

Carriers. On 10/29/42 SecNav despatch 293131 to Navy Yards Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk stated early completion of CV-9, 10, 16, 17, 22, 23 is essential and directed fullest cooperation with the building yards so that the material required will be made available regardless of effect on other construction including landing craft, but not to delay vessels under repair.

President's "No. 1 Group." Joint Chiefs of Staff letter dated 11/26/42 to WPB stated the President had directed JCS to submit to WPB a list of items they consider to be what he terms "No. 1 Group" which must be produced in 1943 to produce a balanced war program. The list included,

For Completion in 1943

2 - BB	13 - CV
0 - CV	18 - CVE
4 - CA	119 - DD
9 - CL	260 - DE
	59 - SS

For Completion in 1944

1 - BB	11 - CV
2 - CV	18 - CVE
6 - CA	107 - DD
14 - CL	420 - DE
	92 - SS

Maritime Commission to construct for Navy, escort vessels and auxiliary carriers.

Resume'

Building Program

1942

(f) Precedence (Cont.)

Group priorities by types of vessel were established on 7/4/42 and changed, to reflect changes in relative precedence, on 9/3/42, 11/5/42 and 11/11/42 as shown in detail under tab "Precedence". The Precedence Lists for current construction and Planning Programs were the bases for material priorities by OP&M and WPB.

(g) Lend Lease

1799 Vessel (EC) Act.

On 2/6/42 the President approved the EC Act which included authorization for 250-DE (51-300) of which the President in November 1941 had approved proceeding with 200 in advance of this legislation.

Standard Design

Op-05, by Memo to CominCh dated 8/3/42, recommended that hereafter U.S. standard designs be used throughout all construction programs, stating re AVG that in 1942 it was possible to allocate British designs to separate yards, but in 1943 all will be built at the same yard. This was approved by VCNO and CominCh (8/7/42), Adm. Dorling (BAD) was informed, and BuShips was directed that, regardless of ultimate users, all types of vessels be built or converted to American designs and standards.

Common Pool A/S Vessels

To decide allocation of vessels, the A/S ships were pooled for assignment through the CMAB machinery.

Deliveries

During 1942, 3-AVG were leased to the British and 4-BAVG were completed and delivered of which BAVG 2 and 5 were reported lost later in the year.

(h) Statistics - Changes during the year.

143 completed, 4-BB, 8-CL, 1-CV, 14-CVE, 82-DD, 34-SS
903 added, 17-CA, 19-CL, 14-CV, 83-CVE, 143-DD, 500-DE, 127-SS
46 lost, 1-BB, 4-CA, 2-CL, 4-CV, 24-DD, 3-APD (ex-DD), 8-SS
10 reclassifications, 6-CL to CV, 1-BAVG to AVG, 2-DD to APD,
1-SM to APS.

(i) Note. More detailed data on items briefed in this Resume' are shown under the appropriate Tabs in this pamphlet.

CHANGES 1/1/43 - 1/1/44

	CHANGES															
	1/1/43					CHANGES		1/1/44								
	LL	HAVE	BLDG	TOTAL	COMPLETE	ADD	LL	STRUCK	RECLASS	LL	HAVE	BLDG	TOTAL			
						CANCEL	+	-	Disp	Lost	+	-				
BB AB IX AG		20 (1) (1) (2)	11	31	2	-5							22 (1) (1) (2)	4	26	
CA CB CL LL		14 6 26	25 6 43	39 6 69	4 7	+4 -3 +7				-2 -1			16 3 32	25 3 43	41 3 75	
CVB CV CVL CVE LL EAVG	3 2	- 4 12	- 35 85	- 39 97	6 9 49	+3 +2 +13		-1 -25 (-1)		+4 +9	-13		1 9 35	3 19 51	3 29 86	
DD DM DMS APD AVD AG		229 8 16 14 -	267 11 11 14 -	496 8 18 14 -	127	+82				-14 -1 -1	+9 +16	-16	335 8 17 20 5 -	222 11 11 11 -	557 15 15 20 4 -	
DE LL APD IX		-	800	800	306	205	305	-76					76	230	294	624
SM SS LL BSS	2 (3)	- 133	- 187	- 320	56	110				-11			2 (3)	178	241	419
	7	484	1459	1943	566	428	314	-101		-31	38	-38	109	918	1007	1925
		484	1459		566	428	314	-101		-31	38	38		918	1007	
	7							(1) 101			38	38	109			

1943

(a) Digest - 1943.

The major factors affecting the programs during the calendar year 1943 were the need for additional units for a balanced fleet resulting in an approved program of 413 ships, future operations discussed at the Quebec conference resulting in a larger landing craft program at the expense of the A/S program, the wane of U-boat activities permitting cancellation of A/S craft to make way for landing craft and other construction, the outstanding successes of our own SS resulting in accelerating and increasing the SS-program, manpower problems resulting in the transfer of some new construction from the San Francisco area to the East Coast to make labor available for the increased repair work-load, and the effects of Selective Service on output, some relief being obtained by deferments allowed for keymen with special skills on specific types of construction.

Building programs authorized comprised the 413 vessel program (1-CB, 4-CV, 4-CA, 7-CL, 82-DD, 110-SS, 205-DE) approved by the President 5/27/43, the CVE replacement program of 8-CVE per year directed by CominCh on 10/31/43 with the first-8 approved by the President 12/17/43, and the construction of 2-CVL and a continuing program of 2-CVL per year starting in 1946 directed by CominCh on 9/6/43, the construction of the first 2-CVL having been approved by the President's endorsement on SecNav Memo dated 9/2/43. Permission also was received to start work on 3-CV (45,000 ton) previously deferred.

To make tonnage available for the 413-vessel program, 5-BB (67-71) and 3-CB (4-6) were cancelled. BuShips requested BB-65, 66 be suspended but this was disapproved by CominCh. 405-DE were cancelled after a review of the building program based on the progress of the war, but at the direction of SecNav 100 of these were suspended by BuShips.

On 6/10/43 CominCh informed the CCS that small aircraft carriers formerly designated ACV have been redesignated as CVE (escort carriers) and classed as combatant ships.

A planning program was sent to OP&M (for ear-marking material) shortly before the additional ships were approved for construction in the 413-vessel program.

No combatant tonnage legislation was needed during the year, sufficient being available from balances, vessels lost or becoming overage, and from cancellation of units not urgently needed. Auxiliary legislation included CVE tonnage.

Regarding Lend-Lease, CominCh referred to British difficulties in manning their own ships, and requested MAC make no ship allocation to U.K. other than those already planned except for CVE. During the year 25-CVE, 1-BAVG and 76-DE were delivered to the British.

1943

(b) Factors affecting Shipbuilding Programs.

The manpower situation in the San Francisco area and the increasing ship-repair work-load resulted in the transfer of some new construction to the East Coast and a policy of limiting awards to West Coast facilities.

Regarding the strategic situation and progress of the war -

On 8/6/43 CominCh commented on the outstanding results attained by our submarines in checking the spread of Japanese activities but stated SS-construction must not interfere with building up the offensive elements of the fleet promptly to the strength necessary to crush the Jap Navy, which cannot be accomplished by SS alone. It also is essential that nothing be permitted to throttle the offensive against German U-boats as we must gain undisputed control of the Atlantic. The apparent weakening of the U-boat effort may warrant some curtailment of A/S craft and it would be decidedly advantageous to increase the SS output by such curtailment or by other means within the realities of the situation.

To accelerate SS-production, precedence was raised from Group 9 to Group 4 on 10/5/43, but no increase beyond existing authorized numbers was desired.

At the Quebec conference an increase in landing craft was decided and on 9/6/43 CominCh serial 001810 to VCNO directed an increase in landing craft of 35% and authorized cancellation of 205-DE to provide construction facilities.

By letter of 10/19/43 to SecNav, Mr. Justice Byrnes, Director of War Mobilization, stated the President asked him on 9/28/43 to cause a complete review of the shipbuilding program of the Army, Navy and Maritime Commission, and requested recommendations in the light of the present and prospective war situation. He indicated that the deletion of the Italian and French Navies, and the difficulties of Germany in making good its losses, and the fact that the present combat ship program was predicated on fighting the war alone, should permit corresponding deletions by the United Nations.

(c) 1413-Vessel Program

On 4/20/43 CominCh by Memo to VCNO requested a tabulation showing estimated completions by months of all BB, CB, CA, CL, DD, SS, AM, PC through the calendar year 1944 and asked what steps now are necessary to get authorization and appropriation for a continuing program for the above and smaller types. On 4/26/43 BuShips submitted charts to VCNO and stated 921,298 tons of combatant tonnage is available. On 5/7/43 VCNO informed CominCh that to build all ships that could be completed by 1/1/47 would require about 2,273,000 tons more than now is allocated which would permit adding 1160 ships in various combinations shown. Three programs were submitted to utilize the 921,298 tons now

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(c) 413-Vessel Program (Cont.)

available as further tonnage authorization at this time is considered questionable. Selection A covered 413 vessels as follows:

1-CB (27,000)	7-CL (11,000)
1-CV (45,000)	82-DD (2,200)
3-CV (27,100)	110-SS (1,526)
4-CA (13,600)	205-DE (1,400)

On 5/19/43 CominCh approved the above selection and directed new construction conform to this. On 5/26/43 SecNav requested Presidential approval of his action in making awards for the 413 ships, stating that to make the tonnage available 5-BB (67-71) and 3-CB (4-6) deferred up to now must be cancelled. This was approved by the President on 5/27/43 and VCNO authorized the Bureaus to proceed with construction on 5/28/43.

(d) CVE-Programs.

(1) No follow-on at Kaiser yards.

9/10/43 CominCh serial 001932 to VCNO directed no follow-on program for CVE be undertaken in Kaiser yards after delivery of those now under construction (50).

(2) CVE-replacements, 8/year.

10/31/43 CominCh serial 03762 informed VCNO that to provide for attrition, present plans should call for a replacement program of 8-CVE per year to follow the CVE 105 class program at Seattle-Tacoma yard.

12/17/43 SecNav Memo for the President requested approval of construction of 8-CVE to follow the present program at Seattle-Tacoma. This was endorsed O.K. by the President.

(e) CVL-replacements 2/year.

7/24/43 CominCh serial 02481 to VCNO desired a study made with a view to including replacement CVL in the building program to maintain 9 and to provide a continuing program thereafter, stating the present program will complete in January 1944 at which time it is estimated 7 of the 9-CVL will be in commission (2 considered normal attrition). The present plans are to brigade 1-CVL with each 2-CV in a division, the CVL being complemented solely with fighters. The use of CA-68 or similar hulls was suggested and transfer of DE-tonnage if necessary.

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(e) CVL-replacements 2/year. (Cont.)

8/14/43 BuShips serial 05687 to VCNO stated providing 2 additional CVL by December 1945 and a continuing program thereafter was practicable with slight delay in the cruiser program. Suggested 24-DE be cancelled to provide tonnage.

8/27/43 CominCh serial 001764 to VCNO directed construction of 2-CVL be added to the present program, and that future planning provide a continuing replacement program based on 2-CVL per year, commencing in 1946.

9/2/42. The President approved SecNav action in authorizing awards for 2-CVL.

(f) Changes in the Program

(1) 15-CVE (105-119) authorized in 1942 under the continuing program were placed on order

(2) CVB-43 construction resumed. Although the President on 8/12/42 excepted 4-CV (45,000 ton) from his approval of the 690-ship program, he later (12/29/42) authorized the SecNav to commence construction of 2-CV (41, 42) and on 5/27/43 authorized starting CV-43. CV-44 remained cancelled.

(3) 5-BB and 4-CB cancelled. On 5/27/43 the President approved a Memo from the SecNav which stated it would be necessary to cancel CB 4-6 and BB 67-71, which have been deferred up to the present, to make tonnage available for the 413-vessel program recently approved.

(4) 405-DE cancelled.

(a) 205-DE. On 9/6/43 CominCh informed VCNO a survey of conditions based on the strategic situation and the progress of the war indicated certain changes could be made including cancelling 205-DE and directed implementation. On 9/13/43 the President approved a SecNav Memo requesting approval of his action in cancelling DE (801-1005) to make facilities and manpower available for the increased landing craft program.

(b) 200-DE. On 9/21/43 SecNav Memo for the President stated that due to changing war conditions CominCh had recommended and SecNav approved the total DE being reduced to 600 involving cancelling 200-DE additional. This was approved by the President 9/23/43. BuShips on 9/27/43 stated 100 could be cancelled economically but gave reasons why 100 should be retained. On 10/7/43 CominCh directed steps be taken to reduce the program to 600 and VCNO issued directives to BuShips, but they were held up, OP&M stating SecNav had directed holding up the cancellations until further orders.

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(g) Planning Programs 5/23/43

On 5/6/43 OP&M requested a statement by 7/1/43 showing the controlled material requirements for 1944. On 5/23/43 VCNO serial 0207023-A to OP&M and Bureaus enclosed a chart of the building program including additions directed by CominCh on 5/19/43, stating the program was for use in planning material and is in no sense a directive to construct. The 413-ships on this list above the current program were approved for construction by the President on 5/26/43.

On 10/11/43 CNO informed OP&M and the Bureaus the planning program of 5/23/43 directed interested agencies to notify VCNO when authorization became necessary for the ships listed to meet the delivery dates specified and stated the program on DE (and various patrol craft) has been limited and therefore agencies will plan to build only ships whose construction has been directed by CNO. No additional program is now contemplated.

On 11/13/43 CNO requested BuShips to return a copy of the chart enclosed with VCNO letter of 5/25/43 corrected to date in view of the various corrections and changes since it was issued.

In November BuShips submitted a tabulation 'A' designated "Building Program for Planning Purposes" dated 11/11/43 and another showing existing directed Combatant Program and stated that unless otherwise directed tabulation 'A' would be considered the approved program for planning purposes. Regarding combatant ships, BuShips stated the planned program would require about 1,161,936 tons comprising 1-CVB, 10-CV, 4-CVL, 12-CVE, 2-CB, 10-CA, 12-CL, 110-DD, 36-SS.

In order to implement the program, it will be necessary to have building directives during January 1944 for such of the following as are desired:

1-CVB, 4-CV, 2-CVL, 3-CVE, 5-CA, 4-CL, 30-DD.

A further directive will be required during the second quarter 1944 for ships in the planning program whose dates of completion anti-date 6/30/47.

(h) Precedence. VCNO serial 09405 of 10/5/42 cancelled the directive dated 11/11/42 and established a new Precedence List which raised Landing Craft from Group 3 to Group 1, left DD in Group 2, placed APA-AKA in Group 3, raised SS from Group 9 to Group 4, and dropped CV from over-riding to Group 5, DE from 2 to 6, BB-60 from 4 to 9, Carriers from 6 to 7, and patrol craft from 7 to 13.

(i) Legislation

There was no combatant tonnage legislation during the year.

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(i) Legislation (Cont.)

6/17/43, P.L. 76 (1,000,000 tons of Auxiliaries)

This Act authorized the President to acquire and convert or to undertake the construction of one million tons of auxiliary vessels of such size, type and design as he may consider best suited for the prosecution of the war. A proviso stated any vessel intended for operation by the USN whose construction or acquisition and conversion heretofore or hereafter has been authorized for the Maritime Commission, WSA or other agency, shall be subject to the approval of the Navy Department in all matters of design and construction or conversion and shall be transferred to the Navy Department upon completion of construction or conversion.

(1) This cleared up difficulties re inspections and plans previously encountered regarding the 50-AVG building at the Kaiser yards.

(2) 32-AVG (55-86) were charged against this appropriation on delivery.

12/17/43, P.L. 204 (2,500,000 tons of Auxiliaries)

This Act authorized the SecNav to acquire and convert or to undertake the construction of 2½ million tons, or such portion thereof as may be directed by the President, of auxiliary vessels to be of such size, type and design as the SecNav may consider best suited for the prosecution of the war, and provided that vessels acquired by the Navy from the Maritime Commission without re-imbursement shall not be disposed of except by return to the Maritime Commission.

(1) 18-AVG (87-104) building at the Kaiser yards were charged to this appropriation upon delivery.

(2) On 6/10/43 CominCh informed CCS that AVG had been redesignated as CVE (escort carriers) and classed as combatant ships.

(j) Lend Lease

(1) Allocation policy

8/10/43. Limiting LL-allocations. CominCh End-2 Serial 001600 to VCNO re MAC letter of 7/14/43, stated the British recently informed him they are unable to supply crews for a number of their own landing craft and requested USN crews be supplied. With this shortage it does not appear logical to earmark for allocation to the British any naval vessels in addition to those previously assigned, and CominCh desires MAC to adhere to current programs with the expectation the USN

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(j) Lend Lease

(1) Allocation policy (Cont.)

will man all vessels not already allocated except that construction as is already planned for LL-contingencies should be carried out. The above does not apply to CVE.

(2) Changes during 1943

25-AVG and 71-DE were leased to U.K. during 1943
1-BAVG (6) was completed and delivered to U.K.
1-DE was leased to France and 4 to Brazil.

(k) Statistics for calendar year 1943

566 completed, 2-BB, 4-CA, 7-CL, 6-CV, 9-CVL, 49-CVE, 127-DD,
306-DE, 56-SS
428 added, 4-CA, 7-CL, 3-CV, 2-CVL, 15-CVE, 82-ED, 205-DE, 110-SS.
314 cancelled, 5-BB, 3-CB, 1-CVB, 305-DE.

CHANGES 1/1/44 - 1/1/45

	1/1/44				CHANGES								1/1/45				
	LL	HAVE	BLOG	TOTAL	COMPL. CH.	ADD	CANCEL	L	L	STRUCK	RECLASS	LL	HAVE	BLOG	TOTAL		
						+	-	-	-	DISP	LOST	+	-				
BB AB AC		22 (1) (1) (2)	4	26	2								23 (1) (1) (2)	2	25		
CA CB CL CC		16 32	25 43	41 75	1 11		-4				+3 -3		17 43	27 25	44 68		
CVE CV CVL CVEL LL B.V.S.	28	1 10 9 35	3 14 2 51	3 24 11 86	6 38	+8							16 8 65	3 13 21	3 29 10 86		
DD DM DMS APD AVD AG		335 8 17 20 5 1	222 1 1 1 1	557 8 17 20 5 1	78								371 20 26 26 5 8	132 1 1 1 1	507 20 26 26 5 8		
DE LL APD IX	76 (76)	230	394	624	208	-135	+5 (-5)	-18 +18	-2 (-1)	-7 (-5)		-81 (83)	83 (83)	376	10	386	
EM SE LL SES	2 (3)	178	241	419	79	-98	+3			-3	-19		238	64	302		
TOTAL	109	918	1007	1925	425	+8	-23	+8	-23	-5	-49	+23	127	119	1286	741	1627
		918	1007	1925	425	+8	-23	+8	-23	-5	-49	+23	-111		1286	741	
	109					-8		-8	+23	-1	-5	+1	119				

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(a) Digest

The principal factors affecting shipbuilding during 1944 were: (1) our increasing offensive action in the Pacific, resulting in advancing the precedence of landing craft - APA, AKA - Fleet Auxiliaries above all combatant types, and in the acceleration of the carrier and cruiser programs at the expense of cancelling 4-CL (112-115) and slippage in DD completion dates (2) the outstanding successes of our submarines, resulting in slowing the rate of SS-production and cancelling 98-SS; (3) the general strategic situation and progress of the war, resulting in the cancellation of 35-DE, and a continuous critical review of the building program; and (4) Selective Service with attendant manpower shortage resulting in slippage in delivery dates mitigated somewhat by deferments allowed keymen on specific work.

Additional authorizations included a request on 12/14/44 by SecNav for the second-replacement group of 8-CVE which was approved by the President on 1/29/45 (which were included among 12-CVE approved by the President 3/22/45). In March, VCNO proposed a program of 35-ships to provide for possible losses, but CominCh decided no additional combatant program was needed at that time. In December discussions with the House Naval Affairs Committee resulted in the presentation to the President on 1/8/45 of a program of 84-ships totalling 644,000 tons.

Planning Programs. On 5/17/44 the General Board submitted a list of 28-vessels as a proposed extension of the Building Program (1-BB, 6-GA, 3-CL, 5-CV, 1-CVB, 6-DD, 6-SS). On 7/23/44 CNO cancelled the Planning Program of 5/25/43 and directed OF&M and the Bureaus to be guided by the G.B. recommendation in planning facilities and material for construction over that already authorized.

Legislation. There was no tonnage authorization affecting combatant ships enacted during 1944.

Lend Lease. 5-CVE (to U.K.) and 18-DE (11-U.K., 5-France, 2-Brazil) were leased and 5-DE and 3-SS were returned.

(b) Factors

(1) Accelerating Carrier and Cruiser Programs.

6/12/44 Carriers. AsstSecNav (Air) Memo to SecNav stated the Nimitz-Towers recommendation is not that they want more carriers than planned, but that the carrier and CVE programs must be awarded the highest practicable priority and attention. On 6/28/44 the precedence of CVB, CV, CVL and CVE was raised and BuShips reviewed the workload

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(b) Factors

(1) Accelerating Carrier and Cruiser Programs (Cont.)

of each building yard to advance completions from 1946 to 1945. On 8/21/44 BuShips reported considerable slippage in destroyer dates due to manpower shortage and the acceleration of cruisers and carriers and suggested transfers of work among yards or cancellations but CominCh directed the delays be accepted. On 7/28/44 CominCh serial 02566 to SecNav stated that in view of a recent conference with CirOPac he recommended CV-32, 37, 40, 45, 47 and CVL-48, 49 and CB-3 be advanced at the expense of cruisers, which was approved by SecNav and promulgated by CNO. On 8/21/44 BuShips reported that at New York Shipbuilding Corporation labor conditions and the acceleration of carriers would delay until the latter half of 1947 the completion of either CL 111-115 or CL 144-147 (no keels laid for either group) and recommended priority be given the new design double purpose CL 144-147 group. On the recommendation of CominCh, SecNav Memo for the President dated 9/5/44 requested approval of cancellation of CL 112-115 (CL-111 retained) which was OK'd by the President, and CNO notified BuShips.

(2) Retarding SS-Program

6/21/44. CominCh serial 01233 to SecNav stated recent successes in the Pacific have greatly reduced the areas in which Japanese shipping operates, and the areas remaining are well covered by shore-based aviation so prospects for the future call for fewer-SS with more highly trained crews, and recommended the SS-program be permanently retarded to a rate of about 7 per month effective as soon as feasible stating the situation soon may warrant SS-cancellations at the end of the program. This was approved by SecNav and CNO serial 017505 of 6/30/44 directed BuShips to comply, and serial 6205 of 6/28/44 lowered precedence of SS from Group 5 to Group 9.

(3) Proposed suspension of Ships scheduled for 1946

On 7/19/44 CNO serial 020205 requested comment on a proposal made to SecNav to suspend temporarily construction on ships now due for completion after 1/1/46 in the interests of early deliveries of those scheduled for 1945. BuShips replied no improvement would result, the effect on the industry would be chaotic, and morale would be lowered with a resulting slow down. On 10/21/44 CominCh approved VCNO recommendation that the 1946 ships not be suspended.

(4) Review of Program

6/2/44. SecNav Memo for CominCh, Serial 019502, desired a monthly report of probable cut-backs which may be effected with estimated dates stating that to keep facilities properly aligned and for the economy of the country it is necessary all programs be continually

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(b) Factors

(4) Review of Program (Cont.)

reviewed so orderly tapering off may be undertaken.

7/3/44. CominCh serial 001918 to SecNav recommended a cut-back of 98-SS from the present approved program which includes hull 544. The 6-SS special type recommended by CominCh 001824 to SecNav on 6/23/44 to follow 544 should be built. SecNav recommended the cut-back which was approved by the President on 7/14/44.

The monthly reports for the rest of the year recommended no cut-backs.

(5) Selective Service

5/13/44. Acting SecNav serial 013702 to Mr. McNutt stated the Navy had been granted draft deferment for keymen having special skills in the shipbuilding industry in 4-categories only, viz. fleet maintenance and repair, construction of landing craft, submarines, and carriers (CV). He requested action be taken to include 5 other categories, viz. APA-AKA-APC, fleet auxiliaries including tugs, CVL-CVB-CVE, DD, and cruisers.

5/17/44. BuShips letter to CNO enclosed data on the retarding effect of recent Selective Service policies re drafting eligibles in the 18-25 age brackets, stating the greatest losses have occurred in CVE, cruisers, and DD construction. If similar rulings are extended to the 26-30 age brackets many supervisors and key mechanics will be lost.

(6) Post War Planning

WPB, War Production and Output Study dated 1/24/44 discussed 2 alternative plans regarding naval shipbuilding, (A) to carry through presently authorized and material planning programs (thru 1947) officially planned for ending the Pacific War in 1949, and (B), if the release of large military forces change the plans, to eliminate all combatant vessels (except DE) not scheduled for completion in time to engage the enemy within 21-months after VE-day. From present schedules these would be 2-BB, 17-CV, 7-CVE, 17 large or heavy cruisers, 23-CL, 65-DD, 57-SS.

Defeat of Germany. VCNO Memo for SecNav dated 6/8/44 discussed various phases of current plans upon the defeat of Germany to the effect that there will be no significant demobilization either

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(b) Factors

(6) Post War Planning (Cont.)
Defeat of Germany

from a material, personnel, or industrial standpoint. Present intentions are to transfer to the Pacific all ships that can be usefully employed there, probably about 5/8 of present combatant ships.

(c) Additions

(1) 8-CVE (2d replacement group)

12/6/44. CominCh Memo for VCNO serial 04021 referred to the established 8-CVE per year program, and directed the second replacement group be initiated without delay.

12/14/44. CNO serial 033605 to SecNav requested Presidential approval, which was received by letter of 1/29/45, the President being absent in the meantime.

Note. The proposed 84-vessel program discussed below was disapproved on 3/25/45 except for 12-CVE (including the 8-CVE herewith.).

(2) Proposed 35-ship program.

VCNO Memo for CominCh, serial 67205 dated 3/31/44, stated slowing down of construction is associated with prospects of future building, that about 400,000 tons are available, that it would be unwise not to provide replacement vessels in case of heavy losses, and recommended authorization be obtained from the President for the construction of 400,000 tons, showing various selections of numbers and types.

CominCh replied no additional combatant program was needed at this time.

(3) Proposed 84-vessel Program

12/23/44. House Naval Affairs Committee. BuShips letter to CominCh stated in effect Mr. Vinson arranged a conference 12/22/44 to discuss the extent to which legislative authorization for construction was available. He was advised 717,340 tons was available 12/1/44, that the 8-CVE whose approval is pending represent 96,000 tons, and the Planning Program of 28-ships directed by CNO letter of 7/28/44 represented 374,500 tons. Mr. Vinson requested a Memo to show the extent to which production capacity is available for the 8-CVE, the 28-vessel program and to utilize remaining available tonnage. Except for some SS-construction Mr. Vinson did not indicate types, but indicated the program should be completed by end of 1947.

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(c) Additions

(3) Proposed 84-Vessel Program.

12/28/44. BuShips Memo to CNO enclosed a table showing the ships in the current planning directive and additional ships (172) that could be completed by 1/1/48, the total tonnage being 1,235,000 tons. BuShips stated 747,000 tons could be proceeded with without further Congressional authority leaving 500,000 to be procured.

12/30/44. VCNO Memo for CominCh stated Mr. Vinson had raised the question of introducing legislation for 1,000,000 tons of combatant authorizations, discussed BuShips proposals, and showed 3 suggested combinations, recommending List C totalling 102-ships, 754,000 tons, comprising 2-CVB, 8-CV, 4-CVL, 4-CA (8"), 4-CL(5"), 48-DD, 24-SS, 8-CVE.

Note. On 1/8/45 CNO serial 0035105 to SecNav requested Presidential approval be obtained for a combatant program totalling 84-vessels and 644,000 tons comprising 2-CVB, 6-CV, 12-CVE, 4-CA, 6-CL(5"), 36-DD and 18-SS.

(d) Other Changes.

(1) Cancellation 35-DE

On 6/3/44 CNO serial 014205 to SecNav recommended cancelling 35-DE whose keels had not been laid on 5/1/44 stating the war situation allows cancellation and manpower restrictions indicate difficulty in manning them if completed, altho cancellation involves some loss in prefabricated material. SecNav Memo for the President dated 6/3/44 recommending the cancellation was endorsed O.K. by the President on 6/7/44 and on 6/10/44 CNO serial 15305 directed BuShips to cancel 35-DE whose present status will result in minimum loss to the government.

Note. - 100 other DE whose cancellation was directed in 1943 but held up, also were cancelled, 76 on 3/10/44, 2 on 4/4/44 and 22 on 5/29/44.

(2) Cancel 4-CL

On 8/21/44, BuShips letter to CNO discussed delays due to labor shortage and the acceleration of the carrier program and stated New York Ship has contracts for 22-cruisers and 2-CVL, that the keels for CL 111-115 (CL-106 type) and CL 144-147 (new design, double purpose) have not been laid, and that one of these groups probably will be delayed until the latter half of 1947 and recommended priority for 144-147. On 9/5/44 SecNav requested the President's approval of his proposal to cancel CL112-114 which was endorsed O.K. by the President.

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(d) Other Changes

(2) Cancel 4-CL (Cont.)

On 9/9/44 SecNav informed the President CL-115 had inadvertently been omitted and its cancellation was approved 9/14/44.

On 9/22/44 CNO serial 028305 to the Bureaus directed BuShips cancel CL-112-115 stating CL-111 will be completed on the CL-106 design.

(3) 3-CL finished as CA

During 1944, CL-143, 148, 149 (13,600 ton) were reclassified and converted to CA-143, 148, 149 (17,000 ton).

(4) Cancel 98-SS

CominCh serial 001918 to SecNav recommended a cut-back of 98-SS from the present program which includes hull 544 stating the 6 special type SS recommended to SecNav on 6/23/44 to follow 544 should be built. This was endorsed approved by SecNav on 7/4/44 and by Memo to the President dated 7/11/44 SecNav requested approval of his action in cancelling 98-SS stating this will leave 106 yet to be constructed and does not include 6-SS of new design which have been recommended by the General Board but not yet authorized. This was O.K.'d by the President on 7/14/44 and promulgated to the Bureaus by CNO serial 019505 dated 7/17/44. On 7/22/44 BuShips stated the following selections had been referenced through OP&M to WPB for clearance prior to advising the yards of their cancellation,

SS-356-360, 379, 380, 431-474, 495-515, 518-521, 526-544 with SS-429, 430, 517 suspended.

(5) Ex-DD reclassifications

39-DD were reclassified, 12 as DM, 12 as DES, 8 as APD and 7 as AG.

(6) Ex-DE reclassifications

81-DE were reclassified, 50 as APD and 1 as IX. On 5/26/44 CominCh in a memo to SecNav re A/S progress and curtailing the DE program stated plans have been made to convert 50-DE to APD and the conversion of 50-others is under consideration for operations in the western Pacific.

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(e) Planning Programs.

5/17/44. Annex A to General Board Letter No. 420-2 (serial 270) re Extension of Building Program, Combatant Ships, listed the following:

1-BB	45,000 tons or more	Improved IOWA - for progress in design
6-CA	16,500	CA-134 class (8" RF)
3-CL	6,000	CL-119 improved
5-CV	27,500	Attrition and development
1-CVB	45,000	To increase number
6-DD		New design to improve type
6-SS		Improved design for underwater stability.

7/28/44. CNO serial 020905 to OP&M and Bureaus cancelled VCNO letter of 5/25/43 and directed that in planning facilities and material for additional construction above that currently authorized the Bureaus be guided by the G. B. recommendations.

8/28/44. BuShips requested CNO designate the relative priority desired for design work on the above, and were informed on 9/5/44 the priority in design was (1)-DD, (2)-SS, (3)-CL, (4) carriers.

(f) Precedence.

(1) Precedence groups were changed 4-times during the year as follows:

	2/6	1944 6/3	6/28	12/19
Landing Craft	1	1	1	6
APA-AKA	1	1	2	1
Icebreakers (for USSR)	2	2	3	3
Tugs and Barges	3	3	4	5
Fleet Auxiliaries	4	4	5	2-5-8
DD	5	6	8	9
SS	6	5	9	11
CVB, CV, CVL	7	7	6	4
DE	8	8	13	14
CVE	9	9	7	4
CA, CB, CL	10	10	6	7
BB	11	11	10	12
AM	12	12	11	10
Patrol	13	13	12	13
Others	14	14	13	14

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(f) Precedence (Cont.)

(2) Miscellaneous

1/21/44. Landing Craft. CNO serial 305 to BuShips directed that Landing Craft scheduled for completion by 6/1/44 be given Top Precedence even above Repairs and Alterations and work on vessels completed but not yet reported.

4/15/44. Precedence between types at individual yards. On 4/8/44 VCNO serial 08405 informed CominCh that in some yards precedence of work will have to be determined between types being constructed at those yards and enclosed proposals which were approved with some changes by CominCh on 4/14/44. CNO serial 09305 dated 4/15/44 to BuShips established precedences of construction at each yard if the manpower shortage prevents manning all new construction.

8/8/44. Re inclusion of Mar-Com. ships in Precedence List. In August 1944 OP&M requested CNO to integrate various classes of ships being produced by Mar-Com with construction by the Navy to form a single Precedence List. He stated inclusion of Army construction would be advantageous since shortage of labor is the controlling factor in meeting war requirements and a combined list would help in labor recruitment.

Op-05 Memo of 8/8/44, serial 10105, stated the part of the Mar-Com program directly destined for the Navy could be integrated, but the remainder would present difficult problems of selection, administration and jurisdiction, and recommended against inclusion.

(a) 10/30/44. CNO serial 031805 to BuShips quoted a JCS directive re priorities for APA and AKA not already assigned overriding priority, and directed BuShips take appropriate action on Mar-Com requests for priority on critical items of material and equipment to accomplish this.

9/2/44. Directive Assistance AFA-AKA. CNO serial 025805 to Com-1, 3-7, 11-13 enclosed a list of 149-ships (APA, AKA, AGO) on which directive assistance had been granted and directed every effort be made to place them in service.

11/16/44. CNO serial 16005 to BuShips directed preferential treatment on 11-APA not already accorded directive assistance to insure their completion by 12/31/44 stating all AKA scheduled up to 12/10/44 already have been assigned preferential treatment.

11/17/44. OP&M by letter to WPB listed 114-APA and 44-AKA previously granted preferential treatment and requested directive assistance for 11 other APA.

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(g) Lend Lease

(1) Changes

5-CVE to U.K., viz. 45, 46, 52, 53, 54.

11-DE to U.K., 525, 526, 563, 567-574.

5-DE to France 107-111.

2-DE to Brazil 99, 100.

5-DE returned by U.K, 95-99.

3-SS returned by U.K, viz. SS-94, 126, 127.

(2) New Construction

On 5/11/44 CNC recommended to MAC, regarding a British request for construction in 1946 that no assignments be made at this time.

(h) Statistics

425 - completed, 2-BB, 1-CA, 2-CB, 11-CL, 6-CV, 38-CVE, 78-DD,
208-DE, 79-SS

8 - added, 8-CVE

237 - cancelled, 4-CL, 135-DE, 98-SS

23 - LL, 5-CVE, 18-DE

8 - LL returned, 5-DE, 3-SS

49 - Lost, 1-BB, 1-CVL, 3-CVE, 15-DD, 1-DMS, 2-APD, 7-DE, 19-SS

5 - Stricken for disposal, 2-DE, 3-SS

123 - Reclassed, 3-CL to CA, 39-DD to DM-DMS-APD-AG, 81-DE to
APD and IX(1).

CHANGES 1/1/45 - 1/1/46

	1/1/45				CHANGES								1/1/46					
	LL	HAVE	BLDG	TOTAL	Complex BLDG	ADD		LL		STRUCK		RECLASS		LL	HAVE	BLDG	TOTAL	
						+	-	+	-	DISP	LOSS	+	-					
BB AB IX AG		23 (1) (1) (1)	2	25			-1								23 (1) (1) (1)	1	24	
CA CB CL LL		17 2 43	27 1 25	44 3 68	8 7	4 6	-14 -16			-1 (-1)	-4				24 2 45	9 1 8	33 3 50	
CVB CV CVL CVE LL BAVG	- 33 3	1 16 8 64	3 13 22 21	3 29 10 86	2 5 13	2 6 12	-2 -8 -16								2 21 28 74	1 6 2 24	3 27 10 83	
DD DM DMS APD AVD AG		371 20 20 26 5 8	132	503 20 28 26 5 8	74	36	47			55 -4 -3 -9 -2 -22	-17 -4 -4 -1	+11 +12 -11	-30 -4 -10 -11		354 12 23 3 18	47	401 12 23 3 18	
DE LL ADP IX	83	376 39 1	10 41 -	386 80 1	6 41				+35 (+4)	-4 (-35)	-69 (-1) -2	-2 (-3) -1	+1 +16	-16	48	327 93 1	4 - 1	331 93 1
SM SS LL BSS	-	238	64	302	37	18	-24			54	-15			-	206	21	227	
TOTAL	119	1286	341	1627	193	84	128	41	-5	227	43	72	71	78	1246	104	1350	
	(119)	1286	341		193	84	128	41	-5	227	43	72	71	(78)	1246	104		
								+41	-5	(-1)	(-3)			(78)				

Resume'

Building Program

1945

A. Digest - 1945

1. The principal factors affecting shipbuilding during 1945 were the nature and scope of our actual and proposed offensive operations in the Pacific, the favorable progress of the war, the surrender of Germany on 5/8/45, and the "Cease Firing" order in the Pacific on 8/15/45.

These resulted, early in the year, in high precedence for carriers, rocket ships, destroyers, and conversions of DD and DE to picket ships and mine sweepers; in adding 12-CVE to the building program; and in the preparation of Post War Plans as to the size and composition of the Post War Fleet.

The general situation and later developments resulted in the cancellation of 56-combatant ships, suspending 30-others, the establishment of a 40-hour work week with attendant slippage in completion dates, the termination of the Controlled Material Plan by WFB, the abolishment of the London and Washington Munitions Assignment Boards (MAB) affecting Lend Lease, and in the issuing of Demobilization Plans under which a considerable number of ships in excess of Post War needs were stricken for disposal.

2. A proposed 84-combatant vessel Building Program was sent to the President on 1/9/45 and received preliminary favorable consideration, but it was disapproved by the President on 3/22/45 except for 12-CVE.

A planning program for the advancement of type designs and to utilize the experience gained in the war was approved by SecNav on 5/10/45 and comprised 12-ships (1-CV, 4-CL, 4-DD, 3-SS).

3. On 5/4/45 Basic Post War Plan No. 1 was promulgated for planning purposes showing a tentative tabulation by types of the numbers of ships recommended for retention in the Active and Inactive status and the excess for disposal. This was superseded on 12/14/45 by Plan 1-A, also for planning purposes, which showed a total of 1201 combatant ships for retention (including 92-APD, 10-DM, 20-EMS). A Demobilization Schedule based on the Plan was issued by CominCh on 8/25/45 followed by despatches to CinCPac and CinClant with details regarding the various types.

During 1945, 227 excess vessels were stricken for disposal, including 4-old CL, 3-CVE, 55-DD, 69-DE, 54-SS, and 40 ex-DD and 2-DE.

House Concurrent Resolution-80 was passed by the House on 10/30/45 and was referred to the Senate (no action). This resolved that it was the sense of Congress that the Navy of the United States shall consist of not less than 1082-combatant ships of the type and numbers listed with approximate total tonnage of 4,698,900. These numbers agreed with those in P.W. Plan No. 1, the lower number in Plan 1-A being influenced by prospective limitations of appropriations.

Resume'

Building Program

1945

A. Digest - 1945

4. After a review of the building program, on 8/10/45 Cominch recommended cancellation of 56 combatant vessels which was approved by SecNav on 8/11/45.

In connection with proposed reductions in appropriations by the Second Rescission Bill, a further survey of the building program was made, and on 12/15/45 SecNav made provisional recommendations regarding cancellations which resulted in stopping work (directed 1/7/46) on 30 additional combatant ships.

5. The final Precedence directive was issued on 10/8/45, CMO informing BuShips that with the prospective termination of the Controlled Material Plan by WPB and with the building program balanced to accord with current conditions, no further relative precedences between types or units are required. Earlier in the year a modification of the 12/19/44 directive was issued on 4/23/45 to accelerate the completion of 2-CVB, 8-CV, and all DD, and on 6/3/45 a new Precedence directive was issued giving high priority to carriers, rocket ships and conversions to picket ships.

On 8/20/45 General Order 221 rescinded GO-166 of 1/30/42 plus amendments and transferred the powers, duties, etc. of OPRM (including those in connection with controlled material) to the Assistant SecNav and SecNav stated the duties will be performed by an office known as the Office of the Assistant Secretary, Material Division.

On 11/1/45 a Joint BuShips-BuOrd letter to interested activities discontinued the quarterly Master Precedence List.

On 10/1/45 WPB terminated the Controlled Material Plan, although Preference Ratings remained in effect.

6. Regarding Lend Lease, the MAB Washington was abolished as of 11/8/45 and the MAB London on 11/10/45.

On 10/5/45 Cominch informed VCNO that all lend-leased naval vessels are considered surplus to U.S.N. requirements and are to be disposed of on their return to U.S. custody.

B. Factors

1. End of the War.

Germany surrendered 5/8/45.

1945

B. Factors

1. End of the War (Cont.)

"Cease Firing" in the Pacific was directed on 8/15/45. On 8/14/45 Japan declared her acceptance of the terms of the Potsdam Proclamation, the instrument of surrender was presented to Japanese representatives at Manila on 8/19/45, and the formal surrender was signed on board the USS MISSOURI in Tokyo Bay on 9/2/45.

2. Labor

8/15/45. 40-hour week. Alnavsta 07 directed all field activities to reduce work shifts to 8-hours as soon as practicable but not later than 2-weeks from date. The basic work week will be reduced to 40-hours not later than 9/15/45 at which time work in excess of 40 hours shall be authorized only for urgent work or to meet dates of completion established by operating forces. Sunday and holiday work discontinued except for services and real emergencies.

C. New Programs

1. 84-Vessel Program (12-CVE approved).

12/23/44. BuShips informed CominCh that at a conference on 12/22/44 Mr. Vinson (Chairman of the House Naval Affairs Committee) had requested data to show the extent to which production capacity is available to utilize available tonnage in a program to be completed by the end of 1947.

12/23/44. BuShips Memo to CNO enclosed a tabulation showing the ships in the current planning program (36) and additional ships (172) which could be completed by 1/1/48, the total tonnage being 1,235,000 tons of which 747,000 was available.

12/30/44. VCNO Recommendation. VCNO Memo for CominCh Serial 034305 stated Mr. Vinson had raised the question of introducing legislation for 1-million tons of combatant ships, discussed the BuShips tabulations to the effect he did not favor a program utilizing the full capacity of the yards, and enclosed 3-proposals of which he recommended List "C" totalling 102 ships and 754,000 tons. CominCh approved a revised list totalling 84 vessels.

1/3/45. 84-vessels. CNO serial 0035105 to SecNav requested Presidential approval be obtained for a combatant program totalling 84-vessels and 611,000 tons comprising 2-CVB, 6-CV, 12-CVE, 4-CA, 6-CI, 36-DD, 18-SS stating the program includes 8-CVE previously referred to the President on 12/14/44 and that a balance of about 750,000 tons of legislative authorization is available.

1/9/45. SecNav Memo for the President serial 0035005 requested approval.

1/9/45. President Favors Construction. A Memo for SecNav from the Naval Aide to the President stated the Bureau of the Budget could be informed the President favored the construction and authorized SecNav to take it up with the Budget.

1/17/45. The Director of the Budget in a letter to the President suggested a review of the program in consideration of the present size of the Navy and the estimated cost (\$2,800,482,000).

Resume'

BUILDING PROGRAM

1945

C. New Programs

1. 84-Vessel Program (12-CVE approved). (Cont'd.)

2/7/45. Budget approves. A letter from the Director of the Budget to SecNav stated " - - - the proposal contained in your memorandum to the President dated January 8, 1945, is hereby approved - - -".

2/12/45. Bureaus informed. CNO serial 036805 informed the Bureaus of this approval and authorized them to proceed.

3/3/45. Director, Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, in a letter to SecNav stated he had discussed the proposed program with the President and believed it should be re-examined and steps taken to defer construction. He stated he had requested the Director of the Budget to withhold approval of estimates, after a discussion with SecNav.

3/22/45. 12-CVE approved. A letter from the President to SecNav stated he had been advised "there is a real need for the 12-CVE included in the combatant ship program which has been disapproved" and stated he had authorized Justice Byrnes to advise the WPB that materials may be made available for their construction, it to be understood the remaining 72 ships are not to be placed in construction and any contractual commitments are to be cancelled.

3/26/45. Bureaus informed. CNO serial 038905 to cognizant Bureaus cancelled CNO serial 036805 except for 12-CVE.

D. Planning Programs

1. 84-Vessels Program.

dated 1/15/45

CNO serial 035405/informed OP&M and the various bureaus that the 84-Vessel Program recommended for Presidential approval by SecNav Memo of 1/9/45 would be used as a guide in planning facilities and material for additional combatant construction above that now authorized.

2. Proposed 13-Vessel Program.

On 3/26/45 the Sub-CNO conferred with BuShips, BuOrd and others regarding a prospective building program for the development of type designs and VCNO Memo for Cominch, serial 039005, dated 3/27/45 stated a minimum progressive building program was considered imperative to insure advancement in type designs in incorporating changes dictated by war experience and recommended approval of a 13-Vessel program as follows:

2 Carriers, CVM	35,000 tons
3 CL (AA) 5"/54	7,500 tons
4 DD, improved 692 class	3,800 tons
4 SS	1,800 tons

Building Program

1945

D. Planning Program

2. Proposed 13-Vessel Program (Cont.)

On 5/10/45 SecNav letter to the General Board, BuShips, BuOrd, BuAer authorized the development of characteristics, plans and designs for 12-vessels (1-CV, 4-CL(AA), 4-DD, 3-SS) stating this authority does not include construction of ships, procurement of material, or manufacture of components.

E. Post War Plans

1. Post War Plan No. 1.

3/3/45. CominCh serial 0604 to SecNav (Doc. 167675) submitted a basis for the preparation of post war plans which he recommended for approval. This was endorsed "approved" on 3/15/45 by SecNav.

4/1/45. CominCh serial 00806 to SecNav enclosed a tabulated summary of vessels and craft by classes or types now available, the requirements for the post war fleet, and the excess, stating the study was in accord with his letter of 3/3/45. This was approved by SecNav on 4/5/45.

4/12/45. CNO serial 003650-D (Doc. 163871) promulgated CominCh letter of 4/1/45 to holders of Navy Basic Demobilization Plan No. 2 and stated Navy Basic Post War Plan No. 1 is in process of preparation.

4/25/45. CNO serial 00184723 requested BuShips-BuOrd jointly compile, for demobilization and post-war planning, a tentative list of ships recommended for retention in the Active and Inactive status as well as those in Excess to be disposed of. The list was required by 7/1/45 with quarterly revisions to start 9/30/45.

5/4/45. CominCh serial 001132 to VCNO (Doc. 167675) stated CominCh letters of 4/1/45, 3/3/45 and 001056 of 4/27/45 are the essence of Post War Plans and the first two and essential portions of the third may be promulgated to appropriate planning agencies as Basic Post War Plan No. 1 so that subsidiary and demobilization plans may be expedited.

2. Post War Plan 1-A

12/14/45. CNO serial 097440 to Distribution List enclosed revisions to Basic Post War Plan No. 1, changed the title to Basic Post War Plan No. 1-A, and stated it will be used for planning purposes in lieu of Plan No. 1. This listed a total of 1201 combatant ships for retention (including 92-APD, 10-DM, 20-DMS).

Resume

Building Program

1945

E. Post War Plans

3. Demobilization Schedule

8/25/45. CominCh serial 02513 to Distribution List enclosed a copy of the Demobilization Schedule, for information, stating it had been sent separately to CinCLant and CinCPac for planning purposes by his serial 02495 dated 8/24/45, and that the assignment of individual units would be issued separately. The enclosure provided for gradual changes up to 6/15/46.

CominCh despatches later specified the ultimate dispositions by units of the various types.

4. House Concurrent Resolution-80.

(a) On 8/25/45 SecNav approved a draft of a proposed House Concurrent Resolution as to the composition of the U.S. Navy by types and numbers.

(b) 10/30/45. House Concurrent Resolution 80 passed the House on 10/30/45 and was referred to the Senate on 11/1/45. This resolves that it is the sense of Congress that the Navy of the United States shall consist of not less than the following types and numbers:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Approximate Tonnage</u>
3	CVB	135,000
24	CV	650,000
10	CVL	117,000
79	CVE	725,000
18	BB	665,000
3	CB	82,500
31	CA	403,000
48	CL	450,000
367	DD	760,000
300	DE	387,000
199	SS	314,000
<u>1,082</u>		<u>4,698,900</u>

F. Cancellations

56-Combatant Vessels Cancelled 8/11/45

1-BB BB-65
10-CA CA 125-129, 137, 138, 142, 143, 149
10-CL CL-94, 108-111, 116-118, 146, 147
2-CV CV-35, 46
16-CVE CVE 124-139
11-DD DD 809-816, 854-856
6-SS SS-427, 428, 491-494.

Resume'

Building Program

1945

F. Cancellation (Continued)

56 - Combatant Vessels Cancelled 8/11/45.

1. Cancellation. SecNav letter to CominCh dated 7/24/45 requested advice on what part of the shipbuilding program could prudently be terminated now and requested a continuing study be made in concert with BuShips and suggested stopping all construction which cannot be completed during 1946 except possibly some cruiser types. He stated OP&M had been requested to study dollar values that would be saved by cutting off construction at various stages.

On 8/7/45 BuShips submitted a list of 53 vessels to CNO whose cancellation would give the greatest reduction in expenditure with minimum effect on industry, and CominCh on 8/7/45 recommended to SecNav these be cancelled stating approximately \$419,500,000 would be saved if cancelled by 9/1/45.

On 8/10/45 OP&M in a Memo to SecNav recommended a cut-back of 95-ships (56-combatant, 39-auxiliaries) to make the greatest possible savings while giving consideration to keeping essential shipyards in operation. CominCh serial 02366 dated 8/10/45 to SecNav recommended cancellation which SecNav approved, on 8/11/45. CNO serial 041905 dated 8/11/45 directed BuShips terminate the contracts.

2. Reinstating 5-Cruisers not Approved. Reinstating two double-purpose CL (CL-146, 147) and three rapid-firing CA (CA-142, 143, 149) was strongly recommended by BuShips, the General Board, CominCh and SecNav but the recommendations were returned by the President without approval on 11/20/45.

3. Deferment of Contract Termination of 15 ships. BuShips letter of CNO dated 9/1/45 recommended deferment of contract termination and modified disposition of 15 of the 56-ships which was concurred in by the General Board on 10/2/45 and by CominCh on 10/16/45 in a Memo to the SecNav. The recommendations in effect were that CL-146, 147 and CA-142, 143, 149 be completed for the Fleet, that CA-125 be completed as a prototype AGC, that CV-35, CL 108-110, 116 and SS-427, 428 be launched and held for A-bomb tests, that BB-65 be held 'as-is' subject to later disposition.

BuShips on 12/29/45 modified its letter of 9/1/45 and recommended CL-94, 109, 110, 116 and CA-125 be scrapped due to cost of launching them in condition to be of value for underwater explosive tests, stated CV-35, CL-108, SS-427, 428 were being launched as hulks for underwater explosive tests, that material for CL-146, 147 and CA-142, 143, 149 was being disposed of, and further recommendations would be made re BB-65 (as BB-AA). The above recommendations were approved by CNO on 1/21/45 except that decision on CA-125 was withheld pending recommendations regarding completing as an AGC.

Building Program1945F. Cancellations56-Combatant Ships Cancelled 8/11/45 (Cont.)4. Proposal to Cancel-18 to Reinstate-5.

On 10/1/45 Cominch serial 002259 reported to SecNav a recent survey indicated several larger combatant ships of the Reserve Fleet could be disposed of with safety and profit (BB-42, 40; CA-27, 28, 31, 33; 2-CVL, 10-CVE) and on 10/8/45 suggested the proposed disposals be referred to the President as more than counterbalancing the 5-cruisers whose reinstatement was desired. This was recommended to the President on 11/2/45, but was not approved.

5. The net effect was that all 84-ships remained cancelled.

G. Proposed Cancellation. 4-DD4-DD (720, 721, 768, 769) Proposed.

On 11/21/45 BuShips discussed the DD-program, particularly delays at Bethlehem SF and Federal yards, and recommended 4-DD above be cancelled if needs can be met without them. This was recommended by CNO and approved by SecNav 12/4/45, but in 1946 they were finally placed in an 'as-is' status due to their high percentage of completion.

H. Construction Stopped - 30 Ships.1. Provisional Cancellations.

On 12/3/45 the Director of War Mobilization and Conversion asked SecNav for a Memo showing all vessels under construction 8/1/45 with estimated completion dates, percentage of completion, and the savings that would result if contracts were cancelled. BuShips prepared the report which SecNav forwarded to Mr. Snyder on 12/15/45 stating a careful review of the program, to determine what Budget reductions could be included in the Second Rescission Bill, showed that all vessels under construction are scheduled to fill post war requirements and additional cancellations can be justified only on the basis that appropriations will be forthcoming permitting substitution of replacement vessels. If this policy is approved the Navy Department can concur in recommending 37-additional cancellations (30-combatant) with an estimated savings of \$138,488,559 and the loss of \$244,432,206 already invested in these vessels. The 37-vessels included:

1-CVL, 2-CVE, 1-CA, 1-CL, 13-DD, 4-DE, 8-SS.

He further stated the Navy plans to request authorization to complete BB-66 as an experimental prototype BB(AA).

Resume'

Building Program

1945

H. Construction Stopped - 30 Ships

1. Provisional Cancellations. (Cont.)

Mr. Snyder on 12/21/45 informed SecNav he understood construction would immediately be cancelled on the 37-ships and that he supported and approved the cancellation as well as the suspension and conversion of BB-66.

2. Construction Stopped

SecNav on 1/6/46 informed Mr. Snyder that in view of his letter of 12/21/45, construction would be stopped, but invited attention to the contingent clause in his letter of 12/15/45, and stated in view of the uncertainty of future appropriations and to preserve the investment in the partly completed ships, SecNav intends to keep those vessels already launched or presently ready for launching in an 'as-is' condition when work is stopped, so they can be finished later or held for experimental purposes or scrapped later. Regarding BB-66 completion involves considerations of such magnitude it is considered necessary to request Congressional sanction for the change.

CNO serial 25P09 dated 1/7/46 directed construction be stopped and requested BuShips to recommend vessels for retention.

SecNav letter to Mr. Snyder dated 1/25/46 stated his proposal to scrap 22 of the 37-vessels and to retain 15-'as-is' was opposed by the House Naval Affairs Committee which requested reconsideration of the proposed reduction with a view to reinstating those in which the Government's investment would exceed the savings by cancellation. He asked confirmation of an agreement between CNO and Mr. Cummings of Mr. Snyder's office to scrap 8 (including CA-141, DD-452, 482, DE-541, 542, SS-516) and complete the remaining 29 ships, but this was not received.

The ships on which construction was stopped 1/6/46 were:

1 CVL-49 2 CVE-121, 123 1 CA-141 1 CL-121
13 DD-452, 482, 719-721, 766-769, 791, 824, 825, 827
4 DE 539-542
8 SS-416, 436, 437, 523, 490, 516, 524, 525.

Regarding the 30-ships stopped, there was considerable correspondence early in 1946, the final action being decided in June 1946 by an amendment to P.I. 391 which directed completion of all vessels which were 20% or more complete on 3/1/46.

Resume'

Building Program

1945

I. Other Changes

(a) Conversions, 12-DM and 24-DMS Needed.

3/30/45. CinCPac despatch 300756 to CominCh stated there were no needs for additional DM and DMS beyond the current program of 12-DM and 24-DMS. He recommended old DM and DMS be reclassified to DD and overhauls be limited to that necessary to fit them for service in the rear areas for training purposes, or high speed targets, etc. He suggested 6-sets of conversion gear for DD to become DM and DMS be provided on the West Coast. CominCh approved and directed the old ships be reclassified AG.

(b) Scrapping old DD (1200 ton)

5/9/45. CominCh approved CinCLant recommendations regarding limiting repairs on old DD scheduled for scrapping when the submarine warfare ceases in the Atlantic, and directed the 12 in best condition be selected for retention as AG for training purposes.

5/28/45. CominCh directed CinCLant to have all DD (1200 ton), except 10 for conversion to AG, report to CNO for disposal.

(c) 12-DD, 20-DE Conversion to Picket Boats.

5/24/45. CominCh Memo to VCNO serial 01495 designated 12-DD and 20-DE for conversion to picket boats as authorized in CominCh 111808 (May) and 201552 (May).

J. Legislation

1. Specific funds before Awards.

BuShips on 4/25/45 requested CNO action to modify a provision of the House Appropriation Committee Report 424 dated 4/17/45 on the 1946 appropriation bill (HR2907) which states regarding new construction that, "...the Committee shall expect that no additional construction of combatant vessels shall be undertaken in advance of specific provision of funds therefor". CNO, on 4/30/45, requested the Committee to accept, in lieu of the above, a requirement that the clearance of the Sub-Committee be obtained before contracts were placed, to which Mr. Sheppard replied he could conceive of no disadvantage in requesting funds in advance rather than making commitments and later seeking augmentation of existing funds, stating should a need develop a joint resolution could be put through in a matter of days.

Resume'

Building Program

1945

K. Lend Lease

1. Disposals

10/5/45. CominCh serial 02842 Memo for VCNO stated all naval vessels Lend-Leased to foreign countries are considered surplus to USN requirements and directed necessary action to effect their disposal as they are returned to U.S. custody.

2. MAB Washington and London abolished.

11/9/45. MBW 129 quoted from CCS 19/3 to the effect that the President and the Prime Minister agreed that the purpose for which MAB's in Washington and London were created have been fulfilled and MAB Washington and sub-committees shall be abolished as of 11/8/45, and the London MAB shall be abolished as of 11/10/45.

3. 4-DE Lend-Leased

2-DE were leased to Brazil, 2-DE were loaned to China.

4. 41-LL returned

6-CVE and 35-DE were returned by U.K.

L. Summary of Changes - 1945.

193 Completed	8-CA, 7-CL, 2-CVB, 5-CV, 13-CVE, 74-DD, 6-DE, 41-APD, 37-SS
84 Added	4-CA, 6-CL, 2-CVB, 6-CV, 12-CVE, 36-DD, 18-SS
128 Cancelled	14-CA, 16-CL, 2-CVB, 8-CV, 16-CVE, 47-DD, 24-SS
5 Lend Leased	1-CL to USSR taken up; 4-DE (2 to Brazil, 2 loaned China)
41 LL Returned	6-CVE, 35-DE
43 Lost	1-CA, 2-CVE, 17-DD, 4-DMS, 2-APD, 2-DE, 15-SS
227 Stricken for Disposal	
72 Reclassed	55 in DD group, 17 in DE group.

CHANGES 1/1/46 - 7/1/46

	1/1/46				CHANGES								7/1/46				
	LL	HAVE	BLOG	TOTAL	COND. #0	ADD		LL		STRUCK		RECLASS		LL	HAVE	BLOG	TOTAL
						CANCEL	-	+	-	DISP	LOSS	+	-				
BB AG IX AG		23 (1) (1) (1)	1	24									-1		22 (1) (1) (1)	1	23
CA CB CL		24 2 45	9 1 8	33 3 33	2		-2								26 2 44	5 1 4	31 3 48
LL (1)					4					-5				(1)			
CVB CV CVL CVE		2 21 8 79	1 5 2 4	3 27 10 83	4										2 25 8 70	1 2 2 1	3 27 10 71
LL BAVG	27 2				3			+20 (20)		-32 (1)				7 1			
DD DM DMS APO AYO AG		354 12 23 5 3 18	47 1 1 1 1 1	401 13 23 5 4 18	24		-2			-3 -2 -3 -3 -3					375 10 20 1 7	21 1 1 1 1	396 10 20 1 7
DE LL APD IX	48	327 93 1	4 1 1	331 93 1			-2	+26 (26)		-56 (-1) -1 -1				21	297 92 1	2 1 1	299 92 1
BN BS LL BSS		206	21	227	9		-1			-3					212	11	223
	78	1246	104	1350	46		-7	+46		125		+1	-1	30	1213	51	1264
		1246	104		+26 -46		-7	+46		125		+1	-1		1213	51	
	78							46		(2)				30			

Building Program

1946

A. Digest 1/1/46--7/1/46

(a) The factors affecting shipbuilding in the first half of 1946 were, first - economy, and second - future needs.

The shortage of money (with attendant labor reductions) resulted in reducing the proposed Post War Fleet by 110-combatant vessels; in a legislative restriction that no new construction be laid down during the year ending June 30, 1947; in the cancellation of 7-combatant ships; in laying up in an 'as-is' status 18 uncompleted ships (11-DD, 7-SS) whose completion was authorized; in deferring the conversion of 2-cancelled ships (1-BB, 1-CA) to prototypes; and in slipping of completion dates of ships under construction.

For the future, Basic Post War Plan No. 2 was issued, and for 1948 legislation a program covering new construction, conversions and design studies was prepared with attendant Material Improvement and Development Plans.

(b) Legislation which materially affecting shipbuilding included HR-6496, the Navy Appropriation Bill for 1947, approved 7/3/46 which considerably reduced the expected appropriation, and also had a proviso that the balance remaining of appropriations under IRNV shall not be available for beginning the construction of any new vessel during fiscal 1947. Another Act, HR-5604, the second Rescission Bill, approved 5/27/46 as PL-391, had a proviso amending PL-301 to the extent that combatant vessels under construction on 3/1/46 whose percentage of construction exceeded 20% on that date will be completed. This decided several controversies between the Navy-Bureau of the Budget-Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion re cancellations.

(c) Various Planning Programs were approved for improving the design and for experimental work on specific types of combatant vessels.

(d) Regarding cancellations, the 30-combatant ships, whose cancellation in 1945 was suggested on a contingent basis and which were suspended on 1/6/46, were affected by Budget Reductions and by HR-5604, the net result being that 6 were restored for completion (CVL-49, CVE-121, 123, CL-121, DE-539, 540), 6 were cancelled (CA-141, DE-541, 542, DD-452, 482, SS-516) and 18 were retained 'as-is' (6-SS, 12-DD); also the conversion of BB-66 to a BB(AA) and of CA-125 to AGC was continued under consideration. Another proposed curtailment, drawn up as a result of the Budget Limitations and which called for scrapping 3-cruisers and placing 12 other ships of various types in an 'as-is' condition, also was affected by HR-5604, the net result being that CA-140 was cancelled.

The total cancellations were 2-CA, 2-DD, 2-DE, 1-SS. The 18 ships in an 'as-is' status were placed under the jurisdiction of District Commandants for berthing and maintenance.

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B. Changes, 1/1/46 - 7/1/46

46 - completed	2-CA, 4-CL, 4-CV, 3-CVE, 24-DD, 9-SS
7 - cancelled	2-CA, 2-DD, 2-DE, 1-SS
46-LL returned by UK	20-CVE, 26-DE
125 - stricken for disposal	5-CL, 32-CVE, 3-DD, 24-ex-DD, 56-DE, 2-ex-DE, 3-SS
1 - reclassified	BB-41 to AG-128.

C. New Construction

(1) None in Fiscal 1947

7/3/46. HR-6496, the Navy Appropriation Bill, approved 7/8/46 as PL-492 provides that the balance remaining of appropriations under IRNV shall not be available for beginning the construction of any new vessel during the fiscal year 1947.

(2) 1948-Program

7/11/46. The Ship Characteristics Board serial 094P04B to Distribution List enclosed joint DCNO recommendations covering items for construction, items for conversion, items for design study, and items for further consideration.

7/13/46. CNO serial 032P04 to SecNav recommended funds for the fiscal year 1948 he requested to initiate the building, conversion and design studies set forth in the above Joint DCNO recommendations.

7/19/46. SecNav endorsed his approval.

(3) Material Improvement Program for Ships

5/29/46. Op-34 Memo for CNO serial 0347P34 discussed the need for extensive improvements to ships in fiscal 1948 and made specific recommendations for items to be included in the 1948 budget in order of precedence.

7/16/46. CNO serial 034P04 to SecNav enclosed the Material Improvement Plan, 1948, covering vessels and other items, and stated the program will be under continued scrutiny and review in OpNav.

7/20/46. CNO serial 040P41 to Distribution List promulgated the 7/16/46 above for use in planning and preparing estimates for the 1943 Budget.

(4) Development Program 1948

7/15/46. CNO serial 0032P416 to SecNav enclosed a copy of the Development Plan 1948, which was approved by SecNav 7/17/46 for Budgetary and Legislative Planning, and promulgated to the Bureaus by CNO serial 0037P416.

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D. Planning Programs.

(1) Design Program - Status. BuShips letter to CIG, file C-sl-1(1), C-FS/AS-1, dated 2/8/46 showed the status of the design program covering CV, CL(AA), DD, SS.

(2) Carrier Study. CNO Memo to Op-04, 05, serial 09P09 directed Op-05 proceed with the design study of bombers to be coordinated with carrier study by Op-04, and also directed Op-04 to conduct a preliminary design study of the new class carrier and to make a progress report by 6/15/46.

(3) BB-66 as BE(AA). CNO serial 25F09 to BuShips dated 1/7/46 stated BB-66 is to be completed as an anti-aircraft battleship and that the Ship Characteristics Board is conducting the study of changes in characteristics.

(4) 2-SS, Experimental.

(a) 1/9/46. CNO serial 009P414 to SecNav enclosed various letters and recommended transmittal to the General Board for early consideration and recommendation. In effect the correspondence proposed commencing the design and upon completion of plans, the building of at least 2-SS of the characteristics shown.

(b) 2/6/46. General Board file 420-15 serial 280 to SecNav recommended the design and construction of 2 experimental SS, embodying general characteristics listed, be initiated without delay.

(c) 3/5/46. SecNav serial 00103P414 to General Board approved the above and directed CNO to implement the program.

(d) 3/8/46. CNO serial 00114P414 to BuShips directed a preliminary design study of the 2-SS, the results to be submitted to the General Board and CNO with a view towards an initial post war building program. It also directed the development of new and improved submarine propulsion and continued development of Schnorchel with initial installation in 10-presently active SS.

(e) 6/14/46. CNO serial 3613P414 to SecNav (JAG) stated SecNav had approved a construction program for experimental-SS and requested JAG draft appropriate legislation for transmittal to Congress.

(5) Material Improvement Program for Ships

This is discussed above under New Construction.

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E. Post War Plans

(a) House Discussion. The Congressional Record of 5/23/46 stated the House passed HR-6496, Navy Appropriation Bill, 1947, after considerable discussion including statements by Mr. Sheppard to the effect that the Navy was placed on a cash basis by repealing 147 million dollars in contractual authority and disallowing (BuAer) 275 million; that the Navy's original estimates were based on Plan 1-A which would give an average of 542,000 enlisted and 83,500 officers for the fiscal year and an active fleet of 319 major combatant ships, 73 in reserve, 867 inactive; that Plan-2 based on a 2-billion dollar reduction would give an average of 500,000 enlisted, 58,000 officers, an active fleet of 291-ships with 42 in reserve and 632 inactive or a total of 965; and that this Bill allows 350 million for construction of combatant ships 20 % or more complete and a total of 4.6 billion which would allow completion of 72 combatant ships over 20% complete of which many can replace some of the 950 on hand.

Mr. Vinson commented to the effect that House Concurrent Resolution-80 which passed the House 10/30/45 showed the intent of Congress for the Navy to have 1079 combatant ships. The Navy Budget was based on 1079 and they are given 965 because the Director of the Budget says 965 not 1079. Mr. Vinson suggested 1045, i.e. 1079 less 34 not built or for tests.

(b) Basic Post War Plan No. 2.

3/21/46. CNO serial 051P001 to Distribution List enclosed Basic P.W. Plan 2 for use in planning purposes in lieu of Plan 1-A. It is based on a personnel strength of 50,700 officers and 437,000 men, and will require changes if the authorized strength of the Navy as finally determined by Congress differs materially from the above figures.

(c) PL-347, Authorized Personnel.

4/19/46. A1Nav 189 re PL-347 enacted 4/18/46 stated in effect the new authorized strength of the Navy and Marine Corps, exclusive of commissioned warrant and warrant officers is:

Enlisted - Navy 500,000; Marines 100,000.
Officers - Navy Line 35,000, Supply 4200, Medical 4315,
Dental 1320, Civil Engineer 700, Chaplains 531,
Marine Corps 7000.

(d) Logistic Support Plan No. 1.

6/20/46. CNO serial 0109P001 to Distribution List stated Basic Post War Plan 1-A has been superseded by P.W. Plan 2 which is currently effective, the basis for completion of interim Logistic

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E. Post War Plans

(d) Logistic Support Plan No. 1 (Cont.)

Support Plans required by 7/1/46 will continue to be BFWF-1A, and the basis for completion of final Logistic Support Plan No. 1 shall be the currently effective Basic Plan.

(e) BuShips Subsidiary P.W. Plan.

2/4/46. BuShips requested approval of a revised Part II (New Construction) Subsidiary Post War Plan - Ships, but on 6/7/46 CNO requested further revision in view of recent discussions re new programs in connection with the 1948 Budget.

F. 30-Suspended Ships - Final Action.

(1) Of the 36 combatant ships whose construction was stopped on 1/6/46 by order of the SecNav, the net result of action taken during 1946 was the decision to complete -6 (CVL-49, CVE-121, 123, CL-121, DE-539, 540), to dispose of 6 (CA-141, DE-541, 542, DD-452, 482, SS-516) and retain 18 'as-is' (6-SS, 12-DD).

(2) The previous history, shown in the 1945 Resume', was to the following effect. In response to a request for data on shipbuilding in connection with Budget Reductions in the Second Rescission Bill from Mr. Snyder, the Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion, SecNav on 12/15/45 recommended 36-cancellations on the contingent basis that appropriations will be forthcoming permitting substitution of replacement vessels. Mr. Snyder replied on 12/21/45 that he understood the construction of 37-vessels would be cancelled immediately which he supported and approved, but said nothing about future replacements. SecNav, on 1/6/46, informed Mr. Snyder construction would be stopped, but in view of the uncertainty of future appropriations and to preserve the investment already made, SecNav intends to keep those vessels already launched or ready for launching in an 'as-is' condition when work is stopped, so they can be held for future disposition. CNO serial 25P09 dated 1/7/46 directed construction be stopped and requested BuShips recommend those for retention. Various conversations were held with WMR representatives and a conference held with House Naval Affairs Committee. On 1/25/46 SecNav informed Mr. Snyder the House Naval Affairs Committee opposed Mr. Snyder's proposal to scrap 22 vessels and retain 15 (37 vessels includes auxiliaries).

(3) On 1/30/46 BuShips Memo to various BuShips sections stated that as a result of a conference between SecNav-CNO-WMR-House Naval Affairs Committee the following action is to be taken re the 37-ships (BB-66 included):

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F. 30-Suspended Ships - Final Action (Cont.)

<u>6-Stop, Surplus</u>	<u>6-Complete</u>	<u>18 Stop-Not Surplus</u>
CA-141	CVL-49	DD 719-721, 766-769
DD-452, 482	CVE-121, 123	DD-791, 824, 825, 827
DE-541, 542	CL-121	SS-416, 436, 437, 490
SS-516	DE-539, 540	SS-523, 525.

BB-66 to be continued to point from which later it can convert to BB(AA).

(a) On 2/15/46 BuShips requested CNO letter of 1/7/46 directing construction on 36-vessels be stopped, be modified to correspond to the above. This was deferred on account of developments in connection with HR-5604.

(4) On 3/15/46 CNO letter to SecNav regarding curtailment due to Budget Limitations (discussed below under 'D') included recommendations to 'as-is' CVL-49, BB-66, DE-539, 540 which was approved by SecNav 3/21/46.

(5) On 6/10/46 CNO serial 139P41 to SecNav recommended the 3/15/46 letter be amended in view of Public Law 391 (re vessels over 20% complete) to allow completion of CVL-49, CVE-121, CL-121, DE-539, 540, which was endorsed approved by SecNav. 123

G. Budget Limitations, CA-140 Cancelled.

(a) A Memo for SecNav from the Director, Budget and Reports dated 2/20/46 stated information from the Bureau of the Budget was to the effect that the Navy 1947 Budget would be limited to 4-billion dollars, which regarding shipbuilding meant cancellation of all current shipbuilding except one of each prototype (8 total). Ships 90% complete on 1 March will be completed, those between 50% and 90% will be completed to the extent they can be launched, and those under 50% will be cancelled.

(b) CNO Comment. CNO serial 1894P414 of 3/15/46 to SecNav enclosed a summary of vessels under construction 3/1/46 less than 90% complete and stated that from a review of the program with a view to meeting Budget reduction in INRV funds for 1947, the following curtailment could be accepted without unacceptable reductions in the Navy's ability to carry out its national obligations and would result in a savings of 126 millions in INRV funds.

Scrap - 3 (CL-145, CA-139, 140)
As-Is -12 (CB-3, BB-66, CL-83, 93, CVL-49, SS-296, DE-539, 540, DD-762-765.)

The above was approved by SecNav on 3/21/46 and promulgated by CNO on 3/22/46. BuShips, on verbal instructions from SecNav suspended the 3 instead of scrapping and laid-up the 12 'as-is'.

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G. Budget Limitations, CA-140 Cancelled. (Cont.)

(c) Complete all except CA-140. CNO serial 139P41 to SecNav dated 6/10/46 referred to PL-391 re completing vessels over 20% along, and recommended the letter of 3/15/46 above be modified to allow the completion of all the vessels except the DALLAS, CA-140, which was 10.7% complete on 3/1/46. This was approved by SecNav.

H. H.R.-5604

(a) HR-5604, the Second Rescission Bill was passed by the House on 3/14/46 and referred to the Senate Appropriation Committee. On 4/8/46 it passed the Senate with a proviso under "Increase and Replacement Naval Vessels, Emergency Construction" which amended PL-301 to the extent that combatant vessels under construction on 3/1/46 whose percentage of construction exceeded 20% on that date will be completed. On 5/9/46 the House concurred in the amendment by a vote of 303 to 14 and it was returned and passed by the Senate.

(b) On 5/27/46 HR-5604 was approved by the President as PL-391.

(c) On 6/6/46 Op-04 Memo to Op-09 discussed the effect of HR-5604 and asked instructions re CA-148 (NEWPORT NEWS) which was 16.2% on 3/1/46. Op-09 endorsed this CA-148 will be completed. (See #75 in Op-41 Pink files #19.)

I. Miscellaneous

(a) Targets for Crossroads.

1/25/46. BuShips despatch 252300 to shipyards and ships designated 33-combatant ships among those selected as targets for Crossroads operations approved by the President on 1/10/46. Included were:

BB-33, 34, 36, 38	CA-24, 25
CV-3	8- SS
CVL-22	17-DD

Later 2-BB (40, 42) and 14 more DD were designated for tests.

(b) Disposition of CA-125 (NORTHAMPTON).

CA-125 was included among the vessels recommended for disposal on 8/10/45 but ComInCh and the General Board considered it should be completed as a prototype AGO. On 3/26/46 BuShips informed CNO that a study indicated conversion is practicable at a cost of about 15-million dollars but since Congressional approval and appropriation would be required BuShips recommended abandonment of the project. CNO End-1 to SecNav dated 4/24/46 recommended CA-125 be held for the present, planning continue for completion as a joint expeditionary force flagship (with facilities for alternate use as a fleet flagship) and that

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I. Miscellaneous

(b) Disposition of CA-125 (NORTHAMPTON) (Cont)

her completion be considered when funds become available for resumption of shipbuilding. This was approved by SecNav 4/20/46 and promulgated to BuShips by CNO serial 037P41 on 6/7/46.

(c) BB-66 (KENTUCKY). CNO letter to SecNav 803 18 75 recommended BB-66 be maintained 'as-is' for possible future construction, which the SecNav approved 3/21/46.

(d) BB-41 reclassified AG-128.

9/5/45. CominCh serial 7114 directed BB-41 (MISSISSIPPI) be reclassified to relieve the WYOMING AG-17 as gunnery training and experimental ship. This change was made early in 1946.

(e) As-Is Vessels (11-DD, 7-SS).

(1) Placed under District Commandants.

5/23/46. Op-40 Memo for Op-411, serial 1121P40 discussed additional berthing requirements and stated the building of 11-DD and 7-SS has been suspended - they are to be accepted 'as-is' for future consideration - the hulks are not included in P.W. Plan No. 2, but berthing will be required if designated for retention.

6/4/46. Op-41 Memo to Op-03 serial 127P41 requested the future disposition of the 11-DD and 7-SS in view of the decision not to assign them to inactive fleets. The ships have been sealed off at the main decks, main propulsion machinery has been installed, and all possible equipment and material from building yards has been placed on board. Op-03 Memo 48P03 of 6/12/43 stated he cannot agree to include District Commandants in the chain of command of the Inactive Fleet, or to assign uncompleted vessels to the Inactive Fleets. The net result was that District Commandants were charged with the berthing and maintenance of uncompleted vessels.

(2) DD-766-769

6/24/46. BuShips recommended to CNO as against the present 'as-is' program that the hulks for DD-766, 767 be completed only as required to launch and tie up as bare hulks, and that DD-768, 769 be scrapped on the ways, and that the completed components for the 4-hulls be assimilated into the Bureaus' material stocks. Reasons given are that little work has been done on the hulks and this procedure would cost \$599,000 as against \$2,857,000 for presently proposed procedure. On 6/27/46 Op-04 serial 3895P414 to Op-03 recommended approval.

Lend Lease and Transfer

Building Program

1946

J. Assistance to Foreign Countries

(a) Assistance to foreign countries involving ships was approved by Congress as shown below:

7/16/46. Assistance to China, HR-5356 was approved as PL-492.

7/26/46. Assistance to the Philippines, HR-6572 approved as PL-454.

Assistance to South America, pending.

Building Program

A. Status 1/1/42

1. The records show that on 1/1/42 we had 396 combatant ships on hand and 698 on order or a total of 1094. In addition 59 ships had been authorized but had not been placed on order (9-AVG, 43-DD, 7-SS). The ships on hand included 139 overage (6-BB, 2-CL, 73-DD, 58-SS, 1-AVG (now CVE)).

The ships building included 300-DE originally destined for transfer to U.K. most of which were retained by the U.S.

2. The shipyards were very active with the two-ocean program, tonnage for which was provided in the 70% Expansion Act approved 7/19/40 comprising an additional 1,325,000 tons of combatant ships. Other Acts under which construction was proceeding are discussed under Tab 8, and copies or pertinent extracts from these Acts are shown in a separate pamphlet.

3. In the succeeding pages the building program is discussed by calendar years under three general captions, viz.: Factors Affecting Shipbuilding, New Programs, and Changes in Current Programs.

Building Program.

B. Factors Affecting Shipbuilding - 1942.

1. Escorts for Convoys.

5/1/42. A directive from the President covering priority of naval construction stated the objective in 1942 should provide for completion of those vessels which can be commissioned prior to 7/1/43 with lower priority to those completing later except for ships of light category designed for convoy protection, and for submarines which can be completed during calendar 1943.

6/22/42. In CCS 80/2 the Combined Staff Planners stated in effect to the Combined Chiefs of Staff that sinkings by Axis submarines in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans are sufficient to require escorts for convoys and estimated 1015 additional escorts were needed (DD, DE, PC, CGC, Yachts, etc.) and gave statistics on U.S. and U.K. needs and availabilities.

6/24/42. Accelerating DE and BDE program. VCNO Memo to CominCh, OP-11M-23/APC stated deliveries of escorts could be accelerated, as recommended by BuShips, by modifying 183 ships (50-BDE and 133-DE) now under contract to provide propulsion plants of half power or 6000 SHP to give 20 knots speed, no change to be made in the steam powered turbo electric DE to be completed with 12,000 SHP giving 24 knots.

This was approved by CominCh endorsement of 6/25/42 and VCNO serial 0214323-A dated 6/29/42 authorized BuShips to make the change.

7/23/42. Strategic Pool for A/S Craft. VCNO Memo for President stated he considered the allocation of A/S craft to a strategic pool should await the return of Adm. King, but if action is necessary sooner he considers the area assignment of A/S craft (whether U.S. Or U.K.) can best be decided by the U.C.S.

7/9/42. HR-7184. (100-DD, 420-DE). This Act, approved 7/9/42, authorized 900,000 tons for DD and DE.

(a) 8/12/42. The President approved the 690-vessel building program which included 100-DD and 420-DE.

(b) 8/14/42. SecNav. serial 0267127-A directed BuShips proceed with construction.

8/19/42. BAD re Acceleration. Adm. Patterson, R.N. letter 221/42 to VCNO referred to the agreement that U.S. Chiefs of Staff would be responsible for increasing and accelerating the escort vessel program, stated the program in England is kept at maximum capacity, and requested our plans for increasing the program.

(a) 8/22/42. VCNO serial 0279123-A to BAD stated the ship-building capacity is being used to the maximum consistent with the supply of raw materials and construction of more is out of the question. Stated deliveries had been speeded by reducing speed of some DE and

Building Program

B. Factors Affecting Shipbuilding - 1942:

1. Escorts for Convoys (Cont.)

the only possibility of increases would be by elimination of other types.

10/17/42. JCS Recommendations. A Memo for the President from JCS stated in effect merchant ships are being destroyed faster than they can be built, enemy-SS are being built faster than they can be destroyed, that it is estimated there will be a combined U.S. - U.K. shortage of 1000-escort vessels on 4/1/43. that all plans for offensive operations in progress and proposed are hampered and limited by escort shortages, and recommended an Executive Order that 310-escorts be produced in 1943, viz.: 260-DE by the Navy and 70 corvettes by the Maritime Commission. Priorities should not interfere with aircraft Carriers scheduled for 1943-1944, other escorts including DD, Cruisers scheduled for 1943-44, Landing Craft completions to clear ways for escorts, Tankers, and Submarines.

(a) 10/30/42. The President informed WFB (Mr. Nelson) he was anxious to get 260-DE scheduled by the Navy for 1943 and 50-70 Corvettes being scheduled by Mar-Com and added, "The materials for both of these programs must be provided".

10/19/42. 80-DE Awards. BuShips ltr to SecNav via OPM and CNO stated to insure 260-DE completions in 1943 the Bureau considers it advisable to make 80 new awards, DE 721-800, utilizing tonnage from the Act of 7/9/42. Since the majority of the 720 escorts (BDE AND DE) already authorized have been awarded and it is expected production of this type will continue through 1944. The Bureau intends to schedule about 300 completions in 1943 and to attain a rate of 40/month by 1944.

(a) 10/21/42. CominCh End-2, serial 0450223-A recommended approval.

(b) 10/22/42. SecNav approved above.

10/24/42. British Shortages. CCS 118/1 states the representatives of the British Chief of Staff feel the shortage of Escort Vessels in the U.S. and British Fleets, are so serious as to justify indicating the situation to the CCS as it may be in March 1944. The list included:

Ordered by U.K. in U.S.	$\frac{CV}{0}$	$\frac{ACV}{28}$	$\frac{DE}{300}$
March 1944, U.K. shortages if all ordered are assigned.	11	20	237.

The Memo stated U.K. shortages will be greater than indicated above since a proportion of the "U.S. for U.K." program will be assigned to the U.S.N. since these vessels have been pooled for assignment through the CMAB machinery.

Building Program

B. Factors Affecting Shipbuilding in 1942.

2. Precedence.

(a) 5/1/42. President's Directive. A directive from the President regarding priority of naval construction stated in effect the objective for 1942 should be to provide for the completion of those vessels which can be commissioned prior to 7/1/43 with lower priorities to those completing later except for ships of light category designed for convoy protection and for submarines which can be completed during the calendar year 1943.

(1) 5/7/42. Effects. VCNO Memo to CominCh indicated the effects of the above on the present building program would be to delay indefinitely 9-BB, 10-CV, 6-CB, 5-CA, 22-CL, 16-AVG and half the auxiliaries.

(2) 5/7/42. CominCh recommendations. CominCh Memo for the President stated that under the directive it would be impossible to start cruisers or carriers for completion in 1944 or continue on BB, CV or cruisers already underway but completing after 7/1/43, that assuming the U.S. will be on the offensive in 1943 the probability of losses is great, also the ships now scheduled for 1943 and 1944 are none too many for the problems confronting us, and strongly urged high priorities for ships which can be completed in 1943 and 1944.

(3) 7/31/42. Countermanded. OP&M Memo for UndersecNav included a statement regarding the above as follows, "The combined efforts of the representatives of the Navy Department, including the SecNav, were necessary to countermand this directive".

(b) 10/17/42. JCS Recommendations. A Memo for the President from JCS regarding the need for escorts stated priorities for escorts should not interfere with (1) Aircraft, (2) Carriers scheduled for 1943-44, (3) Other Escorts including DD, (4) Cruisers scheduled for 1943-44, (5) Landing Craft completions to clear building ways for escorts, (6) Tankers, (7) Submarines.

(c) 10/29/42. Over-riding Priority for CV. SecNav despatch 293131 to Navy Yards Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk stated completion of CV-22, 9, 16, 23, 10, 17 at earliest possible date is essential and the Navy Yards are directed to cooperate to fullest extent with shipbuilding companies involved to make materials available regardless of the effect on vessels under construction including landing craft, but not to delay vessels under repair.

(d) 11/30/42. No. 1 Group. JCS Letter to WFB stated the President had directed to submit a "No. 1 Group" of items which must be produced in 1943 to produce a balanced program. This included 2-BB, 4-CA, 9-CL, 13-CV, 18-ACV, 119-DD, 260-DE, 59-SS, plus escort vessels and ACV to be constructed by the Maritime Commission.

(e) Group Priorities by types of vessel were established on 7/4/42 and changed to reflect relative precedence on 9/3/42 and 11/11/42 as shown in detail under the tab "Precedence".

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs

(1) Maximum Effort Planning Program

12/22/41. BuShips asks CNO for total requirements. BuShips Ltr JJ46-1-(5)(745) to CNO enclosed a 5-page table Series IA" dated 12/17/41 prepared at the request of OP&M and stating that the figures in column 3 (total requirements), although not official figures, have been used by BuShips to estimate requirements of materials and components, and requested CNO to establish official figures on numbers required for the maximum War Effort to be used for all planning purposes including authorization and construction of ships and requests for appropriations as well as estimates for material needs.

The enclosure showed for each type, in column 4 the number on hand, in column 5 those on order, column 6 for new requirements and column 7 for yearly replacements. All classes were covered down to small boats.

12/30/41. CNO End-1 to SecNav, serial 415123, recommended the General Board establish the figures for column 3.

12/30/41. SecNav End-2 to General Board, serial 415223, requested a list of figures for column 3 of BuShips maximum war effort report.

(a) The General Board, together with Admiral Horne, Admiral Turner and Admiral Farber investigated the report and made various changes. The District Craft and Small Boats were handled by the District Craft Development Board and others by the Landing Boat Development Board and included in the General Board report.

1/12/42. General Board End-3, No. 420-2 (serial 196) to SecNav returned the papers inviting attention to G.B. No. 420-2 (serial 196) of same date.

(a) On receipt of the above, Fleet Maintenance conducted meetings with the various Bureaus and representative of the Maritime Commission and prepared an endorsement from CNO (Adm. Stark) to the SecNav.

1/31/42. CNO Recommendations. CNO End-2 to SecNav, serial 016623 (Doc. 41326) approved the recommendations of the General Board subject to comment shown, and recommended approval and promulgation of a revised tabulation which was enclosed. The comment, regarding combatant ships, was in effect as follows:

SS. General Board recommended a replacement program of 15 (1500 ton) per year and a program of 15 (800 ton) per year. CNO recommends 30-SS per year with decision re building any 800-ton SS to be held in abeyance.

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942.

(1) Maximum Effort

1/31/42. CNO Recommendations (Cont.)

XCL. The General Board recommendations did not cover a project for 10-XCL which previously had been set up. This is included in the enclosure for planning purposes, with acquisition and conversion for later determination.

AVG. The General Board recommended 15 additional Escort Vessels (Aircraft) already approved. CNO commented the Maritime Commission has undertaken to build 14-additional Cimmarons, 3 to be completed in the last quarter of 1943 and 11 in 1944. Two (2) of these are available for conversion to AVG since the General Board specified 12-Cimmarons for use as AO. In addition it is recommended BuShips arrange to deliver up to 24-AVG annually beginning with calendar 1943 of a type similar to those in service or being converted at this time.

DE. CNO concurs in General Board recommendations of a 100 per year continuing program.

Note: The combatant data on the enclosed Revised Requirements is shown on a separate sheet.

1/31/42. SecNav End-3, serial 017323, to CNO approved the General Board report as amplified and amended by CNO and directed Bureaus and Offices to initiate action to place it in effect.

MAXIMUM EFFORT

Enclosure with CNO letter to SecNav serial 016623 dated 1/31/42.

Type	3	4	5	6	7	Remarks
	Total Req.	1/1/42 On Hand	1/1/42 On Order	Addtl. Reqd.	Replacements Per Calendar Yr.	
BB	34	17	15	2	1	
CA	26	18	8	-	2	
CB	12	-	6	6	-	
CL(10,000)	65	19	33	13	4	
CL(6,000)	12	1	7	4	0	
CV	25	7	14	4	2	
DD	379	173	206	0	40	
SS	206	112	94	0	30	Size to be determ.later
SM	1	1	0	0	-	
XCL(Aux.CL)	10	-	0	10	0	Acquisition date later
DE	Indet.	0	0	100/yr	0	Continuing Program
DM	8	8	0	0	0	
DMS	18	18	0	0	0	
APD	6	6	0	0	0	
APV	2	1	1	0	0	
AVD (DD)	14	14	0	0	0	
AVG	Indet.	1	15*	2# 24/yr.	0	* includes 4-Cimarrons and 11 C-3 already appd. # 2-Cimarrons plus 24/yr.

Enclosure with CNO Ltr 2/6/42 to SecNav showed:

BB	34	17	15	2#	1#	Addtl. to replace ARIZ.&OKLA.
CA	26	18	8	-	2#	
CB	12	-	6	6#	-	
CL(10,000)	65	19	31	15#	4#	
CL(6,000)	12	1	7	4#	-	
CV	27	7	16	4#	2#	3 are converted CL (10,000)
DD	379	173	206	-	40#	
SS	206	112	94	-	30#	size later.
SM	1	1	-	-	-	
XCL	10	-	-	10#	-	
DE	Indet.	-	-	100/yr#	-	Continuing Program.
DM	8	8	-	-	-	
DMS	18	18	-	-	-	
APD	6	6	-	-	-	Converted ODD
APV	2	1	1	-	-	Sea Trains
AVD	14	14	-	-	-	Converted ODD
AVG	58	1	15	-	2# 40#	2-Cimarrons 40-C3 during 1944 from which conversions will be asked.
BDE	520	-	300	-	-	
BAVG	30	-	9	-	-	

to be taken up later.
% Ask Presidential approval
to proceed now.

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942

(1) Maximum Effort (Cont.)

2/6/42. President approves in principle. CNO Memo (Op-10-MD) to SecNav enclosed copy of the program stating it is a tailing-On program, does not involve facilities not already approved but does contemplate maximum use of approved facilities during the years ahead, and furnishes OP&M with data for the maximum shipbuilding effort.

Stated that the President probably will not want to approve anything beyond more than a year ahead, but OP&M requires data on maximum effort for over-all planning for raw materials for the Navy and on this basis Presidential approval is requested with the understanding no ships in the program will be started which he has not approved and periodical recommendations will be submitted to him for further construction. The General Board and Admiral King concur, as well as BuShips and the Maritime Commission. Funds and legislative authority are available for proceeding with the ships for which we are asking Presidential approval.

An enclosed copy of the program was marked with symbols:

- % - where Presidential approval is requested to proceed now.
- \$ - where we are proceeding under previous Presidential approval.
- # - to be taken up in the future.

(a) The above was marked approved by SecNav Knox, O.K. in principle by FDR.

(b) The Program with markings is shown on a separate sheet.

3/14/42. CNO serial 080423 to Bureaus, OP&M, promulgated the tabulation for planning on construction not effective immediately. Stated list is correct except 24-AVG are to be produced annually starting in 1943 and SS increased from 30/yr to 50 in 1943 and 70 in 1944, all to be 1500 tons.

4/26/42. Adm. Farber Memo to Adm. Stark stated no change in Maximum War Effort as yet, but in connection with it the General Board now is considering a 2-year program.

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942

(2) 1943-44 (690 ship) Program

3/26/42. BuShips Ltr to SecNav indicated that keels could be laid during 1943-44 for 765 combatant ships totalling 2,027,960 tons and enclosed a tabulation showing estimated completion dates of the current and projected programs.

4/2/42. OP&M End-1 recommended approval be obtained to submit 2-year plan to Congress.

4/10/42. CominCh End-2, serial 0811M to SecNav recommended refer to General Board.

4/18/42. CominCh serial 0642 to SecNav recommended review for better balance of the program.

4/22/42. SecNav End-1, serial 013523, forwarded above to General Board for recommendation.

4/24/42. General Board to SecNav, 420-2 (serial 212) submitted recommendation.

4/28/42, and 5/4/42. Op-11M comments to VCNO on BuShips report.

5/4/42. FF-1 Memo to CominCh comments on report.

5/8/42. CominCh serial 0143623-M to SecNav concurred with General Board except he recommends deferring BB 67-71 and substituting 2-CV and 2-CA, also adding 2-CV and 6-CL for 1946 completion, the total program comprising 690 ships totalling 1,860,200 tons.

5/15/42. CominCh requested SecNav obtain Presidential authority to initiate legislation for 1,674,000 tons for 570 ships since 120-SS already covered by 200,000 tons in P.L. 551.

5/23/42. VCNO End-2 forwarded above to SecNav stating SecNav had approved on 5/11/42 General Board recommendations as modified by CominCh.

5/30/43. VCNO serial 0180923 to BuShips stopped work on BB67-71, CB 3-6.

7/9/42. HR-7184 approved as PL-666 authorizes 1,900,000 tons of which 500,000 for Carriers, 500,000 for cruisers, 900,000 for DD and DE.

7/18/42. BuShips requests Presidential approval to award 570 ships.

8/14/42. SecNav serial 0267127-A directs Bureaus proceed with 566 ships.

8/12/42. President Memo to SecNav approves 570 ships less 4-CV (45,000 tons).

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942

(2) 1943-44 (690 shios) Program

3/26/42. BuShips Proposals. BuShips ltr C-511-4(745) to SecNav, Referred to BuShips ltr of 3/22/42, CominCh serial 0382 of 3/14/42; Stated this letter based on 2-year program implied in CominCh Memo of 3/25/42; Stated keels can be laid during calendar 1943 and 1944 as shown below taking into consideration no delays or deferments of BB, CB, CA of present program, the request for inclusion of 4-CV (45,000 ton) and substitution of CV for CL under construction in order to produce 8-CV in 1944 and 1945. ←

4-CV (45,000 ton)	Unit cost \$120,000,000
10-CV (27,100 ")	71,472,800
* 21-CL (11,000 ")	34,278,600
3-CL (6,000 ")	25,157,000
132-DD (2,200 ")	12,155,600
475-DE (1,400 ")	6,505,500
120-SS (1,550 ")	7,100,000
<hr/>	<hr/>
765 2,027,960 tons	\$8,290,140,430

* CV (11,000) can be substituted for as many CL as desired. It will be necessary to substitute a minimum of 3 if 3 present CL are converted to meet the directive of 8-CV in 1944 and 1945.

Enclosure (A) showed the program now building and the proposed program.

4/2/42. OP&M End-1 to SecNav via CNO recommended approve be obtained to submit a 2-year building program to Congress.

4/10/42. CominCh End-2 to SecNav, serial 0811-M, recommended the correspondence be referred to the General Board requesting prompt action.

4/18/42. CominCh comment. CominCh serial 0642 to SecNav stated in effect that since writing his letters of 3/14/42 and 3/25/42 (re CV needs) it has come to his attention that shortages of material may necessitate curtailment of immediate Navy shipbuilding and that literal compliance with his CV-letters will result in an unacceptable unbalance in the ratio of cruisers to carriers and BB, and in view of the above recommends a review of shipbuilding, facilities, and material with a view to producing during 1942, '43, '44, '45 the best practicable balance of combatant ships that can be completed ready for service in those years. High priority should be given to carriers, to cruisers including 12" and 8", to SS, and to the destroyers, escorts and subchasers that can be completed for service in 1942 and 1943.

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942

(2) 1943-44 (690 ship) program (Cont.)

4/22/42. SecNav End-1 to General Board, serial 0130523 forwarded above for study and recommendation in connection with BuShips letter of 3/26/42 now under consideration by the General Board.

4/24/42. General Board recommendations were submitted to SecNav by General Board Letter 420-2 (serial 212) (Doc. 50052).

4/28/42. ACNO (Maintenance) comment on General Board Report. Adm. Farber in Memo to VCNO referred to Doc. 49108 and stated BuShips reported to SecNav certain keels could be laid in 1943 and 1944 which was referred to the General Board whose report is compared below with the BuShips' recommendations. Between the BuShips ltr and the General Board report, CominCh letter of 4/18/42 recommended changes in the ration of cruisers and the production of carriers.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>BuShips</u>	<u>General Board</u>
CV	45,000	4	4
CV	27,100	10	5
CA	13,600	-	13
CL	11,000	21	13
CL	6,000	3	1 ←?
DD	2,200	132	-
DD	1,740	-	100
DE	1,400	475	420
SS	1,550	120	120.

He stated BuShips considers CV cannot be stepped up in 1944 but 2 additional could be completed not later than 1946, also 3 additional CL (11,000 ton) could be produced not later than 1946 with possibly 1 delivered in 1945. He recommended all future DD be 2500 ton except during transition when improved 2050 ton improved DD (about 2200 tons) be built. Enclosed proposed endorsement.

5/4/42. Review of Program. ACNO (Maintenance) Memo to VCNO stated in accordance with verbal directive the 1943-44 program has been reviewed to consider effect on ships completing by 1944 by partially or wholly deferring the 60,000 ton BB and 45,000 ton CV. He stated -

No advantage from deferring the 45,000 ton CV, except steel requirements, as any smaller CV would be completed only 2 to 3 months earlier due to the fact the ways for these ships will not become available until 1943.

Deferring the 60,000 ton BB releases 5-building ways or docks, each of which can be used for either 1-CV or 2 cruisers (CA or CL).

These figures do not affect the additional 2-carriers and 3-cruisers which BuShips previously stated could be built for delivery in 1946.

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942

(2) 1943-44 (690 ship) program. (Cont.)

5/4/42. OpFF1/A1-3 Comment to CominCh. Rear Admiral Lee in Memo to Admiral King stated the deferment of 4-CV (45,000 ton) will not enable us to get any more CV, CA or CL in 1944 as building ways will not be available until the middle of 1943 and building time for CV (45,000) is 24 months, and 21 to 22 months for CV (27,000), and recommended against deferring the 4-CV.

He recommended deferring the 5-BB (67-71) as it will make available 5 building ways or docks each of which will take 1-CV or 2-CA or 2-CL. Norfolk, Philadelphia and New York each have 1-way on which ships can be completed during 1944, and Philadelphia and New York have a second way in which ships can be completed in 1945.

He stated deferment of BB67-71 will add any of 5 listed alternatives to the General Board Program of which CominCh O.K'd. (c) viz:

2-CV plus 2-CA (or CL) in 1944 and
1-CV plus 2-CA (or CL) in 1945.

He recommended inclusion in the program, in addition to General Board Program and not dependent on deferment of the BB (60,000) or CV (45,000), of 2-CV (27,000) for delivery in 1946, 3-CL (11,000) for 1946, 2-CL (6,000) for 1945, and 1-CL (6,000) for 1946.

5/8/42. CominCh concurs with General Board with Exceptions. CominCh End-2 serial 0113623-M to SecNav concurred in General Board report except:

(a) Defer BB 67-71 and in lieu thereof construct 2-CV (27,000) and 2-CA (13,600) to be completed in 1944, and 1-CV and 2-CA to be constructed in 1945.

(b) Recommended add to list, 2-CV (27,000), 3-CL (11,000), 3-CL (6,000) for completion in 1946.

(c) Change 100-ID (1740) to 100 improved 2050 ton (about 2100 tons).

The letter summarized all recommendations as follows, total tonnage 1,860,200:

4-CV (45,000)	16-CL (11,000)	420-DE (11,000)
10-CV (27,100)	3-CL (6,000)	120-SS (1550).
17-CA (13,600)	100-DD (2,100)	

5/11/42. Endorsed approved by SecNav.

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942.

(2) 1943-44 (690 ship) Program (Cont.)

5/15/42. CominCh recommends legislation. CominCh Memo for SecNav stated SecNav had approved the 1943-44 Combatant Building Program, and that --

Congressional authorization is necessary at an early date.

PL-551 approved 5/13/42 authorized 200,000 tons and is intended for submarines and is to occupy all submarine ways becoming available in 1943 and 1944.

The program contemplates continuing the present program at the peak rate.

Presidential authority to initiate legislation for the program is advisable.

The Memo listed the program shown under 5/8/42 above, less the submarines, showing a total tonnage of 1,674,000.

5/23/42. Document 50052. VCNO End-2 to SecNav forwarded basic letter without recommendation stating on 5/11/42 SecNav approved recommendations of General Board submitted 4/24/42 and modified by CominCh End-2 of 5/8/42 in regard to the 1943-44 Program.

5/30/42. Suspend BB 67-71, CB 3-6. VCNO serial 0180923 to BuShips, BuOrd, BuAer stated pursuant to various decisions relative to the building program work is to be stopped on the above ships including material and equipment.

6/11/42. BuShips re HR-7184. BuShips End-2 to JAG via VCNO stated the Bill provides authorization for the 1943-44 Program approved by SecNav 5/11/42 and appears to be satisfactory except Section 2 should be clarified as regards replacements of vessels overage or lost and Section 4 be amended concerning changes in the Act of 7/19/40.

6/11/42. VCNO END-2 to JAG concurred with BuShips comment.

7/9/42. HR-7184. This Bill, approved on 7/9/42 as PL-665 further increased increased by 1,900,000 tons the composition of the Navy in underage vessels as shown below, provided the total authorized tonnage by classes of vessels authorized by this Act and the Acts of 5/27/34, 5/17/38 and 6/14/40 may be varied by 30% so long as the sum of the total increases in tonnage of these classes is not exceeded, and further provided that replacement vessels authorized herein are not required to be of the same class as the vessels which have become overage or lost, so long as they are either BB, cruisers, aircraft carriers, DD or DE, or SS.

Increases in HR-7184 were:	Aircraft Carriers	500,000 tons
	Cruisers	500,000 tons
	DD and DE	900,000 tons
		<u>1,900,000</u>

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942

(2) 1943-44 (690 ship) Program (Cont.)

7/18/42. Awards for New Program. BuShips Memo for Admiral Farber stated it was imperative to place orders for main propelling machinery within a few days if predicted completion dates are to be met, stated appropriation of funds for construction of the program is pending before the Bureau of the Budget, and recommended the approval of the President be obtained to award contracts in advance of legislative appropriation for the following ships proposed in the 1943-1944 program and for which tonnage was authorized in H.R. 7184.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type and Number Assigned</u>	<u>Tons/Each</u>	<u>Design</u>
10	CV 31-40	27,100	CV-9
4	CV 41-44	45,000	New Design
16	CL 103-118	11,000	Modified CL-55
3	CL 119-121	6,000	CL-95 (probably modified)
17	CA 122-138	13,600	CA-68
100	DD 692-791	2,200	DD-445 modified
158	DE 301-458 563-720	1,400	Steam - 24 Knot
262	DE 459-720 301-562	1,400	Diesel - 19 Knot.
<u>570</u>			

8/3/42. Awards for 14-CV, 17-CA, 19-CL, 100-DD. BuShips Memo for SecNav and WPB, file FS/L4-3(756) requested the authority of the SecNav and contract clearance by WPB for the execution of contracts and issuance of orders to Navy Yards for the construction of:

CV 31-44	CL 103-121
CA 122-138	DD 692-791.

The above was endorsed approved by SecNav, no date, with note by SecNav "released by FDR verbally 8/7/42".

8/4/42. Awards for 420-DE viz. DE 301-720. BuShips Memo for SecNav and WPB file DE 301-720/L4(756) requested the authority of the SecNav and contract clearance by WPB to execute contracts and issue orders to Navy Yards for the construction of DE 301-720.

This was endorsed approved by SecNav with a note, "Released by FDR verbally 8/7/42".

8/14/42. Authorization to proceed with 1943-44 Program. SecNav ltr serial O267123-A to BuShips-Ord-Aer stated the 1943-44 was authorized by HR-7184 approved 7/9/42 and verbal authorization to proceed in advance of appropriation was received from the President on 8/12/42. The Bureaus were requested to proceed with the construction of:

Building Program

C. Approved New Programs - 1942

(2) 1943-44 (690 ship) Program

8/14/42. Authorization to Proceed with 1943-44 Program (Cont.)

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type & Number Assigned</u>	<u>Tons/each</u>	<u>Design</u>
10	CV 31-40	27,100	CV-9
16	CL 103-118	11,000	Modified CL-55
3	CL 119-121	6,000	CL-95 probably modified
17	CA 122-138	13,600	CA-68
100	DD 692-791	2,200	Modified DD-445
158	DE 301-453	1,400	Steam - 24 Knots
262	DE 459-720	1,400	Diesel - 19 Knots.
566			

8/12/42. President Approves except for 4-CV (45,000 ton).
The President by Memo to SecNav approved the 570 combatant ship program except for the 4 new design 45,000 aircraft carriers, stating these were not approved due to time needed to construct (deliveries in 1945 and 1946), and also that while each would carry over 100 planes, it is by no means determined 1-ship of this size would be better tactically than 2-ships carrying half the planes or 3-ships carrying only 1/3 the planes. He stated the 4-CV would call for 180,000 tons of steel and requested a study of advisability of building 16-CV (11,000 ton) for service in 8 to 12 months, and 8 more in the following 12 months, in other words, 8 by autumn of 1943, 8 more in autumn of 1944 and possibly 8 more by the autumn of 1945, at which time we would get the first 2 of the proposed 45,000 ton CV. He added the war may well be over before the lapse of 3 years.

(a) 4-CV (45,000 ton) vs 16-CV (11,000).

8/13/42. VCNO Memo to General Board, file (SC)CV/S1-1. requested as soon as BuShips studies are completed, the General Board hold hearings and furnish Memo comparing advantages and disadvantages of the CV-(45,000) and those proposed by the President above.

8/13/42. VCNO to BuShips, serial 0269323, requested a study as to the practicability, time, and advantages and disadvantages of 16-CV (11,000) relative to 4-CV (45,000).

Building Program - 1942

D. Changes in Program - 1942.

1. Contracts for 14-CV, 17-CA, 19-CL, 100-DD.

8/3/42. BuShips Memo for SecNav and WPB requested authority from SecNav and contract clearance from WPB for execution of contracts and orders for---

14-CV Viz CV 31-44, (41-44 large carriers new design).
17-CA Viz CA 122-138
19-CL Viz CL 103-121
100-DD Viz DD 692-791

8/7/42. The above was endorsed approved by SecNav with note released verbally by F.D.R. - 8/7/42.

8/12/42. The President by Memo to SecNav approved the 690-ship program except 4-CV(45,000) (which were deferred and later 3 were approved).

2. Contracts for 420-DE.

8/4/42. BuShips Memo for SecNav and WPB requested authority from SecNav and contract clearance from WPB for execution of contracts and orders for---

420-DE Viz DE 301-720

8/7/42. The above was endorsed approved by SecNav with note released by F.D.R. verbally 8/7/42.

3. Awards for 120-SS.

5/21/42 SecNav Memo for President requested approval in advance of specific appropriation to make awards for construction of 120-SS totalling 186,000 tons against the tonnage (200,000) in submarine program Act (approved 5/13/42). This was endorsed O.K.-F.D.R.

4. Deferred 5-EB and 4-CB.

5/30/42. VCNO serial 0180923 to BuShips directed deferral of BB 67-71 and CB 3-6, this being necessary to provide tonnage for the 1943-44 building program.

5. Adding 80-DE to program.

10/19/42. BuShips, by letter to SecNav via OP&M and CNO, requested authority to make awards for 80-DE (721-800) utilizing tonnage from the Act of 7/9/42, stating full authorization and appropriations are available. The Bureau intends to schedule about 300 completions during 1943 and to have attained a production rate of 40 per month by 1944.

D. Changes in Program - 1942.

5. Adding 80-DE to Program. (Cont'd.)

10/21/42. CominCh end-2, serial 0450223-A recommended approval.

10/22/42. SecNav endorsed his approval on the above.

6. Converting 3-CL to CV.

6/2/42. CominCh serial 0993 recommended CL-79,99,100 be converted to CV, stating the proposal has the oral approval of the President. The 3-ships are under construction at Camden where 6-conversions previously authorized are now being effected (Cl-59, 61, 67, 77, 78, 85 to CV 22-27).

The above was endorsed approved by SecNav on 6/2/42 and VCNO serial 0186823-M of 6/4/42 directed BuShips to proceed with the conversions.

7. 24-AVG.

3/14/42. CNO serial 080423 to Bureaus and OP&M re the Maximum Effort Planning Program stated 24-AVG are to be produced annually starting in 1943.

4/16/42. VCNO serial 0122723 directed BuShips arrange to construct 24-AVG for delivery in 1943.

8. 50-AVG (Kaiser built) (55-104).

In June 1942 the President directed the Maritime Commission to make a study of the construction of 50-100 airplane carriers for dual purposes of aircraft transport and fleet auxiliary. Later the President-CominCH-Maritime Commission decided upon 50 for construction at Kaiser Yards. On delivery 32 (AVG 55-86) were allocated against the Act of 6/17/43 (auxiliaries) and 18 (87-104) against the Act of 12/17/43 (auxiliaries).

6/17/42. CominCh serial 01135 to SecNav (doc.53579) recommended, pursuant to oral approval of the President given 6/15/42, that steps be taken thru the Maritime Commission to contract for the building of 48-XCV (AVG), 20-knots, of Kaiser design as approved by the Navy, subject to revision in numbers up or down according to future circumstances.

Building Program - 1943

E. Factors affecting shipbuilding programs, 1943.

(a) Strategic situation and progress of the war.

(1) CominCh Comment.

8/6/43. CominCh serial 02667 to VCNO, end-1 on UnderSecNav Memo of 7/30/43 re accelerating SS-program, stated in effect U.S. submarines have achieved outstanding results and have markedly checked the spread of Japanese activities, that there is no limit to the number of SS that can be used to advantage against the Japs, but SS-construction must not interfere with building up offensive elements of the fleet promptly to the strength necessary to crush the Jap Navy, which cannot be accomplished by SS-alone. It is also essential that nothing be permitted to throttle the offensive against German U-boats as we must gain undisputed control of the Atlantic. The apparent weakening of the U-boat effort may warrant some curtailment of A/S craft and it would be decidedly advantageous to increase SS-output by such curtailment or by other means within the realities of the situation.

(2) Accelerating SS-program.

7/30/43. UnderSecNav Review. UnderSecNav Memo to CominCh via CNO raised the question whether the SS-program is sufficient both quantitatively and as to time stating current results make priorities appear somewhat out of line.

7/31/43. Present rate. Op-05 Memo to VCNO stated SS now are being produced in 5-yards at rate of 6/month with prospective rate of over 7/month next year.

8/6/43. CominCh directs study. CominCh end-1 serial 02667 to VCNO directed a study of effects on other programs if SS are given increased priority.

8/21/43. BuOrd estimates 30% acceleration. BuOrd informed VCNO they could supply ordnance material to meet a 30% acceleration commencing in 1944.

8/25/43. BuShips comment. BuShips end-3 to VCNO stated higher precedence would speed production (now group 9), that all yards engaged in SS-production are obligated to capacity and further construction only obtainable by diverting capacity from other type. Estimated SS-construction can be increased from 8/month to 10/month in last quarter of 1944 and to 15/month by end of 1945, making 95 deliveries in 1944 and 117 in 1945.

9/11/43. No expansion now. VCNO serial 0406623-05 informed BuShips no expansion beyond present authorized numbers was desired.

10/5/43. Precedence. VCNO serial 09405 to BuShips established new precedence groups with SS in Group 4, formerly in Group 9.

E. Factors affecting shipbuilding program 1943.

(a) Strategic situation and progress of the war. (Cont'd.)

(3) Quebec Conference. (Landing Craft Program)

8/25/43. Landing Craft vs DE. BuShips end-3 to VCNO (re SS) stated the recent Quebec Conference indicated a decrease in DE-construction acceptable to divert DE-yards to landing craft production.

9/9/43. 205-DE cancelled. SecNav Memo for President, approved 9/13/43, requested approval of his action in cancelling 205-DE to make facilities and manpower available for increased Landing Craft Program recently decided upon, and in line with recent developments in submarine warfare.

9/6/43. 205-cancelled. Cominch serial 001890 to VCNO directed modifications of the shipbuilding program based on the strategic situation and progress of the war including---

Increase the Landing Craft Program approximately 35%.

Cancel 205-DE and reduce rate of delivery of the 800-DE previously authorized beginning in April 1944 so completions will extend to June 1945.

(4) President requests review of program.

10/19/43. Mr. J. F. Byrnes, Director of War Mobilization, in a letter to SecNav stated on 9/28/43 the President asked him to cause a complete review of the shipbuilding program of the Army, Navy and Maritime Commission, that he had already requested the Joint Production Survey Committee of the JCS to review the Army and Navy program, and requested recommendations be submitted, to Admiral Brainerd by 29 October, in the light of the present and prospective war situation. He stated instructions from and discussions with the President indicated clearly the President appreciates the various agencies engaged in procuring vessels have programmed a total number of ships for construction clearly in excess of the overall needs. He stated that with the deletion of the Italian and French Navies and the increasing difficulty of the Germans in making good its losses, some corresponding deletion may be made by the United Nations. He added that in the beginning the present naval and combat ship program was predicated on the possibility that the U.S. might find itself fighting alone in the war, whereas we now can have full reliance on the assistance of the powerful British Navy.

(b) Manpower and Selective Service:

8/30/43. Manpower in San Francisco area. BuShips Memo to VCNO re augmenting the repair capacity in the San Francisco area proposed various measures including delaying CL and DE and reassigning various CL and DD to East Coast Yards.

9/4/43. VCNO re transfers to East Coast. VCNO Memo for Cominch

E. Factors affecting shipbuilding programs, 1943.

(b) Mannpower and Selective Service. (Cont'd.)

discussed the problem of making 27,000 additional workmen available for ship repairs and 220,000 to the aircraft industry and gave as steps considered advisable the transfer to East Coast Yards of 3-CL, 4-AM, 7-DD, 9-AT which would make about 10,000 men available for ship repairs, and a policy of placing no additional contracts on the West Coast if it can be avoided. A similar letter was sent to SecNav.

9/7/43. Construction transferred. CominCh serial 03079 to SecNav recommended new construction be transferred to the East Coast to free facilities in the San Francisco area for increasing ship repair load. Included were CL 119-121, DD 850-856.

9/13/43. SecNav approved above by endorsement.

Building Program

F. New Program - 1943

(a) 413 Combatant Vessel Program

4/20/43. CominCh directive. CominCh Memo to VCNO requested a tabulation or graph showing estimated completions by months of all BB, CB, CA, CL, DD, SS, DE, Am, PC through the calendar year 1944 and asked what steps now are necessary to get authorizations and appropriations for a continuing program for the above and smaller type.

4/26/43. BuShips data. BuShips Memo for Admiral Farber, file c-FS/Al-3(300) enclosed charts showing estimated completion dates of all combatant ships for whose construction a directive had been received except CV 43-44, BB 67-71 and CB 3-6. The charts started with 1/1/43 and show numbers of each type to be completed each year.

Regarding authorizations and appropriations for a continuing program:

921,298 tons of combatant tonnage is now available.

Tonnage is available from the 1799 Vessels Act and 800 Small Vessels Act.

Recommendations have been made to obtain authorization for 1,000,000 tons of District Craft, small boats and landing craft.

5/7/43. VCNO proposed program. VCNO Memo for CominCh, Op-11A-23/EIK enclosed a tabulation as of 5/1/43 showing estimated completions of the current program and also possible additions if tonnage is made available. He stated in effect:

That to build all ships which could be completed by 1/1/47 would require about 2,273,000 tons more than is now allocated which would permit adding 1160 additional ships in various combinations shown.

That 921,298 tons now are available, that further authorization legislation at this time is questionable, and submitted 3 selections for use of the available tonnage, selection A being (413 ships):

	<u>Tons</u>		<u>Tons</u>
1-CB	27,000	7-CL	11,000
1-CV	45,000	82-DD	2,200
3-CV	27,100	110-SS	1,526
4-CA	13,600	205-DE	1,400

5/19/43. CominCh approves Selection A. CominCh serial 00994 to VCNO directed that new construction conform to the table submitted in paragraph 9(a) of VCNO Memo of 5/7/43 (selection A).

5/26/43. President approves program. SecNav Memo for the President, (5C)Al-3, requested approval of his action in making awards

F. New Programs - 1943

(a) 413 Combatant Vessel Program (Cont'd.)

for the construction of 413 listed combatant vessels (15 of the 110-SS to be reserved for the present), stating that the program will utilize all existing unallocated combatant tonnage, that the program is planned to tail-on after existing programs and that deliveries of the larger ships will not be due until 1946 and the smaller ones in 1945.

To make available the required tonnage, the 5-BB (67-71, 56,000 tons) and 3-CB (4-6, 27,000 tons) deferred up to now must definitely be cancelled.

(a) 5/27/43. Above letter endorsed "O.K., F.D.R."

5/28/43. Program promulgated. VCNO serial 0214723-A to Bureaus stated the President has approved the program and the Bureaus are authorized to proceed with the construction of the above ships (also with 40-AM and 80-PC).

(b) CVE - Follow on Program

(1) No follow on at Kaiser

8/10/43. Requirements not predictable now. CominCh end² to VCNO, serial 001600, re MAC letter of 7/14/43, stated construction already planned for LL contingencies should be carried out except for CVE of which the number required for future operations by the USN cannot be predicted at this time, but some follow-on probably will be necessary on completion of the present Kaiser contract and information was requested as to how long decision could be delayed without dislocating the ability of Kaiser Yards to continue construction on completion of current contracts.

8/19/43. Kaiser (50) complete June 1944. VCNO serial 0359523-05 to CominCh stated present program of 50-CVE at Kaiser Yards is scheduled for completion in June 1944 and since Mar-Con has planned tankers to follow, if other CVE are to follow any delay in ordering will increase the disruption of Mar-Con program.

9/10/43. No follow-on at Kaiser. CominCh serial 001932 to VCNO directed no follow on program for CVE be undertaken in Kaiser Yards after delivery of those now under construction.

9/15/43. BuShips informed. VCNO serial 0414023-05 informed BuShips.

(2) 8 CVE per year replacement program

10/1/43. BuShips ltr. JJ40-1(5)(512), CVE55-104/A1, to VCNO stated that in August 1944 the program of 15-CVE of CVE-105 class

F. New Program - 1943

(b) CVE - Follow-on Programs

(2) 8-CVE per year replacement program. (Cont'd.)

at the Seattle-Tacoma Yard will be advanced enough to make ways available for a succeeding program, and requested early information if the program is to be extended.

10/5/43 VCNO end-1, serial 277223-05 to CominCh requested his intentions re a follow-on program.

10/31/43 CominCh Memo for VCNO, serial 03762, stated to provide for attrition, present plans should call for a replacement program of 8-CVE per year to follow the CVE-105 class program. This program will again be reviewed if future experience indicates some of the vessels should be completed as tankers.

11/2/43 CNO serial 0521423-05 promulgated above to BuShips.

11/23/43 First 8-CVE. BuShips file C-CVE/A1-3(726) informed CNO they estimated 8-CVE can be completed at Seattle-Tacoma Yard in 12 months starting 7/1/45 and requested a directive to build the first 8-CVE.

11/27/43. Sub CNO serial 0576023-05 to CominCh requested instructions.

12/17/43. SecNav Memo for President requested approval of construction of 8-CVE to follow present program at Tacoma-Seattle, which was endorsed O.K. by the President.

12/22/43. SecNav Memo to VCNO serial 037900A enclosed 12/17/43 above.

12/13/43. CominCh Memo for VCNO serial 04215 returned BuShips letter of 11/23/43 and VCNO letter of 11/27/43 above and directed the construction of first 8 replacement CVE be incorporated in the current building program.

12/29/43. CNO serial 0736123-05 to Bureaus promulgated above.

(c) CVL-replacements 2/year.

7/24/43. 9-CVL to be maintained. CominCh serial 02481 to VCNO stated that in December 1945 after allowing for attrition there should be 18-CV in commission.

Present plans are to brigade 1-CVL with each 2-CV in a carrier division. The CVL program will complete in January 1944 at which time it is estimated 7 of the 9-CVL will be in commission (normal attrition-2). He desired a study to include additional CVL in the building program

F. New Programs - 1943

(c) CVL-replacements 2/year. (Cont'd.)

to maintain the original 9 and to provide a continuing program thereafter. He recommended improvements, the use of CA-68 or similar type hulls, and cancelling DE for tonnage if necessary.

8/14/43. BuShips Can-do. BuShips serial 05687 to VCNO stated the program was feasible with delivery of first 2-CVL in December 1945 subject to 3-months delay in completion of 2-cruisers. Each CVL requires 13,000 tons of contract authorization and with 21,000 tons available cancelling 4-DE would provide for 2-CVL.

8/27/43. CominCh directive. CominCh serial 001764 to VCNO directed the Construction of 2 additional CVL be incorporated in the current program utilizing CA-60 class hulls and power plant designs and increasing the armament and authorized transfer as necessary of tonnage allocated to DD.

Future planning should include a continuing replacement program based on 2-CVL per year, commencing in 1946.

9/2/43. President approves. SecNav Memo for the President requested approval of his action in authorizing awards for the construction of 2-CVL. This was approved by the President.

10/22/43. Improvements. CominCh Memo to VCNO serial 03652 directed the first 2-CVL be built as proposed in his letter of 8/27/43 plus an improved island, flag facilities and other changes, stating additional CVL of the continuing program should be of improved design if no delay will result.

10/28/43. CNO serial 0508523-05 to BuShips-BuOrd promulgated the above.

Building Program

G. Changes in the Program - 1943

(a) 15-CVE for 1944.

The 15-CVE added to the building program in 1943 (CVE 105-119) were part of the continuing program authorized in 1942.

(b) CVB-43 construction resumed.

5/26/43 CominCh serial 001034 to SecNav stated (re CV) that SecNav Memo to the President serial C56200A of 12/29/42 requested and obtained permission to commence construction on 2-CV(45,000) previously deferred (CV-41, 42). To continue the building program and best utilize construction facilities SecNav was requested to obtain Presidential authorization to start construction of 1-CV(45,000) in addition to the 2-CV authorized 12/31/42. This was endorsed approved by SecNav on 5/27/43.

(c) CVB-44 cancelled.

On 8/7/42 the President verbally approved the 1942-44 (690 ship) program including 4-CV(45,000) designated CV 41-44. On 8/12/42 he formally approved the 690 ships program except the 4-CV(45,000). On 12/31/42 SecNav obtained authorization to start construction of 2-CV (41 and 42) and on 5/27/43 permission to start construction on CV-43. CV-44 was cancelled.

(d) 5-22 and 5-CB cancelled.

5/28/43. SecNav Memo for the President invited attention to the President's approval of the 413-vessel program and stated that to make available the tonnage required for the program it would be necessary to definitely cancel CB 4-6 and BB 67-71 which have been deferred up to the present. This was endorsed O.K. by the President on 5/27/43.

(e) 405-DE cancelled.

(1) 9/9/43 205-DE. SecNav Memo for the President requested approval of his action in cancelling 205-DE (801-1005) to make facilities and manpower available for the increased landing craft program. He stated the cancellation will leave 800-DE built or building, all to be finished by June 1945.

9/13/43. This was endorsed O.K. by the President.

9/13/43. VCNO serial 0401123-05 to Bureaus directed cancellation of 205-DE, the cancellation to include any cancelled to provide tonnage for CVL.

9/6/43. CominCh serial 001890 to VCNO stated a survey of the program based on the strategic situation and progress of the war indicate certain changes, including cancelling 205-DE, which VCNO is directed to implement.

G. Changes in the Program - 1943

(e) 405-DE cancelled. (Cont'd.)

(2) 9/21/43 200-DE. Acting SecNav Memo for the President stated that due to changing war conditions, CominCh has recommended and SecNav approved the total of DE be reduced to 600 vessels. This involves an additional cancellation of 200 ships. Some material has been fabricated but much can be allocated to other purposes.

9/23/43. Above approved by the President's endorsement.

9/27/43. BuShips re 100-DE. BuShips letter to VCNO via OP&M stated 205-DE cancelled and an additional 100 reductions can be made without serious loss of material or interference with the building program.

9/29/43. VCNO serial 0450023-05 to Bureaus directed cancellation of 100-DE stating cancellation of 100-additional is withheld pending final decision.

10/7/43. CominCh 03485 to VCNO directed steps to reduce DE-program to 600 total.

10/11/43. CNO serial 0409223-05 directed BuShips cancel 100-DE reducing total DE to 600.

12/16/43. VCNO Memo to CominCh, serial 0711523-05, reviewed history of 200 cancellations and stated to date 100 not cancelled and that SecNav had directed holding up cancellations until further orders.

Building Program

H. Factors Affecting Shipbuilding - 1944

(a) Strategic situation and progress of the war.

(1) Acceleration of Carrier and Cruiser Program.

6/12/44. AsstSecNav(Air) Memo to SecNav stated the Himitz-Towers recommendation is not that they want more carriers than planned but that the carrier and escort carrier programs must be awarded highest practicable priority and attention.

6/28/44. Precedence. CNO serial 6205 to BuShips raised precedence of CV, CVB and CVL from Group-7 to Group-6, and CVE from Group-9 to Group-7.

6/26/44. BuShips re acceleration. BuShips Memo to CNO discussed for each building yard the possibilities of advancing completions to 1945 from those scheduled for 1946 and the effects on other new construction.

7/28/44. CominCh recommendations. CominCh Memo for SecNav, serial 02566, re BuShips letter of 6/26/44, stated that after a recent conference with CincPac he recommends CV-40, 37, 45, 47, 32, CVL-48, 49, and CB-3 be advanced at the expense of cruisers, other carriers and BB. This was approved by SecNav on 7/28/44 and promulgated for appropriate action on 8/2/44 by CNO serial 021605.

8/21/44. Effect on DD-program. BuShips letter to CNO stated instructions dated 8/2/44 to accelerate the carrier and cruiser programs, and the manpower situation, are causing considerable slippage in DD-completions and suggested three courses - accept delays, transfer DD construction to other yards, or cancel some DD scheduled for 1946.

(a) 9/3/44. CominCh Memo to VCNO approved VCNO recommendations that prospective delays be accepted.

(b) 9/7/44. CNO serial 026605 to BuShips directed delays be accepted, minimized as much as possible by labor recruiting assistance.

(c) 10/11/44. CominCh Memo for VCNO, serial 03451, re BuShips proposal of 9/21/44 to shift DD, stated CominCh desires to retain in the DD-program all ships that it is expected can be completed by the end of the 2nd Quarter 1946 and that construction be shifted, without affecting other priorities, between existing yards as may be practicable with this end in view.

8/21/44. Effect on CL-program. BuShips letter to CNO via BuOrd discussed delays due to labor shortages and to the acceleration of the carrier program, stated that at New York SB Corp. Keels were not laid for CL 111-115 or 144-147 and that one of these groups probably will be delayed until the 3rd or 4th quarters of 1947, that BuShips

H. Factors affecting Shipbuilding - 1944

(a) Strategic situation and progress of the war.

(1). Acceleration of carrier and cruiser program: (Cont'd.)

considers priority should be given the new design double-purpose CL 144-147 and asked if CL 112-115 should follow CL-144 as a prototype, complete as now planned following CL-106, or be cancelled.

(a) 9/5/44. Cancel 112-115. SecNav Memo for President stated he proposed to cancel CL 112-115 provided it meets with your approval, and this was approved by the President.

(b) 9/22/44. CNO serial 028305 directed BuShips to cancel CL 112-115, stating CL-111 will complete on the CL-106 design.

(2) Acceleration of SS.

6/2/44. Maximum production in 1944. Sub CNO Memo to Op 05 stated SecNav desires a letter to BuShips stating in effect it is desired to produce as many SS as possible in 1944 without increase in present facilities and without any over-riding priority for labor or material, and asking what increase can be made.

(a) 6/5/44. CNO serial 014505 requested BuShips report on the above.

(b) 6/3/44. CNO serial 4505 to BuShips raised SS precedence from Group 6 to Group 5.

(3) Retarding SS-program.

6/21/44. CominCh recommends 7-SS/month. CominCh serial 01233 to SecNav stated in effect recent successes in the Pacific have greatly reduced areas in which Japanese shipping operated with corresponding reduction in number of SS we can profitably employ, and remaining areas under Jap control are well covered by shore based aviation making it more than ever necessary our SS crews be highly trained and well seasoned and not diluted to furnish nucleus crews for new-SS, or summed up the prospects for the future called for fewer-SS with more highly trained crews. Recommended SS-building program be permanently retarded to a rate of about 7/month to become effective as soon as feasible. In about a month the situation may clarify enough to warrant recommendations for cancellations of SS at end of program. This was approved verbally by SecNav on 6/29/44.

6/30/44 Rate reduced. CNO serial 017505 directed BuShips comply.

6/28/44 Precedence. CNO serial 6205 to BuShips lowered precedence of SS from Group 5 to Group 9.

H. Factors effecting shipbuilding - 1944

(a) Strategic situation and progress of war.

(4) Proposal to accelerate 1945 deliveries by suspending 1946 completions.

7/19/44. CNO serial 020205 to BuShips stated it had been proposed to SecNav, in the interests of early deliveries of ships now due for completion in 1945, to suspend temporarily construction on ships due for delivery after 1/1/46 with total effort expended on ships due before that date. Requested report on possible results and effect on the industry.

9/23/44. BuShips replied no improvement would result and the result on the industry would be chaotic since the force in each yard would be reduced lowering morale and causing a slow-down so 1946 deliveries would be unpredictable.

10/21/44. CominCh Memo for VCNO serial 03552 approved the recommendation that work on ships scheduled for delivery after 12/31/45 be not suspended.

(5) Cut Backs.

6/2/44. Monthly recommendations to SecNav. SecNav Memo for CominCh, serial 013502, desired a list monthly of probable cut-backs which may be effected with estimated dates, stating that to keep facilities properly aligned for the best war effort and for the economy of the country it is necessary that all programs be continually reviewed so orderly tapering off of work may be undertaken.

7/3/44. CominCh recommends 98-SS. CominCh serial 001918 to SecNav recommended a cut back of 98-SS from the present approved program which includes hull No. 544. The 6-SS special type recommended by CominCh serial 001821 to SecNav on 6/23/44 to follow 544 should be built. SecNav recommended the cut-back and the President approved it on 7/14/44.

Aug.-Dec 1944. CominCh recommended no cut-backs each month from Aug.-Dec.

6/3/44. Cancel 35-DE. CNO serial 014205 to SecNav recommended cancelling 35-DE whose keels had not been laid on 5/1/44, stating the war situation allows cancellation. SecNav Memo for the President dated 6/3/44 recommended approval and the President endorsed his approval on 6/7/44.

6/15/44. Elimination dates. CNO serial 5105 to BuShips stated that due to the possibility of cut-backs in the construction program a list should be available showing final dates when decision must be made whether to eliminate or not and requested a preliminary list covering ships on which decision must be made within the next 3-months with controlling date for each ship.

H. Factors affecting shipbuilding - 1944

(a) Strategic situation and progress of the war.

(5) Cut Backs. (Cont'd.)

(a) 7/22/44. CNO Memo to CominCh, end-1 on BuShips letter of 7/19/44 enclosed a list of approximate dates on which combatant ships must be cancelled to avoid heavy losses of manpower and material, the list generally being predicated on cancellation 1 month before expected launching.

(6) Budget Estimates, fiscal 1946.

7/1/44. Bureau of Budget letter to SecNav requested 4-summary estimates by 9/15/44 for fiscal year 1946 based on following assumptions for 1946, A - war on both fronts, B - war in Pacific only, C- war in Europe only, D - peace.

7/21/44. CNO serial 025802 to BuBudget included statements that for assumptions A and B the Navy will be engaged in a maximum effort and in both cases facilities on the West Coast will be used to the saturation point, for assumptions C and D estimates would be based on cancelling all ship construction not over 50% complete at the beginning of the fiscal year.

(7) Post War Policies.

3/17/44. Combatant Bldg. after VE-day. Admiral Purnell Memo to Admiral Farber, serial 06305, regarding planning in WPB re Navy combatant program in case war in Europe should end, enclosed PP 11 and 12 of War Production and Civilian Output study of 1/24/44 (a discussion, not a directive) to following effect:

Two alternative plans are presented for naval shipbuilding:

A - Carry through presently authorized and material planning programs (through 1947) officially planned for ending the Pacific war in 1949.

B - Alternative if release of large military forces changes plans-

Eliminate all combatant vessels (except DE) not scheduled for completion in time to engage the enemy within 21-months after VE-day. From present schedules these would be 2-BB, 17-CV, 7-CVE, 17 large and heavy cruisers, 23-CL, 65-DD, 57-SS. All DE, patrol and mine craft that cannot be delivered before end of 1945 are stricken on assumption VE-day comes in fall of 1944. Army and Navy transports are held to schedules through 3rd Quarter of 1944 and cut moderately in 4th Quarter. The Landing Vessel program output will continue to rise from 1944 to 1945, but total is assumed to fall short of present 1945 schedule by 20%.

H. Factors affecting shipbuilding - 1944

(a) Strategic situation and progress of war.

(7) Post War Policies. (Cont'd.)

6/8/44. Defeat of Germany. VCNO Memo for SecNav discussed various phases of current plans upon the defeat of Germany, stating there will be no significant demobilization either from a material, personnel or an industrial standpoint. Present intentions are to transfer to the Pacific all ships that can be usefully employed there, probably about 5/8 of present combatant ships.

7/8/44. Post War Disposals and Development Program. VCNO end-1-ON Vice Admiral Robinson's (OP&M) letter to SecNav of 6/21/44 stated he cannot agree with the thesis that experience in the present war justifies retention for future wars of every ship now afloat and recommended against legislation for this purpose at this time. VCNO considered a continuing program for the development of new types of ships and weapons must be a basic assumption in our demobilization plans, that the determination of ships to be retained or scrapped will be established as soon as a final plan can be adjusted to known post-war international commitments, and that piecemeal legislation should not be introduced but that when plans are adjusted comprehensive plans covering the post-war Navy.

(a) 8/27/44. BuShips Memo for VCNO agreed heartily with the Memo of sub VCNO in the developments of comment on Admiral Robinson's proposal.

(b) Selective Service.

5/13/44. Acting SecNav serial 013702 to Mr. McNutt stated the Navy had been granted draft deferment for keymen having special skills in the shipbuilding industry in 4-categories only, viz, fleet maintenance and repairs, construction of landing craft, submarines and carriers (CV). He requested action be taken to include 5 other categories, viz, APA-AKA-APC, Fleet auxiliaries including tugs, CVL-CVB-CVE, DD, Cruisers.

5/17/44. BuShips letter to CNC endorsed data on the retarding effect of recent selective service policies re drafting eligibles in the 18-25 age brackets, stating the greatest losses have occurred in CVE, cruiser, and DD construction. If similar rulings are extended to the 26-30 age brackets many supervisors and key mechanics will be lost.

Building Program

I. Approved Programs

1944

(a) 8-CVE (2nd replacement group)

12/6/44. CominCh Memo for VCNO serial 04021 stated his serial 03762 of 10/31/43 had established a program of 8-CVE per year to follow the 105 class, that his serial 04215 of 12/13/43 had directed the first 8-CVE be incorporated into the current program, and directed the second replacement group be initiated without delay.

12/14/44. CNO Memo for SecNav serial 033605 requested Presidential approval.

12/14/44. SecNav Memo for President serial 033705 stated on 12/17/43 the President had approved construction of the first 8-replacements, and requested approval for the second-8.

1/29/45. A Memo to SecNav from the Naval Aide to the President stated the President approved the construction.

Note. These 8-CVE were included among 12-CVE whose construction was approved 3/25/45 in connection with the 84-vessel program.

Building Program

J. Changes in Building Program - 1944.

(a) No major changes were made in the combatant building program during 1944. The program was kept under continuous review and the following changes were proposed or accomplished.

(b) Proposed 12-additional SS.

1/21/44. BuShips letter to VCNO referred to VCNO letter of 9/11/43 (which stated no expansion of SS-program was desired) and stated that in the interests of increased output in 1944 and 1945 BuShips recommended they be directed to construct 12-SS without cancellation of 12-SS now scheduled for 1946 delivery because of the effect on current construction, unrest, etc, but stating that material originally destined for 1946 will be assigned the new contracts, and 1946 deliveries can be cancelled later if required by the logistic situation. Not approved.

(c) Proposed 35-additional ships.

3/31/44 VCNO Memo for CominCh serial 67205 enclosed a diagram of the present and prospective building programs, stated the slowing down of construction is associated with prospects of future building, that about 400,000 tons are available, that while some quarters might be reluctant to approve future construction it would be unwise not to provide replacement vessels in case of heavy losses, and recommended authorization be obtained from the President to proceed with the construction of 400,000 tons (List B) which it is considered will keep certain yards and specialized labor employed, maintain improvements in current design, and maintain facilities for stepping up production if necessary. List B comprised 1-CB, 5-CA, 2-CL, 3-CVL, 5-CV, 1-CVB, 6-DD, 12-SS.

CominCh stated no additional combatant program was needed at this time.

(d) Proposed 84-vessel program.

12/23/44. House Naval Affairs Data. BuShips letter to CominCh stated in effect Mr. Vinson arranged a conference 12/22/44 to discuss extent to which legislative authorization for construction was available. He was advised 717,340 tons was available 12/1/44 and that the 8-CVE for which Presidential approval is pending represented 96,000 tons and the Planning Program of 28-ships directed by CNO serial 020905 of 7/28/44 represented 374,500 tons. Mr. Vinson requested a Memo to show the extent to which production capacity is available for the 8-CVE, the 28-vessel program and to utilize the remaining available tonnage. Except for some SS construction Mr. Vinson did not indicate the types to be followed in the Memo, but indicated the entire program should be completed by the end of 1947.

J. Changes in Blög. Program - 1944

(d) Proposed 84-vessel program. (Cont'd.)

12/29/44. BuShips Memo to CNO stated a study had been made of the types and numbers of ships that can be completed by 12/31/47 and gave a table showing the ships in the current planning directive (36) and additional ships (172) that could be completed by 1/1/48, the total tonnage being 1,235,000 tons. BuShips stated 747,000 tons could be proceeded with without further Congressional authority leaving 500,000 to be procured.

12/30/44. VCNO Memo for CominCh stated Mr. Vinson had raised the question of introducing legislation for 1,000,000 tons of combatant authorizations. He discussed BuShips tabulations, stated he did not favor a new program that would utilize the full capacity of the yards and enclosed 3-suggested constructions, recommending List C totalling 102 ships, 754,000 tons comprising 2-CVB, 8-CV, 4-CVL, 4-CA(8"), 4-DD, 24-SS, 8-CVE, 4-CL(5").

Note. On 1/8/45 CNO serial 0035105 to SecNav requested Presidential approval be obtained for a combatant program totalling 84-vessels and 640,000 tons comprising 2-CVB, 6-CV, 12-CVE, 4-CA, 6-CL(5"), 56-DD, and 18-SS. This was disapproved by the President on 3/20/45 except for 12-CVE (including 3 previously authorized).

(e) Cancellations.

(1) The following cancellations are discussed above in connection with the strategic situation and progress of the war.

55-DE approved by President 6/7/44 reducing the program to 565.

98-SS approved by the President 7/14/44.

4-CL (112-115) approved by the President 9/5/44.

(2) 76-DE cancelled.

2/20/44 BuShips by letter to OP34 discussed directives issued in 1943 to cut the DE program to a total of 600 and stated the cancellation of the last 100 of these had been deferred by SecNav pending a review of the effect on the landing craft program. That program now is well in hand and the Bureau recommends 76-DE, scheduled for the end of the calendar year 1944 for which keels have not yet been laid, be cancelled if additional cut-backs are desirable.

OP34 recommended approval and on 3/7/44 SecNav approved CominCh serial 0793 dated 3/4/44 for cancellation. This reduced the program to 524.

(3) 22-DE cancelled.

5/26/44 CominCh Memo to SecNav serial 031223 stated he had

5. Changes in Bldg. Program - 1944

(e) Cancellations.

(3) 22-DE cancelled. (Cont'd.)

date that 8-DE keels were to be laid in June and 57 after 7/1/44 and that he considered 22 could be cancelled now. Plans have been made to convert 50-DE to AFD and the conversion of 50 others is under consideration for operations in the Western Pacific. The Germans have over 400-U Boats and cancelling the other 35-DE should be deferred with a decision about 20 June.

5/29/44 CNO serial 0324223-05 stated SecNav had approved the CominCh recommendations and directed cancellations to bring the total to 600.

(4) 3-CL reclassified CA.

During 1944 CL-143, 148, 149 (13,600) were redesignated and converted to CA-143, 148, 149 (17,000 tons).

(5) Reclassifications.

39-DD were reclassified, 12 as DM, 12 as DMS, 3 as APD, 7 as AG.

81-DE were reclassified, 80 as AFD, 1 as IX.

(f) 18-OVE authorized.

12/28/43. The President by letter to SecNav stated that under the provisions of P.L. 204 approved 12/17/43, you are hereby directed to acquire and construct not to exceed 2,000,000 tons of auxiliary vessels in accordance with the following schedule, which listed 315 auxiliaries including 18-OVE for construction by the Maritime Commission with delivery in 1944.

(g) Planning Program.

5/17/44. Annex A to General Board letter 420-2(serial 270) re Extension of Building Program, listed proposed additions of 28 combatant ships.

7/28/44. CNO serial 020905 to OP&M and Bureaus cancelled the planning program of 5/25/43 and directed that in planning facilities and material for additional construction above that now authorized they be guided by the General Board recommendations (1-BB, 6-CA, 3-CL, 5-CV, 1-CVB, 6-DD, 6-SS).

9/5/44. CNO serial 025605 to BuShips requested that priority of design studies for this program be 1-DD, 2-SS, 3-CL (\$6000), 4-CV(\$27,000).

J. Changes in Bldg. Program - 1944

(g) Planning Program.

12/30/44. VCNO Memo for CominCh serial 034305 discussed studies by BuShips of the types and number of ships (including the above) that can be completed by 12/31/47 in connection with the probable Naval Affairs Committee consideration of a building program.

(h) Statistics.

425 completed, 2-BB, 1-CA, 2-CB, 11-CL, 6-CV, 36-CVE, 78-DD,
208-DE, 79-SS.
8 added, 8-CVE.
237 cancelled, 4-CL, 135-DE, 98-SS.
23 LL, 5-CVE, 18-DE.
8LL returned, 5-DE, 3-SS.
49 lost, 1-BB, 1-CVL, 3-CVE, 15-DD, 1-DMS, 2-APD, 7-DE,
19-SS.
5 stricken, 2-DE, 3-SS.
123 reclassified, 3-CL to CA, 39-DD to DM-DMS-APD-AG, 81-DE to
APD(30) and IX(1).

Building Program

K. Building Program - 1945

1. The Combatant Building Program for 1945, is covered in a separate pamphlet which gives complete details of proposed additions and the cut-backs with copies of key correspondence.

2. To make this book complete, more details regarding the Building Program are shown for 1945 under Tab 4 (Resume) than for previous years.

L. Building Program - 1946

There was no new construction authorized for 1946 and the details of curtailment and other matters regarding the building program are shown under the Tab ('Resume'). Copies of key correspondence are in a separate 1946 pamphlet.

Planning Programs.

(a) Digest 1/1/42 - 7/1/46.

Planning programs were necessary and useful in planning the best utilization of building facilities, in planning for the procurement of critical materials and in making design studies to improve types and to incorporate the benefits of war experience. In addition to ships in approved building programs which were not currently under construction due to lack of facilities, or appropriations, or specific authority to proceed, they included prospective additions to the fleet which usually were included in later approved Building Programs.

There were six planning programs during the period 1/1/42 - 7/1/46. Also three Post War Plans were promulgated, P.W. Plans I, I-A, II.

(1) The Maximum Effort Program approved in principle by the President on 2/6/42 was based on the maximum utilization of existing facilities for types most urgently needed at the time. This showed items already approved, a few for which approval was requested, and the remainder were items for which approval would be requested in the future. The Maximum Effort Program after revision was absorbed into the 2-year program for construction during 1943-44, the 690-vessel Building Program which was approved by the President on 8/7/42.

(2) On 5/25/43 VCNO sent a chart to OP&M and the Bureaus which showed the authorized building program plus 413 whose construction had been recommended by CominCh on 5/19/43, stating the program was solely for use in planning material and in no wise was a directive to construct. It directed interested agencies to notify VCNO when construction authorizations became necessary for any ships to meet the scheduled delivery dates. The 413-vessel program was approved for construction by the President on 5/27/43.

(3) 7/28/44 Directive. On 5/17/44 the General Board submitted a program to meet urgent needs, provide for attrition and to develop improved type which included 1-BB, 6-CA, 3-CL, 5-CV, 1CVB, 6-DD, 6-SS.

On 7/28/44 CNO informed OP&M and the Bureaus the directive of 5/25/43 was cancelled and directed the General Board list be used in planning facilities and material for construction above that now authorized.

(4) 1/13/45 (later cancelled). CNO serial 035405 dated 1/13/45 informed OP&M and the Bureaus that the 84-vessel program recommended for Presidential approval by SecNav on 1/9/45 would be used as a guide in planning facilities and material for additional construction. On 3/22/45 the President disapproved the

(a) Digest 1/1/42 - 7/1/46. (Cont'd.)

program except for 12-CVE and the Bureaus were so informed by VCNO.

(5) 5/10/45, 12-ships. SecNav letter to the General Board and Bureaus (based on VCNO Memo to CominCH of 3/27/45) authorized the development of characteristics, plans and designs for 1-CV, 4-CI(AA), 4-DD, 3-SS stating the authorization does not include construction, procurement of material, or manufacture of components.

(6) 7/13/46, 1948 Program. CNO serial 032P04 to SecNav recommends funds for the fiscal year 1948 be requested to initiate the building, conversion and design studies set forth in the Joint DCNO recommendation enclosed.

Building Program

Planning Programs

1942

2/6/42 Maximum Effort. The President approved in principle the Maximum Effort Program enclosed with CNO Memo of 2/6/42 to SecNav which stated that OP&M required the program for overall planning for raw materials, and that no ships in the program will be started which the President has not approved and periodical recommendations will be submitted for further construction. The program was promulgated by CNO serial 080423 to Bureaus and OP&M for planning on construction not effective immediately.

This program was revised and absorbed into the 1943-44 (690 ship) Building Program.

1943

Planning Program

5/25/43. VCNO serial 0207023-A to OP&M and Bureaus enclosed a chart of the building program stating it was transmitted solely for use in planning material and is not a directive to construct. It stated . . .

There exists authorization, and a separate directive will be issued, for the ships listed in red (additions directed by CominCh serial 00994 of 5/19/43).

A Bill has been passed but not yet signed for 1,000,000 tons of auxiliary vessels, part of which tonnage has been obligated. A directive will be issued.

Another Bill not yet signed for 1,000,000 tons of amphibians and small craft will partially cover projects on the chart.

The Bureau will submit to OP&M the material requirements during calendar 1943 and 1944 by quarters necessary to meet the program.

The Planning Program tabulation included the following by quarters:

	<u>Completion</u> <u>1944</u>		<u>Completion</u> <u>1945</u>		<u>Completion</u> <u>1946</u>		<u>1947</u>
	<u>App'd</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>App'd</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>App'd</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>New</u>
CV (27,100)					3	3	7
CV(45,000)					1		1
CB					1		1
CA					4	3	7
CL (11,000)					7	3	9

1943

Planning Program (Cont'd.)

	<u>Completion</u> <u>1944</u>		<u>Completion</u> <u>1945</u>		<u>Completion</u> <u>1946</u>		<u>1947</u>
	<u>App'd</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>App'd</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>App'd</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>New</u>
DD	4		78		110		
SS			56		54	36	
DE	51		154	60	160		
ACV				8	16		
	<u>55</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>288</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>331</u>	<u>25</u>

(a) 10/11/43. CNO serial 0463923-05 to OP&M and Bureaus stated letter of 5/25/43 above directed interested agencies to notify VCNO when authorizations became necessary for ships on the program to meet their delivery dates. The program on DE (and various patrol craft) has been limited and agencies will plan to build only ships whose construction has been directed by CNO. No additional program now is contemplated.

1944

Planning Programs

7/28/44 Program

(1) General Board recommendation

5/17/44. Annex A to G.B. letter No. 420-2 (serial 270) re Extension of Building Program, combatant ships listed the following:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	BB	45,000 or more	Improved IOWA - for progress in design.
0	CB	27,500	No more for the present.
6	CA	16,500	CA-134 class, to increase CA with 8" H.F.
0	CL	14,000	CL-144 class, no more for the present.
3	CL	6,000	CL-119 improved.
5	CV	27,500	Attrition and to develop class.
1	CVB	45,000	To increase number.
0	CVL	14,500	No more for the present.
0	CVE	12,000	No more for the present.
6	DD		New design to improve type.
0	DE		No more for the present.
6	SS		Improved design for underwater stability.

(2) Directive

7/28/44. CNO serial 020905 to OP&M and Bureaus cancelled VCNO serial 0207023-A of 5/25/43 and directed that in planning facilities and material for additional construction above that now authorized the Bureaus will be guided by the following and quoted

1944

Planning Programs

(2) Directive (Cont'd.)

the General Board recommendations above stated this letter is not a directive to construct or authority to make commitments or to actually acquire material for the above construction.

(a) 8/28/44 BuShips requested CNO designate the relative priority desired for design work involved in various types of ships stating that at present DD-design studies are being given first priority and SS-Design studies second priority.

(b) 9/5/44 CNO serial 025605 to BuShips requested priority of design studies be (1)-DD, (2)-SS, (3)-CL (6000), (4)-Carriers (27,000).

(c) 12/23/44 BuShips letter to SecNav stated at conference 12/22/44 Mr. Vinson of House Naval Affairs Committee requested a Memo on availability of facilities to extend present program by 8-CVE for which approval is pending, the 23-vessels in planning program, and additional ships to utilize all tonnages available.

1945

Planning Program

5/10/45 Program

3/26/45 sub-CNO conferred with BuShips, BuOrd and others regarding a prospective building program for the development of type designs.

3/27/45 VCNO Memo for CominCh, serial 039005, stated a minimum progressive building program was considered imperative to insure advancement in type designs incorporating changes dictated by war experience and recommended a 13-vessel program.

5/10/45 SecNav letter to the General Board, BuShips, BuOrd, BuAer authorized the development of characteristics, plans and designs for 12-vessels (1-CV, 4-CL (AA), 4-DD, 3-SS) stating this authority does not include construction of ships, procurement of material, or manufacture of components.

1946

Planning Programs

1948-Program

(a) Appropriations.

7/11/46 The Ships Characteristics Board serial 094P04B enclosed joint-DCNO recommendations covering items for construction.

1946

1948-Program

(a) Approropriations. (Cont'd.)

items for conversion, items for design study and items for further consideration.

7/13/46 CNO serial O32P04 to SecNav recommended funds for the fiscal year 1948 be requested to initiate the building, conversion and design studies set forth in the above Joint DCNO recommendations.

7/19/46 SecNav endorsed his approval.

(b) Material Improvement Program for

5/29/46 Op-34 Memo for CNO serial O347P74 discussed the need for extensive improvements to ships in fiscal 1948 and made specific recommendations for items to be included in the 1948 Budget in order of precedence.

7/16/46 CNO serial O34P04 to SecNav enclosed the above and stated the program will be under continuous review in OpNav.

7/20/46 CNO serial O40P41 to Distribution List promulgated the 7/16/46 letter above for use in planning and preparing estimates for the 1948 Budget.

POST WAR PLANS

A. Navy Basic Demobilization Plan No. 1.

11/17/43 VCNO serial 0139713 to all Bureaus, etc, enclosed a copy of Navy Basic Demobilization Plan No. 1, stating its purpose was to plan the probable maximum requirements for the post war Navy and the Naval Establishment and to provide an orderly program of demobilization. The addressees were directed to prepare the parts of the plan, included in the Subsidiary Plans, assigned them or in which they are concerned.

B. Basic Demobilization Plan No. 2.

6/9/44 CNO serial 015205-D to Distribution List forwarded Plan 2 for study and preparation of subsidiary plans. The General Assumptions stated Plan 1 was based on the assumption no agreement would be reached by the Allied Nations in the maintenance of peace in the post-war era and Plan 2 on the premises.

Post War control of the sea and air throughout the world will be divided between Great Britain and the U.S. in accordance with the present strategic areas.

C. Demobilization Study No. 2, Revision No. 1.

10/10/44 CNO serial 030005-D to Distribution List enclosed a copy of the study which shows the approximate size of post war Navy, the personnel necessary, cost of operations, data on which Bureaus can plan.

D. Post War Plan No. 1.

3/5/45 CominCh serial 0604 to SecNav (Doc. 167675) submitted a basis for the preparation of post war plans, which was approved by SecNav 3/15/45.

4/1/45 CominCh serial 00806 to SecNav enclosed a tabulated summary of vessels and craft by classes or types now available, the requirements for the post war fleet, and the excess, stating the study was in accord with his letter of 3/3/45. This was approved by SecNav on 4/5/45.

4/12/45 CNO serial 003650-D (Doc. 163871) promulgated CominCh letter of 4/1/45 to holders of Navy Basic Demobilization Plan No. 2 and stated Navy Basic Post War Plan No. 1 is in process of preparation.

4/25/45 CNO serial 00184723 requested BuShips - BuOrd jointly compile for demobilization and post war planning, a tentative list of ships recommended for retention in the active and inactive status as well as those in excess to be disposed of.

D. Post War Plan No. 1. (Cont'd.)

5/4/45. CominCh serial 001132 to VONO stated CominCh letters of 4/1/45, 3/3/45 and 001056 of 4/27/45 are the essence of Post War Plans and the first two and essential portions of the third may be promulgated to planning agencies as Basic Post War Plan No. 1.

E. Post War Plan 1-A.

12/14/45 CNO serial 097P40 to Distribution List enclosed revisions to Basic Post War Plan No. 1, changed the title to Basic Post War Plan 1-A and stated it will be used for planning purposes in lieu of Plan No. 1.

F. Post War Plan No. 2.

3/21/46 CNO serial 051P001 to Distribution List enclosed Basic Post War Plan 2 for use in planning purposes in lieu of plan 1-A.

Precedence

(a) Digest.

1. During an emergency, when ordinarily there are shortages of labor and critical materials, precedence is required to establish the relative urgency of completions of naval vessels with attendant preferences in labor and material.

Early in the war the term 'priority' was used in connection with shipbuilding but later this was changed to 'Precedence' to avoid confusing it with Priority Ratings (AA-1, AA-2, etc.) used by the ANMB and WPB.

2. Regarding Material Control, during the war directives from the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) were controlling as to time and character of material procurement. The Acts approved 6/28/40 and 9/16/40 vested control of materials in the hands of the President which he delegated in turn to the Army and Navy Munitions Board, the Priorities Division of the Council of National Defense, the Office of Production Management, and finally to the War Production Board. Three systems of control were used by these agencies, viz.: Preference Ratings alone, the Production Requirements Plan (PRP), and the Controlled Materials Plan (CMP) (primarily for aluminum, copper and steel). As the different agencies took control each in turn delegated to the ANMB power to prescribe and administer Preference Ratings under regulations issued by them. The ANMB in turn delegated its priority authority (re the Navy) to the Bureaus through priority directives and instructions outlining conditions for the use of military Preference Ratings. More details regarding the Controlled Materials systems are appended hereto.

The CMP was an allocation system for controlled materials, and the Navy's requirements had to be approved by WPB. Since considerable lead-time was involved in the delivery of materials, the Combatant Planning Programs as well as the Authorized Programs were needed by the Bureaus to estimate future requirements.

3. The Precedence directives to the Bureaus and OP&M were prepared by Op-05 (now Op-41) and promulgated after approval by CominCh. The last one was issued on 10/8/45, CNO serial 24705, due to the war being over and to the imminent termination of the Controlled Material Plan.

The directives were a basis for the Master Precedence List published quarterly by BuShips which was discontinued on 11/1/45.

4. During 1942, VCNO issued 6 precedence directives which early in the year gave high precedence to BB 57-62 and to carriers, and later put landing craft, escort vessels and carriers in the highest groups. In addition on 5/1/42 the President stated the objective for construction in 1942 was highest priority for the vessels which could be completed by 7/1/43 plus escorts and submarines, with lower priorities for other types. This was rescinded later due to the effect on larger ships scheduled for later dates. On 10/17/42 JCS sent a proposed Executive Order to the President requiring a minimum of 310 escort vessels

Precedence

(a) Digest (Cont.)

be produced in 1943, concerning which the President informed WPB the materials must be provided to complete 260-DE and 50-70 corvettes in 1943. On 10/29/42 SecNav sent despatches to the Navy Yards Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk, stating the completion of 6-CV (listed) at the earliest possible date was essential and directed cooperation with the building yards regardless of effect on vessels under construction including landing craft. On 11/30/42 JCS sent to WPB what the President designated as the "No. 1 Group" which must be produced in 1943, which included 2-BB, 4-CA, 9-CL, 13-CV, 18-ACV, 119-DD, 260-DE, 59-SS.

5. During 1943 VCNO issued one precedence directive on 10/5/43 although several modifications to previous directives were sent out. In general Landing Craft were kept in Group 1 and DD in Group 2, APA and AKA were placed in Group 3, SS were raised to Group 4 from Group 9, while CV, DE and Patrol Craft dropped back.

6. During 1944, VCNO issued four precedence directives which towards the end of the year advanced CVB, CV, CVL, CVE and dropped back Landing Craft and Submarines.

7. Two directives were issued in 1945: one on 6/8/45 which placed certain CVB and CV in Group 1, placed conversion of DD and DE to pickets in Group 1, and raised all other DD from Group 9 to Group 2; the other on 10/8/45 stating that with the termination of the Controlled Material Plan, and the fact that the building program has been balanced to accord with current conditions, no relative precedences between types are necessary and that the completion dates shown in the current BuShips Progress Reports would be used for any precedence necessary.

CHANGES IN SHIPBUILDING PRECEDENCE GROUP

CONFIDENTIAL

Group No.	1941	1942										1943				1944					
	Dec 17	Jan 18	Mar 21	Jul 4	Sep 3	Oct 30	Nov 5	Nov 11	Nov 18	Nov 24	Mar 26	Sep 1	Oct 5	Dec 23	Feb 26	Jun 3	Jun 28	Jun 28 *	Sep 4 **		
	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. #57-60	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. #57-60	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. #57-60	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	Repair, Alterations & Spare Pts. Landing Craft	
Group 1	4 EB's #57-60	4 EB's #57-60	4 BB's #57-60	4 BB's #57-60	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	6 CV's completing in 1942-3	
Group 2	5 CV's #9,10,11,16,17	10 CV's #9-11,15-19,22	10 CV's #9-11,15-19,22	DD's, DE's, BDE's completing by 9/30/43	6 CV's completing in 1943	Landing Craft	Landing Craft	83 DE's (Correction of orig. dir.)	All DD, DE, BDE, AM, BAM	Other DE, BDE, AM#58-65, 100-131; BU#1-32	81 DE, BDE	81 DE, BDE	First 245 DE's & BDE's	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)
Group 3	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	Conversions AVG's	1 EB 780	DD's, DE's, BDE's completing by 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's completing by 9/30/43	AGS 62 AM's, BAM's completing by 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, AM, BAM completing by 9/30/43	Landing Craft	The first LST, 302 LCI(L), 340 LCI(L)	DD, Other DE, AM#58-65, 100-131; BAH#1-32	DD, Other DE, AM#58-65, 100-131; BAH#1-32	DD, Other DE, AM#58-65, 100-131; BAH#1-32	DD, Other DE, AM#58-65, 100-131; BAH#1-32	55's	Tugs, Barges	Tugs, Barges	CG Icebreakers of the "Wind Class"	CG Icebreakers of the "Wind Class"	CG Icebreakers of the "Wind Class"	CG Icebreakers of the "Wind Class"
Group 4	Patrol Craft	Patrol Craft	Conv. APA's, AKA's	10 CV's	1 EB #60	1 EB #60	1 EB #60	All Other CV	Other CV's	Landing Craft except LST's after 1st 200	Landing Craft except LST's after 1st 200	Landing Craft except LST's after 1st 200	Landing Craft except LST's after 1st 200	SS's	CV, CVB, CL	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.)	
Group 5	Light Cruisers	Light Cruisers	2 EB's #61,62	Conv. AVG's, AP's, AK's	4 CV's completing after 1943	4 CV's completing after 1943	4 CV's completing after 1943	4 CV's completing after 1943	ACV's incl. Conv. various Auxiliaries	ACV: APA & AKA Conv.	Other CV's	CV, CVB, CVL	CV, CVB, CVL	1st 400 DE: PP, PG, SC, G. Cutters com. before 1/1/44	DD Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.) and 180' AGL(T) & 255' PG(CR)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.) and 180' AGL(T) & 255' PG(CR)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.) and 180' AGL(T) & 255' PG(CR)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.) and 180' AGL(T) & 255' PG(CR)	Auxiliaries (AK, AP, AR, AS, AD, etc.) and 180' AGL(T) & 255' PG(CR)	
Group 6	DD's	DD's, DE's, BDE's	Patrol Craft	Patrol Craft	ACV's incl. Conv. APC, AK Conversion	ACV's incl. Conv. APC, AK Conversion	ACV's incl. Conv. APC, AK Conversion	Patrol Craft	Patrol Craft	Patrol Craft, 10TH #57-60, 67-69, 81-83	Conversions	CVB, LCC, Conv. incl. APA, AKA, Bldg. by MC for Navy	1st 400 DE: PP, PG, SC, G. Cutters com. before 1/1/44	CVB's	SS	DD Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	CV, CVB, CVL and CB, CA, CL	CV, CVB, CVL and CB, CA, CL	CV, CVB, CVL and CB, CA, CL	CV, CVB, CVL and CB, CA, CL	
Group 7	SS's	SS's	Light Cruisers	Light Cruisers	Patrol Craft	Patrol Craft	Patrol Craft	Cruisers (Light & Heavy)	Cruisers	Patrol Craft & TH	Patrol Craft & TH	Cruisers	CVB's	Cruisers	CV, CVB, CVL	CV, CVB, CVL	CVB	CVB	CVB	CVB	
Group 8	All Others	All Others	DD's, DE's, BDE's	SS's	Light Cruisers	Light Cruisers	Light Cruisers	SS's	SS's	SS's	Cruisers	Cruisers	Cruisers	EB's	1st 400 DE	1st 400 DE (since Oct. 1, 1943)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	50 Incl. CV(Brazilian Destroyers)	
Group 9			2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	
Group 10			All Others	DD's, DE's, BDE's completing after 9/30/43	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	2 EB's #61,62	
Group 11			All Others	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	DD's, DE's, BDE's, completing after 9/30/43	
Group 12				All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	220' AM	220' AM	220' AM	220' AM	220' AM	220' AM	220' AM	
Group 13														Patrol Craft, TH, C G. Tenders & Icebreakers	Patrol Craft, TH, C G. Tenders & Icebreakers	Patrol Craft, TH, C G. Tenders & Icebreakers	Patrol Craft, TH, C G. Tenders & Icebreakers	Patrol Craft, TH, C G. Tenders & Icebreakers	Patrol Craft, TH, C G. Tenders & Icebreakers	Patrol Craft, TH, C G. Tenders & Icebreakers	
Group 14														All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	All Others	

* Amended on August 11 by placing in Group 1 those APA, AKA, and LCC's on which directive treatment has been requested.
 ** Amended on October 5 by placing AM ahead of all vessels building, except APA, AKA, and LCC in Expedited Program. Further amended on October 13 by giving LSH(B) 100-199 priority equal to repairs.

FM 531a LJC
 11/29/44

Precedence - 1942

President's Directive

5/1/42. The President's directive covering priority of naval construction reads as follows, "The objective for naval construction in 1942 should provide for the completion of those vessels which can be commissioned prior to 7/1/43, and for the equipment for those vessels which can be launched prior to 7/1/43.

A lower priority should be assigned to those vessels now under construction which cannot be completed by 6/30/43, except for ships of light category designed for convoy protection and for submarines which can be completed during the calendar year 1943."

5/7/42. VCNO comment to CominCh. VCNO (S) memo for CominCh, Op-111: APC stated the above directive indicated the following with respect to vessels in the present building program:

<u>Complete</u>	<u>Indefinitely Delay</u>
(a) 5-BB viz. 58-62	9-BB viz. 63-71
(b) 5-CV(27000) 9-11,16,17	8-CV(27000) 12-15,18-20,21
(c) 4-CV (ex-CL) 22-25	2-CV (ex-CL) 26,27
(d) 0-CB	6-CB, 1-6
(e) 3-CA, 68-70	5-CA, 71-75
(f) 10-CL, 55-58,60,62,63,80,85,96	22-CL,64-67,79,81-83,86,87,89-94, 97-102
(g) AVG - at least 16 of the 1943 program of 24 will be indefinitely delayed.	
(h) About half the large auxiliaries will be indefinitely delayed.	
(i) The directive will have no immediate effect on the A/S vessels, escort vessels and the SS-program through 1943, but will affect any desired construction beyond that date.	

5/7/42. CominCh recommendations. CominCh memo for the President re his priority directive noted high priorities end with ships completing before 7/1/43 and pointed out under these circumstances it would be impossible to start cruisers or carriers for completion in 1944 or to continue on BB, CV or cruisers already underway but completing after 7/1/43. This is due to the fact the rate of building is dependent on getting raw materials. Assuming the U.S. will be on the offensive during 1943, the probability of heavy losses is great, and without replacements we may find it impossible to keep open lines of

Precedence - 1942

President's Directive (Cont.)

communication necessary to maintain the offensive in Europe and Asia. The ships now scheduled for completion in 1943 and 1944 are none too many for the problems confronting us. He strongly urged that Naval ships which can be completed in 1943 and 1944 be given high priorities.

7/31/42 OP&M to SecNav. OP&M (Adm. Robinson) Memo for Under SecNav discussed modifications of the Shipbuilding Program from 1/1/42 - 7/1/42 and in paragraph 1-(n) stated, "In May 1942 a priority directive was issued that would have brought to a halt a very considerable proportion of the combatant ship program by reducing priorities on material for certain of these vessels to a priority rating where deliveries of material could not even be hoped for. The combined efforts of the representatives of the Navy Department, including SecNav, were necessary to countermand this directive." Paragraph 2 stated BuShips now is preparing a new master priority list. Due to the tremendous detail involved in scheduling the material for building ships and programming the work of construction, the revised schedule, to be established in August, should not be changed except for compelling reasons.

Escort Vessels.

9/28/42. OP&M comment. OP&M memo for Admirals Leahy, King and Horne stated an intensive study had been made to determine the number of escort vessels which can be completed during 1943, utilizing Navy and Mar-Com. facilities, and based on the premise that interference will be acceptable on all types of ships except CV, DD and other patrol craft, cruisers and tankers and reached the conclusion that 320 escort vessels could be constructed during 1943 but not 520.

10/17/42. JCS re Executive Order. A memo for the President from the Joint Chiefs of Staff stated SecNav ltr of 9/1/42 to the President had been referred to JCS for recommendations as to corrective action, discussed shipping losses and estimated a combined U.S. and U.K. shortage of 1000 escort vessels on 4/1/43, stated all plans for offensive operations in progress or proposed are hampered and limited by the shortage, stated production must be increased even at cost of merchant ship construction, and recommended an Executive Order to the effect a minimum total of 310 ocean going escorts shall be completed during 1943, that specifications for equipment and material be liberalized to speed production, and that priorities allowed must not interfere with aircraft; carriers, other escorts and submarines scheduled for 1943; or tankers.

Precedence - 1942

Escort Vessels (Cont.)

10/30/42. President's directive to WPB. The President, by letter to Mr. Nelson, stated all plans for offensive operations are hampered and limited by the shortage of escort vessels, that he was anxious to get the 260-DE scheduled by the Navy for 1943, as well as 50 to 70 corvettes being scheduled by the Mar-Com, and added, "The materials for both of these programs must be provided."

Note. A Memo from Adm. Edwards to Adm. Farber stated there is no Executive Order: the only directive is the letter to Mr. Nelson.

CV-Over-Riding Priority

10/29/42. SecNav despatch 293131 to Navy Yards Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk, stated completion of CV-22, 9, 16, 23, 10, 17 at earliest possible date is essential, and the Navy Yards are directed to cooperate to fullest extent with the shipbuilding companies involved so that material required by shipbuilders for these vessels will be made available from that on hand or expected regardless of effect on vessels under construction including landing craft, but not to delay vessels undergoing repair.

10/30/42. BuShips despatch 302256 to SupShips, Industrial Managers and Navy Yards concerned quoted WPB despatch to manufacturers to the effect that the above CV are urgently required by the Navy and must be completed at the earliest possible date, and directed earliest delivery of materials for these ships regardless of effect on orders for other navy shipbuilding.

No. 1 Group.

11/30/42. JCS (S) letter to WPB (JCS 146/5 of 11/30/42) stated in effect the President had directed JCS to submit a "No. 1 Group" of items which must be produced in 1943 to produce a balanced war program. Regarding combatant ships this provided:

For Completion in 1943

2 - BB	9 - CL	18 - ACV	260 - DE
4 - CA	13 - CV	119 - DD	59 - SS

The Maritime Commission to construct escort vessels and auxiliary carriers to be commissioned in 12 months.

For Completion in 1944

1 - BB	6 - CA	11-CV	107 - DD	92 - SS
2 - CB	14 - CL	18-ACV	420 - DE	

Precedence - 1942

Controlled Materials.

7/31/42. OF&M Memo for Under SecNav commented on the many modifications in the shipbuilding program from 1/1/42 to 7/1/42 and stated BuShips now is preparing a new Master Priority List and, due to the tremendous detail involved in scheduling the material for building ships and programming the work of construction, requested the revised schedules to be established in August not be changed except for compelling reasons.

1/18/43. BuShips Ltr C-FS/Al-3(720) to VCNO stated in effect:

(a) The Monthly Status Report, which has been in existence for some time, has now been designated as the official production schedule upon which controlled materials plan estimates shall be based.

(b) The Controlled Materials Plan becomes effective on 1 April 1943, and after 1 July 1943 no steel, copper or aluminum can be obtained except under the Controlled Materials Plan.

(c) Under this Plan, BuShips will be working soon on estimates for material required for the 18 months starting 1 July 1943. These estimates will be effective for covering the allotments to be granted the Navy. This means the estimate, for example, will cover steel rollings for September 1943 which means steel deliveries in October 1943.

2/18/43. Controlled Materials Plan. BuShips Ltr to CP&M enclosed a List of Bureau of Ships Programs, termed "SHIP" Programs and requested it be approved for use in the controlled Material Plan, and requested VCNO assign each additional program by number to a group priority. The enclosure listed and assigned program numbers under,

Repair, Upkeep and Alteration Items

Priority Group 1 (over-riding) viz: 6-CV assigned Program No. 032

Priority Group 2, for example No. 036 assigned first 100-DD

039 assigned first 300-DE

Priority Group 3-11, in accordance with the latest Group Priorities established by VCNO.

Note: The Bureau of Ships prepared a quarterly "Master Precedence List" (Report No. 50) which set forth the relative precedence to be followed in scheduling material for the construction and conversion of ships and for Russian protocol and Lend Lease requirements. Master Precedence numbers were assigned all ships building by the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard and to certain other ships building by other United Nations governments, based on the Group Precedences established by VCNO. In joint BuShips-BuOrd letter dated 11/1/45 it was stated the Master Precedence List customarily published quarterly will be discontinued, and any necessary precedence will be established on the basis of completion dates.

Precedence - 1942

Group Priorities

7/4/42. Group Priorities Established. VCNO serial 0220823-M to BuShips established the following Group Priorities as a result of the advance in deliveries of Escort Vessels:

1. Landing Craft (ships originally having AA Priority).
Over-riding.
2. DD, DE, BDE
3. BB-60
4. CV
5. AVG and APA, AKA (conversions only)
6. Patrol Boats
7. CL
8. SS
9. BB-61, 62
10. DD and DE completing after 9/30/43
11. All other types.

9/3/42. Group Priorities. VCNO serial 0292123-A to BuShips revised priorities established 7/4/42 as follows:

1. "Must" items of Landing Craft Program (original AA Priority). Over-riding.
2. CV-22, 9, 2, 23, 31, 17
3. DD, DE, BDE
4. BB-60
5. CV, except those under 2.
6. AVG and APA, AKA (conversions only)
7. Patrol Vessels
8. CL
9. SS
10. BB-61, 62
11. DD and DE completing after 9/30/43
12. All others.

9/4/42 Master Precedence List. SecNav serial 0292223-A to BuShips desired CV-22, 9, 2, 23, 31, 17 assigned priorities on the Master Precedence List for Naval Vessels of 7/22/42 next after the "must" items of the Landing Craft program. Specifically they should come immediately ahead of No. 1077 on this list and be arranged in the order shown.

9/9/42. Clarification of 9/3/42 List. BuShips ltr to VCNO re VCNO priorities letter of 9/3/42 requested clarification of item 8-Light Cruisers stating the Bureau considered item 8 to include all cruisers. Also re item 6, the Bureau assumes the priority extended to AVG (now ACV) includes ACV 31-54 now building at Seattle-Tacoma, and any others built on Navy contract.

(a) 9/10/42. VCNO serial 0403023-A to BuShips modified his letter of 9/3/42 so item 8 reads 'Cruisers' and item 6 reads ACV and refers to any ACV whether converted or constructed.

Precedence - 1942

Group Priorities (Cont.)

10/30/42. Over-riding priority for 6-CV. BuShips ltr to VCNO stated in accordance with verbal authority of 10/29/42 the Bureau amended Priority List of 9/3/42 by placing CV-22, 9, 2, 23, 31, 17 as item 1 and "must" items of Landing Craft Program as item 2.

11/5/42. Group Priorities. VCNO serial 0471123-A to BuShips amended previous instructions so priorities now are:

1. CV-22, 9, 2, 23, 31, 17, over-riding
2. 'Must' items of Landing Craft Program
3. DD, DE and BDE; AM 58-65, 100-121; BAM 1-32.
4. BB-60
5. CV, except those under 1
6. AVG and APA and AKA (conversions)
7. Patrol Vessels
8. CL
9. SS
10. BB-61, 62
11. DD and DE completing after 9/30/43
12. Other types.

11/1/42. Cominch re AM and BAM. Cominch serial 002320 to VCNO stated the 18-knot AM (58-65 and 100-121) and BAMS (1-32) are adaptable for service as ocean going A/S escort vessels, they are scheduled for completion prior to the fall of 1943, and it is desired they be given equivalent, but ensuing, priority to the DE vessels.

(a). 11/6/42. VCNO serial 0472223-A to BuShips-BuOrd directed specifications be liberalized and ships be completed as quickly as possible.

10/17/42. YN (Net Tenders), priority 7. Op-30 Memo to VCNO stated there is great demand for YN due to the increase in net defenses at outlying and advanced bases and requested priority 7 be assigned to 10 of the 20-YN being built.

(a). 11/7/42. VCNO serial 0473823-A to BuShips amended Priorities in his 11/5/42 letter to place 10-YN under priority 7.

10/23/42. AD-20, AR-9 precedence. BuShips letter to VCNO recommended above be placed in category - 2 on VCNO ltr of 9/3/42 stating their services are urgently needed and that for completion in December 1942 and January 1943, respectively, AAA priority for certain items will be necessary.

(a). 10/27/42. VCNO serial 0461323 to OP&M requested recommendations.

(b). 10/31/42. OP&M replied each vessel required about \$800,000 in material and equipment and higher precedence would adversely affect completion of vessels now carrying higher priority.

(c). 11/7/42. VCNO serial 0473923-A to BuShips, called attention to delays due to insufficient workmen and disapproved request.

Precedence - 1942

Group Priorities (Cont.)

11/10/42. Precedence of Naval Programs. Under SecNav letter to WPB stated that at present the Navy is operating under the precedence of programs for construction as follows:

- (A) Maintenance and operating supplies, including ammunition for existing units including Aircraft, Marine Corps Units, Naval Vessels.
- (B) Construction of New Aircraft.
- (C) Construction of Ships.

11/11/42. Group Priorities. VCNO serial 0477223-A to BuShips cancelled previous instructions and established the following Group Priorities:

1. CV-22, 9, 2, 23, 31, 17, over-riding
2. DD, DE, BDE; AM 58-65, 100-121; BAM 1-32
3. Items of Landing Craft Program necessary to clear facilities for DE program and to keep Amphibious Forces supplied.
4. BB-60
5. CV, except those in 1
6. ACV and APA, AKA
7. Patrol Boats and 10-YN
8. Cruisers
9. SS
10. BB-61, 62
11. All other types.

11/25/42. Priority for CV-24, 25. N.Y. Shipbuilding Corp. letter to SecNav via BuShips stated maintaining delivery dates of CV-22, 23 made possible only by top ranking priority given in Building Program. Requested same procedure for CV-24, 25.

(a). 12/16/42. BuShips End-2 considered satisfactory deliveries could be made without over-riding priority.

(b). 12/22/42. VCNO serial 501723-A stated they would not be placed in same category as CV-22, 23 as this would militate against the Cruiser program.

Precedence - 1943

(a) Precedence. VCNO serial 09405 of 10/5/43 cancelled the directive dated 11/11/42 and established a new precedence list which raised Landing Craft from Group 3 to Group 1, left DD in Group 2, placed APA-AKA in Group 3, raised SS from Group 9 to Group 4, and dropped CV from over-riding to Group 5, DE from 2 to 6, BB-60 from 4 to 9, carriers from 6 to 7, and Patrol Craft from 7 to 13.

(b) Controlled Materials. OP&M Memo to VCNO dated 5/6/43 stated the intent of a statement by the Vice Chairman of WPB (document 215) is to place under absolute control the construction of additional facilities and to further greater utilization of existing ones. As a means of control a statement of controlled material requirements for 1944 for all programs is required by 7/1/43. This request when approved becomes the approved program which may only be changed with prior approval of WPB.

(1) 5/8/43 VCNO Memo to OP&M listed directives issued and plans in progress.

(2) 5/25/43. A new Planning Program was sent to OPM and Bureaus.

ANMB Directive. VCNO Memo for CominCh dated 5/22/43 stated the allocation of CMP material received by BuShips for the 3rd quarter 1943 showed a deficit of about 80,000 tons of carbon steel and a corresponding deficit in other critical material. The allocation apparently was based on ANMB Priorities Directive of 4/30/42 which limited AA-1 priority to Navy built ACV and vessels included in the current BuShips Progress Report for combatant ships scheduled for completion in 1943 and 1944. It was recommended that the ANMB give VCNO an opportunity to comment on any directive.

(c) Precedence vs Priority. BuShips letter of 11/5/43 to CNO suggested the use of terminology "Group Precedence" instead of Priority to avoid confusion with Priority Ratings AAL, AA2, etc. now used by ANMB and WPB. This was approved by CNO serial 011005 dated 11/13/43.

Precedence - 1944

(1) Landing Craft. CNO serial 305 dated 1/21/44 directed BuShips to give top precedence to selected landing craft scheduled for completion by 6/1/44 even above Repairs and Alterations or naval vessels completed but not yet reported.

(2) Fleet Maintenance. CominCh serial 0120023-05 dated 2/29/44 to JCS stated the Navy is giving priority to maintenance over new construction, that the spare part situation was bad due to an unfavorable position in the overall program and the disinclination of manufacturers to jeopardize production records by taking time for spare parts, and recommended the WPB be advised the necessary priority to meet delivery dates should be awarded spare parts for naval vessels even at the expense of conflicting programs including new construction.

(3) Auxiliaries. CominCh serial 02095 to JCS dated 6/24/43 stated that under the priority directive issued 4/30/43 and now in effect, difficulties are encountered in meeting needs in auxiliary vessels and stated early reconsideration of priorities is in order.

(4) Urgent Navy Programs. On 7/7/44 OP&M furnished CNO with a list of Urgent Navy Programs dated 7/3/44 stating it had been prepared after consulting Op-05 and Op-12 and if approved OP&M will furnish copies to those concerned. This was approved 7/18/44 by CNO and on 7/27/44 OP&M sent it to Navy Members of Area Production Committees for guidance.

(5) Directive Assistance. CNO serial 025805 dated 9/2/44 to Com-1,3-7,11-13 enclosed a list of 149 ships (APA, AKA, AGC) on which directive assistance had been granted and directed every effort be made to place them in service.

(6) Mar-Com in Precedence List. In August 1944, OP&M suggested that Mar-Com construction be included in the Precedence List and possibly Army construction, stating that shortage of labor is the controlling factor in meeting requirements. This was not agreed to, due to administrative and jurisdictional difficulties.

On 10/30/44 CNO serial 031805 to BuShips quoted a directive from JCS regarding priorities for APA and AKA not already assigned over-riding priority, and directed BuShips take appropriate action on Maritime Commission requests for priority on critical items of material and equipment.

Precedence - 1944 (Cont.)

(7) Precedence Groups were changed 4-times during the year as follows:

	2/26/44	6/3/44	6/28/44	12/19/44
Landing Craft	1	1	1	6
APA-AKA	1	1	2	1
Icebreakers (for USSR)	2	2	3	3
Tugs and Barges	3	3	4	5
Fleet Auxiliaries	4	4	5	2-5-8
DD	5	6	8	9
SS	6	5	9	11
CVB, CV, CVL	7	7	6	4
DE	8	8	13	14
CVE	9	9	7	4
CA, CB, CL	10	10	6	7
BB	11	11	10	12
AM	12	12	11	10
Patrol	13	13	12	13
Others	14	14	13	14

2/6/44. CNO serial 1305 to BuShips
 6/3/44. CNO serial 4505 to BuShips.
 6/28/44. CNO serial 6205 to BuShips.
 12/19/44. CNO serial 17205 to BuShips.

Precedence - 1945

(a) Group precedence

(1) 4/23/45. CNO serial 20405 to BuShips modified the directive of 12/19/44 by advancing 2-CVB and 3-CV from Group-4 to Group-1, and DD from Group-9 to Group-2.

(2) 6/8/45. CNO serial 21805 to BuShips cancelled the Precedence directive of 12/19/44 and modifications thereto and established the following Groups, stating that highest precedence continues as before for repair work on vessels in commission or in wartime operation and alterations considered essential for improving military characteristics:

1. (a) CVB-41,42. CV-21,32-34,37,39,40,45,47.
(b) LSM(R)
(c) Conversions of DD and DE to pickets and conversion of LCI(G)
(d) APA, AKA, ATA, YTB
(e) ARSD 1-4
2. (a) All DD (except Brazilian in Group-9)
(b) Auxiliaries (selected)
3. Icebreakers
4. CVB-43, CV not in Group-1
5. Tugs and Barges (subdivided a to e)
6. Landing Craft
7. CB, CA, CL
8. Auxiliaries except those in Group-2(b).
9. Brazilian DD.
10. Minesweepers
11. SS
12. BB
13. Patrol Craft and Coast Guard Vessels
14. All others.

(b) Carriers

4/17/45. CominCh Memo for VCNO serial 01036 desired the dates for CVB 41-42 be anticipated if possible without interference with other programs.

4/23/45. CNO serial 20405 to BuShips advanced 2-CVB and 3-CV from Group-4 to Group-1 on the precedence list, and all DD from Group-9 to Group 2.

(c) War Over. Germany surrendered 5/8/45. Cease firing ordered in the Pacific 8/15/45.

(d) Last Precedence List

10/8/45. CNO serial 24705 to BuShips stated recent WPB directives have accomplished changes in the priorities system estab-

Precedence - 1945

(d) Last Precedence List (Cont.)

lished by the WPB including advancing the termination date for the Controlled Material Plan to 10/1/45. The Navy shipbuilding program has been balanced to accord with current conditions and it is considered that no relative precedence between types or units is necessary at this time. It is desired every effort be made to meet completion dates established as of 9/1/45, in the BuShips Progress Reports and that any necessary precedence be established on the basis of these completion dates.

(e) Controlled Material Plan terminates 10/1/45

10/8/45. CNO serial 24705 stated recent WPB directives advanced the termination date of the Controlled Material Plan to 10/1/45.

(f) OP&M becomes Material Division.

8/20/45. G.O. 221 rescinded G.O. 166 of 1/30/42 plus amendments and transferred the powers, duties, etc., of OP&M to the Assistant SecNav. On 8/20/45 SecNav informed the Bureaus and Offices the duties will be performed by an office known as the Office of the Assistant Secretary, Material Division.

(g) Master Precedence List discontinued.

11/1/45. Joint BuShips-BuOrd letter to Naval Districts, Navy Yards, SupShips, Inspectors, etc., stated the Master Precedence List customarily published on a quarterly basis will be discontinued. Relative precedence between types or units no longer is necessary. Any necessary precedence should be established on the basis of dates in the Component Percentage schedule dated 11/1/45. The delivery precedence of critical BuShips spare parts (or Repair) as published in the Master Precedence List effective 7/1/45 will remain effective for an indefinite period.

(h) MM-Preference Ratings

11/2/45. ANMB letter to Bureaus and to Agencies under ANMB Priorities jurisdiction referred to their Priority Instructions of 9/26/45 which included a statement that all prime contracts and purchase orders may be assigned the MM preference rating when the military is not able, without preference rating assistance, to obtain the material when delivery is required, and in view of present conditions requested the use of MM preference ratings be restricted to truly urgent needs.

Precedence

Controlled Materials

(a) During the war directives of the JCS were controlling as to the time and character of material procurement. Four agencies in turn exercised material control, the Army Navy Munitions Board, the Priorities Division of the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defense (Oct. 1940), the Office of Production Management (Jan. 1941) and the War Production Board (Jan. 1942). Three systems of control were used by the above agencies, viz: Preference Ratings alone, the Production Requirements Plan (PRP), and the Controlled Materials Plan (CMP).

(b) Preference Ratings

On 3/5/40 the ANMB established a scale of preference ratings assignable to various classes of military equipment and supplies with relative urgency indicated by Priority Rating A-1 to A-10 which Navy procurement officers were directed to assign contracts for material on the Priorities Critical List for use on end-products.

Super-rating AA also was provided for special emergencies when authorized by the Priorities Committee of the ANMB. In a short time the A-1 band had become overcrowded, and on 11/27/40 the A-1 band was split into 10-bands, A-1-a, A-1-b, etc. and outstanding A-1 orders were re-rated.

In 1942, due to our entry into the war, a new emergency rating AAA was superimposed, while 4-categories AA-1,2,3,4 provided for major war items. Of the military program scheduled for 1942, 50% was rated AA-1, the other half AA-2, and later programs were AA-3 and 4. The A-1-a, etc., series was retained, but little material could be obtained under these ratings.

Procurement of Maintenance, Repair and Operating supplies (MRO) presented special problems under the preference rating system. They were allowed an A-10 rating, which did not help the spare-part situation.

A WPB directive (Directive Assistance) was the highest special rating device and required performance of a definite service in a definite time, and suspended previous orders even those with emergency AAA ratings. Early in the war considerable trouble arose from granting Directive Assistance to entire programs.

The Priorities Division, OPI, and WPB when given control, each delegated to the ANMB power to prescribe and administer preference ratings under regulations issued by them. The ANMB in turn delegated its priority authority to the Supply Arms and Services of the Army and to the Bureaus and Offices of the Navy through priority directives and instructions outlining conditions for the use of military preference ratings. Each procuring Bureau and Branch of the Navy or Army was authorized to affix to its contracts the appropriate preference rating as indicated by the ANMB directive.

Precedence

Controlled Materials

(b) Preference Ratings (Cont.)

Although the President was granted power to apply mandatory priorities to Army and Navy contracts by the Act of 6/28/40, acceptance of contracts by industry was voluntary. An amendment to the Act of 5/31/41 granted mandatory priorities powers to the President applicable to all orders, foreign or domestic which he deemed vital to the defense of the U.S. The President delegated his priorities powers to the Priorities Division of CNO and later to OPM and WPB, and acceptance of rated orders became mandatory.

Preference ratings were systematized and given legal force by Priority Regulations started by OPM early in 1941 and continued by WPB after January 1942. 32-Regulations were issued, the key-features being outlined in PR-1 and 3.

PR-1 gave the basic rules for use of preference ratings, a scale of ratings, and the conditions under which business was compelled to accept or allowed to reject orders, and penalties for non-compliance.

PR-3 outlined regulations for the actual assignment of preference ratings and the conditions under which prime contractors could extend their ratings to their suppliers.

(c) The Production Requirements Plan (PRP)

The PRP was established by WPB preference rating order P-90 dated 12/3/41 and was made effective on a voluntary basis for the first quarter of 1942. In effect it was a blanket preference rating to make easier the method by which manufacturers using metals could get preference ratings to purchase. Each applicant was required to state quarterly his estimated needs, and WPB determined the importance of the product and assigned preference ratings to specific quantities of the material. This system was made compulsory effective 7/1/42 by Priority Regulation 11 dated 6/10/42, and all companies with receipts or withdrawals whose values were over \$5,000 were affected. Shipyards were subject to PRP and were required to file quarterly applications. In the Navy applications were channeled through BuSARMA to WPB for processing. This system was used during the last half of 1942 and the first quarter of 1943.

(d) The Controlled Material Plan (CMP)

The CMP was announced by WPB on 11/2/42 to become mandatory 6/1/43. In effect it was an allocation system with allocations controlled to produce the priorities desired. The basis of allotments were bills

Precedence

Controlled Material

(d) The Controlled Material Plan (CMP) (Cont.)

of material for specific end-products in Claimant Agencies Production Schedules. For the three basic metals covered by the Plan (Aluminum, Copper, Steel) WPB would assign certain quantities to each of the 15-Claimant Agencies (of which the Navy was one), the Claimant Agency would divide its allotment among its subdivision (Bureaus for the Navy) who in turn made allotments to prime contractors. The Prime Contractors placed orders at the mills for the material allotted or divided their allotments with sub-contractors.

Material other than controlled continued subject to Priority Orders of WPB. Acceptance of orders with CMP allotment numbers was mandatory unless they conflicted with scheduled previous orders with allotment numbers, except in case of conflicts, orders with emergency AAA ratings took precedence.

CMP caused a decline in the priority functions of the ANMB since CMP covered all production. The major work of balancing supply and demand was in the WPB, assisted by the ANMB.

On 1/30/42 SecNav by G.O. 166 announced the establishment of the Office of Production and Material (OP&M) in the Navy Department with duties, under SecNav, of coordinating all material procurement activities of the Navy Department and to supervise programs for the procurement of ships and material of every character as approved by the SecNav. OP&M established a Navy Material Control Officer with duties of coordinating the Navy's material requirements, and announced that the steps re CMP in the Navy were (1) to plan and schedule a balanced procurement program, (2) to determine requirements of controlled material (3) OP&M to send requirements to WPB, (4) the allotments received sent by OP&M to the Bureaus and by the Bureaus to prime contractors.

On 10/1/45 the Controlled Material Plan was terminated.

(e) Chronology

7/5/39. The President issued an order placing the ANMB and Joint A. & N. Board under the direction and supervision of the President.

7/6/39. The President approved making the ANMB the control agency for foreign purchases.

6/17/40. ANMB established a Priorities Committee.

6/28/40. The Act, approved 6/28/40 provided that deliveries of material under all naval contracts or orders shall, in the discretion of the President, take precedence over all deliveries for private account or for export.

Precedence

Controlled Material

(e) Chronology (Cont.)

8/5/40. ANMB established a scale of Preference Ratings assignable to various classes of military equipment and supplies, the ratings being A-1 to A-10 which Navy procurement officers were directed to assign to contracts for materials on the Priorities Critical List.

9/16/40. The Selective Service Act included authorization for the President to place orders with any company for products or material required, compliance to be mandatory and to have precedence over all orders or contracts previously placed with such companies.

10/21/40. Executive Order 8572, established a Priorities Board in the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defense, with authority to grant or withhold priorities.

12/5/40. The priorities-Board and the Army and Navy reached an agreement re revision of the rules of the Priority Board which was approved by the President 12/15/40 and allowed the ANMB preference ratings for their critical list to stand, but the list could be amended only by the Priority Board.

Jan. 1941. The President established the Office of Production Management which took over the duties of the Priorities Board. OPM issued Priorities Regulation-1 giving the basic rules for preference ratings, a scale of ratings, and the conditions under which business men were compelled to accept or allowed to reject contracts.

8/20/41. JCS issued directives as a basis for priorities.

12/3/41. The Production Requirements Plan (PRP) was established by Preference Rating Order P-90, effective on a voluntary basis during the first quarter 1942.

12/18/41. The First War Powers Act was approved.

1/16/42. The WPB was established by Executive Order 9024.

1/30/42. OP&M was established in the Navy Department by G.O.-166.

2/27/42. ANMB reorganization was approved by the President with a proviso that the ANMB report to him via WPB.

4/5/42. JCS revised its directive of 8/20/41 to meet new conditions; at this time the Navy sponsored a warrant system of priorities on a coupon basis, somewhat like rationing, but WPB chose PRP.

6/10/42. WPB issued Priorities Regulation 11 making the PRP plan compulsory, effective 7/1/42. WPB Regulation No. 1 issued 7/1/42 also stated PRP was compulsory as of 7/1/42.

Precedence

Controlled Material

(e) Chronology (Cont.)

11/2/42. Controlled Materials Plan (CMP). WPB announced the CMP stating it would become mandatory on 6/1/43.

10/1/45. Controlled Material Plan terminated. Still controlled preference ratings.

COMBATANT TONNAGE AUTHORIZED

PL.	APPROVED	DESIGNATION	TONS				
			AUTH.	OBLIGATED	AVAILABLE		
135	3/27/34	VINSON-TRAMMELL ACT	1,262,068				
528	5/17/38	20% EXPANSION ACT	295,412				
629	6/14/40	11% EXPANSION ACT	167,000				
757	7/19/40	70% EXPANSION ACT	1,325,000				
369	12/23/41	5% EXPANSION ACT	150,000				
551	5/13/42	SUBMARINE PROGRAM	200,000				
666	7/9/42	H.R. 7184	1,900,000				
			5,299,480				
			OBLIGATED				
			IN SERVICE		BLDG		
STATUS			SHIPS	TONS	SHIPS	TONS	
6/15/42			241	1,051,607	742	2,643,276	3,749,480
1/1/43			284	1,123,940	1075	3,885,223	5,299,480
1/1/44			544	1,839,677	899	3,001,391	"
1/1/45			876	2,756,080	317	1,818,050	"
1/1/46			962	3,297,439	99	691,034	"
7/1/46			988	3,531,684	51	396,308	"

The above shows the status of current combatant authorization acts. The 7/1/46 figures show 3,531,684 tons in service and 396,308 tons building which total 3,927,992 tons; the 'obligated' column at the right shows 4,021,324 tons; the difference 93,332 tons representing 63 ships (92,932 tons) stricken for disposal and not replaceable now, plus 4-PT (400 tons) building.

In addition to the ships shown under current authorization, on 7/1/46 we had other combatant ships viz, 24-overage (11-RR, 1-CV, 1-CL, 5-AG, 6-SS), 155-DF and ex-DF built under the Emergency Construction Act or Lend Lease Act; and 75-CVE built under LL or Auxiliary Tonnage Acts. The complete picture as of 7/1/46 is shown below.

7/1/46	IN SERVICE		BLDG		TOTAL		AVAILABLE
ABOVE	988	3,531,684	51	396,308	1039	3,927,992	
PRE 1934	24	391,255			24	391,255	
EC (OR EX-DE)	153	202,700			153	202,700	
LL (DE)	2	2,300			2	2,300	
LL + AUX. (CVE)	75	848,680			75	848,680	
TOTAL	1242	4,976,619	51	396,308	1293	5,372,927	
LESS SHIPS LL	-30	-113,410			-30	-113,410	
TOTAL 7/1/46 US	1212	4,862,209	51	396,308	1263	5,259,517	

Tonnage - Legislative Authorization

(a) Digest

1. The steps involved before a building program can be started are:

Establishing the requirements by numbers and types, with due regard to the construction facilities available, and getting Presidential approval of the program.

Procuring legislative authorization for the tonnage involved, if the needs cannot be met by unobligated balances available.

Justifying legislative appropriations.

Procuring Presidential approval to award contracts for all or part of approved construction programs.

2. Regarding Tonnage, the 20% Expansion Act, P.L. 528 approved 5/17/38 added 295,412 tons to the authorized composition of the U. S. Navy in underage vessels; listed the total authorized underage tonnage by types viz capital ships 630,000 tons, aircraft carriers 175,000 tons, cruisers 412,524 tons, destroyers 228,000 tons, submarines 81,956 tons; and authorized the President to undertake such construction including replacements, as is necessary to build the Navy to the total authorized underage composition as provided above.

Subsequent Acts during 1940 and 1941 added 1,642,000 additional tons among the various types, and practically all combatant tonnage authorizations allowed replacement of lost or overage vessels. P.L. 629 approved 6/14/40 stated vessels of the following categories shall hereafter be deemed underage until the number of years indicated have elapsed since completion, viz BB-26 years, aircraft carrier - 20 years, cruisers - 20 years, other combatant craft - 16 years, submarines - 13 years.

3. The only combatant tonnage added after 1/1/42 were 200,000 tons included in P.L.-551 approved 5/13/42 (The Submarine Program), and 1,900,000 tons included in P.L.-666 approved 7/9/42 (HR 7184).

P.L.-551 did not specify types, but authorized the President to undertake the construction of combatant ships of such types and tonnages as he determines to be necessary for the successful prosecution of the war. Actually it was used for the construction of 120-SS included in the 690-vessel program approved 8/12/42.

H.R. 7184 increased the authorized tonnage by 500,000 tons of aircraft carriers, 500,000 tons of cruisers, and 900,000

(a) Digest (Cont'd.)

tons of DD and DE and provided that replacements for overage or lost vessels need not be of the same class as the vessels which became overage or lost provided they were combatant types and the total authorized tonnage was not exceeded. This tonnage plus that obtained from cancelling 5-BB and 4-CB was used for vessels in the 690-vessel program approved 8/12/42.

4. CVE for a long time were classed as auxiliaries, and most of the tonnage was provided under auxiliary authorization. CVE 55-66 were charged to P.L.-76 approved 6/17/43, CVE 87-104 against P.L.-204 approved 12/17/43, CVE 105-119 against P.L.-665 approved 7/9/42. Only CVE 120-127 was against combatant tonnage viz the Vinson-Trammell Act, P.L.-135 approved 3/27/34.

5. A separate pamphlet "Digest of Legislative Authorizations" contains copies or extracts from all Tonnage Authorization Acts, including combatant auxiliaries, and other types.

Authorized Tonnage

Status 1/1/42

10/28/41. Defense Aid Act.

In June 1942 the British proposed constructing 100-BDE and in August the President approved the construction of 50 (DE 1-50) which later were authorized under the Defense Aid Act.

1942

2/6/42. 1799 Vessel. Emergency Construction

6/15/42. BuShips statement to the Naval Affairs Committee in H.R. 7184 commented on previous authorizations and stated in effect re the EC Act that the construction of 250-DE was included under this Act which authorized the construction of 1799 vessels of any type. These vessels may not be transferred but may be leased and therefore enter the records as U.S. vessels whether manned and operated by the USN or by some other of the United Nations. Thus there will be an addition to the authorized strength of the Navy of 250-vessels which aggregate standard displacement of 350,000 tons, and it is treated in the records as though the Act of 2/6/42 authorized the construction of 350,000 tons of combatant vessels in the DD and DE category.

5/13/42. Submarine Program.

P.L.-551 approved 5/13/42 added 200,000 tons of combatant ships and authorized the President to undertake the construction

Authorized Tonnage

1942 (Cont'd.)

of combatant ships of such types and tonnages as he determines to be necessary for the successful prosecution of the war.

120-SS included in the 690-vessel building program approved 8/12/42 were charged against this tonnage.

7/9/42. H.R.-7184

P.L.-666, approved 7/9/42, added 1,900,000 tons of combatant ships, specifying:

Aircraft Carriers	500,000 tons
Cruisers	500,000 tons
Destroyers and Destroyer Escorts	900,000 tons

It also provided that re replacements authorized by the Act (overage or lost), the replacement vessels are not required to be of the same class as the vessels which have become overage or lost, as long as they are either battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers, destroyers or destroyer escorts, or submarines, and so long as the total authorized composition of the Navy in underage vessels is not exceeded.

The ships in the 690-vessel program (less SS) approved 8/12/42 were charged against this tonnage.

7/9/42. 1,200,000 tons of auxiliaries.

P.L.-665 approved 7/9/42 authorized the President to acquire and convert or construct 1,200,000 tons of auxiliary vessels of size, type and design he may consider best suited for the national defense.

CVE 105-119 were charged against this tonnage.

1943

6/17/43. P.L. 76. (1,000,000 tons auxiliaries) CVE 55-85 (32)

This Act authorized the President to acquire and convert or construct one million tons of auxiliary vessels. A proviso stated any vessel intended for the U.S. Navy, whose construction or acquisition heretofore or hereafter has been authorized for the Maritime Commission, WSA, or other agency, shall be subject to the approval of the Navy in all matters of design and construction or conversion.

(a) The proviso cleared up difficulties with the Maritime Commission regarding approval of plans and inspections of the 50-CVE being built by Kaiser.

Authorized Tonnage

1943(Cont'd.)

(b) 32-AVG (55-86) were charged against this appropriation on delivery from the Kaiser Yards.

12/17/43. P. L. 204. (2,500,000 tons auxiliaries) OVE 87-104 (18)

This Act authorized the SecNav to acquire and convert or construct 2½ million tons of auxiliary vessels or such portion thereof as the President may direct. It also provided that vessels acquired by the Navy from the Maritime Commission without reimbursement shall not be disposed of except by return to the Maritime Commission.

(a) 18-AVG (87-104) building at the Kaiser Yards, were charged to this appropriation when delivered.

AUTHORIZATION ACTS

History

The modern series of Authorization Acts began with the approval of the Vinson-Trammell Act in March 1934. This authorized the construction of combatant vessels to the extent permitted by treaties then in effect, and was the only Act we had until after those treaties expired. This limited the tonnage of each of the five categories covered by the treaty, viz., capital ships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, submarines, and totaled 1,262,068 tons. An important provision authorized the President to maintain these tonnages of under-age ships by permitting replacements of any ships becoming overage or lost. Appropriations did not follow closely the tonnage authorization and ships authorized by the 1934 Act were under construction until 1943 (not alluding to the replacement feature which amounts to an authorization in perpetuity).

The so-called 20% Expansion Act was approved 17 May 1938, and authorized the construction of 295,412 additional tons specified by types. On 15 January 1942 there were 68,088 tons in service and 227,324 tons under construction.

After the war started in Europe in September 1939, further increases became necessary and the so-called 11% Expansion Act was approved on 14 June 1940 which followed the pattern of the 1938 Act, except to provide flexibility, it allowed for shifting not more than 20% of the total tonnage between the various categories. This added a total of 187,000 tons.

The 11% Expansion Act was rapidly followed by the 70% Expansion Act, approved 19 July 1940, which added by categories a total of 1,325,000 tons. It also allowed a 30% transfer between categories.

The 11% and 70% Acts were combined into a construction program for a "Two Ocean Navy Program" which was started in the summer of 1940, which provided for full utilization of all existing facilities and a great many added facilities, with completion effected about 1948.

As the "Two Ocean Program" got underway, the shipbuilding industry struck its stride and Congress removed many limitations, so by the middle of 1941, it became apparent that facilities would become available for continuing and enlarging the program as early as 1942. In the fall of 1941, a Bill was presented which provided for the tonnage of all the ships it

AUTHORIZATION ACTS

History

appeared possible to lay down, following the existing program, before 1 January 1943. The so-called 5% Expansion Act was approved 23 December 1941, and provided for 150,000 tons of combatant ships without restrictions as to categories.

The so-called "Submarine Program Act" was approved 13 May 1942, and authorized 200,000 tons of combatant ships of any category. It was initiated for the construction of additional submarines, because of the very effective work accomplished by our submarines since our entry into the war.

Destroyer Escorts were not covered by Combatant Authorization Acts. The construction of the first fifty was authorized under Defense Aid (Lend Lease) and was increased by 250 under the Act of 6 February 1942, authorizing the construction of 1799 vessels of any types.

H.R. 7148 was presented to Congress in June 1942, because of the need for all combatant ships that could be built, and it was considered by fully utilizing the country's shipbuilding capacity, the last keel under H.R. 7148 could be laid by 31 December 1944, and the last ship in service by the end of 1946. This was passed and approved 9 July 1942, and provided 1,900,000 additional tons, viz., 500,000 tons aircraft carriers, 500,000 tons cruisers, 900,000 tons destroyers and destroyer escorts, with a variation of 30% allowed between categories.

LEND LEASED AND TRANSFERRED

	LL	BLDG	TOTAL	1/1/42	LEASED				
				1/1/43	1/1/44	1/1/45	1/1/46	7/1/46	
CL			-	-	-	-	1	1	CL 5 To 115-0
CVE - STATUS			-	3	28	33	27	7	
CHANGES LEASED			3	25	5				
RETURNED						-6	-30		
END OF YEAR			3	28	33	27	7		
BAVG	-	9	9	2-1-3	3	3	2	1	
COMPLETED	4	-4		1-1					
CANCELLED		-3							
RECLASSIFIED		-1							
RETURNED						-1	(1)		
LOST									
STRICKEN DISPOSAL	-2						1		BAVG 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 BAVG 4 TO CVE 31 BAVG - 6 BAVG - 2, 5 BAVG - 1
END OF YEAR	2	1		3-0-3	3	2	1		
DR			-	-	76	93	46	19	
CHANGES LEASED				+76	+18	+2			
RETURNED					-5	-35	-26		
LOST					-5	-3			
STRICKEN DISR					-1	-1	1		
END OF YEAR			-	76	83	46	19		
DE - LOANED CHM							2	2	DR - 6, 47
SS			1	2	2	-	-	-	SS - 126, 127
CHANGES LEASED			1						
RETURNED					-2				
END OF YEAR			2	2	1	1	1	1	
BSS			5	1	1	1	1	1	BSS - 94, 96, 105, 130, 134
CHANGES RETURNED					-1				
LOST			-2						
STRICKEN DISPOSAL			-2						
END OF YEAR			1	1	1	1	1	1	

LEND LEASE

Digest

(a) Lend Lease Machinery.

Allocations under Lend Lease were handled through Admiral Reeves as Chairman of the Munitions Assignment Committee and Member of the Munitions Assignment Board under the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

The Chief of Logistic Plans (Op-40), and the ACNO (Material) (OP-41), were Navy Members of the Joint Munitions Allocation Committee under Admiral Reeves.

The details in OPNav were handled largely by the Lend Lease Office of Record (Op-40X).

The Munitions Assignment Board Washington and sub-committees was abolished as of 11/8/45 and the MAB London as of 11/10/45.

(b) According to the Records, 1/1/42 - 7/1/46,

1-CL (CL-5 to USSR) was taken up on the records during 1945 as LL.

33-CVE and 5-BAVG were LL of which 28 were returned, and 2 lost, leaving 8 outstanding.

96-DE were leased of which 66 were returned, 8 lost, 3 for disposal, leaving 19 outstanding.

2-DE were loaned to China.

2-SS and 5-BSS were lost, stricken or returned, leaving none outstanding.

Those outstanding are 1-CL(USSR), 8-CVE (UK), 19-DE (5-UK, 8-Brazil, 6-France).

(c) The principal problems regarding shipbuilding were:

The quantity of escort vessels to be assigned U.K. which was decided by JCS and CominCh on a basis of relative urgency in the various theatres and ability of U.K. to man the ships.

Design, based on operating methods, which was decided in favor of using standard U.S. design and specifications with any changes to be made by lessees.

(d) Assistance to foreign countries involving ships were approved by Congress as follows:

7/16/46 Assistance to China, HR 5356 was approved as PL 492.

7/26/46 Assistance to the Philippines, HR 6572 was approved as PL 454.

Assistance to South America, pending.

Status 1/1/42

(a) Summary

On 1/1/42 there were 300-BDE on order, 9-AVG on order, and 6-SS had been assigned to the British.

(b) DE

In June 1941 the British Supply Council proposed the construction of 100-EDE and in August the President approved 50 (DE 1-50) which were authorized under the Defense Aid Act of 10/28/41.

In November 1941 the British requested 470 additional be constructed and the President approved the construction of 250 (DE 51-300) in advance of Congressional authorization. The 250-DE were included in the Emergency Construction Act (1799 Vessels, EC) which was approved 2/6/43.

(c) AVG

On 1/1/42 there were 9-BAVG on order and it was planned to meet additional British requirements by allocations from our own construction.

(d) SS

Five submarines were assigned to the British (94, 96, 105, 130, 134), two had been returned (126, 129) and SS-80 had been scrapped.

Lend Lease

BDE- 1941

(a) BDE-300 program.

6/23/41. The British Supply Council proposed the construction of 100-DE with delivery of the first one in 2 years with 10 per month thereafter.

8/15/41. 50-DE approved. The President approved the construction of 50-DE for the British. Funds became available under the Act of 10/28/41 and orders were placed with the first vessel scheduled for March 1943. The authorization provided this construction was not to interfere with the USN Program.

11/1/41. 250-DE approved. In November 1941 the British requested 470 additional DE be constructed. The Navy, with the Presidents approval, proceeded with a program of 200-DE in advance of Congressional authorization.

IL - 1942

(a) 1799 Vessel (EC) Act.

2/6/42. The President approved the Emergency Construction Act as PL 440 which authorized the SecNav to undertake the construction of 1799 minor combatant, auxiliary and patrol vessels of various types "for the United States Navy or for disposal in accordance with existing law".

(a) The legislation was originally requested to take care of British requests for construction and the 1799 vessels included 250-DE approved by the President in response to a British request for 470 in November 1941.

(b) In November 1941 the President approved proceeding with 200-DE of this program in advance of the above Congressional authorization.

(c) On 8/15/41 the President approved the construction of 50-DE for the British (100 requested) and authorization was provided under the Defense Aid Act of 10/28/41.

(b) Standardizing Design.

8/3/42. ACNO (Maintenance) in Memo to CominCh, file (SC) A1-3, regarding UK statements concerning changes in AVG necessary after delivery to adapt them for British use, recommended that hereafter U.S. standard design be used throughout all construction programs, stating re AVG that in the 1942 programs it was possible to allocate British design to separate yards but in 1943 all will be built at the same yard.

This was endorsed 'approved' by VCNO, and was approved 8/7/42 by CominCh.

8/11/42. VCNO serial 0265023-A informed Admiral Dorling (BAD) that the above policy had been approved by CominCh in the interests of efficiency.

8/11/42. VCNO serial 0264923-A to BuShips - BuOrd - BuAer directed all types be built or converted to American design and standards regardless of ultimate users, utilizing available UK equipment where possible.

(c) A/S Vessels, Common Pool.

6/25/42. AVG-allocations to UK. Rear Admiral Dorling (BAD) letter SO 282/42 to Admiral Reeves, re 24-AVG to be completed in 1943 and placed in a common pool according to CCS decision of 4/28/42 for allocation as the situation demands "proposed a definite proportion be tentatively assigned UK at the next meeting".

(c) A/S Vessels, Common Pool. (Cont'd.)

(a) 7/10/42 Memo for Cominch. Captain Duncan in Memo for Admiral King, Cominch file 00622, stated delivery of 24-AVG in the 1943 program probably will start in February 1943 and his understanding was that half were for UK and suggested allocation on a basis of alternate ships, determined by completion dates. Admiral King endorsed this to VCNO on 7/11/42, OK if you agree.

(b) 8/6/42. VCNO Memo to Admiral Reeves stated no allocations should be proposed at this time but later when needs are better established.

7/23/42 Strategic Pool for A/S Craft. VCNO Memo for the President stated he considered the allocation of A/S craft to a strategic pool should await the return of Admiral King but, if action is necessary sooner, he considers the area assignments of A/S craft (whether U.S. or U.K.) can best be decided by the CCS.

8/19/42 BAD re accelerating Escorts. Admiral Patterson, R.N. in letter 221/42 to VCNO referred to the agreement that U.S. Chiefs of Staff would be responsible for increasing and accelerating the escort vessel program, stated the program in England is kept at maximum capacity, and requested our plans for increasing production.

(a) 8/22/42 VCNO serial 0279123-A to BAD stated shipbuilding capacity is being used to the maximum consistent with the supply of raw material and construction of more is out of the question except by eliminating other types. Stated deliveries had been speeded by reducing the speed of some DE.

10/24/42 British Shortages. CCS 118/1 states the representative of the British Chiefs of Staff feel the shortage of Escort Vessels in the U.S. and British Fleets are so serious as to justify indicating the situation to the CCS as it may be in March 1944. The list included

	<u>CV</u>	<u>ACV</u>	<u>DE</u>
Ordered by UK in U.S.	0	28	300
March 1944, UK shortage if all ordered are assigned.	11	20	237

The CCS Memo stated UK shortages will be greater than indicated above, since a proportion of the "U.S. for U.K." program will be assigned to the U.S.N. since these vessels have been pooled for assignment through the CMAB machinery.

1943

Lend Lease

Cominch Policy 8/10/43.

8/10/43 Cominch end-2, serial 001600, to VCNO, (Doc. 90174), re

1943

Lend Lease

CominCh Policy 8/10/43. (Cont'd.)

MAC letter of 7/14/43, stated the British recently informed him they are unable to supply crews for a number of their own landing craft and requested USN crews be supplied. With the shortage it does not appear logical to ' earmark ' for allocation to the British any naval vessels in addition to those previously assigned, and CominCh desired MAC to adhere to current program with the expectation the USN will man all vessels not already allocated except that such construction as is already planned for LL contingencies should be carried out.

The above does not apply to CVE. The number required for future operations by the USN cannot be predicted at this time, but some follow-on construction likely will be necessary on completion of the present Kaiser contract. Information was requested as to how long decision may be deferred without dislocating ability of Kaiser Yards to continue construction on completion of current contracts.

8/19/43 VCNO serial 0359523-05 to CominCh stated present program of 50-CVE at Kaiser Yard is scheduled for completion in June 1944, that the Maritime Commission has planned tanker construction to follow, and if additional CVE are to be requested, any delay in ordering will increase disruption of Maritime Commission program.

9/10/43. No follow-on for CVE. CominCh serial 001932 to VCNO referred to 8/19/43 above and directed no follow-on program for CVE be undertaken in the Kaiser Yards after delivery of the CVE now under construction.

9/15/43. Promulgation. VCNO serial 0414023-05 to BuShips promulgated CominCh 001932 of 9/10/43.

1944

Lend Lease

5/11/44. UK Construction in 1946. CNO recommended to MAC (Navy) regarding a British request for construction in 1946 that no assignments be made at this time.

11/14/46. 2-DE for China. CominCh serial 003327 to CinCLant stated 2-DE, 2-PCE and 4-AM will be transferred to China under LL when China is ready to man them and when the ships are available (about 7/1/45).

LL Changes during 1944

5-CVE to UK	CVE-45, 46, 52, 53, 54
11-DE to UK	DE-525, 526, 563, 567-574
5-DE to France	DE 107-111
2-DE to Brazil	DE 99, 100
5-DE returned by UK	DE 96-99
3-SS returned by UK	SS-84, 126, 127

1945

Lend Lease

(a) Disposition of Returned LL Vessels.

10/5/45. CominCh serial O2842 to VCNO stated all naval vessels lend-leased to foreign countries are considered surplus to USN requirements and directed necessary action to effect their disposal on return to U.S. custody.

(b) MAB Washington and London abolished.

11/9/45 MBW 129 quoted from CCS 19/3 to the effect the President and the Prime Minister agreed the purpose for which MAB Washington and London were created have been fulfilled and MAB Washington and sub-committees shall be abolished as of 11/8/45 and MAB London as of 11/10/45.

(c) Changes - 1945

1-CL leased to USSR - taken up on books during 1945.
4-DE leased, 2-DE to Brazil, 2-DE loaned China.
6-CVE returned by UK.
35-DE returned by UK.

1946

Lend Lease

(a) Changes

20-CVE returned by UK.
26-DE returned by UK.

(b) Status 7/1/46

1-CL LL to USSR
7-CVE LL to UK
1-BAVG LL to UK
2-DE Loaned China
19-DE LL (5-UK, 8-Brazil, 6-France).

BB - STATISTICS

BB	1/1/42			1/1/43			1/1/44			1/1/45			1/1/46			7/1/46		
	HAVE	BLOG	TOTAL	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T
5			AB-1															
7			IX-15															
31			AG-16															
32			AG-17															
33	0		26,100	0														TESTS
34	0		27,000	0														TESTS
35	0		"	0														
36	0		29,000	0														TESTS
37	0		"	0														X-11/23/44
38	0		33,000	0														TESTS
39	R		32,900			X.												Y-12/1/42
40	R		33,400	R														TESTS
41	R		33,000	R														AG-28
42	R		33,400	R														AG-26
43	V		32,300	V														
44	V		32,600	V														
45	V		32,500	V														
46	V		31,500	V														
47																		
48	V		31,800	V														
49-54																		SCRAPED
55	V		75,000	V														
56	V		"	V														
57	V		"	V														
58	V		"	V														
59	V		"	V														
60	V		"	V														
61	V		45,000	V														
62	V		"	V														
63	V		"	V														
64	V		"	V														
65	V		"	V														CANCEL
66	V		"	V														AS-15
67-71	V-5		58,000	V-5														CANCEL
OVERAGE	6			6														
REPLACE.	4			3														
UNDERAGE	7			11														
HAVE	17	15	32	20	11	31	22	4	26	23	2	25	23	1	24	22	1	23
CHANGES COMPLETED	6	-4		2	-2		2	-2										
ADDED																		
CANCELLED																		
AS-15 FOR TEST																		
LOST X DISPOSAL	-1																	
RECLASS																		
END OF YR	20	11		22	4		27	2		23	1		22	1				

BB-47 Sunk by US @ Washington Treaty
 BB-49-54 Scrapped @ Washington Treaty

BB

Summary of Changes

On 1/1/42 the records showed 17-BB on hand, 15 building or a total of 32. Four (4) ex-BB were listed as AB-1 (KEARSARGE), IX-15 (ILLINOIS), AG-17, 16 (WYOMING, UTAH). Of the 17-BB on hand only 7 were underage.

Of those building, 5 (BB 67-71) were suspended in 1942 and cancelled in 1943, and 1 was cancelled (BB-65) in 1945. At present BB-66 is in an 'AS-IS' status pending completion as a BB(AA).

Completions were 4 in 1942, 2 in 1943, and 2 in 1944.

Two were sunk, BB-39 being stricken from list in 1942 and BB-37 in 1943; BB-41 was reclassified AG-128 in 1946.

In 1946 BB-33, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 were designated for tests.

Work Stopped, 5-BB

A Presidential directive dated 5/1/42 reads in part, "The objective for naval construction in 1942 should provide for the completion of those vessels which can be commissioned prior to 7/1/43 and for the equipment for those vessels which can be launched prior to 7/1/43..."

On 5/7/42 VCNO in a Memo to CominCh showed the effect of the above on the building program and indicated, regarding BB, that BB 58-62 should be completed and BB 63-71 indefinitely delayed.

On 5/8/42 CominCh serial 0143123-M to SecNav regarding the 1943-1944 Building Program included recommendations to defer 5-BB and in lieu thereof to construct 2-CV, 2-CA.

Accordingly BB 67-71 were placed in a deferred status.

Cancellation, 5-BB

By Memo for the President dated 5/26/43, the SecNav invited attention to the Presidential approval to make awards for the construction of listed combatant vessels and stated that to make available the tonnage required for the program it would be necessary to definitely cancel CB 4-6 and BB 67-71 which have been deferred up to the present. This Memo was endorsed "O.K. - F.D.R. 5/27/43".

By letter dated 7/8/43 BuShips informed SecNav via CNO that although CB 4-6 had been cancelled, it would be necessary to cancel BB 67-71 to provide the necessary tonnage for the combatant program. CominCh concurred and on 7/21/43 SecNav issued instructions to the Navy Yards New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk, cancelling BB 67-71.

BB

Summary of Changes (Cont.)

BB-65 Cancellation

In view of the progress made in the war, a review of requirements was made and by letter dated 8/10/45, serial 02366, CominCh recommended to SecNav the elimination of 95 vessels from the Building Program, including BB-65, which was approved by SecNav 8/10/45.

On 9/1/45 BuShips made recommendations regarding the disposition of some of the cancelled ships including a suggestion BB-65 be held in reserve for disposal pending a postwar national work program. CominCh recommended the General Board comment on BuShips letter and suggested BB-65 be held in present status for atomic bomb experiments. The General Board recommended BB-65 be held in its present state subject to final disposition later.

BB-66, 'As-Is'

SecNav Memo dated 12/15/45 to the Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion regarding curtailing 37 additional ships stated regarding BB-66 that the Navy plans to request authorization to complete as an experimental prototype BB(AA). Protracted suspension is acceptable as no other major construction is in prospect for the Naval Shipyard, Norfolk.

Mr. Snyder in reply stated he supported and approved the suspension of construction and conversion of BB-66.

On 1/6/46 SecNav informed Mr. Snyder work on BB-66 will be limited to that required in the new type or that necessary to prevent deterioration.

Opposition by the House Naval Affairs Committee to the proposed curtailment resulted in SecNav approval on 3/21/46 of CNO recommendation to scrap-3 and leave 12 'as-is' (including BB-66), which would meet a proposed cut in the Budget. On 5/27/46 the President signed HR-5604 as P.L.391 which stated that vessels under construction on 3/1/46 whose percentage of completion exceeded 20% on that date will be completed. BB-66 was 69.3% complete on 3/1/46, and now is being held in an 'as-is' status.

Reclassification, BB-41 to AG-128.

9/7/45. CominCh serial 7114 directed that BB-41 (MISSISSIPPI) be reclassified to AG to relieve the WYCLING, AG-17, as gunnery training and experimental ship.

Notes.

- (a) More detailed data regarding the building program, curtailment, authorized tonnage and precedence are shown in this pamphlet under appropriate headings.

BB

Notes. (Cont.)

- (b) A separate pamphlet "Digest of Legislative Authorization" has copies or pertinent extracts from all tonnage legislation.
- (c) A separate pamphlet "Cut Backs in Navy Building Program" gives details and has copies of key letters regarding cancellation of BB 67-71.
- (d) Complete details and copies of key letters re BB-65 and 66 are included in the pamphlet "1946 Building Program".

CARRIERS

	1/1/42			1/1/43			1/1/44			1/1/45			1/1/46			7/1/48		
	HAVE	BLDG	ToTal	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T
CVB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	3	3	2	1	3	2	1	3
CHANGES COMPLETED										1								
ADDED										+2	-2							2
CANCELLED					+1						+2							2
RECLASSIFIED					+4						-2							-3
END OF YEAR	-	-	-	-	3		-	3		2	1		2	1				+4
CV	7	16	23	4	35	39	10	29	16	13	29	21	6	27	25	2	27	
COMPLETED	+1	-1		+6	-6		+6	-6	+5	-5		+4	-4					2
ADDED		+14			+3					+6								23
CANCELLED										-8								-8
STOPPED		(a)																
LL+																		
LL-																		6
RECLASS +		+6																
RECLASS -					-13													-13
LOST	-4																	-4
DISPOSAL																		
END OF YR.	4	35		10	19		16	13	21	6		25	2					
CVL	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	11	8	2	10	8	2	10	8	2	10
COMPLETED				+4	-9													2
ADDED					+2													-1
LOST							-1											
DISPOSAL																		
RECLASS +					+9													+9
END OF YEAR	-	-	-	9	2		8	2		8	2		8	2				
CVE	1	15	16	12	85	97	35	51	86	65	21	86	79	4	83	70	1	71
COMPLETED	+14	-14		+49	-49		+38	-38		+13	-13		+3	-3				17
ADDED		+83			+15			+8			+12							16
CANCELLED											-16							-15
LOST				-1			-3			-2								-6
DISPOSAL										-3			-32					-35
LL+										+6			+26					32
LL-																		-3
RECLASS +	-3			-25			-5											41
END OF YEAR	12	85		35	51		65	21		79	4		70	1				
LL																		
TO UK																		
RETURNED				3			25			5			-6			-20		33
END OF YEAR				3			28			33			27			7		33
BAVG	-	9	9	2	1	3	3	-	3	3	-	3	2	-	2	1	-	1
COMPLETED	+4	-4		+1	-1													5
CANCELLED		-3																-3
TO UK	(4)			(1)						-1								(5)
RETURNED																		-1
LOST	-2																	-2
DISPOSAL													-1					-1
RECLASS -		-1																-1
END OF YR.	2	1		3	-		3	-		2	-		1	-				

Aircraft Carriers

CVB - Aircraft Carriers Large

1. Status 1/1/42. None on hand, none building.

2. Summary of Changes.

4-reclassified CVB 41-44(45,000 tons) from CV 41-44(45,000 tons) in 1943.

2-added CVB-56, 57 (45,000 tons) during 1945.

3-cancelled CVB-44 in 1943, CVB-56, 57 in 1945.

2-completed CVB-41, 42 in 1945.

3. Reclassifications - 4-CV to CVB

BuShips Memo to SecNav dated 8/3/42 requested authority to execute contracts for the 1943-44 (690 vessel) program, including CV 41-44 (45,000 tons), and was endorsed approved by SecNav with a note "Released by FDR verbally 8/7/42".

On 8/12/42 the President wrote to SecNav approving the 690-vessel program except for the 4-CV (45,000) stating they were disapproved due to the time required to construct and also because he considered many small CV might be better than a few large ones and requested a report. The 4-CV were added to the CV building program, but construction was deferred until the President approved starting construction of 3 of them, 2 (CV 41, 42) by approval of SecNav Memo serial 056200A dated 12/29/42, and the 3rd (CV-43) by his approval on 5/26/43 of the 413-vessel program which included 1-CV (45,000 tons). The 4th CV (CV-44) was cancelled.

To distinguish these 45,000 ton CV from the others (mostly 27,100 tons) they were designated as CVB (aircraft carriers large) during 1943.

4. Added and Cancelled.

Two CVB were included in the 84-vessel program, which the Director of the Budget informed SecNav on 2/7/45 "is hereby approved", and CVB 56, 57 were added to the list of ships building, but by letter dated 3/22/45 the President disapproved the 84-vessel program (except for 12-CVB) and CVB-56, 57 were cancelled. The cancellation of CVB-44 is discussed above.

CV - Aircraft carriers

1. Status 1/1/42.

On 1/1/42 there were 7-CV on hand (CV 2-8) and 16 on order (CV 9-24 of which CV 22-24 were ex-CL (10,000 tons). CV-1 had been reclassified to Av-3.

CV - Aircraft Carriers (Cont'd.)

2. Summary of Changes.

23-added 14 in 1942, 3 in 1943, 6 in 1945.
8-cancelled 8 in 1945, CV-35, 46, 50-55.
22-completed 1 in 1942, 6 in 1943, 6 in 1944, 5 in 1945, 4 in 1946.
4-lost 4 stricken from list in 1942, CV-2, 5, 7, 8.
6-reclassified from CL in 1942 viz CV 25-30.
13-reclassified in 1943, 9 to CVL 22-30, and 4 to CVB 41-44.

3. Additions. (Details under 'Bldg. Program' tab)

(a) 14-CV in 1942. (CV 31-44)

The 1943-44 (690 ship) Building Program which was approved (except for 4-CV(45,000 ton) by the President on 8/12/42 included 4-CV(45,000 ton) and 10-CV(27,100 ton). CV 41-44(45,000 ton) are discussed under CVB having been redesignated aircraft carriers, large in 1943. The other 10 (27,100 ton) are CV 31-40.

(b) 3-CV in 1943. (CV 45-47)

3-CV (27,100 tons) were included in the 413-vessel program which was approved by the President 5/26/43.

(c) 6-CV in 1945. (CV 50-55)

These 6-CV were included in the 84-vessel program which was cancelled by the President on 3/22/45.

4. Cancellations - 8-CV. (Details under Bldg. Program tab).

In addition to the 6-CV (50-55) eliminated by the disapproval of the 84-vessel program on 3/22/45, 2 others, CV-35 and 46 were ordered cancelled on 8/11/45 as part of the curtailment program of 56-combatant vessels approved by the SecNav on 8/10/45. With the approval of SecNav CV-35 was launched as a hulk for use in underwater explosive tests.

5. Reclassifications (Details under Bldg. Program tab)

On 6/2/42 SecNav approved the conversion of 3-CL to CV on the recommendation of CominCh in his serial 0993 dated 6/2/43 which stated the proposal had the oral approval of the President and that 6-similar conversions had previously been authorized. The 9-CL converted were CL-59, 61, 76, 77, 78, 85, 79, 99, 100 (10,000 tons) converted to CV 22-30 of which 6 were taken up as CV (25-30) on the 1943 records.

Later in 1943 the 9-CV (22-30) were redesignated CVL (aircraft carrier, small) to distinguish them (10,000 tons) from the CV (27,100 tons) or CVL (45,000 tons).

5. Reclassifications (Cont'd.)

At the same time 4-CV (41-44) each 45,000 tons were redesignated CVB (aircraft carrier, large) for rapid identification purposes.

6. Lost Stricken from Register

CV-2	6/24/42	LEXINGTON
CV-5	10/2/42	YORKTOWN
CV-7	11/2/42	WASP
CV-8	1/13/43	HORNET

CVL - Aircraft Carriers, small

1. Status 1/1/42. None on hand, none building.

2. Summary of Changes

9-Reclassified from CV during 1943 (CVL 22-30).
2-Added in 1943 (CVL-48, 49).
9-Reported during 1943 (CVL 22-30).
1-Lost. Stricken from Register in 1945 (CVL-23).

3. Reclassified-9. These are discussed under CV above.

4. Added - 2

On 9/6/43 CominCh directed the construction of 2-CVL (approved by the President on 9/2/43) and a continuing program of 2-CVL per year starting in 1946 to provide for expected attrition. The progress of the war eliminated the need for additional CVL and none were requested under the continuing program.

5. Lost Stricken from Register

CVL-23	11/13/41	PRINCETON
--------	----------	-----------

CVE - Aircraft Carriers, Escort

1. Designation

Airplane carriers or transports were designated as AVG and classed as auxiliaries until 6/10/43 when CominCh serial 01929 to CCS stated the small aircraft carriers formerly designated as ACV have been redesignated as CVE (escort carriers) and have been classed as combatant ships.

2. Status 1/1/42

The maximum effort planning program enclosed with CNO Memo to SecNav dated 2/6/42 showed the status of combatant types as of 1/1/42 including:

CVE - Aircraft Carriers, Escort

2. Status 1/1/42. (Con'td.)

	<u>Total Needs</u>	<u>Have</u>	<u>On Order</u>	<u>Replacements</u>
AVG	58	1	15	2/year
BAVG	30	-	9	

After endorsement by the President, the Maximum Effort Program was promulgated by CNO on 3/14/42 with a statement 24-AVG are to be produced annually starting in 1943.

3. Summary of Changes

- 118-Added, 83 in 1942, 15 in 1943, 8 in 1944, 12 in 1945.
- 16-Cancelled, 16 in 1945.
- 1-Reclassified from BAVG in 1942, BAVG-4 to AVG-30.
- 33-Lend Leased, 5 in 1942, 25 in 1943, 5 in 1944.
- 26-Lend Leased returned or scrapped, 6 in 1945, 20 in 1946.
- 6-Lost, 1 in 1943, 3 in 1944, 2 in 1945.
- 35-Stricken for Disposal, 3 in 1945, 32 in 1946.

4. Added - 118 CVE (Details under 'Bldg. Program' Tab)

(a) 83-AVG in 1942

9-AVG, authorized before 1/1/42 but not on order at that time, were added to the list of ships building or converting.

4/15/42 24-AVG for 1943. VCNO serial 0122723 directed BuShips arrange to construct 24-AVG for delivery in 1943. (AVG 31-54)

6/15/42. 50-AVG by Maritime Commission (Kaiser Yards). CominCh serial 01135 to SecNav dated 6/17/42, pursuant to oral approval of the President given 6/15/42, recommended steps be taken through the Maritime Commission to contract for building 48-XCV (AVG), 20 knots of Kaiser design, as approved by the Navy, subject to revision in numbers according to future circumstances. Originally these were flight deck aircraft transports for the dual purpose of aircraft transport and secondly as a fleet auxiliary. In August it was directed these be aircraft escort vessels as the duty performed is that of combatant ships and combatant ships standards applied to them. Considerable difficulty was encountered in the matter of naval inspections and considerable correspondence was exchanged between VCNO and CominCh with the Maritime Commission regarding denying naval personnel access to the ships and failure to submit plans to the Navy, which finally was determined by a clause in Public Law 76 approved 6/17/43 (authorizing 1 million tons of auxiliary vessels) which provided that any vessel intended for operation by the USN whose construction or acquisition and conversion heretofore or hereafter has been authorized by the Maritime Commission or other agencies shall be subject to the approval of the

CVE - Aircraft Carriers, Escort

4. Added - 118 CVE (Details under 'Bldg. Program' Tab).

(a) 83-AVG in 1942. (Cont'd.)

Navy Department in all matters of design and construction or conversion.

The 50-AVG were designated as AVG 55-104.

(b) 15 in 1943 (AVG 105-119)

Of the continuing program of 24-AVG per year, on 8/3/42 CominCh authorized 9-tenders be built in lieu of 9-AVG in view of the 50-AVG being constructed at the Kaiser plant, leaving 15 added to the program, each 12,000 tons.

(c) 8 in 1944. (CVE 120-127)

CominCh Memo for VCNO serial 03762 dated 10/31/43 established a replacement program of 8-CVE per year and his letter of 12/13/43 directed the first replacement group be incorporated in the current program. On 12/17/43 the President approved the construction of 8-CVE (120-127).

(d) 12 in 1945 (CVE 128-139)

These 12-CVE were the only part of the 84-vessel program approved by the President on 3/22/45.

5. Cancelled - 16 CVE

CVE 124-139 were among the 56-combatant vessels approved for cancellation in the curtailment program approved 8/10/45 by SecNav.

6. Lend Lease - 33-CVE (See LL tab).

- 33-Leased
- 26-Returned to U.S.

(a) Allocations. On 6/25/42 Admiral Dorling (BAD) in a letter to Admiral Reeves stated the 24-AVG for completion in 1943 had been placed in a common pool by CCS decision of 4/28/42 and requested a definite proportion be assigned UK. On 8/6/42 VCNO recommended to Admiral Reeves no allocations until the needs of each nation are better established, and stated all AVG will be built to U.S. specifications.

(b) Standardizing Design.

On 5/14/43 the combined shipbuilding Committee in a letter to CNO and BAD requested an advisory consultant group be appointed to

6. Lend Lease - 33-CVE. (See LL tab).

(b) Standardizing Design. (Cont'd.)

determine the extent to which standard operational requirements, can be adopted regarding ACV.

On 5/25/43 VCNO end-1 to CominCh stated differences in operating methods of the British and U.S. Navy make standardization almost impossible and stated ships should be constructed according to U.S. practice and any changes considered necessary should be made by the British after delivery. VCNO suggested reclassifying ACV as 'escort carriers' and combatant ships which would remove them from the jurisdiction of the Committee. On 6/10/43 ACV were redesignated CVE by CominCh.

7. <u>Lost</u>	<u>Stricken from Register</u>	
CVE-56	12/6/43	LISCOMB BAY
CVE-21	6/28/44	BLOCK ISLAND
CVE-63	11/27/44	ST. LO
CVE-73	11/27/44	GAMBIER BAY
CVE-79	2/23/45	OMMANY BAY
CVE-95	3/30/45	BISMARCK SEA

8. Stricken for Disposal

The 3-CVE stricken in 1945 and 3? in 1946 were part of the curtailment program.

BAVG

1. Status 1/1/42

9-BAVG on order, total needs 30, according to the Maximum Effort Planning Program.

2. Changes:

- 3 cancelled in 1942, BAVG 7-9.
- 1 reclassified in 1942, BAVG-4 to AVG-30.
- 5 completed, 4 in 1942 (1, 2, 3, 5), 1 in 1943 (BAVG-6).
- 2 lost in 1942, BAVG-2, 5.
- 3 remaining listed as LL on 1/1/45 (1, 3, 6).
- 1 returned in 1945, BAVG-6 from LL.
- 1 stricken for disposal, BAVG-1.

CRUISERS

	1/1/42			1/1/43			1/1/44			1/1/45			1/1/46			7/1/45			
	HAVE	BLOG	TOTAL	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	
CB	-	6	6	-	6	6	-	3	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	
CHANGES COMPLETED																			2
CANCELLED									+2	-2									-3
END OF YR.	-	6		-	3				2	1	2	1	2	1					
CA	18	8	26	14	25	39	16	25	41	17	27	44	24	9	33	26	5	31	
CHANGES COMPLETED																			15
ADDED		+17		+4	-4		+1	-1		+8	-8		+2	-2					+5.5
CANCELLED																			-16
AS - IS																			
LOST	-4			-2						-1									-7
DISPOSAL																			
RECLASS +									+3										+3
RECLASS -																			
END OF YR.	14	25		16	25		17	27		24	9		26	5					
CL	20	38	58	26	43	69	32	43	75	43	25	68	45	8	53	44	4	43	
CHANGES COMPLETED																			37
ADDED	+8	-8		+7	-7		+11	-11		+7	-7		+4	-4					+35
CANCELLED		+19			+7				-4				-16						-50
AS - IS																			
LOST	-2			-1															-3
DISPOSED										-4			-5						-9
RECLASS +																			
RECLASS -		-6							-3										-9
LL.										-1									-1
END OF YR.	26	43		32	43		43	25		45	8		44	4					

Cruisers - CB, CA, CL

Major Building Programs

(1) 1942 - Maximum Effort Planning Program

2/6/40. CNO Memo for SecNav, approved by SecNav and endorsed O.K. in principle by the President showed re Cruisers on the enclosed Maximum Effort Program:

<u>1/1/42</u>	<u>Total Needs</u>	<u>Have</u>	<u>On Order</u>	<u>Need</u>	<u>Replacements</u>
CA	26	18	8	-	2/year
CB	12	-	6	6	-
CL (10,000)	65	19	31	15	4/year
CL (6,000)	12	1	7	4	-

(2) 1942 - (690 ship) 1943-44 Building Program

8/12/42. The President approved the program recommended to SecNav by CominCh serial 0143623-M dated 7/9/42 which included:

16 - CL (11,000) 103-118
3 - CL (6,000) 119-121
17 - CA (13,600) 122-138.

8/14/42. SecNav serial 0267,123-A directed Bureaus to construct.

(3) 1943 - (413) ship) Building Program

5/27/43. The President approved SecNav action in authorizing construction of 413 vessels, recommended by CominCh to SecNav on 5/19/43, which included:

1 - CB (previously deferred, CB-3)
4 - CA 139-142
7 - CL 143-149.

The authorization included cancellation of previously deferred BB 67-71 and CB 4-6 to provide tonnage.

(4) 1945 - 84 Vessel Program

1/9/45. The Naval Aide informed SecNav the President favored the 84-vessel program, recommended by CominCh serial 0035105 dated 1/8/45, and directed it be taken up with the Director of the Budget. On 2/7/45 the Director of the Budget informed SecNav the proposal was approved and by serial 036805 dated 2/12/45 CNO informed the Bureaus. On 3/22/45 the President disapproved 72-vessels leaving 12-CVE in the program, and by serial 038905 CNO directed the Bureaus to cancel construction except for 12-CVE.

This involved 4-CA (150-153) and 6-CL (154-159).

Cruisers - CB, CA, CL

CB

(a) Status 1/1/42. On 1/1/42 there were 6-CB (27,500 ton) building, viz.: CB 1-6.

(b) 1942 - 4 deferred.

5/20/42. SecNav serial 022900-A deferred construction of CB 3-6.

(c) 1943 - 3 cancelled CE 3-6

5/26/43. CominCh serial 001034 to SecNav re CV and CB stated re CB that SecNav serial 022900-A of 5/20/42 deferred construction of CB 4-6 previously authorized, and requested authority to start construction of 1-CB deferred (CB-3) in order to continue the building program and best utilize facilities. This was endorsed approved by SecNav on 5/27/43.

6/24/43. SecNav despatch 242023 cancelled 3-CB previously deferred (CB 4-6) to provide tonnage for the new (413 ship) combatant program.

(d) 1944 - 2 completed. CB-1 and CB-2 were completed during 1944. CB-3 still remained under construction on 7/1/45.

CA

(a) Status 1/1/42. 18 on hand, CA 24-39, 44, 45
8 building, CA 68-75.

(b) Summary of Changes to 7/1/46

25-CA added. 17 in 1942, CA 122-138 (690-vessel program)
4 in 1943, CA 139-142 (413-vessel program)
4 in 1945, CA 150-153 (84-vessel program).

3-CL finished as CA in 1944, viz. CA-143, 148, 149.

16-CA cancelled. 14 in 1945, CA 125-129, 137, ¹³⁸142, 143, 149
@ VE-day. CA 150-153. (84-vessel program not approved).

2 in 1946, CA 140, 141 (post war - less than 20% complete)

15-CA completed, 4 in 1943, 1 in 1944, 8 in 1945, 2 in 1946

7-CA lost, 4 in 1942, 2 in 1943, 1 in 1945.

(c) Additions

(1) 1942-17 CA. CominCh serial 0143623-M to SecNav recommended the 1943-44 (690 vessel) program which included 17-CA (13,600 ton). On 8/12/42 the President approved the program (except for 4-CV) and on 8/7/42 the President approved BuShips Memo to SecNav dated 8/3/42 which

Cruisers - CB, CA, CL

CA

(c) Additions (Cont.)

requested authority to award contracts including those for CA 122-138. Tonnage from HR-7184.

(2) 1943-4 CA. CominCh serial 00994 approved the proposal 413-ship program, which was approved by the President on 5/27/43 by endorsement on SecNav letter dated 5/26/43 regarding making awards including those for CA 122-138. Tonnage from unallocated balances.

(3) 1945 - 4 CA. The 84-vessel program recommended by CominCh serial 0055105 dated 1/8/45 was disapproved on 3/22/45 except for 12-CVE by the President. It included CA 150-153.

(d) Reclassified 3 - CL to CA

During 1944, CL-143, 148, 149 (13,600 tons) were reclassified and converted to CA-143, 148, 149 (17,000 ton).

(e) Cancellations

(1) 4-CA in 1945. CA 150-153 were included in the 84-ship building program disapproved by the President (except for 12-CVE) on 3/22/45.

(2) 10-CA in 1945.

8/10/45 CominCh serial 02366 to SecNav recommended curtailment of the ship-building program, based on the progress of the war, and included CA 125-129, 137, 138, 142, 143, 149. This was approved by SecNav on 8/10/45, and CNO serial 041905 to BuShips directed contracts be terminated.

Ex-CA 125 is under consideration for conversion to AGC.

(3) 2-CA in 1946 (CA-140, 141).

5/27/46. H.R.-5604 which was approved 5/27/46 contained a proviso that combatant vessels under construction on 3/1/46 whose percentage of construction exceeded 20% on that date would be completed. CA-140 and 141 were less than 20% and were cancelled.

(f) Completions were:

1943. CA-68, 69, 70, 71
1944. CA-72
1945. CA-73, 74, 75, 130, 131, 132, 135, 136
1946. CA-122, 123.

(g) <u>Ships Lost:</u>	<u>Stricken</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>Stricken</u>	<u>CA</u>
	5/18/42	30	1/12/43	26
	11/ 2/42	34	2/22/43	29
	11/ 2/42	39	9/ 1/45	35.
	11/ 2/42	44		

Cruisers - CB, CA, CL

CL - Light Cruisers

(a) Status 1/1/42

On hand 20-CL, under construction 38, viz.: CL 52-58, 60, 62-67, 77-83, 85-87, 89-102.

In addition the records show ex-CL-15 had been reclassified IX-40, that 3-CL (59, 61, 76) had been converted to CV 22-24, and that CL-84, 88 had been cancelled.

(b) Summary of Changes 1/1/42 - 7/1/46.

32-CL added,	19 in 1942 (103-121)	(690-vessel program)
	7 in 1943 (143-149)	(413-vessel program)
	6 in 1945 (154-159)	(84-vessel program)
20-CL cancelled,	4 in 1944 (112-115)	(Labor and prospective 1947 delivery).
	10 in 1945, (94, 108-111, 116-118, 146, 147)	(Curtailment).
	6 in 1945 (154-159)	(84-ship program cancelled).
9-CL converted,	6 in 1942 to CV (CL-77, 78, 85, 79, 99, 100 to CV25-30).	
	3 in 1944 to CA (CL-143, 148, 149 to CA same numbers).	
3-CL lost,	2 in 1942, 1 in 1943.	
9-CL stricken for disposal,	4 in 1945, 5 in 1946.	
1-CL lend leased to USSR - reported in 1945.		
37-CL completed,	8 in 1942, 7 in 1943, 11 in 1944, 7 in 1945,	
	4 to 7/1/46.	

(c) Additions. The building programs under which the 32-CL added were authorized are discussed above.

(d) Cancellations (20)

(1) 1944 - 4 CL

8/21/44. BuShips file C-CL55 class/A1(300) to CNO via BuOrd discussed delays due to labor shortage and the acceleration of the carrier program, stated New York Ship has contracts for 22-cruisers and 2-CVL, that the keels for CL 111-115 (CL-106 type) and CL 144-147 (new design double purpose) have not been laid and that one of these groups probably will be delayed until the latter half of 1947. Requested instructions as to type of construction desired for CL 112-115 or if they should be cancelled.

9/5/44. SecNav Memo for the President requesting approval of his proposal to cancel CL 112-114 was endorsed O.K. by the President.

9/9/44. SecNav Memo for the President stated CL-115 had inadvertently been omitted from his 9/5/44 letter and requested approval of its cancellation and this also was O.K.'d by the President under date of 9/14/44.

Cruisers - CB, CA, CL

CL - Light Cruisers

(d) Cancellations (20)

(1) 1944 - 4 CL (Cont.)

9/22/44. CNO serial 028305 to Bureaus directed BuShips cancel CL 112-115 stating CL-111 will be completed on the CL-106 design.

(2) 1945 - 10 CL.

8/10/45. CL-94, 108-111, 116-118, 146, 147 were included in the curtailment of shipbuilding based on the progress of the war shown in CominCh serial 02366 to SecNav dated 8/10/45 which was approved 8/10/45.

(3) 1945 - 6 CL.

3/22/45. CL 154 - 159 were in the 84- vessel program disapproved by the President on 3/22/45 except for 12-CVE.

(e) Conversions (9)

(1) Prior to 1/1/42. 3-CL (59, 61, 67) were under conversion to CV 22-24.

(2) 3-CL to CV (CL-77, 78, 85). CL-77, 78, 85 whose conversion to CV 25-27 was previously authorized were classed as CV early in 1942.

(3) Further conversion proposals. 3/14/42. CominCh serial 0382/recommended additional conversions of CL to CV.
to SecNav

3/25/42. CominCh Memo 0455 to SecNav recommended rigid requirements of 8-CV in 1944 and 1945.

3/26/42. BuShips Ltr to CNO re 1943-44 Building Program included in their recommendations 21-CL (11,000 ton) stating that CV (11,000) could be substituted for as many CL as desired, and further that substitution of CV for CL now under construction is contemplated to produce 8-CV in 1944 and 1945.

4/2/42. BuAer Ltr to SecNav recommended all remaining CL under construction be converted to CV. (Doc. 47428).

4/7/42. ACNO (Maintenance) Memo to VCNO did not agree, stating that while CV are essential they should not be had at the cost of a certain number of CL equally essential to the Fleet.

4/10/42. CominCh serial 0911-M forwarded correspondence to SecNav for recommendation by General Board.

Cruisers - CB, CA, CL

CL - Light Cruisers

(e) Conversions (9)

(3) Further conversion proposals. (Cont.)

4/18/42. CominCh serial 0642 to SecNav withdrew his letters of 3/14/42 and 3/25/42 above stating that compliance would result in unacceptable unbalance in the ratio of cruisers to carriers and battleships, and recommended a review of the proposed 1943-44 building program for better balance.

Note: The 1943-44 program is discussed under "Building Program".

(4) 3-CL to CV (CL-77, 99, 100)

6/2/42. CominCh serial 0993 to SecNav recommended CL-79, 99, 100 be converted to CV, stating the proposal has the oral approval of the President. The 3-ships are under construction at Camden where 6-conversions previously authorized now are being effected.

This was endorsed approved by SecNav on 6/2/42 and VCNO serial 0186823-M of 6/4/42 directed BuShips to proceed with the conversion.

(5) 3-CL to CA (143, 148, 149)

During 1944 the above CL (11,000) were reclassified for conversion to CA (13,600) with the same numbers.

(f) Lend Leased

CL-5, Milwaukee, previously lend-leased to USSR, was given LL status on the records in 1945.

(g) Completions

1942 - CL 52-58, 60
1943 - CL 62, 63, 80, 81, 89, 95, 96.
1944 - CL 64-67, 86, 87, 90, 91, 97, 103, 104
1945 - CL 82, 92, 98, 101, 102, 105, 106
1946 - CL 93, 107, 119, 120.

(h) Losses Stricken

CL-51	7/13/43
CL-52	1/13/43
CL-50	7/15/43

(i) Stricken for Disposal

Reductions to the levels of P.W. Plan 2 resulted in 4-CL being stricken in 1945 - CL 4, 6, 7, 12 and 5 in 1946, viz.: CL 8-11, 13.

DD AND EX-DD

	1/1/42			1/1/43			1/1/44			1/1/45			1/1/46			7/1/46		
	NAVE	SLD	TOTAL	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T
DD	173	206	379	229	267	496	335	222	557	371	132	503	354	47	401	375	21	396
CHANGES COMPLETED	92	-82		187	-127		79	-78		74	-74		24	-24				385
ADDED		+143			+82						+56							56
CANCELLED											-47							143
AS-IS LOST	-22			-14			-15			-17			-3					70
DISPOSED										-52								58
RECLASSIFIED				+9						+11								50
RECLASSIFIED	-2			-16			-17	-12		-30								27
END OF YR.	173	206		229	267		335	222		371	132		354	47		375	21	
DMS	19	-	18	19	-	18	17	-	17	28	-	28	23	-	23	20	-	20
CHANGES RECLASSIFIED							+12			+12								20
RECLASSIFIED							-1			-4								-10
LOST				-1			-1			-3			-3					-6
DISPOSAL																		-5
END OF YR.	19	-	18	19	-	18	17	-	17	28	-	28	23	-	23	20	-	20
DM	8	-	8	8	-	8	8	-	8	20	-	20	12	-	12	10	-	10
CHANGES RECLASSIFIED								+12										12
RECLASSIFIED										-4								-4
LOST																		-6
DISPOSAL										-4			-2					-6
END OF YR.	8	-	8	8	-	8	8	-	8	20	-	20	12	-	12	10	-	10
APD	6	-	6	5	-	5	20	-	20	26	-	26	5	-	5	-	-	-
CHANGES RECLASSIFIED	+2			+16			+8											+26
RECLASSIFIED										-11								-11
LOST	-3			-1			-2			-1								-7
DISPOSAL										-9			-5					-14
END OF YR.	6	-	6	5	-	5	20	-	20	26	-	26	5	-	5	-	-	-
AG	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	8	-	8	18	-	18	7	-	7
CHANGES RECLASSIFIED							+7			+32								+39
RECLASSIFIED																		-39
LOST																		-39
DISPOSAL										-22			-11					-39
END OF YR.	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	8	-	8	18	-	18	7	-	7
AVD	14	-	14	14	-	14	5	-	5	5	-	5	3	-	3	-	-	-
CHANGES RECLASSIFIED																		-9
RECLASSIFIED																		-9
LOST																		-9
DISPOSAL										-2			-3					-5
END OF YR.	14	-	14	14	-	14	5	-	5	5	-	5	3	-	3	-	-	-
BDD			59															

DD - Destroyers

(a) Status 1/1/42

On 1/1/42 the records show 173-DD on hand (73 overage), 206-DD on order, or a total of 379. In addition there were 47-DD reclassified, 18 to DMS, 8 to DM, 6 to APD, 1 to AG and 14 to AVD. Also 50-~~odd~~ ^{old} DD had been transferred to U.K. in exchange for leases to outlying bases.

The Maximum Effort Planning Program transmitted to SecNav by CNO on 2/6/42 showed the following regarding DD and ex-DD as of 1/1/42.

<u>1/1/42</u>	<u>Total Needs</u>	<u>Have</u>	<u>On Order</u>	<u>Require</u>	<u>Replacements</u>
DD	379	173	206	-	40/year
DM	8	8	-	-	-
DMS	18	18	-	-	-
APD	6	6	-	-	-
AVD	14	14	-	-	-

(b) Summary of Changes 1/1/42 - 7/1/46

261 - added 143 in 1942, 82 in 1943, 36 in 1945.
47 - cancelled 47 in 1945.
2 - suspended 2 in 1946, DD-452, 482 experimental DD.
385 - completed 82 in 1942, 127 in 1943, 78 in 1944, 74 in 1945, 24 in 1946.
70 - lost 24 in 1942, 14 in 1943, 15 in 1944, 17 in 1945.
58 - stricken for disposal, 55 in 1945, 3 in 1946.
87 - reclassified
26 to APD 2 in 1942, 16 in 1943, 8 in 1944
12 to DM 12 in 1944
24 to DMS 12 in 1944, 12 in 1945
25 to AG 7 in 1944, 18 in 1945.
20 - restored
9 - AVD to DD 9 in 1943
11 - APD to DD 11 in 1945.

On 7/1/46 there were 375-DD on hand, 21 building, total 396, with 11 of those building (719-721, 766-769, 791, 824, 825, 827) to be laid-up 'as-is' on completion of certain items.

(c) Additions (More details shown under tabs 'Resume' and 'Building Program'.)

(1) 143-DD in 1942

26-DD (666-691)(2050tons) previously authorized but not on order
13-DD (792-804)(2050 ") " " " " "
4-DD (805-808)(2200 ") " " " " "
100-DD (692-791)(2200 ") were included in the 690-vessel program approved by the resident on 8/12/42. Tonnage was provided under HR-7184 approved 7/9/42.

DD - Destroyers

(c) Additions (Cont.)

(2) 82-DD in 1943

82-DD (809-890) (2200 tons) were included in the 413-vessel building program approved by the President on 5/26/43. Tonnage for the 413-vessel program was provided from unallocated balances and by cancelling 5-BB and 3-CB previously deferred.

(3) 36-DD in 1945

36-DD (891-926) were included in the 84-vessel program which the Director of the Budget stated was approved on 1/17/45 but which was cancelled by the President on 3/22/45 except for 12-CVE.

(d) Cancellations (More details shown under tabs 'Resume' and 'Building Program').

(1) 47-DD in 1945

36-DD (891-926) were included in the cancellation of the 84-vessel program.

11-DD (809-816, 854-856) were included in the Curtailment Program of 56-combatant vessels approved by the SecNav on 8/10/45.

(2) 2-DD suspended in 1946

2-DD (452, 482) on order, as experimental DD were included among 30-combatant vessels whose construction was stopped on 1/6/46 pending final decision on Post-War cut-backs. The 2-DD were suspended for several months and finally were cancelled.

(e) Completions

(1) 82-DD in 1942

The need for A/S vessels kept DD in Group 2 (second only to Landing Craft) in the Precedence Lists of 1942. On 11/26/42 the JCS presented to WPB the President's "No. 1 Group" of items which must be produced in 1943 to produce a balanced war program. This list included 119-DD for 1943 and 107-DD for completion in 1944.

(2) 127-DD in 1943.

Although the Quebec Conference decided the increased Landing Craft program would be at the expense of the A/S program, and although DE and other craft were cancelled and their precedence lowered, DD remained in Group 2 of the Precedence List due to the need for balancing the fleet for offensive operations.

DD-Destroyers

(e) Completions (Cont.)

78-DD in 1944

(3) During 1944 shortage of manpower and the acceleration of the cruiser and carrier programs resulted in considerable slippage in DD completion dates which CominCh stated would have to be accepted, but authorized shifting construction between building yards to further early completions. BuShips suggested some cancellations but on 10/11/44 CominCh Memo to VCNO serial 03451 stated he desired to retain on the DD-program all vessels that it is expected can be completed by the middle of 1946. During 1944 DD-precedence dropped progressively from Group 2 at the beginning of the year to Group 9 on 12/19/44.

During 1944 12-DD under construction were completed as DM in addition to the 78-DD.

(4) 74-DD in 1945

24-DD in 1946

During 1945 and 1946 there was a general slowing down and slippage in completion dates due to labor shortages and adjusting the program to Post War needs.

(f) Lost

24-Stricken from List in 1942, DD-219, 224-227, 229, 240, 245, 356, 376, 379, 387, 393, 397, 409, 412, 415, 416, 434, 436, 444, 459, 485, 599.
14-Stricken in 1943, DD-158, 215, 377, 391, 405, 420, 433, 451, 453, 467, 469, 483, 622, 640.
15-Stricken in 1944, DD-218, 352, 364, 374, 383, 426, 463, 518, 526, 533, 557, 620, 648, 695, 726.
17-Stricken in 1945, DD-350, 354, 369, 477, 512, 522, 529, 559, 560, 579, 584, 591, 733, 741, 792, 801, 803.

Note: ONI Daily Summary of 10/29/45 stated DD-224 (STEWART) captured by the Japs and used by them during the war had been seized in Kure area and would be recommissioned at Hiro Wan today. This ship was stricken for disposal in April 1946.

(g) Stricken for Disposal

55-DD in 1945 and 3-DD in 1946. This was part of the program of reduction to the Post War requirements.

(h) Lend Lease

There were no DD lend leased. 50-old DD were transferred to U.K. previous to 1/1/42 in exchange for leases to outlying bases in the Atlantic. These DD were 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 78, 81, 88, 89, 93, 108, 127, 131-135, 140, 143, 162, 167-170, 175, 181-185, 190, 191, 193-195, 197, 198, 252-254, 256-258, 263-265, 268, 269, 273, 274.

DD-Destroyers

(i) Reclassifications

	DD		DMS		DM		AFD		AG		AVD	
	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-
1/1/42			18		8		6		1		14	
Changes												
1942		- 2					2					
1943	+ 9	-16					16					-9
1944		-39	12		12		8		7			
1945	+11	-30	12					-11	+18			
				-10					+10			
						- 4			+ 4			
	+20	-87	24	-10	12	- 4	20	-11	52	-	-	-9
Balance			32		16		21		40		5	
<u>Lost</u>												
1943							- 3					
1944			- 1				- 1					
1945			- 1				- 2					
1946			- 4				- 1					
1946			- 3									
<u>Disposal</u>												
1945			- 3		- 4		- 9		-22		- 2	
1946					- 2		- 3		-11		- 3	
7/1/46			20		10				7		-	

DD-Destroyers

(j) Ex-DD

(1) The tabulation above under (i.) shows the status of ex-DD on 1/1/42 and subsequent changes.

(2) DMS (High Speed Minesweeper), DM (Mine Layer, Light).

On 10/20/44 CominCh despatch 202110 (Oct.) directed the conversion of 24-DD (1630 ton) to DMS with magnetic minesweeping installations. CNO serial 0653623 dated 11/14/44 stated work was in progress on the first-12 and conversion of the other 12 was deferred pending delivery of turbo generators and controls but it was essential the 2d group start conversions by May 1945.

ComServForPac serial 01573 to CNO stated CinCPac had installed radio equipment on one ship of each division (DMS-22,23,27) for duty as a Fighter Director Ship and recommended similar equipment for 1-ship of each Division being converted. CNO serial 0146723 dated 4/2/45 concurred and designated DD-490, 494, 634.

On 3/30/45 CinCPac despatch 300756 (March) to CominCh stated a review indicated no increase in DM or DMS over current requirements or replacement of battle losses but he expected the last of the DMS undergoing conversion to be ready in June in the Pacific, requested 6-sets of conversion material for converting DD to DMS be provided on the West Coast and recommended the overhaul of all 1200-ton DM and DMS be limited to refitting them for use in the rear areas and they be reclassified old-DD, as the cost of refitting for combat duty was out of proportion to their value in the Fleet. CominCh requested recommendations by ships for reclassification to AG or DD and on 4/19/45 CominCh directed that on termination of the need for these ships as DM, DMS or escorts, they be reclassified as AG and assigned as target, training or high speed towing vessels.

(3) AG (Miscellaneous Auxiliary)

In response to an inquiry from CominCh as to the total needs for conversion of old DD to training vessels, CinCPac 300743 (May 1945) estimated 33 total required and recommended 10 conversions from old-DD in best condition now in the Atlantic and on 7/1/45 CinCPac requested sonar in all 10-AG, which was approved. On 5/25/45 CominCh serial 01502 to VCNO approved the use of DD-128 for testing sonar and directed reclassification to AG.

The directive re reclassifying DM and DMS to AG are shown under DMS.

DE - DESTROYER, ESCORTS

	1/1/42			1/1/43			1/1/44			1/1/45			1/1/46			7/1/46				
	NAVE	BLOG	TOTAL	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T		
DE	-	300	-	-	800	800	230	394	624	376	10	386	327	4	331	297	2	299		
CHANGES COMPLETED				306	-306		208	-208		6	-6								520	
ADDED		500			1205														705	
CANCELLED					-305														-442	
AS-IS																				
LOST							-7			-2									-9	
DISPOSAL							-2			-69			-56						-127	
RECLASSIFIED +										+1									+1	
RECLASSIFIED -							-40	-41		-16			+26						-97	
LL +							+5			+35								X RETC	68	
LL -																		XX	96	
LOANED				-76			-18			-2									2	
END OF YR.	-	800		230	394	624	376	10	386	327	4	331	297	2	299					
LL									76			83			46				19	
CHANGES LEASED						+76			+18			+2						XX	95	
RETURNED									-5			-35			-26			X	66	
LOST									-5			-3							-8	
DISPOSAL									-1			-1			-1				-3	
END OF YR.									83			46			19					
LOANED-CHINA															2				2	
EX-DE																				
APD									-	-	-	39	41	80	93	-	93	92	-	92
CHANGES COMPLETED												41	-41							41
RECLASSIFIED +																				96
RECLASSIFIED -																				
LOST																				
DISPOSAL																				
END OF YR.							39	41		93	-	93	92	-	92					
IX												1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	
CHANGES RECLASSIFIED																				
DISPOSAL *																				
END OF YR.							1	-		1	-									

DE-Destroyer Escorts

(a) Status 1/1/42.

(1) The records show no DE on hand or on order for the USN on 1/1/42. However, the 300-DE building at the time, based on British requests, are treated as if they were part of the program since most of them were retained by the U. S.

(2) The Maximum Effort Planning Program endorsed with CNO Memo to SecNav dated 2/6/42, which was approved by SecNav and endorsed OK in principle by the President, showed the following regarding DE as of 1/1/42.

<u>1/1/42</u>	<u>Total Needs</u>	<u>Have</u>	<u>On Order</u>	<u>Require</u>	<u>Replacements</u>
DE	Indeterminate	--	--	100/Year	--
BDE	520	--	300		

(3) 300-BDE

(a) 50-DE (1-50)

6/23/41. The British Supply Council proposed the construction of 100-DE with first delivery within 2 years and 10 per month thereafter.

8/15/41. The President approved the construction of 50-DE for U.K. Funds became available under the Defense Aid Act of 10/28/41, and orders were placed with the first vessel scheduled for March 1943. The authorization provided the British program was not to interfere with the U.S. Navy program.

(b) 250-DE (51-500)

cf 250

11/1/41. The British requested about 470-DE additional and the President authorized the construction in advance of Congressional authorization.

2/6/42. Public Law 440, approved 2/6/42, and known as the 1799 Vessel Emergency Construction Act, authorized the SecNav to undertake the construction of 1799 minor combatant, auxiliary and patrol vessels for the U.S. Navy or for disposal in accordance with existing law, and further to provide equipment, facilities and land at private or public establishments for their construction. The 1799 vessels had all been requested by the British and included 250-DE.

(c) Summary of changes 1/1/42 - 7/1/42.

705 Added	500 in 1942, 205 in 1943
443 Cancelled	305 in 1943, 135 in 1944, 2 in 1946
580 Completed	306 in 1943, 208 in 1944, 6 in 1945
9 Lost	7 in 1944, 2 in 1945
127 stricken for disposal	2 in 1944, 69 in 1945, 56 in 1946

DE-Destroyer Escorts

(3) 300-BDE

(c) Summary of changes 1/1/42 - 7/1/42, (Cont'd.)

96 Lend Leased	76 in 1943, 18 in 1944, 2 in 1945
2 Loaned China	2 in 1945
66 LL returned	5 in 1944, 35 in 1945, 26 in 1946
97 Reclassed	
96 to APD	80 in 1944, 16 in 1945
1 to IX	1 in 1944
1 Restored	APD - 69 to DE - 668 in 1945

On 7/1/46 there were 297-DE on hand, 2 building, total 299.
On 7/1/46, of the 96-DE lend-leased, 66 had been returned,
8 - lost, 3 - stricken for disposal, leaving 19 outstanding.

(d) Additions (More details under Tabs 'Resume' and 'Bldg. Program').

(1) 500 in 1942

420-DE (301-720) were included in the 1943-44 (690-ship) program approved by the President on 5/11/42. Tonnage authorization was provided by PL-666 (HR 7184) approved 7/9/42, which included 900,000 tons for DD and DE.

80-DE (721-800). BuShips by letter to SecNav via OP&M and CNO dated 10/19/42 requested authority to make awards for 80-DE utilizing tonnage from HR 7184 stating full authorization and appropriations are available. OP&M and CNO recommended approval and on 10/22/42 SecNav endorsed his approval.

(2) 205-DE in 1943

205-DE (801-1005) were included in the 413-Vessel Building Program approved by the President on 5/27/43. Tonnage was provided for the 413 vessels from unallocated balances and by the cancellation of 5-BB and 3-CV previously deferred.

(e) Cancellations

(1) 305-DE in 1943

205-DE (801-1005) were cancelled after the President on 9/13/43 approved SecNav Memo dated 9/9/43 which stated the cancellation was necessary to make facilities and manpower available for the increased landing craft program and that it was in line with recent developments in submarine warfare.

100-DE cancellations. On 9/21/43 SecNav informed the President that Cominch had recommended and he had approved that the

De-Destroyer Escorts

(3) 300-BDE

(e) Cancellations

(1) 305-DE in 1943 (Cont'd)

total DE be reduced to 600 and requested approval of his proposal to arrange contract cancellations so as not to arrest the sense of urgency among workers and management. This was approved by the President on 9/23/43. On 9/27/43 BuShips in a letter to CNO reviewed the situation and requested the cut-back be restricted to 100-DE. CNO on 9/29/42 directed BuShips to cancel 100-DE (701-800) and referred BuShips letter to Cominch. On 10/7/43 Cominch informed CNO it is necessary to reduce the DE program to a total of 600-DE and directed appropriate which resulted in CNO directive of 10/11/43 for BuShips to cancel 100-DE in addition to those already directed. On 10/11/43 OP&M advised CNO the SecNav had ordered holding-up the 100-DE cancellation until further orders. The 100-DE actually cancelled were (114-128, 478-507, 647-664, 725-738, 754-762, 775-788).

(2) 135-DE in 1944

100-DE cancellations were hangovers from the 200-DE reduction approved by the President on 9/23/43 discussed above. On 3/10/44 CNO directed BuShips to cancel 78-DE which was raised to 78 at BuShips suggestion with the approval of Cominch and SecNav (DE 286-300, 311-315, 425-437, 457-477, 512-515, 617-632, 645, 646, 723, 724).

Cominch Memo for SecNav serial 001583 dated 5/26/44 stated he had data that 8-DE keels were to be laid in June and 57 keels after 7/1/44 and he considered 22-DE could be cancelled. He stated the Germans have over 400-U boats and cancelling 35 other DE should be deferred with a decision in June. On 5/24/44 CNO informed BuShips the SecNav had approved cancelling 22-DE.

35-DE. CNO serial 014205 to SecNav dated 6/3/44 recommended cancelling 35-DE whose keels had not been laid on 5/1/44 stating the war situation allows cancellation and manpower restrictions indicate difficulty in manning them if completed. This was approved by SecNav and the President (6/3/44) and CNO directed BuShips to cancel 35-DE whose status will result in minimum loss to the Government.

(3) 2-DE in 1946

4-DE (539-542) were suspended on 1/6/46 together with 26 other combatant ships pending decision as to the composition of the Post War Navy. Later in the month DE-541, 542 were declared surplus and cancelled (both 39% complete) the other 2-DE being retained for the Inactive Fleet.

DE- Destroyer Escorts

(3) 300-BDE

(f) Completions (More details under tabs 'Resume' and 'Bldg. Program').

(1) 306-DE in 1943

A JCS Memo for the President dated 10/17/42 stated in effect merchant ships are being sunk faster than they can be produced, that plans for offensive operations are hampered by escort shortages and recommended 310-escorts be produced in 1943. The President informed WFB the materials for 260-DE and 50-70 corvettes "must be provided".

To accelerate DE production, Cominch authorized modifying the propulsion plants of 183-DE to half power (6000 SHP) to give 20 knots instead of the original 24 knots (12,000 SHP).

On 11/26/42 JCS presented to WFB the Presidents "No. 1 Group" of items which must be produced in 1943 to furnish a balanced war program. This list included 260-DE for 1943 and 420-DE for 1944.

During 1942 and most of 1943, DE were in Group 2 on the precedence list, dropping to Group 6 on 10/5/43 as the A/S situation improved.

(2) 208-DE in 1944

Precedence for DE dropped to Group 8 on 2/26/44 and to Group 13 (lowest) on 6/28/44, due to the great improvement in the escort and A/S situation.

(3) 6-DE in 1945

This completed the program except for 4-DE of which 2 were cancelled in 1946.

(g) Lost

7-DE in 1944 DE-143, 157, 319, 404, 407, 413, 695
2-DE in 1945 DE-136, 682

(h) Lend Lease

(1) 96-DE Lend Leased

76 in 1943, -71 to U.K., 1 to France, 4 to Brazil
18 in 1944 -11 to U.K., 5 to France, 2 to Brazil
2 in 1945 - 2 to Brazil
2 loaned China in 1945 - DE-6, 47

DE-Destroyer Escorts

(50 300-BDE)

(h) Lend Lease (Cont'd.)

(2) 66-DE returned by U.K., all except 4 of which have been stricken for disposal.

(i) Reclassified.

(1) 1-DE to IX

DE-65 was reclassified to IX-183 during 1944 and was stricken for disposal in November 1945.

(2) 96-DE to APD

On 5/26/44 Cominch in Memo to SecNav re curtailing the DE-program stated plans have been made to convert 50-DE to APD and the conversion of 50 others is under consideration for operations in the Western Pacific.

SS - STATISTICS

	1/1/42			1/1/43			1/1/44			1/1/45			1/1/46			7/1/46			CHANGES
	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	H	B	T	
STATUS	115	94	207	133	187	320	178	241	419	238	64	302	206	21	227	212	11	223	
CHANGES																			CHANGES
COMPLETED	+34	-34		+36	-56		+79	-79		+37	-37		+9	-9					515
ADDED		+27			+10					+18									257
CANCELLED										-98									180
AS-IS																			
LOST X	-8			-11			-19			-15									58
DISPOSAL	-3						-3			-54			-3						-63
RECLASSIFIED	+																		-1
RECLASSIFIED	-1																		3
LL +							+3												2
LL (-)	-2																		-2
END OF YR.	133	187	320	178	241	419	238	64	302	206	21	227	212	11	223				
LL + BSS			(6)			(3)			(3)			(-)			(-)				

SS-Submarines

1. Status 1/1/42

On 1/1/42 we had on hand 113-SS with 94 on order, or a total of 207. The 105 on hand included 1-SS (SS-166) and 5-BSS (SS-94, 96, 105, 130, 134). In addition 1-SS (126) not included in the foregoing figures was LL to U.K.

2. Summary of Changes 1/1/42 - 7/1/46.

255 - added,	127 in 1942,	110 in 1943,	18 in 1945
123 - cancelled,	98 in 1944,	24 in 1945,	1 in 1946
1 - reclassified,	1 in 1942		
215 - completed,	34 in 1942,	56 in 1943,	79 in 1944, 37 in 1945, 9 in 1946
53 - lost,	8 in 1942,	11 in 1943,	19 in 1944, 15 in 1945
63 - stricken for disposal,	3 in 1942,	3 in 1944,	54 in 1945, 3 in 1946
2 - Lend Leased,	2 in 1942		
3 - LL returned,	3 in 1944.		

3. Additions (See 'Resume and Building Program for more details.)

(a) 127-SS in 1942

7-SS (308-314) had been previously authorized but not placed on order.

120-SS (315-434) were included in the 1943-44 (690-vessel) program approved by the President on 8/12/42. Tonnage (200,000 tons) was provided under PL-551 approved 5/13/42, the so-called "Submarine Program Act".

(b) 110-SS in 1943.

110-SS (435-544) were included in the 413-Combatant Vessel Program which was approved by the President on 5/26/43. Tonnage was provided for the 413-vessel program from unallocated balances and by cancelling 5-EB and 3-CB.

(c) 18-SS in 1945.

18-SS (545-562) were included in the 84-vessel program which the Director of the Budget stated was approved on 1/17/45 but which was cancelled by the President on 3/22/45 except for 12-CVE.

4. Cancellations (Detailed Data under Resume and Building Program tabs).

(a) 98-SS in 1944.

CominCh Memo to SecNav serial 001918 dated 7/3/44 recommended a firm cut-back of 98-SS from the present program which includes SS-544 stating that the 6-special type SS recommended by CominCh on 6/23/44 to follow SS-544 should be built. (Note - These 6-SS had been recommended by the General Board but were not yet authorized.) This was approved by SecNav on 7/4/44 and by the President on 7/14/44.

SS-Submarines

4. Cancellations

(a) 98-SS in 1944 (Cont.)

The SS-cancelled were 353-360, 379, 380, 429-434, 438-474, 495-515, 517-521, 526-544.

(b) 24-SS in 1945.

18-SS (545-562) were cancelled after the President on 3/22/45 disapproved the 84-vessel program.

6-SS (427, 428, 491-494) were included in the curtailment program of 56-combatant vessels whose cancellation was approved 8/10/45.

5. Reclassification.

SM-1 was redesignated as APS-1 during 1942 and was sunk during 1943.

6. Completions.

(a) 34 in 1942, 56 in 1943, 79 in 1944, 37 in 1945, 9 in 1946.

(b) In 1942, the President's directive of 5/1/42 stated the objective for 1942 was the completion of vessels which can be launched prior to 7/1/43 with lower priorities to others except - - - and for submarines which can be completed during calendar 1943.

JCS letter of 11/30/42 to WPB stated in effect the President had directed JCS to submit a "No. 1 Group" of items which must be produced in 1943 for a balanced program. This included 59-SS for 1943 and 92-SS for 1944.

(c) On 7/30/43 SecNav Memo to CominCh questioned the sufficiency of the SS-building program as to quantity and as to time. On 8/6/43 CominCh Memo to VCNO directed a study of the effect on other programs should SS-priority be increased and of the ability of existing yards to expand production and the effects on material and manpower. He stated the SS have markedly checked the spread of Japanese activities. On 8/25/43 BuShips stated all 5 yards engaged in SS production are obligated to capacity and further construction is possible only by diverting capacity from other types. BuShips estimated the output could be increased from 8/month to 10/month in the last quarter of 1944 and to 15/month by the end of 1945. On 11/15/43 Group Precedence of SS was raised to Group 4 from Group 9.

(d) On 6/21/44 CominCh serial 01233 to SecNav stated the prospects for the future call for fewer-SS with more high trained crews, since recent successes in the Pacific have greatly reduced the areas in which Japanese shipping operates and these are well covered by shore based

SS-Submarines

6. Completions.

(d) (Cont.)

aircraft, and recommended the SS-program be permanently retarded to a rate of about 7/month to become effective as soon as possible. He stated in about a month the situation might warrant cancellation from the end of the program.

7. Losses

8 in 1942 SS-96, 130, 131, 141, 174, 176, 195, 216.
11 in 1943 SS-89, 177, 181, 201, 207, 209, 210, 219, 233, 248,
275.
19 in 1944 SS-132, 133, 144, 155, 191, 197, 202, 206, 211, 226,
227, 233, 250, 273, 278, 284, 289, 290, 351.
15 in 1945 SS-193, 215, 218, 223, 237, 257, 277, 279, 294, 308,
314, 316, 332, 369, 371.

53

8. Stricken for Disposal

3 in 1942 SS-129 and BSS-105, 134 worn out.
3 in 1944 SS-121, 122, 143 worn out.
54 in 1945 Curtailment to post war needs.
3 in 1946 Curtailment to post war needs.

9. Lend Lease

On 1/1/42 SS-126 was lend-leased and SS-94, 96, 105, 130, 134 were BSS. Two additional SS were leased in 1942 viz. SS-127 and SS-94 (from BSS). These 3-SS were returned during 1944 and stricken for disposal in 1945.

Regarding the BSS, 2 were lost in 1942 (96, 130) and 2 were stricken for disposal (105, 134) in 1942 while BSS-94 was taken up under LL and disposed of as shown above.