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2 SEP 1943

Memorandum for The President

Subject: CVL Aircraft Carriers, small.

1. I have approved the making of award for construction of the following combatant ships:

2 - CVL Aircraft Carriers, small (13,000 tons)

2. Tonnage is available for this construction by utilizing replacement tonnage and the cancellation of four of our large program of DE's.

3. The ships will be delivered in the last part of 1945. No interference with the present program will result, excepting a delay of about three months on 2 CL's.

4. The design of these ships will utilize the basic hull and machinery design of the 13,000 ton CA's.

5. Tactically, it is expected to use these ships as fighter carriers to accompany the large carriers, on the ratio of one small fighter carrier to two large carriers.

6. Your approval of this action is requested.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

x18-Misc. Naval Bldg. Folder

x249 Official

x50-13

Frank Knox

x18

*original initialed
and handed to
Mr. Wm. P. Rigdon
9/16/43
9/7/43*