

**Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
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(A1-1) Habbakuks (Floating Airdromes for Asia Theatre) July 1942-January 1945

UNITED STATES FLEET

HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FFL/L34/A1-3

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CONFIDENTIAL

JUN 17 1942

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Mass Production of XOV's and Corvettes.

1. Pursuant to the oral approval of the President given on Monday June 15, 1942, I recommend that steps be taken at once, through the Maritime Commission, to contract for the building of

- (a) 48 XOV's (AVO), 30 knot speed, of the "Kaiser" design, as approved by the Navy, subject to revision in numbers, up or down, according to future circumstances.
- (b) 100 escort vessels of the corvette type, of Navy design and characteristics, modified as found essential for mass production.

2. It is understood that the ways, shipbuilding facilities and machinery building facilities under the control of the Maritime Commission will be used to construct these ships and further, that this program is not superimposed on the Maritime Commission merchant ship program but replaces an equivalent part of it.

E. F. KING
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