

ACC AC63/TN.4

10000/148/2118

LANDING CRAFT

JUN.-AUG. 1944

8/2118

LANDING CRAFT - SALE OF
JUN. - AUG. 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub Commission
APO 394

FRAG/af

Ref:AGC Tn 63/9

14 August 1944

Tel:478704

To:Region 4.
T.O.U. Division

Subject:Proposed Use of Landing Craft

Reference your 5A/TCU/1500/200 (a) dated 26
July 44.

This matter was put before Mr. Gibson Graham,
the Chairman of MDPBO, and his reply is as follows:-

"This is a proposal which has been suggested by
every country who have seen these craft in operation.
I have to advise you however, and I should be glad if
you would pass it on, that there is absolutely no
chance of any of these craft being made available for
sea or for independent employment until hostilities
ease".

McGinnis *FCOL RE*

D. S. ADAMS
Colonel, O.E.
Tn. Sub. Comm.

5107

63/9

Memorandum for Lieut.Col.Glanville
from Mr.G.A.Bell.

12th.August 1944.

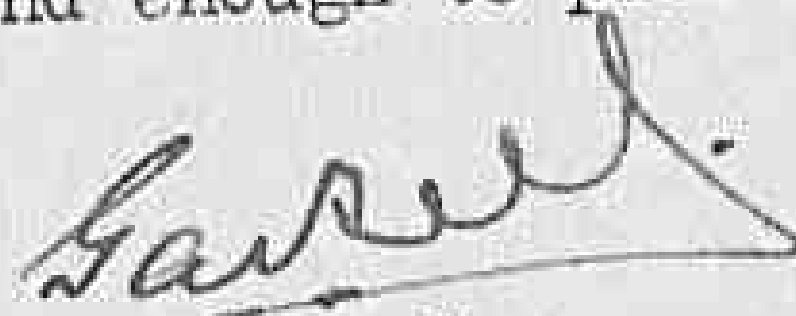
Subject: LST's for use as river craft.

The attached correspondence covering a request from a group of Italian Officers to acquire LSTs and operate them as river craft was submitted to Mr.J.Gibson Graham recently.

His reply follows:

"This is a proposal which has been suggested by every
"country who have seen these craft in operation.
"I have to advise you however, and I should be glad if
"you would pass it on, that there is absolutely no
"chance of any of these craft being made available for
"sea or for independent employment until hostilities cease."

Perhaps you would be kind enough to pass on this
information.


G.A.Bell.

5166

0214

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
ROME REGION
A.P.O. 394
TCU DIV.

CRB/mp
26 July 1944

5A/TCU/1500/200 (d)

SUBJECT: Proposed use of Landing Craft

TO : Transportation Sub Commission

1. Forwarded for your information and any necessary action.

C.R.B.
C.R. BIRCHETT
Lt.Col. C.E.
Dir. TCU Div.

Enclosed:

Letter dated 21 July 1944

5103

TRANSLATION OF LETTER DATED 12TH JULY 1944
FROM A GROUP OF ITALIAN NAVAL AND AIR FORCE OFFICERS
TO E.C.D. DIVISION - ROME -

The undersigned officers belonging to the Italian Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, whilst awaiting to resume their military duties, wish to submit the following statement to the Allied Command:

With a view of doing useful work in the food supplying field of the liberated territories and to assist in the exchange of goods, actually entailing so many difficulties due to the well known causes, keeping in mind the geographic configuration of our Country, consider it advisable to propose that the transportation of foodstuffs and other goods be carried out, as far as possible, exclusively with floating craft specially adapted as fluvial or coasting boats.

By this means it will be possible to realize a considerable decrease in the cost of goods, owing to the minimum transportation rates and the following benefits would derive:

- 1°) Relieve the overcrowding of motor vehicles on the main roads to the advantage of all military traffic.
- 2°) Realize a considerable economy in motor vehicles which could thus be placed at the disposal of the Military Authorities for war use.
- 3°) Recovery and placing into efficiency of the under-mentioned craft which otherwise would be dispersed.

The craft to which reference is made, of ready and immediate usage, are the landing rafts so brilliantly tested in recent Allied Military operations. The undersigned have in mind to constitute an enterprise which would provide for the immediate navigability of the military inefficient rafts and use same for coasting and fluvial service.

Although they are not acquainted with the technical characteristics of these rafts, they believe that they would be quite suitable to undertake the required work.

In fact the tests furnished by these rafts during landing operations in Sicily, under adverse sea weather conditions provide the highest guarantees of their usefulness.



However with slight alterations these rafts could be rendered even more seaworthy. For this object we could use also the captured German rafts already used for coasting duty if the Allied Command would consider furnishing an adequate number.

If this proposal be taken into consideration the undersigned request to be allowed to inspect this craft, and if the craft meets their requirements they are willing to purchase them outright, replace them in efficiency and use them for the mentioned services under the conditions laid down by the Allied Command.

In the case that the the Allied Command does not wish to alienate this material the undersigned would also accept the task of replacing them into efficiency and then hiring them.

The undersigned officers during the nazi-fascist occupation have kept an exemplary conduct as their Commands can testify. They are all capable and have the necessary experience required. They also wish to state that they are already in contact with ship-building yards for the eventual repairing of these rafts.

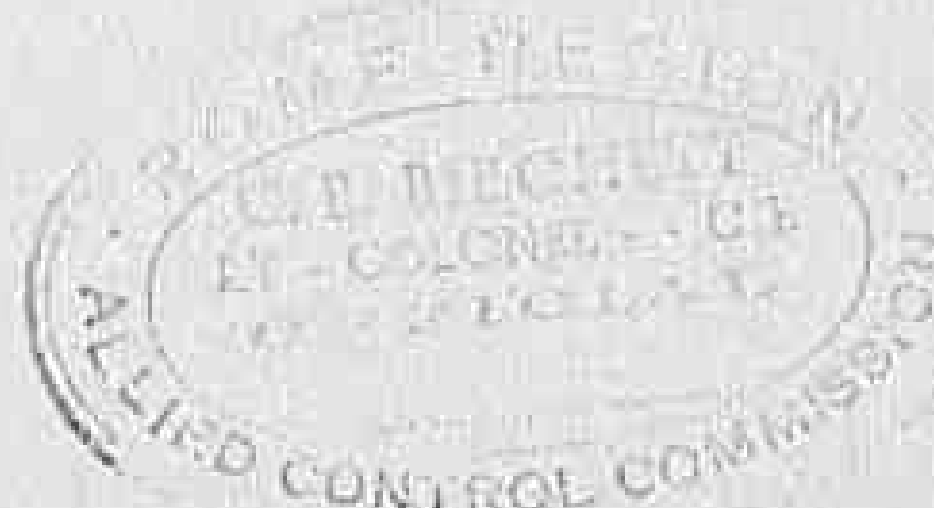
They await the Allied Command's instructions.

Signed :

Col. Pil. R. Aeronautica Leone Leonello
 Ten. Col. Pil. R. A. Pietro Guazzelli -
 Ten. Col. Pil. R. A. Igino Moncarelli -
 Cap. di corvetta Giulio Buonamico -
 Cap. Genio Aeronautico Carlo Genzini -
 Cap. Comm. in S. P. E. Silvio Nuti. -

Adm
[Signature]

5163



JUL 21 1944

T.C.U

AL COMANDO MILITARE ALLEATO DI ROMA

I sottoscritti, Ufficiali appartenenti alla R. Marina ed alla R. Aeronautica, in attesa di riprendere servizio, prospettano a Codesto Comando Militare Alleato di Roma quanto segue.

Nell'intento di rare cosa utile nel settore del vettovagliamento delle zone liberate e per favorire gli scambi di merci attualmente così difficili e onerosi per le note cause, tenuto conto della configurazione geografica del Paese, riteniamo opportuno proporre che i trasporti delle derrate e di altri materiali, vengano eseguiti, ove possibile, esclusivamente con mezzi natanti adatti alla navigazione costiera e fluviale. Con tale sistema, oltre a realizzare un sensibile ribasso sul costo delle merci, dovuto al minimo prezzo di trasporto, si verrebbero a conseguire i seguenti vantaggi:

I°) - Decongestionamento della rete stradale a tutto vantaggio del traffico militare.

II°) - Notevole economia di automezzi che rimarrebbero in tal caso a disposizione delle autorità militari per il loro impiego in servizi attinenti la guerra.

III°) - Recupero e rimessa in efficienza dei mezzi di cui è fatto cenno qui sotto e che altrimenti andrebbero inevitabilmente perduti.

segue.

Nell'intento di fare cosa utile nel settore del vettovagliamento delle zone liberate e per favorire gli scambi di merci attualmente così difficili e onerosi per le note cause, tenuto conto della configurazione geografica del Paese, ritengono opportuno proporre che i trasporti delle derrate e di altri materiali, vengano eseguiti, ove possibile, esclusivamente con mezzi natanti adatti alla navigazione costiera e fluviale. Con tale sistema, oltre a realizzare un sensibile ribasso sul costo delle merci, dovuto al minimo prezzo di trasporto, si verrebbero a conseguire i seguenti vantaggi:

I°) - Decongestionamento della rete stradale a tutto vantaggio del traffico militare.

II°) - Notevole economia di automezzi che rimarrebbero in tal caso a disposizione delle autorità militari per il loro impiego in servizi attinenti la guerra.

III°) - Recupero e rimessa in efficienza dei mezzi di cui è fatto cenno qui sotto e che altrimenti andrebbero inevitabilmente perduti.

I mezzi cui si allude, di pronto e utile impiego, sono le zattere da sbarco così brillantemente collaudate in recenti e pas-

sate operazioni militari alleate. I sottoscritti avrebbero in animo di costituire un Ente che provvedesse a ripristinare la navigabilità delle zattere inefficienti e con le stesse iniziere il servizio costiero e fluviale. Per quanto essi non siano a conoscenza delle caratteristiche e delle doti nautiche del materiale in argomento, né del loro apparato motopropulsore, tuttavia ritengono che le esigenze connesse al servizio suestato potrebbero essere pienamente soddisfatte. Le prove infatti che detto materiale ha fornito nell'azione di sbarco in Sicilia, effettuato in condizioni di mare affatto ideali, danno la massima garanzia sul loro utile impiego. Comunque con lievi modifiche tali natanti potrebbero anche essere resi maggiormente stabili. Sarebbero idonei allo scopo anche le zattere semoventi ex-tedesche già usate per il trasporto costiero, qualora Codesto Comando fosse propenso a cederne un numero adeguato. Se l'idea proposta trovasse favorevole accoglienza i sottoscritti chiedono l'autorizzazione di prendere visione dei natanti in parola, e se tale sopralluogo confermasse l'attuabilità del loro progetto, essi sarebbero disposti ad acquistare i natanti stessi, ripristinarne l'efficienza ed adibirli, con le modalità descritte da Codesto Comando, al Servizio in progetto. Nel caso invece che Codesto Comando non intendesse alienare il materiale richiesto, gli scriventi accetterebbero anche l'incarico di prov-

re il servizio costiero e fluviale. Per quanto essi non siano a conoscenza delle caratteristiche e delle doti nautiche del materiale in argomento, nè del loro apparato motopropulsore, tuttavia ritengono che le esigenze connesse al servizio suestato potrebbero essere pienamente soddisfatte. Le prove infatti che detto materiale ha fornito nell'azione di sbarco in Sicilia, effettuato in condizioni di mare affatto ideali, danno la massima garanzia sul loro utile impiego. Comunque con lievi modifiche tali natanti potrebbero anche essere resi maggiormente stabili. Sarebbero idonei allo scopo anche le zattere semoventi ex-tedesche già usate per il trasporto costiero, qualora Codesto Comando fosse propenso a cederne un numero adeguato. Se l'idea proposta trovasse favorevole accoglienza i sottoscritti chiedono l'autorizzazione di prendere visione dei natanti in parola, e se tale sopralluogo confermasse l'attuabilità del loro progetto, essi sarebbero disposti ad acquistare i natanti stessi, ripristinarne l'efficienza ed adibirli, con le modalità decise, tate da Codesto Comando, al Servizio in progetto. Nel caso invece che Codesto Comando non intendesse alienare il materiale richiesto gli scriventi accetterebbero anche l'incarico di provvedere alla rimessa in efficienza dei mezzi per poi noleggiarli per il servizio di cui trattasi appena Codesto Comando lo riterrà opportuno.

I sottoscritti, Ufficiali della R. Marina e della R. Aeronautica, durante l'occupazione nazi-fascista hanno tenuto una condotta esemplare, come Codesto Comando potrà appurare assumendo informazioni presso i rispettivi Dicasteri. Essi dispongono della necessaria competenza ed esperienza tecnica e nautica per assicurare la dovuta efficienza e continuità al servizio su questo posto. I sottoscritti infine fanno presente di essere in relazione con Cantieri Navali pienamente in grado di provvedere alla riparazione delle zattere.

Si rimane in fiduciosa attesa delle decisioni di Codesto Comando.

Roma 10 Luglio 1944

Leone Ravello

Gino Bonacelli.

Finis
Paulo
Pietro
Alberto

*Comandante, agli effetti della
presente istanza, a Via Monte
Zebbia 19 presso l'anc. comm.
Gastone Cavalieri -*

5160

0 2 2 2

assicurare la dovuta efficienza e continuità al servizio suez-
posto. I sottoscritti infine fanno presente di essere in rela-
zione con Cantieri Navali pienamente in grado di provvedere al-
la riparazione delle zattere.

Si rimane in fiduciosa attesa delle decisioni di Codesto Co-
mando.

Roma 10 Luglio 1944

Luigi Ravello
Agino Bonaselli.

Indirizzo
Prof. Paolo Giuseppe
Dieterich
Arbeits

Domesticat. ltr., ag. effett. della
presente l'istituto, a Via Monte
Zeb. 19 presso l'av. comm.
Gastone Cavalieri.

5160



FIRMATARI

- = Col. Pil. della R. Aeronautica S.P.E. LEONE LEONELLO - Ex-Ufficiale della R. Marina - Capitano di Lungo Corso - In possesso di pratica esperienza nautica.
- = Ten. Col. Pil. R. Aeronautica PIETRO GUAZZELLI - Ex-Ufficiale della Marina Mercantile, già appartenente alla Gente di Mare - In possesso di pratica esperienza nautica.
- = Ten. Col. Pilota R. Aeronautica IGINO MENCARELLI - Macchinista Navale in 1°.
- = Cap. di Corvetta GIULIO BUONAMICO, proveniente dall'S.P.E. - Direttore Generale dell'Ente Nazionale per l'Educazione Marina.
- = Cap. del Genio Aeronautico di Compl. CARLO GENZINI - Ingegnere - Proprietario della Ditta "MICRO - AVIO" di Roma (Officina Elettromeccanica attrezzata ed efficiente).
- = Cap. Comm. in S.P.E. SILVIO NUTI - Dott. in Scienze Economiche e Commerciali - In servizio nella R. Marina - In possesso di pratica esperienza nautica.

REGIONAL COMMISSIONER-REGION I

NAVY SUBCOM HQ AGC (PALMER)

RESTRICTED
IMPORTANT

685

JUL 121600B

NAVY SUBCOM HQ AGC

REFER YOUR 121700B TO LT COL VINING PARAGRAPH SIX CONTRACT SALE THREE
LST 26 JUNE WHICH PROVIDES THAT SHIPS ARE TO BE FREE OF ANY REQUISITIONS
OR INTERFERENCE FROM ALLIED OR CO-BELLIGERENT GOVERNMENTS PARER TO
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER REGION I FROM HQ AGC FOR COMMODORE PALMER PAREN
FOR ONE YEAR CANNOT BE MADE BINDING ON GOVERNMENTS NOT PARTIES TO CONTRACT
STOP WITHOUT GIVING CONSIDERATION TO THE INHERENT VALIDITY OF THE CONTRACT
NO ASSURANCES AS PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 6 CAN BE GIVEN BY THE ALLIED
CONTROL COMMISSION IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING ATTITUDE OF ITALIAN MINISTER
OF MARINE APPEARS IRRELEVANT STOP

5178

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1-Econ. Sec.
- 1-Legal Subcomm.
- 1-Transportation Subcomm.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OUTGOING MESSAGE*Trans S/C*

REGIONAL COMMISSIONER-REGION 1

NAVY BUNTON HQ AGC (PALMER)

REFERENCE NO: 685

JUL 181000

RESTRICTED
IMPORTANT
NAVY BUNTON HQ AGC

REFER FROM 121700Z TO LT COL VISING PARAGRAPH SIX CONTRACT WALK THREE
 LOT 26 JUNE WHICH PROVIDED THAT SHIPS ARE TO BE FREE OF ANY REQUISITIONS
 OR INTERFERENCE FROM ALLIED OR CO-WILLINGMENT GOVERNMENTS PARER TO
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER REGION 1 FROM HQ AGC FOR COMMODORE PALMER PAREN
 FOR ONE YEAR CANNOT BE MADE BINDING ON GOVERNMENTS NOT PARTIAL TO CONTRACT
 STOP DOUBTFUL WHETHER PROVISION IS BINDING ON UNITED STATES STOP ATTITUDE
 OF ITALIAN MINISTER OF MARINE IS NOT CONCLUSIVE STOP RECOMMEND FINAL
 SETTLEMENT CONTRACT BE HELD IN OBTAINING AS PROVISION AGAINST REQUISITION-
 ING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THE AGC

5157

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1-Exec. Sec.
- 1-Legal Subcom.
- 1-Transportation Subcom.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INCOMING MESSAGE

63/3

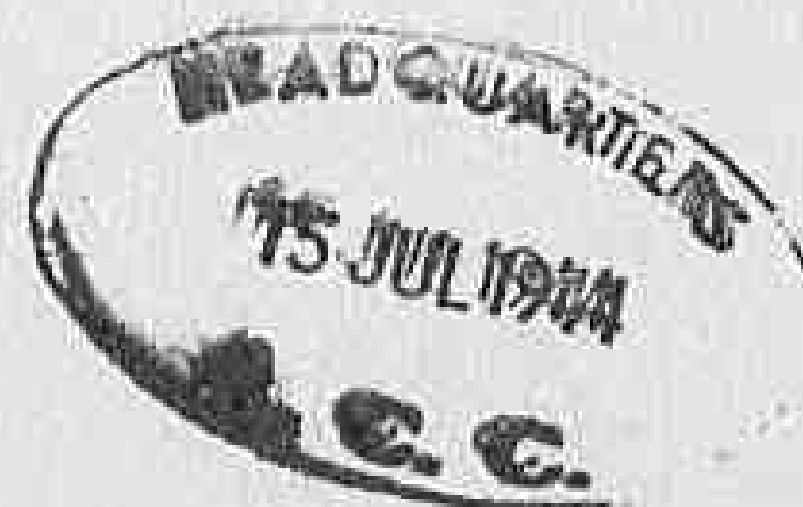
882

TO: ACC MAIN RPT ACC ADV FOR LT COL VINING
 FROM: BONSTEEL FROM HANCOCK
 REFERENCE No: S-12372
 DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUL 121700B

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 27/15
 CLASSIFICATION:
 PRECEDENCE:
 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE REQ-237

REFER YOUR LETTER ACC/63/2 ~~RECEIVED~~ DATED 6 JULY. SHIPS INVOLVED ARE LST. IT IS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT ANY USE OF THE SHIPS WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITALIAN LAW PER YOUR PARA 4. U S NAVY DESIRES TO KNOW BY 15 JULY ATTITUDE OF ITALIAN MINISTER OF MARINE AFTER THESE SHIPS ARE SALVAGED. ESTIMATE NEARLY 1 YEAR REQUIRED FOR SALVAGE OPERATIONS.

	DIST	
ACTION	- Econ Sec	3
INFO	- A/CC	
	Navy SC	
	File	2
	Float	



515

DATE and Time of RECEIPT JUL 15/

Distribution:

15 Jul 91

ASP/XG

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission
APO 394

Our reference : ACC Tn/63/ 2.
Date : 6 July '44.

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Region I.

SUBJECT : Sale by U.S. Navy of 3 LST's.

1. Reference is to your letter of 1 July 44, concerning sale of 3 vessels by U.S. Navy to firm of "A. Iupo Raimondo (Palermo)".

2. It is considered desirable that some further explanation of the reasons and implications of this sale should be obtained.

3. The present required "informal assurance" that the sale would be "free of any requisitions or interference from Allied or Co-belligerent Governments for a period of one year from this date" is one which could be interpreted as a carte blanche acceptance of such operations as the purchaser may deem to undertake, including the conveyance of black market traffic and movement banned for priority reasons by ACC.

4. So far as ACC is concerned it cannot agree to give up its power to control the authorization of all cargoes carried and therefore, when operating, any such craft must be controlled by G-ge-na or some nominee of the Italian Minister of Mercantile Marine.

5. It is felt that the intentions of the purchaser in respect of these vessels should be obtained, i.e. for use as scrap or for repair and re-use.

6. With your reply, please clarify as to whether the vessels are LST's or LCT's. Both are mentioned in your letter.



L.E. VINING,
Lieut-Colonel.

Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

Copy to:- Industry & Commerce Sub-Commission, RI., ACC.
MEDEO, Naples.
Lt-Colonel O.H. Lindberg, Tn. Sub-Comm., ACC Rep.
C/O HQ. Region I (Sicily).

510

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

1 July 1944

SUBJECT: Sale by U.S. Navy of 3 L.S.T.'s.

TO: Executive Commissioner R.C. & M.G. Section, ACC
Attention Colonel Vining, Transportation Sub-Commission.

1. A contract entered into by the U.S. Navy with local purchasers provides for the sale of these landing Craft (Tanks).
2. It is believed that one of these ships can be repaired, the others to be scrapped.
3. The U.S. Navy desires to give informal assurance that this sale is "free of any requisitions or interference from Allied or co-belligerent governments for a period of one year from this date."
4. It is recognized that the Italian Government may hesitate to tie its hands, irrespective of future contingencies, but if some informal assurance could be given that requisition of these ships is not contemplated at this time, it would be appreciated by U.S. Naval Operating Base.

For the Regional Commissioner

William R. Jordan
WILLIAM R. JORDAN
Colonel C.A.C.
Regional Executive Officer.

5174

1 Incl.
Contract-U.S. Navy.

02291

U. S. NAVAL OPERATING BASE
Palermo, Sicily

26 June 1944.

AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE

1. The undersigned firm of A. Lupo Raimondo agrees to purchase from the U. S. Navy the three Landing Ships (Tank) (LST's) described in Catalog 1B of Supply Officer, N.O.B., Palermo for the sum of three million one thousand lire (L.3,001,000) payable as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. Original deposit | L. 150,930 |
| 2. June 26, 1944 | L.1,000,000 |
| 3. July 5, 1944 | L.1,000,000 |
| 4. July 15, 1944 | L. 850,070 |

2. All items and specifications of Catalog 1B of Supply Officer, N.O.B., Palermo are accepted as a part of this agreement.

3. Payment shall be made in funds as described in conditions and terms of sale of said Catalog 1B.

4. Possession of and title to the ships shall remain with the U. S. Navy until completion of final payment at which time bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser. Failure to complete payment shall forfeit all previous payments.

5. During period between date of this agreement and date of final payment the purchaser may post such guard as he desires but may remove no part of the ships.

6. The sale of these ships is made free of any requisitions or interference from Allied or co-belligerent governments for a period of one year from this date.

7. As of this date the U. S. Navy is no longer responsible for the safety and security of these ships or any parts thereof.

ACCEPTED FOR THE U. S. NAVY

APPROVED

A. LUPO RAIMONDO

E. S. ALAZEEN
LIEUT. (SC) USNR
SUPPLY OFFICER

M. K. REVILL
COMMANDER, USNR
ACTING COMMANDANT

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 2. June 26, 1944 | L. 1,000,000 |
| 3. July 5, 1944 | L. 1,000,000 |
| 4. July 15, 1944 | L. 850,070 |
2. All items and specifications of Catalog 1B of Supply Officer, N. O.B., Palermo are accepted as a part of this agreement.

3. Payment shall be made in funds as described in conditions and terms of sale of said Catalog 1B.

4. Possession of and title to the ships shall remain with the U. S. Navy until completion of final payment at which time bill of sale shall be delivered to the purchaser. Failure to complete payment shall forfeit all previous payments.

5. During period between date of this agreement and date of final payment the purchaser may post such guard as he desires but may remove no part of the ships.

6. The sale of these ships is made free of any requisitions or interference from Allied or co-belligerent governments for a period of one year from this date.

7. As of this date the U. S. Navy is no longer responsible for the safety and security of these ships or any parts thereof.

ACCEPTED FOR THE U. S. NAVY

E. S. AMAZEEN
LIEUT. (SC) USNR
SUPPLY OFFICER
NAVAL OPERATING BASE, PALERMO

A. LUPO RALONDO

APPROVED

M. K. REVILL
COMMANDER, USNR
ACTING COMMANDANT

COPY

COPY

0 2 3 1 |