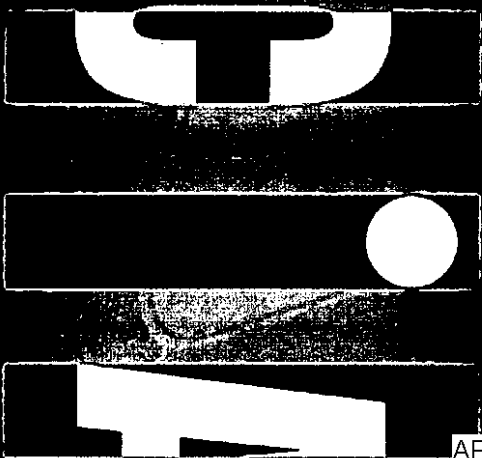
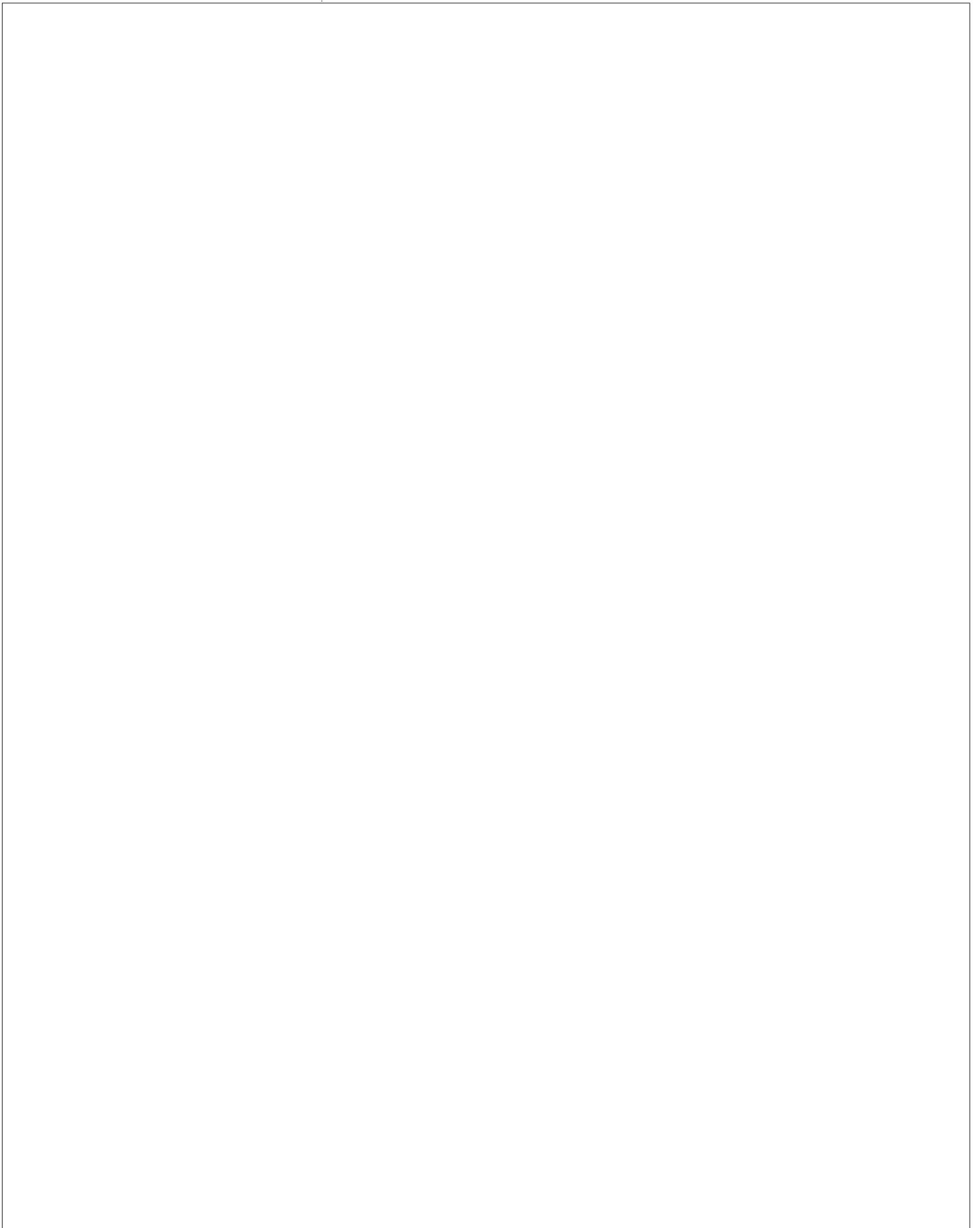


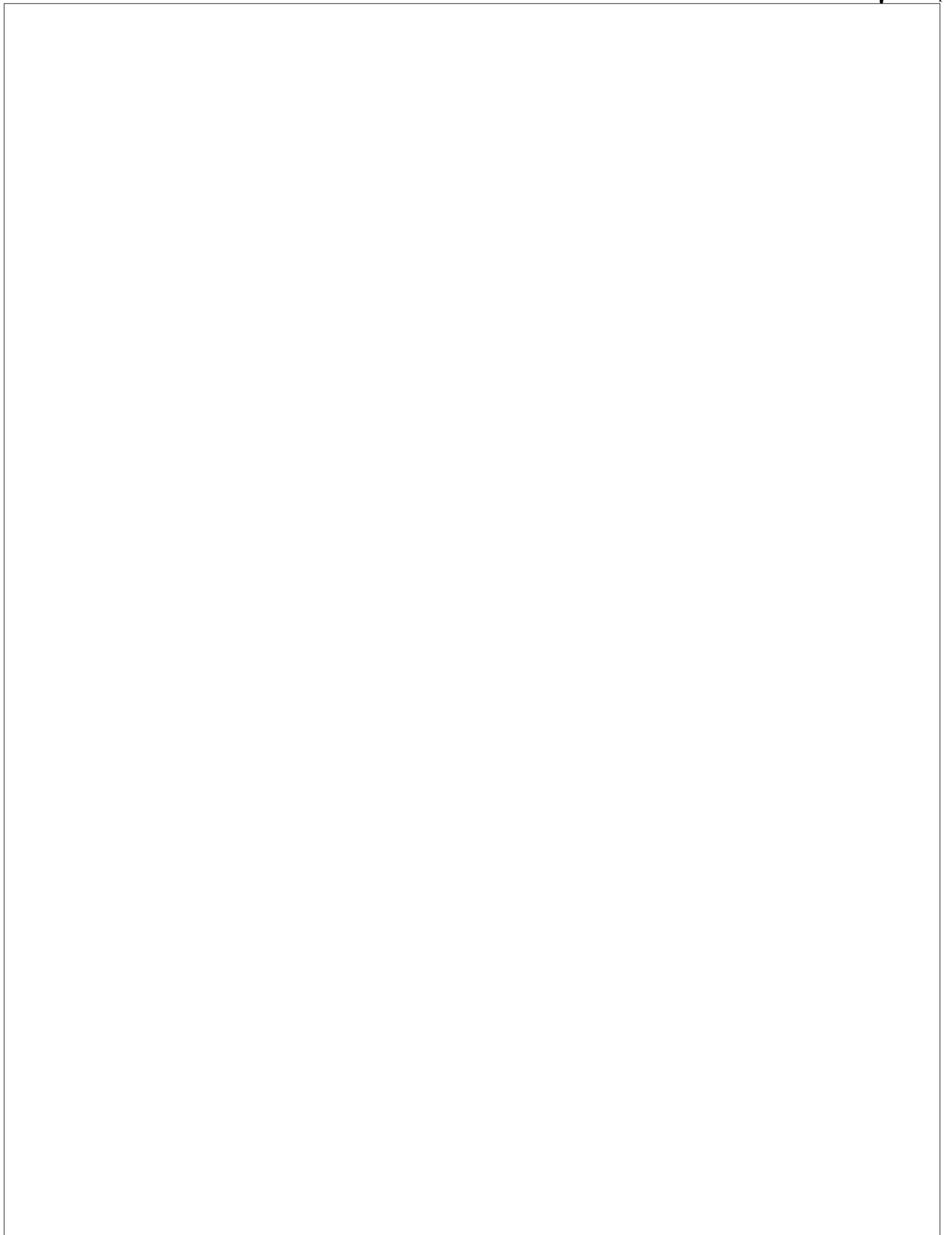
OFFICE OF THE CURATOR

Technical Tool Display
Maritime Operations

17 May 2010

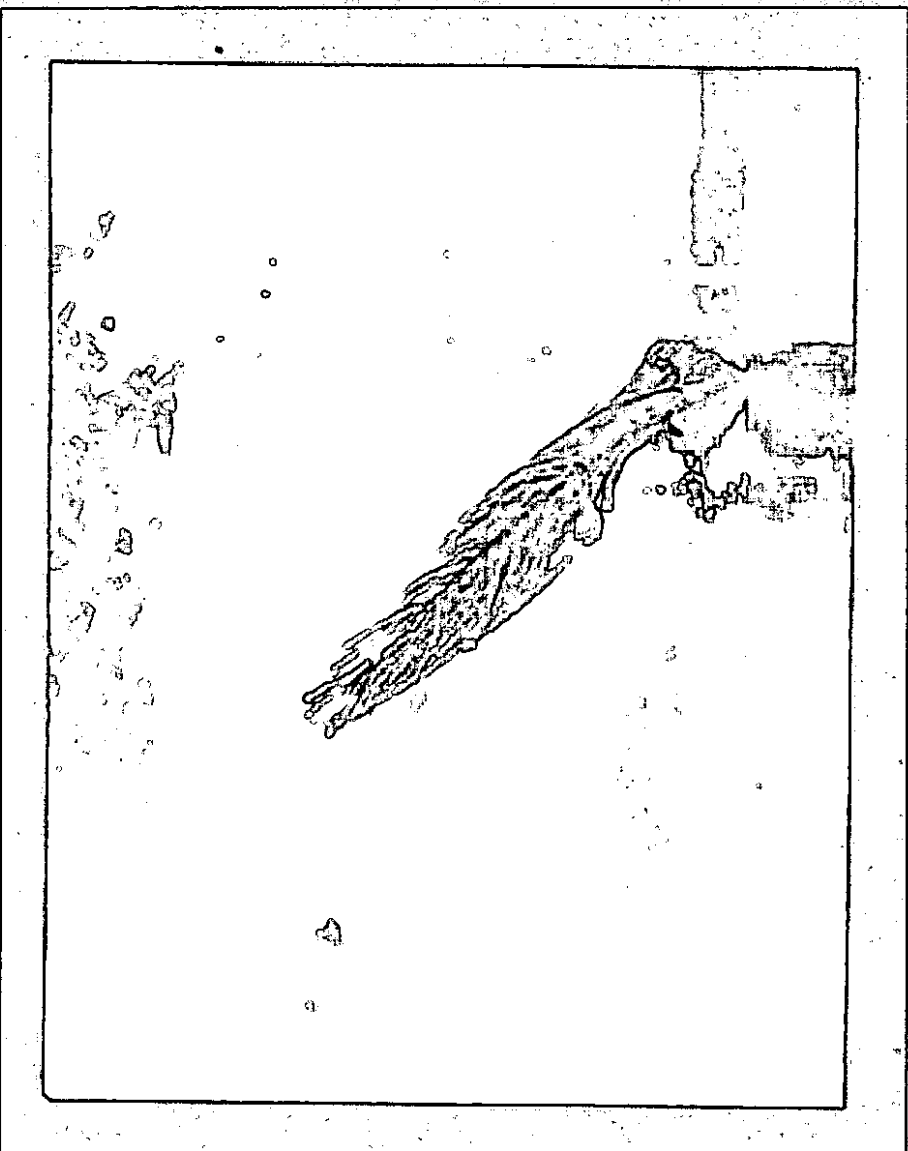






SKIFFS Predecessors

Various marine craft were developed during WW II for covert approaches to harbors and moored ships. (U)



The Sleeping Beauty, or Motorized Submersible Canoe, was developed and used by the British Special Operations Executive during WW II. It was 12 feet long, all metal, powered by an electric motor, and fully submergible during final approach. On the surface, it had a range of 40 miles and top speed of 4.5 knots. The single operator wore a breathing apparatus and could leave the submerged craft to attach a limpet mine to a ship. The British India Mission ordered 48 Sleeping Beauties. Special Operations Australia used 15 Sleeping Beauties during Operation Rimau, a raid on Japanese shipping in Singapore Harbor in October 1944. (U//FOUO)

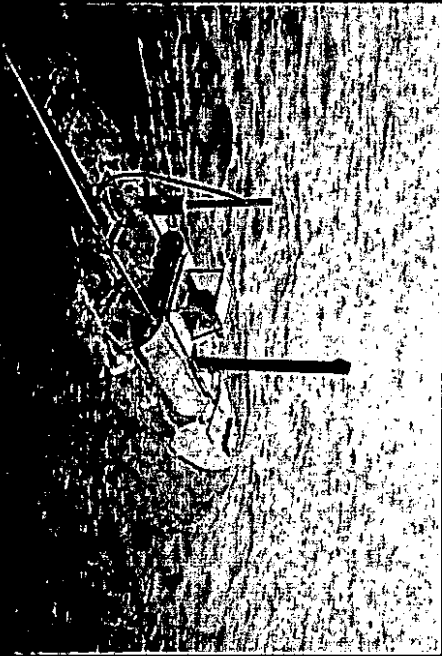
SKIFFF Predecessors

SECRET



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During WW II, The Office of Strategic Services (OSS) developed a semi-submersible water craft called GIMIK at a Long Island, NY, shipyard. OSS was disbanded on 1 October 1945, and GIMIK was transferred to the US Navy. Eventually, the Navy decided not to pursue development of GIMIK and passed the program off to the CIA. SKIFFF's heritage from the GIMIK program is evident from the many features they shared. [redacted]



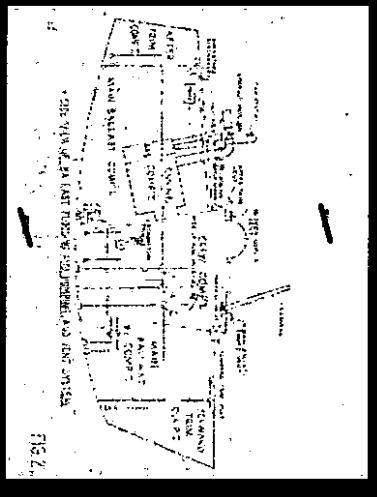
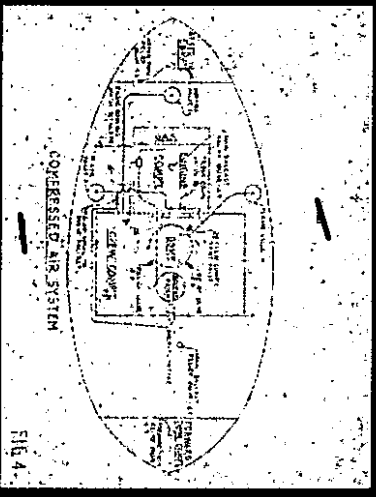
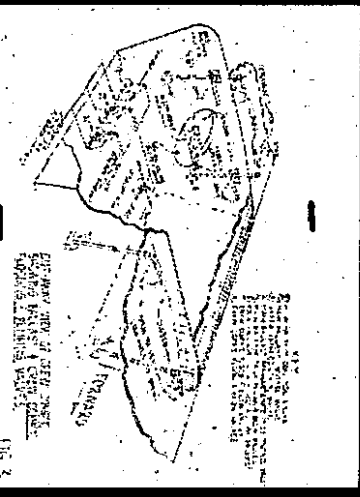
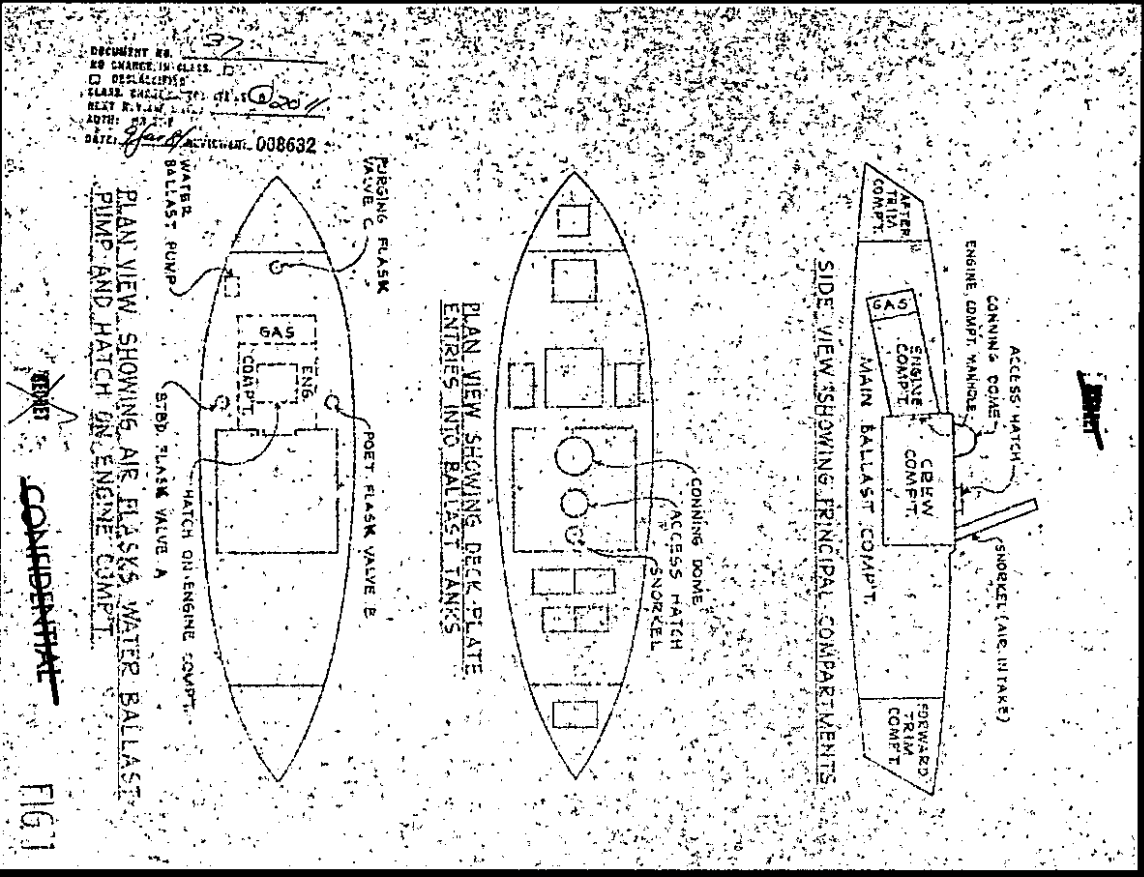
CONFIDENTIAL



CIA SKIFF

The SKIFF was a semi-submersible water craft built for CIA by the Trumpy Boatyard in Annapolis. Powered by a gasoline engine, the SKIFF could run on the surface with ballast pumped out or semi-submerged with ballast taken onboard and just the conning dome and snorkel tube showing. It could be cached in 30 feet of water for up to three or four weeks. To retrieve the SKIFF from the bottom, flasks of compressed air mounted on the stern were used to purge water from the ballast tanks. The crew could then enter the craft when the access hatch was above water. It cruised under 5 knots with a range of about 110 miles. Launched from a surface ship within 50 miles of the target, it could carry up to three men and 120 pounds of equipment. 

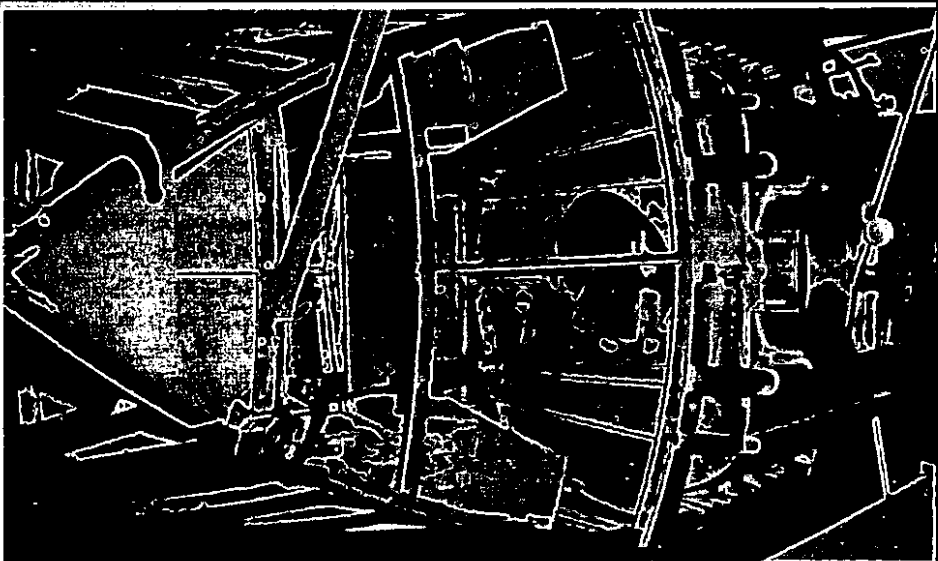
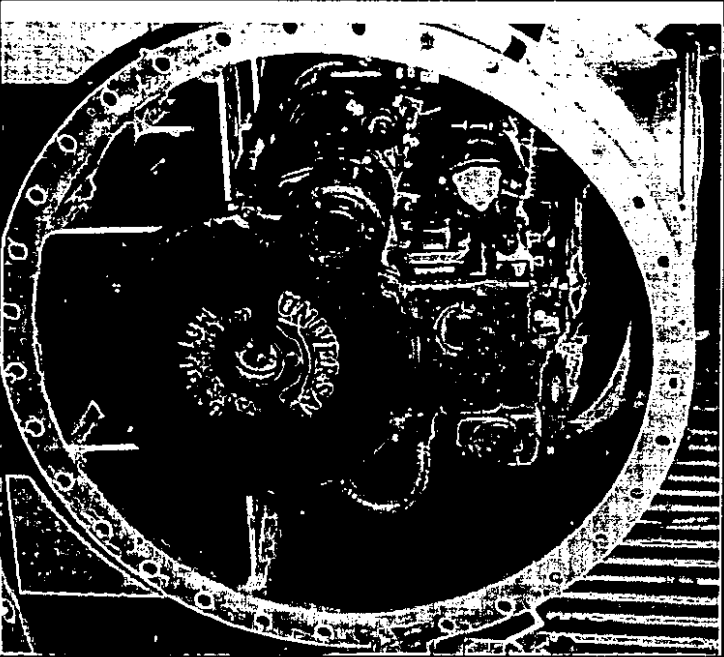
CIA SKIFF



CIA SKIFF

SECRET

SKIFF Construction
August 1953



CIA SKIFF

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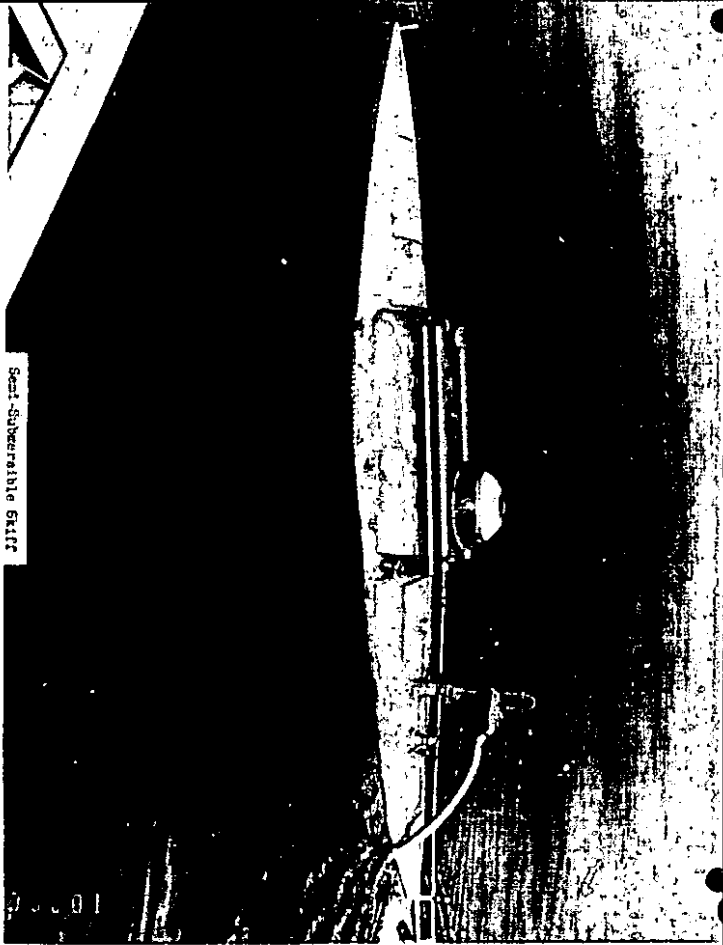
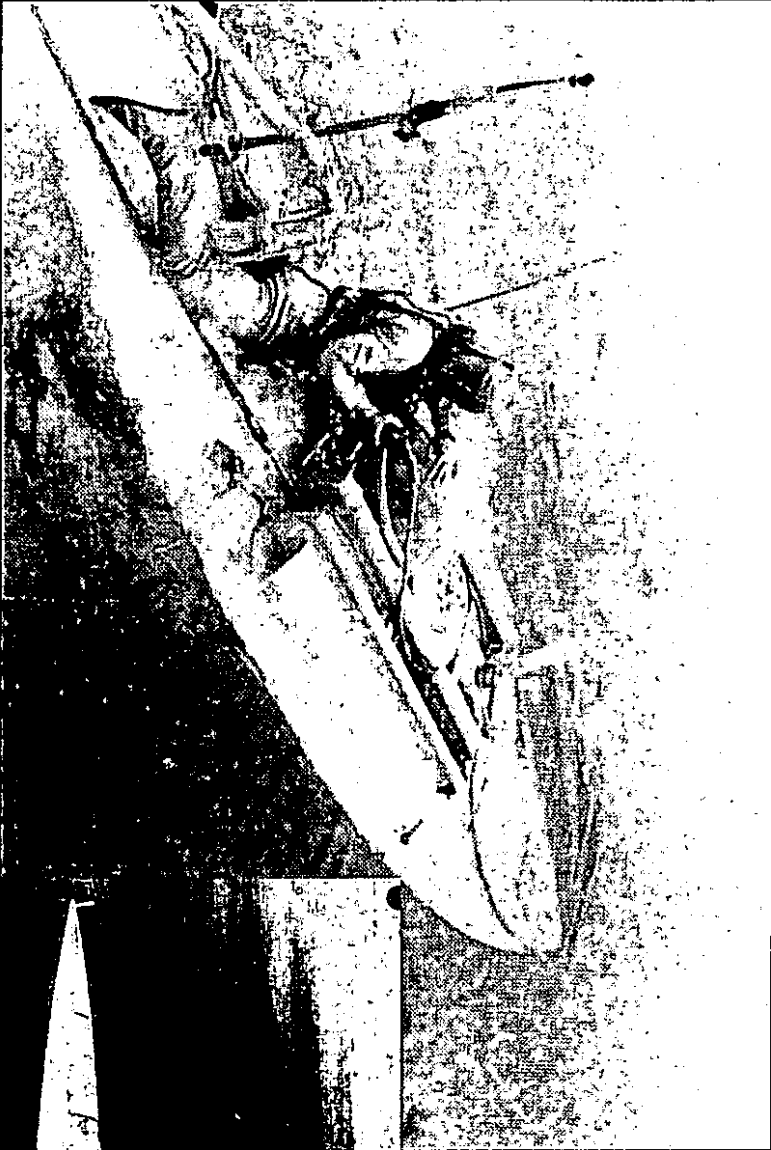


Water Test in
Chesapeake Bay, MD
September 1953



CIA SKIFF

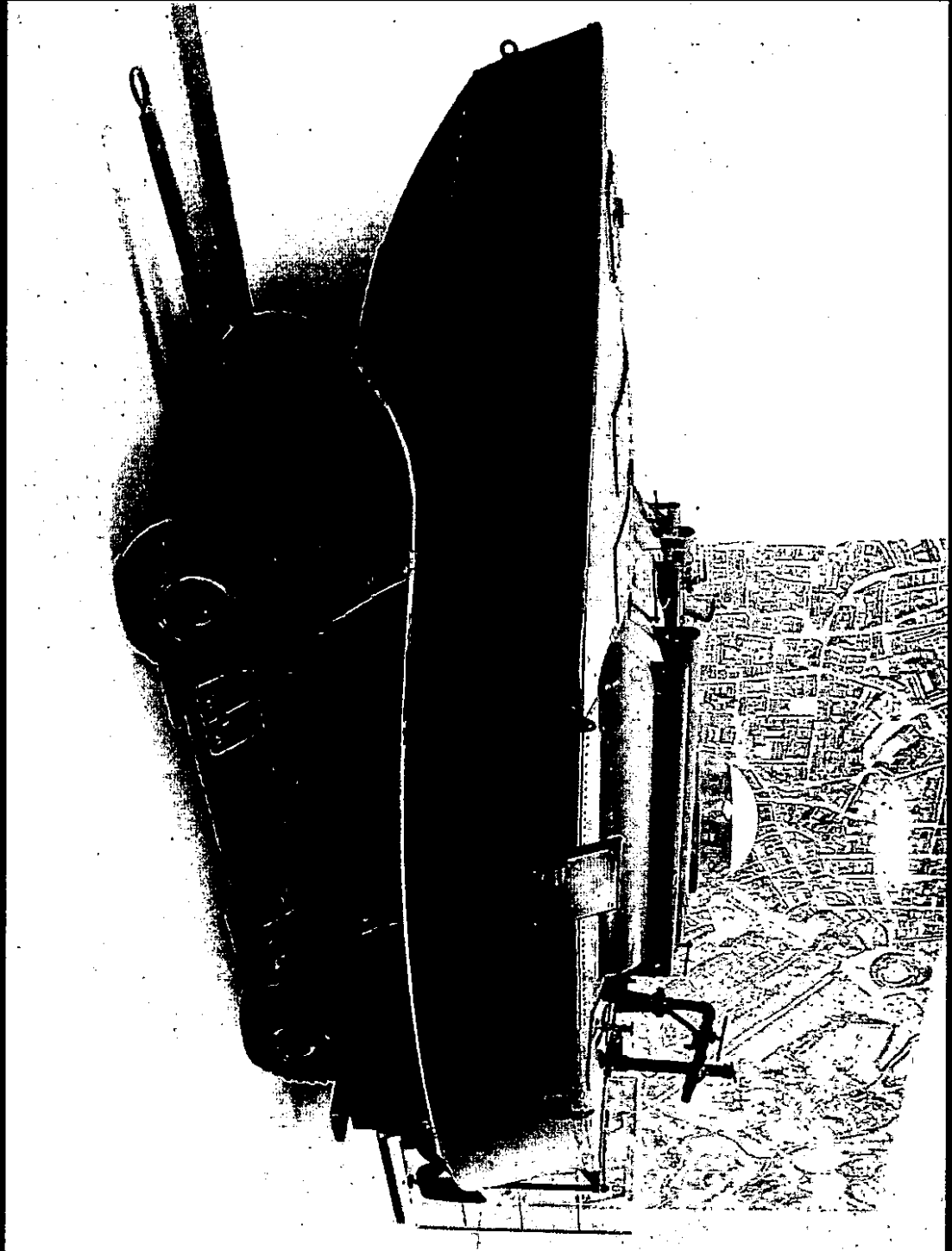
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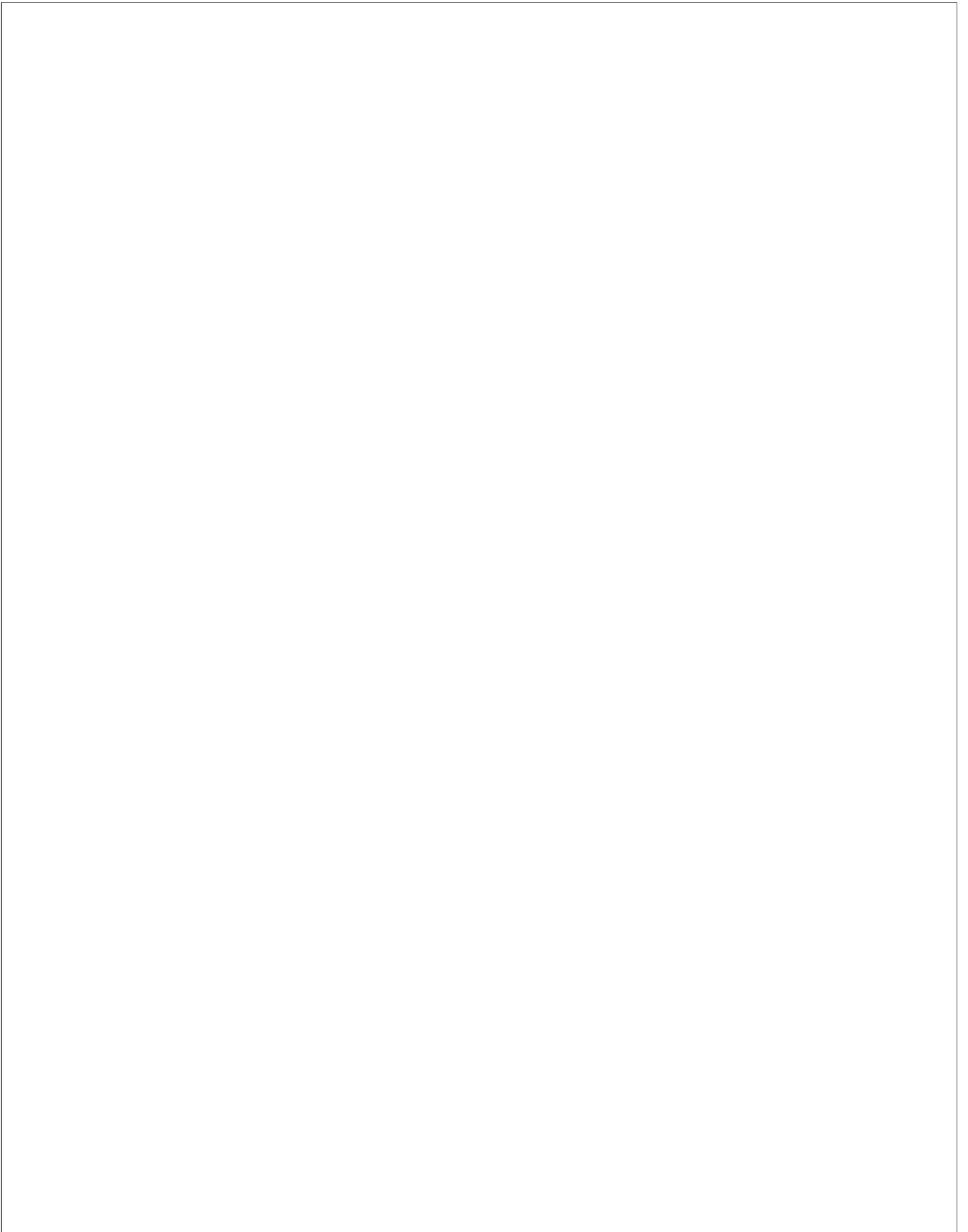
Sect. Submersible Skiff

CIA SKIFF

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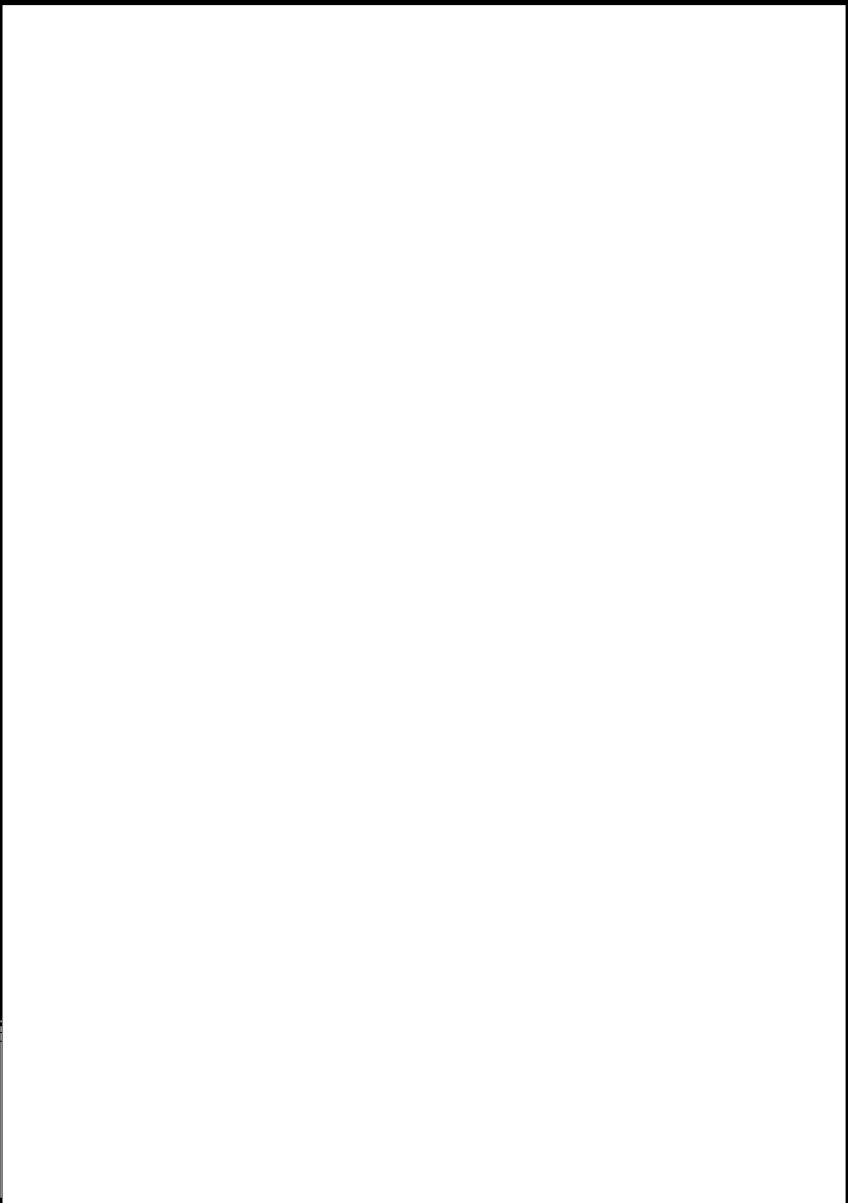


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Bay of Pigs

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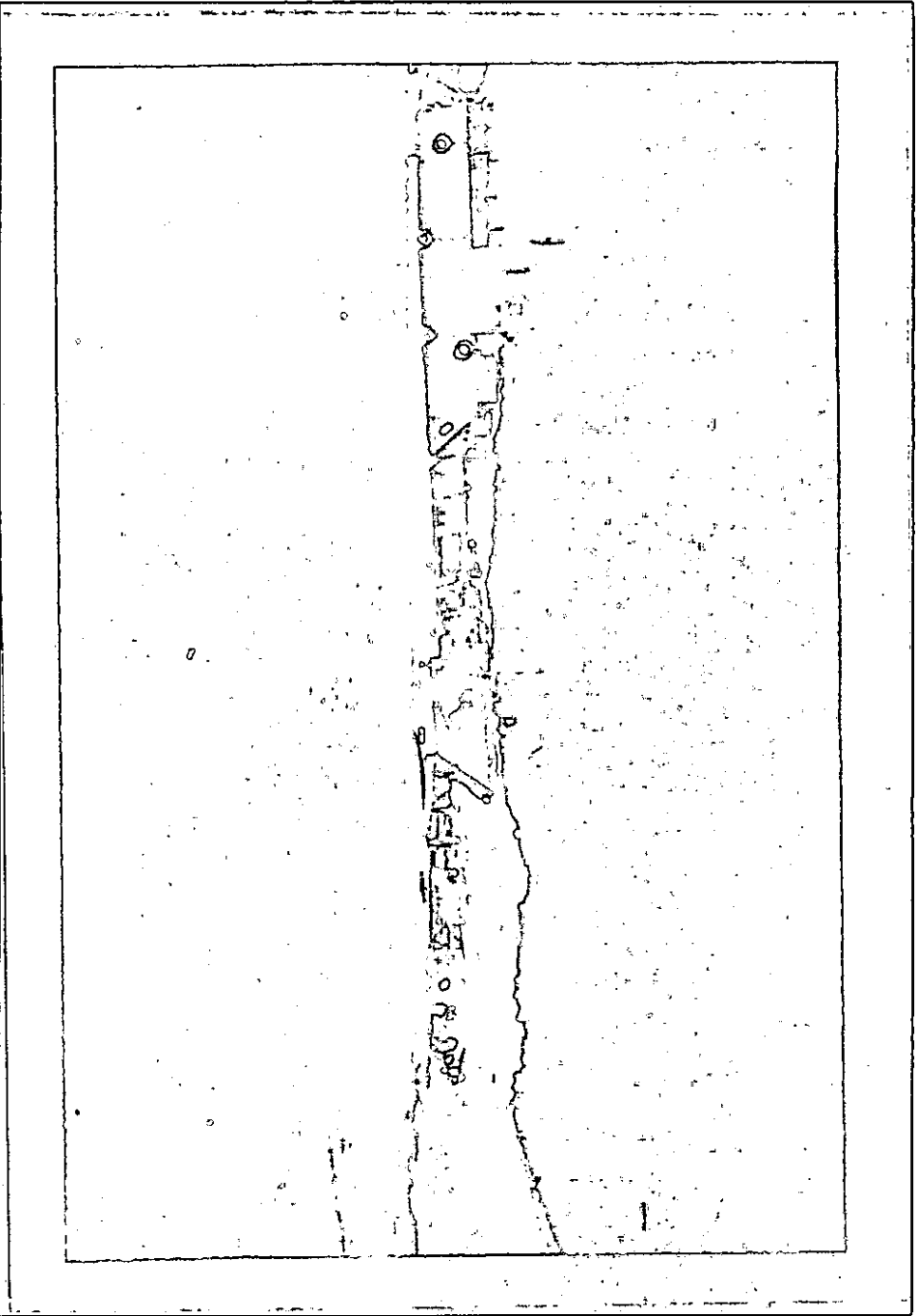


on
an LCU (Landing Craft Utility) (U//FOUO)



Bay of Pigs

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Landing Craft Utility (LCU) (U/Equipe)