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FLEET MAINTENANCE OFFICE
COMMANDER SERVICE FORCE
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET

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FM/C-S19/(70-8)

Serial 0314

CONFIDENTIAL

12 FEB 1944

From: Commander Service Force, Pacific Fleet,
(Fleet Maintenance Office).

To: The Chief of the Bureau of Ships.

Subject: Camouflage Designs - Recommendations for.

References: (a) BuShips Conf. ltr. C-CL/S19-7(330), of 28 Dec. 1943.
(b) ComServPac Conf. ltr. FM/C-S19(70-8), Serial 0937), of 11 October 1943.

1. The Bureau in reference (a) stated that reference (b) requested Measure 31 for LCI's, LCT's, LSD's and LST's, but did not select designs as was done for combatant vessels. The Bureau further made certain comments as to designs for landing craft and requested that a survey of present schemes be made.

2. Based on requests and comments of Type and Force Commanders and reports of surveys conducted in the South and Central Pacific Areas, the following are the design recommendations for vessels classed under measure 31 in reference (b):

(a) LCM, LCVP, LVT and similar types.

Haze grey (5-H).

NOTE: Attack landing craft require camouflage against water background. 5-H does not compromise camouflage of carrying ships.

(b) LCI, LCT, APc, PT, YAG and similar types.

Designs 31-5L, 31-6L, 31-7L and similar in green-brown-black.

NOTE: These types require low visibility against land background from low angle observation, low visibility and break up of masses from high angle observation, and some course deception.

(c) AGP, APD, AR, ARB, ARG, ARL, ARS, LSD, LST, YMS, YN and similar types.

Design 31-18L and similar in green-brown-black.

NOTE: These types have the same camouflage requirements as those in (b) above but with greater course deception at the expense of some concealment.

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Subject: Camouflage Designs - Recommendations for.

(d) AGS, ASR, ATR, BB(44-46), DD and DE with even serials, PF, PG, PY and YP.

Measure 31 designs in blue-grey-black color schemes.

NOTE: These types require course and type deception with concealment from high angle observation, and against shore background from low angles.

3. Further study is being conducted of geographic conditions and the anticipated tactical situations of both the Central Pacific and North Pacific. Pending report of this investigation, the Bureau is requested to hold in abeyance all pattern designs which have not already been promulgated for the following types, and to direct painting with Ocean Green (5-OG) for sides, and Glossy Black #24 for decks:

- ABSD Advance Base Sectional Dock
- AFD Floating Dock, Mobile
- ARD Floating Dry Dock
- YFD Floating Dry Dock

4. White, as illustrated in enclosure (A) to reference (a), is not recommended for use as a basic color, but should be employed for counter-shading only. The use of Thayer Blue is impractical from a maintenance standpoint. It is requested that all designs omit white as a basic color, and Thayer Blue entirely.

5. Camouflage designs as prescribed should be applied to all vessels before they leave the United States, excepting only those ships for which camouflage plans cannot be completed sufficiently early to permit painting without delaying the sailing. The limited facilities available in the operating areas must be utilized for essential painting of vessels already in the Fleet.

C. A. Dunn
C. A. DUNN,
By direction.

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