

407 COURT STREET
LOS ANGELES: CALIFORNIA,
May 12th, 1943.

Dear Governor:

The States of California, Oregon and Washington are in need of all the fighting equipment they can get to repel a landing attack on our Coast by the Japs. No one can now say, after our present year's experience, just what the crazy Japs would not attempt. At any rate it is our war business to prevent it if we can, in every way possible; and one good way is to have enough of a supply of these "Movable Machine Gun Nests" to make it hot for any one who tries it.

This Movable Machine Gun Nest has been submitted to the 9th Army Corps Area and also to Government Engineers who have stated that it definitely has military value. One of the top Army Engineers made this statement after careful examination and study, that four of these small and very light Movable Machine Gun Nests could be quickly loaded under their own power in one of these heavy and fast Army trucks and travel 60 miles an hour down paved highway along the Coast to the point of attack. That 4 Movable Machine Gun Nests with 8 men and 16-50 millimeter machine guns could make it hot for any landing or attacking party-- and I agree with him.

This is not an experiment, as we already have built some 2,000 light orchard crawler type tractors that are in successful use in California. We merely cover one of these tractors with armorplate, streamline it with angles so rifle and machine gun bullets will glance off, and it will rely upon its speed in moving about to avoid most any big gun attacks because it takes time to get the range, and by then it is at another point doing its execution with 2 machine guns in front and 2 to protect the rear.

It can render valuable service to the Infantry; in fact it was designed especially for the Infantry. You see the foot soldier has only his courage for his armor, and bullets go right through it. However, if we add these Movable Machine Gun Nests to the equipment for service with the Infantry, we can do many things of great damage to the enemy and great protection to the foot soldier when they are called in. The low cost, \$2500.00, and the comparatively small amount of metal make it possible for thousands of these little "hell cats" to travel side by side when our boys go over the top. Our big tanks, or land forts and the artillery clears the way, and when the Infantry is ordered in, these Movable Machine Gun Nests can slip in where they can do the most execution, and slip out if it gets too hot, and then run away to fight another day.

They can be used to dig in when a trench should be made in a hurry; these little tractor power plants can pack an armored trailer to protect the men and at the same time a plow or other equipment to dig in quickly where time is the essence.

In event of an Infantry retreat, these "hell cats" with their two Machine Guns in the rear can make it hot for over-anxious enemy who get too close, as the sweeping circle of their machine gun fire would be very discouraging to the enemy and a comfort to our boys who have been ordered to fall back.

Then, when at the end of a successful attack and the Infantry comes in to finish the job, these Movable Machine Gun Nests would be wonderful in mopping up, because the enemy, especially the Japs, are very slow to surrender and do a lot of executing of our boys; when this armored machine gun nest slips into these enemy pockets and mops up with but little if any loss of life in doing the job. These little power plants can be used in every war camp/ and be of use wherever they go.

The best part of this fighting machine is that as it has a detachable armor covering, the boys can be trained while doing farm work as a tractor, and upon the alarm being sounded, drive quickly into the shed and let down said armorplate, attach, and off you go to the point of attack. However, withour big army trucks, 4 of these can travel far and at 60 miles per hour, to the point of attack. These would be the only war machine that would not have to be junked after the War.

The Governor of any State can use his executive power and the treasury of the State for Home Defense, and a factory would make these by the thousand, and our boys could train while doing farm work and when training is completed could go with this Movable Machine Gun Nest direct to the front for action.

These machines are ideal for fighting the Japs because they are only 4'-6" wide and the same in height, and can travel down a path, or make its own way up and down rough territory as it lays its own track.

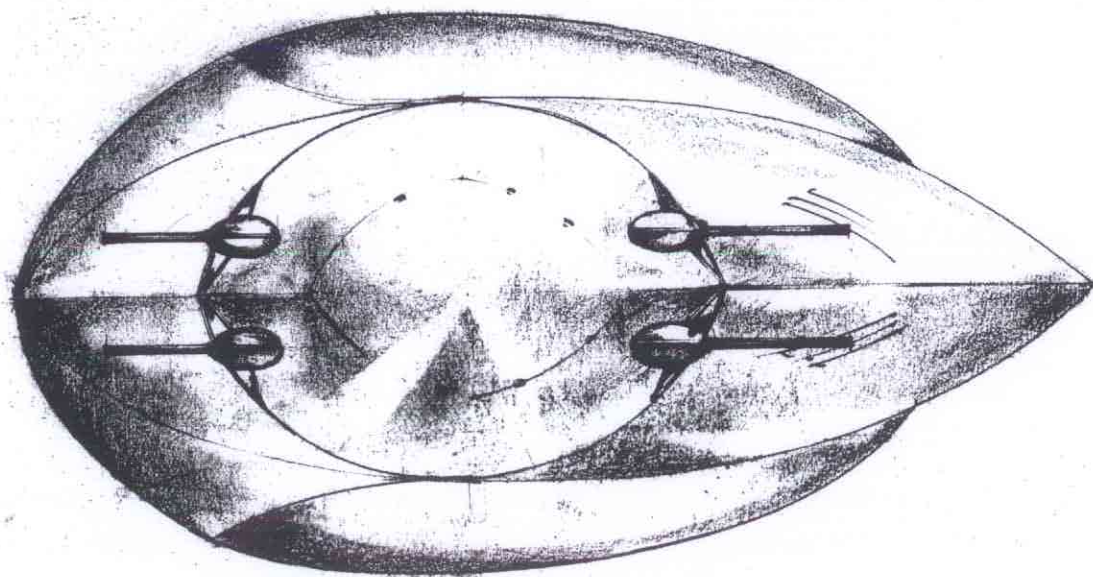
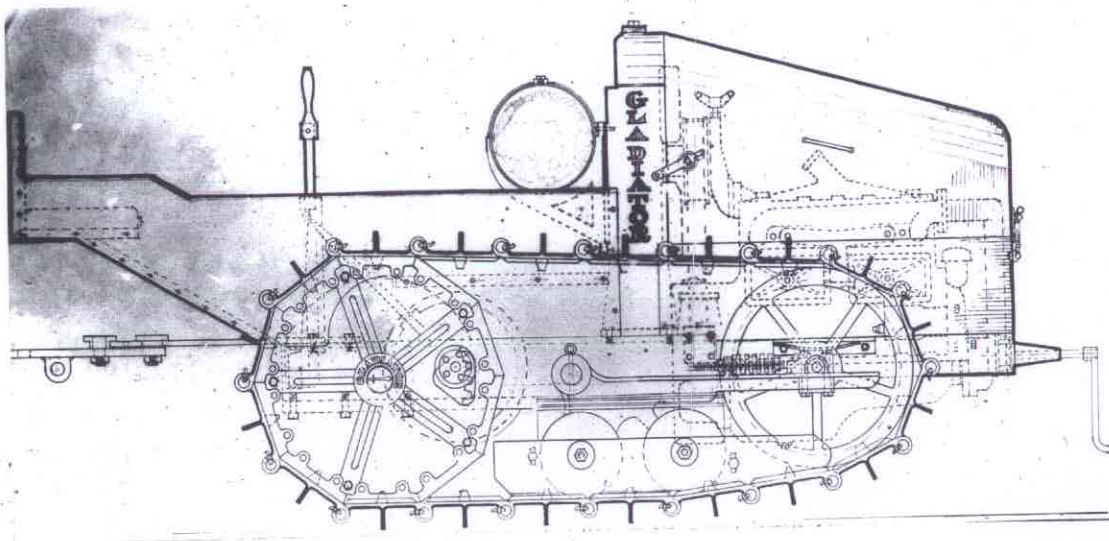
We are at War--a nasty war, where casualties are heavy. This machine will materially lessen the casualties. Is not that feature alone worth trying and actually doing something about it? It is in existence now--an improvement on a stationary machine gun nest we had to deal with in the First World War. These were nasty babies to contend with and it generally took sharpshooters and cannon to dislodge them. We believe we have a great improvement over the stationary type. It slips out and in and moves forward and backward and turns around in its length and makes itself generally useful and only risks the lives of but two men; but we protect them with all streamlined armorplate and will do a lot toward supplementing the great courage of our boys, so more will come back whole. Shall we say we have no metal to make armor for these machines, when we have tons of it in every junk yard on the Coast.

Let's see what we can do when we use State Executive power to get action. It is "up to you"... we will cooperate.

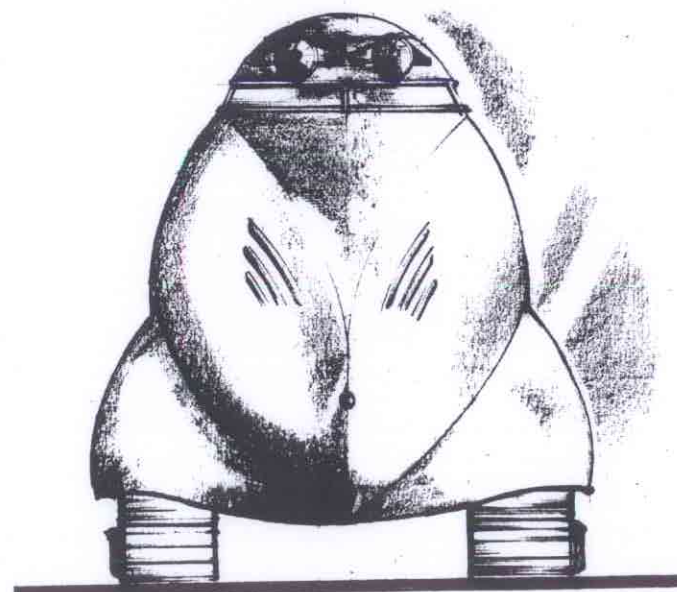
I would be glad to furnish you with all the information needed. We have our own engineer, blueprints, and can start operations, manufacturing, etc. at once.

Respectfully,

C. Stanley Bliss
C. STANLEY BLISS



TOP VIEW.



FRONT VIEW

MOVABLE MACHINE GUN NEST. 4'-6" WIDE

407 COURT STREET:
LOS ANGELES: CALIFORNIA,
May 12, 1943.

Dear Governor:

The States of California, Oregon and Washington can render a great service for the people of the United States by doing everything in their power to guard the Coast line against attack by air and from landing parties. With this idea in mind, I submit the following for your consideration, and we hope you will use your executive power to get appropriate action. I will be glad to come to see you and give you all the details so that "Red Tape" may be cut and so that we can start manufacturing at the earliest possible moment. We believe if the State takes action for defense of the Coast, the National Government will extend the same method up and down the coast in other states.

The Composite-Type Air Ship can be used to great advantage far out over the ocean so that they can pick up the first sign of an oncoming enemy either by air or by airplane carrier; as this Composite-Type can travel high or low and stay out three weeks or more at a time. It could also refuel our fighter planes when they go out over the ocean to repel an attack, and make it possible for these fighting planes to continue on the job of destroying the enemy without returning to land for a new supply of gas and oil, as this Composite-Type has the ability to stay out over the water for weeks and act as a mother ship with supplies.

This would be a great step forward in multiplying the fighting range of our most efficient fighting airplanes.

This Composite-Type Air Ship can also do the same service for our bombers by ~~stationing~~ one about every 500 miles between our Coast as the base of operations and the enemy wherever we wish to carry out a bombing attack. This mother ship could refuel our bombers in this way so as to extend their zone of operations to any point desired and return. Today we are limited to the distance our ships can carry both gas and bombs. This mother ship can make it possible to keep a bomber in the air a month or more. Why not? Two girls in Chicago in 1934 made an endurance flight of 54 days by air refueling. What good was this experiment if we do not use it?

When the mother ship runs out of supplies, it can settle down to the surface of the ocean, and refuel itself from a tanker or submarine.

This same ship can make a circuit of round trip flights along the Coast and deliver food and needed supplies from where there is plenty to points where such items are needed most. At the same time these ships would have their weather-eye out for the enemy, so far out from shore that we would have ample time to send our fighting planes out to meet the enemy before they would be able to drop their bombs on our cities, making the battlefield out over the ocean, instead of over our cities. This method would stop the destruction before it begins. The Japs must come by airplane

carriers and this mother ship also packs a few bombs to drop on such airplane carriers from an elevation above the range of airplane flying because this Composite-Type would be fitted with control room with oxygen and air pressure pumps that will make stratosphere flying possible and in this way make it invulnerable to enemy anti-aircraft guns and fighting airplanes. In this way it can pack a wollup on the enemy without risk of its own hide.

This Super Air Ship will never render this service unless people with influence and executive power assert themselves and get appropriate action. You have the power and the ability to make a good idea mean something real to the people of California, Oregon and Washington. However, prompt action on your part starts the machinery moving, while otherwise we might rant for years without results.

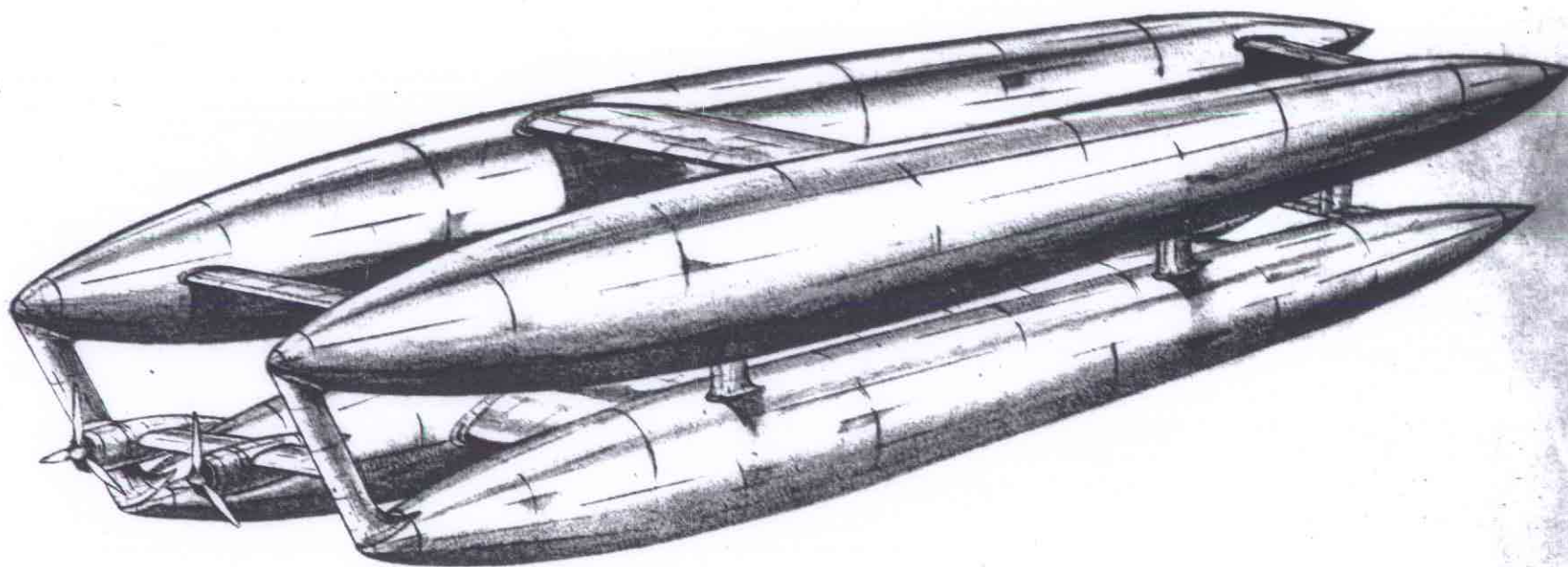
I know that if you become interested, you have the power conferred upon you as the Chief Executive of the State to even carry on experiments and actually build the first ship in the name of Home Defense; and the necessary funds could be expended without an act by the Legislature. There is no question of the danger of an attack from these crazy Japs and even a suicide attack can destroy many lives and millions in property. If not so, ~~then~~ why our elaborate defense preparations and our blackouts? I believe the need is here and the best medicine for these Japs is something they cannot cope with, as these ships can rise vertically as the helicopter and carry loads on their wing, the same as the heavier-than-air airplane; but the best feature in this Composite-Type is its ability to drop the wing load and then float for weeks until repairs are made. In fact it has the ability to take the crash out of air travel.

We are at war with all the bad effects of war and if there were only one chance in a thousand of a usable military value in this Ship, don't you think your influence should be used to take advantage of your executive ability and power to bring this air castle into the realms of the realities.

I would be pleased to hear from you.

Respectfully,


C. STANLEY BLISS



Non Scale Artistic Conception of the
Bliss Composite Type Airship
Drawn by Lyle K. Thomas Los Angeles California
Oct 28 1942

Priority Hereby Established
by Stanley Bliss
Laurey River
Captain M. Lawson

407 COURT STREET
LOS ANGELES: CALIFORNIA,
May 21/43

Dear Governor:

A short time ago I sent you photographs of our Composite Type Air Ship and our Movable Machine Gun Nest, for your consideration and thought, to see if you could work out a plan of action to apply them to the defense of our country and especially the Coast line. The enclosed description will tell you more about the Super Air Ship and what it will do.

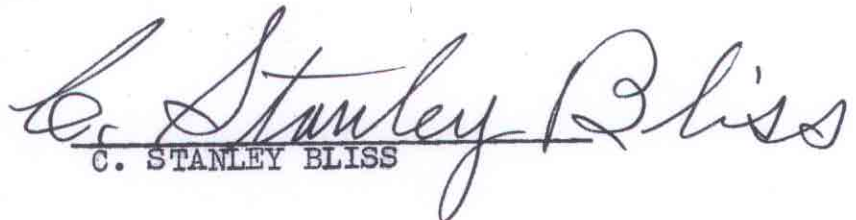
If the enemy built such a ship it would be compelled to use hydrogen gas which is inflammable and will explode; and it could fly above our antiaircraft guns and the ability of our airplane fighters to travel, so we would be helpless from such an attack. One big building blasted in any of our Cities would pay for four or more of our own Composite Type Ships, using helium gas, which is not inflammable. No ship will be built unless those in power . . . those at the head of our State Governments, assert themselves and exercise their executive power to get action.

Such a ship guarding our Coast would do excellent service and be so far out the battle would be out over the ocean instead of over our Cities.

It would save lives and millions in property values. The cost is about \$250,000.00. The Government is building 400 of the old-fashioned Blimps (and they are doing good service), but why not use your influence to have a few or at least enough to guard the Coast, made the streamlined way--the-up-to-the-needs-of-the country-way. They will listen to you. Let me hear from you.

We can name it "OREGON" and charge it up to advertising.

Sincerely,


C. STANLEY BLISS

THE GREATEST DEVELOPMENT IN AVIATION HISTORY
THE BLISS COMPOSITE TYPE SUPER-AIRSHIP
"THE AIRSHIP OF THE FUTURE"

THE SAFE AND SANE MACHINE IN WHICH THE WORLD WILL RIDE

HELICOPTER.....AIRPLANE WINGS.....DIRIGIBLE.....AIRPLANE

Combine the four fundamental principles of flying shown above, the vertical lift of the helicopter, the surface and lifting power of airplane wings, the sustaining power of the dirigible, and the gliding and forward propulsion of the airplane ... and you have the PERFECT FLYING MACHINE.

With these principles embodied, the machine will be able to rise vertically, remain suspended in the air, move forward at a speed in excess of 300 miles an hour, and land at any given spot....SAFELY.

"THE WORLD WILL NEVER REALLY FLY UNTIL WE ARE ABLE TO CONTROL A VESSEL IN THE AIR UNDER ITS SELF-CONTAINED POWER".

THE ONE BIG OUTSTANDING THING IN THE COMMERCIAL WORLD TODAY IS AIR TRAVEL and it is our intention ...

1. To build a type of vessel capable of being forced ahead at a high rate of speed; and to secure the minimum of resistance to such speed and to side air currents.
2. To be able to utilize positively the great sustaining power of straight planes.
3. To construct a machine that could be held stationary at a given point in the air for a few minutes, an hour, or an entire day or week if desired. This is very important in these war times.
4. To utilize the waste blast from forward propeller.
5. To centralize the power in a rigid construction where the drive would be direct.
6. To get away from the unwieldy dirigible gas bag, and still utilize part of its buoyancy.
7. To construct a form that would glide in the event of an accident.
8. To be able to apply all the energy of the motors to driving the machine ahead.
9. To build a machine that would turn in its own length either way.
10. To build a machine that would run backward as well as forward.
11. To be able to travel at any rate of speed desired, slow or fast.

12. To build a type that would be as safe as an automobile.
13. To build a machine that would go across the continent or around the world in one continuous flight.
14. To be able to maintain its equilibrium at all times.
15. The SUM TOTAL of Our Present Day Knowledge of Aviation is WHAT? ...We know the sustaining capacity of a plane at certain speeds, the lifting capacity of helium gas, the weight and power of motors, the thrust of the propellers at its different speeds, the sustaining capacity of its waste propeller blast under a plane surface, the skin friction and resistance and we know the tensile strength of metals, woods and textures.
16. Out of this knowledge, a machine should be evolved that combines everything boiled down, put into compact form, simplified, practical, to fit the war needs of today, right now and irresistible.
17. To do this, requires invention ... not the type of invention that consists of taking a Dirigible and tying below it an airplane; that is child's play; that is the kid who ties his baby sister's go-cart behind his velocipede and pumps along the pavement.
18. Invention rises above such trivialities, steps out of the beaten path, working out for itself a new method, a new plan and a new world of thought and endeavor; designing a machine out of our combined knowledge of flight....a COMPOSITE TYPE.. calculated to do almost everything in the air that an up-to-date automobile does on the ground ... stop, stand still, back, turn in its length, fly high or low, do one mile per hour or hundreds and travel if necessary many thousands of miles in one direction and return in one sustained flight, carry passengers, mail, freight, express, troops or BOMBS, as the occasion may require.
19. To the automatically stabilized and controlled airplanes there remains but one safety factor, and that factor is speed. Greater SPEED means greater stability, and less subjection to variations in air, BUT greater speed means also greater power, greater power means greater strength, greater strength means greater weight, which again requires added power to carry it, and so on indefinitely, and safety as far off as ever. They fall just as hard today as they ever did.
20. Place that same energy back of a true projectile type of machine that, being already equalized with the atmosphere, requires no lifting energy waste, and the results would revolutionize air travel. Financially and Commercially the SKY would be the limit.

21. Lift and Sustenance are the two factors that make air transportation possible. Lift is the gas bag, and Sustenance the plane surface. A combination of these two factors of flight, as exemplified by their individual types, becomes composite; hence the "BLISS COMPOSITE-TYPE AIRSHIP."
22. This machine consists of four elongated, con-tipped cylinders built over and above a rigid tubular framework; the cylinders containing gas balloonets of sufficient capacity to equalize the weight of the machine with the air, while the tubular framework becomes a series of containers for gas under compression, with which to feed these balloonets. The space between the cylinders being partially occupied by plane surfaces, through and under which the slip stream or waste blast from the forward propellers are projected and upon which it may ride.
23. The projectile shape, central drive and rigid construction will permit it to be driven at high speed, while its capacity for sustenance will more than double its carrying capacity, power for power.
24. When being operated this machine will be equal in weight with the atmosphere, thus allowing all of its motor energy to be devoted to drive and in event of power stoppage, permitting it, on account of its being equalized, together with its wings or planes, to slowly and safely descend.
25. Such an airship would be able to deliver troops any place on the surface of the earth without a prepared landing field. Yes, deliver supplies or bombs, for that matter, and return without landing; if dropped by parachute, incendiary bombs can be dropped from a height above anti-aircraft fire ... burn up a city ... and be far on its way on the return trip for another load. The cabin would be fitted with a room especially fitted with apparatus for breathing oxygen, pressure suits and tightly sealed cabin or cockpit, equipped with blowers to keep up the internal pressure mechanically. In other words, it can fly above anti-aircraft guns and fighter airplanes, drop its bombs, and return without landing. We have the helium gas. This ship uses less gas than a dirigible, as its pay load is carried on its wings instead of by helium gas alone. It uses only enough gas to equalize it with the air, being neither heavier or lighter than the air.