

BOEING MARINE SYSTEMS
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98124

7/16
Send in...

R. E. BATEMAN
VICE PRESIDENT-GENERAL MANAGER

August 14, 1980

Dear Bud:

I appreciate your time in reviewing our thoughts on PHM. You, above all, can appreciate the contribution that the acquisition of a squadron of these kinds of ships can make to our woefully depleted fleet.

The current position of the Navy Department is to wait until after the six-ship squadron has seen service and been evaluated before consideration of any additional buys. Under this approach the earliest that ships would be available, if ever, would be at the end of the decade. The technology, tooling, subcontracting and management may well have been dissipated. Of equal concern is the loss of the asset of aerospace industry involvement in the shipbuilding program which we believe has proven to be a fresh and positive contribution to ship contracting.

These are national assets that the country has invested heavily in and can ill afford to let go by the board. If you have any ideas how they could be preserved and utilized, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Bob

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