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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 9, 1973

Mr. N. J. Marandino
President, Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation
P. O. Box 149
Pascagoula, Mississippi 39567

Dear Ned:

You already know of the unbounded joy it would be to me to be with you Saturday.

I personally know what all of you have been through because I was with you every step of the way.

Faced with two contracts, to plan and build two new types of ships, in an entirely new Yard, using a building system entirely new to America, you were up against the hardest possible situation.

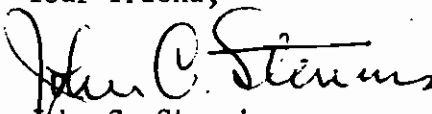
The Yard got in a hole for a time, but with you placed at the head, backed by the rest of management (with an understanding Navy), and backed to the hilt by the workmen to the last man and woman, you have turned this thing around. You are building ships!

While talking out on the Yards many times to you and the workmen, I read a message in the faces of all of you. I got the same response from you and every group: "We are going to do the job." I believed you then, and now you have done it. And I believe you will keep doing it. I believe in you and in every workman, man and woman, and will back you here to the limit.

Full steam ahead! Launch another ship soon, and remember I have already been promised an invitation and shall be there.

With warm regards to each and to all, I am

Your friend,


John C. Stennis
United States Senator

JS:eh