



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND HEADQUARTERS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20361

IN REPLY REFER TO

AIR-07D3  
25 July 1983

MEMORANDUM

From: AIR-07D3  
To: AIR-02E2

Subj: FOIA request concerning seabased minelaying ASW aircraft (P6M Seamaster)

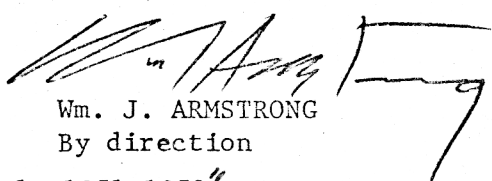
1. Subject request raised a question about the number of manufacturers involved in the design competition for subject aircraft. By Bureau of Aeronautics letter AC-56, 09916 of 30 July 1951, the Navy invited twelve manufacturers to submit design proposals for subject aircraft. The twelve were:

Martin  
CONVAIR  
Bellanca  
Chance Vought  
Douglas  
Edo  
Fairchild  
Grumman  
McDonnell  
Ryan  
Sikorsky  
Boeing

Only Martin and CONVAIR submitted proposals. The other ten manufacturers declined the Navy's invitation.

2. During the time that the competition for subject aircraft was in progress, there was a competition for a landbased minelaying ASW aircraft also in progress. Several more manufacturers were competing for the landbased design than for the seabased design. It is important not to confuse these two when reviewing their histories. Only Martin and CONVAIR submitted proposals for subject competition.

OR AS-04506 High performance seaplane minelayer  
See: BUAER ltr AER-EV-1  
11 Apr 1952  
Evaluation Division file folder "Proposals 1951-1953"

  
Wm. J. ARMSTRONG  
By direction