

# LCI'S ARE BORN

LCI's (Landing Craft, Infantry) are an important part of Uncle Sam's immense mosquito invasion fleet, and they have plenty of sting for the enemy. These small vessels are of very shallow draft forward so that they can run right up on the beaches. They are manned by a crew of 25, and carry 200 or more fighting men in quick dashes from transports to beachheads. The Infantry, or Marines, are sheltered back of inboard bulwarks until an LCI is beached. Movable ramps are provided for the landings as shown in these pictures released by the U. S. Navy.



CHOW is not forgotten. Landing parties can get snacks and the galley is needed for the crew.



LCI'S ARE BUILT in sections which later are welded together. This shows two bow sections under construction.

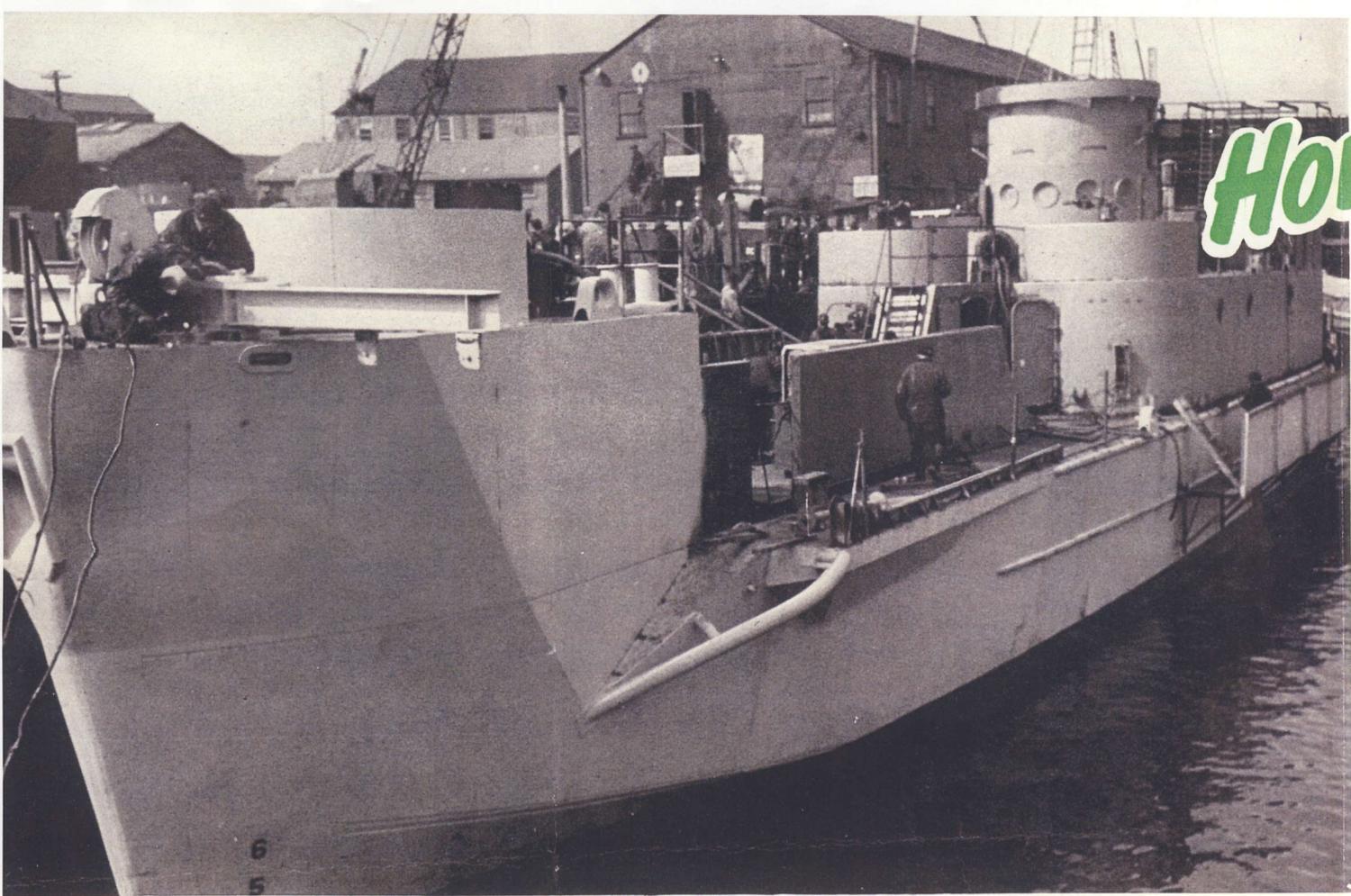


LANDING RAMPS are built separately also. This pair is ready to go aboard an otherwise completed LCI.

CONNING STATIONS are also built separately. Here is one being moved for fitting into an LCI hull located in another part of the shipyard.



LCI IN ACTION. They rush into shallow water, the ramps are dropped and fighting men wade to a beachhead.



How

**LCI NEARING COMPLETION.** Cut-away section toward bow shows where the landing ramp slides forward to be dropped on the beach. The ramp is stowed where workman stands and is dropped in position by cable control.



P in place on an LCI's deck. It is ying the space just back of the way in the large picture.



**DECK VIEW** showing both forward ramps safely secured in their sea-going position beside the inboard bulwarks.



**"HOUSE-CLEANING."** This LCI is getting the "maid service" that delivers them spick-and-span for military use.