



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD CUTTER

ONONDAGA

Potomac River, April 18, 1916.

My dear Hunniwell:

If practicable, please mail me as soon as convenient plans, specifications and blue prints of a type of motor surfboat which you may regard as best adapted to the following:

Mr. Glenn H. Curtiss, at luncheon with Mr. Newton on the ONONDAGA last Sunday, suggested that it might be practicable to convert a surfboat into a flying boat with wings and motor so arranged that they could be quickly eliminated when the boat lighted on the water and within a few minutes it would be, instead of a flying boat, an ordinary motor surfboat. If the lifeboat is better adapted, send lifeboat. He promised to think about it and I am going to try to encourage him.

If it is possible to perfect something of that kind I believe it would be the biggest find for the Coast Guard of the century and might be the means of saving hundreds of lives. Maybe if you could hear them say nonchalantly that they are now building machines capable of lifting 20 tons, you would not be quite so skeptical as I ~~know~~^{believe} you to be at present.

Sincerely,

Charles