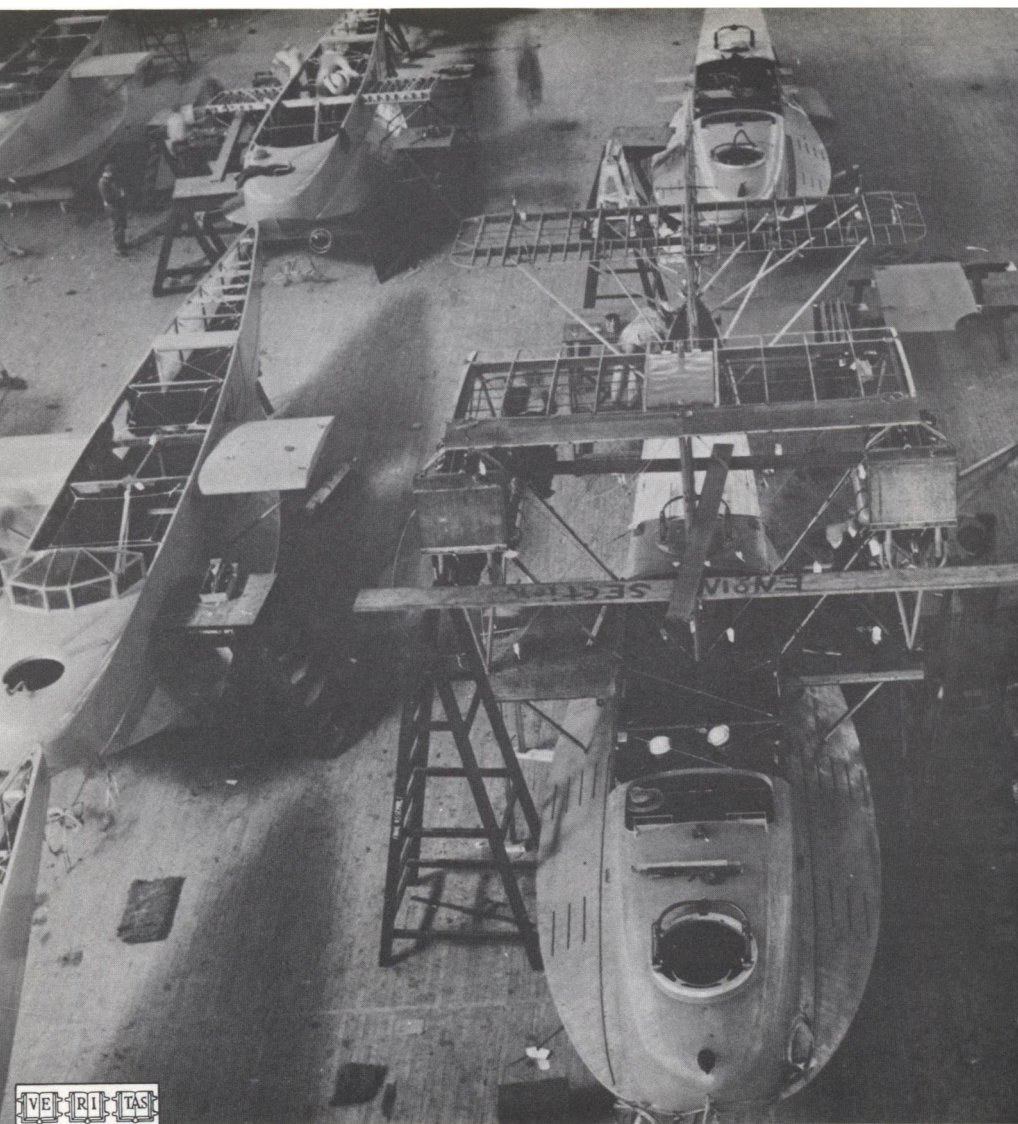


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COVER: FLYING BOAT CONSTRUCTION AT THE NAVAL AIRCRAFT FACTORY. Curtiss F-5-L twin-engine flying boats are shown under construction at the Naval Aircraft Factory (NAF) in early 1919. Although the First World War had ended several months before, the NAF was permitted to complete most of its major wartime contracts. This apparent favoritism irritated private manufacturers, whose government business had all but evaporated with the Armistice. (Photograph 165-WW-185D-1, courtesy of the National Archives, Washington, D.C.) For an article on the NAF and the private aircraft industry, see pp. 175-198.

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