

17  
Steward your Assistance.  
General Gist  
or the commanding Officer at Baltimore.

In Council, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 1780.

53  
Sir,  
We have an Offer from Messrs Wallace and Davidson of the Ship  
Porpus to go down the Bay against some of the Enemy's Vessels that are  
committing Depredations on the Property of the Inhabitants of this State on  
our furnishing her with Provisions Stores, we shall be obliged to you  
to deliver to Mr Stephen Stewart such Provisions as he may apply for  
for the use of the said Vessel.

James Falkoun Esq.

In Council 19<sup>th</sup> December, 1780.

Sir,

54  
Messrs Wallace and Davidson have so far as they are interested in the  
Porpus, offered her to this Board, for the Purpose of going down the Bay  
a few Days, in Pursuit of two small Privateers now committing  
Depredations on the Inhabitants near the Mouth of Choptank River.  
We hope your Consent may not be withheld as it is probable these  
Privateers may be captured with Ease by a Vessel of her Force, if  
speedily and secretly fitted out for the Purpose; Should you agree to  
lend her on this Occasion. We beg of you to exert yourself to the  
utmost in procuring Men and Stores for the Expedition at the  
Expence of the State. We are fully of Opinion with Messrs Wallace and  
Davidson that it would be good Policy to give the Prizes to the  
Officers and Men, and would hereby engage to obtain a Resolution of  
the General Assembly to relinquish the Claims which the State might  
have in their Favor. General Gist or in his absence the Officer command-  
ing in Baltimore will furnish thirty Soldiers upon Delivery of the  
enclosed Letter, to act as Marines on Board the Porpus and Mr  
Falkoun will furnish Mr Dannelan and Captain Keppets will  
furnish the necessary Provisions Arms and Ammunition &c.

Stephen Stewart Esq.