

28 November, 1941

From: Captain of the Port of New York, Third Naval District.
To: Collector of Customs, New York.

Subject: Armed merchant vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter 25 November, 1941 (WEL:cm).

1. The Norwegian S/S BALLA was inspected this date
and the following armament was found on board:

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: NONE.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 1-Lewis .303 machine gun mounted on the flying
bridge; 3-Ross rifles .303; 1000-rds ammunition for the machine gun.

MAGAZINE: One locker on the flying bridge.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: NONE.

PERSONNEL: NONE.

MISCELLANEOUS: 15-civilian gas masks; 1-Schermuly pistol and 25 rockets
(distress type); 1-sig-sag clock; 1-convoy light and 1-convoy buoy; concrete
slabs around the bridge and radio room; DeGaussed (wired).

2. It is the opinion of this office that the above-mentioned arm-
ament is carried for defensive purposes only, provided the vessel is employed
in normal trade.

3. Inclosed are no *** photographs of this vessel, showing
her guns and their location. ***(no guns)

NOTE: No photographs if reinspected.

Distribution:

C/C - (2)
H.Q.- (1)
File- (1)

J. S. BAYLIS,
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard.

MBJ