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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
CAPTAIN OF THE PORT  
FOR NEW YORK HARBOR AND VICINITY

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE  
TO THE "CAPTAIN OF THE PORT"  
ROOM 10, BARGE OFFICE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

21 January, 1942.

From: Captain of the Port of New York, Third Naval District.  
To: Commandant.  
Subject: Armed merchant vessels.

1. The British S/S BELLE ISLE was inspected this date  
and the following armament was found on board:

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1-Q.F. 12-pdr. 12 cwt. R.G.F. 1918 N. No. 6541. Elevation  
20° / 10°. Arc of train 360°. Telescopic sights. Located after end top of after  
deck house. 51-rds. powder charges; 50-rds. H.E. shells; 3-rds. practice shells.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 2-Ross .303 rifles. 480-rds. rifle ammunition.  
1-Mauser .32 pistol. 20-rds. pistol ammunition.

MAGAZINE: port side, after end in after deck house. Flooded by hose only.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone.

PERSONNEL: 1-gun layer (R.N.) 1-navy enlisted man; 1-certified merchant navy  
defense officer. Balance taken from ships regular force.

MISCELLANEOUS: 2-steel helmets; 2-ser. gas masks; 1-Schermuly pistol; 4-rockets,  
distress type;

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.

FOR DEFENSE



3. Inclosed are no photographs of this vessel showing  
her guns and their location.

NOTE: No photographs if reinspected.

Distribution:

H.Q. - (1)  
File - (1)

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