

37

30 June, 1941.

From: Captain of the Port of New York.
 To: Collector of Customs, New York.
 Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter, 30 June, 1941 (WRL)

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1-12pounder GWT Mark I RGF 1918, No. 6541. Elevation 30° ± 20°. Arc of train 360°. Telescopic sights. Located after end, top of after deck house. 54-powder charges; 50-rds H.B. shells; 6-rds practice shells, and 88-percussion tubes.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 2-Ross rifles .303 cal., and 500-rds ammunition.

MAGAZINE: Port side after end, in after deck house. No means of flooding except hose through door.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone from bridge to the gun.

PERSONNEL: 1-gun layer (Royal Canadianian Navy); rest of gun's crew taken from regular ship's force. 1-certified merchant navy defense officer.

MISCELLANEOUS: 1-steel helmet; 1-civilian gas mask; 1-Schermuly pistol and 12-rockets;

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

3. Inclosed herewith are ^{**/} No photographs of this vessel, showing her guns and their location.

**/No photographs if reinspected.

Distribution
 Collector of Customs (2)
 Headquarters (1) File (1)

J. S. Baylis
 J. S. BAYLIS,
 Commander, U.S. Coast Guard.