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2 June, 1941.

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

Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter, 2 June, 1941 (WKL:cm)

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: (1) 1 - Q.F. 12-pdr 12 cwt mark I R.C.F. 1918 N. No. 6541. Elevation 30° + 15°. Arc of train 360°. Telescopic and open sights. Located on the aft endtop of aft deck house. 54-rds cordite charges; 50-rds H.E. shells; 6-practice shells and 70-percussion tubes.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 2-Ross rifles .303; 1-revolver .32; 486-rds .303.

MAGAZINE: Located port side aft end in aft deck house. Flooded by hose through door only.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone from bridge to gun. 1-Aldis daylight signaling lamp.

PERSONNEL: 1-Gun layer (Royal Canadian Navy); balance of gun's crew taken from ship's regular force; 1-certified merchant navy defense officer on board.

MISCELLANEOUS: 1-steel helmet; 1-service gas mask; 1-Schermuly pistol and 4-rockets; This vessel is not degaussed.

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 ^{**/} (recheck) 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,
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard.