

REPORT OF ARMAMENT 29 July 1941

601-64 CONFIDENTIAL

(Date)

From: Commander, San Juan District, Thomas, V.I.
 To : Collector of Customs _____
 Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels of Belligerents.
 verbal request
 Reference: (a) Your letter dated _____
 British Freighter "Bellerophon"

1. The _____ was inspected this
 date and the following armament was found on board:

GUNS: 4", Q.F., D.2 - 233, (VICKERS). Elevation 35°, Arc of train 360°,
 Telescopic sights. Mounted on poop deck aft.
 12 Pounder, No. 3050. Elevation 85°, Arc of Train 360°, Open sights.
 Mounted on poop deck aft.

AMMUNITION: 4" guns: Projectiles, H.E. 40 rounds; Projectiles, practice 2 rounds.
 12 Pounder: Projectiles, H.E. 40 rounds; Projectiles, practice
 12 rounds.

SMALL ARMS: 2 Lewis machine guns. Mounted on flying bridge.
 1 Ross Rifle and 1 Lee Enfield Rifle.
 Machine guns: 1300 rounds. Rifles: 250 rounds of ammunition for each

AMMUNITION: In lazarette aft. Flooded by means of a hose.

MAGAZING:

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: Telephone from bridge to guns. Aldis lamp for day signal
 lights.

GUN CREWS: 1 British navy gun layer, 1 other navy enlisted man, 1 merchant
 seaman gunner, 4 deck seaman in gun crew.

ANTI-MINE (DEGAUSSING) EQUIPMENT: Yes. Wired. concrete,
 1 six-yr aback, 1 mine flown from foremast, bridge reinforced with/
 4 smoke floats, 3 igniters, 6 steel helmets, 2 Paravanes, 2 Service and 87

REMARKS: civilian gas masks, 1 Schermuly pistol, 2 Rockets, 1 decontamination set.

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

RFB - 5-28-40
 -300-

Hans F. Slade
 HANS F. SLADE
 By Direction

JUL 31 1941

SAN JUAN DISTRICT