

27 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 27 November, 1941. (WRL;cm)

1. The Panamanian S/S EL ALMIRANTE was inspected this date and the following armament was found on board:

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1-4" Mark IX Mod 5, No. 3471, 1918. Elevation 35°/100°. Arc of train 180°. Telescopic sights. Located special raised platform on after end poop deck. 96-rds. fixed ammunition.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 2-Lewis .30; 2- Lewis .30; machine guns (Mounts; 2-after part bridge deck, 2-forward end poop deck). 10,000 rds. machine gun ammunition. 1-Colt .38 pistol. 50rds. pistol ammunition.

MAGAZINE: Located in gun support. Flooded by hose only.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: None. 1-Aldis(day) lamp

PERSONNEL:

MISCELLANEOUS: 10-smoke floats; 12-igniters; 20 steel helmets; 40-civil. duty gas masks; 1-zig-zag clock; 1-buoy; 3-kites flown from mainmast; 4-bomb proof shelters, located (2) after part bridge deck, (2) forward part poop deck. Armor plate around bridge and radioroom. Hull DeGaussed (wired)

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

3. Inclosed are two (2) photographs of this vessel, showing her guns and their location.

NOTE: No photographs is reinspected.

Distribution:

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

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

W