

8 November, 1941

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

Subject: Armed merchant vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter 8 November, 1941 (WHL:cm)

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1 - 4" mk. IX mod. V 1458, 1919. Elevation 30° / 5°. Arc of train 360°. Telescopic sights. Located after end top of after deck house.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 4-Lewis .30 machine guns. (Mounts: portable).

MAGAZINE: Starboard side in lazaret space. Flooded by hose only.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone.

PERSONNEL: Taken from ship's regular force.

MISCELLANEOUS: 2-Buoys; 4-bomb proof shelters, (2) after end of bridge deck, (2) after end of boat deck; concrete slabs around radiocroom; concrete slabs and armor plate around bridge; 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 if reinspected.

Distribution:

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

INTELLIGENCE

REC'D NOV 13 1941  
ANS'D

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

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