64 - CONFIDENTIAL Declassified NARA Project: NW 63684

4 October, 1941

From:
To:

Captain of the Port of New York. Collector of Customs, New York.

Subject:

Armed Merchant Vessels.

Reference:

(a) Your letter. 4 October, 1941 (WRL:em)

1. The Panamanian 5/S EXTENSION was inspected this date and the following armament was found on board:

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1 - 4" gun mark IX mod. 16, 1919, No. 13136; Elevation 20° 4 10°.

Arc of train 360°, telescopic sights. Located after contop of aft deck house.

100-rds fixed ammunition.

## MELLGENCE

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 4-Lewis .30 machine guns. (Mounts: 2-wings of bridge, 2-aft boat deck). 9,600-rds machine gun ammuntion.
1-Colt .32 15 161t .38 pistols.

MAGAZINE: Port side aft end of aft deck house. Flooded by hose connection on bulkhead.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone. 1-Aldis daylight signalling lamp.

PERSONNEL: 1-gun layer (2nd Officer); balance of gun's crew taken from ship's regular force; 1-certified merchant navy defense officer;

MISCELLANEOUS: 1-Civil. gas masks 48-decontamination sets; 1-convoy light; 4-bomb proof shelters, 2-wings of bridge, 2-boat deck; concrete slabs around bridge and radioroom; hull DeCaussed (wired).

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

(NOTE: NO PHOTOGRAPHS IF REINSPECTED).

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

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