

5 July, 1940.

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

Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter dated 5 July, 1940 (WRL:cm)

1. The French S/S ILE DERE was inspected this date and the following armament was found on board:

2 - 90/MM guns: Port gun, Creuset 1877, No. 106, open sights, (40° + 10°) elevation, arc of train 115°. Located on after end of poop deck, port side.  
Starboard gun, Firminy, 1879, No. 613, open sights, (40° + 10°) elevation, arc train 180°. Located on after end of poop deck house, starboard side.

98 - rounds H. E. shells; 56 practice shells; 154 rounds powder  
ammunition 245 percussion tubes.

1 - St. Etienne machine gun 8/MM, mounted on top of radio shack.  
1 SMALLE ARMS rifle 8/MM and 3 Gras rifles 11/MM. 1 - Etienne revolver .35 cal.  
1297 - rounds 8/MM; 206 rounds .35 cal; 180 rounds 11/MM

AMMUNITION:

MAGAZINE LOCATION: None. Some ammunition in lazarette. Rest in ready boxes. No means of flooding except advancing hose line.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: Telephone from bridge to guns.  
One day light signaling lamp, not standard make, apparently home made.

5 - men in regular Navy gun crews. 17 Naval Reserve enlisted men.  
2 NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS. Your attention is invited to the Navy gun crew and the other men attached aboard this vessel.

6 - smoke floats; 25 steel helmets; 5 service gas masks; 45 civilian  
REMARKS: 1 zig-zag clock.

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

2. Inclosed herewith are four (4) photographs showing the guns of this vessel.

FOR THE CAPTAIN OF THE PORT:

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

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