

CONFIDENTIAL

11 July, 1941.

From: Captain of the Port of New York.
 To: Collector of Customs, New York.
 Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter, 11 July, 1941 (WRL:cm)

1. The Dutch S/S JAPARA was inspected this date and the following armament was found on board:

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: (1) 1 - Root and Van Der Voort Eng. Co., East Moline Ill. 4" gun mark IX model 5 No. 1753. Elevation 15° + 5°. Arc of train 300°. Telescopic sights. Located on the aft end top of the aft deck house. 40-rds fixed ammunition.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 5-pistols (locked in the Captain's cabin) and 316-rds ammunition.

MAGAZINE LOCATION: On the starboard side in the aft deck house. Flooded by a sprinkler system.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone from bridge to gun. 1-Aldis daylight signalling lamp.

CREW: 1-Gun layer (2nd officer); 2-merchant seaman gunners; balance of gun's crew taken from ship's regular force; 1-Naval Reserve Officer (Captain), and 1-certified merchant navy defense officer on board.

MISCELLANEOUS: 5-smoke floats and 5-igniters; 15-civilian duty gas masks; 1-sig-zag clock; 10-decontamination sets; concrete slabs used around the bridge and radio room for protection; DeGaussed (wired), wires protected by canvas and cement.

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)~~ ^{NO} photographs of this vessel, showing her guns and their location.

(NOTE: NO PHOTOGRAPHS IF REINSPECTED).

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

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

X

Pring

UNIT BOSTON DISTRICT JAPARA
 (Name of armed merchantman)

PLACE EAST BOSTON, MASS. NETHERLANDS
 (Nationality)

DATE 7 JULY, 1941 MOTORSHIP
 (Rig)

The arms, guns, and ammunition now on board the NETHERLANDS
 (Nationality)
MOTORSHIP JAPARA of which I am Master,
 (Rig) (Name)
 are hereby declared to be used for the sole purpose of defensive protection
 of this vessel and it is further declared that there is no intention to use
 such equipment offensively.

[Signature]
 (Initials and name of Master of armed
 merchantman).

Subscribed and sworn
 before me this 7TH
 day of JULY 1941 XXXX.

H.B. Willard
H.B. WILLARD RMIC
 (Name-rank) Boarding Officer.

INTELLIGENCE

REC'D JUL 9 - 1941

ANS'D

PART B (CONTINUED) (To be prepared by Coast Guard Representative)

(9) Remarks:

GUNS: I FOUR INCH (AFT)

AMMUNITION: 40 ROUNDS

SMALL ARMS: NONE

S.A. AMMUNITION: NONE

MAGAZINE: AFT

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: TELEPHONE

GUN CREWS: CREW

REMARKS (Note number of gas masks, gas protective clothing, smoke floats, and gun emplacements)

DEGAUSSING EQUIPMENT

15 GAS MASKS

10 SUITS GAS PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

5 SMOKE FLOATS

1 GUN EMPLACEMENT

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.

H. B. Willard
H. B. WILLARD

(Signature)

RMIC

(Rank)