

601-64
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. COAST GUARD

DEC 12 1941

H. J. Jones
December 10, 1941

(Date)

From: Collector of Customs, Baltimore, Md.
To: Commander, Norfolk District, U.S.C.G.
Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels of Belligerents
Reference: (a) Department letter, 3 September, 1939, to Collectors of
Customs, "Strictly Confidential."
(b) Your letter _____

1. The Br. MV KARS was inspected this
date and the following armament was found on board:

MAGNETIC BELT: Yes

GUNS: One 4.7" B.L., aft.

AMMUNITION: 40 H.E. shells, 36 cordite charges, 36 percussion tubes, 4 practice shells

SMALL ARMS: Four .303 Hotchkiss--2500 rds.
One .303 Lewis--2000 rds.
One .303 Ross Rifle--250 rds.
1 Holman projector--53 g grenades

AMMUNITION: 4 P.A.C. rockets--2 cartridges, 2 holders

GUN CREWS: 20 men, including 4 R.N. and 2 R.A. gunners; 2 additional radio operators

MAGAZINE: Aft, in poop

FIRE CONTROL AND COM- Directed from gun deck
MUNICATION EQUIPMENT: Telephone, bridge to gun deck

REMARKS: 8 smoke floats, 14 ignitors, 24 steel helmets, 2 kites--1500' wire

NUMBER GAS MASKS ON BOARD: 51

AMOUNT GAS PROTECTIVE CLOTHING ON BOARD: 8

2. 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. J. Jones
Assistant Collector