

64-CONFIDENTIAL

22 August, 1941.

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

Reference: (a) Your letter, 22 August, 1941 (WRL:cm)

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1 - Q.F. 4.7" mark V\* M. 1917 No. 1412. Elevation 20° + 5°. Arc of train 240°. Telescopic and open sights. Located on the after end of the poop deck. 44-rds cordite charges; 40-rds S.A.P. shells; 8-practice shells and 42-per-cussion tubes.  
 1 - 12-pdr emplacement located on the after end top of the poop deck house. Protective shield.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 4-Hotchkiss machine guns .303; 2-Lewis machine guns .30; 4-machine gun mounts located two on the wings of the bridge and two on the aft boat deck; 1-Ross rifle .303; 5177-rds ammunition for the machine guns.

MAGAZINE LOCATION: Forward end starboard side in the poop space. Flooded by hose only.

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

CREW: 1-Gun layer (Royal Navy); balance of the gun's crew taken from ship's regular force; 2-enlisted men (Royal Navy); 2-certified merchant navy defense officers and 2-British soldiers (machine gunners) on board.

MISCELLANEOUS: 6-smoke floats and 6-igniters; 2-common port fires; 4-paravanes; 18-steel helmets; 5-service gas masks; 50-civilian gas masks; 1-Schermuly pistol and 4-rockets; 1-zig-zag clock; 2-P.A.C. projectors, 4-rockets and 4-fouling cables; 1-decontamination sets; 1-convoy light and 1-convoy buoy; 2-kites flown from the fore mast; 1-Holman projector and 36-bombs located on the 12-pdr emplacement; 4-bomb proof shelters located two on the wings of the bridge and two on the aft poop deck; concrete slabs used around the bridge and radio room for protection; DeGaussed (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.

\*\*\* wires protected by canvas.

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)

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