

~~64~~ CONFIDENTIAL

8 August, 1941.

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

Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter, 8 August, 1941 (WRL:cm)

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1 - Q.F. 4" mark IX model V, 1919 No. 1687. Elevation 40° + 5°. Arc of train 310°. Telescopic sights. Located on a special platform aft of poop deck. 40-rds fixed ammunition.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 1-Double-barreled Shot gun 12-gauge; 1-repeating rifle .401; 1-pistol and 2-revolvers (make and caliber unknown) under lock and key.

MAGAZINE LOCATION: Starboard side after poop house. Flooded by sprinkler system and hose connection on the bulkhead.

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

PERSONNEL: 2-merchant seaman gunners; gun's crew taken from ship's regular force; vessel's master is a Naval Reserve Officer; 2-certified merchant navy defense officers on board.

MISCELLANEOUS: 2-smoke floats and 2-igniters; 1-Steel helmet; 52-civilian duty gas masks; 1-zig-zag clock; 15-decontamination sets; concrete slabs used around the bridge and radio room for protection; DeGaussed (wired) wires protected by wood and rubber.

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)

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