



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
CAPTAIN OF THE PORT
FOR NEW YORK HARBOR AND VICINITY

18 February, 1942.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE
TO THE "CAPTAIN OF THE PORT"
ROOM 10, BARGE OFFICE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

From: Captain of the Port of New York, Third Naval District.
To: Commandant.
Subject: Armed merchant vessels.

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1-U.S. 4", Mark IX Mod. 5 1919 No. 1766. Elevation 30°/ 10°.
Arc of train 200°. Telescopic sights; Located on special raised platform after
end of poopdeck. 37-rds. fixed ammunition.
1-emplacment for 12-pdr.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 1-speyer .6.7 m/m rifle, 200-rds. rifle ammunition.
1-Smith & Wesson .38; 1-Mauser 6.35 m/m pistols; 50-rds. pistol ammunition.

MAGAZINE: starboard side, forward in poopdeck house. Flooded by sprinkler system.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone.

PERSONNEL: 1-gun layer (R.Dutch Merch. N.) 2-navy enlisted men; 2-certified
merchant navy defense officers; Balance taken from ships regular force.

MISCELLANEOUS: 6- smoke floats; 6-igniters; 2-Paravanes; 8-steel helmets;1-
zig-zag clock; 1-convoy light; concrete slabs around bridge and radioroom; hull
DeGaussed (wired).

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

FOR DEFENSE



3. Inclosed are no. photographs of this vessel showing
her guns and their location.

NOTE: No photographs if reinspected.

Distribution:
H.Q. - (1)
File - (1)

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