

12 September, 1941.

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

Subject: Armed Merchant Vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter, 12 September, 1941 (WRL)

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1 - 4" Mark IX, Model 16, 1919, No. 1571. Elevation 30° ± 10°. Arc of train 300°. Telescopic sights. Located on special raised platform on stern. No ammunition.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 4-Lewis .30 machine guns. (Mounts: two on wings of bridge and two on boat deck.

MAGAZINE: In after peak. Flooded by sprinkler system.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone from bridge to gun.

PERSONNEL: None

MISCELLANEOUS: 4-bomb-proof shelters located, two on wings of bridge and two on boat deck. Concrete slabs used around bridge for protection. Hull 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.

3. Inclosed herewith are two (2) photographs of this vessel, showing her guns and their location.

(NOTE: NO PHOTOGRAPHS IF REINSPECTED).

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