

3 November, 1941

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

Subject: Armed merchant vessels.

Reference: (a) Your letter 3 November, 1941

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION: 1 - 3" gun mark III Modification 7, 1914 1906, No. 424L. Elevation 15° / 10°. Arc of train 270°. Telescopic sights. Located on special raised platform after end of poop deck. 47-rds fixed ammunition.

SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION: 1-Colt .50 machine gun, 2-Marlin .30 machine guns. (Mounts: starboard wing of bridge, 1-port wing of bridge 1-forward end of boat deck). 750-rds .50 cal. ammunition, 2,300-rds machine gun ammunition. 1-Winchester .30, 1-Lee-Enfield .303 rifles. 1-(unknown make and cal.) pistol. 1-Colt .32, 1-Ivery Johnson .32 pistols. 120-rds ammunition.

MAGAZINE: Port side after end in lazaret space. Flooded by hose only.

FIRE CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION: Telephone. 1-Aldis (day) lamp.

PERSONNEL: 1-Gun layer (R.Norw. N.); 2-certified merchant navy defense officers; balance of crew taken from ship's regular force.

MISCELLANEOUS: 6-Smoke floats; 5-igniters; 17-steel helmets; 36-civil. duty gas masks; 2-PAC projectors, 4-rockets, 6-subflak rockets; 4-sets fouling cables; 1-convey light; 2-buoys; 3-bomb proof shelters, (2) wings of bridge (1) forward end of boat deck; concrete slabs around bridge and radioroom; hull DeGaussed (wired).

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

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

NOTE: No photographs if reinspected.

Distribution:

C/C - (2)  
 H.Q.- (1)  
 File- (1)

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

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