

= Soviet cruiser Voroshilov =

Voroshilov ( Russian : ????????? ) was a Project 26 Kirov @-@ class cruiser of the Soviet Navy that served during World War II and into the Cold War . She bombarded German troops during the Siege of Odessa before being badly damaged in November 1941 by German bombers . Upon her return from repairs in March 1942 she supported Soviet troops during the Siege of Sevastopol , the Kerch @-@ Feodosiya Operation and the amphibious landings at Novorossiysk at the end of January 1943 . Her active participation in the war ended in October 1943 when three destroyers were lost to air attack and Joseph Stalin forbid missions using large ships without his permission . Postwar she was converted to a missile test ship before being sold for scrap in 1973 .

= = Description = =

Voroshilov was 191 @.@ 3 meters ( 627 ft 7 in ) long , had a beam of 17 @.@ 66 meters ( 57 ft 11 in ) and had a draft of 6 @.@ 15 meters ( 20 ft 2 in ) . She displaced 7 @,@ 890 metric tons ( 7 @,@ 765 long tons ) at standard load and 9 @,@ 436 metric tons ( 9 @,@ 287 long tons ) at full load . Her two steam turbines proved to be more powerful than anticipated , producing a total of 122 @,@ 500 shaft horsepower ( 91 @,@ 300 kW ) . This was almost enough to achieve the ship 's designed speed of 37 knots during her sea trials , reaching 36 @.@ 72 knots ( 68 @.@ 01 km / h ; 42 @.@ 26 mph ) despite being over 650 metric tons ( 640 long tons ) overweight .

Voroshilov carried nine 180 @-@ millimeter ( 7 @.@ 1 in ) 57 @-@ caliber B @-@ 1 @-@ P guns in three electrically powered MK @-@ 3 @-@ 180 triple turrets . Her secondary armament consisted of six single 100 @-@ millimeter ( 3 @.@ 9 in ) 56 @-@ caliber B @-@ 34 anti @-@ aircraft guns fitted on each side of the rear funnel . The ship 's light AA guns consisted of six semi @-@ automatic 45 @-@ millimeter ( 1 @.@ 8 in ) 21 @-@ K AA guns and four DK 12 @.@ 7 @-@ millimeter ( 0 @.@ 50 in ) machine guns . Six 533 @-@ millimeter ( 21 @.@ 0 in ) 39 @-@ Yu torpedo tubes were fitted in two triple mountings .

= = = Wartime modifications = = =

When war broke out in 1941 , Voroshilov was not equipped with any radars , but she received a number of British Lend @-@ Lease radars by 1944 . One Type 284 and two Type 285 radars were used for main battery fire control . One Type 291 was used for air search , while anti @-@ aircraft fire control was provided by two Type 282 radars .

= = Service = =

Voroshilov was laid down at the Marti South shipyard in Nikolayev on 15 October 1935 ; the second of the Project 26 , to use their industrial designation , Kirov @-@ class cruisers . She was launched on 28 June 1937 , but she had to wait for her Soviet @-@ built machinery to be delivered before she was completed on 20 June 1940 . On 23 June 1941 Voroshilov covered Soviet destroyers bombarding Constanta , after the Germans attacked the Soviet Union , and was slightly damaged by a mine exploded by the destroyer Soobrazitelny 's paravanes . She bombarded Axis troops near Odessa on 19 September with 148 180 mm shells and was transferred to Novorossiysk shortly afterwards . On 2 November the ship was bombed in harbor by Junkers Ju 88 bombers of Kampfgeschwader 51 . She was hit twice ; one hit started a fire in # 3 magazine that was extinguished by water flooding in from the second hit . Voroshilov had to be towed to Poti for repairs , which lasted until February 1942 . She shelled Axis positions near Feodosiya on 19 March and 3 April 1942 , but was damaged by fragments from bombs from Ju 88s on 10 April and had to return to Batumi for minor repairs .

On 8 and 11 May she provided fire support for Soviet troops around Kerch and the Taman Peninsula . On 27 May one of her turbines broke down , while helping to transfer the 9th Naval Infantry Brigade from Batumi to Sevastopol , and required repairs lasting until 24 July 1942 . On 29

November 1942 she was damaged by nearby mine explosions while bombarding Feodonisi with 46 180 mm and 57 100 mm shells , but managed to return to Poti under her own power . Just after her repairs were completed she assisted Soviet forces landing behind German lines at Malaya Zemlya with 240 180 mm shells at the end of January 1943 . On 17 February the ship transferred from Poti to Batumi .

Voroshilov was withdrawn from active operations , however , after the loss of three destroyers that were attempting to interdict the German evacuation of the Taman Bridgehead to air attack on 6 October 1943 . This loss caused Stalin to forbid the deployment of large naval units without his express permission which was not granted during the rest of the war . The ship was transferred to Novorossiysk on 18 August 1944 and to Sevastopol on 5 November . She was awarded the Order of the Red Banner on 8 July 1945 .

= = Postwar = =

Voroshilov was inspected in 1946 and found unsatisfactory , but she was given routine servicing . She began her postwar modernization in April 1954 , but the Navy reevaluated the scope of the work in 1955 and deemed it insufficient to create a fully modern ship . Unlike her half @-@ sister Maxim Gorky , she was selected for conversion as a testbed for missile development as Project 33 on 17 February 1956 . The conversion process was prolonged , as her armament was removed and she received an entirely new superstructure and masts . She consequently was not recommissioned as OS @-@ 24 until 31 December 1961 . The ship was modernized under Project 33M from 11 October 1963 to 1 December 1965 . Her final conversion was to a floating barracks on 6 October 1972 and she was redesignated as PKZ @-@ 19 . Voroshilov was sold for scrapping on 2 March 1973 . Voroshilov 's 14 @-@ ton propeller and 2 @.@ 5 @-@ ton stop anchor are on display at the Museum of Heroic Defense and Liberation of Sevastopol on Sapun Mountain in Sevastopol .