

= SMS München =

SMS München (" His Majesty 's Ship München ") was the fifth of seven Bremen @-@ class cruisers of the Imperial German Navy , named after the city of Munich . She was built by AG Weser in Bremen , starting in 1903 , launched in April 1904 , and commissioned in January 1905 . Armed with a main battery of ten 10 @.@ 5 cm (4 @.@ 1 in) guns and two 45 cm (18 in) torpedo tubes , München was capable of a top speed of 22 @.@ 5 knots (41 @.@ 7 km / h ; 25 @.@ 9 mph) .

München served with the fleet for the majority of her career , and saw extensive service during World War I , including at the Battle of Jutland on 31 May ? 1 June 1916 . There , she engaged British light cruisers on two instances , and was damaged in both ; she contributed to the damaging of the cruiser HMS Southampton during the latter engagement . München was torpedoed by the British submarine HMS E38 on 19 October 1916 , and was subsequently withdrawn from service . She spent the final year of the war as a barracks ship , and was surrendered as a war prize to the British in 1920 . München was later broken up for scrap .

= = Construction = =

München was ordered under the contract name " M " and was laid down at the AG Weser shipyard in Bremen in 1903 and launched on 30 April 1904 , after which fitting @-@ out work commenced . She was commissioned into the High Seas Fleet on 10 January 1905 . The ship was 111 @.@ 1 meters (365 ft) long overall and had a beam of 13 @.@ 3 m (44 ft) and a draft of 5 @.@ 47 m (17 @.@ 9 ft) forward . She displaced 3 @, @ 780 t (3 @, @ 720 long tons ; 4 @, @ 170 short tons) at full combat load . Her propulsion system consisted of two triple @-@ expansion engines , designed to give 10 @, @ 000 indicated horsepower (7 @, @ 500 kW) for a top speed of 22 knots (41 km / h ; 25 mph) . The engines were powered by ten coal @-@ fired Marine @-@ type water @-@ tube boilers . München carried up to 860 tonnes (850 long tons) of coal , which gave her a range of 4 @, @ 690 nautical miles (8 @, @ 690 km ; 5 @, @ 400 mi) at 12 knots (22 km / h ; 14 mph) . She had a crew of 14 officers and 274 ? 287 enlisted men .

The ship was armed with ten 10 @.@ 5 cm SK L / 40 guns in single mounts . Two were placed side by side forward on the forecastle , six were located amidships , three on either side , and two were placed side by side aft . The guns could engage targets out to 12 @, @ 200 m (40 @, @ 000 ft) . They were supplied with 1 @, @ 500 rounds of ammunition , for 150 shells per gun . She was also equipped with two 45 cm (17 @.@ 7 in) torpedo tubes with five torpedoes . They were submerged in the hull on the broadside . München was also fitted to carry fifty naval mines . The ship was protected by an armored deck that was up to 80 mm (3 @.@ 1 in) thick . The conning tower had 100 mm (3 @.@ 9 in) thick sides , and the guns were protected by 50 mm (2 @.@ 0 in) thick shields .

= = Service history = =

After her commissioning , München was employed as a torpedo test ship and to conduct experiments with wireless telegraphy . After the outbreak of World War I in August 1914 , the ship was assigned to the High Seas Fleet . She was moored in Brunsbüttel with her sister @-@ ship Danzig , en route to Kiel via the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal on the morning of 28 August 1914 . That morning , the British attacked the German patrol line in the Heligoland Bight . During the ensuing Battle of Heligoland Bight , München and Danzig were recalled and ordered to steam to the mouth of the Elbe and wait for further orders . At 12 : 25 , the two cruisers were ordered to move into the Bight and support the cruiser Strassburg , but at 14 : 06 , München was instead ordered to conduct reconnaissance out to the north @-@ east of Heligoland .

= = = Battle of Jutland = = =

München was assigned to the IV Scouting Group during the Battle of Jutland on 31 May ? 1 June

1916 . The IV Scouting Group , under the command of Commodore Ludwig von Reuter , departed Wilhelmshaven at 03 : 30 on 31 May , along with the rest of the fleet . Tasked with screening for the fleet , München and the torpedo boat S54 were positioned on the starboard side of the fleet , abreast of the III Battle Squadron .

Later in the battle , shortly after 21 : 00 , München and the rest of the IV Scouting Group encountered the British 3rd Light Cruiser Squadron (3rd LCS) . Reuter 's ships were leading the High Seas Fleet south , away from the deployed Grand Fleet . Due to the long range and poor visibility , only München and SMS Stettin were able to engage the British cruisers ; München fired 63 shells before she had to cease fire , without scoring any hits . She was hit twice in return , however ; the first hit caused minimal damage , but the second struck her third funnel . The resulting explosion damaged four of her boilers , making it difficult for her to keep steam up in all of her boilers . Reuter turned his ships hard to starboard , in order to draw the British closer to the capital ships of the German fleet , but the 3rd LCS refused to take the bait and disengaged .

During the ferocious night fighting that occurred as the High Seas Fleet forced its way through the British rear , the IV Scouting Group encountered the 2nd Light Cruiser Squadron at close range in the darkness . As the two squadrons closed on each other , the Germans illuminated HMS Southampton and HMS Dublin and concentrated their fire on the two ships . The two ships were badly damaged and set on fire and forced to retreat , while the Germans also fell back in an attempt to bring the British closer to the battlecruisers Moltke and Seydlitz . In the melee , the cruiser Frauenlob was hit and sunk by a torpedo launched by Southampton , and München nearly collided with the sinking Frauenlob . She managed to evade the wreck , and she then fired a torpedo at Southampton , but it missed . München was hit another three times during this engagement ; two of the hits exploded in the water , causing minor splinter damage . The third shell went through the second funnel and exploded on a funnel support on the other side ; one of the shell splinters knocked out the starboard rangefinder . The erratic maneuvering bent a wheel shaft in the helm , forcing her crew to steer the ship from the steering gear compartment for about two and a half hours .

At 01 : 20 , München and Stettin briefly fired on the German torpedo boats G11 , V1 , and V3 before they discovered their identity . Early on the morning of 1 June , around 05 : 06 , the pre @-@ dreadnought battleships of the II Battle Squadron opened fire on what they thought were British submarines ; the firing was so hysterical that it threatened to damage München and Stettin , as they were steaming up the side of the German line . The fleet commander , Vice Admiral Reinhard Scheer , was forced to give a general " cease @-@ fire " order . München in turn spotted an imaginary submarine off Heligoland at 11 : 40 and opened fire on the empty sea. In the course of the battle , München was hit by a total of five medium @-@ caliber shells , which killed eight men and wounded another twenty . She had fired 161 rounds from her guns .

= = = Later operations = = =

On 18 ? 19 October , Scheer attempted a repeat of the original Jutland plan , which had called for a bombardment of Sunderland . While en route , München was hit by a torpedo launched by the submarine HMS E38 off the Dogger Bank . Scheer became convinced the British knew his location , and so he cancelled the operation and returned to port . München took on some 500 metric tons (490 long tons ; 550 short tons) of water , and saltwater got into her boilers , contaminating the freshwater used to produce steam . She had to be taken under tow , first by the torpedo boat V73 , and then by her sister Berlin . By the following day , her engines were back in operation , and she steamed into the Jadebusen under her own power , where she entered the Imperial Dockyard in Wilhelmshaven . After returning to port , München was decommissioned in November due to the battle damage incurred the previous month . She was later employed as a barracks ship for patrol ships in 1918 . She was stricken from the naval register on 5 November 1919 and ceded to the British as the war prize Q on 6 July 1920 under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles . They subsequently broke her up for scrap .