

= SMS Freya =

SMS Freya was a protected cruiser of the Victoria Louise class , built for the German Imperial Navy (Kaiserliche Marine) in the 1890s , along with her sister ships Victoria Louise , Hertha , Vineta , and Hansa . Freya was laid down at the Imperial Dockyard in Danzig in 1895 , launched in April 1897 , and commissioned into the Navy in October 1898 . The ship was armed with a battery of two 21 cm guns and eight 15 cm guns and had a top speed of 19 knots (35 km / h ; 22 mph) .

Freya served in the German fleet for the initial years of her career , unlike her sister ships , all of which served abroad on foreign stations . As a result , she led a fairly uneventful career in the fleet . After a modernization in 1905 ? 1907 , Freya was used as a school ship for cadets . At the outbreak of World War I , Freya was mobilized into the 5th Scouting Group , but served in front @-@ line duty only briefly . She was used as a barracks ship after 1915 , and ultimately sold for scrapping in 1921 .

= = Design = =

Freya was ordered under the contract name " Ersatz Freya " and was laid down at the Imperial Dockyard in Danzig in 1895 . She was launched on 27 April 1897 , after which fitting @-@ out work commenced . She was commissioned into the German navy on 20 October 1898 . The ship was 110 @.@ 6 meters (363 ft) long overall and had a beam of 17 @.@ 4 m (57 ft) and a draft of 6 @.@ 58 m (21 @.@ 6 ft) forward . She displaced 6 @,@ 491 t (6 @,@ 388 long tons ; 7 @,@ 155 short tons) at full combat load . Her propulsion system consisted of three vertical 4 @-@ cylinder triple expansion engines powered by twelve coal @-@ fired Belleville boilers . Her engines provided a top speed of 19 kn (35 km / h ; 22 mph) and a range of approximately 3 @,@ 412 nautical miles (6 @,@ 319 km ; 3 @,@ 926 mi) at 12 kn (22 km / h ; 14 mph) . She had a crew of 31 officers and 446 enlisted men .

The ship was armed with two 21 cm SK L / 40 guns in single turrets , one forward and one aft . The guns were supplied with 58 rounds of ammunition each . They had a range of 16 @,@ 300 m (53 @,@ 500 ft) . Vineta also carried eight 15 cm SK L / 40 guns . Four were mounted in turrets amidships and the other four were placed in casemates . These guns had a range of 13 @,@ 700 m (44 @,@ 900 ft) . She also carried ten 8 @.@ 8 cm SK L / 35 guns . The gun armament was rounded out by machine guns . She was also equipped with three 45 cm (18 in) torpedo tubes with eight torpedoes , two launchers were mounted on the broadside and the third was in the bow , all below the waterline .

= = Service history = =

After her commissioning , Freya served with the German fleet . On 1 September 1902 , Freya joined the Cruiser Division of the I Squadron of the German home fleet . The Division consisted of the armored cruiser Prinz Heinrich , the flagship , Victoria Louise , and the light cruisers Hela , Amazone , and Niobe . The Division participated in the summer fleet maneuvers of August ? September 1902 . In 1905 , Freya went into drydock at the Imperial Dockyard in Wilhelmshaven for modernization . During the refit she was re @-@ boilered ; she had been built originally with three stacks , and during the modernization they were trunked into two funnels . The refit was finished in 1907 , after which Freya was used as a training ship for naval cadets .

In 1907 , Günther Lütjens served aboard the ship as a cadet ; Lütjens went on to command the task force composed of Bismarck and Prinz Eugen in World War II . In August 1908 , Freya represented Germany at celebrations in Halifax , Canada , commemorating the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Canadian Parliament . While entering the port at around midnight on 9 August , she inadvertently rammed a schooner in heavy fog . Nine sailors were killed in the accident .

Freya had a short career during World War I. At the outbreak of hostilities , she was briefly mobilized into the 5th Scouting Group , which was tasked with training cadets in the Baltic Sea . By the end of 1914 , however , the ships were again removed from service . She was then put into

service as a coastal defense ship . After 1915 , she was withdrawn from front @-@ line duty again and returned to service as a training ship based in Flensburg . She served in this capacity through to the end of the war . In 1915 , Bernhard Rogge , who would go on to command the raider Atlantis during World War II , served aboard the ship as a cadet . The old aviso Grille became Freya 's tender starting in July 1915 . She was stricken on 25 January 1920 and used briefly as a barracks ship for police in Hamburg . She was ultimately broken up for scrap in Harburg in 1921 .