= SM UB @-@ 47 =

SM UB @-@ 47 was a Type UB II submarine or U @-@ boat for the German Imperial Navy (German : Kaiserliche Marine) during World War I. UB @-@ 47 was sold to the Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy (German : Kaiserliche und Königliche Kriegsmarine or K.u.K. Kriegsmarine) during the war . In Austro @-@ Hungarian service the B was dropped from her name and she was known as SM U @-@ 47 or U @-@ XLVII as a member of the Austro @-@ Hungarian U @-@ 43 class .

UB @-@ 47 was ordered in July 1915 and was laid down at the AG Weser shipyard in Bremen in September . UB @-@ 47 was a little more than 121 feet (37 m) in length and displaced between 270 and 305 tonnes (266 and 300 long tons) , depending on whether surfaced or submerged . She was equipped to carry a complement of four torpedoes for her two bow torpedo tubes and had an 8 @.@ 8 @-@ centimeter (3 @.@ 5 in) deck gun . As part of a group of six submarines selected for Mediterranean service , UB @-@ 47 was broken into railcar sized components and shipped to Pola where she was assembled and launched in June 1916 , and commissioned in July . Over the next year the U @-@ boat sank twenty ships , which included the French battleship Gaulois and two Cunard Line steamers in use as troopships , Franconia and Ivernia .

The German Imperial Navy was having difficulties in finding trained submarine crews and offered to sell UB @-@ 47 and a sister boat UB @-@ 43 to the Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy . After the terms were agreed to in June 1917 , both boats were handed over at Pola . When commissioned into the Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy , the B in her designation was dropped so that she became U @-@ 47 or U @-@ XLVII . She sank an additional three ships in Austro @-@ Hungarian service through the end of the war . U @-@ 47 was ceded to France as a war reparation in 1920 and broken at Bizerta that same year .

= = Design and construction = =

The German UB II design improved upon the design of the UB I boats , which had been ordered in September 1914 . In service , the UB I boats were found to be too small and too slow . A major problem was that , because they had a single propeller shaft / engine combo , if either component failed , the U @-@ boat became almost totally disabled . To rectify this flaw , the UB II boats featured twin propeller shafts and twin engines (one shaft for each engine) , which also increased the U @-@ boat 's top speed . The new design also included more powerful batteries , larger torpedo tubes , and a deck gun . As a UB II boat , U @-@ 47 could also carry twice the torpedo load of her UB I counterparts , and nearly ten times as much fuel . To contain all of these changes the hull was larger , and the surface and submerged displacement was more than double that of the UB I boats .

The Imperial German Navy ordered UB @-@ 47 from AG Weser on 31 July 1915 as the final boat of a series of six UB II boats (numbered from UB @-@ 42 to UB @-@ 47) , and the last UB II submarine numerically . UB @-@ 47 was 36 @.@ 90 metres (121 ft 1 in) long and 4 @.@ 37 metres (14 ft 4 in) abeam . She had a single hull with saddle tanks and had a draught of 3 @.@ 68 metres (12 ft 1 in) when surfaced . She displaced 305 tonnes (300 long tons) while submerged but only 272 tonnes (268 long tons) on the surface .

The submarine was equipped with twin Daimler diesel engines and twin Siemens @-@ Schuckart electric motors ? for surfaced and submerged running , respectively . UB @-@ 47 had a surface speed of up to 8 @.@ 82 knots (16 @.@ 33 km / h ; 10 @.@ 15 mph) and could go as fast as 6 @.@ 22 knots (11 @.@ 52 km / h ; 7 @.@ 16 mph) while underwater . The U @-@ boat could carry up to 27 tonnes (27 long tons) of diesel fuel , giving her a range of 6 @,@ 940 nautical miles (12 @,@ 850 km ; 7 @,@ 990 mi) at 5 knots (9 @.@ 3 km / h ; 5 @.@ 8 mph) . Her electric motors and batteries provided a range of 45 nautical miles (83 km ; 52 mi) at 4 knots (7 @.@ 4 km / h ; 4 @.@ 6 mph) while submerged . UB @-@ 47 was equipped with two 50 @-@ centimeter (19 @.@ 7 in) bow torpedo tubes and could carry four torpedoes . The U @-@ boat was also armed with one 8 @.@ 8 cm (3 @.@ 5 in) Uk L / 30 deck gun .

UB @-@ 47 was laid down by AG Weser at its Bremen shipyard on 4 September 1915 . As one of

six U @-@ boats selected for service in the Mediterranean while under construction , UB @-@ 47 was broken into railcar @-@ sized components and shipped overland to the Austro @-@ Hungarian port of Pola . Shipyard workers from Weser assembled the boat and her five sisters at Pola , where she was launched on 17 June .

= = German Imperial Navy career = =

SM UB @-@ 47 was commissioned into the German Imperial Navy on 4 July 1916 under the command of Oberleutnant zur See Wolfgang Steinbauer . UB @-@ 47 , Steinbauer 's first U @-@ boat command , was assigned to the Navy 's Pola Flotilla (German : Deutsche U @-@ Halbflotille Pola) in which she remained throughout her German career . Although the flotilla was based in Pola , the site of the main Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy base , boats of the flotilla operated out of the Austro @-@ Hungarian base at Cattaro which was located farther south and closer to the Mediterranean . German U @-@ boats typically returned to Pola only for repairs .

On 17 August , Steinbauer and UB @-@ 47 achieved their first success when they sank the Italian steamer Stampalia south of Cape Matapan . Although Italy and Germany would not formally be at war for another ten days , German U @-@ boats in the Mediterranean routinely attacked Italian vessels by posing as Austro @-@ Hungarian submarines and flying the ensign of that country 's navy . Stampalia was an ocean liner of 9 @,@ 000 gross register tons (GRT) that had formerly been in passenger service between New York and Genoa , and had been one of the first Italian merchant vessels to be armed against submarine attacks . At the time of her sinking , she was in the service of the Italian government but was not carrying any passengers ; no casualties from Stampalia were reported in the attack .

Three weeks later , Steinbauer and UB @-@ 47 scored a triple kill , sinking three ships on the same day . The British steamer Butetown , en route from Malta to Mudro , was carrying coal and other cargo when she was sent down 55 nautical miles (102 km ; 63 mi) west @-@ southwest of Cape Matapan on 8 September . UB @-@ 47 attacked Llangorse , another British steamer , 7 nautical miles (13 km ; 8 @.@ 1 mi) away , sending the ship and her cargo of Canadian oats headed to Salonica to the bottom . The third ship was the Greek ship Spetzai , headed from Cyprus to Liverpool when sunk in the same vicinity . There were no casualties from any of the three ships ; the crews of Butetown and Llangorse were rescued and landed at Marseilles on 16 September .

On 4 October , Steinbauer sank the largest ship of his career when UB @-@ 47 torpedoed the 1911 Cunard Line steamer Franconia at position 35 ° 56 ? N 18 ° 30 ? E , 195 nautical miles (361 km ; 224 mi) east of Malta . The 625 @-@ foot (191 m) long , 72 @-@ foot (22 m) wide Franconia ? nicknamed the " Bath Ship " in civilian days because of the number of passenger baths and showers ? was , at 18 @,@ 510 GRT , the fifth largest ship sunk by a U @-@ boat during World War I. Franconia had been in service as a troopship since February 1915 but was not carrying troops at the time of the attack . The hospital ship Dover Castle picked up 302 survivors from Franconia ; 12 men were killed in the attack .

UB @-@ 47 's next success came a week later , on 11 October , when the 5 @,@ 002 @-@ ton British steamer Crosshill was sunk west of Malta with the loss of four men . A German military announcement of 20 October proclaiming Steinbauer 's sinking of the ship reported that Crosshill 's cargo included horses and Serbian grooms . The following day , Sebek , a British ship headed to Alexandria , was torpedoed southeast of Gozo . Although the German Admiralty reported her sunk , Sebek 's captain was able to ground his ship and prevent it from sinking . On 14 October , UB @-@ 47 sank five small Italian sailing vessels ? ranging in size from 32 to 80 tons ? near Syracuse , Sicily . The next day , UB @-@ 47 closed out the month of October with the sinking of the Greek steamer Avis . UB @-@ 47 's tally of sunken ships for the month of October came to 24 @,@ 776 gross register tons , which accounted for nearly 20 % of the total sunk by all German U @-@ boats in the Mediterranean .

On patrol in the Aegean Sea on 27 December , Steinbauer came across the French pre @-@ dreadnought battleship Gaulois . Although screened by light cruisers and naval trawlers , Steinbauer was , nonetheless , able to sink the 11 @,@ 100 @-@ ton displacement ship east of Cerigo . Two

men were killed in the initial explosion and another two men died in the aftermath ; Gaulois 's normal complement was 631 men . Five days later , New Year 's Day 1917 , UB @-@ 47 torpedoed and sank the Cunard Line ship Ivernia ? in service as a British troopship ? at position 35 ° 30 ? N 22 ° 53 ? E , 58 nautical miles (107 km ; 67 mi) from Cape Matapan . Under the command of Captain William T. Turner , who had been in command of Lusitania when that liner was sunk in May 1915 , the 14 @,@ 278 @-@ ton Ivernia was ferrying troops to Salonica when sunk by UB @-@ 47 . Because of the heavy weather at the time of Ivernia 's sinking , 120 officers and men and 33 crewmen were killed in the attack . Like Franconia , both Gaulois and Ivernia were among the largest ships sunk by U @-@ boats ; Ivernia was the 20th largest sunk . Two days after the attack on Ivernia , UB @-@ 47 torpedoed and damaged the British steamer Huntsend , killing one person in the process . The 8 @,@ 818 GRT Huntsend was the former North German Lloyd liner Lützow which had been captured by British naval forces in the Mediterranean in August 1914 , and , like UB @-@ 47 , had been built by AG Weser in Bremen .

On 1 March 1917 , UB @-@ 47 torpedoed and damaged the British steamer Euterpe near Suda Bay , killing two men in the process . A week later , on 8 March , Steinbauer sank his last ship at the helm of UB @-@ 47 , when Georgian was sent to the bottom 52 nautical miles (96 km ; 60 mi) from Cape Sidero . The 1890 British ship , rated at 5 @,@ 088 gross register tons , was carrying government stores ; five of her crew perished in the attack .

On 1 April , Oberleutnant zur See Hans Hermann Wendlandt replaced Steinbauer as commanding officer of UB @-@ 47 . A week after assuming his first U @-@ boat command , the 30 @-@ year @-@ old Wendlandt scored his first success by sinking two Greek steamers on the same day . Livatho was sailing in ballast from Salonica for New York when she was sunk northwest of Crete by an explosive charge placed by UB @-@ 47 's crew . Nestos was carrying a load of wheat from New York for Piraeus when shelled and sunk 50 nautical miles (93 km ; 58 mi) from Sapientza . Three days later , the British ship Cyfarthfa was torpedoed 32 nautical miles (59 km ; 37 mi) from Cerigotto . The master of Cyfarthfa , which had been headed from Oran to Salonica , was taken prisoner by Wendlandt .

Wendlandt and UB @-@ 47 sank the Greek destroyer Doxa , a Niki @-@ class destroyer of 350 tonnes (340 long tons) displacement , on 27 June . Although a part of the Royal Hellenic Navy , Doxa had been seized by the French in October 1916 and was operating as a French ship with an all @-@ French crew when torpedoed and sunk by UB @-@ 47 in the Straits of Messina ; 29 sailors died in the attack . Three days later , Wendlandt sank two Italian sailing ships of about 100 GRT each while east of Sicily . Five days later , UB @-@ 47 attacked the Japanese steamer Shinsan Maru , from Karachi with a cargo of wheat for delivery to Italy . Wendlandt torpedoed the 1898 ship between Crete and Sicily . Shinsan Maru was the last ship sunk by UB @-@ 47 in her German service .

On 21 July , UB @-@ 47 was decommissioned at Pola and handed over to the Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy . In her German Imperial Navy career of just over a year , UB @-@ 47 sank twenty merchant ships totaling 76 @,@ 195 GRT , damaged three ships of 16 @,@ 967 GRT , and sank two warships with a combined displacement of 11 @,@ 450 tonnes (11 @,@ 270 long tons) .

= = Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy service = =

In November 1916 , the German Imperial Navy , having a hard time finding trained submarine crews , inquired to find out if its ally Austria @-@ Hungary was interested in purchasing some of its Mediterranean submarines . A general agreement led to protracted negotiations , which stalled over the outflow of Austro @-@ Hungarian gold reserves to Germany . But , with all of the details worked out , the two parties agreed on the sale of UB @-@ 47 and sister ship UB @-@ 43 to Austria @-@ Hungary in June 1917 .

When handed over by the Germans on 21 July , UB @-@ 47 was in a " worn out condition " . Despite the rough condition of the boat , the U @-@ boat was commissioned into the Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy on 30 July 1917 as SM U @-@ 47 , dropping the B from the U @-@ boat 's former designation . Linienschiffsleutnant Otto Molitor was installed as the U @-@ boat 's new commander

. U @-@ 47 's first success in Austro @-@ Hungarian service came nearly six months later when , on 12 January 1918 , Molitor torpedoed the French steamer Mica from Saigon just short of her destination of Milos .

In early April , Linienschiffsleutnant Freiherr Hugo von Seyffertitz replaced Molitor as commander of U @-@ 47 , and a month later , von Seyffertitz achieved his first success as U @-@ 47 's commander . The British steamer Itinda , a 5 @,@ 203 GRT ship built in 1900 , was sunk north of Susa , Libya , with one man killed . The next victory for von Seyffertitz and U @-@ 47 came in September . On the 20th U @-@ 47 launched a torpedo attack against the submarine Circé off Cattaro , sinking the French boat .

At the end of the war , U @-@ 47 was at Cattaro . In her Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy career , U @-@ 47 sank two merchant ships of 6 @,@ 467 gross register tons , and sank a single warship of 351 tonnes (345 long tons) displacement . U @-@ 47 was ceded to France as a war reparation in 1920 , towed to Bizerta , and broken up there within a year .

= = Summary of raiding history = =

= = = As the German UB @-@ 47 = = =

= = = As the Austro @-@ Hungarian U @-@ 47 = = =