

= Soviet cruiser Chervona Ukraina =

Chervona Ukraina ( Ukrainian : " ??????? ??????? " ? " Red Ukraine " ) was an Admiral Nakhimov class light cruiser of the Soviet Navy assigned to the Black Sea Fleet . During World War II , she supported Soviet forces during the Sieges of Odessa and Sevastopol before being sunk at Sevastopol on 12 November 1941 by German aircraft . She was raised in 1947 and was used as a training hulk before becoming a target ship in 1950 .

= = Description = =

Chervona Ukraina displaced 8 ,000 long tons ( 8 ,000 t ) at deep load . The ship had an overall length of 163 .2 metres ( 535 ft 5 in ) , a beam of 15 .7 metres ( 51 ft 6 in ) and a mean draught of about 5 .6 metres ( 18 ft 4 in ) . She was powered by four Curtiss AEG steam turbines , each driving one shaft , which developed a total of 55 ,000 shaft horsepower ( 41 ,000 kW ) and gave a maximum speed of 29 .5 knots ( 54 .6 km / h ; 33 .9 mph ) . The engines were powered by 14 Yarrow water tube boilers . Four were coal fired while the rest were mixed firing . The ship carried a maximum of 540 long tons ( 550 t ) of coal and an additional 690 long tons ( 700 t ) of fuel oil that was sprayed on the coal to increase its burn rate in the mixed firing boilers . At full capacity , she could steam for 1 ,200 nautical miles ( 2 ,200 km ; 1 ,400 mi ) at a speed of 14 knots ( 26 km / h ; 16 mph ) . Chervona Ukraina was designed to carry about 630 officers and men .

The ship 's main armament consisted of fifteen 55 calibre 130 mm ( 5 .1 in ) / 55 B7 Pattern 1913 guns in single mounts , six of which were mounted in casemates . Her anti aircraft armament consisted of four 64 millimetre ( 2 .5 in ) guns . Chervona Ukraina also mounted twelve above water 457 millimetre ( 18 .0 in ) torpedo tubes in triple swivelling mounts .

Chervona Ukraina 's waterline belt consisted of 76 millimetres ( 3 .0 in ) of Krupp cemented armour and above it was an upper belt 25 millimetres ( 0 .98 in ) thick . The gun shields were protected by 25 millimetres ( 0 .98 in ) of armour . Each of the armoured decks was 20 millimetres ( 0 .79 in ) thick . The armour of the conning tower was 76 millimetres ( 3 .0 in ) thick .

= = Service history = =

She was laid down on 3 October 1913 as Admiral Nakhimov after Pavel Nakhimov and launched on 6 November 1915 . Construction was abandoned in 1917 during the October Revolution when the ship was about 80 % complete . In the second half of 1918 , the Marine Department of Hetman Pavlo Skoropadskyi restarted construction of the ship . On 25 January 1919 , the ship was formally renamed " Hetman Bogdan Khmelnytsky " , but Nikolayev was captured shortly afterward by the Entente .

At the start of the Russian Civil War , the ship was run aground at the fitting dock in Nikolayev by the shipyard workers to hinder the evacuation by the Whites in 1919 . The ship was raised by the Soviets in 1920 pending a decision on her disposition . The ship was renamed to Chervona Ukraina on 7 December 1922 . It was decided to finish her in 1923 and the job was completed in 1927 to nearly the original design . She was modified to handle aircraft by adding cranes on either side of the middle funnel and a parking area was built for them between the central and rear funnels , although no catapult was ever fitted . The original internal torpedo tubes were replaced by four triple 457 mm ( 18 .0 in ) torpedo tubes mounted on the deck abaft the rear funnel .

Chervona Ukraina made a number of port visits to Turkey , Greece and Italy before World War II . She was extensively overhauled between 26 August 1939 and 1 May 1941 where her aircraft equipment was removed and she was fitted with new fire control equipment . The ship was given three Italian Minizini twin gun 50 caliber 100 mm ( 3 .9 in ) anti aircraft mounts , one was placed on the forecastle , in front of the forward 130 mm ( 5 .1 in ) / 55 B7 Pattern

1913 gun and the other two on each side of the quarterdeck . One torpedo tube mount was removed from each side and four single mounts for the semi @-@ automatic 45 mm ( 1 @.@ 8 in ) 21 @-@ K gun were fitted as well as seven 12 @.@ 7 mm ( 0 @.@ 50 in ) AA machine guns .

= = = World War II = = =

Chervona Ukraina , in company with the cruisers Krasny Kavkaz , Komintern and a number of destroyers , laid down a defensive mine barrage protecting the Black Sea Fleet base at Sevastopol on 22 June 1941 . She provided gunfire support to Soviet forces during the Siege of Odessa and escorted convoys bringing the 157th Rifle Division into Odessa during the month of September 1941 . She escorted convoys from Odessa to Sevastopol in October when the evacuation of Odessa was ordered . During the Siege of Sevastopol Chervona Ukraina provided gunfire support and evacuated cut @-@ off troops from elsewhere in the Crimea into Sevastopol and brought in reinforcements from Caucasian ports . She was hit three times in the South Bay of Sevastopol by bombs from German Junkers Ju 87 Stuka dive @-@ bombers from II . / StG 77 on 12 November 1941 , but didn 't sink until the next day after her crew was ordered to abandon her . Her guns were salvaged and most of the guns and crew were incorporated into the port 's defenses , although two of her twin Minizini turrets were added to Krasny Kavkaz .

She was raised on 3 November 1947 , repaired , and used as a training hulk until 30 October 1950 when she became a target ship . On 10 May 1952 , Chervona Ukraina was grounded on a spit to serve as a fixed target ; by 1980 there was nothing left of the ship above the surface .