

= Yugoslav submarine Smeli =

The Yugoslav submarine Smeli (Daring) was the second of the Osvetnik @-@ class diesel @-@ electric submarines built by Ateliers et Chantiers de la Loire , Nantes , France for the navy of the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes (later Yugoslavia) . She was launched in 1928 , and was built to a partial double hull Simonot design similar to the French Circé class . She was armed with six 550 mm (22 in) torpedo tubes , one 100 mm (3 @.@ 9 in) gun , and one 40 mm (1 @.@ 6 in) anti @-@ aircraft gun , and could dive to 80 metres (260 ft) .

Prior to World War II she participated in several cruises to Mediterranean ports . During the German @-@ led Axis invasion of Yugoslavia in April 1941 , she was captured by Italian forces at the Bay of Kotor . Initially designated N2 , her armament was changed and her conning tower modified . Due to her age and shallow diving depth , when she was commissioned into the Regia Marina as Antonio Bajamonti her service was limited to training and experimentation . She was scuttled at La Spezia in Liguria by the Italians in September 1943 the day after the Italian surrender .

= = Description and construction = =

Yugoslav naval policy in the interwar period lacked direction until the mid @-@ 1920s , although it was generally accepted that the Adriatic coastline was effectively a sea frontier that the naval arm was responsible for securing with the limited resources made available to it . In 1926 , a modest ten @-@ year construction program was initiated to build up a force of submarines , coastal torpedo boats , torpedo bombers and conventional bomber aircraft to perform this role . The Osvetnik @-@ class submarines were one of the acquisitions aimed at developing a naval force capable of meeting this challenge .

Smeli was built for the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes (later Yugoslavia) by the Ateliers et Chantiers de la Loire company at Nantes , France . Her partial double hull design , was based on a Simonot design , similar to the French Circé @-@ class . Her Serbo @-@ Croatian name translates as " Daring " . Along with her sister submarine of the class , Osvetnik , she had an overall length of 66 @.@ 5 m (218 ft 2 in) , a beam of 5 @.@ 4 m (17 ft 9 in) , and a surfaced draught of 3 @.@ 8 m (12 ft 6 in) . Her surfaced displacement was 630 long tons (640 t) or 809 long tons (822 t) submerged , and her crew consisted of 43 officers and enlisted men . She had an operational depth of 80 m (260 ft) .

She had two shafts driven by two MAN (Maschinenfabrik) diesel engines (when surfaced) or two Nancy electric motors (when submerged) , and carried 25 tonnes (25 long tons) of fuel oil . The diesel engines were rated at 1 @, @ 480 bhp (1 @, @ 100 kW) and the electric motors at 1 @, @ 000 shp (750 kW) , and she was designed to reach a top speed of 14 @.@ 5 knots (26 @.@ 9 km / h ; 16 @.@ 7 mph) under diesel power while surfaced , and 9 @.@ 2 knots (17 @.@ 0 km / h ; 10 @.@ 6 mph) on her electric motors when submerged . She was armed with six 550 mm (22 in) torpedo tubes (four bow @-@ mounted , two stern @-@ mounted) , one 100 mm (3 @.@ 9 in) gun , and one 40 mm (1 @.@ 6 in) anti @-@ aircraft gun . She had a surfaced radius of action of 3 @, @ 500 nautical miles (6 @, @ 500 km ; 4 @, @ 000 mi) at 9 knots (17 km / h ; 10 mph) , and 75 nautical miles (139 km ; 86 mi) at 5 knots (9 @.@ 3 km / h ; 5 @.@ 8 mph) submerged .

= = Service history = =

Smeli was the second of her class , and the fourth submarine of the navy of the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes , which subsequently became the Royal Yugoslav Navy . She and Osvetnik arrived in the Bay of Kotor on 9 December 1929 . In 1932 , the British naval attaché reported that Yugoslav ships engaged in few exercises , manoeuvres or gunnery training due to reduced budgets . In October 1934 , Smeli visited Bizerte in the French protectorate of Tunisia , and the Kelibia Roads off the coast of Tunisia . In August and September 1937 , Smeli , along with the British @-@ made submarine Hrabri and the depot ship Zmaj visited Greece , including the port of Piraeus , and the islands of Crete and Corfu .

When the German @-@ led Axis invasion of Yugoslavia began on 6 April 1941 , she was located in the Bay of Kotor on the southern Adriatic coast along with the three other submarines of the flotilla . She was subsequently captured by the Italian XVII Corps at the Bay of Kotor . Still in good condition , she was taken as war booty , and initially designated N2 . She was refitted and modernised at Pola in the upper Adriatic , which involved the replacement of some of her armament and modifications to her conning tower . After these modifications , her displacement was 665 long tons (676 t) (822 long tons (835 t) submerged) . She was commissioned by the Italians as the Bajamonti @-@ class Antonio Bajamonti , named after Antonio Bajamonti , the 19th @-@ century politician and mayor of the Dalmatian port of Split . Despite her submerged stability and good diving rate , her age and shallow diving depth meant that she was only used for training and experimentation . She was scuttled by the Italians at La Spezia in Liguria on 9 September 1943 , the day after the Italian surrender .

== Books ==