

= SMS Tegetthoff ( 1878 ) =

SMS Tegetthoff was an ironclad warship of the Austro-Hungarian Navy . She was built by the Stabilimento Tecnico Triestino shipyard in Trieste , between April 1876 and October 1881 . She was armed with a main battery of six 28 cm ( 11 in ) guns mounted in a central battery . The ship had a limited career , and did not see action . In 1897 , she was reduced to a guard ship in Pola , and in 1912 she was renamed Mars . She served as a training ship after 1917 , and after the end of World War I , she was surrendered as a war prize to Italy , which sold her for scrapping in 1920 .

= = Design = =

Tegetthoff was a central battery ship designed by Chief Engineer Joseph von Romako . The ship 's namesake , Admiral Wilhelm von Tegetthoff , victor of the Battle of Lissa , had proposed building four new ironclads . These were to be completed by 1878 , but poor economic conditions in the early 1870s forced the Austro-Hungarian government to cut back the naval budget . Admiral Friedrich von Pöck , who succeeded Tegetthoff as the head of naval administration , had attempted to secure funding for two new ships , to be named Tegetthoff and Erzherzog Karl from 1871 . Pöck finally succeeded in convincing parliament to allocate funds for the first ship in 1875 . He continued to try to convince the parliament to build a sister ship for Tegetthoff until 1880 , without success . Austro-Hungarian industry was incapable of supporting the construction of the ship , and significant components had to be ordered from foreign manufacturers , including guns from Germany and armor plating from Britain .

= = General characteristics = =

Tegetthoff was 89 @ 39 meters ( 293 @ 3 ft ) long at the waterline and 92 @ 46 m ( 303 @ 3 ft ) long overall . She had a beam of 21 @ 78 m ( 71 @ 5 ft ) and a draft of 7 @ 57 m ( 24 @ 8 ft ) and she displaced 7 @ 431 t ( 7 @ 314 long tons ; 8 @ 191 short tons ) . Tegetthoff was the first ship in the Austrian Navy to be built with an all-steel hull , which allowed for a considerable savings in weight . The ship 's crew numbered 525 officers and men , though after her reconstruction in the mid-1890s , this number was increased to between 568 and 575 . The main armored belt and the casemate for the main battery guns were protected with 356 mm ( 14 @ 0 in ) thick armor plate , and the end bulkheads of the armored citadel were 254 to 305 mm ( 10 @ 0 to 12 @ 0 in ) thick . The conning tower had sides that were 127 to 178 mm ( 5 @ 0 to 7 @ 0 in ) thick .

As built , the ship was powered by a single 2-cylinder , vertical compound steam engine that was rated at 6 @ 706 indicated horsepower ( 5 @ 001 kW ) . This gave Tegetthoff a top speed of 13 @ 97 knots ( 25 @ 87 km / h ; 16 @ 08 mph ) on trials . After her reconstruction in the early 1890s , her propulsion system was replaced with a pair of 3-cylinder triple expansion engines built by the German firm Schichau-Werke . These were rated at 8 @ 160 ihp ( 6 @ 080 kW ) , for a top speed of 15 @ 32 kn ( 28 @ 37 km / h ; 17 @ 63 mph ) on trials . After the refit , she was equipped with eight Scotch marine boilers . She was initially fitted with a sailing rig , though this was removed during the modernization , and two heavy fighting masts were installed in its place .

= = Armament = =

Tegetthoff was initially equipped with a main battery of six 28-centimeter ( 11 in ) L / 18 breech-loading guns manufactured by Krupp . These guns were mounted in a central battery amidships , and were intended to be used during pursuit and ramming attempts . The ammunition magazine was located directly below the main battery . The ship also carried six 9 cm ( 3 @ 5 in ) L / 24 breech-loaders , two 7 cm ( 2 @ 8 in ) L / 15 breech-loaders , and four 47 mm ( 1 @ 9 in ) quick-firing ( QF ) guns .

After her modernization , the main battery was replaced with 24 cm ( 9 @. @ 4 in ) L / 35 C / 86 guns from Krupp . The secondary guns now consisted of five 15 cm ( 5 @. @ 9 in ) L / 35 QF guns , two 7 cm L / 15 guns , nine 47 mm L / 44 QF guns , six 47 mm L / 33 machine guns , and a pair of 8 mm ( 0 @. @ 31 in ) machine guns . Tegetthoff was also equipped with two 35 cm ( 14 in ) torpedo tubes , one in the bow and one in the stern .

= = Service history = =

Tegetthoff was laid down in 1876 at the Stabilimento Tecnico Triestino shipyard in Trieste . The ship was launched in 1878 , and completed in 1881 . She conducted her sea trials in October of that year , and was finally ready for commissioning in September 1882 ; Kaiser Franz Joseph attended the commissioning of the ship in Pola . Financial difficulties had again delayed the ship 's completion ; the parliament finally voted to allocate funds to finish the ship in November 1881 . At the time , she was the largest and most powerful ship in the Austro @-@ Hungarian fleet , and she would keep that distinction until after the turn of the century . She was , nevertheless , a political compromise , and was much smaller than foreign casemate ships , particularly British and French vessels .

Tegetthoff 's career was rather limited , in large part due to significant problems with her engines . For the first decade of her career , she was assigned to the Active Squadron , and her crew could only keep her engines fully operational in the years 1883 , 1887 , and 1888 . Tegetthoff and an Austro @-@ Hungarian squadron that included the ironclads Custoza , Kaiser Max , Don Juan d 'Austria , and Prinz Eugen and the torpedo cruisers Panther and Leopard travelled to Barcelona , Spain , to take part in the opening ceremonies for the Barcelona Universal Exposition . This was the largest squadron of the Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy that had operated outside the Adriatic .

In 1893 ? 1894 , she was modernized and had her propulsion system updated and her armament was replaced with newer guns . Her engines were replaced with more reliable models manufactured by the German firm Schichau @-@ Werke . By this time , she was the only remotely modern ironclad in the Austrian fleet , apart from the two newly built barbette ships Kronprinz Erzherzog Rudolf and Kronprinzessin Erzherzogin Stephanie . Admiral Maximilian Daublebsky von Sterneck had replaced Pöck , and unable to secure funding for capital ships , instead tried to modernize the Austro @-@ Hungarian fleet by embracing the Jeune École doctrine .

After 1897 she was used as a guard ship in Pola . During the summer maneuvers of June 1901 , she served in the reserve squadron . The other major ships in the squadron included the new armored cruiser Kaiser Karl VI and the protected cruiser SMS Kaiser Franz Joseph I. In 1912 Tegetthoff was renamed Mars , so that her original name could be used on a new battleship launched that year . She remained in service as a guard ship after the outbreak of World War I in August 1914 . In 1917 , she was used as a school ship for midshipmen , and the following year she was reduced to a hulk . Following the end of World War I , the ship was surrendered to Italy , where she was broken up by 1920 .