

= Italian cruiser Montebello =

Montebello was the second of four Goito class torpedo cruisers built for the Italian Regia Marina (Royal Navy) in the 1880s . She was built at the Arsenale di La Spezia between September 1885 and January 1889 , when she entered service . She was armed with a variety of light guns and four 14 inch (356 mm) torpedo tubes , and was capable of a top speed of 18 knots (33 km / h ; 21 mph) . Montebello spent her active duty career with the main Italian fleet , where she frequently took part in annual training exercises . In 1903 , she was withdrawn from front line service and converted into a training ship for engine room personnel ; she served in this capacity until 1920 , when she was sold for scrap .

= = Design = =

Montebello was 73 meters (241 ft) long overall and had a beam of 7.88 m (25.85 ft) and an average draft of 3.31 m (10.86 ft) . She displaced 801 metric tons (788 long tons ; 883 short tons) normally . Her propulsion system consisted of three triple expansion steam engines each driving a single screw propeller , with steam supplied by six coal fired locomotive boilers . Exact figures for the ship 's performance have not survived , but the members of the Goito class could steam at a speed of about 18 knots (33 km / h ; 21 mph) from 2,500 to 3,180 indicated horsepower (1,860 to 2,370 kW) . Montebello had a cruising radius of 1,000 nautical miles (2,000 km ; 1,300 mi) at a speed of 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) . She had a crew of between 105 and 121 .

The primary armament for Montebello was four 14 in (356 mm) torpedo tubes . She was also equipped with six 57 mm (2.2 in) 40 caliber guns and two 37 mm (1.5 in) 20 cal. guns , all mounted singly . The ship was protected with an armored deck that was 1.5 in (38 mm) thick .

= = Service history = =

The keel for Montebello was laid down at the Arsenale di La Spezia shipyard on 25 September 1885 . She was launched on 14 March 1888 and completed on 21 January 1889 . In 1893 , Montebello was laid up in Naples for the year ; at the time , the Italian fleet mobilized only a handful of vessels for the annual training maneuvers , preferring to keep the most modern vessels in reserve to reduce maintenance costs . In 1895 , Montebello was stationed in the 2nd Maritime Department , split between Taranto and Naples , along with most of the torpedo cruisers in the Italian fleet . These included her sister ships Monzambano , Goito , and Confienza , the eight Partenope class cruisers , and Tripoli . In 1898 , Montebello was assigned to the Levant Squadron that patrolled the eastern Mediterranean . She served on the station with the ironclad battleship Sardegna , the protected cruiser Etruria , Monzambano , and the torpedo cruiser Aretusa .

Later in 1898 , Montebello was withdrawn from front line service and employed as a training ship for engine room personnel . In 1903 , her boilers were replaced with a variety of coal and oil burning boilers manufactured by Pattison , Yarrow , and Thornycroft to give trainees several types of equipment to operate . At the outbreak of the Italo Turkish War in September 1911 , Montebello was stationed in Venice along with Tripoli and Goito . None of the vessels saw action during the war . The ship did not see action after Italy entered World War I either , as both the Italian and Austro Hungarian fleets adopted cautious strategies . Montebello continued in service as a training ship until 26 January 1920 , when she was stricken from the naval register and broken up for scrap .