= Greek battleship Salamis =

Salamis (Greek : ??????? or ?????????) was a dreadnought battleship ordered for the Greek Navy from the AG Vulcan shipyard in Hamburg , Germany in 1912 . She was ordered in response to Ottoman naval expansion begun in 1911 . The ship was to have been 569 feet 11 inches (173 @.@ 7 meters) long , armed with eight 14 @-@ inch (356 mm) guns , and have had a top speed of 23 knots (43 km / h ; 26 mph) . Salamis was named after the Greek naval victory over a Persian fleet at the battle of Salamis in 480 BC .

Work began on the keel on 23 July 1913 , and the hull was launched on 11 November 1914 . Construction stopped in December 1914 , following the outbreak of World War I in August of that year . The German navy employed the unfinished ship as a floating barracks in Kiel . The armament for this ship was ordered from Bethlehem Steel in the United States and could not be delivered due to the British blockade of Germany . Bethlehem sold the guns to Britain instead and they were used to arm the four Abercrombie @-@ class monitors . The hull of the ship remained intact after the war and became the subject of a protracted legal dispute . She was finally awarded to the builders and the hull was scrapped in 1932 .

= = Design = =

= = = General characteristics = = =

Salamis was 569 feet 11 inches (173 @.@ 71 m) long at the waterline , and had a beam of 81 ft (25 m) and a draft of 25 ft (7 @.@ 6 m) . The ship was designed to displace 19 @,@ 500 t (19 @,@ 200 long tons ; 21 @,@ 500 short tons) . Had the battleship been completed , she was to have been powered by three AEG turbines , each of which drove a propeller shaft . The turbines were supplied with steam by 18 Yarrow boilers . This would have provided Salamis with 40 @,@ 000 shaft horsepower and a top speed of 23 knots (43 km / h ; 26 mph) .

= = = Armament = = =

The primary armament of the ship was eight 14 in (35 @.@ 6 cm) / 45 caliber guns mounted in four twin @-@ gun turrets . Two turrets were to be mounted in a superfiring arrangement forward of the main superstructure , with the other two mounted similarly aft of the funnels . These guns had a rate of fire of between 1 @.@ 25 and 1 @.@ 75 rounds per minute ; they were capable of firing 1 @,@ 400 lb (640 kg) armor @-@ piercing or high @-@ explosive shells . The guns were estimated to be able to fire 500 rounds before wear on the barrels would necessitate repair . The shells were fired at a muzzle velocity of around 2 @,@ 500 feet per second (762 m / s) ; at elevation of 15 ° , the guns could hit targets out to 19 @,@ 900 yards (18 @,@ 200 m) . At a range of 12 @,@ 000 yd (11 @,@ 000 m) , the shells were expected to penetrate up to 13 in (33 cm) of armor plate .

The ship 's secondary battery was to consist of twelve 6 in (15 @.@ 2 cm) / 50 guns mounted in casemates amidships , six on either side . These guns fired 105 lb (47 @.@ 7 kg) projectiles at a rate of about 6 per minute . The shells were fired at a muzzle velocity of 2 @,@ 800 f / s (853 m / s) , and had a range of 15 @,@ 000 yards (13 @,@ 720 m) at 15 ° . Salamis 's armament was rounded out by twelve 75 mm (3 @.@ 0 in) quick @-@ firing guns , also mounted in casemates , and five 50 cm (20 in) submerged torpedo tubes .

= = = Armor = = =

Salamis had an armored belt that was 9 @.@ 875 in (250 @.@ 8 mm) thick in the central section of the ship , where it protected critical areas , such as the ammunition magazines and machinery spaces . On either end of the ship , past the main battery gun turrets , the belt was decreased to 3

@.@ 875 in (98 @.@ 4 mm) thick ; the height of the belt was also decreased in these areas . The main armored deck was 2 @.@ 875 in (73 @.@ 0 mm) in the central portion of the ship , and as with the belt armor , in less important areas the thickness was decreased to 1 @.@ 5 in (38 mm) . The main battery gun turrets were protected by 9 @.@ 875 in @-@ thick armor plate on the sides and face , and the barbettes in which they were placed were protected by the same thickness of armor . The conning tower was lightly armored , with only 1 @.@ 25 in (32 mm) worth of protection .

= = Construction and cancellation = =

In the run @-@ up to the Balkan wars of 1912 ? 1913 , the Ottoman Empire ? Greece 's traditional naval rival ? set about modernizing its fleet . The first component was the order of the dreadnought Re?adiye in 1911 . The expansion of Ottoman naval power threatened Greek control of the Aegean ; to counter the Ottoman dreadnought , Greece decided to order a ship as well : the Salamis . The new battleship was ordered from the German shipbuilder AG Vulcan , based in Hamburg , in 1912 . This made Greece the fourteenth and final country to order a dreadnought battleship . The initial design called for a ship 458 ft (140 m) long with a beam of 72 ft (22 m) , a draft of 24 ft (7 @.@ 3 m) , and a displacement of 13 @,@ 500 t (13 @,@ 300 long tons ; 14 @,@ 900 short tons) . The ship was designed with 2 @-@ shaft turbines rated at 26 @,@ 000 shp for a top speed of 21 knots (39 km / h ; 24 mph) . The armament was to be six 14 inch guns in twin turrets , eight 6 inch , eight 3 in (7 @.@ 6 cm) , and four 37 mm (1 @.@ 5 in) guns , and two 45 cm (18 in) torpedo tubes . The design was revised several times ; by 23 January 1912 , it was finalized with the details specified above . The ship was to be delivered to the Greek Navy by March 1915 , at a cost of £ 1 @,@ 693 @,@ 000 . Scientific American remarked that the ship would " not mark any particular advance in warship design , being , rather , an effort to combine the greatest defensive and offensive qualities with the least cost . "

The keel was laid down on 23 July 1913 ; the hull was complete and ready for launching by 11 November 1914 , the day the ship entered the water . The main battery and secondary guns were sub @-@ contracted to Bethlehem Steel in the United States . However , the outbreak of World War I in August 1914 had drastically altered the situation ; the naval blockade of Germany emplaced by Great Britain meant that the guns could not be delivered . Work was halted on 31 December 1914 . By this time Greece had only paid AG Vulcan £ 450 @,@ 000 . Bethlehem refused to send the main battery guns to Greece . The 14 @-@ inch guns were instead sold to the British , who used them to arm the four Abercrombie @-@ class monitors . The incomplete vessel was towed to Kiel , where she was used as a barracks ship .

After the end of the war , the Greek navy refused to accept the incomplete hull , and AG Vulcan sued the Greek government in 1923 . A lengthy arbitration ensued . The Greek navy alleged that the ship was obsolete and that under the Treaty of Versailles it could not be armed by the German shipyard . The dispute went before the Greco @-@ German Mixed Arbitral Tribunal (established under Article 304 of the Treaty of Versailles) , which dragged on throughout the 1920s . In 1928 , concerns at the impending recommissioning of the Turkish battlecruiser Yavuz (ex @-@ SMS Goeben) , whose refit had just begun meant that Greece considered responding positively to an offer from Vulcan to reach a compromise , one option being to complete and modernize Salamis . On 23 April 1932 the arbitrators determined that the Greek government owed AG Vulcan £ 30 @,@ 000 , and that AG Vulcan would be awarded the hull . The ship was broken up for scrap in Bremen that year . A second Greek dreadnought , the Vasilefs Konstantinos , a slightly modified version of the French Bretagne @-@ class battleship , met a similar fate . Like Salamis , work on Vasilefs Konstantinos was halted by the outbreak of the war in August 1914 , and in the aftermath the Greek government refused to pay for the unfinished ship as well .