

= French battleship Jean Bart (1911) =

Jean Bart was the second ship of the Courbet @-@ class battleships , the first dreadnoughts built for the French Navy . She was completed before World War I as part of the 1910 naval building programme . She spent the war in the Mediterranean and helped to sink the Austro @-@ Hungarian protected cruiser Zenta on 16 August 1914 . She spent most of the rest of 1914 providing gunfire support for the Montenegrin Army until she was torpedoed by the submarine U @-@ 12 on 21 December . Even with three compartments flooded , she was able to steam to Malta on her own for repairs that required three and a half months . Upon her return she spent the remainder of the war participating in the Otranto Barrage , in the Adriatic .

After the end of World War I she and her sister ship France were sent to the Black Sea to support Allied troops in the Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War . Jean Bart 's crew mutinied out of sympathy for the Bolsheviks , but the mutiny was put down and she returned to the Mediterranean in 1920 . She was partially modernized twice during the 1920s , but was deemed in too poor condition to be refitted again in the 1930s . Therefore , she was renamed Océan , disarmed and hulked in 1936 and became a harbour training ship in Toulon . The Germans captured her intact when they occupied Toulon in 1942 and used her for testing large shaped charge warheads . She was sunk by Allied bombing in 1944 , but was raised and scrapped in 1945 .

= = Description = =

Jean Bart was 166 metres (544 ft 7 in) long overall . She had a beam of 27 metres (88 ft 7 in) and at full load a draft of 9 @. @ 04 metres (29 ft 8 in) at the bow . She displaced 23 @, @ 475 tonnes (23 @, @ 100 long tons) at standard load and 25 @, @ 579 tonnes (25 @, @ 180 long tons) at full load . She proved to be rather wet in service as she was bow @-@ heavy because of her superimposed turrets forward .

Jean Bart had four propellers powered by four Parsons direct @-@ drive steam turbines , rated at 28 @, @ 000 shaft horsepower (20 @, @ 880 kW) ; twenty @-@ four Belleville water @-@ tube boilers provided steam for her turbines . These boilers were coal @-@ burning with auxiliary oil sprayers . She had a designed speed of 21 knots (39 km / h ; 24 mph) . She carried up to 2 @, @ 700 long tons (2 @, @ 700 t) of coal and 906 long tons (921 t) of oil and could steam for 4 @, @ 200 nautical miles (7 @, @ 800 km) at a speed of 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) .

Jean Bart 's main armament consisted of twelve 305 @-@ millimetre (12 in) Mle 1910 45 @-@ calibre guns mounted in six twin gun turrets , with two turrets superimposed fore and aft , and one on each flank of the ship . For anti @-@ torpedo boat defence she carried twenty @-@ two 138 @-@ millimetre (5 @. @ 4 in) Mle 1910 guns , which were mounted in casemates . Four 47 @-@ millimetre (1 @. @ 9 in) Modèle 1902 Hotchkiss guns were fitted , two on each beam . She was also armed with four 450 @-@ millimetre (18 in) submerged Modèle 1909 torpedo tubes with twelve torpedoes .

Jean Bart 's waterline armoured belt extended well below the waterline as the French were concerned about protection from underwater hits . Her main armour was also thinner than that of her British or German counterparts , but covered more area . It was 270 millimetres (10 @. @ 6 in) thick between the fore and aft turrets and tapered to 180 mm (7 @. @ 1 in) towards the bow and stern . It extended 2 @. @ 4 metres (7 ft 10 in) below the normal waterline . Above the main belt was another belt , 180 mm thick , that covered the sides , and the secondary armament , up to the forecastle deck , 4 @. @ 5 metres (14 ft 9 in) deep , between the fore and aft turrets . The conning tower had armour 300 mm (11 @. @ 8 in) thick . The main gun turrets had 290 millimetres (11 @. @ 4 in) of armour on their faces , 250 millimetres (9 @. @ 8 in) on their sides and roofs 100 millimetres (3 @. @ 9 in) thick . Their barbettes had 280 millimetres (11 @. @ 0 in) of armour . There was no anti @-@ torpedo bulkhead although there was a longitudinal bulkhead abreast the machinery spaces that was used either as a coal bunker or left as a void .

= = Career = =

Jean Bart was built by the Arsenal de Brest at Brest . Her keel was laid down on 15 October 1910 and was launched on 22 September 1911 . She was completed on 19 November 1913 and finished her trials before World War I began the following year . Jean Bart escorted France , which was carrying the President of the French Republic , Raymond Poincaré , on a state visit to Saint Petersburg , Russia in July 1914 . They were returning from Russia when World War I began , but made it to France without encountering German ships .

Shortly after the start of the war , the commander of the Allied naval forces in the Mediterranean decided to sweep the Adriatic , to surprise the Austrian vessels enforcing a blockade of Montenegro . The Anglo @-@ French force , which included Jean Bart , succeeded in cutting off and sinking the Austro @-@ Hungarian protected cruiser Zenta in an engagement off Antivari on 16 August 1914 , although her accompanying destroyer managed to escape . Jean Bart spent most of the rest of 1914 providing gunfire support for the Montenegrin Army until she was torpedoed by the submarine U @-@ 12 off Sazan Island on 21 December . The one torpedo struck her in the wine store just before the forward magazine . She was able to steam to Malta on her own for repairs that required three and a half months , but this attack forced the battleships to fall back to either Malta or Bizerte . After the French occupied the neutral Greek island of Corfu in 1916 the ships moved forward to Corfu and Argostoli , but their activities were very limited as many of their crews were used to man anti @-@ submarine ships . In 1918 , she served off Greece . Before the end of the war she was fitted with seven 75 @-@ millimetre (3 in) Mle 1897 anti @-@ aircraft (AA) guns in single mounts . These guns were adaptations of the famous French Mle 97 75 mm field gun .

In April 1919 , while Jean Bart was helping to defend Sevastopol from the advancing Bolsheviks , her crew mutinied , along with that of the France , but the mutiny collapsed when Vice @-@ Admiral Jean @-@ Françoise @-@ Charles Amet agreed to meet the mutineers ' main demand to take the ships home . Three crewmen were sentenced to prison terms upon her return , although the sentences were commuted in 1922 as part of a bargain between Prime Minister Raymond Poincaré and the parties of the Left . The ship returned to Toulon in 1920 and received the first of her two refits between 12 October 1923 and 29 January 1925 . This included replacing one set of boilers with oil @-@ fired boilers , trunking together her two forward funnels , increasing the maximum elevation of the main armament from 12 ° to 23 ° , removal of her bow armour to make her more seaworthy , the installation of a fire @-@ control director , with a 4 @-@ 57 metres (15 @-@ 0 ft) rangefinder , atop the new tripod foremast , and the replacement of her Mle 1897 AA guns with four Mle 1918 guns and 24 8 @-@ millimetre (0 @-@ 31 in) machine guns .

Jean Bart was refitted again between 7 August 1929 and 29 September 1931 . This was much more extensive than her earlier refit as another set of boilers was converted to oil @-@ firing , her direct @-@ drive cruising turbines were replaced by geared turbines and her fire @-@ control systems were comprehensively upgraded . A large cruiser @-@ type fire @-@ control director was added atop the foremast with a 4 @-@ 57 @-@ m coincidence rangefinder and a 3 @-@ metre (9 ft 10 in) stereo rangefinder . The rangefinder above the conning tower was replaced by a duplex unit carrying two 4 @-@ 57 @-@ m rangefinders and another 4 @-@ 57 @-@ m rangefinder was added in an armoured hood next to the main mast . Two directors for the secondary guns were added on the navigation bridge , each with a 2 @-@ metre (6 ft 7 in) coincidence rangefinder . A 8 @-@ 2 metres (26 ft 11 in) rangefinder was added to the roof of ' B ' turret , the second one from the bow . Her Mle 1897 AA guns were exchanged for Mle 1918 guns and they were provided with three 1 @-@ 5 @-@ metre (4 ft 11 in) rangefinders , one on top of the duplex unit on the conning tower , one on ' B ' turret and one in the aft superstructure . Her condition was poor enough that she was not thought to be worth the expense of a third refit like those her sisters were given . She was hulked , disarmed and became a harbour training ship in 1936 . She was renamed Océan that year to free her name for use by the new Richelieu @-@ class battleship Jean Bart then being constructed .

The new Océan was captured intact by the Germans on 27 November 1942 , the day the French Fleet was scuttled . The Germans used her for experiments with very large shaped charge warheads as delivered by the Mistel composite aircraft . She was sunk by Allied aircraft in 1944 and

later raised for scrapping beginning on 14 December 1945 .