

= German submarine U 36 (1936) =

German submarine U 36 was a Type VIIA U boat of Nazi Germany 's Kriegsmarine which served during World War II . She was constructed in the earliest days of the U boat arm at Kiel in 1936 , and served in the pre war Navy in the Baltic Sea and North Sea under Kapitänleutnant (Kptlt .) Klaus Ewerth . Korvettenkapitän (K.Kapt.) Wilhelm Fröhlich took command in October 1938 and continued in the role until the boat was lost .

During the war , U 36 undertook two patrols , but was sunk by a torpedo fired by HMS Salmon . She was lost with all hands .

= = Construction and design = =

= = = Construction = = =

U 36 was ordered by the Kriegsmarine on 25 March 1935 as part of the German Plan Z and in violation of the Treaty of Versailles . Her keel was laid down in the AG Weser shipyard in Bremen as yard number 559 on 2 March 1936 . After about eight months of construction , she was launched on 4 November 1936 and commissioned on 16 December under the command of Kptlt . Klaus Ewerth .

= = = Design = = =

Like all Type VIIA submarines , U 36 displaced 626 tonnes (616 long tons) while surfaced and 745 t (733 long tons) when submerged . She was 64 . 51 m (211 ft 8 in) in overall length and had a 45 . 50 m (149 ft 3 in) pressure hull . U 36 's propulsion consisted of two MAN 6 cylinder 4 stroke M6V 40 / 46 diesel engines that totaled 2 , 100 ? 2 , 310 PS (1 , 540 ? 1 , 700 kW ; 2 , 070 ? 2 , 280 bhp) . Her maximum rpm was between 470 and 485 . The submarine was also equipped with two Brown , Boveri & Cie GG UB 720 / 8 electric motors that totaled 750 PS (550 kW ; 740 shp) . Their maximum rpm was 322 . These engines gave U 36 a total speed of 17 knots (31 km / h ; 20 mph) while surfaced and 8 knots (15 km / h ; 9 . 2 mph) when submerged . This resulted in a range of 6 , 200 nmi (11 , 500 km ; 7 , 100 mi) while traveling at 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) on the surface and 73 ? 94 nmi (135 ? 174 km ; 84 ? 108 mi) at 4 knots (7 . 4 km / h ; 4 . 6 mph) when submerged . The U boat 's test depth was 220 m (720 ft) but she could go as deep as 230 ? 250 m (750 ? 820 ft) without having her hull crushed .

U 36 's armament consisted of five 53 . 3 cm (21 in) torpedo tubes (four located in the bow and one in the stern) . She could have up to 11 torpedoes on board or 22 TMA or 33 TMB mines . U 36 was also equipped with a 8 . 8 cm SK C / 35 naval gun and had 220 rounds for it stowed on board . Her anti aircraft defenses consisted of one 2 cm (0 . 79 in) anti aircraft gun .

= = Service history = =

= = = First patrol = = =

U 36 was at sea when the war broke out , having set out from Wilhelmshaven on 31 August 1939 . She arrived in Kiel on 6 September and the following day departed for her first war patrol . She then patrolled the North Sea for three weeks , hoping to catch ships traveling between Britain and Scandinavia carrying war supplies . During this patrol , the boat sank two steamers , Truro and Silesia ? one British and the other from neutral Sweden ? carrying British produce .

Seahorse , a British submarine , later fired on U 36 and subsequently claimed to have sunk

her , although in fact the torpedo missed . On 27 September Fröhlich and his crew captured another Swedish vessel , Algeria , which he proceeded to escort back to Germany as the patrol came to an end . She returned to her berth in Kiel at the end of September , where she remained until December . During her first patrol , U @-@ 36 was also credited with having laid the mine that sank the Norwegian freighter , Solaas .

= = = Second patrol = = =

On 17 November 1939 , Naval High Command (SKL) issued orders for U @-@ 36 and U @-@ 38 to scout the location for Basis Nord , a secret German naval base for raids on Allied shipping located off the Kola Peninsula and provided by the Soviet Union . The mission required coded messages to be flashed to Soviet naval vessels patrolling the area preceding a Soviet escort to the prospective base location .

However , U @-@ 36 never left the Norwegian Sea . On 4 December 1939 , two days out of Wilhelmshaven , she was spotted on the surface near the Norwegian port of Stavanger by the British submarine Salmon . Salmon then fired one torpedo at her unwitting counterpart . It sank U @-@ 36 , all 40 of the sailors aboard were lost . During the same patrol , the Salmon also torpedoed the light cruisers Leipzig and Nürnberg .

Following the loss of U @-@ 36 , U @-@ 38 continued towards the Kola Peninsula , successfully reaching the location and accomplished the scouting mission for Basis Nord .

= = Summary of raiding history = =