

= German cruiser Nürnberg =

Nürnberg was a German light cruiser of the Leipzig class built for the Kriegsmarine . She was named after the city of Nuremberg and had one sister ship , Leipzig . Nürnberg was laid down in 1934 , launched in December of that year , and completed in November 1935 . She was armed with a main battery of nine 15 cm (5 @. @ 9 in) guns in three triple turrets and could steam at a speed of 32 knots (59 km / h ; 37 mph) . Nürnberg was the longest @-@ serving major warship of the Kriegsmarine , and the only one to see active service after the end of World War II , though not in a German navy .

In the late 1930s , Nürnberg took part in the non @-@ intervention patrols during the Spanish Civil War without major incident . After the outbreak of World War II in September 1939 , she was used to lay defensive minefields off the German coast . She was thereafter used to escort offensive mine @-@ layers in the North Sea until she was torpedoed by a British submarine in December 1939 . She was thereafter used as a training ship in the Baltic Sea for most of the rest of the war , apart from a short deployment to Norway from November 1942 to April 1943 . In January 1945 , she was assigned to mine @-@ laying duties in the Skaggerak , but severe shortages of fuel permitted only one such operation .

After the end of the war , Nürnberg was seized by the Royal Navy and ultimately awarded to the Soviet Union as war reparations . In December 1945 , a Soviet crew took over the ship , and the following month took her to Tallinn , where she was renamed Admiral Makarov . She served in the Soviet Navy , first in the 8th Fleet , then as a training cruiser based in Kronstadt . By 1960 , she had been broken up for scrap .

= = Design = =

Nürnberg was 181 @. @ 3 meters (595 ft) long overall and had a beam of 16 @. @ 3 m (53 ft) and a maximum draft of 5 @. @ 74 m (18 @. @ 8 ft) forward . She displaced 9 @, @ 040 metric tons (8 @, @ 900 long tons ; 9 @, @ 960 short tons) at full combat load . Her propulsion system consisted of two steam turbines and four MAN two @-@ stroke double @-@ acting diesel engines . Steam for the turbines was provided by six Marine @-@ type double @-@ ended oil @-@ fired boilers . The ship 's propulsion system provided a top speed of 32 knots (59 km / h ; 37 mph) and a range of approximately 3 @, @ 900 nautical miles (7 @, @ 200 km ; 4 @, @ 500 mi) at 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) using only the diesel engines . Nürnberg had a crew of 25 officers and 648 enlisted men . She was fitted with a catapult and a crane to handle two Heinkel He 60 floatplanes , though these were later replaced with Arado Ar 196 models .

The ship was armed with nine 15 cm SK C / 25 guns mounted in three triple gun turrets . One was located forward , and two were placed in a superfiring pair aft , all on the centerline . They were supplied with between 1 @, @ 080 and 1 @, @ 500 rounds of ammunition , for between 120 and 166 shells per gun . The ship was also equipped with eight 8 @. @ 8 cm SK C / 32 anti @-@ aircraft guns , eight 3 @. @ 7 cm SK C / 30 anti @-@ aircraft guns , and several 2 cm anti @-@ aircraft guns , though the number of the latter changed over her career . Nürnberg also carried four triple torpedo tube mounts located amidships ; they were supplied with twenty @-@ four 50 cm (20 in) torpedoes . She was also capable of carrying 120 naval mines . The ship was protected by an armored deck that was 30 mm (1 @. @ 2 in) thick amidships and an armored belt that was 50 mm (2 @. @ 0 in) thick . The conning tower had 100 mm (3 @. @ 9 in) thick sides .

= = = Modifications = = =

After the outbreak of war , the ship was fitted with a degaussing coil to protect her against magnetic mines . In 1942 , the ship 's aircraft handling equipment and aft torpedo tubes were removed . Throughout the war , her radar suite was upgraded ; in March 1941 , she was equipped with FuMO 21 radar and in early 1942 , a FuMO 25 radar set was installed . The latter was a search radar for surface targets and low @-@ flying aircraft at low range . The FuMO 21 set was replaced by the

short @-@ range FuMO 63 Hohentwiel 50 @-@ centimeter radar . Nürnberg was also fitted with four Metox radar warning receivers .

The ship 's anti @-@ aircraft battery was improved over the course of World War II . In late 1942 , a pair of Army @-@ variant 2 cm Flakvierling quadruple mounts were installed , one on the navigating bridge and the other on top of the aft superfiring turret . In May 1944 , the navy proposed installing several Bofors 40 mm guns , but most of these weapons were diverted to other uses , and only two guns were installed . One was mounted on the bridge and the other where the catapult had been located . Two Navy @-@ pattern Flakvierlings were added ; one replaced the Army model atop the aft superfiring turret , and the other was placed in front of the anti @-@ aircraft fire director . The Army @-@ pattern Flakvierlings were moved to the main deck . In December 1944 , another revised anti @-@ aircraft plan was proposed , this time incorporating the new 3 @. @ 7 cm FlaK 43 gun , of which there were to be eight , along with two Flakvierlings and ten 2 cm twin mounts . Germany 's wartime situation by the end of 1944 prevented these changes from being made , however .

= = Service history = =

Nürnberg was laid down in 1934 at the Deutsche Werke shipyard in Kiel . She was launched on 6 December 1934 and completed in less than a year , being commissioned on 2 November 1935 . The ship thereafter worked up in the Baltic Sea until April 1936 , when she joined Köln and Leipzig for a training cruise into the Atlantic . At this time , she was made the flagship of the reconnaissance forces of the German Navy . The three cruisers then returned to the Baltic for additional maneuvers . Nürnberg participated the non @-@ intervention patrols during the Spanish Civil War of 1936 ? 39 . On her initial deployment in 1936 , she flew the flag of Konteradmiral Hermann Boehm . Over the course of the conflict , Nürnberg conducted four patrols off Spain , but did not encounter any belligerent forces , with the exception of a claimed attack by an unidentified submarine south of the Balearic Islands on 16 July 1937 .

In September 1937 , Nürnberg took part in fleet maneuvers with the heavy cruisers Admiral Graf Spee and Deutschland , the light cruisers Leipzig and Karlsruhe , and several destroyers . The first three months of 1938 were spent in the Baltic , after which Nürnberg went into dock for a periodic refit . In June , she went on a training cruise to Norway and returned to Germany the following month . In August , she was present at the fleet review held in Kiel for Adolf Hitler and the visiting regent of Hungary , Miklós Horthy . Nürnberg joined the fleet that was sent to Memel in March 1939 to seize the region . After completing the occupation , Nürnberg joined Admiral Graf Spee , Leipzig , and Köln for a training cruise to the Mediterranean Sea , which included several stops in Spanish ports . After returning to Germany in May , she resumed training in the Baltic .

= = = World War II = = =

At the outbreak of World War II on 1 September 1939 , Nürnberg was assigned to the blockade force that was intended to prevent the Polish Navy from escaping the Baltic . Despite the Germans ' efforts , several Polish destroyers and submarines escaped to Britain , where they continued the war . On 3 September , Nürnberg and the rest of the cruisers were withdrawn to the North Sea to lay a series of defensive minefields to protect the German coastline . She returned to the Baltic for training exercises in October . The following month , she was transferred back to the North Sea , where she was tasked with escorting destroyers laying minefields off the British coast . On 4 ? 6 December , the ship conducted a mining operation off Kristiansand , Norway .

On 13 December , while escorting a group of destroyers returning from a mine @-@ laying operation off the British coast , the Royal Navy submarine HMS Salmon launched a spread of torpedoes at the German flotilla . Two torpedo tracks were spotted heading toward Nürnberg , and the ship turned hard to port in an attempt to evade them . One passed harmlessly ahead of the ship , but the second struck her in the bow . Nürnberg reduced speed to 12 knots (22 km / h ; 14 mph) to allow her crew to inspect the damage , when three more torpedo tracks were spotted to port . The ship immediately accelerated to full speed and turned to starboard ; the torpedoes exploded in the

cruiser 's wake . The hit caused some minor flooding and minimal damage , but her watertight bulkheads held . The Germans spotted Salmon and briefly engaged her with Nürnberg 's rearmost main battery turret , but to no effect . Nürnberg thereafter got underway at a speed of 18 knots (33 km / h ; 21 mph) and made for port . HMS Ursula unsuccessfully attacked the damaged cruiser the following day , just before she entered the Kiel Canal at Brunsbüttel . After arriving in Kiel , Nürnberg went into drydock at Deutsche Werke for repairs , which lasted until April 1940 .

In early June 1940 , Nürnberg 's commander , Kapitän zur See (KzS) Otto Klüber , was informed that the ship would not participate in Operation Juno , a sortie by the battleships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst . Instead , she was transferred to Norway , departing Kiel on 10 June under the escort of the torpedo boats Falke and Jaguar . On 12 June , the torpedo boats were sent to Stavanger for fuel , and in the meantime , Nürnberg steamed a zig @-@ zag course at 27 knots (50 km / h ; 31 mph) to evade any submarines that might be in the area . The following day , the 2nd Minesweeper Flotilla took over her escort duty off Trondheim . On 17 June , Nürnberg reached Narvik , which was to be her base for the next month . During this period , one of her Arado Ar 196 floatplanes unsuccessfully attacked a British submarine . This was the only action the ship saw while in Norway . On 25 July , Nürnberg and several destroyers and torpedo boats escorted the damaged battleship Gneisenau , which had been torpedoed by a British submarine , from Trondheim , Norway , to Kiel . The flotilla arrived in Kiel on 28 July .

On 8 August , KzS Leo Kreisch replaced Klüber as the ship 's commander . Nürnberg spent the rest of the year in the Baltic . The Italian Admiral Mavagini visited the ship while she was in Gotenhafen in September . A short refit was conducted at Deutsche Werke in October and November . On 15 February 1941 , she was reclassified as a training cruiser and assigned to the Fleet Training Squadron , along with the other surviving light cruisers . These ships were tasked with training the crews for the U @-@ boat arm , which was expanding rapidly to wage the Battle of the Atlantic . At the start of this period , many of her crewmen were themselves transferred to the U @-@ boat fleet . After the outbreak of war with the Soviet Union in June 1941 , Nürnberg was reassigned to the Baltic Fleet , which was centered on the new battleship Tirpitz . After it became clear that the Soviet Baltic Fleet did not intend to sortie , the German ships were dispersed . Nürnberg returned to her training duties for the remainder of the year . Another refit was conducted in January 1942 ; during this period , her aircraft equipment and aft torpedo tubes were removed , and her light anti @-@ aircraft armament was increased . Allied air raids caused some damage , which delayed her return to service until 23 August .

She thereafter conducted sea trials until October , after which she was deployed to Norway . On 11 November , Nürnberg left Gotenhafen , bound for Trondheim . She arrived there on 18 November , and remained there until she was transferred to Bogen Bay outside Narvik on 2 December . There , she joined the fleet in being , which was , again , centered on Tirpitz . Nürnberg saw no action during this period . On 27 April 1943 , Nürnberg left Narvik for German waters via Trondheim . After arriving in Kiel on 3 May , she had her machinery overhauled . After the work was completed in late May , she was assigned to the Training Squadron in the Baltic . Frequent crew changes kept the ship at a very low state of readiness . She remained in this duty through 1944 , and she saw no action . She was not assigned to the shore bombardment units that supported the retreating German Army on the Eastern Front , unlike most of the other ships of the Training Squadron .

At the start of 1945 , she was assigned to mine @-@ laying duty in the Skaggerak , and was based in Oslo , Norway . She completed only one mine @-@ laying operation , Operation Titus , on 13 January . The forces assigned to the operation included two destroyers , two torpedo boats , and a mine @-@ layer ; Nürnberg herself carried 130 mines . Severe fuel shortages prevented any further operations . On 24 January , she steamed to Copenhagen , where she remained until the end of the war , as she had only 270 long tons (270 t) of synthetic fuel oil aboard . On 5 May 1945 , she received the ceasefire order , and on 22 May , the British cruisers HMS Devonshire and HMS Dido arrived to take over Nürnberg .

== = Post @-@ war service == =

On 24 May , Nürnberg and the heavy cruiser Prinz Eugen sailed from Copenhagen under escort by Devonshire , Dido , and several other warships . The flotilla arrived in Wilhelmshaven on 28 May , and the German vessels remained there while their fates were determined at the Potsdam Conference . The Allies eventually decided to award Nürnberg to the Soviet Union . To prevent the Germans from scuttling their ships as they had done in 1919 , the Allies formally seized the vessels on 19 December , while Nürnberg was in drydock . That day , the ship 's Soviet crew came aboard . On 2 January , the Soviets took their seized warships , which also included the target ship Hessen , Hessen 's radio @-@ control vessel Blitz , the destroyer Z15 Erich Steinbrinck , and the torpedo boats T33 and T107 , to Libau in present @-@ day Latvia .

The Soviet Navy examined the ship in great detail after she arrived in Libau . The cruiser was then renamed Admiral Makarov and assigned to the 8th Fleet , based in Tallinn . In late 1948 , she became the flagship of the 8th Fleet , under the command of Vice Admiral F. V. Zozulya . In the early 1950s , three new Chapayev @-@ class cruisers entered service , which prompted the Soviet Navy to withdraw Admiral Makarov from front line duties . She returned to her old job as a training cruiser , this time based in Kronstadt in mid @-@ 1954 . During this period , most of her light anti @-@ aircraft armament was removed , and new radars were installed . Her ultimate fate is unclear ; she appears to have been placed out of service by May 1959 , and was scrapped some time thereafter , reportedly by mid @-@ 1960 . Nevertheless , she was the longest @-@ surviving major warship of the Kriegsmarine , and the only one to see active service after the end of the war .