

= Russian cruiser Pallada ( 1906 ) =

Pallada ( Russian : ??????? ) was the last of the four Bayan @-@ class armored cruisers built for the Imperial Russian Navy in the first decade of the 20th century . She was assigned to the Baltic Fleet during World War I where she captured codebooks from the German cruiser Magdeburg that had run aground during the first month of the war . The ship was torpedoed by a German submarine in October 1914 and exploded ; none of the crew survived . Pallada was the first warship lost by the Russians during the war .

= = Design and description = =

Pallada was 449 @.@ 6 feet ( 137 @.@ 0 m ) long overall . She had a maximum beam of 57 @.@ 5 feet ( 17 @.@ 5 m ) , a draught of 26 feet ( 7 @.@ 9 m ) and displaced 7 @,@ 750 long tons ( 7 @,@ 870 t ) . The ship had a crew of 568 officers and men . Pallada was named in honour of the earlier Russian cruiser captured by the Japanese during the Russo @-@ Japanese War . Both ships were named for the Greek goddess , Pallas Athena .

The ship had two vertical triple @-@ expansion steam engines with a designed total of 16 @,@ 500 indicated horsepower ( 12 @,@ 304 kW ) , but they developed 19 @,@ 320 indicated horsepower ( 14 @,@ 410 kW ) on sea trials and drove the ship to a maximum speed of 22 @.@ 55 knots ( 41 @.@ 76 km / h ; 25 @.@ 95 mph ) . Steam for the engines was provided by 26 Belleville boilers . She could carry a maximum of 1 @,@ 100 long tons ( 1 @,@ 118 t ) of coal , although her range is unknown .

Pallada 's main armament consisted of two 8 @-@ inch ( 203 mm ) 45 @-@ calibre guns in single turrets fore and aft . Her eight 6 @-@ inch ( 152 mm ) gun were mounted in casemates on the sides of the ship 's hull . Anti @-@ torpedo boat defense was provided by 20 75 @-@ millimetre ( 3 @.@ 0 in ) 50 @-@ calibre guns ; eight of these were mounted in casemates on the side of the hull and in the superstructure . The remaining guns were located above the six @-@ inch gun casemates in pivot mounts with gun shields . Pallada also mounted four 47 @-@ millimetre ( 1 @.@ 9 in ) Hotchkiss guns . The ship also had two submerged 15 @-@ inch ( 381 mm ) torpedo tubes , one mounted on each broadside .

The ship used Krupp armour throughout . Her waterline belt was 190 millimetres ( 7 @.@ 5 in ) thick over her machinery spaces . Fore and aft , it reduced to 90 millimetres ( 3 @.@ 5 in ) . The upper belt and the casemates were 60 millimetres ( 2 @.@ 4 in ) thick . The armour deck was 50 millimetres ( 2 in ) thick ; over the central battery it was a single plate , but elsewhere it consisted of a 30 @-@ millimetre ( 1 @.@ 2 in ) plate over two 10 @-@ millimetre ( 0 @.@ 39 in ) plates . The gun turrets were protected by 132 millimetres ( 5 @.@ 2 in ) of armour and the conning tower had walls 136 millimetres ( 5 @.@ 4 in ) thick .

= = Service = =

Pallada was built by the Admiralty Shipyard in Saint Petersburg . Construction began on 24 June 1905 , although she was not formally laid down until August , and the ship was launched on 10 November 1906 . Pallada was completed in February 1911 . She spent her entire career with the Baltic Fleet .

On 26 August 1914 , during the first month of World War I , the German light cruiser Magdeburg ran aground near the island of Odensholm in the Gulf of Finland . Her escort , the destroyer V @-@ 26 , failed to pull her off and rescued part of the crew before Pallada and the protected cruiser Bogatyr appeared and opened fire . The Germans blew up the front part of the ship , but failed to demolish the rest of the ship . They failed to destroy their naval codebooks , which were discovered by the Russians . A copy was later given to the British where it proved enormously helpful in reading German wireless traffic . Together with the armoured cruiser Rurik , Pallada unsuccessfully searched for German ships between Bornholm and Danzig on the night of 27 August . Less than two months later , on 11 October , she was torpedoed by the German submarine U @-@ 26 and

blew up with the loss of all hands , the first Russian warship sunk during the war .

= = Wreck = =

On 6 October 2012 the Finnish newspaper Helsingin Sanomat reported that the wreck of Pallada had been discovered by a diver group outside Hanko near the coast of Finland in 2000 , but the group had waited until 2012 before publishing their find .

The ship is lying in three pieces , all upside @-@ down , at a depth of about 40 to 50 metres ( 130 to 160 ft ) . Although the wreck was severely damaged during the sinking and is now covered in silt , a number of details such as a large wooden emblem of the Russian double @-@ headed eagle are still intact . One of the eight @-@ inch turrets is resting on the seafloor next to the bow section .

On 6 September 2013 , Helsingin Sanomat reported that the previously largely untouched wreck of Pallada had been looted .