

= Yugoslav submarine Neboj?a =

The Yugoslav submarine Neboj?a was the second of the Hrabri @-@ class diesel @-@ electric submarines built by the Vickers @-@ Armstrong Naval Yard on the River Tyne in the United Kingdom , for the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes (later Yugoslavia) and was launched in 1927 . Her design was based on that of the British L @-@ class submarine of World War I , and she was built using parts originally assembled for a Royal Navy L @-@ class submarine that was never built . She was armed with six bow @-@ mounted 533 mm (21 in) torpedo tubes , two 102 mm (4 in) guns and one machine gun , and could dive to 60 metres (200 ft) .

Prior to World War II Neboj?a participated in cruises to several Mediterranean ports . During the German @-@ led Axis invasion of Yugoslavia in April 1941 , she evaded capture by Italian forces , and joined British naval forces in the Mediterranean where she performed a training role . After the war she was taken over by the new Yugoslav government and renamed Tara . She was eventually stricken in 1954 , and scrapped in 1958 .

= = Description and construction = =

Yugoslav naval policy in the interwar period lacked direction until the mid @-@ 1920s , although it was generally accepted that the Adriatic coastline was effectively a sea frontier that the naval arm was responsible for securing with the limited resources made available to it . In 1926 , a modest ten @-@ year construction program was initiated to build up a force of submarines , coastal torpedo boats , torpedo bombers and conventional bomber aircraft to perform this role . The Hrabri @-@ class submarines were one of the first new acquisitions aimed at developing a naval force capable of meeting this challenge .

Neboj?a (Fearless) was built in 1927 for the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes (later Yugoslavia) , by the Vickers @-@ Armstrong Naval Yard on the River Tyne in the United Kingdom . Her design was based on that of the British L @-@ class submarine of World War I , and she was built using parts originally assembled for HMS L @-@ 68 , which was never completed . Along with her sister submarine Hrabri , she had an overall length of 72 @. @ 05 metres (236 ft 5 in) , a beam of 7 @. @ 32 m (24 ft 0 in) , and a surfaced draught of 3 @. @ 96 m (13 ft 0 in) . Her surfaced displacement was 975 long tons (991 t) or 1 @, @ 164 long tons (1 @, @ 183 t) submerged , and her crew consisted of 45 officers and enlisted men . She had an operational depth of 60 m (200 ft) .

The Hrabri @-@ class had two shafts driven by two diesel engines (when surfaced) or two electric motors (when submerged) . Their diesel engines were rated at 2 @, @ 400 brake horsepower (1 @, @ 800 kW) and the electric motors at 1 @, @ 600 shaft horsepower (1 @, @ 200 kW) , and they were designed to reach a top speed of 15 @. @ 7 knots (29 @. @ 1 km / h ; 18 @. @ 1 mph) under diesel power while surfaced , and 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) on their electric motors when submerged . They were armed with six bow @-@ mounted 533 mm (21 in) torpedo tubes , and carried twelve torpedoes . They were also equipped with two 102 mm (4 in) deck guns (one forward and one aft of the conning tower) , and one machine gun . Their radius of action was 3 @, @ 800 nautical miles (7 @, @ 000 km ; 4 @, @ 400 mi) at 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) .

= = Service career = =

Neboj?a was launched in 1927 as the second submarine of the navy of the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes , which later became the Royal Yugoslav Navy . Along with her sister submarine Hrabri , she left the Tyne in late January 1928 . In company with the Yugoslav submarine tender Hvar , the two submarines arrived in the Bay of Kotor on the southern Adriatic coast on 8 April 1928 . In May and June 1929 , Hrabri , Neboj?a , Hvar and six torpedo boats accompanied the light cruiser Dalmacija on a cruise to Malta , the Greek island of Corfu in the Ionian Sea , and Bizerte in the French protectorate of Tunisia . The British naval attach  observed that the ships and crews made a very good impression while visiting Malta . On 16 May 1930 , Neboj?a was exercising her

crew at periscope depth near the entrance to the Bay of Kotor when she collided with a Yugoslav steamship . The damage was not serious and there were no injuries , but her forward 102 mm gun was lost overboard . The necessary repairs were carried out at the dockyard in the Bay of Kotor .

In June and July 1930 , Hrabri , Neboj?a and the fleet auxiliary Sitnica again cruised the Mediterranean , visiting Alexandria and Beirut . In 1932 , the British naval attach  reported that Yugoslav ships engaged in few exercises , manoeuvres or gunnery training due to reduced budgets . In September 1933 , Neboj?a and the submarine Osvetnik cruised the southern part of the central Mediterranean . In August 1936 , Neboj?a and Osvetnik visited the Greek island of Corfu .

During the German @-@ led Axis invasion of Yugoslavia in April 1941 , she and two Orjen @-@ class motor torpedo boats evaded capture by Italian forces at the Bay of Kotor , arriving at Suda Bay , Crete , on 23 April , after eight days at sea . Despite this , the Italians claimed that they had sunk all the Yugoslav vessels . Neboj?a then sailed to Alexandria , but the Royal Navy considered her unfit for combat duties . British Prime Minister Winston Churchill suggested her crew might be retrained and used to operate the recently captured German Type VIIC U @-@ boat U @-@ 570 , but this idea was soon abandoned . She was based at Valletta in Malta as an anti @-@ submarine warfare training vessel , serving with the British 2nd Submarine Flotilla in 1942 and the British 3rd Submarine Flotilla in 1943 . She continued working in the Mediterranean until the end of the war , but her service with the Royal Navy appears to have been limited to a training role .

After the war she was towed first to Bari in Italy , then in August 1945 to the port of Split where she was overhauled , renamed Tara and given the pennant number 801 . She was then transferred to Pula on the Istrian peninsula in the northern Adriatic . Used to train the fledgling Yugoslav Navy submarine arm , she was stricken in 1954 . One of her guns was removed at the end of her career , and she was eventually scrapped in 1958 .

= = Legacy = =

In 2011 , to mark the 70th anniversary of the invasion of Yugoslavia , the Military Museum in Belgrade , Serbia hosted an exhibit which included a flag from the Neboj?a . In April 2013 , the 85th anniversary of the arrival of the first Yugoslav submarines at the Bay of Kotor was marked by an event in Tivat , Montenegro , attended by dozens of former Yugoslav submariners .

= = = Books = = =

= = = Periodicals = = =

= = = Websites = = =