

= German submarine U 41 (1939) =

The German submarine U 41 was a Type IXA U boat of Nazi Germany 's Kriegsmarine that operated during World War II . She conducted three war patrols during her short career , two as part of the 6th U boat Flotilla and one as part of the 2nd flotilla . U 41 also sank five enemy vessels for a total of 22 @, 815 gross register tons (GRT) ; captured two more for a total of 2 @, 073 GRT and damaged one other of 8 @, 096 GRT .

On 5 February 1940 , U 41 was hit by depth charges from the British A class destroyer HMS Antelope after sinking two enemy merchant vessels and was sunk off the south coast of Ireland . All 49 of her crew members were lost with the boat .

= = Construction = =

U 41 was ordered by the Kriegsmarine on 21 November 1936 (as part of Plan Z and in violation of the Treaty of Versailles) . She was laid down on 27 November 1937 by AG Weser , Bremen as yard number 946 . She was launched on 28 January 1939 and commissioned on 22 April of that same year under the command of Oberleutnant zur See Gustav Adolf Mugler .

= = Design = =

As one of the eight original German Type IX submarines , later designated IXA , U 41 had a displacement of 1 @, 032 tonnes (1 @, 016 long tons) when at the surface and 1 @, 153 tonnes (1 @, 135 long tons) while submerged . The U boat had a total length of 76 @. 50 m (251 ft) , a pressure hull length of 58 @. 75 m (192 ft 9 in) , a beam of 6 @. 51 m (21 ft 4 in) , a height of 9 @. 40 m (30 ft 10 in) , and a draught of 4 @. 70 m (15 ft 5 in) . The submarine was powered by two MAN M 9 V 40 / 46 supercharged four @- stroke , nine @- cylinder diesel engines producing a total of 4 @, 400 metric horsepower (3 @, 240 kW ; 4 @, 340 shp) for use while surfaced , two Siemens @- Schuckert 2 GU 345 / 34 double @- acting electric motors producing a total of 1 @, 000 metric horsepower (740 kW ; 990 shp) for use while submerged . She had two shafts and two 1 @. 92 m (6 ft) propellers . The boat was capable of operating at depths of up to 230 metres (750 ft) .

The submarine had a maximum surface speed of 18 @. 2 knots (33 @. 7 km / h ; 20 @. 9 mph) and a maximum submerged speed of 7 @. 7 knots (14 @. 3 km / h ; 8 @. 9 mph) . When submerged , the boat could operate for 65 ? 78 nautical miles (120 ? 144 km ; 75 ? 90 mi) at 4 knots (7 @. 4 km / h ; 4 @. 6 mph) ; when surfaced , she could travel 10 @, 500 nautical miles (19 @, 400 km ; 12 @, 100 mi) at 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) . U 41 was fitted with six 53 @. 3 cm (21 in) torpedo tubes (four fitted at the bow and two at the stern) , 22 torpedoes , one 10 @. 5 cm (4 @. 13 in) SK C / 32 naval gun , 180 rounds , and a 3 @. 7 cm (1 @. 5 in) as well as a 2 cm (0 @. 79 in) anti @- aircraft gun . The boat had a complement of forty @- eight .

= = Service history = =

During her service in the Kriegsmarine , U 41 sank five commercial ships for 22 @, 815 gross register tons (GRT) ; damaged one commercial vessel of 8 @, 096 GRT and captured two ships totalling 2 @, 073 GRT .

= = 1st Patrol = =

U 41 left Wilhelmshaven on 19 August 1939 , before World War II began . Her first patrol involved traveling as far south as Portugal after entering the North Sea and circumnavigating the British Isles . During this patrol , two ships were captured : the Finnish Vega , of 974 tons , and the 1 @, 099 @- ton Suomen Poika . U 41 then returned to Wilhelmshaven , arriving on 17

September 1939 .

== 2nd Patrol ==

U @-@ 41 left Wilhelmshaven with Mugler in command once again on 7 November 1939 . On 12 November , both the 275 ton British vessel Cresswell and the 11 @, @ 019 ton Norwegian ship Arne Kjøde were sunk by torpedoes . The 1 @, @ 351 @-@ ton British merchant vessel Darino went to the bottom on the 19th . The last enemy vessel to be sunk by U @-@ 41 was the French vessel Les Barges II . She displaced a total of 296 tons and was sunk by a single torpedo on 21 November . The U @-@ boat then returned to port on 7 December 1939 .

== 3rd Patrol ==

U @-@ 41 left the port of Helgoland on 27 January 1940 with Mugler still in command . During her final patrol , one enemy ship was sunk and one was damaged ; both of these attacks took place on 5 February . The first ship that was hit was the 8 @, @ 096 @-@ ton Dutch vessel Ceronia . The Ceronia was damaged and the 9 @, @ 874 @-@ ton British ship Beaverburn was sunk . Nevertheless U @-@ 41 did not return to her home port , she was sunk on the same day .

== Fate ==

Following the attacks on the Dutch Ceronia and the British Beaverburn on 5 February 1940 , U @-@ 41 was attacked by the British A class destroyer HMS Antelope with depth charges . She was hit and sunk off the south coast of Ireland . All 49 of her crew members were lost with the boat during the attack .

== Summary of raiding history ==