

= SM UB @-@ 50 =

SM UB @-@ 50 was a German Type UB III submarine or U @-@ boat in the German Imperial Navy (German : Kaiserliche Marine) during World War I. The U @-@ boat was ordered on 20 May 1916 . She was commissioned into the Pola Flotilla of the German Imperial Navy on 12 July 1917 as SM UB @-@ 50 .

The submarine conducted seven patrols and sank 38 ships during the war for a total loss of 97 @,@ 284 gross register tons (GRT) . She operated as part of the Pola Flotilla based in Cattaro . UB @-@ 50 surrendered on 16 January 1919 with the remainder of the Pola Flotilla following an order by Admiral Reinhard Scheer to return to port . During her passage through the Straits of Gibraltar , she managed to sink the battleship HMS Britannia . UB @-@ 50 was later broken up at Swansea .

= = Construction = =

UB @-@ 50 was ordered by the German Imperial Navy on 20 May 1916 . She was built by Blohm & Voss , Hamburg and following just under a year of construction , launched at Hamburg on 6 January 1917 . UB @-@ 50 was commissioned later that same year under the command of Kapitänleutnant (Kptlt .) Franz Becker . Like all Type UB III submarines , UB @-@ 50 carried 10 torpedoes and was armed with an 8 @.@ 8 cm (3 @.@ 5 in) deck gun . UB @-@ 50 could carry a crew of up to 34 men and had a cruising range of 9 @,@ 040 nautical miles (16 @,@ 740 km ; 10 @,@ 400 mi) . UB @-@ 50 had a displacement of 516 t (508 long tons) while surfaced and 651 t (641 long tons) when submerged . Her engines enabled her to travel at 13 @.@ 6 knots (25 @.@ 2 km / h ; 15 @.@ 7 mph) when surfaced and 8 knots (15 km / h ; 9 @.@ 2 mph) when submerged .

= = Service history = =

= = = First patrol = = =

Soon after she left Pola , UB @-@ 50 encountered the William H. Crawford , a 1 @,@ 593 GRT American sailing ship . It sank after an attack from the U @-@ boat stopped her . Four days later , UB @-@ 50 sighted the 800 GRT British barge R.B.40. UB 50 launched a torpedo which instead hit the British tug towing the ship , the 121 GRT H.s.3. The tug sank , but the barge was not sunk . The following day , UB @-@ 50 found two Portuguese sailboats Correiro De Sines and Comizianes Da Graca at 30 GRT and 32 GRT respectively . They were sunk 6 nautical miles (11 km ; 6 @.@ 9 mi) north of Cape Sines . A day later , she found the Portuguese 233 GRT ship Sado , which she sank about 16 nautical miles (30 km ; 18 mi) south of her prey the day before . Four days later , UB @-@ 50 finally encountered and sank a merchant , this being the 3 @,@ 611 GRT British Polar Prince , carrying coal for Malta . Two days later , she sank the Fabian , a 2 @,@ 246 GRT British steamer going to Liverpool , killing three . Later that day , she sank the Gioffredo Mameli , a 4 @,@ 124 GRT ton Italian steamer carrying ore . The 2 @,@ 464 GRT coal carrying Greek steamer Alkyon was attacked two days later by UB @-@ 50 , sinking close off Oran . The UB 50 followed up with the sinking of the 1 @,@ 670 GRT Norwegian steamer John Knudsen , killing one . Four days later , the 296 GRT Italian sailboat Ciro was scuttled after being hit by UB @-@ 50 , the last ship she would sink before returning to base .

= = = Second patrol = = =

SM UB @-@ 50 began her second patrol with the sinking of the Marc Fraissinet , a 3 @,@ 060 GRT French steamer carrying wood , munitions , and hay to Bizerte . It sank 15 nautical miles (28 km ; 17 mi) north of Tabarca after being torpedoed by UB @-@ 50 . Later that day UB 50 encountered the Senegal , an 845 GRT Italian steamer , sinking her off the coast of Algeria with no

casualties . Three days after that , the Margram Abbey , a 4 @, @ 367 GRT British steamer carrying coal , was found and torpedoed by UB @-@ 50 . It was beached off of the coast of Algeria , but the torpedo damage , which killed two , had wrecked the ship . UB 50 attacked the Antaeus , a 3 @, @ 061 GRT British steamer , three days later off of Cape Bon . There were no casualties , but the captain was taken prisoner . On the following day , UB 50 torpedoed the Amberton , a 4 @, @ 556 GRT British steamer , but she was only damaged . Four days later , the submarine found her last target of her second patrol , the 2 @, @ 774 GRT American steamer Rizal , which sank 9 nautical miles (17 km ; 10 mi) from Cape Cavallo .

= = = Third patrol = = =

UB @-@ 50 started out her third patrol by finding and sinking the 9 GRT Italian sailboat S. Giuseppe B. off the coast of Africa . She sank the 8 @, @ 293 GRT British steamer City of Lucknow two days later 50 nautical miles (93 km ; 58 mi) northeast of the Cani Rocks . On Christmas Day , 1917 , UB @-@ 50 sank the Sant ? Antonio , an 843 GRT Italian sailing vessel , by gunfire near Bizerte . On New Year 's Day , 1918 , the Egyptian Transport , a 4 @, @ 648 GRT British steamer , was damaged during an attack by UB @-@ 50 , which killed five men . It was later beached but refloated . Two days later , the Allanton , a 4 @, @ 253 GRT British steamer carrying coal , was sunk by UB @-@ 50 , which also sunk the Steelville , a 3 @, @ 649 GRT British steamer also carrying coal later that day . Four days later , UB @-@ 50 torpedoed the Arab , a 4 @, @ 191 GRT British steamer coal off the coast of Cape Serrat , killing 21 .

= = = Fourth patrol = = =

UB @-@ 50 's fourth patrol was very successful . In less than a month , she sank six vessels . The first victim was the 2 @, @ 457 GRT French steamer Saint Jean li , which went down 22 March 1918 off of Cap Bon . That same day , UB @-@ 50 managed to damage the British steamer Shadwell off of Bizerta . Four days later UB @-@ 50 sank the 11 @, @ 495 GRT Italian steamer Volturmo off of Bone (Annaba) , Algeria . On 6 April , UB @-@ 50 sank the French vessel Madeleine Iii and on 11 April , she sank the Italian sailing ship Carmela G and the British vessel Highland Prince .

= = = Fifth patrol = = =

UB @-@ 50 began her fifth war patrol by damaging the 3 @, @ 296 GRT British steamer Elswick Grange carrying coal off of the coast of Oran , killing one . Two days later , she ran across the 3 @, @ 152 GRT British steamer Mavisbrook carrying coal . She was torpedoed south east of Cabo de Gata , killing 18 . On that same day , she came upon the 168 GRT Danish three @-@ masted iron @-@ hulled schooner Kirstine Jesen , sinking after being fired upon from UB @-@ 50 's deck gun with no deaths . Two days later , the New Sweden , a 5 @, @ 319 GRT Swedish steamer , was hit by UB @-@ 50 and sank . Two days later , UB @-@ 50 found the 180 GRT Spanish steamer Maria Pia , which sank with no casualties . Three days after that , the 117 GRT French sailboat Animal Lafont and 257 GRT Italian sailboat Santa Teresa were torpedoed by the U @-@ boat with no casualties .

= = = Sixth patrol = = =

Shortly before her sixth patrol , Oberleutnant zur See Heinrich Kukat took over command from Kptlt . Becker . On her sixth patrol , UB @-@ 50 encountered the Imber , a 2 @, @ 514 GRT British steamer and torpedoed her south of Cape St. Maria di Leuca , though she survived . Three days later , UB @-@ 50 sank the War Swallow , a 5 @, @ 216 GRT British merchant ship carrying coal from the River Tyne to Port Said . Another three days passed before UB @-@ 50 found her next target , the Italian steamer Adria 1 , a ship carrying cotton from Palermo to Tunis . It sank , but no lives were lost . Two days later , the 5 @, @ 257 GRT British steamer Upada was torpedoed by UB

@-@ 50 killing three , but was only damaged . UB @-@ 50 sank the Messidor , a 3 @,@ 883 GRT British coal steamer two days later , sinking the ship and killing one . The following day , she torpedoed the Rutherglen , a 4 @,@ 214 GRT British steam merchant carrying coal . That was followed by an attack on the Magellan , a 3 @,@ 642 GRT British steamer on the following day . She sank with one man . The last ship sunk on the patrol was the Antonio S. , a 153 GRT Italian sailboat sunk off of the coast of Tunisia .

= = = Seventh patrol = = =

On 9 November 1918 , two days before the Armistice with Germany , UB @-@ 50 sank the British battleship HMS Britannia . The Britannia was on a voyage to Gibraltar when she was torpedoed off Cape Trafalgar . After the initial explosion , the ship began listing ten degrees to port . A few minutes later , another explosion started a fire in a 9 @.@ 2 in (230 mm) magazine , which resulted in a cordite explosion in the magazine . The Britannia stayed at 10 @-@ degrees for 2 ½ hours before sinking . Its 16 @,@ 350 gross register tons made it the largest ship the U @-@ boat ever sank , and the only one UB @-@ 50 would sink during her last patrol .

= = Summary of raiding history = =