

= Wacht @-@ class aviso =

The Wacht class was a pair of avisos built by the Imperial German Navy in the late @-@ 1880s ; the class comprised two ships , Wacht and Jagd . They were laid down in 1886 and 1887 and completed by 1888 and 1889 , respectively . The ships were based on the previous aviso , SMS Greif , which had proved to be an unsuccessful design due to its lack of torpedo armament . As a result , the Wacht @-@ class ships were equipped with three torpedo tubes to improve their combat power ; they were also the first German avisos to carry armor protection .

Both ships served in the main German fleet for the entirety of their active duty careers . They were primarily employed in the peacetime routine of unit and fleet training maneuvers . In September 1901 , Wacht was accidentally rammed by the ironclad SMS Sachsen during the annual fleet maneuvers . The collision caused serious damage to Wacht and she quickly sank . Jagd continued in service for another three years , after which she was withdrawn from service and used in various roles over the following sixteen years . She was sold for scrapping in 1920 .

= = Design = =

The Imperial Navy began building small avisos in the 1880s to serve in the main fleet in German waters . These vessels were intended to support the battle line , and so unlike the contemporary German unprotected cruisers , their designs emphasized offensive capability and high speed rather than a long cruising radius . The Wacht class followed the previous aviso , SMS Greif . The ship had proved to be a disappointment in service , since it carried no torpedo armament . As a result , the Wacht design returned to the torpedo as its primary armament like earlier vessels such as the Blitz class .

= = = General characteristics = = =

The Wacht @-@ class ships were 84 meters (276 ft) long at the waterline and 85 @.@ 5 m (281 ft) long overall . They had a beam of 9 @.@ 66 m (31 @.@ 7 ft) and a maximum draft of 3 @.@ 74 m (12 @.@ 3 ft) forward and 4 @.@ 67 m (15 @.@ 3 ft) aft . They displaced 1 @,@ 246 metric tons (1 @,@ 226 long tons ; 1 @,@ 373 short tons) as designed and up to 1 @,@ 499 t (1 @,@ 475 long tons ; 1 @,@ 652 short tons) at full combat load . Their hulls were constructed from transverse steel frames . Wacht and Jagd each had a crew of 7 officers and 134 enlisted men . The ships carried several smaller boats , including one picket boat , one yawl , one dinghy , and one cutter . They were poor sea boats ; they rolled and pitched badly and were very wet . They were also not particularly maneuverable vessels .

= = = Machinery = = =

Their propulsion system consisted of two angled 3 @-@ cylinder triple expansion engines that each drove a 3 @.@ 3 m (11 ft) wide three @-@ bladed screw . Steam for the engines was provided by four coal @-@ fired locomotive boilers trunked into a single funnel amidships . In 1891 ? 93 , new boilers manufactured by Schichau @-@ Werke and the Kaiserliche Werft (Imperial Shipyard) in Wilhelmshaven were installed . The ships were equipped with a pair of electric generators with a combined output of 20 kilowatts (27 hp) at 67 volts .

The ships ' propulsion system provided a top speed of 19 knots (35 km / h ; 22 mph) and was rated at 4 @,@ 000 indicated horsepower (3 @,@ 000 kW) , though neither ship reached that horsepower in service . They carried up to 230 t (230 long tons ; 250 short tons) of coal , which enabled them to steam for approximately 2 @,@ 860 nautical miles (5 @,@ 300 km ; 3 @,@ 290 mi) at 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) . Steering was controlled by a single rudder .

= = = Armament and armor = = =

As built , the ships were armed with three 10 @. @ 5 cm (4 @. @ 1 in) K L / 35 guns placed in single pivot mounts . The guns were supplied with a total of 180 rounds of ammunition and had a range of 7 @, @ 000 m (23 @, @ 000 ft) . Wacht and Jagd also carried three 35 cm (14 in) torpedo tubes , one mounted submerged in the bow and the other two in deck @- @ mounted launchers on the broadside . In 1891 , four 8 @. @ 8 cm SK L / 30 quick @- @ firing guns in single mounts replaced the 10 @. @ 5 cm guns .

The ships were the first German aviso to carry armor : a 10 mm (0 @. @ 39 in) thick deck with 20 mm (0 @. @ 79 in) thick sloped sides protected the magazines and engine rooms . The conning tower was protected with 25 mm (0 @. @ 98 in) of armor plating on the sides and 10 mm on the roof . The coaming around the funnel was 75 mm (3 @. @ 0 in) thick . The armor consisted of compound wrought iron . For protection against underwater attack , the hull was divided into twelve watertight compartments below the armored deck and ten compartments above it .

= = Service history = =

Wacht and Jagd were both built by the AG Weser shipyard in Bremen . Wacht was laid down in 1886 and Jagd followed in 1887 . Wacht was launched on 27 August 1887 and commissioned into the German fleet on 9 August 1888 after fitting @- @ out work was completed . Jagd was launched on 7 July 1888 and completed by 25 June 1889 , when she was commissioned into the fleet .

Both Wacht and Jagd served with the German fleet in home waters ; Wacht in the Maneuver Squadron from 1889 and Jagd in the Training Squadron from 1891 . Wacht and the rest of the Maneuver Squadron went on a major cruise in the Mediterranean Sea in 1889 ? 90 . In 1893 , Jagd joined Wacht in the Maneuver Squadron , and both ships served there , alternating between the I and II Divisions for the rest of the decade . Their activities consisted of periodic divisional and squadron training maneuvers , which culminated in the annual autumn fleet maneuvers in late August and early September .

On 4 September 1901 , Wacht accidentally collided with the ironclad Sachsen during training exercises . Sachsen , which was equipped with a ram bow , tore a hole in Wacht 's hull below the waterline . The battleship Weissenburg attempted to tow Wacht to shallow water where she could be grounded , but the flooding proved to be impossible to control and Wacht quickly sank . Jagd meanwhile remained in service until 1904 , when she was withdrawn and used as a harbor ship . She was stricken in May 1910 and subsequently hulked . Later , she was moved to Friedrichsort , outside Kiel , where she was used as a firing platform for torpedo training through World War I. In 1920 , she was sold for scrap .