

= SM UB @-@ 3 =

SM UB @-@ 3 was a German Type UB I submarine or U @-@ boat in the German Imperial Navy (German : Kaiserliche Marine) during World War I. She disappeared on her first patrol in May 1915 , and was the first of her class to be lost .

UB @-@ 3 was ordered in October 1914 and was laid down at the Germaniawerft shipyard in Kiel in November . UB @-@ 3 was a little more than 28 metres (92 ft) in length and displaced between 127 and 142 metric tons (125 and 140 long tons) , depending on whether surfaced or submerged . She carried two torpedoes for her two bow torpedo tubes and was also armed with a deck @-@ mounted machine gun . She was launched and commissioned as SM UB @-@ 3 in March 1915 .

UB @-@ 3 was broken into sections and shipped by rail to the Austro @-@ Hungarian port of Pola in April for reassembly . She officially joined the Pola Flotilla on 1 May and departed on her first patrol for temporary duty in Turkey on 23 May , and was never seen again . A postwar German study concluded that UB @-@ 3 was likely the victim of an unexplained technical problem in the absence of any minefields or enemy action .

= = Design and construction = =

After the German Army 's rapid advance along the North Sea coast in the earliest stages of World War I , the German Imperial Navy found itself without suitable submarines that could be operated in the narrow and shallow environment off Flanders . Project 34 , a design effort begun in mid @-@ August 1914 , produced the Type UB I design : a small submarine that could be shipped by rail to a port of operations and quickly assembled . Constrained by railroad size limitations , the UB I design called for a boat about 28 metres (92 ft) long and displacing about 125 metric tons (123 long tons) with two torpedo tubes . UB @-@ 3 was part of the initial allotment of eight submarines ? numbered UB @-@ 1 to UB @-@ 8 ? ordered on 15 October from Germaniawerft of Kiel , just shy of two months after planning for the class began .

UB @-@ 3 was laid down by Germaniawerft on 3 November and was launched on 5 March 1915 . As built , UB @-@ 3 was 92 feet 2 inches (28 @.@ 09 m) long , 3 @.@ 15 metres (10 ft 4 in) abeam , and had a draft of 3 @.@ 03 metres (9 ft 11 in) . She had a single 59 @-@ brake @-@ horsepower (44 kW) Daimler 4 @-@ cylinder diesel engine for surface travel , and a single 119 @-@ shaft @-@ horsepower (89 kW) Siemens @-@ Schuckert electric motor for underwater travel , both attached to a single propeller shaft . Her top speeds were 6 @.@ 47 knots (11 @.@ 98 km / h ; 7 @.@ 45 mph) , surfaced , and 5 @.@ 51 knots (10 @.@ 20 km / h ; 6 @.@ 34 mph) , submerged . At more moderate speeds , she could sail up to 1 @,@ 650 nautical miles (3 @,@ 060 km ; 1 @,@ 900 mi) on the surface before refueling , and up to 45 nautical miles (83 km ; 52 mi) submerged before recharging her batteries . Like all boats of the class , UB @-@ 3 was rated to a diving depth of 50 metres (160 ft) , and could completely submerge in 33 seconds .

UB @-@ 3 was armed with two 45 @-@ centimeter (17 @.@ 7 in) torpedoes in two bow torpedo tubes . She was also outfitted for a single 8 @-@ millimeter (0 @.@ 31 in) machine gun on deck . UB @-@ 3 's complement consisted of one officer and thirteen enlisted men .

= = Service career = =

The submarine was commissioned into the German Imperial Navy as SM UB @-@ 3 on 14 March under the command of Oberleutnant zur See Siegfried Schmidt , a 27 @-@ year @-@ old , first @-@ time U @-@ boat skipper , and underwent trials in German home waters .

As one of the UB I boats selected for Mediterranean duty , UB @-@ 3 was readied for rail shipment . The process of shipping a UB I boat involved breaking the submarine down into what was essentially a knock down kit . Each boat was broken into approximately fifteen pieces and loaded on to eight railway flatcars . UB @-@ 3 was shipped to the port of Pola , site of ally Austria ? Hungary 's main naval base , on 15 April . After UB @-@ 3 's parts arrived at Pola , it took about two weeks to assemble them . UB @-@ 3 joined the Pola Flotilla (German : Deutsche U @-@ Halbflotille Pola)

on 1 May .

By late May , UB @-@ 3 had made her way down the Adriatic to the Austro ? Hungarian port of Cattaro , the base from which most boats of the Pola Flotilla actually operated . For her first patrol , UB @-@ 3 was loaded with ammunition for Turkish forces at Izmir , Turkey . Because of her limited range , UB @-@ 3 was towed by the light cruiser SMS Novara of the Austro @-@ Hungarian Navy through the Straits of Otranto and cast off near the island of Kérkira . UB @-@ 3 's planned route was south of the Ionian Islands , around the Peloponnese , through the Cyclades , north around Khios and Karaburun , and into the Gulf of Izmir . If all went well , UB @-@ 3 would have arrived at Izmir on 28 or 29 May with about half her fuel left . The Germans received a garbled radio message from UB @-@ 3 when she was about 80 nautical miles (150 km ; 92 mi) from Izmir , but were unable to completely understand it . No trace of UB @-@ 3 has ever been found . UB @-@ 3 was the first of the UB I boats to be lost during the war .

A postwar German study concluded that UB @-@ 3 's loss was probably the result of some unexplained technical problem , because there were no minefields along UB @-@ 3 's route and no record of any attacks against U @-@ boats in the area . British records , and some sources based on them , give the particulars of UB @-@ 3 's demise as being in the North Sea on 24 April 1916 , which authors R. H. Gibson and Maurice Prendergast assert was actually the fate of UB @-@ 13 . They also point out that UB @-@ 3 had gone missing nearly a year before UB @-@ 3 's supposed sinking in the North Sea .