

= German submarine U @-@ 162 (1941) =

German submarine U @-@ 162 was a Type IXC U @-@ boat of Nazi Germany 's Kriegsmarine during World War II .

She was ordered on 25 September 1939 and was laid down on 19 April 1940 at Deutsche Schiff- und Maschinenbau AG , at Seebeck Yard in Bremerhaven , Germany , as yard number 701 . She was launched on 1 March 1941 and commissioned under the command of Korvettenkapitän Jürgen Wattenberg on 9 September of that year .

During three war patrols , U @-@ 162 sank 14 vessels . However , on 3 September , three British destroyers hunted U @-@ 162 down and sank her . Of a crew of fifty @-@ one , only two died . The remainder were taken prisoner and sent to camps in the United States , where they were to remain for the rest of the war .

= = Design = =

German Type IXC submarines were slightly larger than the original Type IXBs . U @-@ 162 had a displacement of 1 @, @ 120 tonnes (1 @, @ 100 long tons) when at the surface and 1 @, @ 232 tonnes (1 @, @ 213 long tons) while submerged . The U @-@ boat had a total length of 76 @. @ 76 m (251 ft 10 in) , a pressure hull length of 58 @. @ 75 m (192 ft 9 in) , a beam of 6 @. @ 76 m (22 ft 2 in) , a height of 9 @. @ 60 m (31 ft 6 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 @. @ 3 knots (33 @. @ 9 km / h ; 21 @. @ 1 mph) and a maximum submerged speed of 7 @. @ 3 knots (13 @. @ 5 km / h ; 8 @. @ 4 mph) . When submerged , the boat could operate for 63 nautical miles (117 km ; 72 mi) at 4 knots (7 @. @ 4 km / h ; 4 @. @ 6 mph) ; when surfaced , she could travel 13 @, @ 450 nautical miles (24 @, @ 910 km ; 15 @, @ 480 mi) at 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) . U @-@ 162 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 = =

= = = 1st Patrol = = =

Following training exercises with the 4th U @-@ boat Flotilla from 9 September 1941 to 31 January 1942 , U @-@ 162 began her first war patrol as the lead boat of the 2nd U @-@ boat Flotilla on 1 February 1942 . She left her home port of Kiel on 7 February and ventured into the North Sea without stopping in occupied Norway . During 40 days at sea , U @-@ 162 sailed north of the British Isles and entered the North Atlantic , where she sank her first vessel , White Crest , on 24 February 1942 .

= = = 2nd Patrol = = =

U @-@ 162 returned to sea on 7 April 1942 . For this patrol , she cruised south into the Caribbean Sea and the northern coast of South America . During her 63 days at sea , U @-@ 162 sank nine ships : Athelempress , Parnahyba , Eastern Sword , Florence M. Douglas , Frank Seamans , Mont

Louis , Esso Houston , British Colony and Beth . Following these victories , U @-@ 162 returned to her new home port of Lorient on 8 June 1942 .

= = = 3rd Patrol and sinking = = =

U @-@ 162 's third and final sortie began on 7 July 1942 , when she left Lorient for the last time . Much like her second foray , U @-@ 162 spent her third patrol in the Caribbean Sea and off the coast of South America . From the 19th to 30 August , she sank four more vessels : West Celina , Moena , Thelma and Star of Oregon . Nonetheless , just four days after sinking Star of Oregon , she was detected northeast of Trinidad . Three British destroyers , HMS Vimy , Pathfinder and Quentin , attacked and sank U @-@ 162 with depth charges . Two crewmen were killed , 49 others survived .

Following the sinking of U @-@ 162 , the surviving crew members were picked up by the three destroyers and sent to the United States where they gave US interrogators information about U @-@ 162 's history , including where and when she was laid down , how many ships she sank and details about her home port and the design and layout of submarines that were in her class .

= = = Summary of raiding history = = =