

= SMS Hansa (1872) =

SMS Hansa was a German ironclad warship built in 1868 ? 1875 . She was the first ironclad built in Germany ; all previous German ironclads had been built in foreign shipyards . She was named after the Hanseatic League , known in Germany simply as Hanse , Latinized Hansa . The ship was launched in October 1872 and commissioned into the German Imperial Navy (Kaiserliche Marine) in May 1875 . Designed for overseas service , Hansa was classed as an armored corvette and armed with eight 21 cm (8 @. @ 3 in) guns in a central battery .

Hansa served abroad for the first nine years of her career in the German navy . In 1884 , it was found that her iron hull was badly corroded , which rendered the ship unfit for further active service . She was therefore removed from active duty and used for a variety of secondary roles . From 1884 to 1888 , she served as a guard ship in Kiel , where she also trained engine and boiler room personnel . In 1888 , she was stricken from the naval register and used as a barracks ship in Kiel . She was moved to Mönkeberg in 1905 , where she continued to train boiler room personnel , until 1906 when she was sold to ship @-@ breakers and dismantled for scrap .

= = Design = =

= = = General characteristics and machinery = = =

Hansa was 71 @. @ 73 meters (235 @. @ 3 ft) long at the waterline and 73 @. @ 50 m (241 @. @ 1 ft) long overall . She had a beam of 14 @. @ 10 m (46 @. @ 3 ft) and a draft of 5 @. @ 7.4 m (18 @. @ 8 ft) forward and 6 @. @ 8.0 m (22 @. @ 3 ft) aft . The ship was designed to displace 3 @, @ 950 metric tons (3 @, @ 890 long tons ; 4 @, @ 350 short tons) at a normal loading , and up to 4 @, @ 404 t (4 @, @ 334 long tons ; 4 @, @ 855 short tons) with a combat load . The ship 's hull was formed with transverse iron frames and mixed iron and timber construction . The underwater portion of the hull was plated with copper to reduce fouling . It contained six watertight compartments .

The German navy found the ship to be very stiff in her sea @-@ keeping qualities . Hansa was very maneuverable and was easily controlled while under sail ; under steam the ship remained highly maneuverable but control suffered . The ship 's crew numbered 28 officers and 371 enlisted men . She carried a number of smaller boats aboard , including two launches , one pinnace , two cutters , one yawl , and one dinghy . The ship also carried an unknown number of picket boats and barges . Anti @-@ torpedo nets were briefly fitted to the ship from 1885 to 1888 .

Hansa was powered by a single horizontal three @-@ cylinder single @-@ expansion steam engine built by AG Vulcan in Stettin . The engine drove a single three @-@ bladed screw that was 6 m (20 ft) in diameter . Steam , at a pressure of at 2 standard atmospheres (200 kPa) , was supplied by four trunk boilers in a single boiler room . The boilers were ducted into a single large funnel that could be retracted when the ship was operated under sail . The powerplant was rated at 450 nominal horsepower with a top speed of 12 knots (22 km / h ; 14 mph) . On trials , her propulsion system managed 3 @, @ 275 indicated horsepower (2 @, @ 442 kW) and 12 @. @ 7 knots (23 @. @ 5 km / h ; 14 @. @ 6 mph) . The ship carried 310 t (310 long tons ; 340 short tons) of coal for the boilers , which enabled a maximum range of 1 @, @ 330 nautical miles (2 @, @ 460 km ; 1 @, @ 530 mi) at a cruising speed of 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) . Hansa was fully rigged , and had a sail area of 1 @, @ 760 m² (18 @, @ 900 sq ft) . Steering was controlled by a single rudder .

= = = Armament and armor = = =

Hansa was armed with eight 21 @-@ centimeter (8 @. @ 3 in) L / 19 hooped guns , each of which was provided with 110 rounds of ammunition . The guns were placed in a two @-@ story arrangement amidships ; four were mounted in a broadside casemate , two on either side of the ship

. The other four guns were mounted in casemates on the corners of the lower casemate , which gave the ship a degree of end @-@ on fire capability . The lower guns could depress to ? 5 ° and elevate to 13 ° ; at maximum elevation , the guns could reach targets out to 3 @,@ 200 m (10 @,@ 500 ft) . The upper guns had a wider range of elevation ; they could depress to ? 8 ° and elevate to 14 ° . At maximum elevation , the guns had a range of 5 @,@ 700 m (18 @,@ 700 ft) .

Hansa 's armor consisted of teak @-@ backed wrought iron , which was manufactured in Great Britain . Her armored belt was 152 mm (6 @.@ 0 in) thick amidships , where it protected the ship 's vitals . On the bow and stern , the belt was reduced to 114 mm (4 @.@ 5 in) in thickness . The entire belt was backed with 306 mm (12 @.@ 0 in) of timber . The casemates were armored with 114 mm thick sloping iron plates . The lower battery casemate had 114 mm thick transverse armored bulkheads on either end of the side armor .

= = Service history = =

Hansa was laid down at the Royal Dockyard in Danzig in 1868 . She was the first ironclad warship to be built in a German shipyard ; her predecessors had all been built in French and British shipyards . The ship was launched on 26 October 1872 and moved to the AG Vulcan shipyard in Stettin for fitting out work . The work proceeded very slowly , and Hansa was not commissioned into the German fleet until 19 May 1875 , two and a half years after her launch . By comparison , all of the earlier foreign @-@ built ironclads were completed in less than a year .

Designed for overseas service protecting Germany 's maritime trade , Hansa spent the first nine years of her career abroad . In 1884 , it was found that her hull was badly corroded ; this stemmed from the lengthy construction period , during which the iron had already begun to corrode . As a result of the poor shape of her hull , Hansa was removed from active service in 1884 and used as a guard ship in Kiel . While in Kiel , she was also used as a training ship for engine @-@ room personnel and stokers . She was formally stricken from the naval register on 6 August 1888 . She was then used as a floating barracks in Kiel , until 1905 . Hansa was then moved to Mönkeberg , hulked , and used to train stokers . The ship did not last long in this service , and was sold in March 1906 for 96 @,@ 000 marks . Hansa was broken up later that year in Swinemünde .