

## STAR KNIGHT-CLASS HEAVY CRUISER

### Ships in Class

*Alchemist, Cantrip, Circe, Conjurer, Druidess, Enchanter, Fearless, Magician, Magus, Merlin, Necromancer, Oracle, Runebearer, Santander, Seeress, Shaman, Sorcerer, Star Knight, Star Ranger, Thaumaturge, Warlock*

### Expected Service Life

1893 to 1926PD

### Specification

Mass: 305,250 tons

Length: 523 m

Beam: 63 m

Draught: 53 m

Acceleration: 509.3 G

Crew: 925

(47 Officers, 424 Enlisted, 454 Marines)

#### Power:

3 Isler Corporation GM-4R Fusion Reactors

#### Electronics

AN/SPG-29/a Gravitic Detection Array

AN/SR-12 Phased Radar Array

AN/SL-13LidarArray

AN/CAT-15(34) Fire Control System

AN/CDT-16(26) Point Defense Fire Control System

AN/ELQ-135 Electronic Countermeasure System

#### Armament:

20 Mod 7b Missile Launchers

2 Mk49 127cm Lasers

6Mk73 105cm Lasers

4 Mk15 140cm Grasers

26 Mod 5b Countermissile Launchers

26 Mk16(5) Point Defense Laser Clusters

#### Magazines

400 Mk13 Anti-Ship Missiles

1534Mk21 Countermissiles

8 Mk23 Long Range Recon Drones

6 Mk15 Electronic Warfare Drones

#### Small Craft:

3 Mk28 *Condor-class* Pinnaces

1 Mk9>4/6c?fross-class Shuttle

4 C3 Da/cota-class Cutters

### Design and Construction

The ships of the *Star Knight-class* are the RMN's latest heavy cruisers. Designed to replace both the *Prince Consort* and *Crusader-class*s, the *Star Knight* combines the offensive power of a *Prince Consort* with the flag facilities of a *Crusader*.

The *Star Knights* more powerful sidewall generators, heavier armor, better electronic warfare capabilities, and more numerous point defense systems make them at least thirty percent tougher than the older *Prince Consorts*. However, combat experience has shown that too little of their volume was allocated to offensive systems and too much was used on defense.

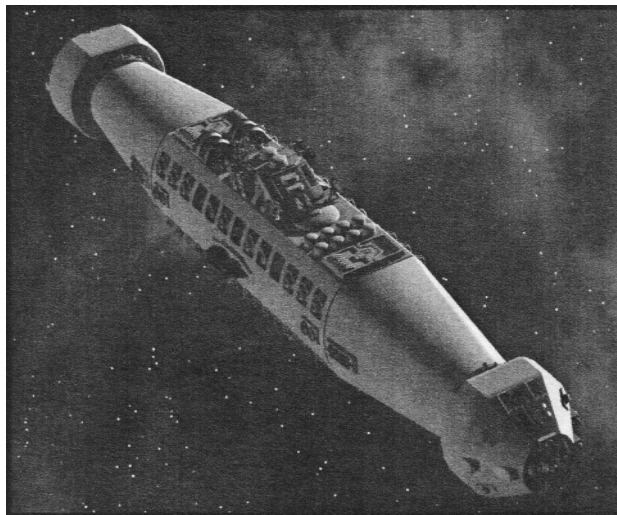
One of the most controversial design choices is the installation of a third reactor as opposed to the normal two found on most ships

of this size. While there are benefits in redundancy, only a single reactor is required to power the ship and the additional volume could have been used to mount a heavier broadside.

As a flagship, the *Star Knight* has sufficient boat bay space for three additional pinnaces, as well as the additional accommodations for a flag officer, staff and visitors. Its flag accommodations are quite spacious for a mere cruiser, though somewhat less luxurious than those found on a *Crusader*.

With shortages in *Crusaders* starting to appear all along the front, shipyards at *Hephaestus* and *Vulcan* are producing *Star Knights* as quickly as possible - given the limited amounts of yard capacity that can be diverted from capital ship construction.

The *Star Knight* is due to be replaced in 1908 by the *Edward Saganami-class*. The *Saganami* design, still in the planning stage but expected to be at least ten percent larger, should resolve any deficiencies in the *Star Knight's* offensive power.



### Doctrinal Notes

With the critical shortage of *Crusaders*, The *Star Knights'* flag accommodations forced the Admiralty to use them for the detached command roles the *Prince Consorts* couldn't fulfill properly.

*Star Knights* are frequently assigned to frontier and convoy deployments without capital ship support, and find themselves engaged with fast battlecruiser/cruiser-level raiding forces, with correspondingly heavy losses.

### Notable Units and Battles

The most notable ship in this class is HMS *Fearless*, which was involved in the defense of Yeltsin's Star in 1903 PD. While many details of the battle are still classified, what is known is that under the command of Captain Honor Harrington, HMS *Fearless* and the Chanson-class destroyer HMS *Troubadour* defeated a *Sultan-class* battlecruiser in the service of the Masadan Navy.