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FM 30–55

WAR DEPARTMENT

BASIC FIELD MANUAL

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

June 19, 1941

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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

Prepared under direction of the
Chief of Staff

UNITED STATES
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WASHINGTON : 1941

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, June 19, 1941.

FM 30–55, Military Intelligence, Identification of German Naval Ships, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

[A. G. 062.11 (5–2–41).]

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

G. C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

E. S. ADAMS,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

(For explanation of symbols, see FM 21–6.)
R and H 1 (10), 4 (3); I Bn 1 (15); IC and H 4 (5).

BASIC FIELD MANUAL

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

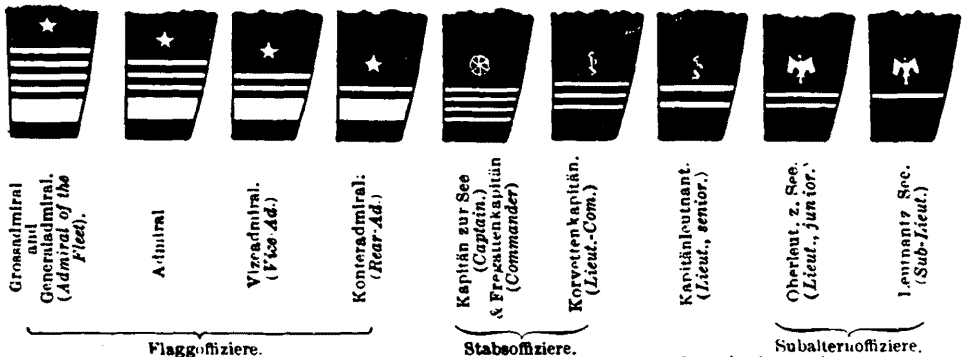
The material contained in this manual has been secured from many sources. It is the best material available, but may be incomplete and, in some respects, inaccurate.

This manual, containing illustrations with explanatory data relative to German naval ships, is published for limited distribution. It will be used for instruction of officers and men in the appearance and general characteristics of German naval vessels and will be safeguarded as prescribed in AR 380–5.

FLAGS
ENSIGN
NATIONAL FLAG AND JACK
STATE SERVICE FLAG (Fleet Auxiliaries)
NATIONAL FLAG FOR MERCHANT SHIPS COMMANDED BY NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS
FÜHRER'S STANDARD
C-IN-C. OF NAVY
ADMIRAL
VICE ADMIRAL
REAR ADMIRAL
PENNANT
COMMANDER OF A FLOTILLA
WHEN FLOWN FROM MAIN MAST, BUT LEADER'S PENNANT WHEN FLOWN FROM UPPER SIGNAL YARD
Black
White
Yellow
Red

UNIFORMS

Insignia of rank on sleeves



NOTE.—In above sketch, a *star* should replace devices which appear in the 5 junior ranks.

Uniforms and distinguishing marks of rank are the same for officers of all branches of the service; but in place of the star on the sleeve, which distinguishes the military branch, there is worn by:

Engineer Officers, a pinion wheel
Medical Officers, the rod of Æsculapius
Accountant Officers, the winged staff of Hermes
} As in sketches above.

The difference between a *Kapitän zur See* and a *Fregattenkapitän* is indicated by stars on the shoulder straps.

Kommodores wear the same sleeve stripes as a *Kapitän zur See*, but with the cords and shoulder bands of a Flag Officer.

NAVAL GUNS

Calibre	Usual Naval Designation.	Length in cals.	Date of Model.	Weight of Gun.	Weight of A.P. shot.	Initial Velocity.	*Maximum* penetration, direct impact against K.C. at			Danger space against average ships at			*Approximate* Muzzle Energy.
							9000 yds.	6000 yds.	3000 yds.	10,000	5000	3000	
inch.	c/m.			tons.	lbs.	foot-secs.	in.	in.	in.	yards.	yards.	yards.	foot tons.
15	*38·1*	...	'36	...	670	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
11	*28*		'28										
11	*28*	40	'01	32·2	661·4	2756	6	10	14	150	450	740	31,600
8	*20.3*												
5·9	*15*	50	...	5·5		3084	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,690
5.9	*15*	45	'09	5	101·4	2920	...	...	5	...	200	420	5,990
5	*12.7*												
4·1	*10·5*	45	'16	...	38·2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4·1	*10·5*	50	'28										
4·1	*10·5*	A.A.											
3·5	*90*	A.A.											

Brass cartridge cases to all guns

11 inch, 40 cal., M. '01 in *Schlesien* and *Schleswig-Holstein*.
Lesser guns: 3.4 inch (88 m/m) firing 22 lb. projectiles in modern and 15 lb. in old models.
AA. guns: 4.1 inch, 3.5 inch on H. A. mounts ("Flak").
Projectiles: Guns of 11 inch and over fire A. P., Ersatz A. P., H. E., and common shell.
All models have the recoil utilized to return the gun to firing position for pieces over 5.9 inch. In 5.9 in. springs are employed. German guns have a lower muzzle pressure than normally obtains.

GERMAN NAVY



BISMARCK

This illustration is from a magazine

BATTLESHIPS
BISMARCK–TIRPITZ CLASS

BISMARCK–TIRPITZ CLASS

BISMARCK
TIRPITZ

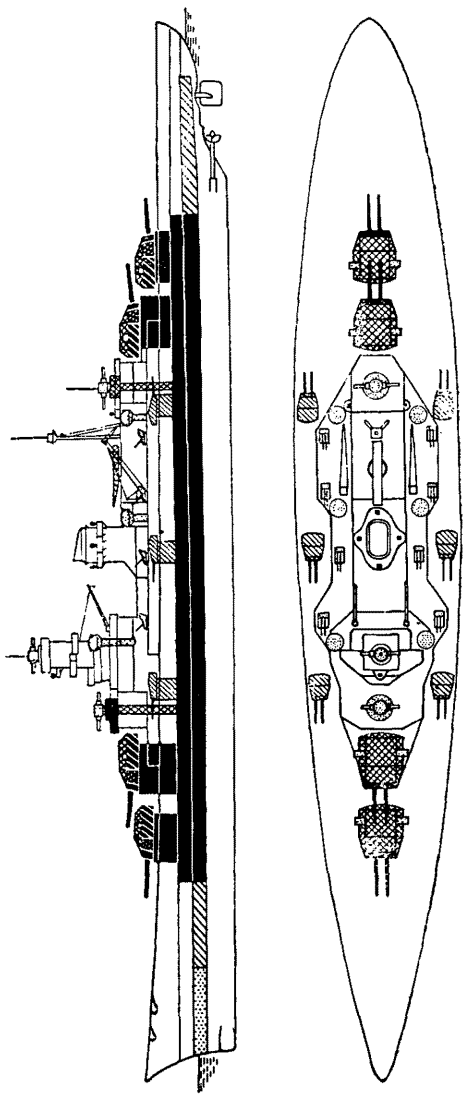
Description: 35,000 tons.
793 feet (over-all) by 118 feet by 26 feet draft.
30 knots (?).

Guns: 8–15 inch, estimated 50/52 caliber.
12–5.9 inch.
16–4.1 inch.

Torpedo tubes: None.

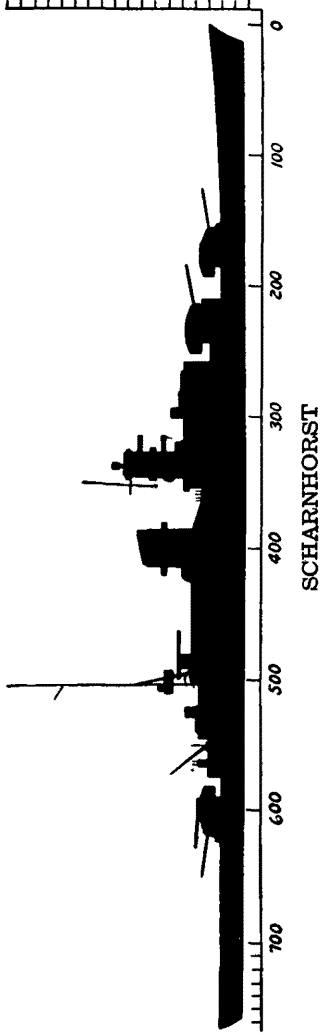
Airplanes: 4. Catapults: 2.

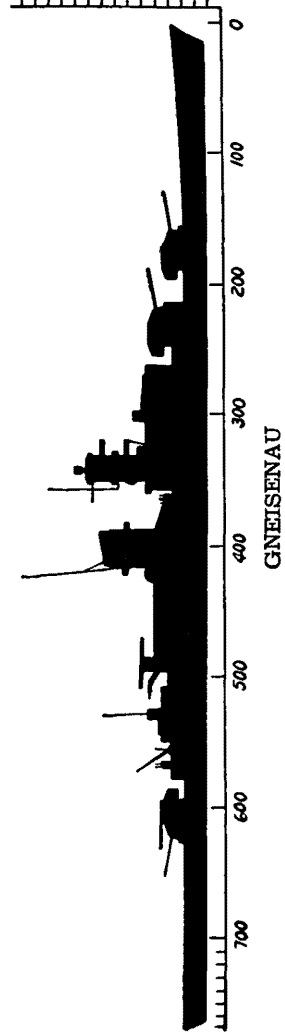
GERMAN
NAVY



BATTLESHIPS
BISMARCK–TIRPITZ CLASS

GERMAN
NAVY


150
100
50
0
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
700
SCHARNHORST


50
0
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
700
GNEISENAU

BATTLESHIPS
SCHARNHORST CLASS

COMPARISON
SCHARNHORST CLASS

SCHARNHORST
GNEISENAU

Description: 26,000 tons.
742 feet (water-line) by 99 feet by 25 feet draft.
30 knots (?).

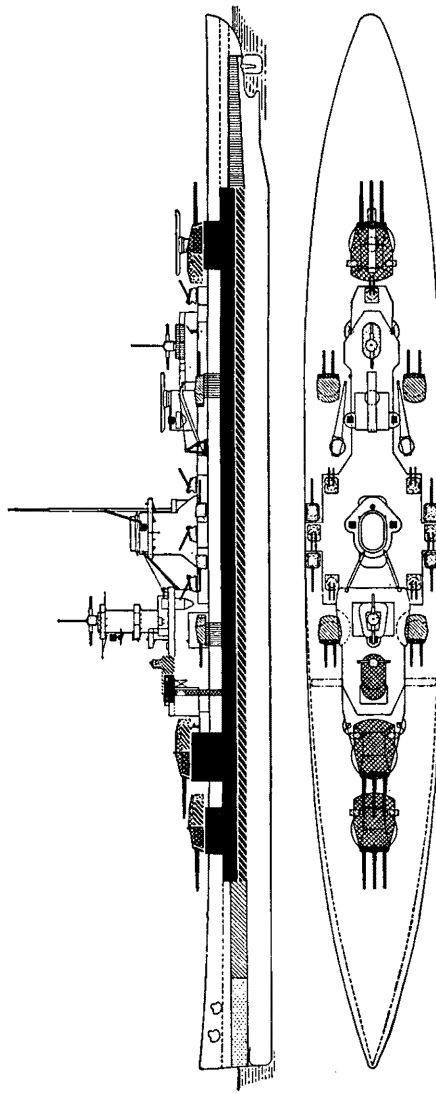
Guns: 9–11 inch.
12–5.9 inch.
14–4.1 inch.
16–37-mm AA.
Various smaller.

Torpedo tubes: None.

Airplanes: 4. Catapults: 2.

Remarks: Changes suspected but none confirmed. Gneisenau has higher slanting stack cap than Scharnhorst.

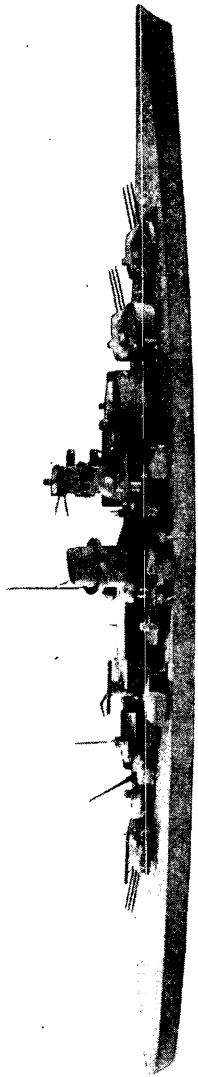
GERMAN
NAVY





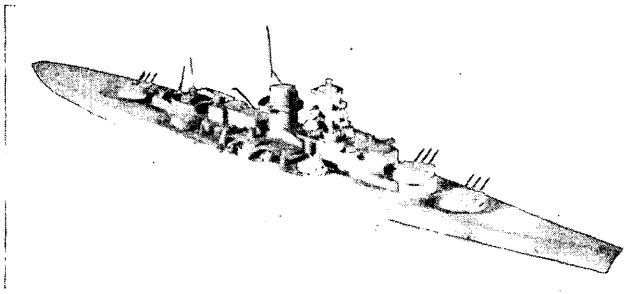
GNEISENAU

GERMAN
NAVY

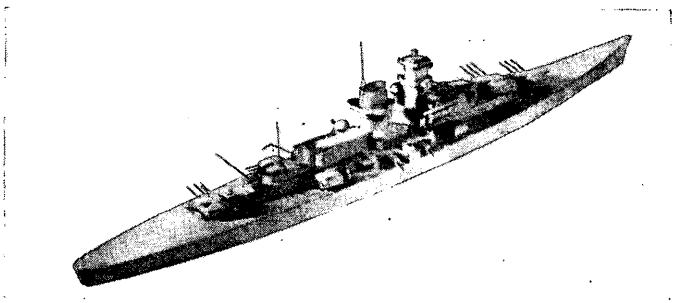


Changes suspected but none confirmed.

BATTLESHIP
GNEISENAU



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

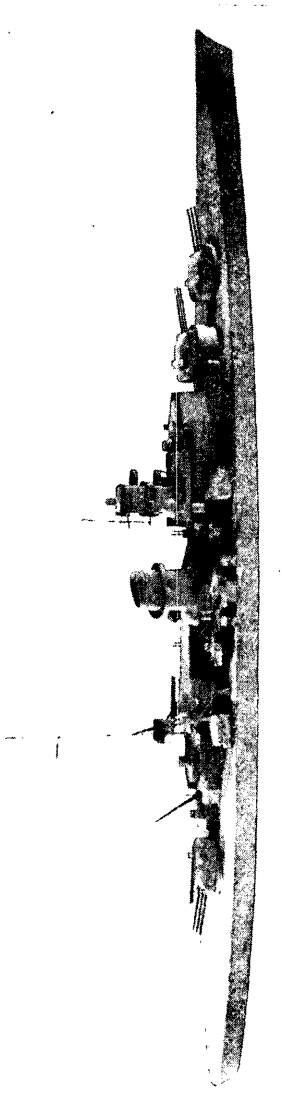
Description: 26,000 tons.
742 feet (water-line) by 99 feet by 25 feet draft.
30 knots (?).

Guns: 9–11 inch.
14–4.1 inch.
12–5.9 inch.
16–37-mm AA.
Plus various smaller.

Torpedo tubes: None.

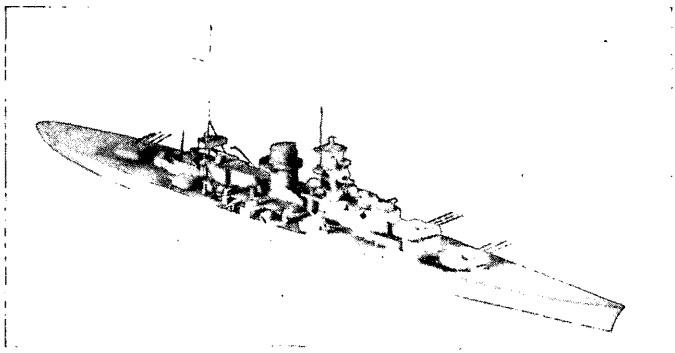
Airplanes: 4.

GERMAN NAVY

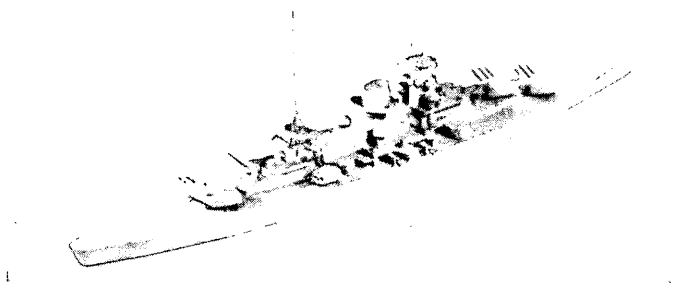


Changes suspected but none confirmed.

BATTLESHIP SCHARNHORST



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description:	26,000 tons. 742 feet (water-line) by 99 feet by 25 feet draft. 30 knots (?).
Guns:	9–11 inch. 14–4.1 inch. 12–5.9 inch. 16–37-mm AA. Plus various smaller.
Torpedo tubes:	None.
Airplanes:	4.

GERMAN
NAVY

Changes (note plan above).

ADMIRAL HIPPER

PRINZ EUGEN and SEYDLITZ not shown

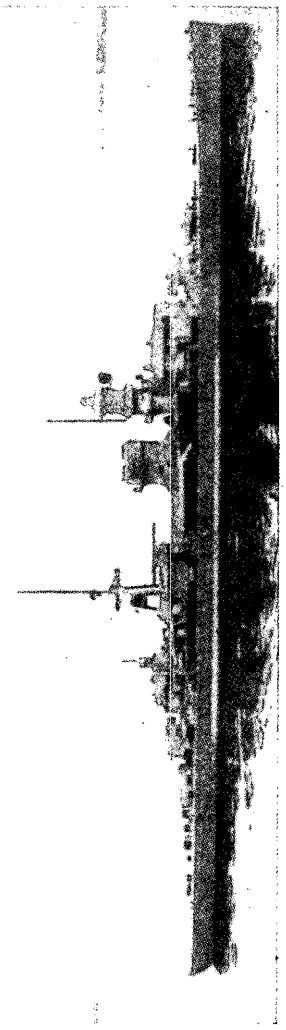
HEAVY CRUISERS
HIPPER CLASS

COMPARISON
HIPPER CLASS (CA)

HIPPER
PRINZ EUGEN
SEYDLITZ

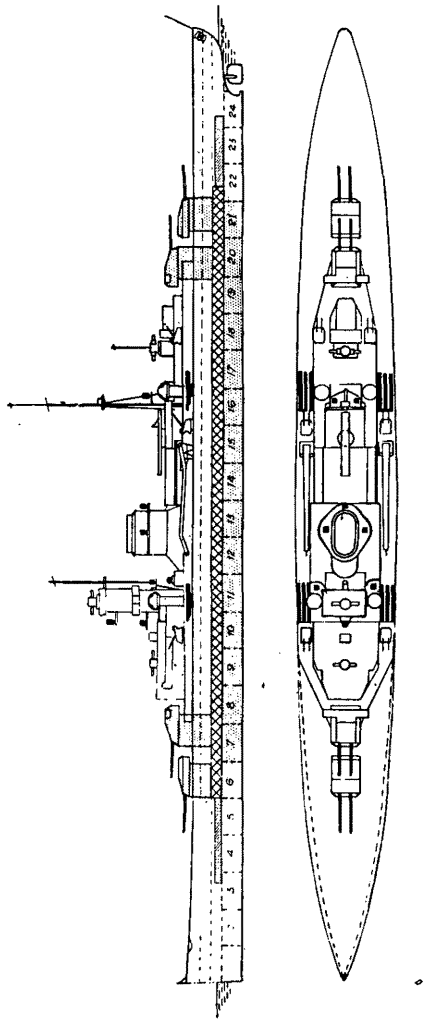
Description:	10,000 tons.
Hipper:	640 feet by 70 feet by 16 feet draft.
Others:	655 feet by 71 feet by 15 feet draft.
	33 knots.
Guns:	8–8 inch.
	12–4.1 inch.
	12–37-mm AA.
	Various smaller.
Torpedo tubes:	12.
Airplanes:	3.
Remarks:	HIPPER—Clipper bow, slanting stack added.
	PRINZ EUGEN—Same as HIPPER, save first pair of AA directors moved aft and on stack platform.
	SEYDLITZ—May be similar to above, but not confirmed.

GERMAN
NAVY

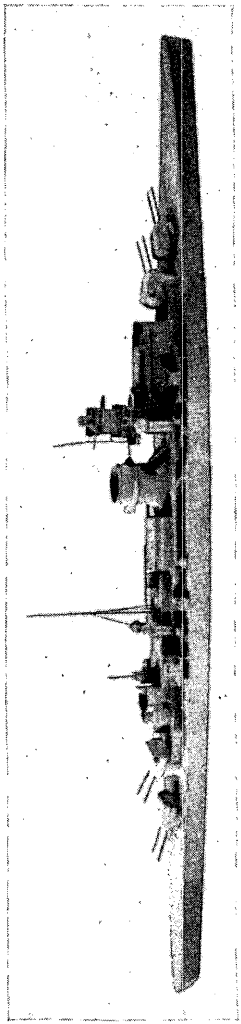


HIPPER

HEAVY CRUISERS
HIPPER CLASS



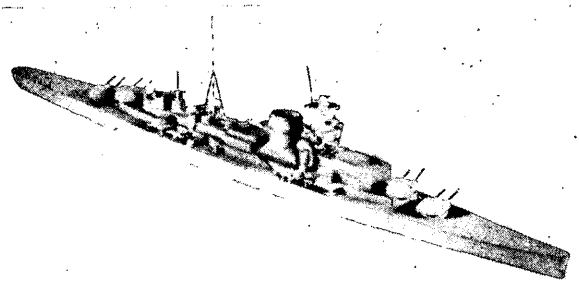
GERMAN
NAVY



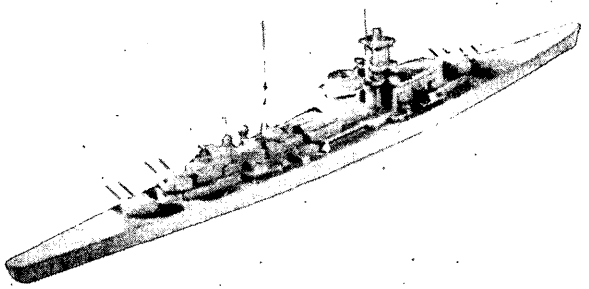
90°.

ADMIRAL HIPPER

HEAVY CRUISER
ADMIRAL HIPPER



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

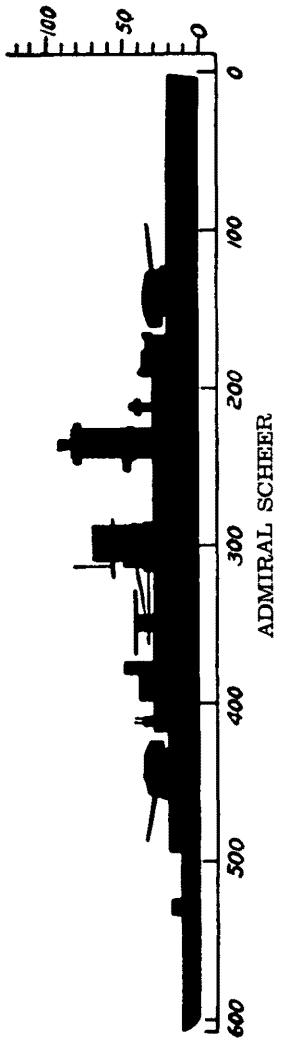
Description: 10,000 tons.
640 feet by 70 feet by 16 feet draft.
30 knots.

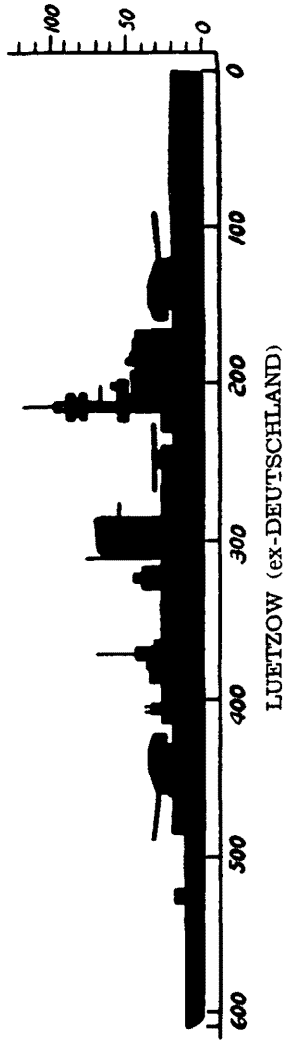
Guns: 8–8 inch.
12–4.1 inch.
12–37-mm AA.
Various smaller.

Torpedo tubes: 12.

Airplanes: 3.

GERMAN
NAVY


100
50
0
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
ADMIRAL SCHEER


100
50
0
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
LUETZOW (ex-DEUTSCHLAND)

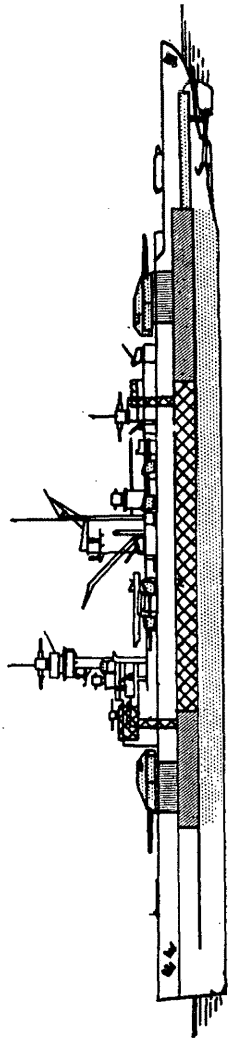
ARMORED SHIPS
POCKET BATTLESHIP CLASS

COMPARISON
POCKET BATTLESHIP CLASS

ADMIRAL SCHEER
LUETZOW

Description:	10,000 tons. 610 feet (over-all) by 70 feet by 22 feet draft. 26 knots.
Guns:	6–11 inch. 8–5.9 inch. 6–4.1 inch. 8–3 pound AA. 10–machine guns.
Torpedo tubes:	8.
Airplanes:	2.
Remarks:	ADMIRAL SCHEER—Report addition of clipper bow, slanting stack cap, and short mainmast. LUETZOW—No reported changes but some suspected.

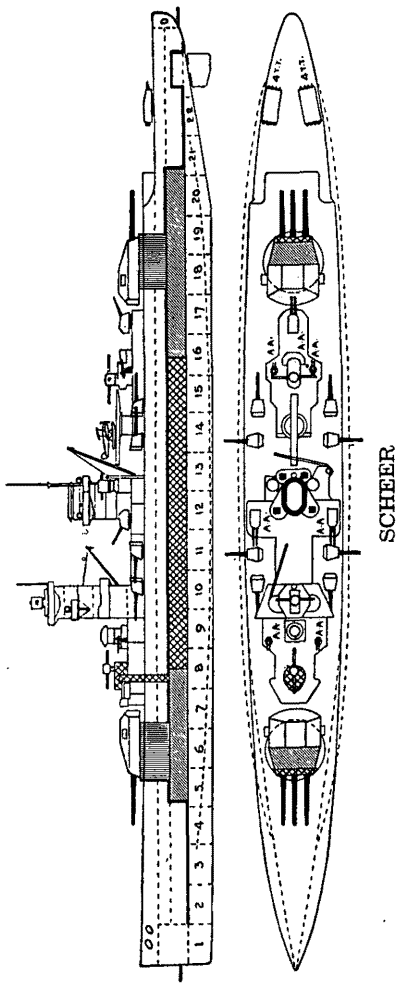
GERMAN
NAVY





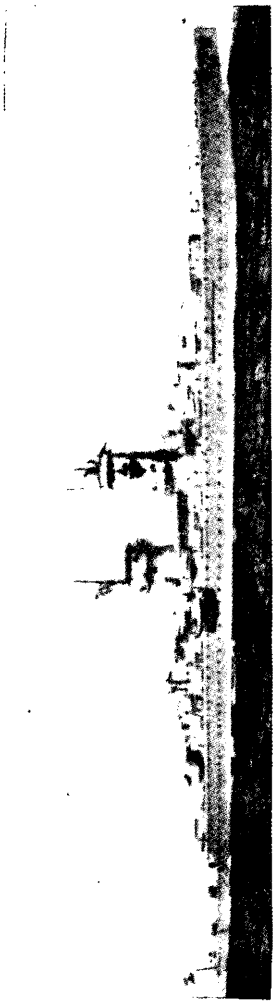
LUETZOW

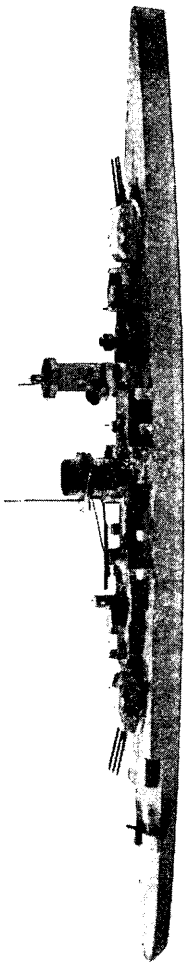
ARMORED SHIPS
POCKET BATTLESHIP CLASS



SCHEER

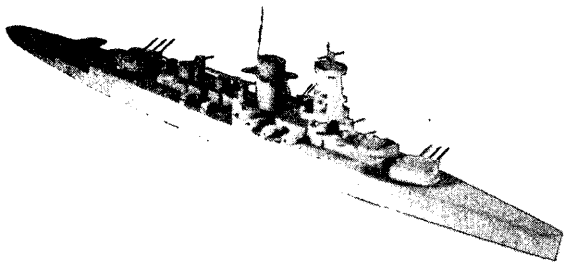
GERMAN
NAVY



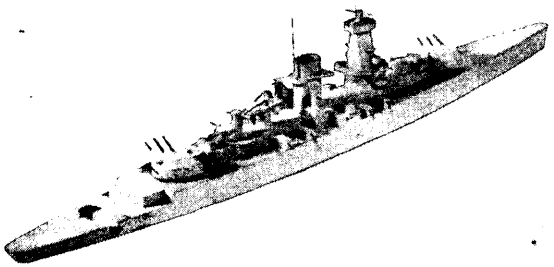


ADMIRAL SCHEER

POCKET BATTLESHIPS
ADMIRAL SCHEER



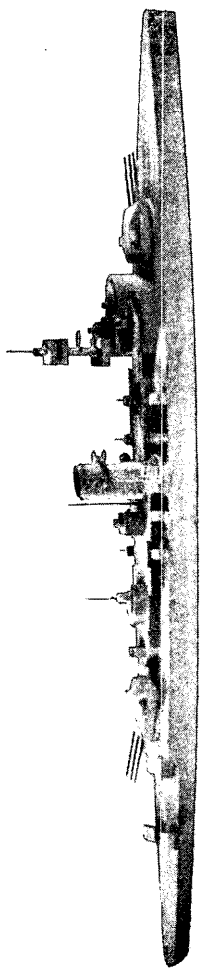
45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

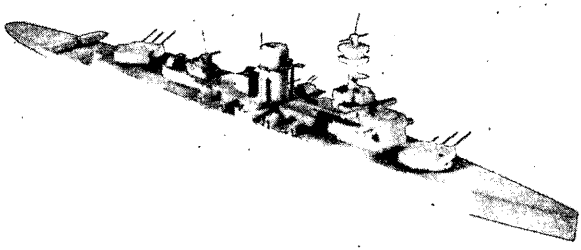
Description:	10,000 tons. 26 knots.
Guns:	6–11 inch. 6–4.1 inch. 8–5.9 inch. 8–3 pound AA. 10–machine guns.
Torpedo tubes:	8.
Airplanes:	2.
Remarks:	Report addition of clipper bow, slanting stack cap, and short mainmast.

GERMAN
NAVY

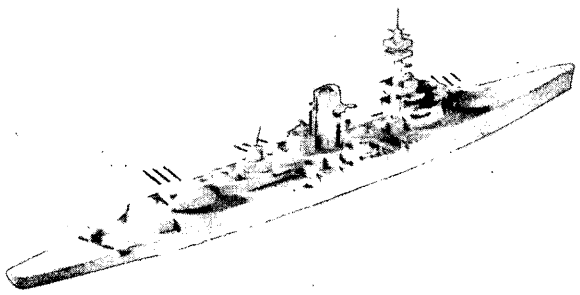


LUETZOW

POCKET BATTLESHIPS
LUETZOW



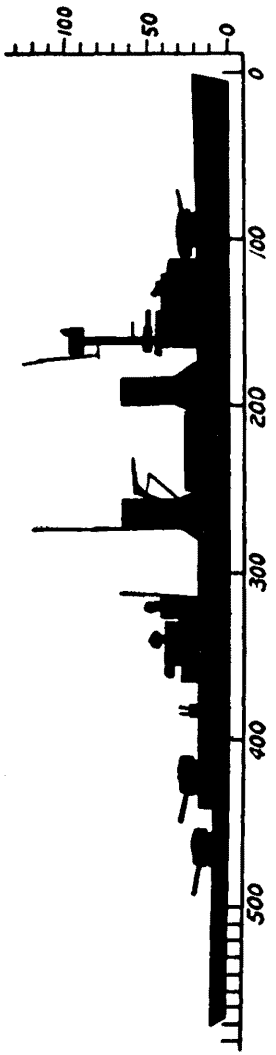
45°.

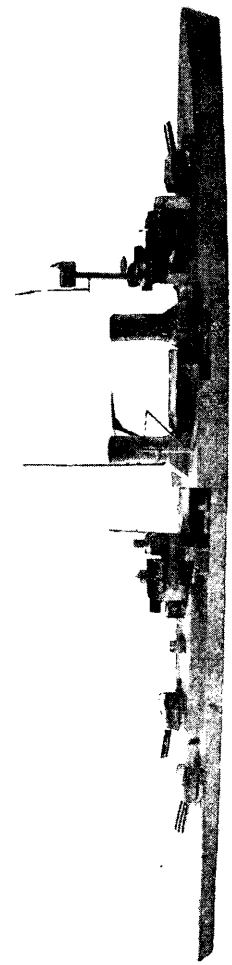


135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description:	10,000 tons. 26 knots.
Guns:	6–11 inch. 6–4.1 inch. 8–5.9 inch. 8–3 pound AA. 10–machine guns.
Torpedo tubes:	8.
Airplanes:	2.
Remarks:	No reported changes but some suspected.

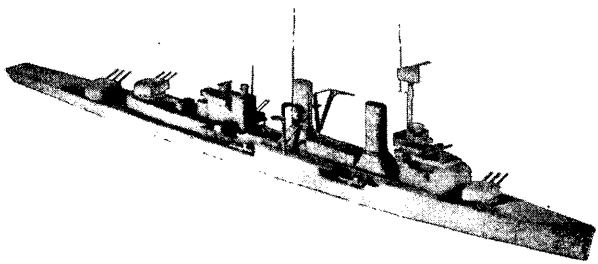
GERMAN
NAVY



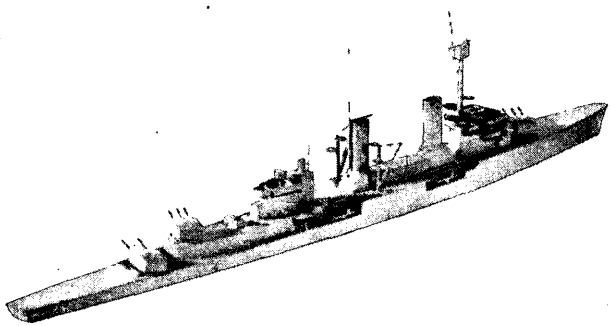


90°. KÖLN

CRUISER KÖLN



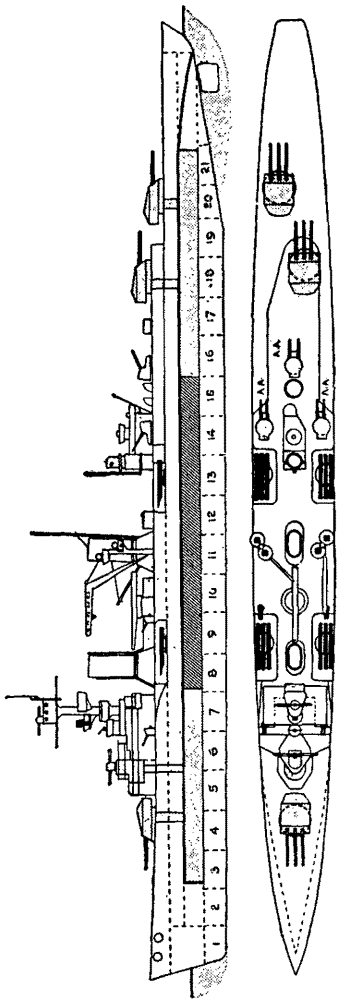
45°.



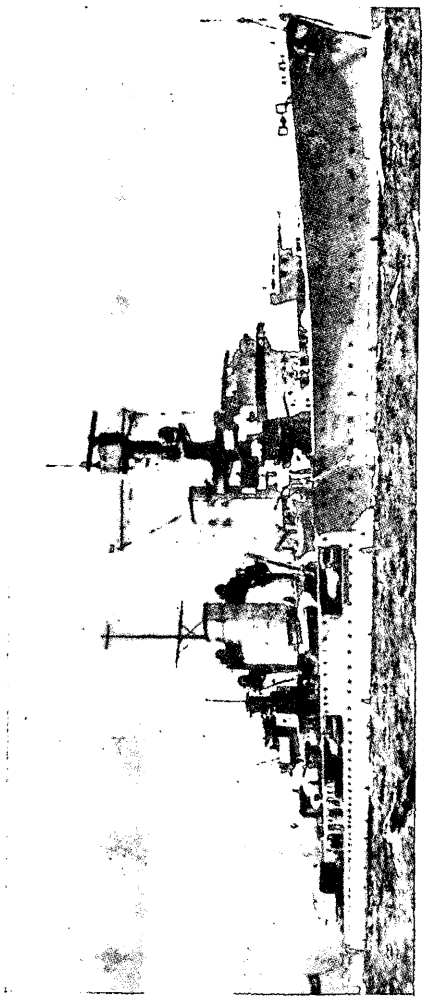
135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description:	6,000 tons. 570 feet by 50 feet by 18 feet draft. 32 knots.
Guns:	9–5.9 inch, .50 caliber. 8–3 pound AA. 6–3.5 inch AA. 4–machine guns.
Torpedo tubes:	12.
Airplanes:	2.

GERMAN
NAVY



CRUISER
KÖLN



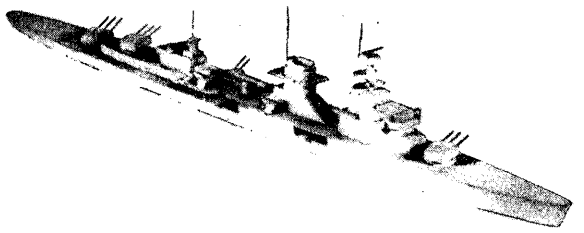
KÖLN

GERMAN
NAVY

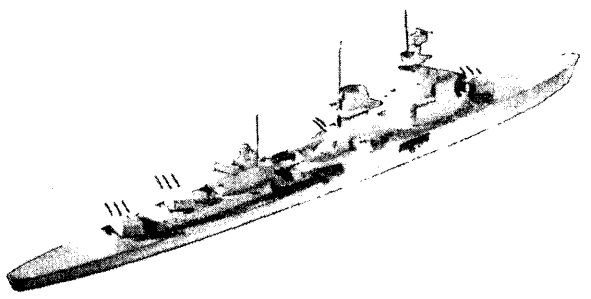
NÜRNBERG

No reported changes.

CRUISER NÜRNBERG



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

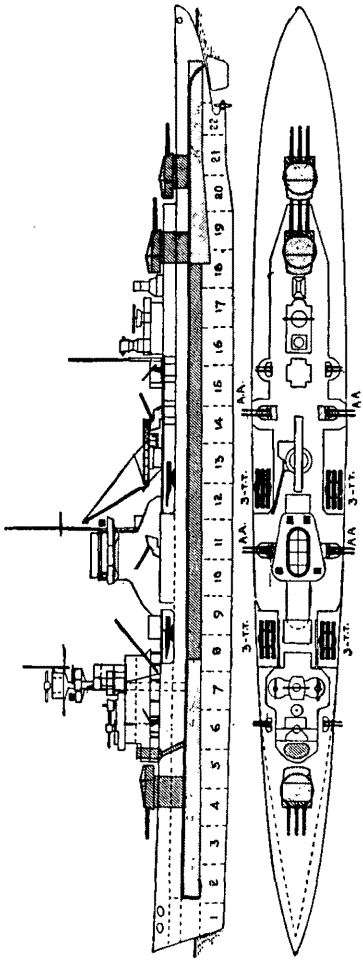
Description: 6,000 tons.
558 feet (plimsoll point) by 54 feet by 15 feet draft.
32 knots.

Guns: 9–5.9 inch.
8–3.5 inch.
8–3 pound AA.
4–machine guns.

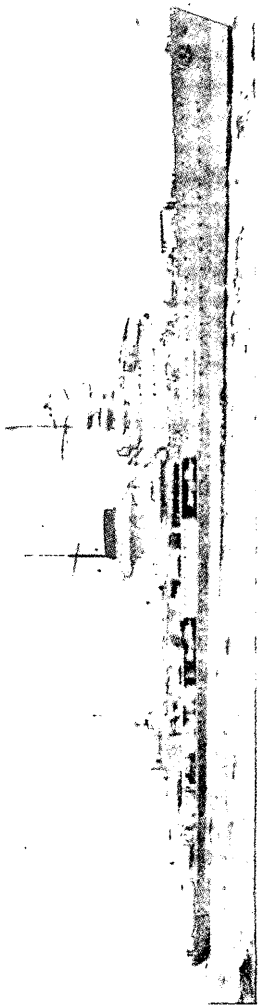
Torpedo tubes: 12.

Airplanes: 2.

GERMAN
NAVY



CRUISER
NÜRNBERG

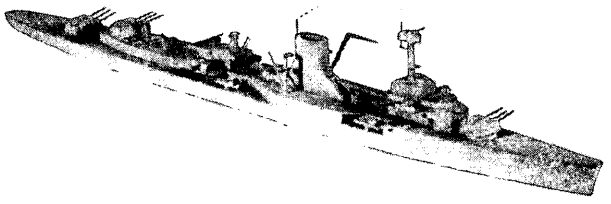


GERMAN
NAVY

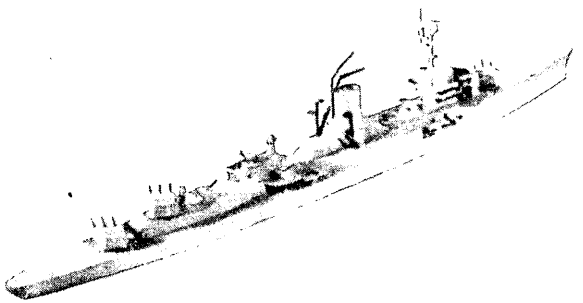
LEIPZIG

This ship may have been sunk December 13, 1939.

CRUISER LEIPZIG



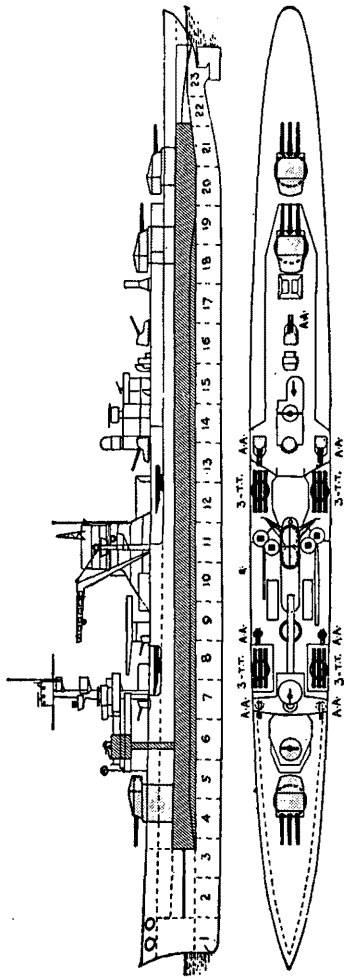
45°.



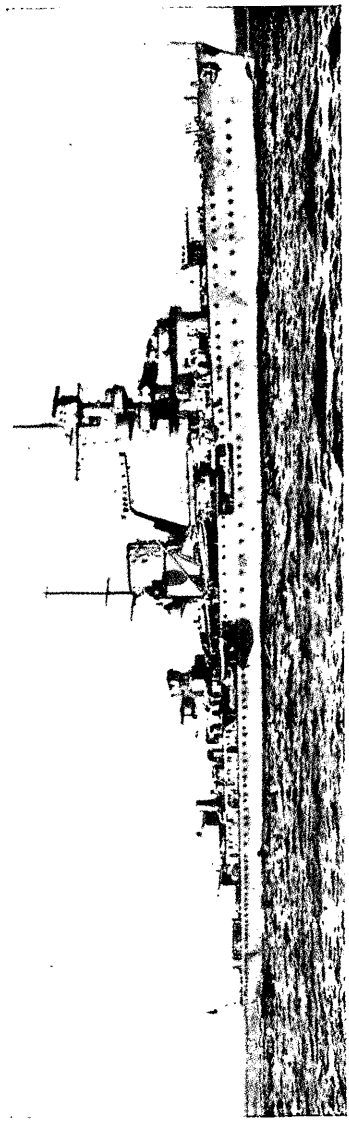
135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description:	6,000 tons. 580 feet (over-all) by 54 feet by 16 feet draft 32 knots.
Guns:	9–5.9 inch. .50 caliber. 8–3 pound AA. 4–machine guns. 6–3.5 inch AA.
Torpedo tubes:	12.
Airplanes:	2.

GERMAN
NAVY

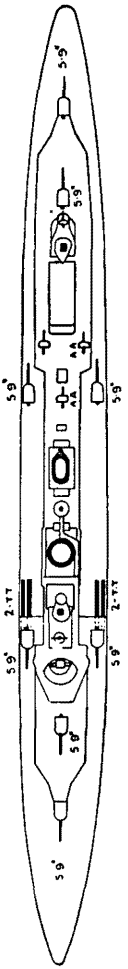


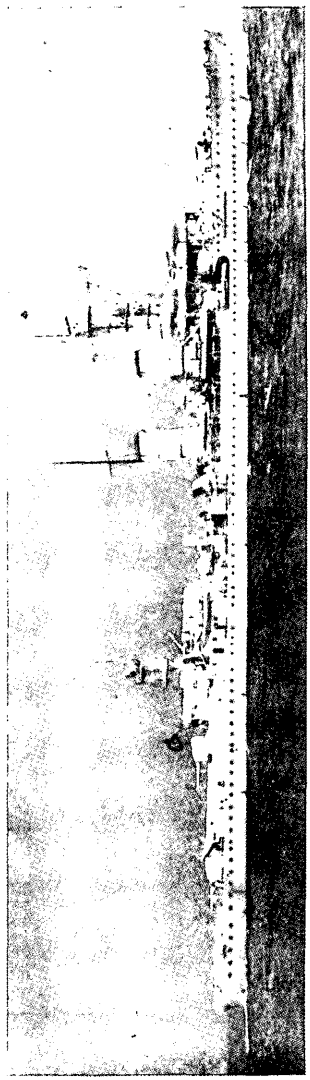
CRUISER
LEIPZIG



LEIPZIG

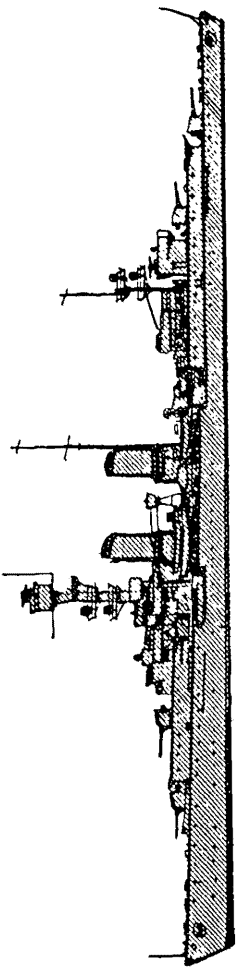
GERMAN NAVY





EMDEN

CRUISER
EMDEN



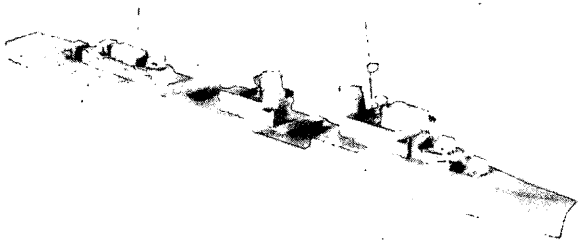
Description:	5,400 tons. 509 feet (over-all) by 47 feet by 18 feet draft. 29 knots.
Guns:	8–5.9 inch, .45 caliber. 3–3.5 inch AA. 4–machine guns.
Torpedo tubes:	4.
Airplanes:	None.

GERMAN
NAVY

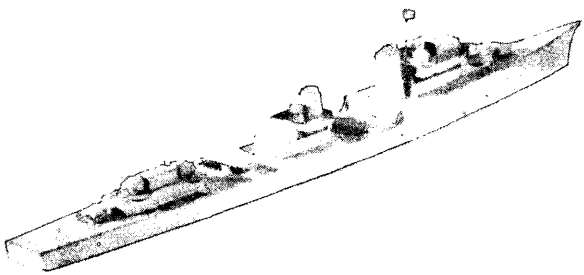
Roeder Class (DD)

DIETHER VON ROEDER

DESTROYER
DIETHER VON ROEDER



45°.

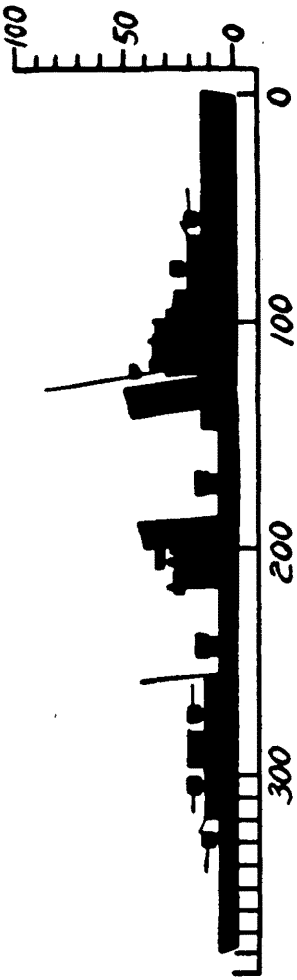


135°. Depression angle 15°

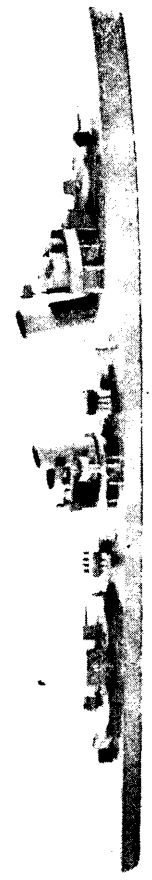
DIETHER VON ROEDER
KARL GALSTER

Description:	1,811 tons. 384 feet by 39 feet by (?). 36 knots.
Guns:	5–5 inch. 4–20-mm AA. 4–37-mm AA.
Torpedo tubes:	8.
Airplanes:	None.

GERMAN
NAVY



Maass Class (DD)

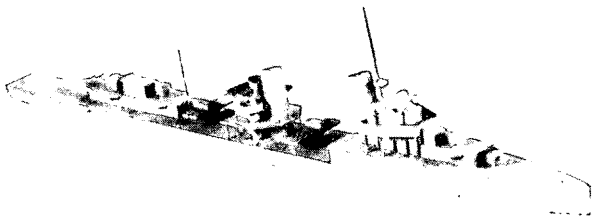


LEBERECHT MAASS

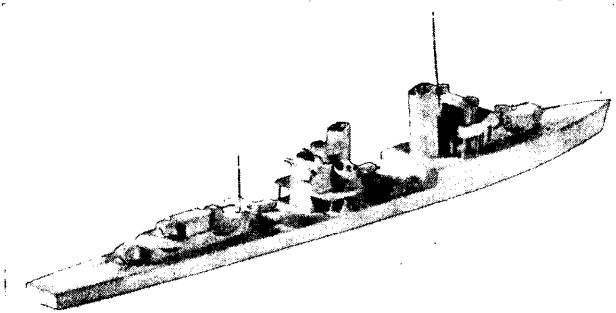
DESTROYER
LEBERECHT MAASS
BEITZEN CLASS

GEORGE THIELE
RICHARD BEITZEN
PAUL JACOBI
THEODOR RIEDEL
HERMAN SCHOENAN

BRUNO HEINEMAN
HANS LODY
FRIEDRICH IHN
ERICH STEINBRINCK
FRIEDRICH ECKOLDT



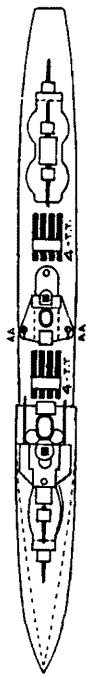
45°.



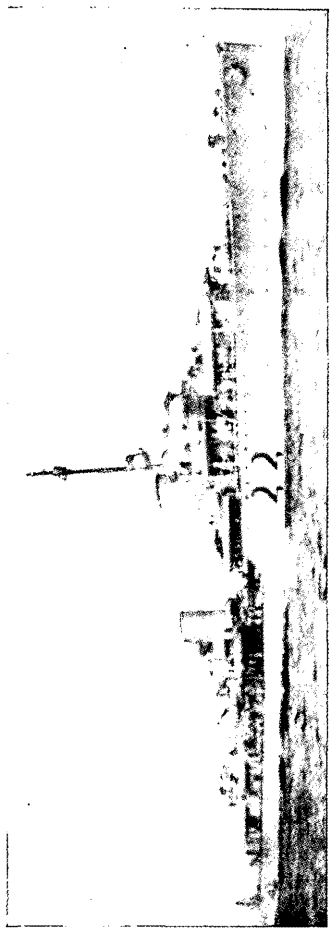
135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description:	1,625 tons. 374 feet by 37 feet by (?). 36 knots.
Guns:	5–5 inch. 4–20-mm AA. 4–37-mm AA.
Torpedo tubes:	8.
Airplanes:	None.
Remarks:	Funnels should be higher and have more prominent stack caps.

GERMAN
NAVY

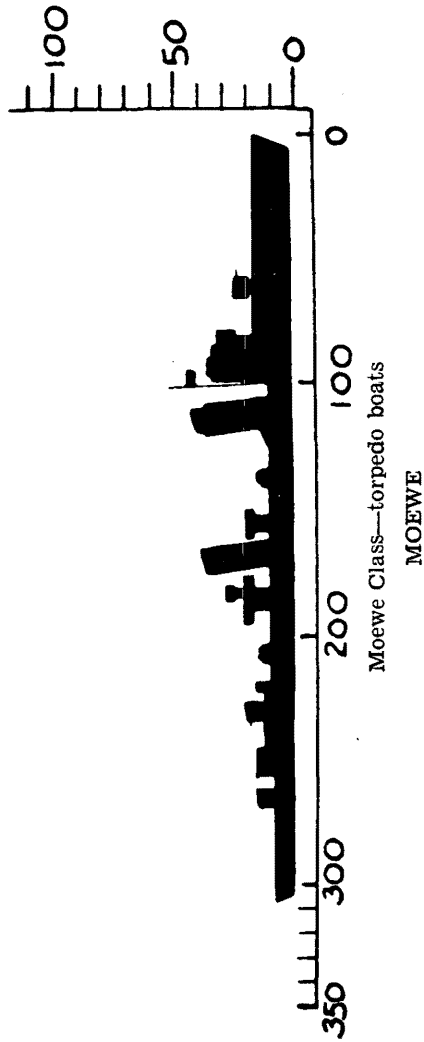


DESTROYER
BEITZEN CLASS



THEODOR RIEDEL

GERMAN
NAVY



Moewe Class—torpedo boats

MOEWE

MOEWE CLASS

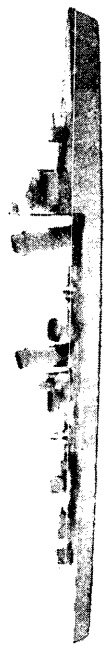
MOEWE

Description:
MOEWE: 800 tons.
292 feet by 27 feet by (?).
34 knots.

Guns: 3–4.1 inch, .50 caliber.
2–1 pound AA.

Remarks: MOEWE class has stack casings carried higher and has slanting tops (at right angles to longitudinal axis of stack); shorter slanting stack caps with first stack closer to foremast.

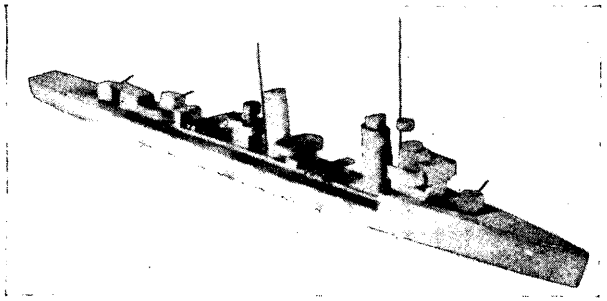
GERMAN
NAVY



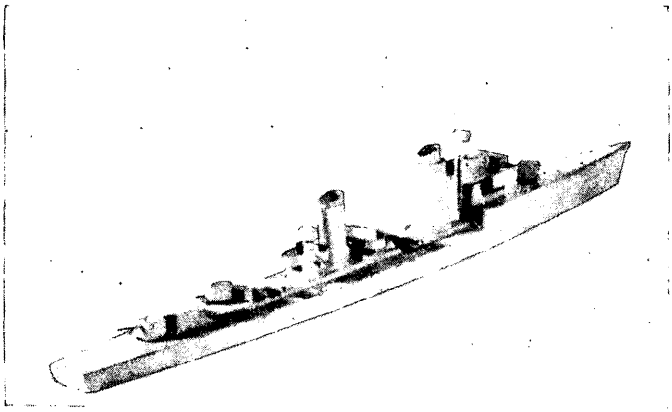
MOEWE

TORPEDO BOATS
MOEWE

MOEWE ALBATROS
GREIF SEEADLER
FALKE KONDOR



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description: 800 tons.
292 feet by 27 feet by (?).
34 knots.

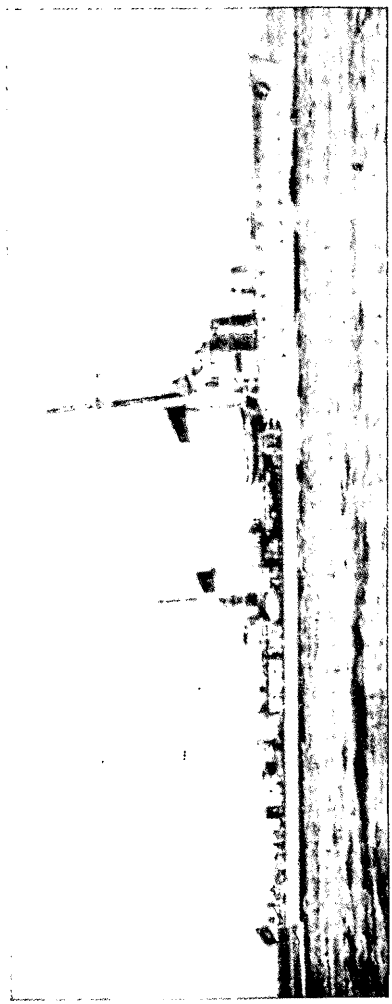
Guns: 3–4.1 inch, .50 caliber.
2–1 pound AA.

Torpedo tubes: 2 triple.

GERMAN
NAVY

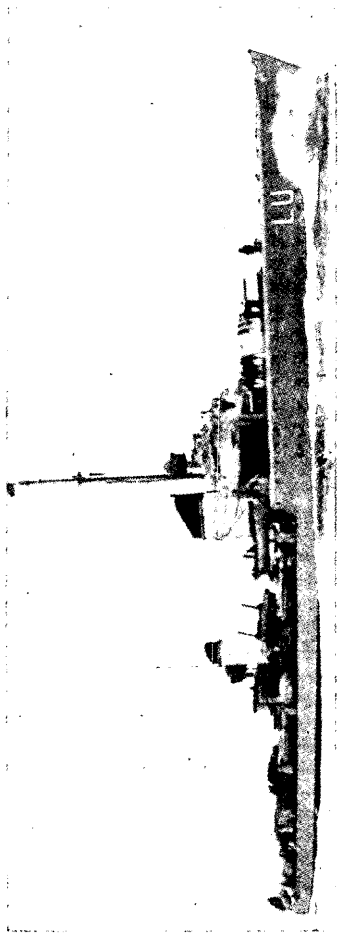


TORPEDO BOATS
MOEWE CLASS



FALKE

GERMAN
NAVY



LUCHS

TORPEDO BOATS
ILTIS CLASS

ILTIS LEOPARD
WOLF LUCHS
JAGUAR TIGER

Similar in appearance to Moewe class—see Moewe class for silhouettes.

Description: 800 tons.
304 feet by 28 feet by 9 feet draft.
34 knots.

Guns: 3–4.1 inch (on Leopard, Luchs, 5 inches).
2–1 pound AA.

Torpedo tubes: 2 triple.

Launch of Graf Zeppelin

Aircraft carrier (tentative)

GRAF ZEPPELIN

AIRCRAFT CARRIER
GRAF ZEPPELIN CLASS

GRAF ZEPPELIN CLASS

GRAF ZEPPELIN
DEUTSCHLAND

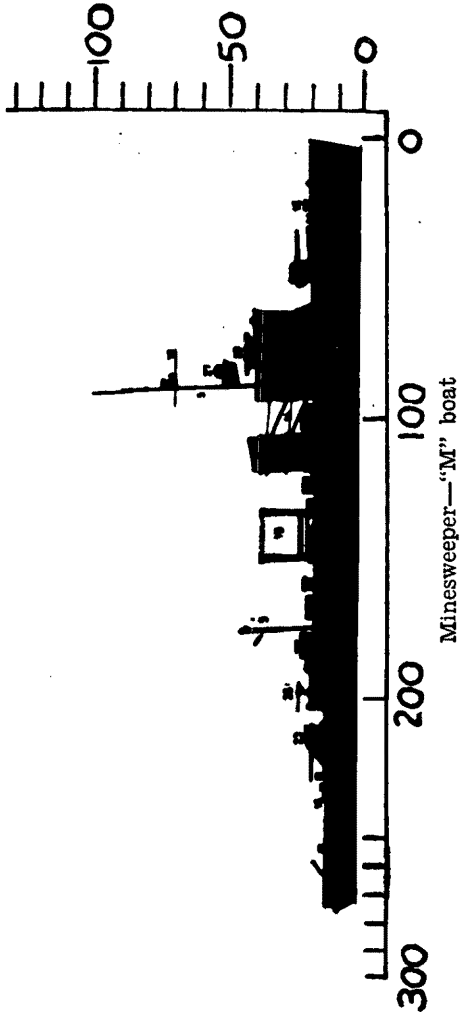
Description: 19,250 tons.
821 feet by 89 feet by (?).
32 knots.

Guns: 16–5.9 inch.
10–4.1 inch.
22–37-mm AA.

Torpedo tubes: None.

Airplanes: 40.

GERMAN
NAVY



Minesweeper—"M" boat

MINESWEEPER
"M" BOAT

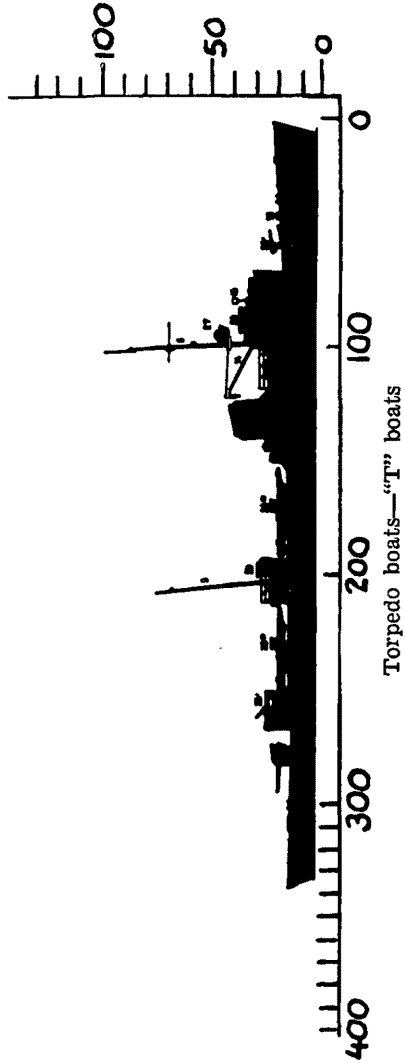
"M" BOAT CLASS

Description: 600 tons.
17 knots.

Guns: 2–4.1 inch.
2–37-mm.

Remarks: Do not confuse with "T" boats. Note marked similarity.

GERMAN
NAVY



Torpedo boats—"T" boats

"T" BOAT CLASS

"T" BOATS

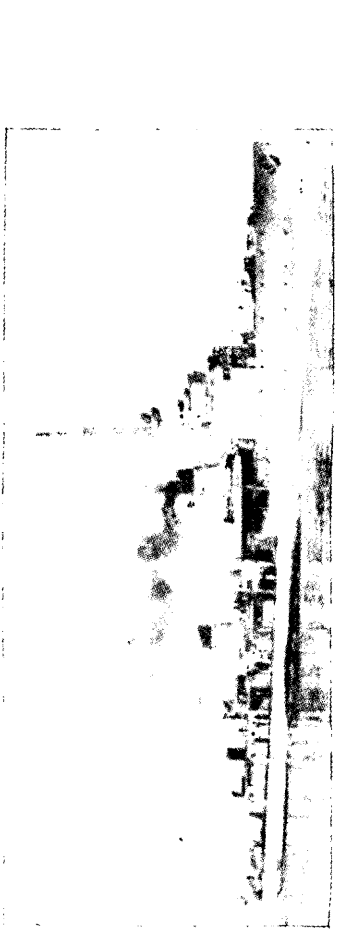
Description: 600 tons.
267 feet by 29 feet by (?).
36 knots.

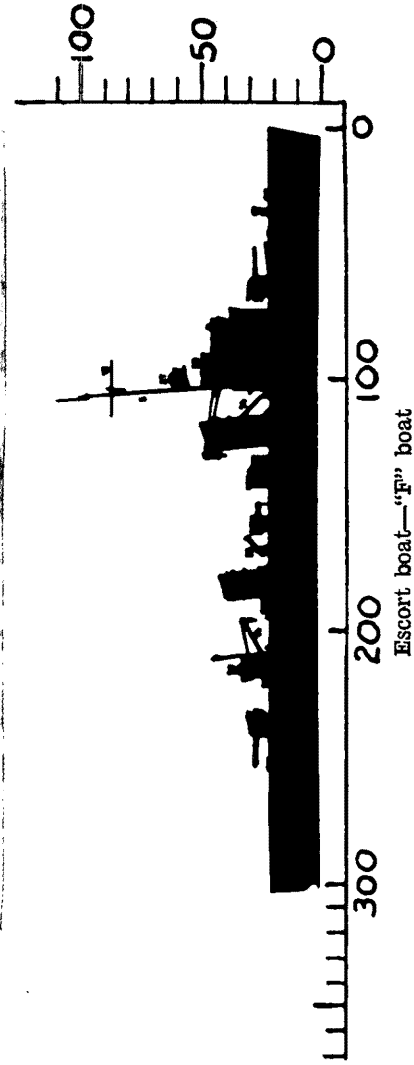
Guns: 1–4.1 inch.
6–37-mm.

Torpedo tubes: 6.

Remarks: Do not confuse with "M" boats, which class type resembles closely.

GERMAN
NAVY





Escort boat—"F" boat

ESCORT BOAT
"F" BOAT

"F" BOAT CLASS

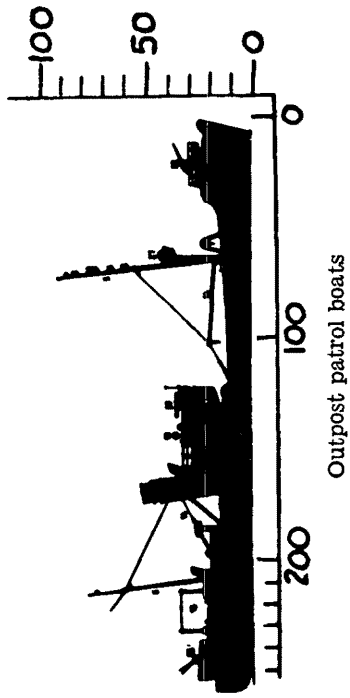
F 1	Hai
F 2	F 7
Koenigin Luise	F 8
F 4	F 9
F 5	F 10

Description: 600 tons.
250 feet (over-all) by 29 feet by (?).
28 knots.

Guns: 2–4.1 inch, .50 caliber.
2–1 pound AA.
4–37-mm AA.

Remarks: Watch for variations in deck profile. Fitted for mine laying.

GERMAN
NAVY



Outpost patrol boats

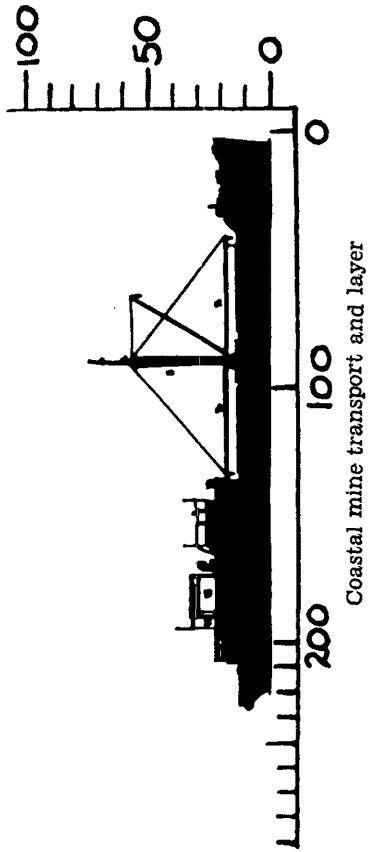
OUTPOST PATROL BOATS

Description: 496 tons.
125 feet by 23 feet by (?).
10 knots.

Guns: 1–3.5 inch.
3–1 pound AA.

Remarks: These are converted fishing trawlers and will vary in size and silhouettes.

GERMAN
NAVY



Coastal mine transport and layer

COASTAL MINE TRANSPORT AND LAYER

Description: 1,253 tons.
10 knots.

GERMAN
NAVY



New type motor torpedo boat
"S" boat (German designation)
"E" boat (British designation)

NEW TYPE
MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT

MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT CLASS

S 6 TO 37
S 38 TO 57

Description:
S 6 to 37: 62 tons.
93 feet.
30–36 knots.

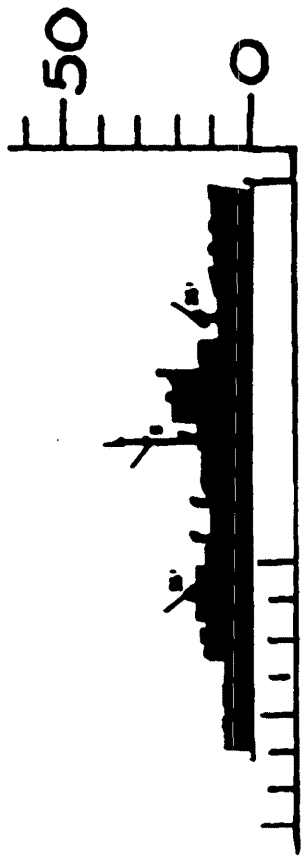
S 38 to 57: 86 tons.
105 feet.

Guns:
S 6 to 37: 2–1 pound AA.
1–20-mm AA.
S 38 to 57: 2–47-mm AA.

Torpedo tubes: 2.

Remarks: Vary in size and silhouettes.

GERMAN
NAVY



Motorboats, minesweepers, and subchasers—
"R" boat

MOTORBOATS, MINESWEEPERS, and SUBCHASERS— "R" BOAT

"R" BOAT CLASS

"R" BOAT

Description: 90 tons.
18 knots.

Guns: 2–1 pound AA.

Torpedo tubes: None.

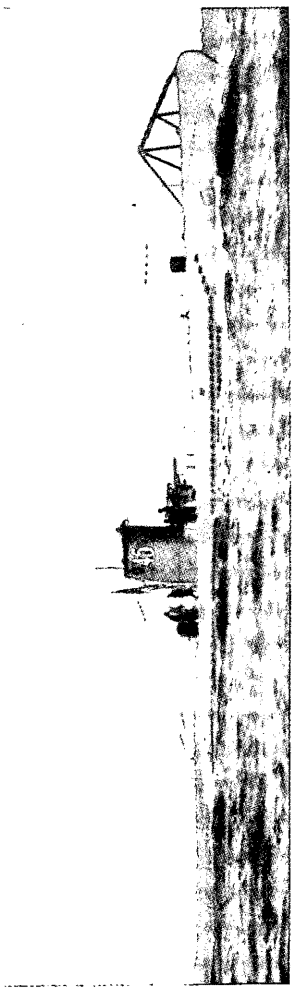
GERMAN
NAVY

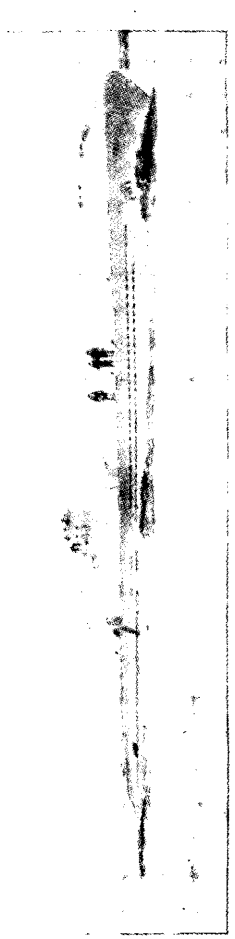
SUBMARINES
OCEAN GOING TYPES

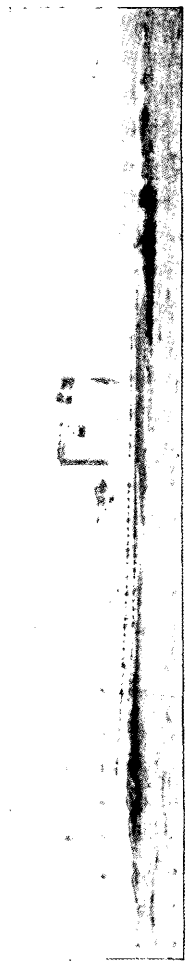


GERMAN
NAVY

SUBMARINES
SEA GOING TYPES







GERMAN
NAVY

SUBMARINES
COASTAL TYPES



