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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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~~RESTRICTED~~

FM 30-55

BASIC FIELD MANUAL



MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

**IDENTIFICATION OF
GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS**

Prepared under direction of the
Chief of Staff



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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).

~~RESTRICTED~~

FM 30-55

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



EMBLEM



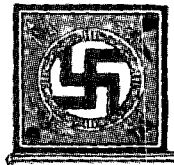
NATIONAL FLAG AND JACK



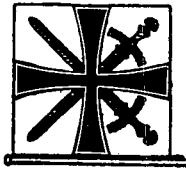
STATE SERVICE FLAG (Fleet Auxiliaries)



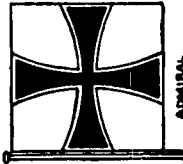
NATIONAL FLAG FOR MERCHANT SHIPS COMMANDED BY NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS



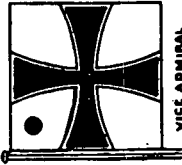
FÜHRER'S STANDARD



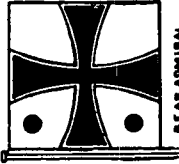
C-IN-C. OF NAVY



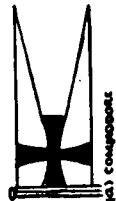
ADMIRAL



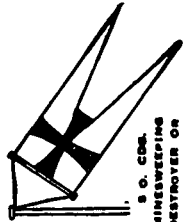
VICE ADMIRAL



REAR ADMIRAL



(a) COMMODORE
WHEN FLOWN FROM MAIN MAST
(b) SENIOR OFFICER
WHEN FLOWN FROM UPPER YARD



S. O. COM.
MINESWEEPING
DESTROYER OR
SUBMARINE
FLOTILLAS



COMMANDER OF A
FLOTILLA



PENNANT

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

	Großadmiral and Admiral of the Fleet.
	Admiral
	Vizeadmiral. (Vice-Ad.)
	Kontreadmiral: (Rear-Ad.)
	Kapitän zur See & Fregattenkapitän (Captain) (Commander)
	Korvettenkapitän. (Lieut.-Com.)
	Kapitänleutnant. (Lieut., senior)
	Oberleutnant z. See. (Lieut., junior)
	Leutnant zur See. (Sub-Lieut.)

Subalternoffiziere.

Stabsoffiziere.

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 Esculapius
- Accountant Officers, the winged staff of Hermes

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.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

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 R.C. at			Danger space against average ships at			Approximate Muzzle Energy.
							9000 yds. in.	6000 yds. in.	3000 yds. in.	10,000 yds. yards.	5000 yds. yards.	3000 yds. yards.	
inch. 15 11 11	c/m. 38.7 23 28	... 40	'36 '28 '01	tons. ... 32.2	lbs. 670 661.4	foot-secs. ... 2756	in. ... 6	in. ... 10	in. ... 14	yards. ... 150	yards. ... 450	yards. ... 740	foot tons. ... 31,600
5.9 5.9 5	15 15 12.7	50 45	'... '09	5.5 5	101.4	{ 3084 2920	... ...	... ...	... 5	... ...	... 200	... 420	6,690 5,990
4.1 4.1 4.1 3.5	10.5 10.5 10.5 90	45 50 A.A. A.A.	'16 '28	... ...	38.2	......	......	......	......	......	......	......	......

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.

A.A. 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

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

BATTLESHIPS
BISMARCK-TIRPITZ CLASS

BISMARCK-TIRPITZ CLASS

BISMARCK
TIRPITZ

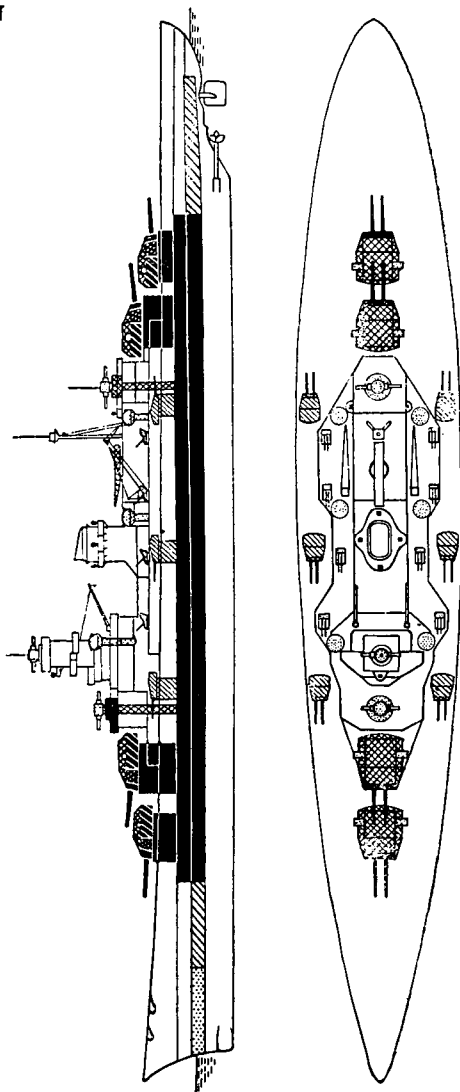
Description: 35,000 tons.
793 feet (over-all) by 118 feet by 26 feet draft.
30 knots (?).

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

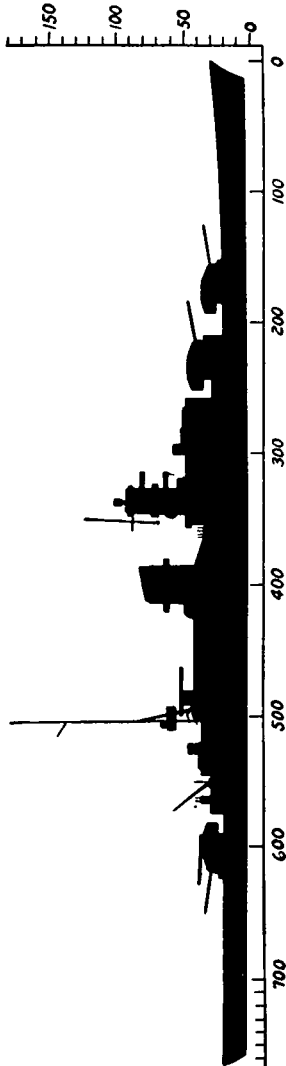


IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

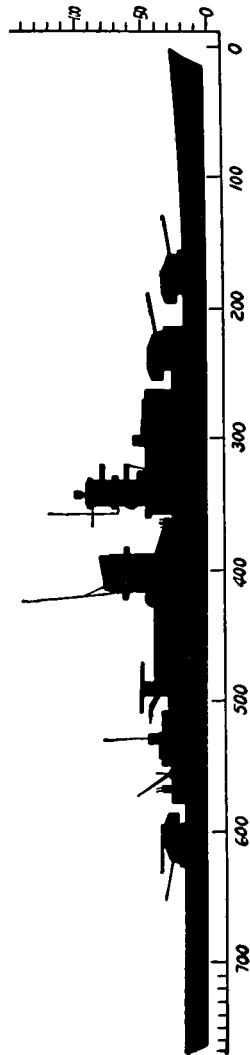
BATTLESHIPS
BISMARCK-TIRPITZ CLASS

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY



SCHARNHORST



GNEISENAU

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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.

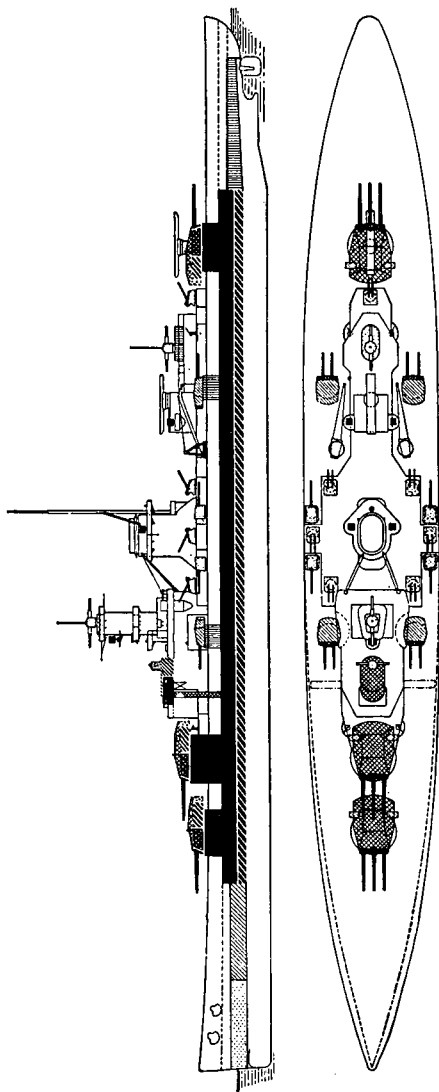
Torpedo tubes: None.

Airplanes: 4. Catapults: 2.

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

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY

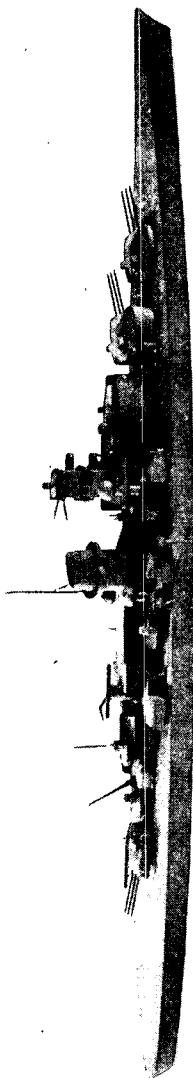


BATTLESHIPS
SCHARNHORST CLASS



GNEISENAU

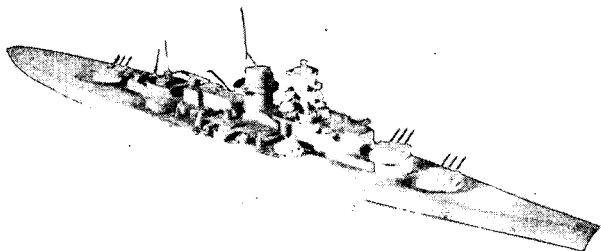
GERMAN
NAVY



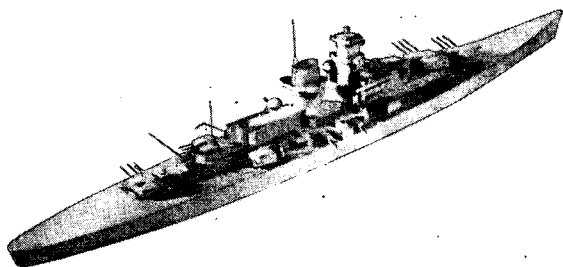
Changes suspected but none confirmed.

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

BATTLESHIP
GNEISENAU



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

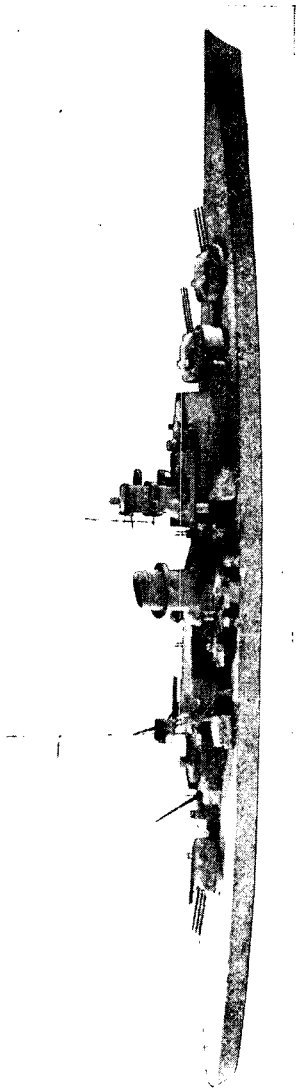
Description: 26,000 tons.
742 feet (water-line) by 99 feet by 25 feet draft.
30 knots (?).

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

Torpedo tubes: None.

Airplanes: 4.

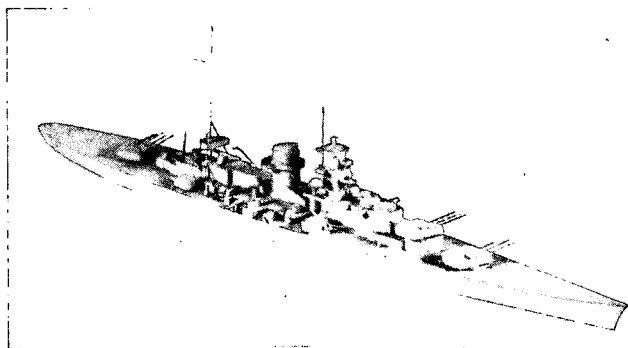
GERMAN
NAVY



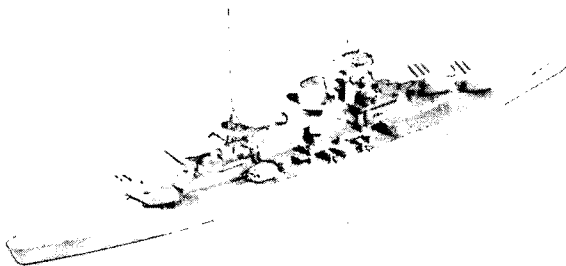
Changes suspected but none confirmed.

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

BATTLESHIP
SCHARNHORST



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

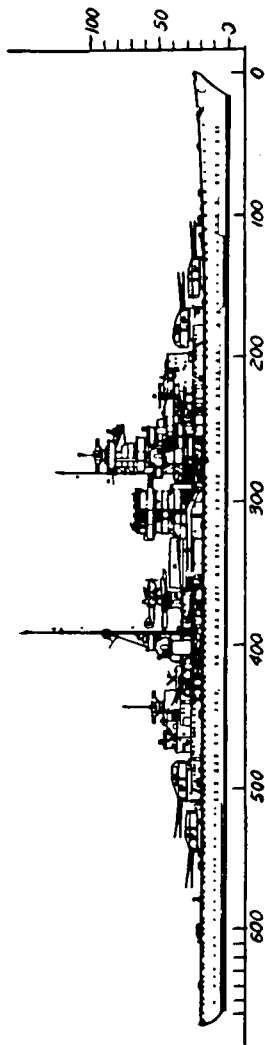
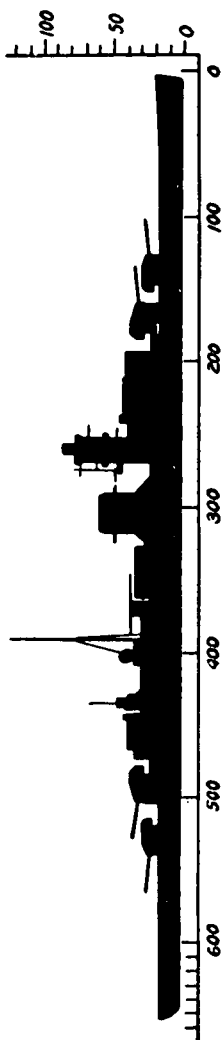
Description: 26,000 tons.
742 feet (water-line) by 99 feet by 25 feet draft.
30 knots (?).

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

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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.

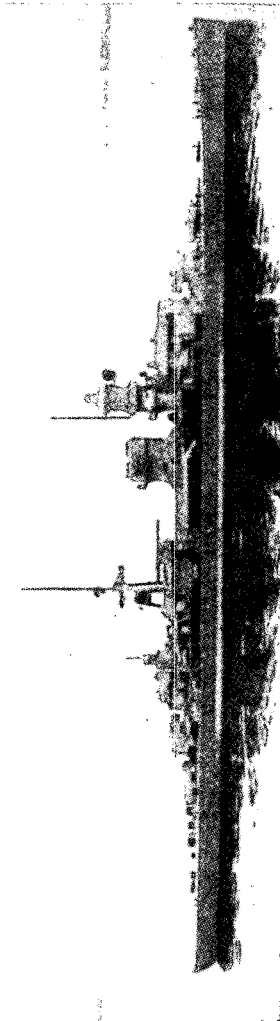
Guns: 8-8 inch.
12-4.1 inch.
12-37-mm AA.
Various smaller.

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 con-
firmed.

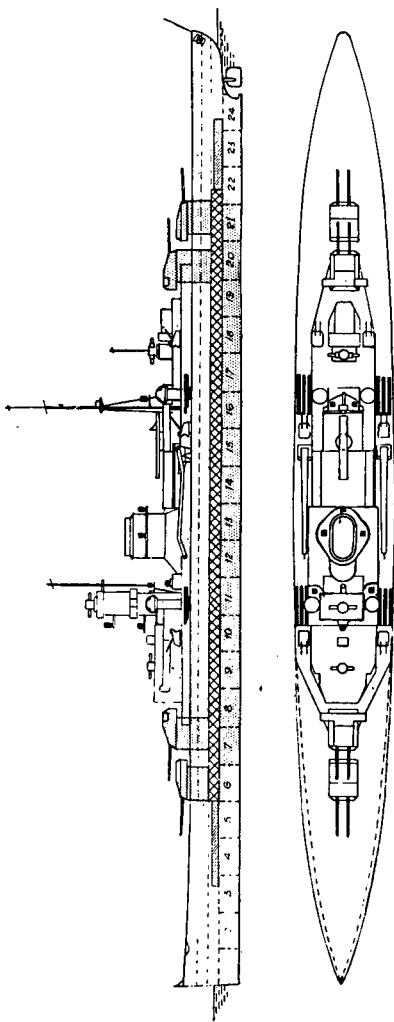
GERMAN
NAVY



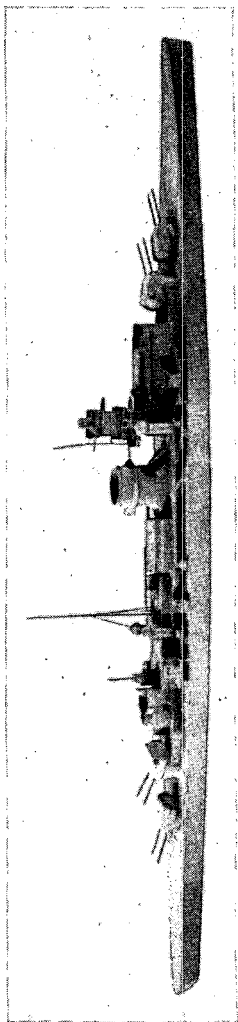
HIPPER

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

HEAVY CRUISERS
HIPPER CLASS



GERMAN
NAVY

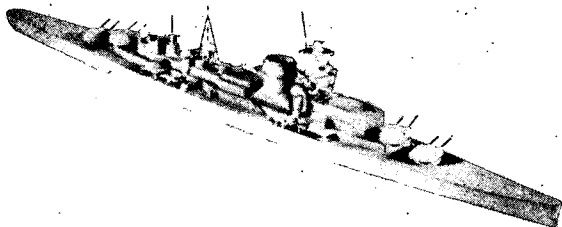


90°.

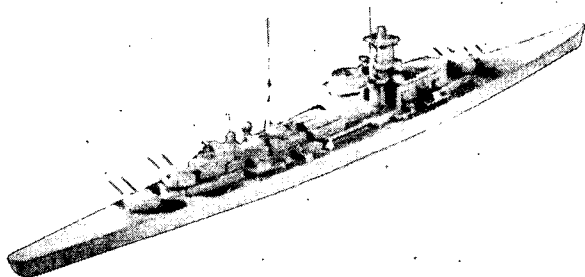
ADMIRAL HIPPER

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

HEAVY CRUISER
ADMIRAL HIPPER



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

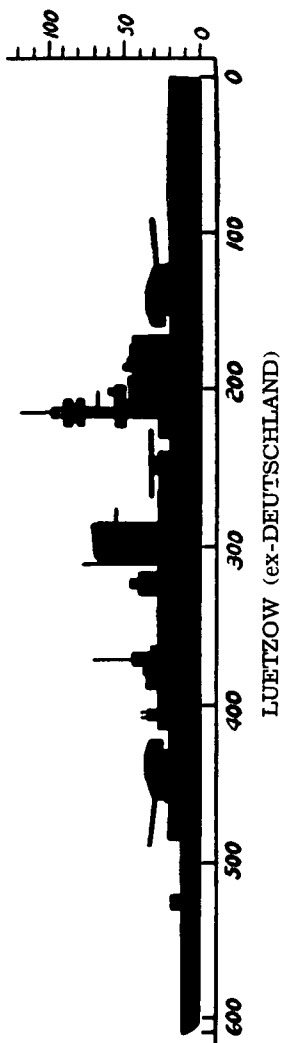
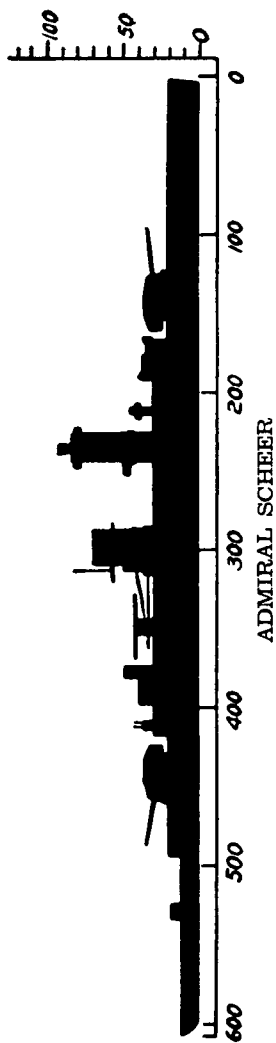
Description: 10,000 tons.
640 feet by 70 feet by 16 feet draft.
30 knots.

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

Torpedo tubes: 12.

Airplanes: 3.

GERMAN
NAVY



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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.

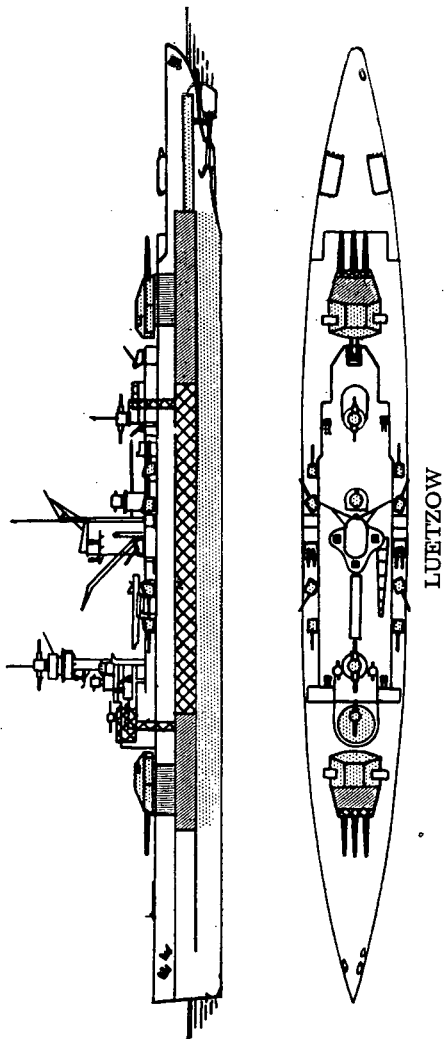
Guns: 6-11 inch.
8-5.9 inch.
6-4.1 inch.
8-3 pound AA.
10-machine guns.

Torpedo tubes: 8.

Airplanes: 2.

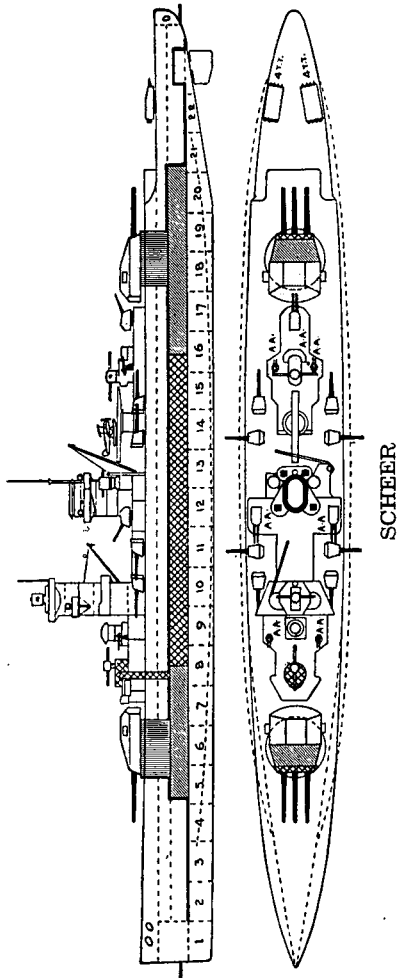
Remarks: ADMIRAL SCHEER—Report addition of clipper bow,
slanting stack cap, and short mainmast.
LUETZOW—No reported changes but some sus-
pected.

GERMAN
NAVY

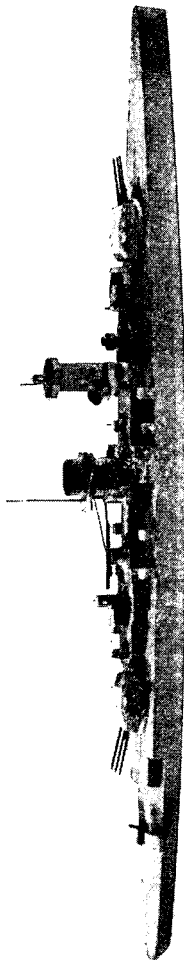
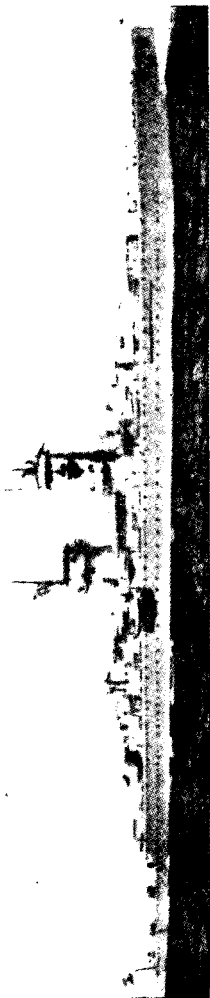


IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

ARMORED SHIPS
POCKET BATTLESHIP CLASS



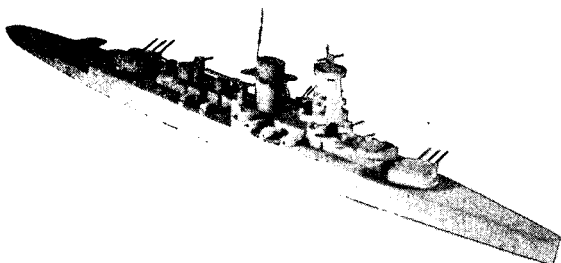
GERMAN
NAVY



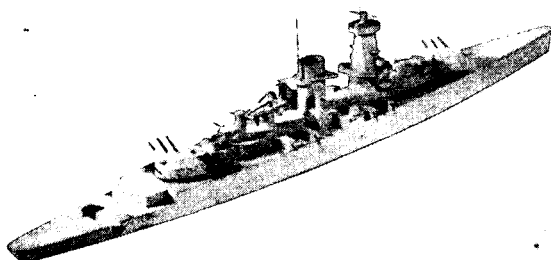
ADMIRAL SCHEER

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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.

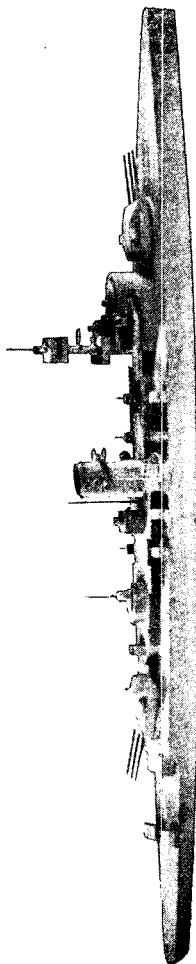
Torpedo tubes: 8.

Airplanes: 2.

Remarks: Report addition of clipper bow, slanting stack cap,
and short mainmast.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

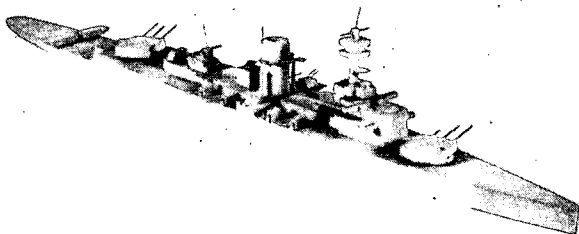
GERMAN
NAVY



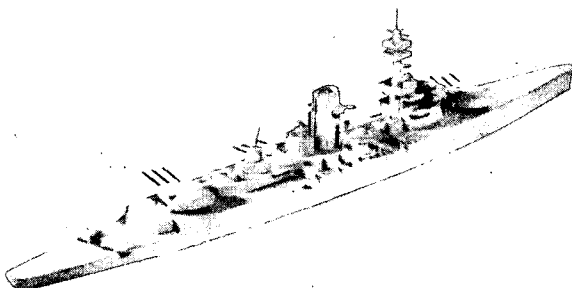
LUETZOW

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

POCKET BATTLESHIPS
LUETZOW



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description: 10,000 tons.
26 knots.

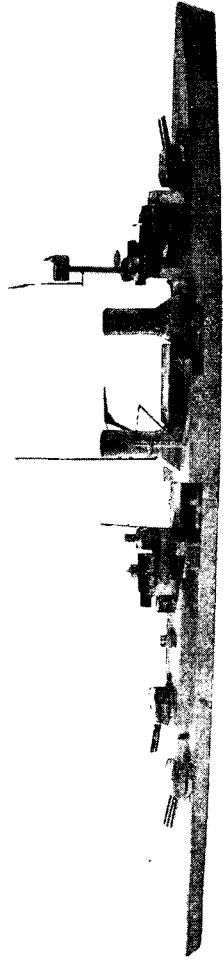
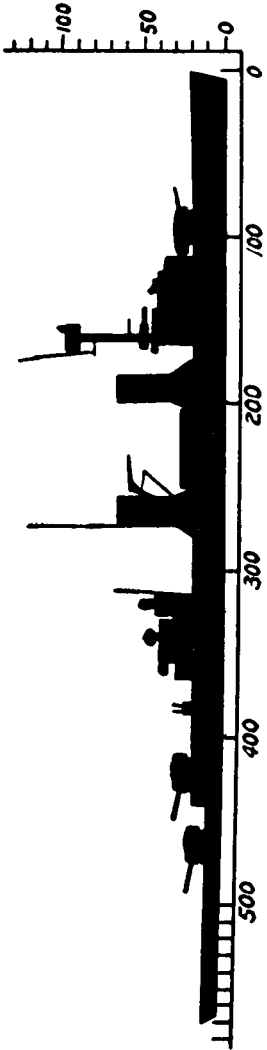
Guns: 6-11 inch.
6-4.1 inch.
8-5.9 inch.
8-3 pound AA.
10-machine guns.

Torpedo tubes: 8.

Airplanes: 2.

Remarks: No reported changes but some suspected.

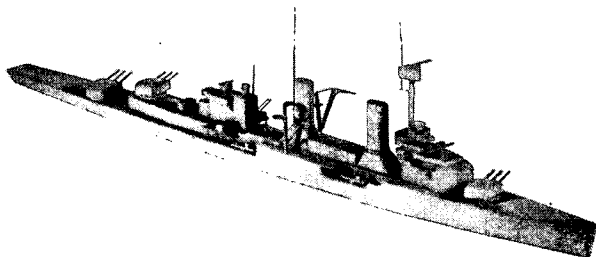
GERMAN
NAVY



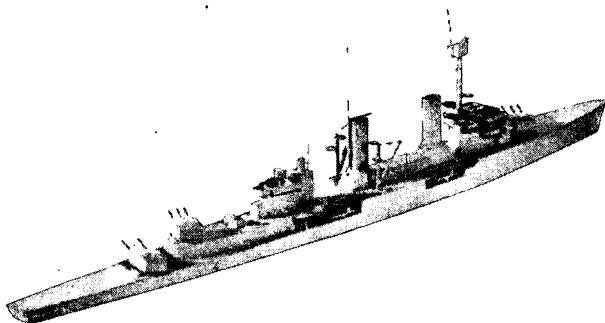
90°. KÖLN

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

CRUISER
KÖLN



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description: 6,000 tons.
570 feet by 50 feet by 18 feet draft.
32 knots.

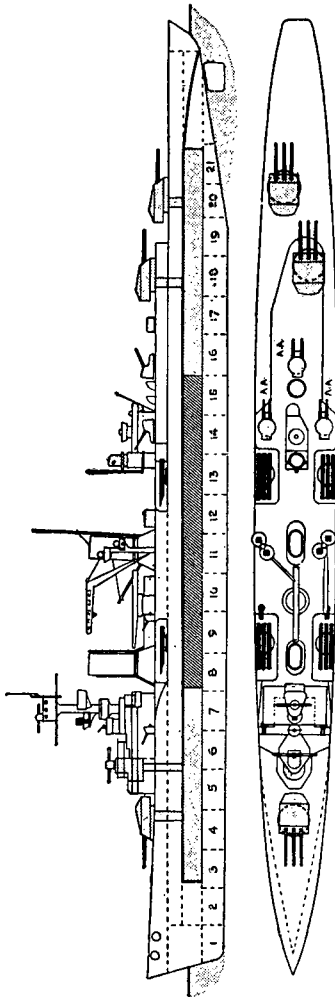
Guns: 9-5.9 inch, .50 caliber.
8-3 pound AA.
6-3.5 inch AA.
4-machine guns.

Torpedo tubes: 12.

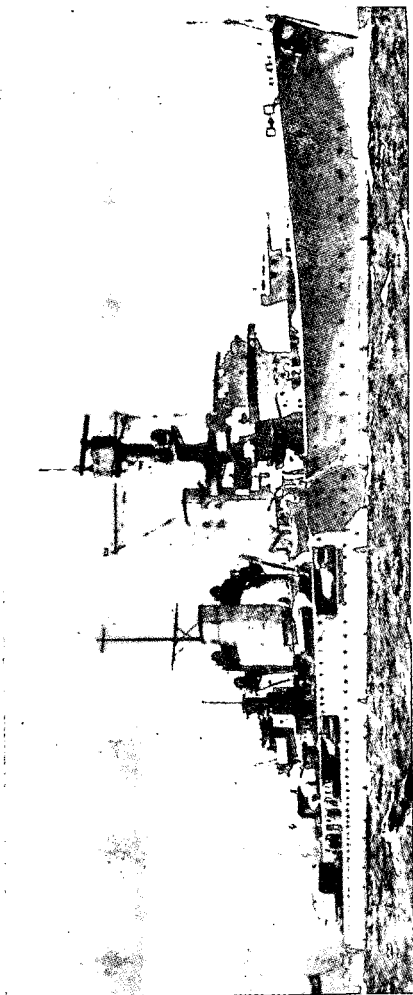
Airplanes: 2.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY

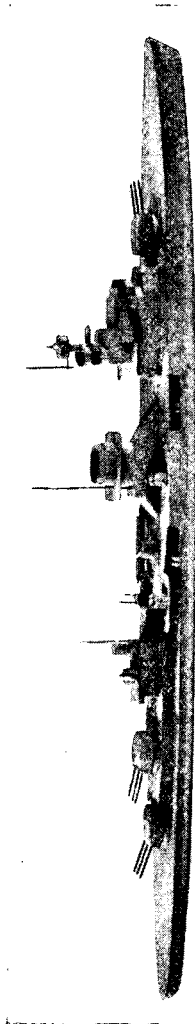
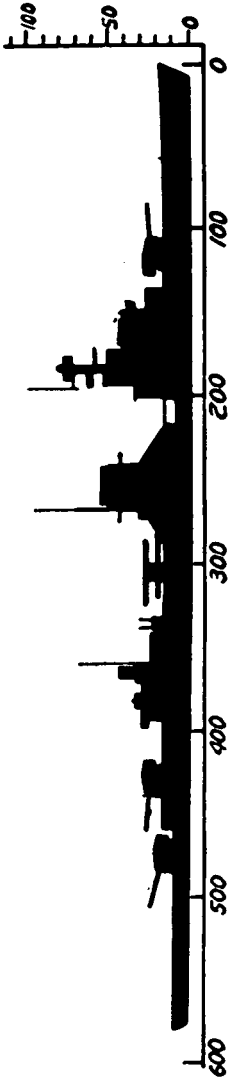


CRUISER
KÖLN



KÖLN

GERMAN
NAVY

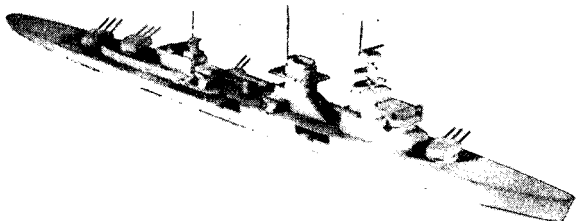


NÜRNBERG

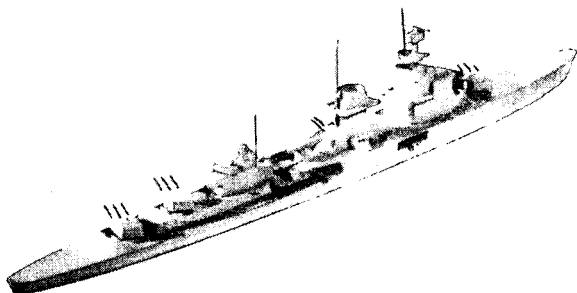
No reported changes.

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

CRUISER
NÜRNBERG



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

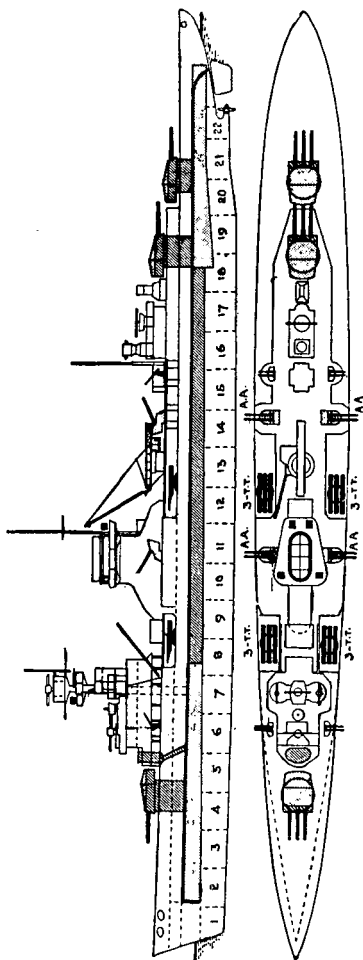
Description: 6,000 tons.
558 feet (plimsoll point) by 54 feet by 15 feet draft.
32 knots.

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

Torpedo tubes: 12.

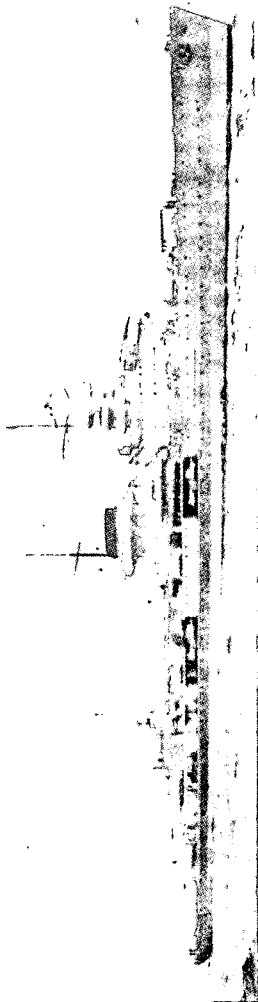
Airplanes: 2.

GERMAN
NAVY

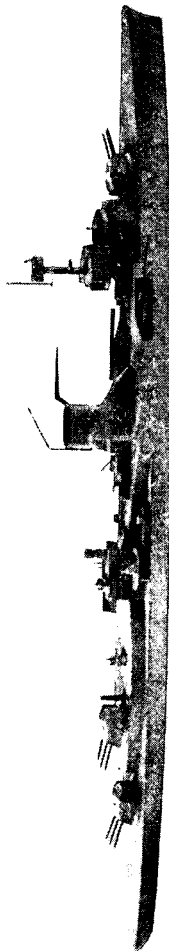
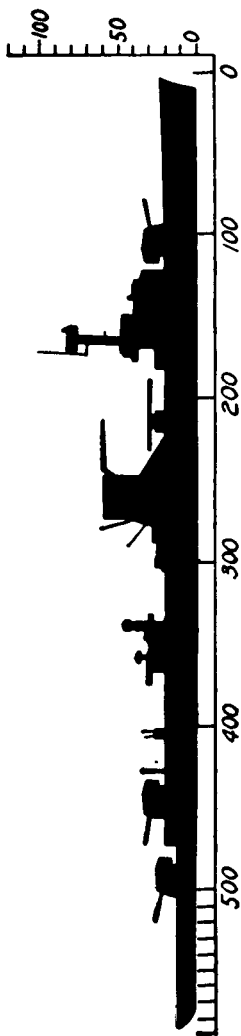


IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

CRUISER
NÜRNBERG



GERMAN
NAVY

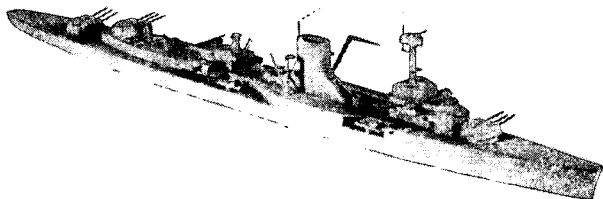


LEIPZIG

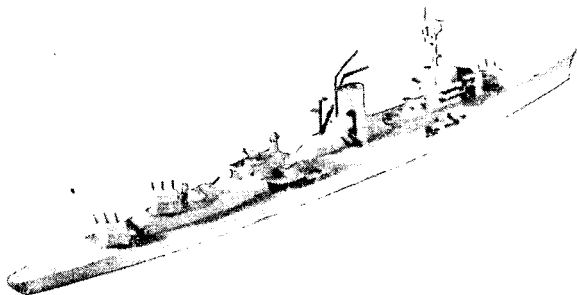
This ship may have been sunk December 13, 1939.

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

CRUISER
LEIPZIG



45°.



135°. Depression angle 15°.

Description: 6,000 tons.
580 feet (over-all) by 54 feet by 16 feet draft
32 knots.

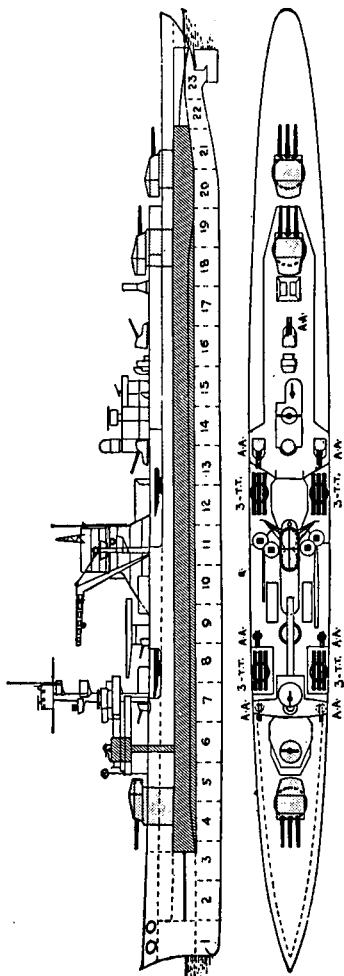
Guns: 9-5.9 inch. .50 caliber.
8-3 pound AA.
4-machine guns.
6-3.5 inch AA.

Torpedo tubes: 12.

Airplanes: 2.

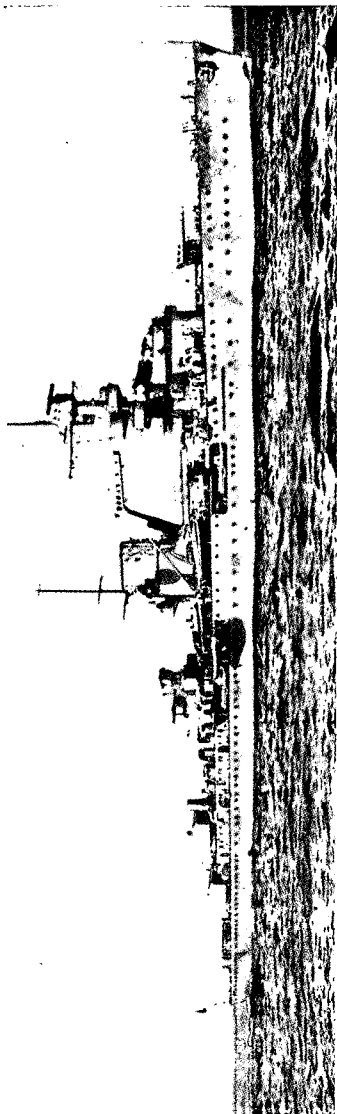
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY



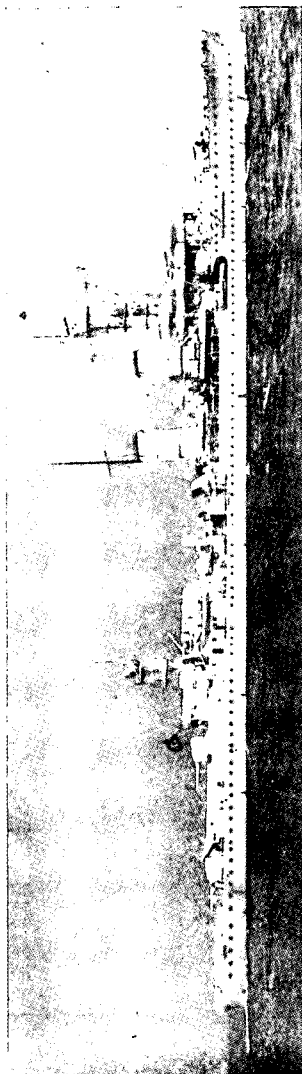
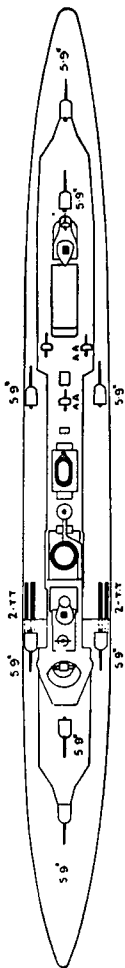
IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

CRUISER
LEIPZIG



LEIPZIG

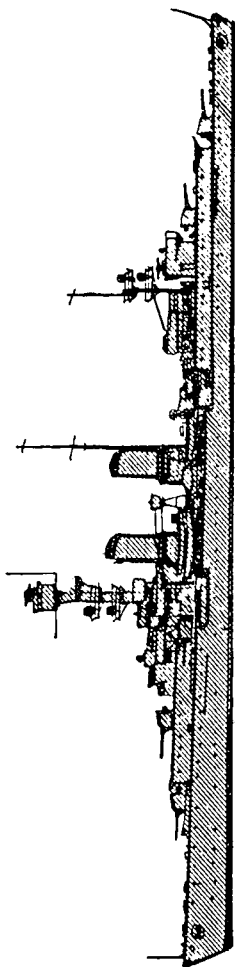
GERMAN
NAVY



EMDEN

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

CRUISER
EMDEN



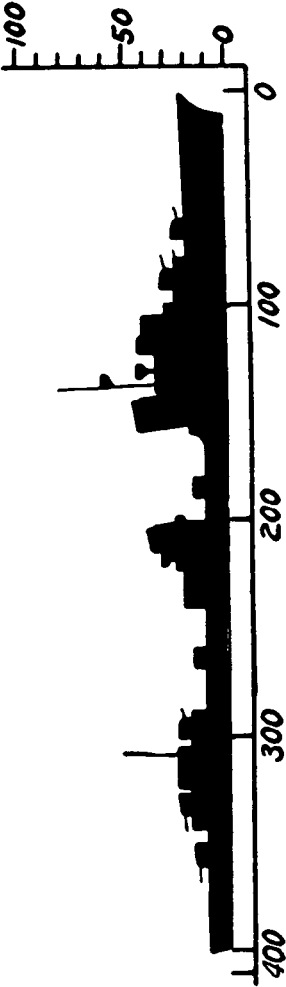
Description: 5,400 tons.
509 feet (over-all) by
47 feet by 18 feet
draft.
29 knots.

Guns: 8-5.9 inch, 45 caliber.
3-3.5 inch AA.
4-machine guns.

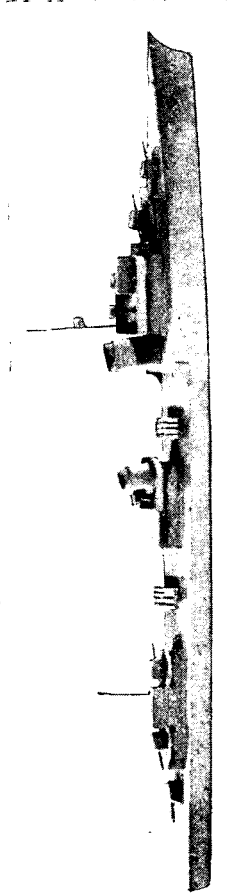
Torpedo tubes: 4.

Airplanes: None.

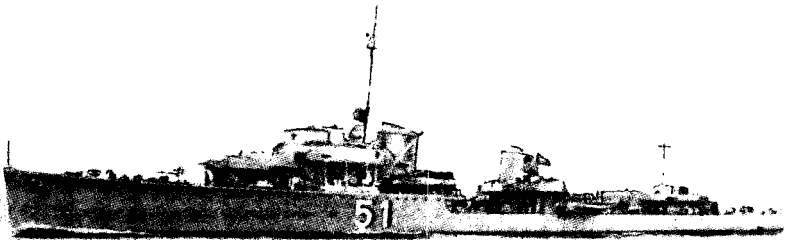
GERMAN
NAVY



Roeder Class (DD)

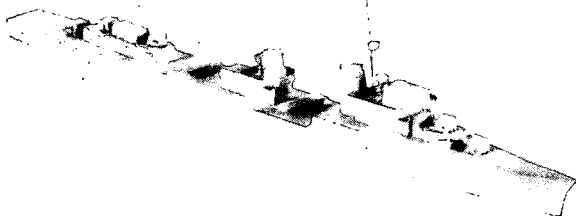


DIETHER VON ROEDER



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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.

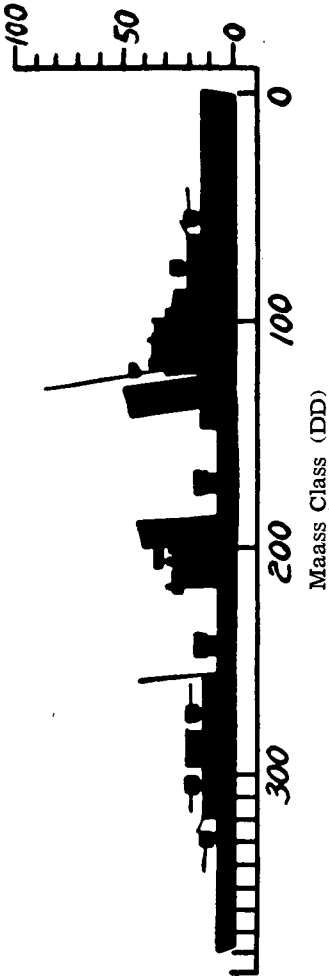
Guns: 5-5 inch.
4-20-mm AA.
4-37-mm AA.

Torpedo tubes: 8.

Airplanes: None.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY



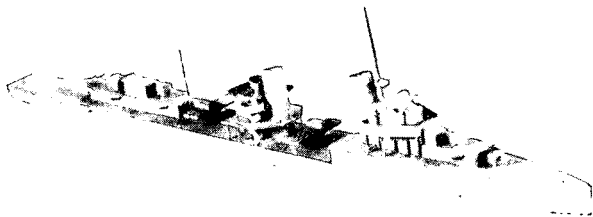
LEBERECHT MAASS

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

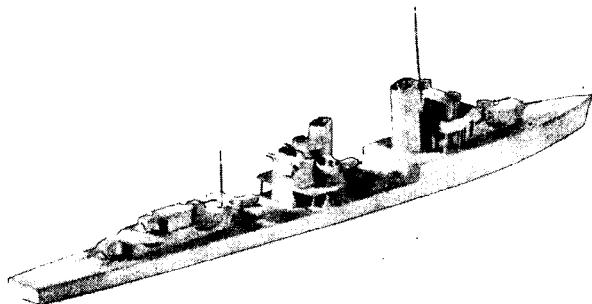
DESTROYER
LEBERECHT MAASS
BEITZEN CLASS

GEORGE THIELE
RICHARD BEITZEN
PAUL JACOBI
THEODOR RIEDEL
HERMAN SCHOENAN

BRUNO HEINEMAN
HANS LODY
FRIEDRICH IHN
ERICH STEINBRINCK
FRIEDRICH ECKOLDT



45°.

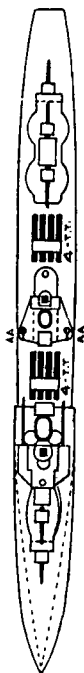


135°. Depression angle 15°.

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.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY



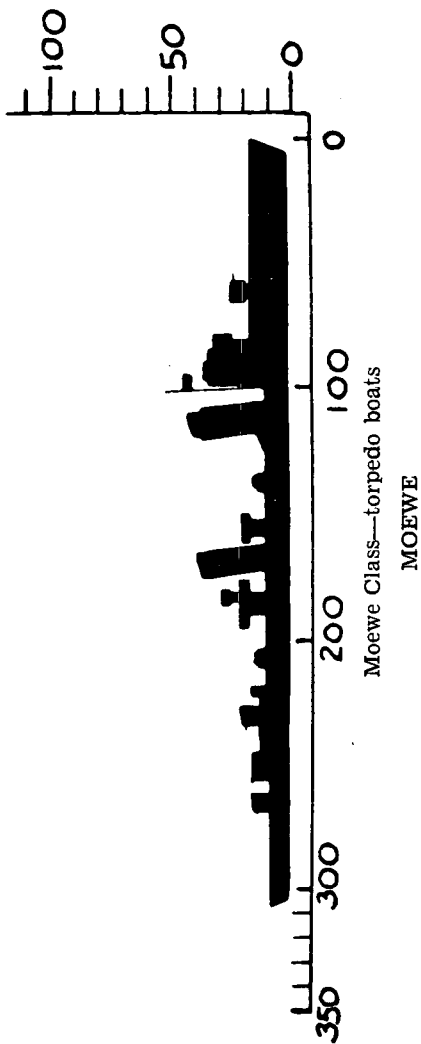
IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

DESTROYER
BEITZEN CLASS



THEODOR RIEDEL

GERMAN
NAVY



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

TORPEDO BOATS
MOEWE CLASS

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

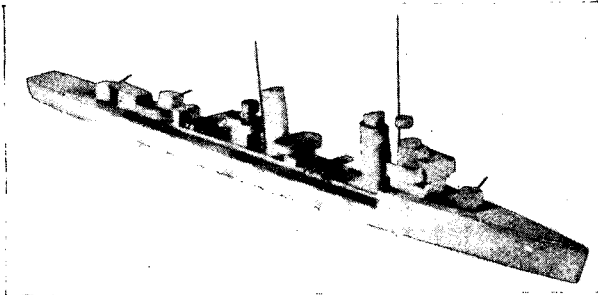


MOEWE

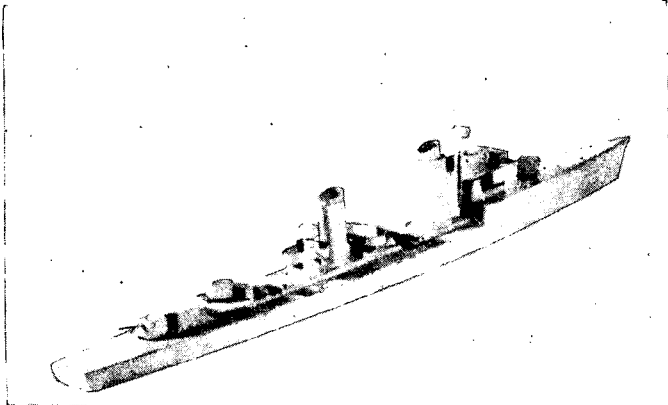
IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY



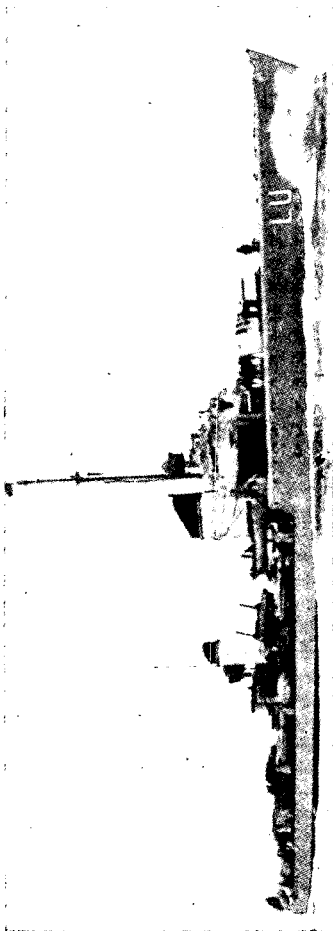
IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

TORPEDO BOATS
MOEWE CLASS



FALKE

GERMAN
NAVY



LUCHS

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

TORPEDO BOATS
ILTIS CLASS

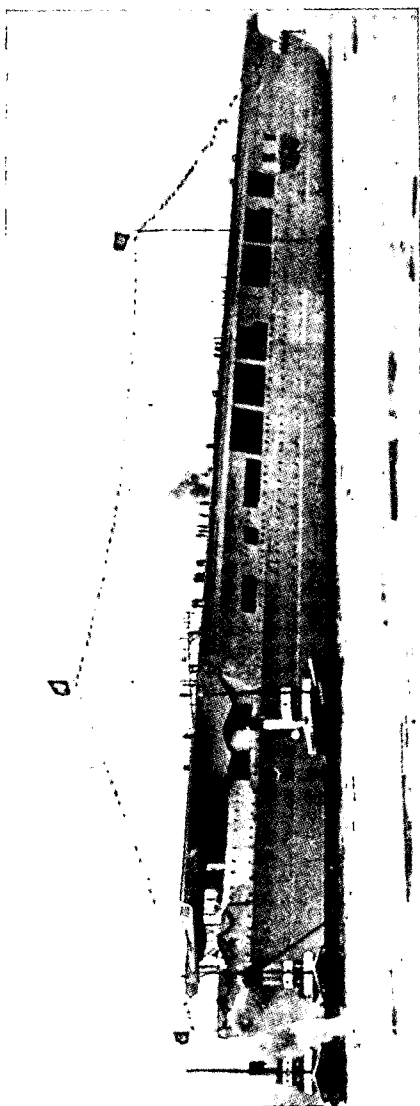
ILTIS	LEOPARD
WOLF	LUCHS
JAGUAR	TIGER

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

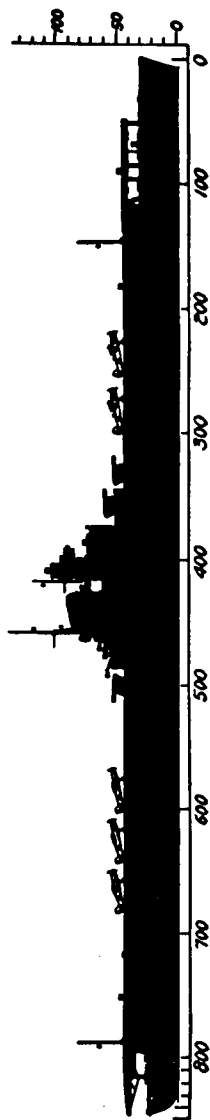
Description: 800 tons.
304 feet by 28 feet by 9 feet draft.
34 knots.

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

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

AIRCRAFT CARRIER
GRAF ZEPPELIN CLASS

GRAF ZEPPELIN CLASS

GRAF ZEPPELIN
DEUTSCHLAND

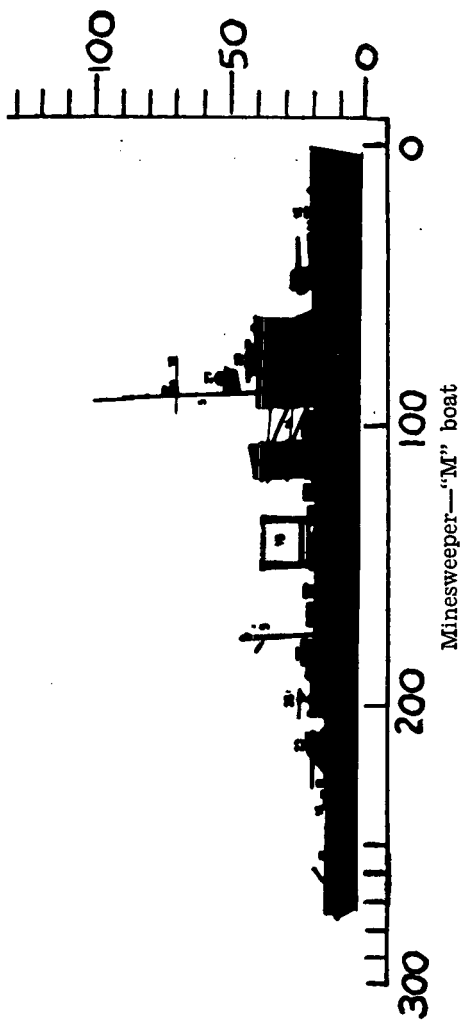
Description: 19,250 tons.
821 feet by 89 feet by (?).
32 knots.

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

Torpedo tubes: None.

Airplanes: 40.

GERMAN
NAVY



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

MINESWEEPER
"M" BOAT

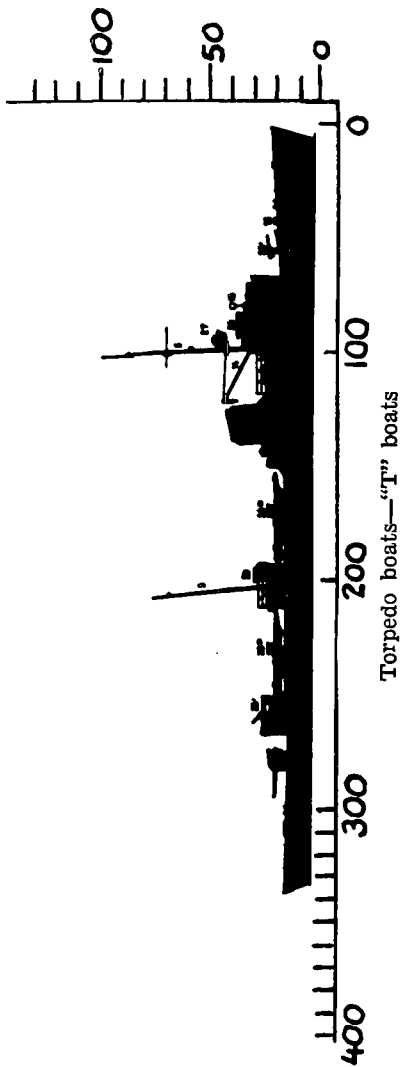
"M" BOAT CLASS

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



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

TORPEDO BOATS
"T" BOAT

"T" BOAT CLASS

"T" BOATS

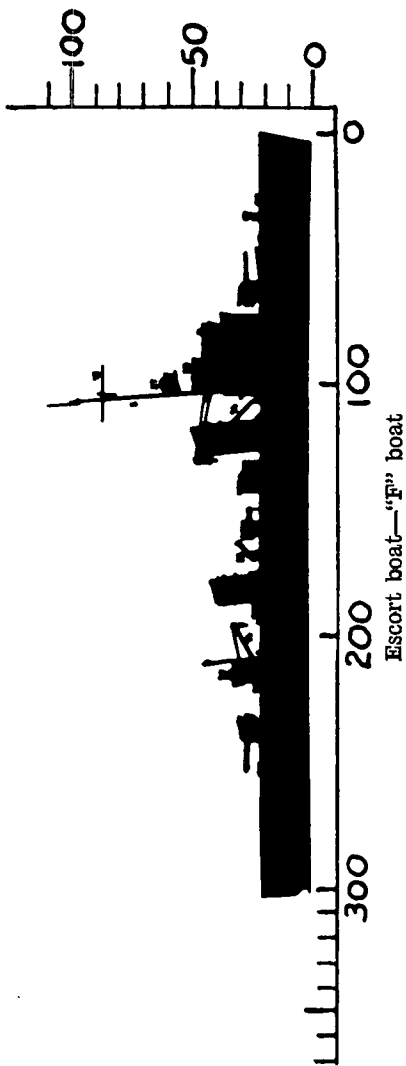
Description: 600 tons.
267 feet by 29 feet by (?).
36 knots.

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



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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

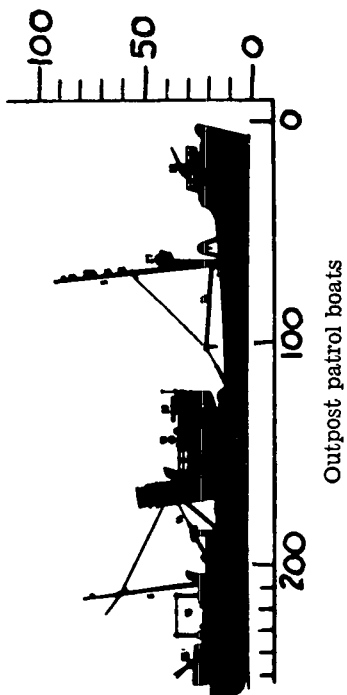
Description: 600 tons.
250 feet (over-all) by 29 feet by (?).
28 knots.

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.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

OUTPOST PATROL BOATS

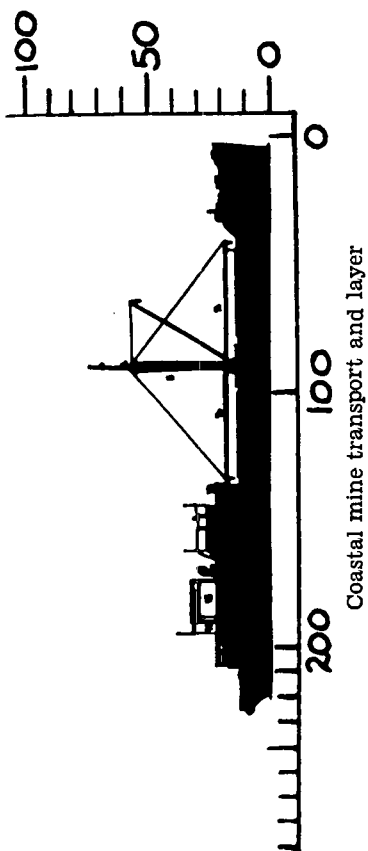
Description: 496 tons.
125 feet by 23 feet by (?).
10 knots.

Guns: 1-3.5 inch.
3-1 pound AA.

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

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY

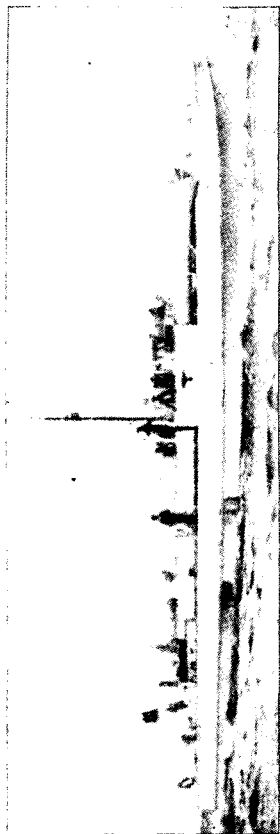


IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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)

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

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.

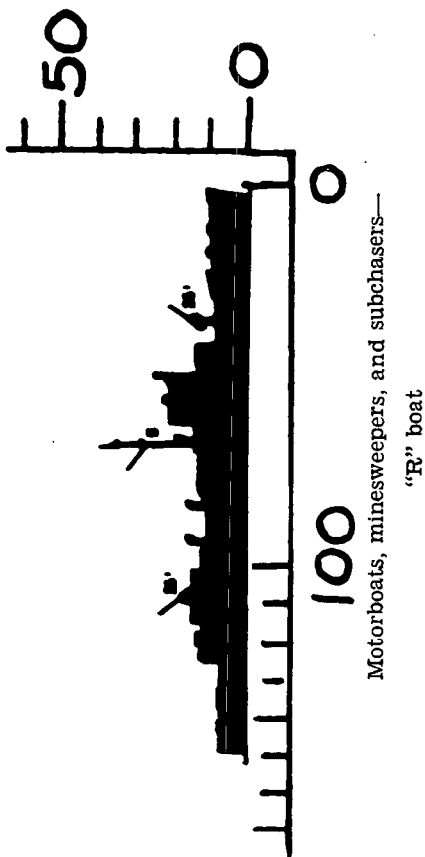
Guns:

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



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

**MOTORBOATS, MINESWEEPERS,
and SUBCHASERS—
“R” BOAT**

“R” BOAT CLASS

“R” BOAT

Description: 90 tons.
18 knots.

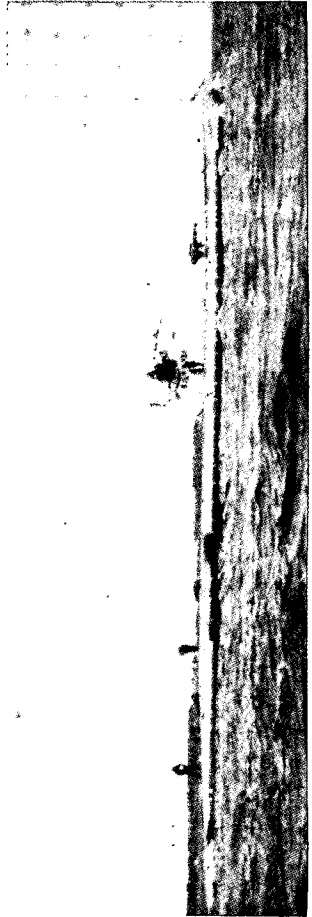
Guns: 2-1 pound AA.

Torpedo tubes: None.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY

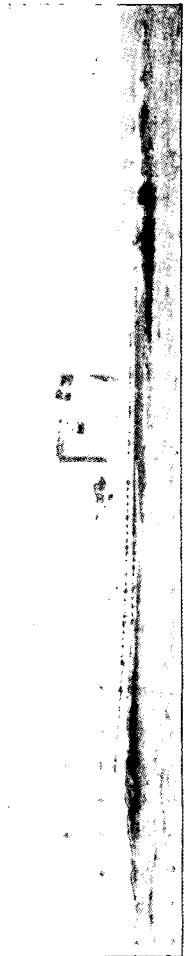
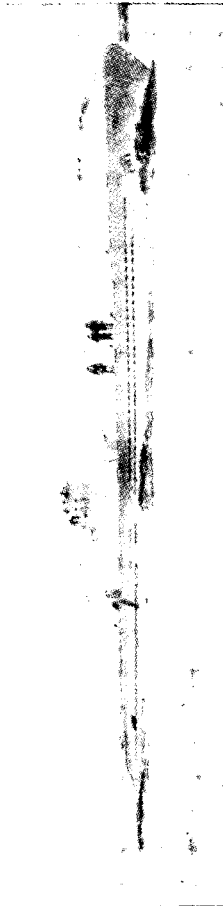
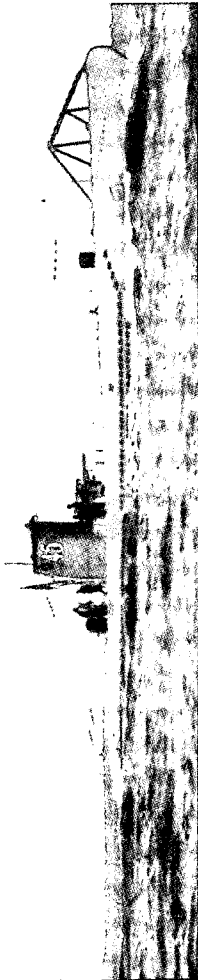
SUBMARINES
OCEAN GOING TYPES



IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS

GERMAN
NAVY

SUBMARINES
SEA GOING TYPES



MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

GERMAN
NAVY

SUBMARINES
COASTAL TYPES



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