

From: Wlambr
Sent: Mon, 12 Feb 2024 22:26:28 +0100
To: rtw3contest@gmail.com
Subject: Category 2 Submission (Wlambr) - Heavy Cruiser (R 1930)-version of 1900 design
Attachments: CA - Hansa-class, original 1900 specs.png, CA - Hansa-class, Guns (legal).png, CA - Hansa-class, Additional Armament (legal).png, CA - Hansa-Class, SMS Frauenlob, Stars'n'Stories.png, Hansa (R 1930).30d, Hansa.30d

Dear Rule the Waves,

I submit for your consideration, as a category two competitor, the Hansa(R 1930)-class heavy cruiser, or poor admiral's battlecruiser, which was the mainstay of my early Imperial German Navy in my autumn play-through. The original highly-successful 1900s design is included for reference in this mail as well. While not an aesthetically pleasing cruiser, the Hansa-class traded beauty for very high utility.

DESIGN CONCEPT

Laid down as the first of 7 hulls in 1900, the SMS Hansa and her sister ships were designed to ensure Imperial victory in the early 20th century's conflicts against the superior British, French and Russian navies.

The Hansa-class cruisers were large cruisers displacing 14000 tonnes - almost 2-3 times the displacement of contemporary French and English heavy cruisers - and well-armed. Coal-fired VTEs allowed the cruisers an initial high speed of 20 knots in 1903. With an armament of 10x 8" turreted primaries, 12x 6" casemated secondaries, and 14x 3" tertiaries a lone Hansa-class would often outgun contemporary cruisers more than 2:1. This allowed the Hansa-classes to act as early concept battle cruisers, engaging lone battleships, standing alone against small groups of enemy cruisers and chasing off anything too fast to be hunted down.

In battle Hansa-class cruisers were designed to use superior speed to close with the enemy battle lines, often causing the opposing side to retreat, then using their speed and firepower to stay with, overwhelm and destroy enemy ships with relative ease, taking little damage in return. If engaged by anything dangerous, there was little a Hansa-class cruiser could not run away from or beat up while trying - leading to some handy victorious retreats.

Three ships of the class were rebuilt (the (5) iteration) as experimental light-carriers from 1922 the Hansa (R 1922a). They carried 24 airplanes each and participated in several fleet actions. The Hansas were not good carriers. They were too slow and vulnerable with insufficient air wings and under inept leadership they found little actual application.

A 1927 reconstruction of the remaining Hansa-class hulls as large, fast sea plane carriers (the (6) iteration) carrying 24 search planes and 4 catapults was considered, but the project was scrapped with the outbreak of another war.

DESIGN IMPORTANCE

The superiority of German cruiser designs during the early wars allowed the German navy to focus on and dominate cruiser actions and other small battles causing massive attrition to the numerically superior navies of western Europe, while avoiding larger ship engagements where the German heavy line would be outgunned. The operational and tactical deployment of Hansa-cruisers was central to several major naval victories against England, France, Russia and Italy, leading to great colonial gains for the German Empire between 1900 and 1920.

Hansa-class ships participated in every major fleet engagement of my Imperial navy between 1903 and 1922, serving as lynch pins in smaller engagements and participating as main battle-line combatants in several larger battles. In the 1920ies they were reduced to secondary roles. All Hansa-class cruisers took 5 battle stars except for the under-performing SMS Hansa with only 4 battle stars from actions in the Battle of Horns Reef, the Dogger Bank Battles of the 1900s and the 1908 decisive win for the Imperial Navy in the Battle of the North Sea where 6 of 7 Hansas were present.

The toughness of the Hansa-class also saw it used as a line breaker, with the two heavy-cruiser - the "Hansa" - divisions charging and splitting the British battle group in the 1908 Battle of the North Sea isolating the damaged pre-dreadnoughts of the Royal Navy and keeping the British cruisers and destroyers at bay while offering supporting fire to the German battleships engaging and sinking 8 pre-dreadnoughts for 1 in return. The Hansa-class cruisers SMS Sense and SMS Sichel participated in the chase of the retreating Royal navy ships. While this was an efficient tactic and particularly useful in cruiser engagements it was very dangerous in fleet battles where heavier ships were present, with 5 of 6 Hansas ending up badly damaged and only just making it back to Bremerhafen at the edge of flooding.

FADING STARS

The Hansa-class went through 4(5/6) iterations and participated in actions in the Baltic, North Sea, Skagarak and Norwegian Sea, Mediterranean, Red Sea, Atlantic and Indian Oceans and the Caribbean, but the introduction into active service of the superior Bremen-class heavy cruisers and Goeben-class battle cruisers in 1912 and 1911 respectively, saw the Hansas much reduced in importance. However, they still remained useful as organized convoy raiders (fx the "Here's Johnny!"-night battle off Cape San Pietro in 1914 involving SMS Arcona and SMS Frauenlob), as lone colonial raiders or as command centers on colonial stations during peaceful years. While stable service platforms, the engines of the Hansa-class proved very temperamental, often seeing significant performance reduction after only a few years of service, causing the class to require constant rebuilding to remain effective.

The 1930-version of Hansa-class, here being presented to you though the lens of the 1943 German navy, was the last iteration with only SMS Hansa and SMS Frauenlob upgraded as a matter of principle. The upgrade was not considered a success with the limitations of the hull being too much for the battle space of the 30ies. The class was eventually decommissioned after the war of 1932 against Russia and France, with the SMS Frauenlob put into reserve as a museum ship in Hamburg (North Sea) in 1937. It is the last ship of the class still in (inactive) service with my Imperial navy in 1943.

LOSSES

Considering the aggressive use, role and importance of the Hansa-class in the German naval history of the early 20th century and their numerous brushes with disaster, it may be a surprise that no Hansa-class hulls were lost in open combat.

Only the rebuilt CVL SMS Blücher failed to return to port in February 1932 after hitting a mine in the North Sea following a failed French convoy-raid near Helgoland.

ANECDOTES

Though armed with several torpedo tubes, there are no recorded incident in Imperial naval history of a Hansa-class successfully damaging a target with a torpedo... much to the consternation of the admiral in charge.

If scratching the paint and causing the 3rd sub-lieutenant to spill his tea counts as damage, the SMS Frauenlob takes a point for shooting a dud torpedo at the pre-dreadnought HMS Ramillies in 1908. Captain of the Sea Kipitzky was issued a caution on this occasion for improper moustache grooming - though unofficial sources noted, that this was probably mostly due his inept attempt at reproducing the death of the Ramillies, a ship for which the admiral holds a particular fondness.

BUGS

I apologize, that the tertiary of the design are all over the place. This a common error on my ships, and a bug I hope you will fix soon... in the meantime we will blame the ship's museum curator.

His input on ship design has been taken on board and will be thrown over the side as soon as the museum ship reaches international waters.

Ship history for CA Frauenlob

* June 1902 Laid down in Germany as CA Frauenlob.

* August 1904 Commissioned

* August 1904 Kapitän z See Kipitzky takes command

* October 1907 Took part in Battle of Horns Reef against British navy.

In action.

Heavy damage. Gunfire.(DD Ettrick, DD Foyle, CL Constance, CA Euryalus, CA Cordelia, CL Phoenix, CA Cressy, CA Good Hope,).

Scored 10 main battery hits on DD Ettrick, DD Desperate, CA Cressy,

* August 1908 Took part in Battle of North Sea against British navy.

In action.

Light damage. Gunfire.(CA Bacchante, B Redoubtable, CA Niobe,).

Scored 33 main battery hits on CA Izumi, B Ramillies, CL Phoenix, CL Phaeton, B Redoubtable,

* September 1912 To dockyard for rebuild

* September 1913 Rebuild completed

* September 1913 Kapitän z See Fehling takes command

* April 1914 Moves to The Mediterranean

* May 1914 Took part in Raider battle in The Mediterranean against Italian navy.

Not in action.

No damage.

* May 1914 Took part in Raider battle in The Mediterranean against Italian navy.

Not in action.

No damage.

* August 1914 Took part in Battle of Calabria against Italian navy.

In action.

Light damage. Gunfire.(CA Giuseppe Garibaldi,).

Scored 3 main battery hits on DD Giuseppe Missori, DD Giuseppe Cesare Abba,

* September 1914 Took part in Battle of Cape San Pietro against Italian navy.

In action.

No damage.

Scored 70 main battery hits on TR Merchant 14, TR Merchant 18, TR Merchant 15, TR Merchant 12, TR Merchant 11, TR Merchant 10, TR Merchant 5, TR Merchant 8, AMC Camoscio, TR Merchant 7, TR Merchant 6, TR Merchant 4, TR Merchant 13, TR Merchant 17, AMC Gazzella,

* November 1914 Moves to Northern Europe

* November 1916 Moves to The Mediterranean

* December 1916 Moves to Indian Ocean

* May 1918 Kapitän z See Fischer takes command

* June 1922 To dockyard for rebuild

* July 1923 Rebuild completed

* August 1923 Moves to The Mediterranean

* September 1923 Moves to Indian Ocean

* December 1925 Took part in Battle of Red Sea against French navy.

In action.

No damage.

Scored 19 main battery hits on CL Cosmao,

* August 1926 To dockyard for rebuild

* October 1927 Rebuild completed

* October 1927 Kapitän z See Ruppelt takes command

* August 1928 Moves to The Caribbean

* September 1928 Moves to North American West Coast

* October 1928 Moves to Central Pacific

* July 1930 To dockyard for rebuild

* November 1930 Rebuild completed

* December 1930 Moves to The Caribbean

* January 1931 Moves to North American West Coast

* February 1931 Moves to Central Pacific

* January 1932 To Trade protection

* March 1933 Moves to South Pacific

* October 1936 Moves to North American West Coast

* November 1936 Moves to The Caribbean

* December 1936 Moves to Northern Europe

* January 1937 To Reserve fleet

* August 1937 Kapitän z See Döhler takes command

Med Venlig Hilsen / Best Regards,

- Jon Martin

Ship design - 1943

Turret arcs
Top/mle arcs

Ship type: CA - Heavy cruiser
Class name: Hansa
Developed from:
Displacement: 14000 Build at yard Local yard (\$1 000)

Freeboard: Normal Hull and fittings Weight: 2,336 Cost: 10,755
Speed: 20 Range: Medium
Horsepower: 22,879 Machinery weight: 920 3,418
Engine priority: Normal Propulsion: Coal + VTE Unit machinery
Belt: 6 Magazine box: 1,549
Belt coverage: Normal Inclined belt
Belt extended: 3 weight: 236
Upper belt: 4 weight: 476
Deck: 1.5 weight: 1,106
Deck extended: 1 weight: 196
Corning tower: 4.5 weight: 90
Turrets: 6
Turret top: 2
Secondary guns: 2.5

Aluminum superstructure
Total amount: 3,653 10,959
Armour scheme: Sloped deck 31% 0
22% Armament: 2,589 13,736
Torpedo defence: 0 TPS weight: 0 0
Accommodation: Spacious Accommodation space: 677
Complement: 876 Incidental costs: 2,933
Colonial service
Total: 11,717 43,553
Weight remaining: 2,283
Time, monthly cost: 24 1,815

Guns | Additional armament | Graphics

Main guns
Calibre: 8 Quality: -1 Gun data

Position	Guns/turret	Weight/turret
A - Forward	2	329
Y - Aft	2	329
D - Port forward wing	1	190
E - Starboard forward wing	1	190
H - Port midships wing	1	183
I - Starboard midships wing	1	183
S - Port aft wing	1	190
T - Starboard aft wing	1	190

Additional turret | Delete turret | Clear turrets | Rebuild?

Rounds per gun: 185 ammo weight: 564
Fire control: Central rangefinder FC Positions: 3
weight: 48 cost: 225
Increased elevation DP
Cross deck fire Autoloader

Turret era: Dreadnought Sponson radius: 0
Asymmetric secondary mounts Auto place

Secondary guns
Calibre: 6 Number: 12 Quality: 0
Guns / turret Casemat weight: 615 Autoloader
Director
Rounds per gun: 191 weight: 305 DP

Tertiary guns
Calibre: 3 Number: 14 Quality: 1
Guns / turret Casemat weight: 56 Autoloader
Rounds per gun: 220 weight: 55 DP

Medium and light anti aircraft guns
Weight Cost
Light AA guns: 0 0 0 0
Medium AA guns: 0 0 0 0
AA directors: 0 0 0 0

Turret era: Dreadnought Sponson radius: 0
Add turret graphic
Clear tertiary graphics

HAA factor: 0 Clear all armament
Topside load and capacity: 32 of 141 Topside load
Save and finish

Ship design - 1943

Turret arcs
Top/mle arcs

Ship type: CA - Heavy cruiser
Class name: Hansa
Developed from:
Displacement: 14000 Build at yard Local yard (\$1 000)

Freeboard: Normal Hull and fittings Weight: 4,152 Cost: 10,188
Speed: 23 Range: Medium Replace machinery
Horsepower: 34,319 Machinery weight: 1,336 8,362
Engine priority: Normal Propulsion: Oil + Tubane Unit machinery
Belt: 6 Magazine box: 0
Belt coverage: Normal Inclined belt
Belt extended: 3 weight: 0
Upper belt: 5.5 weight: 0
Deck: 1.5 weight: 0
Deck extended: 1 weight: 0
Corning tower: 4.5 weight: 0
Turrets: 6
Turret top: 2
Secondary guns: 3.5

Aluminum superstructure
Total amount: 3,999 11,997
Armour scheme: Sloped deck 26% 0
22% Armament: 3,129 20,277
Torpedo defence: 0 TPS weight: 0 0
Accommodation: Spacious Accommodation space: 781
Complement: 1,014 Rebuild cost: 1,230
Colonial service
Total: 14,538 53,088
Weight remaining: 36
Time, monthly cost: 3 410

Guns | Additional armament | Graphics

Main guns
Calibre: 8 Quality: -1 Gun data

Position	Guns/turret	Weight/turret
A - Forward	2	329
Y - Aft	2	329
D - Port forward wing	1	190
E - Starboard forward wing	1	190
H - Port midships wing	1	183
I - Starboard midships wing	1	183
S - Port aft wing	1	190
T - Starboard aft wing	1	190

Additional turret | Delete turret | Clear turrets | Rebuild?

Rounds per gun: 175 ammo weight: 517
Fire control: Advanced director FC Positions: 3
weight: 36 cost: 2,250
Increased elevation DP
Cross deck fire Autoloader

Turret era: Dreadnought Sponson radius: 0
Asymmetric turret positions

Medium and light anti aircraft guns
Weight Cost
Light AA guns: 10 11 32 64
Medium AA guns: 10 32 64
AA directors: 1 26 62

Turret era: Dreadnought Sponson radius: 0
Add turret graphic
Clear tertiary graphics

HAA factor: 20 Clear all armament
Topside load and capacity: 135 of 142 Topside load
Save and finish

Secondary guns
Calibre: 6 Number: 12 Quality: 1
Guns / turret Casemat weight: 799 Autoloader
Director
Rounds per gun: 200 weight: 330 DP

Tertiary guns
Calibre: 4 Number: 12 Quality: 0
Guns / turret Casemat weight: 120 Autoloader
Rounds per gun: 230 weight: 137 DP

Mount 1.2 guns
Mount 2.2 guns
Mount 3.2 guns
Mount 4.2 guns
Mount 5.2 guns
Mount 6.2 guns
Mount 7.2 guns
Mount 8.7 guns

Turret era: Dreadnought Sponson radius: 0
Add turret graphic
Clear tertiary graphics

Design report for CA Hansa
Note: Ship is slightly overweight
Note: This ship can not install your best radar
Cancel OK

Ship design - 1943

Turret arcs
Top/mle arcs

Ship type: CA - Heavy cruiser
Class name: Hansa
Developed from:
Displacement: 14000 Build at yard Local yard (\$1 000)

Freeboard: Normal Hull and fittings Weight: 4,152 Cost: 10,188
Speed: 23 Range: Medium Replace machinery
Horsepower: 34,319 Machinery weight: 1,336 8,362
Engine priority: Normal Propulsion: Oil + Tubane Unit machinery
Belt: 6 Magazine box: 0
Belt coverage: Normal Inclined belt
Belt extended: 3 weight: 0
Upper belt: 5.5 weight: 0
Deck: 1.5 weight: 0
Deck extended: 1 weight: 0
Corning tower: 4.5 weight: 0
Turrets: 6
Turret top: 2
Secondary guns: 3.5

Aluminum superstructure
Total amount: 3,999 11,997
Armour scheme: Sloped deck 26% 0
22% Armament: 3,129 20,277
Torpedo defence: 0 TPS weight: 0 0
Accommodation: Spacious Accommodation space: 781
Complement: 1,014 Rebuild cost: 1,230
Colonial service
Total: 14,538 53,088
Weight remaining: 36
Time, monthly cost: 3 410

Guns | Additional armament | Graphics

Torpedoes
Position Tubes Weight/round
F - Port broadside overl mo. 2 64
G - Starboard broadside overl mo. 2 64
J - Port broadside overl mo. 2 64
K - Starboard broadside overl mo. 2 64

Add mount | Delete mount | Clear mounts
Torpedoes reloads (above water tubes)

Mine warfare
Mines (over 0) 0
Minesweeping gear 0 0

Anti submarine weapons
DC throwers 0 0
ASW rockets/floats 0 0
Increased DC storage 0 0
Enhanced sonar system 0 0
Towed array sonar 0 0
ASW value: 0

Radar and electronics test
Radar line 2 Current radar tech: 3
Weight/cost 0 0

Topside load and capacity: 135 of 142 Topside load
Save and finish

Flight installations
Angled flight deck
Sweepers/helicopter hanger
Flight deck
Deck edge lifts
Air capacity 1 weight: 67 67
Spot value: 1 Jet capable
Flight deck area 0 weight: 0
Hangar side area 0 weight: 0

Catapults
Position Weight
W - Centreline overl mount: 20

Missile launchers
Position Number/type Weight
Add Delete Clear

Missile data
Position Number/type Weight
Add Delete Clear
Missile control systems weight/cost 0 0

Design report for CA Hansa
Note: Ship is slightly overweight
Note: This ship can not install your best radar
Cancel OK

Ship history for CA Frauenlob

June 1902 Laid down in Germany as CA Frauenlob.

August 1904 Commissioned

August 1904 Kapitän z See Kipitzky takes command

October 1907 Took part in Battle of Horns Reef against British navy.
In action.
Heavy damage. Gunfire (DD Etlick, DD Foyte, CL Constance, CA Eurjokus, CA Cordelia, CL Phoenix, CA Cressy, CA Good Hope).
Scored 10 main battery hits on DD Etlick, DD Desperate, CA Cressy.

August 1908 Took part in Battle of North Sea against British navy.
In action.
Light damage. Gunfire (CA Baccharis, B Redoubtable, CA Niobe.)
Scored 23 main battery hits on CA Isurs, B Rammlee, CL Phoenix, CL Phaeton, B Redoubtable.

September 1912 To dockyard for rebuild

September 1913 Rebuild completed

September 1913 Kapitän z See Fehling takes command

April 1914 Moves to The Mediterranean

May 1914 Took part in Raider battle in The Mediterranean against Italian navy.
Not in action.
No damage.

May 1914 Took part in Raider battle in The Mediterranean against Italian navy.
Not in action.
No damage.

August 1914 Took part in Battle of Calabria against Italian navy.
In action.

Copy to clipboard

Cancel OK

GERMAN HEAVY CRUISER
FRAUENLOB
HANSA CLASS (1903)

Displacement, 14500 tons, 21 knots
Kptzr Döhler (Average) commanding

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

10 - 8 inch.
12 - 6 inch.
12 - 4 inch. (DP)

Game view Picture

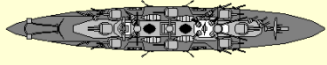
10 medium A.A guns
10 light A.A guns

Torpedo tubes:
8 above water

Fire control
Advanced director

Amour:
6" Belt (amidships)
11" Deck
6" Turrets
3 1/2" Battery
4 1/2" C.T.

1 aircraft



Ship history