



Type	Class	Number
Corvette	Minerva I serie	F 551
Launch date:	11/03/1985	
Commission date:	25/03/1986	
Builders:	Riva trigoso	
Displacement:	1.285 t p.c	
Length:	87 m	
Beam:	10,3 m	
Draught:	3,2 m	
Main Machinery:	2 motori diesel GMT BM-230.20-DVM; 2 assi con eliche pentapala a passo variabile	
Power:	8088 KW (10846,18 HP)	
Top Speed:	24 nd	
Range:	3500 mg	
Armament:	1 OTO Melara «Compatto» da 76/62; 2 lanciarazzi multipli "Barricade"; 1 lanciatore a 8 celle per S/A Aspide (16 missili); 2 lanciasiluri trinati B-515	
Complement:	123	

HISTORY

The custom of giving mythological names to military Units has ancient origins. For the Romans "MINERVA" was the Goddess of the city and patroness of the artists, craftsmen and doctors. Thanks to the Etruscans, she soon became the goddess of war, at the expense of Mars. Nevertheless, she was soon identified with the Greek goddess Pallas Athena.

Two other Units bore the same name before:

- A Partenope Class Cruiser Destroyer. Assembled in 1893, she was condemned from the King's Navy by a Royal Decree on May 15, 1921.

- A Gabbiano Class Corvette, whose motto was "Arma Parate, Animi et Spe Premunite Bellum." She entered service in winter 1943; during World War II, and until the Armistice, the Corvette carried out 51 war missions, totaling 517 hours at sea sailing 6,363 miles. She was condemned on July 1, 1969.

The current Corvette Minerva was laid down at the Riva Trigoso shipyards on March 11, 1985 and commissioned to the Italian Navy on June 10, 1987. The Unit, featuring almost all Italian structural and electronic components, has been designed to maximize anti-aircraft equipment, and yet, in the course of time, has undergone thorough changes that have reduced her operational skills. At present, her tasks mainly involve presence and surveillance activities, patrolling and assistance to national motor-fishing, as well as migration watch. Moreover, the Unit is often used for activities related to the Naval Command School and to the many drills carried out in cooperation with other European countries.



CREST