

## VICE-ADMIRAL HUGO DOMINIK

PRESIDENT OF THE DEUTSCHE SEEWARTE

Died 15th September 1933.

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Hugo DOMINIK joined the Imperial Navy in 1890 as Naval Cadet, having received his first education with the Royal Prussian Corps of Cadets. He acquired his first nautical training in the old sailing frigate H.I.G.M.S. *Niobe*, and having followed the usual courses at the Naval College of Kiel and had two years practical training as Naval Cadet in the fleet, he was promoted Sub-Lieutenant in 1893.

He then served abroad and at home, rose to the rank of Lieutenant in 1897, and served as such in the gun-boat *Habicht* on the West African station. Thereafter he was over three years in command of a torpedo boat and served for several years in battleships of the active war fleet as watch officer, navigating officer and admiral's staff officer. He was first lieutenant in H.I.G.M.S. *Ägir* for 1 ½ years and subsequently he was appointed to a command in the surveying service. In the years 1909/10 Hugo DOMINIK was in command of H.I.G.M. Surveying Ships *Möwe* and *Planet*. These commands were preceded by a course lasting several months at the Deutsche Seewarte, for the directorship of which he was thenceforth qualified. In H.I.G.M.S. *Planet* he was engaged on active work in the German colonies in the South Seas. Here he was able to undertake some oceanographic work, thereby succeeding in proving the existence of a deep-sea trench between New Caledonia and the New Hebrides, as had been suspected by the Deutsche Seewarte. From 1911 to 1914, as head of the Nautical Department of the Reichs-Marine-Amt, he had the opportunity of occupying himself with German navigational affairs generally. Appointed in 1914 to the command of the large cruiser *Victoria Louise*, Training Ship for Naval Cadets and later scout cruiser in the Baltic Sea, he remained in this ship until the outbreak of the war. When this ship was laid up, Commander DOMINIK was appointed to the Command of the 5th Marine Regiment in November 1914 and went to the front in December 1914. He remained at the head of this regiment, which was composed mainly of former seamen, until the 31st May 1918. In June 1918 Captain DOMINIK returned to the fleet as commanding officer of the newest and largest battleship, H.I.G.M.S. *Bayern*. After the revolution he remained in the Navy, and in 1919 was promoted to Rear-Admiral and was appointed Commander of the citadel of Wilhelmshaven; in 1920 he became Inspector of Education of the Navy at Kiel. In this appointment he was promoted to Vice-Admiral in 1921 and quitted it in 1922. Since the 1st April 1926, owing to the illness of his predecessor at the Ministry of Communications, he was charged with the work of the President of the Deutsche Seewarte, and was appointed President of the Deutsche Seewarte by Presidential Decree from 1st September, 1926.

He died on 15th September 1933 of heart failure, while still holding this post.