The *Lave* is a light cruiser and represents a shift in French designs for this class of vessel. Most light cruisers opt for additional turrets, even smaller ones, but the designers of the *Lave* and other ships of the *Liberté*-class opted for additional torpedo launchers. Working in conjunction with other light cruisers, the *Lave* can unleash enough torpedoes to force the enemy to concentrate on evasion, often turning the tide of battle.

The *Lave* was badly damaged during a storm in the Atlantic in 1900, which forced her into dock for six months. During that time she was outfitted with new boilers and a new Tesla Coil, making her one of the more efficient and technologically innovative *Liberté*-class ships. Her recent assignment has been to the Blue Dolphin squadron in the North Atlantic. In an unconfirmed confrontation with the German light cruiser *Kolberg*, the *Lave* was said to have quickly gained the upper hand and forced the *Kolberg* to flee the battle. While both sides deny the fight, the *Lave*’s number two stack shows signs of recent battle repair, testimony to the rumors’ accuracy.

### *Liberté*-class Light Cruiser

**Dimensions:** 296 ft. x 62 ft. x 77 ft. (excluding funnels & masts)

**Complement:** 350

**Weight:** 5,360 tons

**Engines:** Turbines, producing shaft hp (max. speed knots)

**Fuel:** (coal) normal 536 tons; max 636 tons

**Armament:** 3-100mm, 4-launch bays