

NAVY NEWS

ABC Certified

March 2024



PRIME MINISTER visits Naval Headquarters

NAVY THROUGH HISTORY



ACTS OF BRAVERY - PNS COMILLA

Gab Khan Canal Episode

On 19 Oct 1971, PNS COMILLA was escorting an army convoy through the infamous Gab Khan Canal linking Chittagong with Khulna. At around 1200 Hrs, the ship was ambushed and attacked by insurgents hiding on the banks of the canal. The attack was so intense that the CO Lt Mohsin Ali Khan and the EXO S/Lt Tajuddin Najmi were severely wounded by insurgent gunfire. However, the crew remained undeterred and PNS COMILLA continued its passage in the Canal with Naseer Ahmed PO (O No 64040) on the conn and M Ashraf CERA (Chief Engine Room Artificer) coordinating the firing. Despite heavy bleeding and a bullet in his thigh, the CO (Lt Mohsin Ali Khan)

quickly returned to the bridge and took charge of the boat. The leadership of the commanding officer and the resilience of the crew during this incident will remain a source of inspiration for generations to come.

Encounter with multiple IAF Aircraft

On 04 December 1971, PNS COMILLA (Lt S A Baqar) was on patrol in the approaches to Chittagong in erstwhile East Pakistan. At about 1650 Hrs. she was attacked by 5 Indian Air Force Canberra Bombers. The aircraft flying in pairs approached PNS COMILLA from multiple directions and delivered coordinated attacks, firing volleys of Cannon fire and rockets successively. The

beleaguered crew fought back valiantly till two rockets hit her on the starboard side, one just below the water line causing her to lose water-tight integrity and develop a heavy list to starboard. Meanwhile, another rocket which had entered into her machinery control room exploded and caused a raging fire which gradually enveloped the entire boat. A heavy list to starboard ensued which led her capsizing. Her valiant crew comprising 24 men was rescued by PNGB BALAGHAT after remaining in water for almost two hours. Thereafter, they proceeded to join the sister ship PNS SYLHET.

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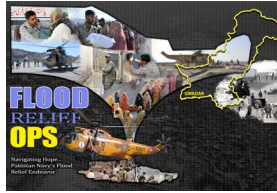
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ABC Certified - Reg # 16(1381) /15-ABC



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PRIME MINISTER VISITS NAVAL HEADQUARTERS



Honourable Prime Minister of Pakistan, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif along with Federal Ministers visited Naval Headquarters, Islamabad. Upon arrival Prime Minister was welcomed by Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf and was presented Guard of Honour by a smartly turned out naval contingent. Prime Minister also laid floral wreath at Shuhada monument and afterwards was introduced to the Principal Staff Officers of Naval Headquarters.

During the meeting, matters related to Regional Maritime Security milieu and operational preparedness



PM appreciated the services of Pakistan Navy to safeguard maritime interests of the country despite limited resources

of Pakistan Navy were discussed. Naval Chief apprised the Prime Minister on roles, capabilities and future modernization plans of Pakistan Navy.

Later on a detailed briefing was presented by Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (Operations) on the present maritime environment, challenges being faced and response by

Pakistan Navy to meet the challenges. The PM was specially apprised about the capability requirements of Pakistan Navy to meet the current and future challenges in maritime domain. The dignitary was also apprised on measures to benefit from economic prospects of maritime sector.

The PM appreciated the services of Pakistan Navy to safeguard maritime interests of the country despite limited resources. He specially appreciated the professional response of Pakistan Navy to foil the recent terrorist attack on Naval Airbase Turbat. The Prime Minister stressed that strong economy holds the key to meet all the challenges faced by the country. Towards the end, Prime Minister also visited Command Operations Centre of Pakistan Navy.

The Naval Chief thanked Prime Minister for his visit and reposing his confidence in the Navy. He also assured that Pakistan Navy with the help of Allah SWT will continue to defend the country's sea frontiers & maritime interests and will shoulder the responsibilities with honour both during peace and war.



FLOOD RELIEF OPS



Navigating Hope...
Pakistan Navy's Flood
Relief Endeavor



GWADAR

Pakistan Navy has always remained at the forefront in extending humanitarian assistance during natural calamities. In recent unprecedented rain spell, Pakistan Navy extended relief and rescue operation to various small coastal villages of Balochistan affected by flash flooding.

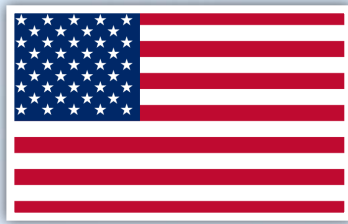
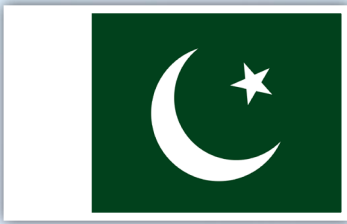
Pakistan Navy troops in coordination with local administration remained engaged in de-flooding in different parts of the city, and early

restoration of road connectivity for onward smooth conduct of rescue activities. Relentless efforts were made during rescue and relief operations utilizing all available equipment and resources. Efforts were expedited by stationing helicopters in flood-affected areas of Gwadar District. Pakistan Navy helicopters undertook multiple hops to the flood affected villages of Pishukan and Kappar. Relief teams delivered ration bags, clean drinking water and food items to distressed people in various areas of Gwadar.

Further extending humanitarian assistance, Pakistan Navy's medical teams provided free healthcare facilities at the medical camp established for local flood affected populace.

Pakistan Navy is resolutely committed to supporting our flood-affected brethren during this difficult time and determined to continue the rescue and relief operations till the rehabilitation of all distressed people. ✕✕

US NAVY SHIP USS INDIANAPOLIS VISITS PAKISTAN



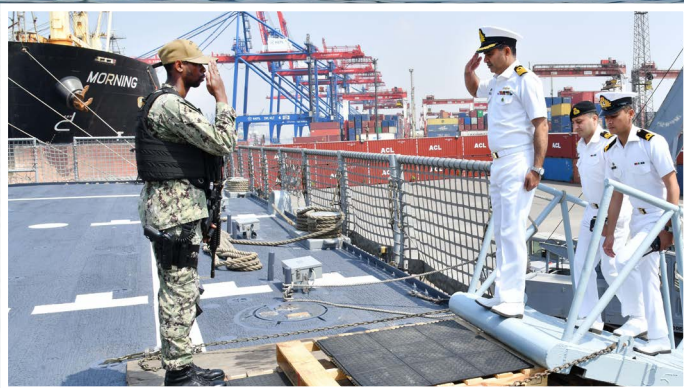
US Navy Ship USS INDIANAPOLIS, Freedom Class Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) visited Karachi Port. Upon arrival at Karachi, US Navy Ship was received by senior officials of Pakistan Navy.

During stay at Karachi, activities included professional interaction with PN officials and Ship's crew in the form of table top discussions on contemporary issues beside planning and

coordination meeting for conduct of joint sea exercise. At sea Pakistan Navy Ship ALAMGIR with embarked helicopter carried out sea exercise with visiting US Navy ship to enhance interoperability between both navies. The sea exercise was aimed to sharpen mutual professional skills through cooperation and learning from each other's experience.

Pakistan Navy in line with Government policy, has always

contributed significantly towards safety, security and freedom of navigation at high seas. In this regard, Pakistan Navy's Regional Maritime Security Patrol and participation in Coalition Maritime Forces operations since 2004 is a manifestation of PN resolve for safe and secure seas for common cause of peace and stability in the region. ❖❖



DEFENCE MINISTER VISITS NAVAL HEADQUARTERS

The Naval Chief briefed the minister on recent acquisitions of state-of-the-art platforms and equipment to ensure an invincible seaward defence of the country



Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif visited Naval Headquarters Islamabad and called-on Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf. Upon arrival at Naval Headquarters and received by Chief of the Naval Staff, the visiting dignitary was presented guard of honour. Later, he was introduced to the Principal Staff Officers at NHQ.

During the meeting, matters pertaining to Regional Maritime Security milieu and operational readiness of Pakistan Navy were discussed. The Naval Chief apprised the minister on recent acquisitions of state-of-the-art platforms and equipment to ensure an invincible seaward defence of the country. After the meeting, a detailed briefing was presented by Deputy Chief of Naval Staff



(Operations) on the prevailing maritime environment, challenges being faced and response of Pakistan Navy to meet the challenges. At the end of briefing, recommendations were given to the Defence Minister for capability enhancement of PN and promotion of maritime sector (Blue Economy) for revival of the national economy.

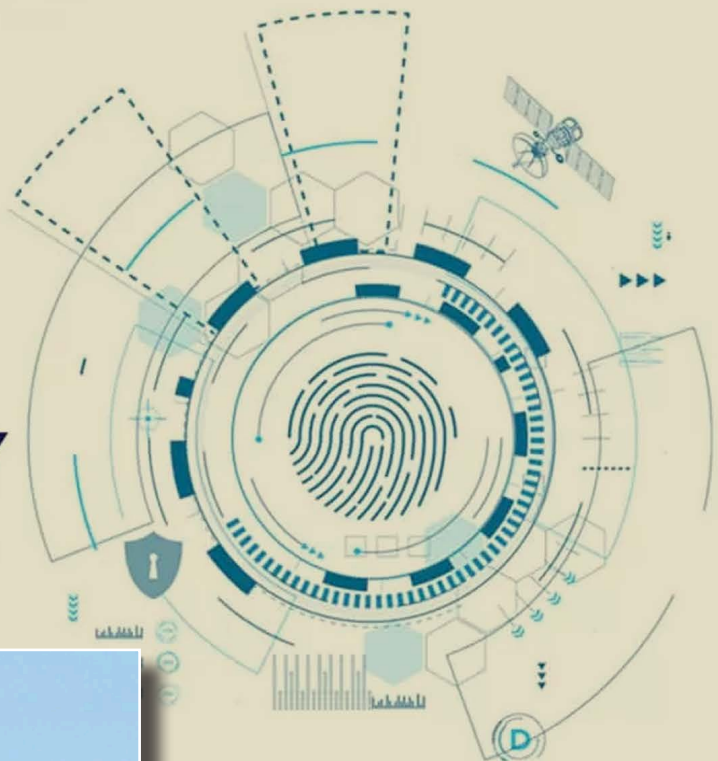
The Defence Minister reiterated the importance of Pakistan Navy to safeguard maritime interests of the country. He also assured that the Ministry will make all out efforts to meet the requirements of Pakistan Navy despite the prevailing economic constraints. ⊗ ⊗



PAKISTAN NAVY PARTICIPATES IN

DIMDEX-24

Doha International Maritime Defence Exhibition & Conference



Pakistan Navy Ship PNS TABUK and Submarine PNS/M KHALID visited Doha, Qatar to participate in Doha International Maritime Defence Exhibition (DIMDEX-24). Upon arrival, Pakistan Navy Units were received

by Defence Attaché of Pakistan at Doha and Senior Officials of Qatari Emiri Naval Force (QENF). PN mission was led by Cdre Mazhar Bashir, Commander Submarines.

During the visit, Mission Commander called on high level dignitaries including Commander of Qatari Emiri Naval Forces, Maj Gen Abdullah Hassan Al Sulaiti. Beside this, Military and Naval leadership which includes Commander-In-Chief of Russian

Federation Navy, Admiral Nikolay Evmenov and Turkish Fleet Commander visited PNS TABUK. During the interactions, matters of mutual interests were discussed and enhancement of bilateral ties in all spheres was re-affirmed. Taking the opportunity, Mission Commander conveyed well wishes from Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf for the people of Qatar in general and Qatar Emiri Naval Forces (QENF) in particular.

Pakistan and Qatar enjoy close defence bilateral relations nurtured over the years through multitudes of naval collaborations and exercises. Visit of PN units to Doha provided an opportunity for both brotherly countries to further enhance the existing close diplomatic ties and cordial relations. ❖❖



COMPASSION
ON THE WAVES...

PAKISTAN NAVY SHIP RESCUES

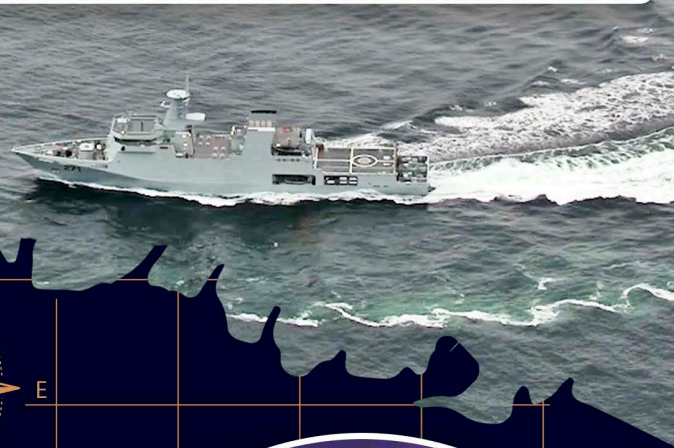
8 IRANIAN
FISHERMEN
AT NORTH
ARABIAN
SEA

Pakistan Navy Warship safely rescued 8 Iranian fishermen from open sea after uncontrollable fire occurred on their boat.

The distress call from Iranian fishing boat reported massive wild fire onboard and sought assistance to rescue the 8 member crew abandoning the boat.

PNS YARMOOK while operating in vicinity of the unfortunate boat, immediately dashed to handle the situation. Despite heavy fire on the vessel, PNS YARMOOK not only rescued all 8 crew members safely but also controlled the fire onboard the blazing vessel by using its own modern firefighting equipment.

Rescue and humanitarian assistance operations by Pakistan Navy at International waters is a fine display of vigilance and professionalism. Pak Navy is committed and obligated to effectively ensure Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) inline with UNCLOS while safeguarding National Maritime frontiers. ✕✕



MARITIME EXERCISE SEASPARK-2024 CONCLUDES

The concluding session of Pakistan Navy's Major Maritime Exercise SEASPARK-2024 held at Karachi. Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf graced the session as Chief Guest. The exercise was conducted in North Arabian Sea to validate operational plans designed under realities of ever-evolving geo-strategic environment. Relevant elements of PAF and Pak Army also participated in the exercise to practice tri services coordination during war.

Addressing the closing session, Chief of the Naval Staff highlighted that the exercise helped in synergizing Naval Operations with Land and Air Operations. He stressed that the on-going strategic competition among major

countries is being confronted with difficult foreign policy choices to safeguard national interests. Evolving character of war under Grey Hybrid scenarios coupled with internal security challenges complicates the threat matrix. All these threats and challenges necessitate a constant review of our operational plans through major exercises.

Earlier, Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (Operations) presented overview of the exercise. The conduct of the exercise was discussed to draw pertinent lessons. Towards the end, recommendations were presented to revise war plans and strategies under the evolving maritime environment in the region.

Exercise SEASPARK-2024 was aimed to assess combat readiness and operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy to meet the entire spectrum of National Security Challenges in the Maritime Domain. Successful conduct of the exercise was a testimony of perpetual readiness of Pakistan Navy in proving its capability to combat broad spectrum of threats in the maritime domain.

The concluding session of the exercise was attended by high ranking officers from Sister Services and notable representatives from various Ministries. ❖❖



PN, PMSA & ANF JOINT COUNTER NARCOTICS OPERATION AT SEA

Pakistan Navy, Pakistan Maritime Security Agency and Anti-Narcotics Force seized 1500 Kg narcotics in a joint intelligence Based Counter narcotics operation out at sea.

Joint Maritime Information and Coordination Cell coordinated the Counter Narcotics Operation after receiving intelligence. Narcotics consignment comprised 1200 KG of Hash and 300 KG of Crystal/Ice. The value of seized narcotics in international market was estimated to be \$107 million. The confiscated cache was handed over to ANF for further legal proceedings.

The successful joint counter narcotics operation reaffirms resolve to deny illegal activities in maritime zones of Pakistan. Pakistan Navy in coordination

with other law enforcement agencies will continue to shoulder its national obligation towards establishment of lawful order at sea. ☒☒



CERTIFICATE AWARD CEREMONY OF 21ST CORRESPONDENCE STAFF COURSE

Certificate Award Ceremony of 21st Correspondence Staff Course (CSC) was held at PN War College. Rear Admiral Azhar Mahmood, Commandant PNWC graced the occasion as Chief Guest. 21st Correspondence Staff Course comprising 15 x Course Members (CMs) commenced in September 2023. Total duration of the course was 26 x weeks, including 22 x weeks off campus

period and 04 x weeks on-campus.

During the course, CMs underwent through various activities aimed at honing staff work skills, communication, leadership and analytical skills.

While addressing the audience, the Chief Guest highlighted that owing to rapid technological advancements, role of special

branches in naval warfare is getting more pronounced. Therefore, he advised all officers to reflect in their future endeavors, whatever they have learnt during the course. At the end, he congratulated the participants upon successful completion of the course and awarded certificates and PSN insignias. ☒☒



DIGNITARIES VISIT NHQ

The visiting dignitaries appreciated Pakistan Navy's efforts and initiatives in support of collaborative maritime security and stability in the region. Matters of bilateral collaborations and regional security milieu were discussed



General Shaikh Mohammed Bin Isa Salman Al Khalifa **Commander Bahrain National Guard**



Mr. Stefano **President Ms Leonardo Italy**



Lt General (Retd) Humayun Aziz, **Secretary of Defence Production**



TWO ROYAL MALAYSIAN NAVY DELEGATIONS VISIT PAKISTAN

A delegation of Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) Sea Power Centre (SPC) headed by Commander Naval Education and Training Rear Admiral Laksamana Muda Dato' Pahlawan Abd Halim visited Pakistan Navy War College (PNWC) Lahore. Rear Admiral called on Commander Central Punjab Rear Admiral Azhar Mahmood and discussed matters of mutual interest. Later, the members of the delegation

also visited Maritime Centre of Excellence at PNWC and were briefed about activities of the centre for propelling Maritime Awareness in the country.

Another Royal Malaysian Navy delegation led by Rear Admiral Abdul Halim bin Shaari visited Pakistan Navy Concept and Doctrine Development Centre Karachi. DG PNCDDC Commodore Nauman Rafique welcomed the delegation and briefed them about the centre. During the visit, mutual cooperation and bilateral professional issues were discussed. On this occasion, the delegation also visited the Modelling and Simulation Lab and SWAG Wing where they were shown the practical demonstration of camouflage and concealment. The delegation appreciated professionalism of the officers and men of PNCDDC and operational capabilities of the Pakistan Navy, and reiterated to enhance opportunities for further development of bilateral cooperation between the two countries. ❖❖



Pakistan Navy War College is the premier seat of learning in Pakistan Navy. PNWC envisions to progressively become center of excellence for grooming future military leadership and promoting maritime awareness. The core function of the institute is to educate and train mid-career officers in an enabling environment. Conduct of foreign study tour is one of the salients of Pakistan Navy staff course which aims to provide exposure and opportunity for intellectual growth of course members by means of first-hand information through interaction with government and military officials of the host country. The tours also help them understand strategic, geopolitical, defence and economic importance of host countries with a view to gain deeper insight into their national policies. Recently, the course members of 53rd PN Staff Course visited five countries during FST including Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Nigerian, KSA and Turkiye.

The contingent visiting Brunei Darussalam headed by Cdre Amir Shehzad , ACNS (OP), comprised 22 x Officers, including 07 x Course Members from Friendly Countries. The delegation visited various Naval installations in Brunei Darussalam including Defence Academy & Command and Staff College, Naval Training Centre and RBNS KDB DARULEHSAN at Port Muara & Bendar Seri Begawan. Delegation also visited Brunei's Institute of Strategic and Policy Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Balai Khazanah and Pakistan High Commission.

53RD PAKISTAN NAVY STAFF COURSE ... FOREIGN STUDY TOURS



Brunei Darussalam



Republic of Türkiye



Republic of Nigeria



Malaysia

visited various Naval installations in Nigeria including HQ Western Naval Command (WNC), Nigerian Navy Ships, Regional Maritime Awareness Centre (RMAC)/ Falcon Eye Centre, Naval Dockyard Limited and Naval Air Base Ojo.

The delegation of PN Staff Course comprising 23 x Officers and 06 x Foreign Course Members from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, KSA and Nigeria headed by Rear Admiral Azhar Mahmood, Commandant PNWC conducted Foreign Study Tour to KSA. The delegation visited Embassy of Pakistan, HQs of Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition (IMCTC), Diriyah Cultural District (first capital of Saudi state and birth place of Royal family), Revelation Gallery at footsteps of GHAR-E-HIRA, the International Exhibition and Museum on the Life of the Prophet and Islamic Civilization at Medina in addition to interaction with Head of Training Western Zone at MoD KSA.



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The contingent headed by Cdre Arif Saeed, ACNS (P) visited Turkiye. During the visit the delegation visited various organizations in Turkiye including Istanbul Naval Shipyard, PNS BABUR desig, TeknoPark, Naval War College, Maritime Security Centre of Excellence, Istanbul Military Museum, Siyaset Ekonomi ve Toplum Arstirmalari vakfi (SETA), Hagia Sophia and Blue Mosques.

The delegation undertook visit to Malaysia was headed by Cdre Ehsan Ahmed Khan, Deputy Commandant PN War College. The delegation comprised 21 x Officers, including 07 x Course Members from Friendly Countries. They visited various military institutions in Malaysia including Malaysian Armed Forces HQ and National Centre for Defence Studies (PUSHPHANS). The delegation also visited Lumut Naval Base where Naval Education and Training Command (NETC), Fleet HQ Western Fleet and Royal Malaysian Navy Ship KD Jibat (FFGH-29) were visited.

Another group undertook visit to Nigeria headed by Cdre Abid Hussain, ACNS (SOF & M), comprising 18 x Officers, including 04 x Course Members from Friendly Countries. The delegation

The heads of all the delegations called on various dignitaries of the host countries and discussed avenues of mutual collaboration. The visits afforded opportunity to learn and discuss about bilateral relations and future collations avenues between Pakistan and host countries. ❖❖



PN RECKONER IN MARCH

Source: PN History & Archives Centre

- Mar 20, 1951:** HMPS JHELUM, HMPS TIPPU SULTAN and HMPS TARIQ participated in the first Joint Exercises Trincomalee (JET-ONE) held at Trincomalee.
- Mar 03, 1953:** First, of eight Adjutant Class Mine Sweepers acquired from the USA handed over to RPN at Seattle, USA and commissioned as HMPS MUHAFIZ (M-138).
- Mar 23, 1956:** The Islamic Republic of Pakistan was proclaimed under the 1956 Constitution. The prefix 'Royal' was dropped and the Service was re-designated as the Pakistan Navy, short titled 'PN'. Jack and Pakistan Flags replaced the Queen's color and the white ensign respectively. The order of precedence of three services was changed from Navy, Army, Air Force to Army, Navy, Air Force.
- Mar 18, 1958:** The first of the two CR class Ex-RN destroyers (JAHANGIR (D-162) former HMS Crispin acquired from the UK and commissioned as PNS JAHANGIR (D-162).
- Mar 25, 1959:** Ocean-going salvage tug, former ATF USS Yuma, was acquired from the USA and commissioned at Karachi as PNS MADADGAR (A-42).
- Mar 14, 1961:** Last of the JET series of exercises completed at Trincomalee (Ships and aircraft from India, Pakistan, Ceylon, UK, Australia, New Zealand participated).
- Mar 24, 1972:** The first pair of the twelve Shanghai-II Class Fast Patrol Crafts acquired from China were commissioned as PNS LAHORE (P-142) & PNS QUETTA (P-141).
- Mar 15, 1974:** PNS ZAFAR was commissioned in Islamabad as a depot unit for the Naval Headquarters.
- Mar 26, 1974:** Naval Headquarters was inaugurated at Islamabad.
- Mar 23, 1975:** Vice Admiral Muhammad Shariff assumed office as Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS).
- Mar 03, 1977:** The first of six Alouette helicopters was acquired from France & 333 Squadron formed.
- Mar, 1978:** The first-ever reunion of retired Naval personnel was held at PNS KARSAZ.
- Mar 18, 1979:** A PN Sea King Helicopter successfully test-fired an Exocet AM-39 Missile; marking the advent of the 'missile age' in the Pakistan Navy.
- Mar 24, 1981:** Maritime Mirage Squadron commissioned at PAF Base MASROOR.
- Mar 24, 1986:** PNS HAFEEZ was commissioned as a Naval Hospital at Sector E/8 Islamabad.
- Mar 31, 1989:** The third pair of Brooke/ Garcia Class ships PNS TABUK (DDG-159) and PNS HARBAH (F-266) commissioned.
- Mar 01, 1994:** Second pair of Type- 21 Frigates PNS BADR (D-184) and PNS KHAIBAR (D-183) were commissioned.
- Mar 30, 1995:** Ormara Naval Harbour was named as Jinnah Naval Base.

- Mar 1995:** Pakistan Navy Ships TUGHRIL (D-167), SHAMSHER (P-263), and NASR (A-47) participated in OPERATION UNITED SHIELD at Somalia for withdrawal of UN Peace Keeping Force from Mogadishu, Somalia.
- Mar 09, 1997:** Naval Precision Engineering Complex was inaugurated at NSSD Kharadar.
- Mar 19, 1997:** Pakistan Maritime Museum (PMM) was inaugurated at Habib Ibrahim Rehmatullah Road, Karachi.
- Mar 28, 1997:** Balloting was held for awarding of plots to CPOs Sailors in Bahria Town "Anchorage Sihala" housing scheme.
- Mar 31, 1997:** First batch of 28 'D' type houses were inaugurated at Navy Housing Scheme, Zamzama, Clifton, Karachi.
- Mar 24, 2006:** First-ever assumption of 'Command of the Multinational Combined Task Force, CTF-150' by Pakistan Navy.
- Mar 05 2007:** The first of the 'AMAN Series of Multinational Naval Exercises' was organized by Pakistan (AMAN 07) commenced. Navies of 28 countries participated from Mar 05 – 13.
- Mar 07, 2007:** Joint Survey of Sir Creek conducted by Survey teams of Pakistan and India (Mar 07 – 22).
- Mar 2009:** Second Small Tanker cum-Utility Ship (STUS) launched at (KS & EW).
- Mar 2015:** Rolling out ceremony was held of P3C & Alouette Helicopters.
- Mar 19, 2015:** UNCLOS accepted Pakistan's claim for extension of Continental Shelf Limits, thereby extending Pakistan Sea Limits from 200 NM to 350 NM; implying an addition of 50,000 Sq. Km sea area.
- Mar 29, 2017:** Golden Jubilee celebrations of SSG (Navy) were held.
- Mar 16, 2017:** Pakistan Navy conducted successful test launch of Land based anti-ship missile. The missile has advanced technology and avionics suite, which enables engagement of targets at sea with high accuracy.
- Mar 30, 2017:** The Keel Laying ceremony of fourth Fast Attack Craft (Missile) being built for Pakistan Navy, was held at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KS&EW).
- Mar 02, 2018:** Launching Ceremony of 32 Tons Bollard Pull (BP) Tug built for Pakistan Navy was held at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KS&EW).
- Mar 07, 2018:** The first ever Container Vessel MS TIGER under CPEC Project docked at Gwadar Port. Pakistan Navy Ships DEHSHAT (1014) and KARAR (MRTP 34) escorted MS TIGER in to the Gwadar Port.
- Mar 10, 2018:** Pakistan Navy test fired the land-based anti-ship missile from a coastal region during an exercise. The missile successfully followed its preplanned trajectory till accurate engagement of its target at sea.
- Mar 15, 2018:** Backhoe Dredger RAHKUSHA and Split Hoper Barges TARSEEL-1 & 2 built for Pakistan Navy at Tianjin Shipyard, China were inducted in to the fleet at PN Dockyard, Karachi.
- Mar 27, 2018:** Pakistan Navy won the 25th National Shooting Championship 2018 (20 Gold, 14 Silver and 11 Bronze medals) whereas Pakistan Army secured the runner up position.
- Mar 23, 2020:** The keel laying ceremony of the second Type 054 A/P Frigate held at Hudong Zhonghua Shipyard, marking a significant milestone in the construction of cutting edge Frigate for Pakistan Navy.
- Mar 31, 2022:** PNS HAIBAT Fast Attack Craft (Missile) commissioned.



Knowledge is Power

(Compiled by PN History & Archives Centre)

A: Did you know?

Why the color of the ocean is blue?

The Ocean is blue because water absorbs colors in the red part of the light spectrum. Like a filter, this leaves behind colors in the blue part of the light spectrum for us to see. The ocean may also take on green, red, or other hues as light bounces off of floating sediments and particles in the water.

B: Please attempt the following MCQ's

- Which naval ship is famous for its role in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805?
 - HMS Victory
 - USS Constitution
 - Bismarck
 - Yamato
- Killing what type of bird, some species of which have wingspans over 10 feet wide, is very bad luck in maritime tradition, as they are said to carry the souls of dead sailors?
 - Petrel
 - Albatross
 - Gulls
 - Grey heron
- What term is used for the pointed part of an anchor that is designed to catch in the seabed?
 - Fluke
 - Nail
 - Dart
 - Catcher
- What is a monkey's fist?
 - Type of fishing technique
 - Type of belaying pin
 - An actual monkey fist with magical powers
 - Type of knot
- PN's decision to entice the Indian Fleet out of its harbors by conducting a raid on the enemy's coastal town DWARKA during the 1965 war was derived from the philosophy of historians?
 - General James Willocks
 - Commander Grenfell
 - Gerald S. Graham
 - Alfred Mahan

C: Please fill in answers to the following questions, in the space provided against each:

- Where and in which year did the Pakistan Yachting Team win the first Gold Medal in an International Championship and which class of boat? _____
- The PN Air Stores Depot is named after which officer? _____
- In which area and year did the PN Hydrographic department execute the first-ever demarcation of sea area between two countries? _____
- When did UNCLCS accept Pakistan's claim for an additional EEZ of 50,000 km? _____
- Name the Pakistan Navy Admiral who was appointed Chairman Joint Chiefs Services Committee.

ANSWER KEY

- B: 1. a
2. b
3. a
4. d
5. b
- C: 1. Bangkok, 1978 Asian Games, Enterprise Class
2. Capt (S) (Retd) Abu Raza Najmuddin Hussain PN.
3. Tek Naat River between Burma and erstwhile East Pakistan in 1960.
4. March 2015.
5. Admiral Iftikhar Ahmed Strohey

PN - PMSA CONDUCT SEARCH & RESCUE OPS FOR MISSING FISHERMEN

Pakistan Navy (PN) in coordination with Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) recovered 12 dead bodies out of 14 missing fisherman of boat Al-Assad in a joint search and rescue operation.

The fishing boat Al-Assad with an onboard crew of 45 capsized in open sea off Hajmbro creek on 5 March due inclement weather.

Search and Rescue operation was started on 05 march 24 in open sea.



Search operation involved multiple assets of PN and PMSA including aircraft, helicopters, ships and speed boats.

Despite dense marine traffic in vicinity of accident, time lapse and choppy sea conditions the dead bodies of 12 missing fishermen were successfully recovered.

The recovered bodies have been handed over to concerned civil authorities for further formalities.

Conduct of continuous Search and rescue operation by PN & PMSA is a manifestation of PN's resolve to assist in every calamity at Sea. ✕✕



PNS/M GHAZI

the valiant
who went
down fighting



Cdre Sohail A. Azmie

An editorial published by the Economic Times on February 23, 2024, titled "PNS Ghazi, sunk by Indian Navy's INS Vikrant during 1971 Indo-Pak war found near Vizag coast," presents an account regarding the sinking of the Pakistani submarine. While the title of the editorial suggests that PNS Ghazi was sunk by Vikrant, the details within the editorial conflict with the title, where the Economic Times waxes to say that the submarine was sunk by INS Rajput, rather than INS Vikrant. It is interesting to note that both INS Vikrant and INS Rajput lacked anti-submarine warfare capability, as neither vessel was equipped with the sonar during the course of events that happened during the Indo-Pak War, 1971. Reportedly, INS Rajput did carry depth charges.

INS Rajput was an aging World War II destroyer, ex-HMS Rotherham, which was sold to India in 1948. Given its age and lack of modern anti-submarine warfare technology, it seems implausible that INS Rajput would have been capable of successfully engaging and sinking a submarine like PNS Ghazi. Though it still remains a mystery, but it is highly likely that the unfortunate submarine's sinking was the result of an accident caused by the untimely explosion of a mine during offensive mine laying operation off Vishakhapatnam. This theory aligns with the known operational history of Ghazi, which had previously demonstrated formidable capabilities that made it Pakistan's preferred military asset against India. In light of these inconsistencies and the lack of corroborating evidence regarding INS Rajput's

involvement, it is imperative to carefully evaluate the credibility of the claims made in the Economic Times editorial regarding the sinking of PNS Ghazi during the Indo-Pak War, 1971.

Ghazi cast a profound nervousness in the Indian navy, where its very mention evoked a sense of unease within the Indian naval circles. Ghazi's reputation as a formidable adversary had been solidified through operations, since its induction, instilling a deep-seated fear within the Indian fleet. As tensions escalated during the early phases of the 1971 conflict, Ghazi's presence loomed large, forcing the Indian aircraft carrier Vikrant to seek refuge nearly a thousand miles away from its home port of Vishakhapatnam. This strategic retreat underscored the gravity of the situation, as the Indian



navy grappled with the imminent threat posed by Ghazi's stealthy advances. Vice Admiral Krishnan, tasked with overseeing the Indian Eastern Naval Command, found himself navigating a precarious balancing act, acutely aware of Ghazi's track record of disrupting naval operations. Drawing from lessons learned during the Indo-Pak War, 1965, when Ghazi had nearly crippled Indian naval design, Krishnan wasted no time in implementing precautionary measures to safeguard his fleet.

Recognizing the vulnerability of his command's 'operational centre of gravity' to potential Ghazi's attack, Vice Admiral Krishnan made the decision to relocate Vikrant further southward, by November 13, 1971, beyond the reach of Ghazi's prowling gaze, while deceiving Pakistan Navy through signals that Vikrant was operating between Madras and Vishakhapatnam. This proactive manoeuvre aimed to mitigate the risk of direct confrontation and maintain operational integrity in the face of Ghazi's menacing presence. Anticipating Vikrant's presence off Vishakhapatnam, Ghazi left Karachi on November 14, 1971.

The evolving politico-military landscape in East Pakistan compelled Pakistani military commanders to reassess their strategic options. Internal unrest, exacerbated by India's active support of Bengali separatist movements, necessitated decisive action from both political and military leaders in Pakistan. Additionally, adhering to the prevalent Pakistani military doctrine "defence of the east lies in the west," military leadership advocated for alleviating pressure in the East by redirecting Indian focus to the maritime

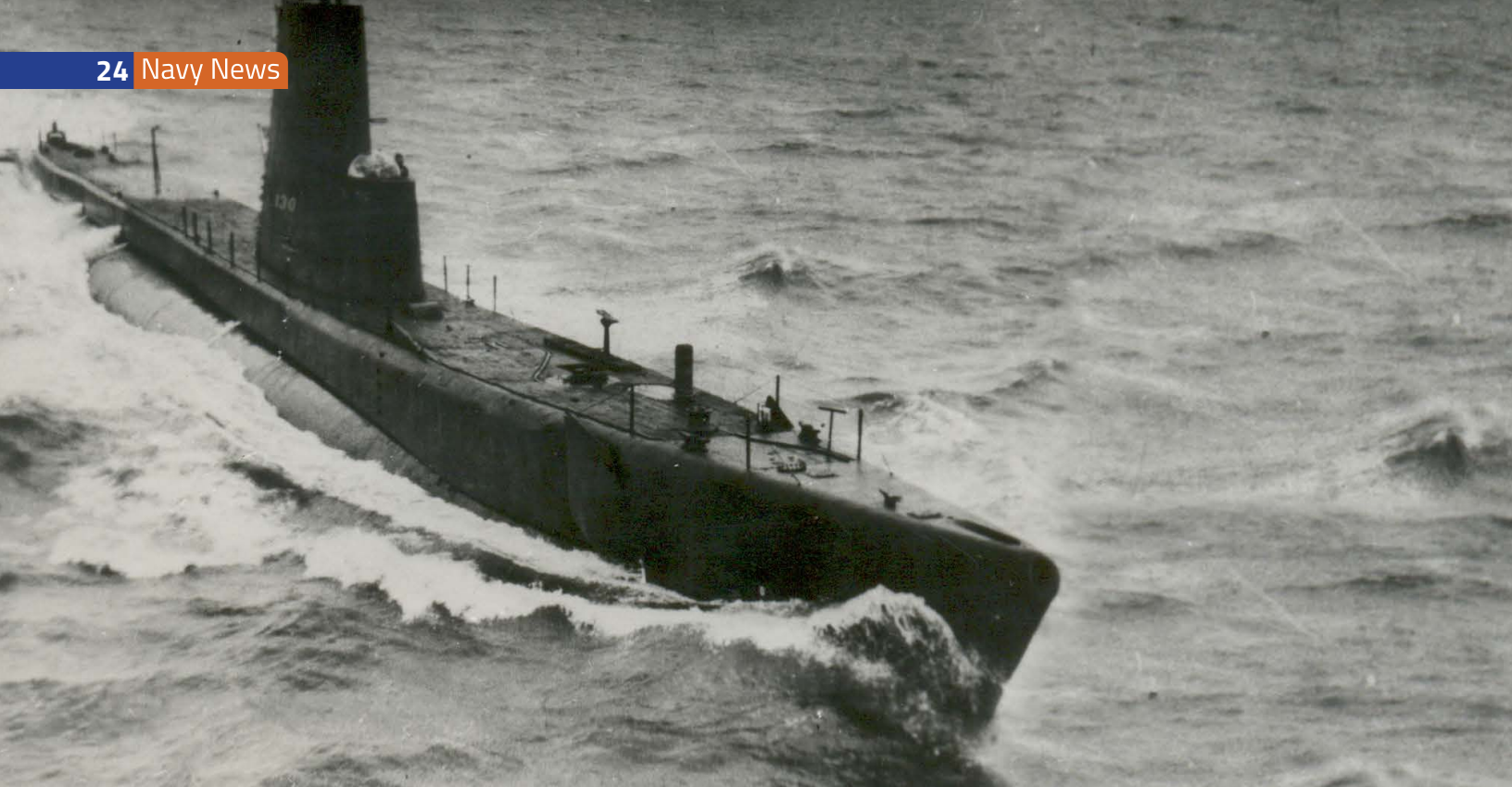
domain. Within the framework of Pakistani military calculus, it was foreseeable that India, having neutralized the Pakistani Air Force in the East, would seek to blockade East Pakistan, primarily leveraging assets like INS Vikrant, to deliver a decisive blow. Indians envisioned that severing sea routes would coerce Pakistan to capitulate to Indian demands, rendering it incapable of sustaining hostilities. On their part, Pakistani military leadership identified PNS Ghazi as the naval asset capable of disrupting India's major operational strategy, particularly concerning the deployment of INS Vikrant. By bottling up the Indian fleet in Vishakhapatnam port and targeting Vikrant, Ghazi held the potential to significantly tilt the outcome of the war in Pakistan's favour. Such strategic deliberations underscored the gravity of decision-making during the turbulent days of November, 1971.

PNS Ghazi, ex-USS Diablo, belonged to Trench Class submarines and served in the US Navy from its commissioning on March 31, 1945. Diablo primarily operated in the Atlantic and the Caribbean seas. USS Diablo was decommissioned and later recommissioned as PNS Ghazi on June 1, 1964, within Pakistani fleet. With Ghazi's induction, Pakistan Navy became the sole operator of submarines in the region, significantly bolstering its naval capabilities. During the Indo-Pak War, 1965, Ghazi emerged as a key platform, leaving Indian navy grapple for countermeasures against a subsurface combatant. Despite their efforts, the Indian forces were unable to devise a viable solution to counter Ghazi's operational advantage, cementing

its reputation as a fearsome presence in Indian waters. Following its performance in 1965, Ghazi was entrusted with another daring mission in 1971. This time the submarine was tasked to keep Vikrant holed up in the harbour or destroy it if the ship attempts to set sails for East Pakistan. Ghazi set sails, under the command of Commander Zafar Mohammad Khan, with instructions to hunt for Vikrant or else deploy mines off Vishakhapatnam. Loaded with mines in several torpedo tubes, the crew of Ghazi were well aware of their mission's nature but entrusted the details of 'when and where' to their commanding officer.

Operationally, this mission presented immense challenges, involving the navigation of a submerged vessel nearly 2000 miles away from its home port to execute a task involving significant risk. Nonetheless, Ghazi embraced the challenge without hesitation, demonstrating unwavering resolve and bravery in the face of adversity. On its mission from Karachi towards Vishakhapatnam, Ghazi received intelligence indicating the presence of INS Vikrant in or around the port. Arriving in the designated area, known as the Victor Zone, on December 2-3, 1971, Ghazi diligently scoured the deeper waters in search of its elusive target, INS Vikrant. However, to Ghazi's dismay, the carrier was actually situated far away near the Andaman Islands during this time. Undeterred, Ghazi redirected its efforts closer to the port vicinity.

During the night of December 3-4, while engaged in the delicate task of laying mines off the Vishakhapatnam harbour,



Ghazi encountered a tragic turn of events. In what appears to have been a miscalculation of its position, Ghazi inadvertently veered into its own minefield, triggering an explosion that ruptured its forward torpedo room. The ensuing devastation proved catastrophic, overwhelming the submarine's damage control efforts and sealing its fate. With the destruction being extensive and swift, Ghazi met its tragic demise just after half past midnight, sinking with all hands onboard at a distance of approximately 1.5 nautical miles from the Vishakhapatnam breakwater. This untimely end marked the conclusion of the illustrious but ultimately ill-fated career of a once-great submarine.

According to Indian accounts, the task of locating and neutralizing Pakistani submarine fell to INS Rajput, commanded by Lt Cdr Inder Singh. Indians assert that it was Rajput that engaged Ghazi, using depth charges to achieve its destruction. However, there

are conflicting reports within Indian sources regarding the exact circumstances of Ghazi's demise. Contradictory to the Rajput's claims, Indian sources also mention reports from local fishermen regarding the discovery of a large oil slick and debris in the area. This information prompted the dispatch of INS Akshay, under the command of Lt Sridhar More, from Vishakhapatnam on December 5 to investigate further. This raises questions about the timing and certainty of Ghazi's sinking. If Ghazi had indeed been destroyed on December 4, as claimed, the need for a subsequent investigation the following day appears puzzling.

The absence of comprehensive anti-submarine warfare efforts or records within the Indian navy further casts doubt on the certainty of Ghazi's prosecution at the hands of Indian vessels. Before claiming credit for the sinking of Ghazi, it would have been prudent for the Indian navy to consider the practical realities and gather conclusive evidence.

As such, the circumstances surrounding Ghazi's fateful end remain subject to scrutiny and interpretation. In the accounts provided by the Indian senior officers such as Admiral Nanda, Lt Gen JFR Jacob, Vice Admiral Hiranandani and Admiral Arun Prakash, which unequivocally deny Indian navy's involvement in the sinking of Ghazi. These officers even suggest that the Indian navy had no prior knowledge of Ghazi's presence, let alone its detection near Vishakhapatnam. Admiral S M Nanda, Indian Naval Chief during the 1971 War, in his book "The Man Who Bombed Karachi" published in 2004, recounts an incident where an unusual and suspicious blast near the entrance to Vizag harbour on the night of December 3-4 led to the detection and sinking of Ghazi. This event was apparently reported by a fisherman to the war-watching organization. The fisherman in question was Nannapaneni Venkateswarlu; who has been mentioned in an article by S N V Sudhir titled "Vishakhapatnam: Sunk Pakistani Submarine Ghazi is

an Enigma," published in Deccan Chronicle on November 24, 2015. Venkateswarlu, captain of the fishing vessel MT Suneeta Rani, operating off the Vizag coast at the time, stated, "I heard a deafening sound but I was not sure what exactly happened. I am certain that there were no Indian navy vessels around."

These testimonies from various sources provide convincing evidence that the sinking of Ghazi was not the result of actions taken by the Indian navy, but rather a mysterious event that unfolded with absolutely no involvement from Indian naval forces. Furthermore, Lt Gen JFR Jacob, who served as the Chief of Staff of the Indian Army Eastern Command during the 1971 war, presents a compelling narrative regarding the sinking of PNS Ghazi. In his book "An Odyssey in War and Peace," published in 2011, Lt Gen Jacob notes that "There is little doubt that the Indian Navy did a splendid job, but we did not sink Ghazi!" He further maintains that "sinking of the Ghazi was announced by the navy only after getting their 'story' collated. Lt Gen Jacob insists that Vice Admiral Krishnan, Indian Eastern Naval Commander at the time, was informed of the incident solely through reports from fishermen and had no prior knowledge of Ghazi's presence or its destruction.

In his book "Surrender at Dacca: Birth of a Nation," published in 1997, on Page 67, Lt Gen Jacob refers to a conversation between him and Krishnan, where he mentions Krishnan saying that "the blowing up of the Ghazi either on 1 or 2 December whilst laying mines was an act of God. He said it would permit the Navy greater freedom of action.

Next morning, on 4 December, Krishnan again telephoned asking me whether we had reported the blowing up of the Ghazi to Delhi. I said that we had not as I presumed that he had done so. Relieved, he thanked me and asked me to forget our previous conversation. The official Naval version given out later was that the Ghazi had been sunk by the ships of the Eastern Fleet on 4 December." Similarly, Admiral Arun Prakash, speaking to NewsX's Vishal Thapar in 2019 (interview available at 'Daily Motion'), opined that PNS Ghazi "sank in mysterious circumstances and not at the hands of the INS Rajput as the Indian Navy has maintained over the years." Vice Admiral Hiranandani, in his book "Transition to Triumph: Indian Navy, 1965-1975," published on October 15, 1999, acknowledges the uncertainty surrounding the truth about Ghazi, casting doubt on the veracity and consistency of the Indian Navy's claims regarding its sinking. Hiranandani, while discussing under the topic of "The Sinking of the Ghazi," refers to suspicions of releasing the signal about Ghazi's sinking on December 9, whereas as per the claims the incident had occurred on December 3.

Vice Admiral Mihir K. Roy, in his book titled "War in the Indian Ocean," published in 1995, mentions on pages 205-206 that Ghazi most probably collided with one of its own mines. He also suggests that it was very likely for a mine to go off because of depth charges being dropped at that time. Times of India in their editorial titled "Now no record of Navy sinking Pakistani submarine in 1971," published on May 12, 2010, indicated very clearly that "crucial documents of Ghazi" were missing from the

Indian navy's official record cells. These views/ comments from military figures and Indian media reports underscore the complexity and ambiguity surrounding the sinking of PNS Ghazi, suggesting that the truth may never be fully known and calling into question the credibility of the Indian navy's claims regarding the incident. The tragic fate of PNS Ghazi, lost off the Indian coast with its entire crew, remains shrouded in uncertainty and speculation. The circumstances surrounding its sinking, including the reasons and conditions leading to the event, have yet to be fully elucidated. Much of this ambiguity can be attributed to India's reluctance to allow US and Russian researchers to conduct a thorough site survey and explore the true causes of Ghazi's demise.

The valorous crew of Ghazi embarked on their final journey with unwavering courage and dedication, never to return home again. Their sacrifice serves as a poignant reminder of the inherent risks faced by those who serve in the submarines. Despite the lack of definitive answers, the memory of these brave souls who chose the path of ultimate glory by embracing martyrdom aboard Ghazi will endure forever. Vir Chakra bestowed upon Lt Cdr Inder Singh, for supposedly 'destroying' Ghazi, only serve to underscore the gravity of the situation and the need for impartial investigation. As we honour the memory of these martyrs, may their souls find eternal peace and may their legacy continue to inspire future generations with a message of hope, courage and unwavering dedication to the cause they served so selflessly. ❖❖

NAVAL LENS INTERNATIONAL FEATURED NEWS



NEW TURKISH USV OKHAN

11.4-meter autonomous and operator-controllable vessel, features both electric and diesel engines



Turkish defence company Kayaci Defence showcased the new OKHAN unmanned surface vessel (USV) for the first time at the DIMDEX 2024 exhibition.

The operational range of the vessel reaches 27 km with

line-of-sight communication and exceeds 200 km when utilizing satellite communication (SATCOM). With a maximum payload capacity of 1000 kilograms, OKHAN is capable of carrying weapon systems, RCS enhancers, RF jammers, and

various sensor equipment. The vessel's sensor suite includes navigational radar with a range of 24 kilometres, EO systems, satellite telemetry, and other navigational safety equipment.

CHINA UNVEILS NEXT-GEN ATTACK USV THUNDERER A2000' AT WDS 2024



At the World Defence Show Exhibition in Riyadh, China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC) unveiled the Thunderer A2000, a new combat unmanned surface vessel (USV). With a displacement of 280 tonnes and a length of 45 meters, the Thunderer A2000 boasts impressive specifications. Powered by twin diesel engines and two CPP propellers, it surges at a top speed of 35 knots, delivering both agility and efficiency. The trimaran hull design, reminiscent of CSSC's JARI USV, ensures low radar cross-section and stealth.

Courtesy:

www.navalnews.com



1100 TEU CONTAINER SHIP FOR PNSC

HISTORIC MILESTONE FOR KS&EW ... CONSTRUCTION OF 1100 TEU CONTAINER SHIP FOR PNSC

Contract signing ceremony for construction of 1100 TEU Container Ship for Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC) was held on 02 March 2024 at Karachi Shipyard and Engineering Works. Vice Admiral (Retd) Iftikhar Ahmed Rao, Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Maritime Affairs graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The ceremony was attended by high ranking officials of Pakistan Navy, Consular General of Republic of Korea, representatives of Ministry of Maritime Affairs, officials of PNSC and other distinguished guests from local industries. Karachi Shipyard will build a large commercial ship after a hiatus of 40 years.

The Container Ship has an overall length of 146 meters and with 18 knots top speed has a range of 9000 nautical miles. The ship is Tier-III compliant with global unrestricted navigation capability. Design

and KoM of the vessel will be acquired from Korea. Delivery of the vessel is planned in 36 months from Contract Effective Date (CED).

On the occasion, Cdre M Jahanzeb Ahsan, General Manager Shipbuilding, KS&EW presented the project brief and informed that KS&EW is committed to provide quality products to its valued clients including Pakistan National Shipping Corporation.

In his closing remarks, the SAPM for Maritime Affairs expressed that Govt of Pakistan is satisfied over achieving this historic milestone and pledged that local shipbuilding industry will always be given due priority particularly for replacement or provision of all port crafts. ⊗ ⊗



“People who have no hold over their process of thinking are likely to be ruined by liberty of thought. If thought is immature, liberty of thought becomes a method of converting men into animal.”

Allama Dr. Muhammad Iqbal



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