The highlight of Navy’s operational calendar in 1949 was the arrival of first two destroyers, HMPS TIPPU SULTAN, ex-Onslow and HMPS TARIQ, ex-Offa.

PNS TARIQ (Ex HMS Offa) was an O-class destroyer of the Royal Navy which entered service in 1941. During November 1941 HMS Offa was part of Convoy PQ-4, the fifth of the Arctic Convoys of World War II which sailed from Hvalfjord, Iceland on 17 November 1941 and arrived at Arkhangelsk on 28 November 1941. On 30 November 1949, Offa was transferred to Pakistan and renamed as TARIQ. Sir Robert Burnett, Commander-in-Chief, handed over HMS Offa to the RPN in Plymouth. Prior to their departure from UK, HMPS Tariq and HMPS Tippu Sultan were formed into 25th Destroyer Flotilla. Tariq on transfer to the RPN was commanded by Lt Cdr Afzal Rahman Khan, who later had the distinction of being the second Pakistani Commander-in-Chief of the PN. Lt Cdr Wazir Gul became the First Lieutenant of Tariq.

The arrival of the destroyer in Pakistani waters was a landmark in the history of the RPN. She was met at sea by the then Honorable Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan and Rear Admiral Jefford, in addition to a large party of ministers, Senior Defense Ministry officials and officers of the three Services.
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Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi visited Pakistan Navy’s coastal installations & forward posts of units along Makran Coast to review the operational preparedness and also performed ground breaking of various operational and administrative projects at Gwadar and Ormara.
The Naval Chief expressed satisfaction over operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy in undertaking the sacred task of defence of motherland and reaffirmed the resolve that any misadventure by the enemy shall be thwarted with an iron fist.

During the visit, the Naval Chief was briefed about the ongoing operational activities, special measures being employed to maintain operational readiness of Pakistan Navy Fleet Units at optimum level and on achievements of Task Force-88 for ensuring maritime security of CPEC/ Gwadar Port. Chief of the Naval Staff also inspected the forward posts at coastal installations, interacted with the deployed troops and commended officers & men for their high morale, commitment and spirit of sacrifice. The Naval Chief expressed satisfaction over operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy in undertaking the sacred task of defence of motherland and reaffirmed the resolve that any misadventure by the enemy shall be thwarted with an iron fist.

During the visit, Chairman China Overseas Ports Holding Company, Mr Zhang Baozhong also called on Chief of the Naval Staff at Gwadar. During meeting, matters of mutual interest including security of CPEC and Gwadar
Port were discussed. Mr Zhang Baozhong appreciated Pakistan Navy’s role in ensuring peace and security of this Game Changer project. The Naval Chief expressed Pakistan Navy’s resolve to ensure seaward defence of vital maritime infrastructure and protect maritime interests of Pakistan against all threats. Both the dignitaries agreed to continue momentum on this important project which is aimed at prosperity and economic empowerment of people of the region and beyond.

Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi performed ground breaking of various operational and administrative projects at Gwadar and Ormara which also included extension of educational facilities at Junior Naval Academy Ormara (JNAO). Speaking at the occasion, the Naval Chief reiterated that Pakistan Navy will continue to play its part in contributing towards uplift of coastal areas through socio-economic initiatives especially in education and health sectors.

Chief of the Naval Staff also visited Pakistan Navy Dockyard at Karachi where the Admiral was given briefings on structural reorganization of Dockyard and operational aspects of the Fleet Units. ☞ ☞
Chief of Staff of Sultan’s Armed Forces of Oman visits Naval Headquarters

Chief of Staff of Sultan’s Armed Forces of Oman, Lt General Ahmed bin Harith Al-Nabhani called on Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi at Naval Headquarters, Islamabad.

Upon arrival at Naval Headquarters, the visiting dignitary was received by Chief of the Naval Staff. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Navy presented him the Guard of Honour. Thereafter, the dignitary laid floral wreath at the Shuhada’s Monument and was then introduced to the Principal Staff Officers at Naval Headquarters.

Lt General Ahmed bin Harith Al-Nabhani called on Chief of the Naval Staff in his office. During the meeting, professional matters of mutual interest and bilateral defence ties were discussed. Chief of the Naval Staff highlighted Pakistan’s commitment and performance in fight against terrorism and Pakistan Navy’s efforts for ensuring maritime security and peace in the region through participation in multinational Combined Maritime Force (CMF) and Pakistan Navy’s independent initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP).

Naval Chief also thanked Lt General Ahmad bin Harith Al-Nabhani for participation of Royal Navy of Oman in Multinational Maritime Exercise AMAN-19 in Pakistan. The General appreciated and acknowledged Pakistan Navy’s efforts and commitment in support of collaborative maritime security in the region and successful conduct of Exercise AMAN-19. Both the dignitaries agreed on further enhancing military interaction in diverse fields of training and other areas of defence collaboration.

The visit of Chief of Staff of Sultan’s Armed Forces of Oman shall greatly augment the bilateral cooperation between both the countries in general and navies in particular.
Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi visited Malaysia.

During his visit, the Naval Chief called on Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy and Malaysia’s Defence Minister. Upon arrival at Ministry of Defence in Kuala Lumpur, the Admiral was received by Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy Admiral Tan Sri Mohd Reza Bin Mohd Sany. A ceremonial Guard of Honour was also presented to the Naval Chief at the occasion. During the meeting with his Malaysian counterpart, matters of mutual interest, bilateral naval collaboration and various avenues to enhance interoperability between Pakistan Navy and Royal Malaysian Navy were discussed. The Naval Chief also highlighted Pakistan Navy’s commitment and efforts for ensuring maritime security in the region including Pakistan Navy’s initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP). The admiral also thanked Admiral Tan Sri Mohd for participation of Malaysian Navy in Multinational Maritime Exercise AMAN-19 hosted by Pakistan Navy at Karachi early this year. Malaysian Naval Chief, while acknowledging the significance of strong bilateral naval association between the two navies, appreciated Pakistan Navy’s efforts and commitments in support of collaborative maritime security in the region and successful conduct of Exercise AMAN-19. Both the dignitaries agreed to further enhance mutual interaction in diverse fields through port calls, bilateral naval exercises and training exchange programmes. A brief was also given to Chief of the Naval Staff on roles and tasks of Royal Malaysian Navy.

Later, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi also called on Malaysia’s Defence Minister, Mr Mohamad Sabu. During the meeting, professional matters of mutual interest and bilateral defence ties were pondered upon. Mr Sabu acknowledged and highly appreciated the role and contributions of Pakistan in spearheading various initiatives for maintaining peace and stability in the region. Both the dignitaries agreed on further enhancing the bilateral cooperation in the domains of military collaboration.

The Naval Chief also visited various facilities of Malaysian Navy including Headquarters Western Fleet, Special Force Training Centre, Boustead Naval Shipyard, Malaysian Naval Air Arm and called on Commander Western Fleet & other Field Commanders.
Upon his arrival at Headquarters Western Fleet in Lumut, the Admiral was warmly received by Royal Malaysian Navy Western Fleet Commander, Vice Admiral Dato’ Aris Adi Tan Bin Abdullah. Guard of Honour was also presented to the Naval Chief at the occasion. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest and bilateral naval collaboration were discussed. A brief was also given to the Naval Chief on roles and tasks of Western Fleet Command.

Chief of the Naval Staff also visited Special Force Training Centre and Naval Education & Training Command and called on heads of these institutes. The Admiral then witnessed the facilities at the Centres and appreciated the quality of training.

Later, the Naval Chief visited Boustead Naval Shipyard in Lumut. Upon arrival at the Yard, the Admiral was received by head of the shipyard and was given a detailed briefing on the facilities at the shipyard. Thereafter, the Naval Chief visited various sections of the yard and appreciated the quality of work being undertaken at Boustead Naval Shipyard. The Naval Chief also visited Headquarters Malaysian Naval Air Arm, reviewed the Quarters Guard and various facilities at the HQ Naval Air Arm.

It is expected that current visit of Chief of the Naval Staff would greatly augment the bilateral cooperation between both the countries in general and the two navies in particular.
Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi visited Australia. During his visit, the Naval Chief attended Indo-Pacific ‘Sea Power Conference’ held in Sydney and had interactions with his Naval Counterparts from various countries.

The Indo-Pacific ‘Sea Power Conference’ a three day long multinational naval event held in conjunction with the biennial International Maritime Exposition, that included seven interrelated international naval events. During the Sea Power Conference, speakers from Australian Research Institutes/Think Tanks and international navies presented the papers. Delegations from 80 countries including Naval Heads and senior naval leaders from 35 foreign navies, attended the conference.

Besides inaugural session, the Naval Chief attended various other sessions of the Sea Power Conference. During the ongoing conference, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi had bilateral calls with naval chiefs of Australia, Brunei & Philippines and also interacted with various heads of foreign navies. During the meetings with the foreign dignitaries, matters of mutual interest and bilateral naval collaboration were discussed. The Naval Chief highlighted Pakistan’s commitment in the fight against terrorism including Pakistan Navy’s participation in multinational Combined Maritime Force (CMF) and Pakistan Navy’s own initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP) in support of maritime security in the region.

It is expected that current visit of Chief of the Naval Staff would greatly augment the bilateral cooperation between both the countries in general and the two navies in particular.

The Indo-Pacific ‘Sea Power Conference’ a three day long multinational naval event held in conjunction with the biennial International Maritime Exposition. Delegations from 80 countries including Naval Heads and senior naval leaders from 35 foreign navies, attended the conference.
Pakistan Navy joined the 32-member Trans Regional Maritime Network (T-RMN), based in Italy. Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi formally signed the ‘Note of Accession’ for joining the organization at Naval Headquarters, Islamabad. Ambassador of the Italian Republic H.E Mr Stefano Pontecorvo was also present at the occasion.

Trans Regional Maritime Network (T-RMN) was established in 2008 to facilitate exchange of maritime information at Trans Regional level amongst the participating nations. By joining T-RMN community, Pakistan Navy will have access to maritime related information which will augment the comprehensive maritime picture already being maintained at Joint Maritime Information Coordination Center (JMICC) of Pakistan Navy at Karachi. JMICC is rapidly evolving as the hub of maritime related information in the region since its inception in 2013. Presently, the center is integrated with various regional and trans regional stakeholders to strengthen maritime security in the region.

Integration of Pakistan Navy in T-RMN is an important step towards the Pakistan Navy’s vision of ensuring safety and security at high seas through a collaborative approach. Such multilateral arrangements play a vital role in exchange of information among member nations on maritime traffic plying across the world.
The aim of exercise was to strengthen military relationship, improve coordination and interoperability between Special Operation Forces, exchange professional expertise and experiences of Counter Terrorism Operations.
A bilateral exercise SEA THUNDER-IV 2019 between Pakistan Navy Special Service Group and Indonesian Navy Special Operation Force (SOF) concluded. Sea Thunder is a series of bilateral exercises which is conducted annually between Pakistan and Indonesian Navies. This exercise, being 4th in the series, continued for seven days.

The aim of exercise was to strengthen military relationship, improve coordination and interoperability between Special Operation Forces, exchange professional expertise and experiences of Counter Terrorism Operations between participating forces. During the exercise, Maritime Counter Terrorism Operations including Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIOs) were also rehearsed at sea. The exercise concluded with a remarkable coordinated Visit Board Search & Seizure Operations, jointly conducted by Pakistan & Indonesian Navies’ SOF teams involving Pakistan
Navy Ships, Sea-king helicopters and Special Forces’ Boats in Arabian Sea.

The exercise is a reflection of strong bilateral military cooperation between Pakistan Navy and Indonesian Navy. Professional experiences gained during bilateral exercises were mutually rewarding and will foster greater bilateral cooperation between the two brotherly navies.
EXCERCISE
Pakistan Navy’s Command and Staff Conference concluded at Naval Headquarters, Islamabad. The conference was chaired by Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi.

During the conference, matters relating to prevailing regional and global security situation, operational preparedness, development plans of Pakistan Navy, and training/welfare of troops were reviewed. Detailed brief on various ongoing and future Pakistan Navy projects and plans were also given to Chief of the Naval Staff.

While making an appraisal of prevailing geo-strategic milieu, Chief of the Naval Staff expressed full confidence over operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy and appreciated manifestation of organisational changes in the Fleet organization. Highlighting the plight of Kashmiri people, the Admiral said that Pakistan will continue to support just & rightful struggle of Kashmiris till resolution of the issue. He also reaffirmed Pakistan Navy’s resolve to defend the maritime frontiers of the country and said that Pakistan Navy was ever ready to respond to any misadventure.

Command and Staff Conference is the apex decision making body of Pakistan Navy in which all Principal Staff Officers, Field Commanders and Pakistan Navy’s Flag Officers on secondment to other organizations undertake strategic review of Pakistan Navy’s Policies and Plans.
The debrief session of Pakistan Navy’s Operational Exercise RIBAT-2019 was held at Pakistan Navy Tactical School (PNTS), Karachi. Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Kaleem Shaukat graced the occasion as Chief Guest. In his address at the occasion, Vice Admiral Kaleem Shaukat while expressing satisfaction on the combat readiness of Pakistan Navy fighting units, highlighted that joint operational exercises are the essence of today’s modern warfare which afford desired level of training to undertake defence of the motherland. The Chief Guest during interaction with officers and men, appreciated their morale, level of preparedness and resolve to defend maritime frontiers of the country. He emphasized that Pakistan is a peace loving country and wants peace and prosperity in the region; however, any act of aggression or misadventure will receive a befitting response. Pakistan Navy is fully capable to counter any act of aggression by the adversary. He also appreciated the efforts put in by the exercise participants for practically manifesting war fighting plans in North Arabian Sea.

Pakistan Navy’s platforms and personnel remain vigilant and combat ready to guard the sea frontiers and defending Pakistan’s maritime interests. Pakistan Navy will continue to hone skills of its personnel through conduct of such joint exercises in sync with other services in future.

RIBAT series of exercises are focused on validating Pakistan Navy’s war fighting concepts under evolving multi-faceted threats, ranging from conventional to Grey-Hybrid warfare. In this regard, during RIBAT-2019, special emphasis was laid to manifest war plans of Pakistan Navy in sync with Pakistan Air Force to achieve higher level of synergy between the two sister services. 

RIBAT-2019
Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi visited Headquarters Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA).

Upon arrival at Agency’s Headquarters at Karachi, the Admiral was presented Guard of Honour. Thereafter, Chief of the Naval Staff laid wreath at Shuhada’s monument and was given a briefing in Agency’s Maritime Operations Centre. Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi also visited PMSA’s newly established state of the art Training Centre for imparting training to personnel to handle contemporary challenges in maritime domain. The Admiral appreciated the standard of training being conducted in the centre.

The Naval Chief expressed satisfaction over operational undertakings of the Agency in carrying out assigned tasks and expressed his confidence that PMSA would continue to play its vital role in safeguarding maritime and economic interests of the country.
Steel Cutting Ceremony of 16 Tons Bollard Pull Pusher Tugs being built for Pakistan Navy, was held at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KS&EW). Commander Coast Vice Admiral Muhammad Fayyaz Gilani graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The ceremony was attended by senior officials from Government of Pakistan, Pakistan Navy, Corporate Sector and KS&EW.

The Tug has an overall length of 21 meters with a displacement of 255 tons. It has maximum speed of 10 knots and propelled by 2 Diesel Engines. It is fitted with a very robust fendering arrangement for all round tugging operations. It has also a unique fendering below waterline to ensure safe movements of submarines.

On the occasion, the Honorable Chief Guest said that it is indeed a loud manifestation of indigenization policy being pursued by MoDP. He appreciated Karachi Shipyard for their valuable contribution towards attaining goal of self-reliance in the field of ship building. He highlighted an important segment of marine industry i.e. fishing industry and said that KS&EW has full capacity to construct modern fishing trawlers/boats and urged provincial governments to revamp this area through potential of this solitary shipyard of the country.

Earlier MD KS&EW, Rear Admiral Ather Saleem in his welcome address thanked Pakistan Navy and MoDP for their continued support. He said that in the past KS&EW has already constructed various tugs ranging from 10 to 40 Tons Bollard Pull capacities.

He highlighted that in parallel to the Ship Repair and Gen. Engineering activities, various shipbuilding projects including 1500 Tons Maritime Patrol Vessel for Pakistan Maritime Security Agency, Fast Attack Craft (Missile) No. 4 for PN and Bridge Erection Boats for Pakistan Army are being executed. Preparation of mega projects of construction of 4 submarines and 2 MILGEM Class Corvettes for Pakistan Navy are being made. He assured that KS&EW is committed to complete these challenging projects on time, meeting international quality standards.
9TH CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Organized by Station Headquarters (Navy) Lahore
Closing and prize distribution ceremony of 9th Chief of the Naval Staff Amateur Golf Championship 2019 was held at Defence Raya Golf & Country Club, Lahore. Chief of Staff (Personnel), Vice Admiral Ather Mukhtar graced the occasion as Chief Guest and distributed prizes among the winners.

The three-day event drew around 300 golfers from the national fabric who participated in various categories which include Amateurs, Senior Amateurs and Ladies.

The Chief Guest while congratulating the prize winners for their well-earned success, commended the high standard of sport displayed by all the participants during the Championship. The prizes were distributed amongst winner of all categories including Amateur, Senior Amateur and Ladies. Mr Ashiq Hussain of Multan Golf Club won the coveted title of 9th Chief of the Naval Staff Amateur Golf Championship 2019. Additionally, an Invitational Net category match was also played in which Rear Admiral Zahid Ilyas, Mr Taimor Abbasi and Mr Yasir secured first three positions.

The Chief Guest, during his address, expressing complete solidarity with the Kashmiris, said that illegal actions by the Indian government in the occupied valley, have endangered the peace of the whole region. He further said that Pakistan would continue to support the just and rightful struggle of Kashmiris on all diplomatic and political forums.

Earlier, during his welcome address, the Organizer of the event and Station Commander (Navy) Lahore, Commodore M. Neimatullah, thanked the Chief Guest and participants & highlighted that Pakistan Navy besides, its primary role of safeguarding country’s sea frontiers, is also at the forefront for promoting healthy sports activities in the country especially the game of Golf. The conduct of this Championship would usher in golfers to the national scene as well as hone the existing golfing talent.

The closing ceremony was attended by large number of civil and military dignitaries and participating golfers. 

Mr Ashiq Hussain of Multan Golf Club won the coveted title of 9th Chief of the Naval Staff Amateur Golf Cup 2019. The three-day event drew around 300 golfers from the national fabric participated in various categories which include Amateurs, Senior Amateurs and Ladies.
Pakistan Navy War College (PNWC) signed MoU’s with Civil Services Academy (CSA) and University of Management & Technology (UMT).

In line with vision of PN to promote maritime awareness particularly amongst the civil bureaucracy, amongst other initiatives, a Maritime Module has been introduced in the syllabus for Common Training Program (CTP) of CSA. The Subject Matter Experts/ Resource Persons for various activities related to Maritime Module will be identified/provided by PN/PNWC. The active involvement of PNWC with CSA will go a long way in enhancing maritime understanding amongst the civilian leadership of the country. Commandant PN War College, Rear Admiral Zahid Ilyas signed the MoU on behalf of PNWC whereas DG CSA Mr Sohail Aamir signed on behalf of CSA.

Furthermore PN also encourages maritime awareness between the academia and students, signing of MoU with UMT will go a long way towards sustaining this objective. As part of “Invention & Invention Summit”, in April 2019, UMT in collaboration with PNWC had organized a seminar on “Blue Economy” which was attended by a large number of students from different universities.

Deputy PN War College, Cdre Syed Wajeeh ul Hassan signed the MoU on behalf of PNWC whereas DG CSA Mr Sohail Aamir signed on behalf of CSA. Chair Department of Political Science & IR, Dr Muhammad Shoaib Pervez signed the MoU representing UMT. Commandant PN War College Rear Admiral Zahid Ilyas and President UMT, Mr Ibrahim Hasan Murad later endorsed the MoU on behalf of both institutions. Rector UMT, Dr M. Aslam and Lt Gen Javed Hasan (R) were also present on the occasion.

Both the institutions displayed their keen desire to translate the MoU’s into tangible initiatives for promoting maritime awareness. On conclusion of the ceremonies souvenirs were exchanged by the heads of the institutions. MoU’s signing ceremonies were attended by executive hierarchy of both the institutions.