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## COVER PHOTO



H.E. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo Inspects Guard in his honour on the Occasion of the Opening Ceremony of the 2023 International Maritime Defence Exhibition and Conference at Burma Camp



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## EDITORIAL

# AGENDA 2024 - SO FAR, SO VERY GOOD

*"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way." - John C. Maxwell.*

In the year 2021, His Excellency the President of the Republic and Commander-in-Chief of the Ghana Armed Forces appointed Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu as the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS). To say Admral IA Yakubu came on board already prepared is an understatement. This is a seasoned senior naval officer who has held strategic appointments within the Ghana Navy – both afloat and ashore.

It was therefore not surprising when within a short period of assuming office, he came out with his vision for the Navy. It is said that a true leader should have the power to begin, the eloquence to communicate, the patience to execute and above all, the wisdom to evaluate. In a nutshell, this means carrying the team along – letting them believe in your vision and leading them to achieve success.

Agenda 2024 sought to examine where the Ghana Navy stood, and where it ought to be by December 2024. This editorial therefore seeks to assess the journey so far, with barely some nine months left on the calendar. One of the strategic objective was to achieve total surveillance coverage of



**NAVAL CAPTAIN ANDY LA-ANYANE  
CHIEF EDITOR**

our Exclusive Economic Zone. Since 2021, under the leadership of Admiral Yakubu, the Ghana Navy has added monitoring systems to the ones that existed, enhancing the maritime domain awareness capabilities of the Navy.

When he took over the reins of the Navy, no new major ship had been commissioned into the fleet for ten years. Through the support of government and his innovative ways, four 40-metre Offshore Security Vessels (River Class) were acquired which are currently providing security to the national oil infrastructure at sea. In all, six ships have

so far been commissioned into the fleet since 2021. More are at different stages of acquisition.

The welfare of the sailors in areas of education, accommodation, promotions, training and many others have been enhanced. Whilst the Senior Rates have been provided with a modern 61-unit transit quarters and a mess, most of the specialist courses have been affiliated to the Takoradi and Ho Technical Universities for accreditation.

Additionally, the Navy has acquired a new Lodge and a 4 three-bedroom married quarters at Takoradi. The Forward Operating Base at Ezilinbo is also progressing steadily and would be commissioned this year.

There has been an expanding and reorganization of the Navy to meet current security challenges. This expanding drive include the creation of two new commands: Logistics and Riverine Commands, the introduction of the Administrative Branch and the reorganization of the Departments at the Headquarters to include Deputy Chief Staff Officers which has resulted in the increase in staff numbers.

So when Admiral Yakubu in his remarks during this year's annual conference, say the Navy is on an even keel, he means just that. The ship is afloat and sailing smoothly to the desired destination. I urge all personnel of the Navy to continue to support the dream of the CNS to see the Navy shine.

# PRESIDENT COMMISSIONS SHIPS FOR GHANA NAVY

## ■ Enoch Opata, 2 Garrison PR Detach

The President of the Republic and Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C) of the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF), Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo commissioned two Boundary Class Ships for the Ghana Navy at the Western Naval Command (WNC) on Saturday 9 September 2023.

The C-in-C also commissioned two Defender Class Boats, GNS FAIDOO and GNS AMOAMA; a Ghana Navy Landing Craft named “NAVDOCK” 1, and an Oil Spill Response Vessel, MV ESTHER AFUA OCLLOO for the Ghana Maritime Authority.

Delivering the keynote address, the C-in-C said the commissioning of the ships forms part of Government's efforts in retooling and equipping the GAF to enable them perform their duties diligently. He applauded the Ghana Navy for their efforts in protecting the maritime domain as there have not been any attack on ships in the last two years.

The President extended his appreciation to the United States of America (USA) Government for their benevolence in supporting Ghana's Military Revitalisation Programme through capacity building. He stressed that the current five-year trilateral agreement between the USA, Ghana and Denmark was set to make Ghana Navy's Special Boats Squadron (SBS), a Tier-1 Special Operations Force by 2026. The C-in-C stated that despite financial constraints,

the acquisition of Offshore and Fast Patrol Vessels were still under consideration for acquisition.

The President applauded the Ghana Navy for the efforts made in building NAVDOCK 1, which is Ghana's first indigenous Landing Craft measuring 11.5m in length and designed to carry 30 personnel and 1 ton of cargo. He acknowledged the sacrifices made by the families of the personnel and urged the crew of the commissioned vessels to live up to the billings of the Ghana Navy.

The Minister for Defence, Honourable Dominic Nitiwul noted that, there could not have been development without security thus the importance of a well-equipped Armed Forces cannot be overemphasized hence prioritizing its needs. He commended the American Government for lending enormous support to GAF.

On her part, the US Ambassador to Ghana, Ambassador Virginia Palmer, said Ghana and US' bilateral cooperation ties was significant towards achieving this stride.

She urged the Ghana Navy to put the vessels to good use in order to enhance the safety of Ghana's territorial waters, the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Gulf of Guinea. The Ambassador added that the vessels will help deny pirates,

traffickers, and criminals the use of the sea for their illegal activities.

The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu expressed gratitude to the C-in-C for his efforts towards equipping the Ghana Navy. He expressed gratitude to the Chief of the Defence Staff, Vice Admiral Seth Amoama for starting an initiative that has seen the Navy manufacture its first Landing Craft.

The CNS was hopeful the initiative will kickstart the manufacturing of boats locally and also enable the Navy to support the Army in amphibious operations. He added that, the Forward Operating Base project under construction in the Jomoro district in the Western region was more than 50% complete.

The project, when completed, will have a Naval Harbour, accommodation for about 10,000 troops, surveillance systems and other ancillary equipment which will make it the single largest defence project in Ghana's history.

Commissioning warrants for the respective ships were handed over to Lt (GN) Evans Blay Emu Nyamekeh Enwuli, Commanding Officer GNS HALF ASSINI and Lt (GN) David Thompson, Commanding Officer GNS AFLAO.





# PRESIDENT LAUNCHES NATIONAL INTEGRATED MARITIME STRATEGY, OPENS IMDEC 23

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu

*The President of the Republic and Commander in Chief of the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF), Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo successfully launched the National Integrated Maritime Strategy (NIMS) on Tuesday 29 August 2023 during the 3rd edition of the International Maritime Defence Exhibition and Conference (IMDEC) at Burma Camp, Accra.*



*President Officially Launches National Integrated Maritime Strategy (NIMS)*



The President, in his keynote address said the implementation plan of NIMS seeks to bolster effective collaboration amongst key stakeholders within Ghana's security architecture and international partners for a safe and secure maritime domain.

He stressed that the heightened threat of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) calls for littoral West African States to prioritize their maritime domains. He

added that the ongoing international discourse on the exploitation of the blue economy has called for countries to safeguard their territorial waters thus adopting measures in keeping our waters safe.

On his part, the Chief of the Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu said the key takeaway from IMDEC 23 in line with its theme; 'Consolidating the Gains made in the Gulf of Guinea: The Role of Stakeholders and Technology in

Sustaining a Safe and Secure Maritime Domain', will be to develop a regional and international framework to particularly deal with the challenges of piracy and other transnational maritime crimes.

The Deputy Minister for Defence, Honourable Kofi Amankwa-Manu in his closing remarks on the second day of the Conference and Exhibition, appealed to Chiefs of Navies to sustain and improve the pace at which they handle the challenges that hinder the collective aspirations of GoG States. He expressed optimism that the outcome of IMDEC 23 will assist in hastening the processes towards achieving the objectives of the Yaoundé Architecture.

The Yaoundé Architecture is an Inter-Regional Coordination Centre responsible for coordination and information-sharing, which connects Regional Maritime Security Centres for Central and West African states.

IMDEC 23 brought together regional and international Chiefs of Navies to help address critical issues bothering on maritime security on the African continent. It also focused on fostering dialogue and collaboration among key stakeholders in sustaining a safe and secure maritime domain.

The Conference and Exhibition saw in attendance several participants from 22 countries including 10 Chiefs of Navies and Heads of Coast Guards, a number of international and local exhibitors and sponsors as well as over 30 speakers.

The C-in-C also used the occasion to commission the new exhibition hall built to accommodate the growing event.





# ADMIRAL AMOAMA

# BOWS OUT

# GRACIOUSLY







# NEW CDS VISITS NAVAL HEADQUARTERS

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu and Ms Rabiatu Dery

*The newly appointed Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS), Lieutenant General (Lt Gen) Thomas Oppong-Peprah, paid a visit to the Naval Headquarters on Thursday 15 February 2024.*

**L**t Gen Oppong-Peprah, who assumed the prestigious role earlier in February was received by the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu, the Chief Staff Officer Commodore Prosper Modey and other Staff Officers at the Naval Headquarters.

Expressing his gratitude for the warm reception, the CDS thanked Officers, Ratings and Defence Civilian Staff for the support, well wishes and prayers for him since his assumption of command as the CDS.

The CNS, on his part introduced his Staff Officers to the newly appointed CDS, congratulated and wished him well on behalf of personnel of the Ghana Navy. He assured the CDS of the unwavering support of the Ghana Navy.

Members of the CDS entourage included the newly appointed Chief of Staff, Major General JP Owusu; Deputy Chief of Staff in charge of Administration, Air Vice Marshal Michael Appiah-Agyekum; DCOS in charge of Policy and Plans, Major General DYA Nyarko; DCOS Logistics R/Adm Agyenim-Boateng; and other Senior Officers at the General Headquarters.





## CNS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

# THE GHANA NAVY IS ON AN EVEN KEEL AND MAKING STEADY HEADWAY TO ITS DESTINATION OF AGENDA 2024 - CNS

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu and Ms Dery Rabiatu



*The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu has highlighted the significant achievements made by the Navy in the past year saying, the Ghana Navy was on an even keel and making steady headway to its destination of Agenda 2024.*

The CNS made this remark in his keynote address on day-one, of a two-day Annual Conference with Flag Officers Commanding and Directors on Thursday, 22 February 2024 held at the Naval Headquarters, Burma Camp.

The 2-day Conference under the theme: 'Consolidating the Gains made towards achieving the objectives of Ghana Navy's Agenda 2024', brought together top Senior Naval Officers to review progress of Agenda 2024,

identify the achievements and challenges in order to strategize to achieve the set objectives by December 2024.

Rear Admiral Yakubu in his address, thanked all personnel for their dedication and commitment to duty and the sterling leadership demonstrated in their various capacities. "The numerous strides the Navy has made is due to our collective efforts and team work." He said.

He urged all personnel to remain vigilant and continue to resource the operations of the Navy. "In fact, we have witnessed a third continuous year of zero kidnapping at sea in Ghanaian waters". He revealed.

Rear Admiral Yakubu gave a brief review of the 6 Strategic Objectives of the Agenda 2024 which includes; achieving total surveillance coverage of Ghana's

Exclusive Economic Zone, modernization of the fleet, leveraging technology for operations and administrative functions, collaboration with local stakeholders and international partners and the enhancement of the welfare of sailors.

Present at the conference were the Flag Officer Commanding (FOC) Western

Naval Command, Cdre EA Kwafo; FOC Eastern Naval Command, Cdre M Arhen; FOC NAVTRAC, Cdre BEK Atiayao; FOC NAVLOC, Cdre E Osei; FOC Riverine Command, Cdre S Asiedu-Larbi; the Chief Staff Officer, Cdre Prosper Modey; Flag Officer Fleet, Cdre S Ayelazono; Deputy Chief Staff Officers and Directors at the Headquarters.



# ON-GOING PROJECT AT EZILINBO PROGRESSING STEADILY



# GHANA NAVY CONSTRUCTS A MESS AND TRANSIT QUARTERS FOR ITS SENIOR RATES



THE NEW SENIOR RATES MESS

RIBY-WILLIAMS LODGE



# COMMANDER, US MARINE CORPS FORCES FOR EUROPE AND AFRICA CALLS ON CNS

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu

*The Commander, United States (US) Marine Corps Forces for Europe and Africa, Major General Robert B Sofge, paid a courtesy call on the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu at the Naval Headquarters, Burma Camp on Tuesday 6 February 2024.*



The CNS welcomed the General and his entourage to the headquarters and had series of engagement focusing on security in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) and strengthening the already existing bilateral ties between the two countries.

Rear Admiral Yakubu in an interaction with the delegation assured them of the total commitment of the Ghana Navy to working with the US Marines Corps Africa to ensure a safe and secured maritime domain. He stated that piracy and other maritime crimes in the GoG

had declined as a result of the continuous presence of the Ghana Navy at sea.

The CNS indicated that the Ghana Navy is committed to working closely with the US Coast Guard to advance their amphibious capabilities in defending the





maritime domain.

Major General Robert Sofge on his part lamented on the happenings in the Red Sea and said, Ghana's leadership in the GoG was critical to ensuring a safe shipping route for vessels that may probably redirect their routes towards Africa. He said the US government

remains committed to the security of the GoG and strengthening defence institutions.

The US Marine Corps Forces Commander for Europe and Africa was accompanied by the Vice Commander, Sixth Fleet who also doubles as the Director, Maritime Partnership Program, Rear Admiral

Calvin Foster and other Embassy Staff.

The CNS presented plaques to the Generals and also decorated them with a Ghana Navy customized kente stole. Major General Robert Sofge in return, also presented a plaque to the CNS.



# CNS COMMISSIONS GHANA NAVY LODGE AND ACCOMMODATIONS



The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu, has commissioned the Ghana Navy Lodge made up of 9 bedroom suite and four 3-bedroom houses located at Beach road, Takoradi, on Thursday 18 April 2024.

In his speech, the CNS expressed his heartfelt appreciation for the completion of the lodge. He mentioned that the commissioning wasn't just a physical addition to infrastructure but a significant step forward in the commitment to providing the best facilities for Naval Personnel. He was of the view that through the collective efforts of the Navy, more families would have befitting abode to enjoy the peace of mind needed to conduct the arduous task of protecting the nation.

He noted that the Navy stood on the core

pillars of loyalty, devotion and excellence and the new accommodation symbolised their devotion in ensuring the well-being and comfort of their personnel and families, who tirelessly served their national interest.

He underscored their collective vision in the Navy's Agenda 2024 within which they had committed to ensure the Ghana Navy's accommodation challenges were mitigated.

He noted that, the Lodge would be opened to the public for a modest fee just like the Navy Guest House at Winneba. He, therefore, entreated all to patronise the facility.

He outlined several projects that were near completion such as the rehabilitation of the single quarters at Caprice, Kweikuma, the Regulating Office at the Naval Base Sekondi among others. He

revealed that the Headquarters was in the process of acquiring another property similar to the one at Sekondi West Ridge to supplement officers' accommodation.

He seized the opportunity to commend all stakeholders who had contributed towards the completion of the magnificent apartment.

In his welcome address, Flag Officer Commanding, Western Naval Command, Commodore Emmanuel Ayesu Kwafo admitted that it felt great to have been part of the project which had been made possible through the excellent leadership of the Chief of the Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu. He also commended the CNS efforts to prioritise accommodation and infrastructure for Naval Personnel across the country.

Commodore Kwafo pledged that the edifice and all other infrastructure under the Command would receive the highest standard of maintenance it deserved. He thanked all other stakeholders whose contributions helped in bringing project to fruition.

The Contractor of the project, Mr Amoo Siriboe expressed his gratitude to the entire Navy and donated a flat screen television to be used in the Lodge.

Present at the ceremony were Flag Officers Commanding, Directors from the Naval Headquarters, the Contractor and some dignitaries.



# YOUR WELFARE IS MY PRIORITY- CNS

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu



Chief of the Naval Staff addressing Personnel during the Durbar



Senior Officers at the Durbar

The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu has assured personnel of the Ghana Navy of his unwavering commitment towards their welfare.

Addressing personnel of the Naval Headquarters at an all-ranks durbar held on Friday 29 December 2023 at the Owusu Ansah Hall, the CNS emphasized that the welfare of personnel remains paramount amidst some challenges.

On capacity building, the CNS said the Specialist Qualification (SQ) courses for Ratings would be accredited to the various Technical Universities in Ghana

for appropriate certification. He hinted that Command had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho and Takoradi Technical Universities to train and issue certification for Ratings.

Rear Admiral Yakubu indicated that, as part of the ongoing expansion in the Ghana Armed Forces, the Navy has established 2 new Commands; the Riverine and Logistics Commands.

The CNS reassured personnel that the issue of accommodation would soon be resolved with the Barracks Regeneration Project by government as the first phase was completed. He also urged personnel to plan their lives by engaging in legitimate businesses to support their

families, since the international peace support operations were gradually folding up.

Rear Admiral Yakubu admonished personnel to abstain from going on Absence Without Leave but rather resort to applying officially to be released with dignity. He also advised personnel to desist from engaging in recruitment fraud, performing unauthorized bodyguard duties but continue to remain loyal to the constitution of Ghana and Higher Command.

The Chief Staff Officer (CSO) Commodore Prosper Modey, Deputy CSOs, Directors and other Senior Officers at the Naval Headquarters were present.



Navy Personnel at the Durbar

# ARNO HONoured AT LUNCHEON FOR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu

*The Association of Retired Naval Officers (ARNO) has been celebrated and honoured at a prestigious luncheon event held at the Anchor House and hosted by the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu on Saturday 13 January 2024.*

The annual event, organized to recognize the dedication and selfless service of former naval heroes and heroines brought together distinguished veterans from across the country.

The CNS, in his welcome address, expressed gratitude for the immense contributions made by the retired officers during their years of service. He emphasized the importance of honouring the commitment of the retired officers to safeguarding the country's maritime defence over the years. "Your unwavering commitment, sacrifice and leadership have left an indelible mark on our country's maritime defence" he extolled.

Rear Admiral Yakubu indicated that the honouring of ARNO was not just an opportunity to reminisce about the past, but also to forge stronger bonds amongst the naval community. He thanked the Government of Ghana, Danish Government and all partners and friends of the navy for their continuous support to the Ghana Navy.

The President of ARNO, Rear Admiral Ohene Kwabong (rtd) in his remarks expressed a deep sense of appreciation to the CNS for inviting them to the luncheon event and commended him for sustaining the annual tradition.

He encouraged all serving naval officers to join ARNO when they ground arms. "I wish to reiterate that ARNO is an association which every naval officer should be proud of and aspire to be part of when we bow out of the service" he

said. He used the occasion to formally introduce himself as the new President of ARNO after taking over from Commodore Steve Obimpeh (rtd) who served ARNO for 13 years as its President.

Present at the luncheon were the then COAS and now CDS, Formation Commanders, Directors General, Industry Players and Senior Officers from other Security Services. The guest artist was evergreen Kojo Antwi.





# COMMANDER QUAYSON LAUNCHES BOOKS AT BURMA HALL

■ Rabiatu Dery



CHIEF OF THE ARMY STAFF, MAJ GEN THOMAS OPPONG-PEPRAH, LAUNCHES THE BOOKS

The Director Navy Religious Affairs, Commander David Benedict Quayson, launched four books on Wednesday 1 November 2023 at Burma Hall, Burma Camp, Accra.

The books are The Ghana Armed Forces Spousal Handbook, Marriage in God's Way, Institutional Chaplaincy in Africa and Skills Training Handbook.

In a speech read on behalf of the Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS), Vice Admiral Seth Amoama by the Chief of the Army Staff, Major General Thomas Oppong Peprah, the CDS said the launching of the books was timely as they touch on pertinent issues relating to the Armed Forces and the lives of personnel in the service.

He stressed that, the book, Institutional Chaplaincy in Africa, deeply discusses the subject of military chaplaincy from

an African perspective and is an addendum to many other kinds of literature on chaplaincy that seeks to give some basic understanding of military chaplaincy. The book also give space to the history, and contemporary



realities of institutional chaplaincy for those who are already serving as chaplains and those nursing the desire to become institutional chaplains.

The CDS said the books also shed light on military, religion, and morality in a fast-paced and dynamic world as well as the impact of marriage and spousal responsibility on the well-being of the individual soldier and the Service at large.

His book on Skills Training spells out the potential benefits of skills training to personnel and their spouses during their active service and retired lives.

In the "Ghana Armed Forces Spousal Handbook", the author takes non-military spouses of Service personnel on a journey to come to terms with their roles, responsibilities, and privileges as expected by the Armed Forces and the entire military community.

With the multiplicity of roles come the strenuous demands on the spouses of

Service personnel thus stated that it was important, a manual on the dynamics of the military service and associated challenges faced by spouses exist to help particularly, the non-military spouse, to navigate safely.

The Chairman for the book launch, Very Reverend Professor Joseph Manasseh Yarquah Adusa-Eyison said the church

plays a key role in education necessary for the future.

The author in his remarks, thanked Almighty God, the Military High Command and all for gracing the occasion on a successful book launch.

The Chief of the Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu, Chief of Staff at the

General Headquarters, Major General Nicholas Peter Andoh, Special Advisor to the President for the Accra Initiative, Ambassador Major General Francis Adu-Amanfoh (Retired), Retired Officers, Bishops of the Methodist Church of Ghana and some serving officers were present.



**MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY AT THE LAUNCH**



**COMMANDER QUAYSON DELIVERING HIS WELCOME ADDRESS**



**UNVEILING THE BOOKS**



**RETIRED SENIOR OFFICERS AT THE LAUNCH**



**THE AUTHOR WITH SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS**



**GROUP PHOTOGRAPH WITH THE CLERGY**

# WE CHERISH OUR COLLABORATION WITH THE DANISH GOVERNMENT - CNS TO DANISH DA

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu

*The Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu has assured the Government of Denmark through the Country's Defense Attaché to Ghana Lt Col Lasse Sand, of the Ghana Navy's commitment to strengthening collaboration with them.*

The CNS made this remark when the Danish Defense Attaché to Ghana called on him at the Naval Headquarters on Friday, 12 January 2024.

Rear Admiral Yakubu said the Ghana Navy will continue to partner the Danish Government to ensure a safe and secured maritime domain. He expressed the Ghana Navy's appreciation to the Special Operations command of the Danish Armed Forces for their continuous support to the Special Boat Squadron (SBS) of the Ghana Navy in the areas of training and logistical support.

The Defense Attaché on his part, said Ghana and Denmark have come a long way in partnering each other and thus the need to strengthen the bilateral relationship. He stated that Denmark believes in the credibility of the Ghana Navy and therefore will continue to support them in securing a safe and secured maritime domain along the West African Coast.

He added that the Danish Government will continue to support and improve the SBS in the areas of training and simulation exercises.





# GHANA NAVY FLEXES STRENGTH AT SEA, CONDUCTS EXERCISE SEA LION 2024

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu

*The Ghana Navy has flexed its strength at sea with the conduction of a large-scale training exercise code-named “EXERCISE SEA LION” from Tuesday 19 to Friday 22 March 2024, showcasing their strength and readiness to defend the nation’s territorial waters.*

The Ocean Navigation Exercise is aimed at testing the endurance and combat readiness of selected Ghana Navy Ships, enhance maritime security and interoperability, train personnel in fleet maneuvers and conduct a joint exercise between the three arms of the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF).

Speaking at a Flagging-Off Ceremony held at the Clinker Jetty of the Tema Main Harbour, Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS), Lieutenant General Thomas Oppong-Peprah applauded the Ghana Navy for the initiative and said that the joint

nature of the exercise would help build the interoperability for future operations and contemporary security threats such as piracy and terrorism in the West African sub-region. This, he said, requires a robust, comprehensive, adequately equipped and well trained personnel to deal with such issues.

The CDS symbolically fired a pistol to set sail the selected ships earmarked for the exercise. The ships included Ghana Navy Ship GNS ANKOBRA commanded by Lt Cdr Mohammed, GNS VOLTA also commanded Lt Cdr Samuel Sabbah Sarbah and United States Navy Ship



THE CDS, LT GEN THOMAS OPPONG-PEPRAH, FLAGGING OFF SHIPS

(USNS) Hershel Woody Williams.

One of the highlights of the exercise was the Ghana Navy's journey to the equator at Zero Degrees Latitude and Zero Degrees Longitude, where they sailed to participate in the century-old tradition of crossing the equator. This milestone was celebrated with a ceremony known as "Crossing the Line ceremony", where first time participants and new sailors were initiated into the ancient maritime tradition by King Neptune.

The Exercise Sea Lion 2024 was climaxed with a remarkable culmination of major military amphibious exercises, which involved a joint simulation exercise by personnel drawn from the Army Special Operations Brigade, Ghana Navy Special Boat Squadron and Fighter Squadron of the Ghana Air Force.

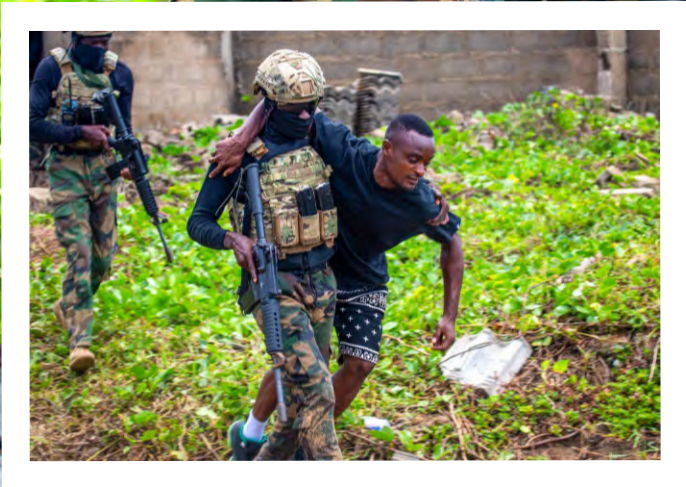
The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu in his closing remarks, expressed his heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all participants and crew for their unwavering dedication, professionalism and teamwork.

"Crossing the equator at the centre of the earth is not only a nautical feat but also a symbolic moment of unity, as we transcend boundaries and enter new horizons together. I commend your unwavering commitment to excellence and your relentless pursuit of success in fulfilling our mission," he said.

Rear Admiral Yakubu indicated that, the tri-service joint amphibious operation which have been conducted several years, stands as a testament to the extraordinary capabilities of GAF. He added that, through meticulous planning, rigorous training and coordinated efforts, the Ghana Navy have triumphed over challenges and showcased the unparalleled strength and readiness of GAF.

The CNS thanked the Minister-designate for Tourism, Honourable Agyapa Mercer for his support and the Ghana Tourism Authority for their collaboration. He also commended the Captain and crew of USNS Hershel Woody Williams for participating in the exercise.





# CAPT (GN) SARFO RECEIVES “BUNDESWEHR SILVER CROSS OF HONOUR AWARD”

■ PR Desk



*Excellency Mr Daniel Krull, at the German Ambassador's residence in Accra.*

*Ambassador Krull commended Naval Captain Sarfo for his exceptional service as the Liaison Officer for the supervision and coordination of logistics of German projects in Ghana over the past five years. He said the recognition came as a result of his loyal and professional discharge of duties, selflessness and dedication to the completion of a number of projects across the country.*

*The Ghana Navy on behalf of the Chief of the Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu congratulates Naval Captain Sarfo on this valuable feat.*

**N**aval Captain Anthony Kofi Sarfo of the Ghana Navy received the “Bundeswehr Silver Cross of Honour Award” from the Federal Minister of Defence of Germany for his outstanding service to the German Armed Forces.

*The Silver Cross of Honour Award is a visible commendation for loyal service and exemplary execution of duties.*

*Admiral Jens Nemeyer of the German Navy, presented the award to the Senior Officer in the presence of the German Ambassador to Ghana, His*

CAPT (GN) SARFO



# REAR ADMIRAL ERIC ADU TAKES OVER AT TRADOC



■ **Alexander Olyere**

Rear Admiral Eric Adu has officially taken over as Commandant, Ghana Armed Forces Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) on Tuesday, 23 January 2024.

A guard of honour ceremony was held at TRADOC Headquarters' forecourt in Whistler Barracks, Teshie, with personnel from the TRADOC formation and the

Ghana Armed Forces Central Band in attendance.

Rear Admiral Adu is the second Commandant of TRADOC, succeeding Maj Gen Bismarck Kwasi Onwona. Before his appointment, he served as Ghana's Military Attaché to the United Kingdom.

The ceremony was attended by dignitaries including the Commandant of Ghana Military Academy Maj Gen Charles

Awitty; Deputy Chief of Staff, Administration, Air Vice-Marshal Michael Kwame Appiah-Agyekum; Assistant Commandant Tri-Service Schools, Col Lloyd Atror; and Assistant Commandant, Research and Doctrine, Col Nyanteh.

Others included members of the formation; Col Owusu Ansah, Col Ernest Nyuur and Col Osman Zuneidu, Soldiers and Defence Civilian Staff.



# EXERCISE GRAND AFRICAN NEMO 23 HELD

■ Rabiatu Dery



*A Ghana Air Force Heli preparing to evacuate the “wounded”*

Ghana Armed Forces in collaboration with Ghana Airport Company Limited (GACL) organized a simulation exercise at the Kotoka International Airport and the Black Star Square in Accra on Thursday 12 October 2023.

The simulation exercise scenario involved a plane crash into the sea, offshore the Osu Landing beach.

Apart from helping maritime stakeholders improve in their response capacity in addressing maritime incidents, the exercise sought to enhance interoperability and inter-agency collaboration between state institutions.

The Exercise formed part of Exercise Grand African Nemo (GANO), an annual combined Central and West African multinational maritime exercise in the Gulf of Guinea which focuses on increasing regional cooperation and maritime safety and security.

It was under the auspices of the Yaoundé Architecture and with the support of the French Navy. The yearly regional exercise

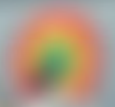


includes the participation of partner Navies of Ghana’s neighbouring countries as well as Navies of the Gulf of Guinea.

The objective of GANO is to build capacities of coast guards in the sub region to maintain a safe and secured maritime environment for a thriving blue economy. GANO 23 was designed to ensure interoperability and effective

joint maritime patrols among entities and to focus mainly on information sharing between maritime stakeholders and inter-agency collaboration.

Additionally, it was used to rehearse the GACL Emergency Operations Centre and validate the draft Harmonised Standard Operating Procedure of Maritime Operating Centres in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.



*Air Cdre Agyen-Frempong, Base Commander Accra, addressing participants*



*The exercise planners having a discussion*



*A Heli ready to Airlift the "wounded"*



*The "injured" lying at the beach*



*Medical Team attending to the "wounded"*



*The "injured" lying on stretchers*



# NAVAL HEADQUARTERS HOLDS END-OF-YEAR GET-TOGETHER

■ **LS Abdul-Latif Seidu**

*In a bid to promote esprit de corps among personnel, the Ghana Navy held its End-of-Year-Get-Together on Wednesday 13 December 2023 at the forecourt of the Naval Headquarters Office complex.*

The event served as a period of reflection on the successes chalked during the year and also create avenue for togetherness amongst all and sundry.

The Deputy Chief Staff Officer, Administration, Naval Captain John Bekuin Wurapa delivered the keynote address on behalf of Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS). In the speech, the CNS expressed gratitude for the dedication and hard work exhibited by personnel

throughout the year and also acknowledged their unwavering commitment to safeguarding national security especially within the maritime domain.

The CNS stated that the Ghana Navy had received a Multi-Purpose Catamaran

Boat from McHammah Company Limited, a local Engineering Company to aid in search and rescue missions and also enhance the Navy's operational capabilities. This, he said, would undoubtedly serve as a reminder of the



AEROBIC SESSION



Navy's role in safeguarding its shores and national interests both internally and externally.

The CNS asserted that the activation of the Ghana Armed Forces' Search and Rescue Operation code-named "OP BOAFO", together with the National Disaster Management Organization brought to bear the Navy's role in assisting victims affected by the flooding

in some parts of the Volta Region due to the spillage of the Akosombo and Kpong Dams.

"The Ghana Navy was able to rescue about 1800 victims in Mepe and Aveyime Districts. To avoid the risk of flooding at the Sogakope bridge, our personnel of the Navy were deployed at the bridge to clear the weeds impeding flow of the water beneath the bridge and also

ensure lives and properties were safe". he revealed.

The event was preceded by a health walk aimed at boosting physical fitness and well-being of personnel. The event also featured various games including Volleyball, Soccer, Basketball and other indoor games.



*Health Walk along the principal streets of Cantonment*



*Personnel having fun as they play Volleyball*



*Chief of the Naval Staff shoots the Basketball into the net*



*Director Naval Legal Affairs cheerfully playing The 'Oware' with ratings*



*Personnel seated*



*CNS Addressing Officers and Ratings at the Get-Together*

# GHANA NAVY TO PARTNER FLY ZIPLINE GHANA IN DRONE OPERATIONS

■ Rabiatu Dery

*Ghana Navy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Fly Zipline Ghana Limited, a drone delivery company to offer assistance in the recovery of their lost drones and supplies along the major river bodies in the country.*

The MoU further seeks to enhance collaborations in the area of capacity building and afford training opportunities between the two institutions.

The MoU was formalized with exchange of signatories between the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu and the General Manager Fly Zipline Ghana Limited, Mr Mawuli Atiemo at a brief ceremony held at the Naval Headquarters, Burma Camp, Accra on Wednesday 8 November 2023.

Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu said the primary role of the Navy is to provide sea defence and maritime support, thus Fly Zipline Ghana's request for help to recover lost drones was timely and within the capabilities of the Navy.

He stressed that plans were underway, to form the Ghana Navy Drone Squadron which will be responsible for operating its drones to assist in search and rescue operations. He said with the

establishment of the drone squadron, recovery of drones which may be ditched particularly in riverine bodies will be easier to retrieve.

The CNS maintained that it was important to be technologically advanced in order to have access to web-based tracking system and with the collaboration onboard, analysis on info-graphics will become easier having to tap on Zipline Ghana's expertise and capacity.

Meanwhile, Mr Mawuli Atiemo was hopeful that with the signing of the MoU, the two institutions will have an enhanced partnership in sharing ideas which will be beneficial to the country at large.

He added that Fly Zipline Ghana is on a mission to develop the largest supply chain company, mentioning that the company currently runs as the largest autonomous delivery of drones across the world from its base in Ghana. The Company also delivers medical vaccines as well as emergency products like anti-snakes and rabies as well as blood.

The Chief Staff Officer, Commodore Prosper Mensah Modey; the Deputy Chief Staff Officer, Policy and Plans, Commodore Solomon Asiedu-Larbi; Deputy Chief Staff Officer, Operations and Training Naval Captain Ebenezer Yirenkyi, some Directors and Senior officers as well as Representatives of Fly Zipline Ghana Limited were present.



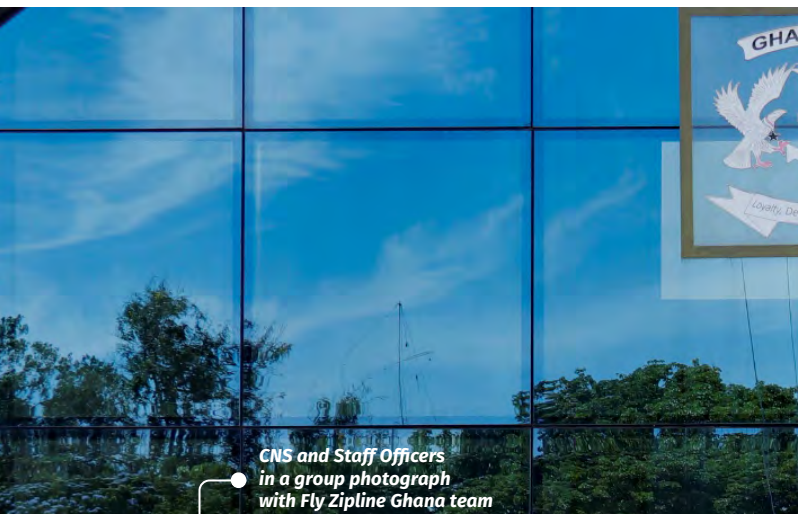
CNS in a roundtable discussion with partners from Fly Zipline Ghana



Official signing of documents



Exchange of documents



CNS and Staff Officers  
in a group photograph  
with Fly Zipline Ghana team



# ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO GHANA CALLS ON FOC ENC

■ Sarah Ofori Dei Appiah

The Italian Ambassador to Ghana, Her Excellency Daniela d'Orlandi paid a courtesy call on the Flag Officer Commanding (FOC) Eastern Naval Command, Commodore Maxwell Arhen on Tuesday, 5 March 2024 at the Headquarters Eastern Naval Command.

The purpose of the visit was to strengthen the already existing bilateral cooperation and also seek support and advice on an upcoming exercise between the Italian Navy and the Ghana Navy.

According to the Ambassador, Italy considers Ghana as a reliable ally in security at strategic and operational levels emphasizing that collaborating with Ghana was imperative.

Ambassador Daniela d'Orlandi announced the visit of an Italian Warship in April this year as part of measures to

cement the bilateral relationship between the two countries. She expressed her country's willingness to cooperate with Ghana in the areas of Defence and Security.

The FOC, Commodore Arhen thanked the Ambassador for the visit and for upholding the relationship that existed

between the two countries and assured the Ambassador of the Ghana Navy's support in the defence and security cooperation.

The Ambassador was accompanied by the Italian Defence Attaché to Ghana, Col David Rosellini.



*The Italian Ambassador to Ghana with the FOC, COO and the Italian DA to Ghana*



# AWARDS CENTRE GHANA DONATES SPORTS KITS TO GHANA NAVY

■ LS Abdul-Latif Seidu

Ghana and the Ghana Navy highlights the importance of private sector's support in fostering a strong bond between the Navy and the community it serves. He appealed to other corporate organisations to take a cue from the exemplary generosity of Awards Centre Ghana and also take keen interest in the lesser sports disciplines. The CEO Mr Percy Kwesi Amuah presented a custom-made jersey which featured the name of the CNS.

Mr Prince Annan, a Sports Journalist with Metro Television who was part of the delegation said, Awards Centre Ghana believes in development of sports thus the need for the donation to help improve sports in the Ghana Navy. He congratulated and praised Lieutenant Peter Amegashie for emerging the Best African Youth Player, Handball in Abidjan.

The sports kits include essential items such as footballs, basketballs and custom-made jerseys.



*Mr Percy Kwesi Amuah and Prince Annan presents a framed Customised Jersey to the CNS*

In a show of support for the Ghana Navy, Awards Centre Ghana, a subsidiary of Point 5 Ventures has donated a substantial number of sports kits to boost sports and morale within the Navy.

The Company made these donations during a visit to the Naval Headquarters led by its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr Percy Kwesi Amuah on Tuesday 16 January 2024.

The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu who graciously accepted the donation, expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Ghana Navy to Awards Centre Ghana for their thoughtful gesture. According to the CNS, sports play a vital role in boosting the morale and promotes teamwork amongst it's personnel.

Rear Admiral Yakubu said that the collaboration between Awards Centre



*The CNS and the donors of the Sports Equipment in a group photograph*



*Mr Annan presents the Equipment to the CNS*

# GHANA NAVY HONOURS ITS FALLEN HEROES



■ Enoch Opata, 2 Garrison PR Detach

*The Ghana Navy honoured its fallen heroes during the 10th commemorative ceremony held at the Ceremonial Jetty of the Western Naval Command (WNC), Sekondi-Takoradi on Thursday 14 September 2023.*

The memorial parade is held annually to mark the bombing of Ghana Navy Ship (GNS) YOGAGA 33 years ago during the Liberia civil war, which claimed the lives of some Officers and Ratings. Based on this, the Military High Command has granted the Ghana Navy to set aside 14 September to honour these fallen heroes.

Delivering a speech on behalf of the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu, the Flag Officer Commanding (FOC) Western Naval Command, Commodore Emmanuel Ayesu Kwafo noted that, such events provided the opportunity to solemnly reflect on the sacrifices made by the

fallen heroes in the interest of peace and freedom. He stressed that freedom was sometimes obtained at a cost and had given the Navy a reason to assemble to honour the heroes who served and paid the ultimate price including losing their lives in their efforts to restore peace in Liberia.

He noted that, the survivors of the 14 September 1990 incident deserved to be honoured, since they had to carry the burden of losing a ship with their comrades onboard. He used the opportunity to console the families of the fallen heroes and asked for God's guidance in their lives.

The FOC ended by saying that, the

greatest sacrifice was to protect the freedom of others at the expense of their own lives and asked Officers and Ratings to continue to serve and inspire present and future generations.

The Guest of Honour, the Western Regional Minister, Hon Dr Kwabena Okyere Darko-Mensah expressed his gratitude to the Navy for the invitation. He said that, the period reminded everyone of their dearly departed Officers and Ratings who left their families and loved ones and sailed to Liberia in the pursuit of peace and security which to him was the quintessential of heroism.

The Minister emphasised that, till eternity, they must remember and honour the memories of the gallant Officers and Ratings to inspire them to keep faith with the values of selflessness, loyalty and integrity.

Hon Okyere Darko-Mensah pledged the government's continued support for uniform personnel in the area of logistics and equipment necessary for the



**Flag Officer Commanding WNC Lays Wreath**

discharge of their duties to the state. He asked God to grant the souls of the departed heroes eternal rest.

Four wreaths were laid on behalf of the Government and people of Ghana, Personnel of the Ghana Armed Forces, Retired Personnel of the Ghana Navy and the fallen heroes.

Rear Admiral Arthur Riby Sampa Nuno

(rtd) (Former CNS, who was then Captain of Ghana Navy Ship YOGAGA during the unfortunate incident), the Paramount Chief of Essikado Traditional Area, Nana Kobena Nketia V, Flag Officer Commanding Naval Logistics Command, Commodore Wayoe, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Commodore Maxwell Arhin, Representatives of Sister Security Services as well as other dignitaries were present.



**Senior Naval Officers arriving at the ceremony**



**Western Regional Minister addressing Personnel**



**Western Regional Minister takes Ministerial Salute**



**Families of Deceased Personnel lay Wreath**

# GHANA NAVY RECEIVES 20-FOOT MULTIPURPOSE CATAMARAN BOAT

■ Rabiatu Dery

*Ghana Navy took delivery of a 20-foot Multipurpose Catamaran Boat from McHammah Company Limited, a local Engineering Company to aid in search and rescue missions and also enhance operational capabilities within the Navy.*



**20 Ft Multipurpose Catamaran Boat**

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Company, Ing Dr. Ebenezer Kakrah Hammah, said the donation came about as result of the Navy's exemplary role in providing humanitarian and relief efforts to victims of the Akosombo and Kpong Dam's spillage.

He maintained that, the donation forms part of their Corporate Social Responsibility, thus believes further collaborations and formed partnerships would strengthen the ties between the Navy and the business sector.

Ing Dr Hammah described the Boat as one constructed with locally sourced materials with features such as sturdy construction, shallow draft, efficient propulsion system ideal for swift and effective rescue and search operations.

The CEO said McHammah Engineering Company will be ready to undertake the necessary training and transfer of knowledge to ensure a seamless transition and effective utilization of the Boat by the Ghana Navy.

The ceremony took place at the Naval Headquarters in Burma Camp on Wednesday 15 November 2023.

The Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS), Vice Admiral Seth Amoama who was the Guest of Honour said the collaboration was a testament to the profound sense of duty and commitment that goes beyond Ghana's shores. He stressed that the gesture, underscores the unwavering support and commitment of the local business community to the Armed Forces.

He emphasized that the donation of the Boat serves as a reminder of the Navy's

role in safeguarding its shores and national interest both internally and externally.







*Chief of the Defence Staff delivering his remarks*



*Cross-Section of Ratings at the ceremony*



*CDS cuts tape to officially unveil the boat*



*CEO of Mchammah Company Ltd, Ing Dr Ebenezer Kakrah Hammah hands over the Wheel to CDS*



*CDS and CNS inspect the Boat*



*Dignitaries seated during the ceremony*

# SOLE SURVIVOR OF WWII CALLS ON CNS

■ Rabiatu Dery

The only Ghanaian surviving member of the Second World War, Ex Warrant Officer Class 1 (Ex WO1) Joseph Ashitey Hammond, called on the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu on Wednesday 17 January 2024 at the Naval Headquarters, Burma Camp.

Ex WO1 Hammond used the visit to officially invite the CNS to his book launch scheduled for 1 March 2024 at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre.

The CNS on his part, commended the sole survivor of WWII for his continuous active participation in the annual 28 February crossroads shooting anniversary and that of the Veterans Administration of Ghana.





# EXECUTIVES OF ARNO CALL ON CNS

■ Rabiatu Dery

*Executives of the Association of Retired Naval Officers (ARNO) paid a courtesy call on the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu at the Naval Headquarters in Burma Camp on Tuesday 16 January 2024.*

The ARNO Executives led by its President, Rear Admiral Ohene Kwapong (rtd) thanked the CNS for honouring and hosting them at the luncheon held at the Anchor House on Saturday 13 January 2024. He applauded the CNS for sustaining the annual tradition and pledged the association's continuous loyalty to the Ghana Navy.

Rear Admiral Ohene Kwapong (rtd) commended the CNS for expanding the fleet. He encouraged all serving naval officers to join ARNO when they go on retirement.

The CNS, on his part, thanked the association for honouring his invitation to the luncheon and also commended them for their mentorship. He wished them well and assured them of the Ghana Navy's continuous support to keep the association afloat.



# CNS CONFERS WITH NATIONAL SIGNALS BUREAU DIRECTOR-GENERAL

■ **LS Abdul-Latif Seidu**

The Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu has conferred with a delegation from the National Signals Bureau (NSB) on the growing significance of cyber warfare on Thursday 8 February 2024 at the Naval Headquarters, Burma Camp.

The delegation, led by the Director General (DG) Mr Kwabena Adu-Boahene, aimed to explore potential collaborations and exchange expertise to ensure the utmost security of Ghana Navy's infrastructure and national security.

The CNS held productive discussions on the current cyber landscape and the challenges faced by the Ghana Navy in safeguarding systems and data. He commended the Government of Ghana for resourcing and retooling the Navy. "Government has resourced the Ghana Navy enough and that has boosted our capabilities".he said.

He said communication and internet security is very critical to the operations of the Ghana Navy and emphasized the gravity of cyber threats, acknowledging the increasing sophistication of attacks that pose a significant risk to national security. He revealed that the Ghana Tuna Association recently recorded a



*CNS in a tete-a-tete with Mr Kwabena Adu-Boahene*

bumper harvest as a result of the Ghana Navy's enforcement of fishing regulations.

Rear Admiral Yakubu expressed immense interest in exploring potential partnerships with the NSB to enhance Ghana Navy's defence capabilities. He assured the delegation of the Ghana Navy's commitment to supporting the bureau's cyber defence initiatives.

The DG, on his part, shared insights into their cutting-edge technologies and advanced strategies for identifying and mitigating cyber threats. He also highlighted the Bureau's track record of successfully defending critical state infrastructure against cyber-attacks since its establishment in 2020.

He praised the exceptional leadership style of the CNS, describing it as visionary and transformative. He stated that the NSB prefers to partner and collaborate with likeminded and forward thinking institutions like the Ghana Navy, to enable them achieve their mandate.

Rear Admiral Yakubu and his Staff Officers later took the NSB delegation on a tour of the Maritime Operations Centres at the Naval Headquarters, where they were acquainted on the operations of the Ghana Navy.

The National Signals Bureau Act, 2020 was establish to provide integrated secure signal systems for the national security and intelligence agencies.



# Birthday Wishes

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO  
FORMER CDS REAR  
ADMIRAL SAMPA NUNO**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO  
FORMER CDS VICE  
ADMIRAL SETH AMOAMA**



# GHANA MERCHANT NAVY OFFICERS CALL ON CNS

■ Rabiatu Dery

The Ghana Merchant Navy Officers led by the Deputy General Secretary of the Association, Captain Etoeny Onassis Banka, paid a courtesy call on the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu at the Naval Headquarters, Burma Camp on Friday 3 November 2023. The aim of the visit was to discuss ways of strengthening the security of the maritime domain in order to maximize its benefits for national development.

Rear Admiral Yakubu encouraged the top hierarchy of the Association to strive to build the capacity of its members to support sea transport since the

maritime domain has been a critical contributor to Ghana's Gross Domestic Product.

He noted that most countries rely on the services of their national shipping industry to cart goods instead of foreign shipping industries hence the need to intensify teaching and training at the industry levels in order to revive the shipping industry.

He urged the Merchant Navy to liaise with key stakeholders in the transport sector to facilitate the drive towards the achievement of sea transport goals. He also assured them of continuous security support since the Ghana Navy

was already in the business of providing security services to oil companies from Tema to Takoradi.

Captain Onassis revealed that the Association is working tirelessly on building a strong partnership with Ghana Navy to identify common grounds to be able to work together in the maritime domain as advisors and consultants.

Engineer Cadet Benedict Eyisah of the Regional Maritime University stated that they are conducting a Feasibility Study for a Tema to Takoradi sea transport in harnessing Ghana's water bodies.



CNS receives gift from the Deputy General Secretary



CNS in a roundtable discussion with the Merchant Navy Association



CNS in a Group Photograph with the visiting delegation

# COAS PAYS COURTESY CALL ON 2 GARRISON COMMANDER

*The newly appointed Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Maj General Bismark Kwasi Onwona paid his maiden visit to the 2 Garrison on Tuesday 12 March 2024.*

As part of his itinerary, he paid a courtesy call on the Flag Officer Commanding (FOC), Western Naval Command (WNC) Commodore Emmanuel Ayesu Kwafo who also doubles as the 2 Garrison Commander.

The visit, though brief, was significant as it allowed COAS to have first-hand information about the operations of WNC and the Garrison at large.

The FOC with the Command Flying Group, Air Force Base Takoradi, Group Captain Selasse Agbenyefa welcomed him and took the opportunity to congratulate him on his appointment as the Chief of the Army Staff. The FOC wished him well in all his endeavours.

The COAS earlier visited the Second Battalion of Infantry where he inspected some ongoing projects and also had a durbar with troops. He also paid a courtesy call to the Western Regional Minister Hon Dr Kwabena Okyere Darko-Mensah.

The COAS was accompanied by the General Officer Commanding, Southern Command, Brig Gen Samuel Yeboah Asare, Commanding Officer, 2 Infantry Battalion, Lt Col Daniel Atobrah Bondah and some Staff Officers.



# EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND HOLDS END OF YEAR WASSA

## ■ Sarah Ofori Dei Appiah, 1Gar PR Det

The Eastern Naval Command (ENC) held its end of year West African Soldiers Social Activities (WASSA) on Thursday, 28 December, 2023 at Naval Base, Tema.

WASSA is a significant event on the Calendar of the Ghana Armed Forces as it serves as a unifying platform to make merry and promote esprit de corps among personnel. It is a time of reflection of the year under review, hence create an avenue for exploration for the coming year.

The Chief of Naval Staff (CNS), Rear

Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu, in his Christmas message expressed gratitude to personnel for their commitment, resilience and determination to achieve success despite some challenges.

According to him, the year 2023 for the Ghana Navy was marked by a number of significant achievements. These include the successful launch of the National Integrated Maritime Strategy by the President of the Republic and Commander in Chief of the Ghana Armed Forces, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo during the third edition of the International Maritime Defence Exhibition and

Conference at Burma Camp.

The CNS revealed that, to ensure effective and professional discharge of duties in line with Government's effort in retooling the Ghana Navy, two Boundary Class Boat were acquired from the US to augment the Ghana Navy Fleet.

The Ghana Navy received a Multi-Purpose Catamaran Boat by McHamamah Company Limited, a local Engineering Company to augment their fleet. This was to aid in search and rescue missions and also enhance operational capabilities within the Navy. This undoubtedly serves as a reminder of the Navy's role in



*CNS being introduced to personnel of the ENC on his arrival at the Command*



safeguarding its shores and national interests both internally and externally, and also underscores the unwavering support and commitment of the local business community to the Armed Forces.

Rear Admiral Yakubu further stated that the activation of the Ghana Armed Forces' Search and Rescue Operation code-named, "OP BOAFO", together with the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) brought to bear the Navy's role in assisting victims affected by the flooding in some parts of the Volta Region due to the spillage of the Akosombo and Kpong Dams. The Ghana Navy was able to rescue about 1800 victims in Mepe and Aveyime Districts.

Additionally, the construction of a new and befitting Senior Rates Mess was far advanced and shall soon be handed over to the Navy to enable the Senior Rates have a better place to rest after a hard day's work.

These strides by far, according to him, have been instrumental to the success and development of the Ghana Navy for



the year in particular. Despite some challenges faced, He acknowledged the commitment, dedication and efforts in team building which had strengthened unity and collaboration amongst the personnel. He thanked all spouses and families who have stood beside the Navy throughout the year.

Rear Admiral Issah Yakubu in his remarks stated that occasions like the durbar and WASSA give him the opportunity to interact with officers, ratings and civilian staff. This gives him a firsthand impression of all reports he had read about the operational readiness of the Command. Furthermore, after

taking stock and carefully reflecting on the operational activities of the Command, he had come to a conclusion of having some of the most hardworking personnel in the Ghana Armed Forces.

Special awards were presented to personnel who emerged winners in the Chief of Defence Staff's Prize Essay.

In the Officers category, Lt Cdr Abugri, Lt (GN) Oko Arthur and Lt Cdr Okyere-Dadzie emerged winners and Leading Seaman Ackam Kwei Justice, LS Abdul-Latif Seidu and LS Kissi Ebenezer placing First, second and third respectively in the Ratings Category.



# IMDEC 2023 PHOTO NEWS



PRESIDENT AKUFO-ADDO ARRIVES AT BURMA CAMP



H.E. THE PRESIDENT INSPECTS A GUARD IN HIS HONOUR



FORMER CDS ACCOMPANIES THE PRESIDENT TO THE OPENING CEREMONY



CDS AND SERVICE CHIEFS ARRIVING FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY



H.E. NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO DELIVERING THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS



INVITED GUESTS SEATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY



THE PRESIDENT AT THE EXHIBITION CENTRE



GREAT MINDS STAFF CELEBRATED

# IMDEC 2023 PHOTO NEWS



The CNS delivering his welcome remarks



Some Chiefs of Navies seated at the Opening Ceremony



The President launches the National Integrated Maritime Strategy document



The Deputy Minister for Defence, Hon Amankwa-Manu delivering his address



The President in a Group Photograph with Dignitaries

# CNS VISIT TO FLOOD VICTIMS

After the spillage of the Akosombo and Kpong Dams as a result of heavy rains, the CNS together with the NADMO boss and other stakeholders paid a working visit to some of the affected communities.



# SIGHTS FROM IMDEC 2023



CDRE AYESU KWAFO, FOC WNC, PRESENTS A PLAQUE TO R/ADM LACKMATA JEAN FROM CAMEROON



R/ADM IA YAKUBU, CNS GHANA, WELCOMES HIS COUNTERPART FROM SOUTH AFRICA, V/ADM MON DE LOBESSE



FOC WNC WELCOMES CAPT(RAN) HEIDI KNELLWOLF OF AUSTRALIA TO THE NAVAL HEADQUARTERS



CNS IN A PHOTOGRAPH WITH R/ADM AMARA CONE FROM COTE D'IVOIRE



R/ADM HELDER NHANQUE FROM GUINEA BISSAU, WITH R/ADM IA YAKUBU, AT THE NAVAL HEADQUARTERS



THE CNS OF NIGERIA, V/ADM EMMANUEL OGALLA, RECEIVES A PLAQUE FROM CNS GHANA



R/ADM IA YAKUBU RECEIVES HIS BRAZILIAN COUNTERPART, R/ADM PEDRO AUGUSTO FILHO, IN HIS OFFICE



THE CNS, R/ADM IA YAKUBU, WITH R/ADM LUDOVIC POITOU OF THE FRENCH ARMED FORCES

# COMMAND CHANGES AT NAVTRAC

Commodore Bright Emmanuel Kojo Atiayao has handed over Command of the Naval Training Command (NAVTRAC) as the Flag Officer Commanding (FOC) to Commodore Asiedu-Larbi at a brief ceremony at the NAVTRAC Headquarters at Nutepkor near Sogakope on Friday 22 March 2024.

Cdre Atiayao who took over the Command of NAVTRAC as FOC in June 2023 has since been reassigned to the Naval Headquarters as the Chief Staff Officer.

Cdre Atiayao inspected a quarter guard and interacted with staff officers before proceeding to hand over the symbol of office to Cdre Asiedu Larbi at his office.

At a durbar to introduce the new Flag Officer Commanding to personnel of the Command, on Thursday 21 March 2024, Cdre Atiayao thanked the Commanding Officers of the various schools under his command, staff officers and personnel of the Command for their cooperation and support saw the command achieving so much in the short time he was the FOC. He stated that he couldn't have achieved that without their support and urged each and everyone to extend that same support, cooperation and hard work to the New FOC.



A farewell reception was later organised in his honour at the Officers Mess of the Command. In attendance were the District Coordinating Director, South Tongu District, Commanding Officers of the Schools, staff officers and some friends of the Command.

## COMMODORE MODEY HANDS OVER AS CSO

Chief Staff Officer at the Naval Headquarters, Commodore Prosper Modey has handed over to Commodore Bright Atiayao at a ceremony at the Naval Headquarters. Commodore Modey is assuming command as the Deputy Commandant TRADOC.

The CNS, Rear Admiral Issah Adam Yakubu expressed his admiration for the role Commodore Modey played in his over a decade at the Naval Headquarters. He wished him well in his new appointment. He also took the opportunity to welcome Commodore Atiayao and expressed his confidence in his abilities to succeed as the new Chief Staff Officer





*"King Neptune and Newly Initiated Sailors  
at the Centre of the Earth"*



