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## General

Pakistan is located in the S part of Asia. It is bounded on the W by Iran, on the NW by Afghanistan, on the N by China, on the NE by the disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir, on the E by India, and on the SW by the Arabian Sea.

The N part of the country includes formidably mountainous terrain. At one point in this area, a narrow strip of Afghan territory, barely 20 miles wide, separates Pakistan from Tajikistan (former Soviet Union).

Between the Iranian frontier and Karachi, the coast consists chiefly of a wilderness area with hills and cliffs fronting the Baluchistan Plateau. Swamps and desert plains lie at the foot of the hills. Between the Indian frontier and Karachi, the Indus River enters the sea through many mouths, but is little used as a waterway.

The climate is mainly hot, dry desert with almost arctic temperatures in the mountainous N part.

## Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

## Currency

The official unit of currency is the Pakistan rupee, consisting of 100 paisas.

## Firing Areas

Firing, bombing, and other defense practice exercises take place in a number of areas lying off the coast of Pakistan. In view of the responsibility of range authorities to avoid accidents, the limits of these practice areas may not be shown on charts and the descriptions may not appear in the Sailing Directions (Enroute).

When air to air, air to sea, or ground firings are being carried out by aircraft, a large white or red sleeve-banner, a winged target, or a large flag are towed by another aircraft on a steady course. Generally, these warning signals are shown when the targets are stationary, but not when towed targets are used.

All marine craft operating as range-safety craft or target towing vessels will display, for identification purposes while in or in the vicinity of the danger area, a large red flag at the masthead. The Range Authorities are responsible for ensuring that there should be no risk of damage from falling shell-splinters, bullets, etc., to any vessel which may be in the practice area.

Firing practice exercise areas are located, as follows:

1. **Area ALPHA** (surface-to-surface and surface-to-air)—Enclosed by a line joining the following positions:

- 24°36'00"N, 66°47'50"E.
  - 24°47'36"N, 66°58'36"E.
  - 24°50'00"N, 66°40'00"E.
- Safety height—2,483m.

2. **Area BRAVO** (surface-to-surface and surface-to-air)—Enclosed by a line joining the following positions:

- 24°19'00"N, 66°58'00"E.
  - 24°00'30"N, 66°39'00"E.
  - 24°11'00"N, 66°27'00"E.
  - 24°25'00"N, 66°42'00"E.
- Safety height—6,096m.

3. **Area ECHO** (surface-to-surface and surface-to-air)—Enclosed by a line joining the following positions:

- 25°07'N, 66°30'E.
  - 25°07'N, 66°39'E.
  - 24°50'N, 66°39'E.
  - 24°50'N, 66°30'E.
- Safety height—1,524m.

4. **Area FOXTROT** (air-to-air)—Enclosed by a line joining the following positions:

- 24°31'N, 67°01'E.
- 24°36'N, 67°13'E.
- 24°05'N, 67°22'E.
- 24°02'N, 67°10'E.

5. **Area HI** (surface live ammunition)—Enclosed by a line joining the following positions:

- 24°36'N, 63°15'E.
  - 24°36'N, 62°30'E.
  - 24°21'N, 62°30'E.
  - 24°21'N, 63°15'E.
- Safety height—6,800m.

6. **Area H2** (surface live ammunition)—Enclosed by a line joining the following positions:

- 24°36'N, 62°30'E.
  - 24°36'N, 61°45'E.
  - 24°21'N, 61°45'E.
  - 24°21'N, 62°30'E.
- Safety height—6,800m.

7. **Sonmiani Range** (anti-aircraft live ammunition)—as follows:

- Centered on 25°11'N, 66°45'E.
- Arc of firing 220° to 310°.
- Safety range—14,000m (7.7 miles within arc).
- Safety height—10,000m.

## Government

Pakistan, which received independence from the United Kingdom in 1947, is a republic. The constitution adopted in 1973 (suspended under martial law since 1999) provides for a federal parliamentary system. The government consists of a



**Flag of Pakistan**

217-member National Assembly, whose members are directly-elected to serve 5-year terms, and an 87-member Senate, whose members are indirectly elected by the Provincial Assemblies to 6-year terms. The elected President is the constitutional head and the Prime Minister is the chief executive.

The legal system is based on English common law with provisions to accommodate the country's stature as an Islamic state.

The capital is Islamabad.

## Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

Pakistan Day	March 23
Labor Day	May 1
Independence Day	August 14
Defense of Pakistan Day	September 6
Death Anniversary of Quaid-e-Azam	September 11
Iqbal Day	November 9
Birthday of Quaid-e-Azam	December 25

Islamic holidays, which are subject to the appearance of the moon, include Eid Al-Fitr (End of Ramadan), Eid Al-Adha (End of Pilgrimage), Hijrah (Islamic New Year), Ashoora, and the Prophet's Birthday.

In addition, the Islamic holidays of Shab-e-Barat and 27th Ramzan are observed in Karachi.

## Industries

Agriculture, with raising of livestock, is a major industry. Crops include wheat, cotton, fruits, maize, sugar cane, jute, millet, opium poppies, and rice.

Other main industries include minerals, coal, textiles, food processing, fertilizers, steel products, natural gas, automobiles, and fishing.

## Languages

The official language is Urdu. Punjabi is also widely used. English is used in business and in most government ministries.

## Signals

Should it become necessary to control the movement of ships into and within ports in Pakistan, the signals described below will be displayed from a conspicuous position in or near the port approaches and/or from any Examination or Traffic Control Vessel operating on the approaches to the port, as follows:

1. Entry to port prohibited:
  - Day signal—Three red balls, vertically disposed.
  - Night signal—Three red lights, vertically disposed.
2. Entry to port permitted:
  - Night signal—Three green lights, vertically disposed.
3. Movement or anchorage within port prohibited:
  - Day signal—Blue flag.
  - Night signal—A green light between two red lights, vertically disposed.

## Submarine Operating Areas

### Areas

A submarine exercise area extends all along the Makran coast, W and SW of Ras Muari (Cape Monze), and is bounded by the following:

- a. 25°08'N, 66°30'E.
- b. 24°58'N, 66°30'E.
- c. 24°43'N, 66°42'E.
- d. 24°43'N, 66°56'E.
- e. 24°15'N, 67°05'E.
- f. 23°10'N, 67°05'E.
- g. 23°10'N, 62°10'E.
- h. 25°08'N, 62°10'E.

### Warning Signals

Pakistani submarines may be encountered by day or at night while operating in any of the waters off the Pakistani coast. They may be encountered on the surface at night, particularly in the vicinity of Karachi. Under certain circumstances, warnings that submarines are exercising in specified areas may be broadcast by the local coastal radio stations.

Pakistan escort vessels fly the International Code Group "NE2" to denote that submarines, which may be submerged or surfaced, are exercising in the vicinity. Vessels are cautioned to give a wide berth to any vessel flying this signal.

It must not be inferred from the above that submarines exercise only when in the company of escorting vessels.

A submarine submerged at a depth too great to show the periscope may sometimes indicate its position by releasing a "smoke candle" that gives off a considerable volume of smoke on first reaching the surface.

Submarines may sometimes also indicate their positions by towing on the surface close astern a red-and-white or red-and-yellow float.

The following signals are used by submerged Pakistani submarines in exercise areas to indicate their positions:

1. Red pyrotechnic flares, which may be accompanied by smoke candles, repeated as often as possible indicate that vessels should clear the area immediately as the submarine is carrying out emergency surfacing procedure. Vessels must not stop their propellers and should stand by to render assistance.

2. White smoke candles (with flame), yellow smoke candles, or yellow and green pyrotechnic flares indicate the position of the submarine in response to a request from a ship or aircraft.

3. Two yellow pyrotechnic flares or two white or two yellow smoke candles released singly about 3 minutes apart indicate that the submarine is preparing to surface. Vessels must not stop their propellers and should keep clear.

If the red pyrotechnic flare signal is sighted and the submarine does not surface within 5 minutes, it should be assumed that the submarine is in distress and has sunk. An immediate attempt should be made to fix the position in which the signal was sighted.

### Navigation Lights

The masthead and side lights of Pakistani submarines are placed well forward and very low over the water in proportion to the length and tonnage of these vessels. In particular, the masthead light may be lower than the side lights. The overtaking light (stern light) is placed very low indeed and may at times be partially obscured by spray and wash. These lights may also be invariably lower than the side lights.

The overall arrangement of the submarine's lights is therefore unusual and may well give the impression of a markedly smaller and shorter vessel. The vulnerability of submarines to collision when proceeding on the surface dictates particular caution when approaching such vessels.

While at anchor or moored to a buoy at night, Pakistani submarines exhibit normal anchor lights. In some submarines, the aft anchor light is mounted on the upper rudder, which is some distance astern of the hull's surface waterline. Care must be taken to pass well clear astern of the submarine as the propeller is placed aft of the rudder.

Pakistani submarines are also fitted with an all-round yellow quick flashing light. It is usually situated higher than the masthead light and shows about 120 flashes per minute. This light is used as an aid to identification in narrow waters, in areas of dense traffic, and in close quarters situations. Showing of the light is intended for indicating to an approaching vessel the need for added caution rather than immediate identification of the vessel exhibiting the light.

### Sunken Submarine

A submarine which has bottomed and is unable to surface will try to indicate its position by the following methods:

1. On the approach of surface vessels and at regular intervals by firing candles giving off yellow or white smoke. As far as possible yellow candles will be used by day.
2. Pumping out fuel or lubricating oil.
3. Blowing out air.

In some circumstances it may be impossible for a submarine to fire smoke candles. Correspondingly, a partially flooded submarine may have only a certain number of smoke candles available and searching ships should not therefore expect many to appear.

Since oil slicks or debris may be the only indication of the presence or whereabouts of the sunken submarine, it is vitally important that surface ships refrain from discharging anything that might appear to have come from a submarine while they are in the probability area.

Searching ships and aircraft can waste many valuable hours investigating these false contacts.

At any time after a submarine accident, survivors may start attempting to escape. Current policy dictates that survivors will wait before escaping until rescue vessels are known to be standing by or conditions inside the submarine deteriorate to such an extent that an escape attempt must be made. It should be noted that, in certain circumstances, the latter situation may not arise through lack of air supply until several days after the accident. However, if the submarine is badly damaged, survivors may have to make an escape attempt immediately. On arrival at the surface, crewmembers may be exhausted or ill, and, if circumstances permit, the presence of a boat already lowered is very desirable. Some crewmembers may require a recompression chamber. Therefore, it is the aim of the authorities to get such a chamber to the scene as soon as possible.

In order that those trapped in the submarine shall be made aware that help is at hand, naval vessels drop small charges into the sea which can be heard from inside the submarine. There is no objection to the use of small charges for this purpose, but it is vital that they are not dropped too close since crewmembers in the process of making ascents are particularly vulnerable to underwater explosions, and may easily receive fatal injuries.

A distance of about 0.3 mile is considered to be safe. If no small charges are available, the running of an echo sounder or the banging of the outer skin of the ship's hull with a hammer from a position below the waterline are likely to be heard in the submarine, and such banging and/or sounding should therefore be carried out at frequent intervals.

#### **Submarine Indicator Buoy**

The buoy, which floats on the surface, is semi-spherical in shape, about 43cm in diameter, and painted fluorescent orange. It carries a sign giving the name of the Pakistani submarine.

A light, which flashes twice every second, is mounted on the center of the top surface. This light has an endurance of about 60 hours.

The buoy is equipped with a radio transmitter operating at 243 MHz. The radio transmits a shrill noise at 1 second intervals, with a tone rising from 300 hz to 3,000 hz. The transmitter has an endurance of about 76 hours and a range of about 100 miles.

The buoy is also equipped with a radar responder on 9310 MHz if queried from 8500 MHz to 9600 MHz. The radar responder has an endurance of about 50 hours and a range of about 85 miles.

Vessels finding this buoy should not secure to or touch it. The Pakistani Navy or local police should be notified immediately.

#### **Time Zone**

The Time Zone description is ECHO (-5). Daylight Savings Time (FOXTROT (-6)) is maintained from the Saturday before the first Sunday in April until the Saturday before the first Sunday in October.

#### **World Time Zone Chart**

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/ref/pdf/802801.pdf>

#### **U.S. Embassy**

The U.S. Embassy is situated at the Diplomatic Enclave, Ramna 5, Islamabad.

The mailing addresses are, as follows:

1. International mail—  
P.O. Box 1048  
Unit 62200  
Islamabad
2. Diplomatic pouch—  
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#### **U. S. Embassy Pakistan Home Page**

<http://usembassy.state.gov/islamabad>