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VICE ADMIRAL OS. DAWSON, PVSM, AVSM  
CNS DESIGNATE

New Delhi, Phalguna 8, 1903  
February 27, 1982

Vice Admiral OSCAR STANLEY DAWSON, PVSM, AVSM, who is taking over as Chief of the Naval Staff on March 1 was appointed as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command, on March 30, 1979.

Vice Admiral Dawson was born in Burma and also had his high school education there. When the Japanese occupied Burma in March 1942, he came to India and continued his college studies. He was commissioned in the Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve on January 7, 1943 and was subsequently absorbed in the regular cadre of the Navy.

Even as a junior officer Admiral Dawson's career was marked with distinction. He participated in the Second World War in the Arakan Operations (Burma), on convoy escort duty in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea and in the mine-sweeping operations soon after the war.

Trained as a specialist in Navigation and Direction in the United Kingdom, Admiral Dawson has held various important appointments, both afloat and ashore. He served as the Naval Aide-de-Camp to the first President of India, the late Dr. Rajendra Prasad, during 1953-54 and since March 2, 1981 is the Honorary Naval Aide-de-Camp to the President.

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Subsequent to his graduation from the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, in 1957, he served as the Navigating Officer of the aircraft carrier, INS VIKRANT, besides being the Fleet Navigating officer. Later, he held the appointments in succession of the Officer-in-Charge, Navigation and Direction School, the Director, Tactical School, and Chief Staff Officer, at Cochin. He graduated from the National Defence College, New Delhi, in 1973.

During a 38-year-long career in the Indian Navy, Admiral Dawson spent 19 years in sea service, which include important sea commands of Indian Naval Ships, TALWAR and NILGIRI. He served as the Flag Officer Commanding, Eastern Fleet, between February 1978 and March 1979. His important appointments ashore include Commanding Officer of the Boys' Training Establishment, INS CIRCARS. During the Indo-Pakistan conflict in 1971, he was the Director of Naval Operations at Naval Headquarters and was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal for his distinguished work. Later he was appointed the General Manager, Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa where he introduced a Corporate Development Plan for the shipyard and also brought about progressive management practices which improved the relationship between the workers and the management.

Admiral Dawson was awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal for distinguished service of an exceptional order on Republic Day 1981.

CUB/RM