

The Navy

1914-1918

In 1914 the Navy consisted of Muzaffer (a 400 T gunboat from 1899), Selika (a steam yacht bought in 1902), and Azerbaijan (a river customs steamer based at Muscat, Oman). "Muzaffer" was seized by the English during the war and was in their Navy until 1918, when returned to Persia (through 1936). "Azerbaijan" was seized by the English in 1918 and returned in 1919. The old gunboat Persepolis (1200 T, dating from 1885) was not serviceable during this period (though it existed until 1936).

1939-1945

- 2 x sloops: 3 x 102 mm guns; 950 T, 204 ft, 15 kt; built in Italy in 1931, they were both sunk in action on 25 Aug 1941 - Babr was sunk by UK sloop "Shoreham" at Abadan; Palang was sunk by Australian sloop "Yarra" at Khorramshahr
- 4 x motor patrol boats: 2 x 75 mm & 2 x 37 mm AA guns; 331 T, 170 ft, 15.5 kt; built in Italy in 1931, they were all damaged in the actions of 25 Aug 1941, then seized by the English. They were used by the Indian Navy for rest of the war (with the new names shown); in 1946 they were returned to Persia & resumed their original names ("Karkass" was scrapped in 1946, the rest served until the 1950's) - Charogh ("Nilam" in Indian service), Chanbaaz ("Hira"), Karkass ("Moti"), and Simorgh ("Lal")
- 6 x motor launches: Apparently un-armed, these were 30 T boats; 3 were scuttled or sunk in Aug 1941, and the rest survived until the 1970's