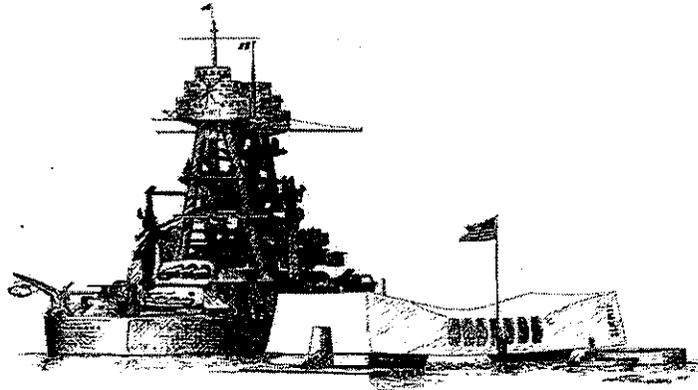


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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POC: Agnes Tauyan

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CHILEAN SAILING SHIP VISITS PEARL HARBOR

The Chilean tall ship Esmeralda will arrive in Pearl Harbor on Friday, May 14 at 8:30 a.m. for a four-day port visit.

The Esmeralda is a training ship for the Chilean Navy. The ship is a 360-foot, steel-hulled, four-masted Barquentine with a total of 31 sails, making her one of the largest sailing vessels afloat. It was launched in 1952 for the Spanish Navy as a sailing training vessel, then sold to the Chilean Navy and commissioned in 1954.

The ship is under the command of Capt. Antonio Idiaquez, and has a crew of over 300 Sailors. Its last port of call was Lahaina, Maui. It will sail for Japan next.

During the visit, the crew plans to interact with the local Chilean community, tour the city, and lay a wreath at the Arizona Memorial. The Esmeralda last visited Hawaii in November 2002.

Crewmembers will hold a brief press conference upon their arrival. Media representatives interested in covering the arrival must contact the Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs Office at (808) 473-2888 by 4 p.m., May 13. Media representatives will be met at the Nimitz Gate Visitors Pass Office Parking Lot at 8:15 a.m. on May 14.

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