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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

MINISTÈRE DE LA DÉFENSE

# COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

SERVICE D'INFORMATION ET DE RELATIONS PUBLIQUES DE LA MARINE - RELATION MÉDIAS

## Two Warships of the French Navy to do Port Call in St Helena

Two warships of the French Navy, Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD) Mistral and Stealth Frigate (FLF) La Fayette will do a port call in St Helena and will be moored off the Island from early on Tuesday 15 April.

LHD Mistral and FLF La Fayette have been deployed since March and will be on duty until July 2014 for mission "Jeanne d'Arc". 155 officers from various professional backgrounds of 18 different nationalities are completing their military, human and naval training.

During this port visit, meetings and exchanges with the residents of St Helena will take place. Crew members will tour the historical sites of the Island. Some members of the public of St Helena and schoolchildren will be able to visit LHD Mistral.

A military ceremony will take place at 3pm at The Tomb, with Governor Mark Capes, Michel Dancoisne-Martineau, Consul-honoraire de France, and Senior Officers and crew members of both warships.

A media call on the LHD Mistral will be organised for the press on 15 April at around 9.20am (time and place to be confirmed). Journalists are also invited to attend the ceremony at The Tomb. François-Xavier Polderman, Commanding Officer of LHD Mistral, and Serge Bordarier, Commanding Officer of FLF La Fayette, will be glad to answer questions from the media at the end of the ceremony.

Three photos accompany this release.



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