

## News Release: Port of The Dalles Commission

Columbia River history will be made on Friday, May 20, when the USS Edmonds makes the voyage from Vancouver, Wash., to Port of The Dalles, the first Navy man of war to cross the Cascade Range.

The voyage will commemorate the opening of the new 27-foot seaway which will be officially completed June 30.

The visit of the ship also coincides with Armed Forces Day on Saturday, May 21. The ship will arrive at Port of The Dalles on Friday at 3 p.m. and will be open for public inspection from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. It will leave on its return trip to Swan Island at 7 a.m. on Sunday.

The entire Mid-Columbia Region is invited to be on hand for the arrival of the Edmonds, a destroyer-escort, with a crew of about 150 men. The Edmonds is 306 feet long, with a loaded displacement of 1,827 tons.

The ship plans a special ceremony as it cross the Cascades at Cascade Locks and will cut a special ribbon between the piers of the Hood River Bridge. Port of Hood River officials will meet the Edmonds off Hood River for a short ceremony and presentations.

State officials of Oregon and Washington will be on hand for the ceremonies in The Dalles which will be preceded by a downtown parade.

News for release on Wednesday, May 18, provided by Port of The Dalles Commission, Charles Tait, Director of Port Development:

First man-of-war to transit the Columbia River as far inland as The Dalles will arrive at that Mid-Columbia area city at the new head of the 27-foot deep-draft channel at 3 p.m. Friday, May 20 for a public welcome to include a parade and official greetings. Visit of the vessel will be a prelude to commercial use of the 27-foot channel soon to be opened.

Arrangements for visit of the USS EDWARDS, a destroyer-escort, to The Dalles from its down-river base at Swan Island, Portland, from May 20 to the morning of May 22, were announced by Harry Hogan, general chairman of a community committee, and Charles Tait, Director of Port Development for the sponsoring Port of The Dalles.

Joining with the Port in the event are Dalles City, Wasco County and the Port of Hood River.

Parade to include The Dalles High School Band and the school's Booster Girls, a drum and bugle corps, is scheduled to move through downtown streets shortly after 2 p.m. on the day of the vessel's arrival, Hogan said.

Following the public welcome for Lt. Commander Marvin C. Lee by Port, City and County officials, officers of the USS EDWARDS will be entertained at a reception by Harvey Aluminum followed by a dinner at The Dalles Country Club.

Enlisted men will be guests Friday night at a smorgasboard and dance at the Armory hosted by the National Guard and Port of The Dalles, with the Navy Mothers providing general supervision, to which young ladies in groups or chaperoned are invited as guests of Port of The Dalles.

Public Inspection of the destroyer-escort will be provided from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Armed Forces Day, at Port of The Dalles dock where the vessel will be berthed.