



SPANISH EMBASSY
WASHINGTON
—
NAVAL ATTACHE

4801 Wisconsin Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

February 9, 1998

Ref. 1066/22.021/98

Mr. Walter A. Brooke
1482 Salem Court
Oceanside, CA 92057

Dear Mr. Brooke:

With reference to your request for information on the USS Noa, I am pleased to translate below the information received from the Spanish Navy Institute of Naval History.

"The Blas de Lezo(D65), ex USS Noa(DD841), was transferred to the Spanish Navy in October 1973 and was incorporated in the Destroyer Squadron Eleven with base in Ferrol. In 1975 she participated in operations conducted in the Atlantic, off the Sahara Coast, while that territory was returned to Morocco. From 1976 on she took part on numerous operations to oversee the activities of the Warsaw Pact in the Mediterranean Sea, as well as surveillance operations in the coasts of Sahara, Morocco and Mauritania. On 17 May, 1978, at the end of the lease period, the ship was bought by the Spanish government for the Spanish Armada. The Blas de Lezo participated in all of the operations and exercises of the Spanish Navy and in several occasions with other navies and NATO joint exercises until 1989 when she was assigned to the **Fuerzas de Vigilancia Marítima** (Maritime Surveillance Forces). The ship was decommissioned on September 30, 1991."

I am very sorry that a photograph of the ship is not available. I was informed by the Institute's Director that all photos were distributed after her decommission and efforts to locate slides proved unsuccessful.

With my best wishes for a most enjoyable 7th Reunion, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Fermín Mocosos del Prado
Captain, Spanish Navy
Naval Attache