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Press release

New Ship-wreck off the coast of Grenada within recreational diving limits.

“HEMA 1” sank on March 5th 2005 three miles off the south coast of Grenada.

Grenada, March 20, 2005: In the early morning hours of March 5th 2005 a freighter who had offloaded its cargo in Grenada, was on its way back to Trinidad empty. Seas were rough and the freighter started to take on water. Unfortunately the bilge pump did not work as it supposed to. The owner/captain tried to make it back to Grenada’s safe harbor but failed. Grenada coast guard rescued all crew members, but the ship had to be abandoned. It sank approximately 3 miles off the south coast of Grenada.

The freighter named “HEMA 1”, was registered in Kingston, St. Vincent and its owner just had refurbished it with a new engine. For several years the ship served as an inter island freighter. It was built in 1963 in Germany and delivered as “Thomas Steven” of Denmark cargo around the Baltic Seas.

The 170 foot / 50 m “HEMA 1” is now the newest addition to the already diverse portfolio of Grenada’s ship-wrecks. Laying on its side, still swaying in the current, in a depth of 30 m / 100 feet it will soon become a new attraction. On the first dive Aquanauts did one week after it sank, already reef & nurse sharks were investigating the new wreck as possible resting place. Like the “Shakem” which sank in 2001, it will be an interesting example to see how quickly marine life takes over and makes it a new artificial reef.



Aquanauts will report and document the growth development on the new wreck regularly. But already it is clear that the wreck of “HEMA 1” will be one of the main attractions in Grenada’s waters due to its location in the nutrient rich Atlantic current off the south coast where other wrecks like “San Juan” and “King Mitch” have an impossible to resist draw on experienced adventure seeking divers!

For more information on this and other dive sites around Grenada please visit our web page:

www.aquanautsgrenada.com

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