DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
JOINT REGION MARIANAS
PSC 455 BOX 211
FPO AP 96540-1000

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Ser J00/0105
February 25, 2020

35GL-20-1609
Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

MAR 03 2020
Time 09:00 (X)AM ( )PM
Received By: [signature]

The Honorable Tina Rose Muna Barnes
Speaker, 35th Guam Legislature
I Mina'Trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guahan
163 W. Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Madam Speaker,

Thank you for your letter on February 24, 2020 requesting status of Joint Region Marianas COVID-19 monitoring and readiness. I share your concerns for the health and preparedness of our military and community on Guam in light of the growing COVID-19 outbreak.

My team has joined with Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) to be part of the regional interagency COVID-19 coordination group led by the Center for Disease Control liaison stationed on Guam, Dr. Thane Hancock. This group meets regularly to receive COVID-19 updates, discuss status of impacts to Guam and the region, Guam and other local government needs, and overall readiness measures. In addition, I have a COVID-19 internal working group to plan, assess, and execute military readiness on Guam in accordance with overarching Department of Defense (DOD) guidance. The COVID-19 situation is challenging and dynamic, but we are taking all factors into account to assure the best prevention and readiness measures.

You specifically asked about military personnel arriving on Guam from installations where their host nation has COVID-19 in its vicinity. These personnel are health screened prior to deployment and monitored upon arrival. Recent DOD guidance required all DOD commands worldwide to monitor and restrict the movement of any uniformed or civilian personnel exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. All DOD commands are required to regulate official and personal travel in accordance with the risk advisories published by the CDC. Additionally, military personnel from foreign partner nations participating in current military exercises on Guam have been required to undergo health screening prior to deployment and upon arrival in Guam. Currently, there are no reported COVID-19 cases for the military or military related personnel on Guam. As the situation develops, my team will continue to work with Guam DPHSS to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect the military and civilian community on Guam.

I thank you for your sincere interest in facilitating our mutual desire for transparency and information sharing with the People of Guam, especially in this health and safety matter.

I look forward to our continued partnership and collaboration.

Please do not hesitate to call me anytime at (671) 349-3200.

Sincerely,

J. V. MENONI

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