

Guam Legislature Clerks <clerks@guamlegislature.org>

## M&C Re: Messages and Communications CORRECTION

1 message

**Speaker's Office** <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
To: Clerks Office <clerks@guamlegislature.org>
Cc: Rennae Meno <rennae@guamlegislature.org>

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 05-07-20 | 11:26 AM | 04-30-20 | Response Regarding SCAGGS Urban Combat Training- Operations Activities, Camp Blaz.* | Department of the Air Force |

Buenas and Hafa Adai Clerks,
Attached is the file for Messages and Communications 35GL-20-1777.
Thank you and Have a Great Day.





*Sinseru yan Minagåhet,*

**Office of the Speaker • Tina Rose Muña Barnes**
Committee on Public Accountability, Human Resources & the Guam Buildup

35th Guam Legislature
*I Mina'trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Guam Congress Building | 163 Chalan Santo Papa | Hagatna, GU 96910
T: (671) 477-2520/1
speaker@guamlegislature.org

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Gumai pribilehu yan konfedensia este siha na mensåhi. Solo espesiåtmente para hågu ma entensioña pat ma aturisa para unrisibi. Sen prubidu kumu ti un ma aturisa para manribisa, na'setbe, pat mandespåtcha. Ya mensåhi , put fabot ago' guatu gi I numa'huyong gi as speaker@guamlegislature.org yan despues destrosa todu siha I kopian mensåhi. Si Yu'os ma'åse'.

On Thu, May 7, 2020 at 11:31 AM Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org> wrote:

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|---|---|---|---|---|
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**
**HEADQUARTERS, 36TH WING (PACAF)**
**UNIT 14007, APO AP 96543-4007**

30 April 2020

36 CES/CEV
Unit 14007
APO AP 96543-4007

Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

MAY 0 7 2020
Time 11:26 (✓AM ( )PM
Received By:

Patrick Lujan
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Parks and Recreation/Guam Historic Resources Division
490 Chalan Palasyo
Agaña Heights, Guam 96910

Senator Tina Rosa Muña Barnes
163 West Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SENATOR TINA ROSA MUÑA BARNES COMMENTS REGARDING SCAGGS (CURRENTLY ANDERSEN SOUTH) URBAN COMBAT TRAINING – OPERATIONS ACTIVITIES, CAMP BLAZ, PA MEMO # 1

This letter is provided in response to comments from Senator Tina Rosa Muña Barnes dated October 9, 2019 on the subject correspondence (comments are italicized).

*Comment: With regards to the comments of the Committee on the Guam Buildup, for the Andersen South Urban Combat Training Complex, the project summary clearly states that this proposal poses an adverse effect on four (4) historic properties and one (1) cultural resource. Furthermore, the same document states that "there is a high likelihood that surface artifacts might be dislodged, adversely affecting the integrity of previously documented sites." As further documented in the proposal, the project would adversely impact 13,500 sq. meters of Latte period Artifacts.*

The Section 106 review process is an integral component of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966. Within this process, if an undertaking is determined to have an adverse effect to historic properties this does not mean that the undertaking will be terminated. In order resolve an adverse effect in accordance with Section 106, alternatives that could avoid, minimize, or mitigate these impacts on historic resources are developed and evaluated. During consultation, an agreement document, such as a memorandum of agreement (MOA) or a programmatic agreement (PA), are developed.

The PA that was developed for this undertaking includes mitigation measures for adverse effects on historic properties (sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Properties). These measures adhere to the Secretary of Interior (SOI) Standards and Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (ACHP) recommended approach for consultation on recovery of significant information from archaeological sites.

The objective of a data recovery is to sufficiently characterize a site, and these activities are performed with the utmost care and respect. While the total Operations area of potential affect (APE) is 2,031 acres, approximately 580 $m^2$, or 0.143 acres are documented as a Latte period site.

*Comment: While I am aware of the geopolitical threats within our region, and history has shown the People of Guam the importance of having a battle-ready United States force on our island, history - that our origin and ancestors, are also important to me and the People of Guam. There is no doubt in my mind, that by having the finest infantry men and women, and giving these warriors who put their lives on the line for my freedoms the training they need - only makes for a safer Guam, United States, and Indo-Pacific. On that token, given that we already know, understand, and admit to the adverse impact to our culture and history, we should seek and [sic] alternative site.*

Environmental stewardship is a core value of the Department of Defense (DOD) and an essential part of our mission. The DOD considers environmental impacts and manages them responsibly in order to meet our mission objectives. The need for safety buffers for training and operations also results in secondary benefits to cultural resources as they slow or limit development; case in point, operational areas like the Naval Magazine host numerous intact ancient Chamorro villages that are preserved in place.

The cumulative effects to Guam's historic record is the result of all development on Guam, from work carried out by public and private sector entities working in the public interest. Many of these developments pre-date the National Historic Preservation Act and similar environmental protection laws. The Department of the Navy in modern times consults with the Guam State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and does the bulk of its preservation efforts during planning to avoid impacts to resources. Successful planning during the 2015 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement resulted in the vast majority of sites preserved in place and only a relatively small number of sites adversely affected. Our proposal to perform precautionary data recovery at Andersen South will not remove any sites and the data collected will be shared with the public to enhance Guam culture and related education efforts.

*Comment: Overall, as a proud wife of an Air Force veteran, and a proud mother of an enlisted Airman, I understand the need for National Security and the importance of the support available for my husband and son to successfully execute a mission. I do not disagree, that both projects, are aimed at ensuring that servicemen and women like my son and husband are given what they need to be able to successfully defend our freedoms and liberties. At the same time, there needs to be better dialog between the parties involved as well as the People it impacts. We need to be more transparent with one another, we need to listen to the concerns, and fulfill our responsibilities to the People of Guam.*

We appreciate the service that your family has provided for our nation's security, your support of the troops, and oversight of the actions that are necessary for the Marine Corps Relocation on Guam. The Navy takes its environmental stewardship seriously. We have qualified staff and resources to manage all aspects of our environmental program. The DOD has worked tirelessly in an effort to consult with the Guam SHPO, the Government of Guam, and the community in a manner that is transparent and goes above and beyond the regulatory requirements. With that being said, we appreciate your thoughtful comments and share your views on prioritizing preservation. There are always ways in which a process can be improved upon and we strive to continue our engagement with interested parties in the future for mutually-achievable outcomes.

Please contact Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz Archaeologist, Mr. Ronnie Rogers at ronnie.rogers@fe.navy.mil or at 671-355-8230, or the Joint Region Marianas Archaeologist at 671-349-1185 for any concerns on this matter.

Sincerely,



JEFFREY P. LAITILA
Chief, Environmental Flight