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# MILITARY RELOCATION TO GUAM AND CNMI PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (PA) MEMO #2

Project: P-109 VMM Hangar #1

Date: August 8, 2013

Project Location: Andersen Air Force Base

Prepared By: EV23

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

This project proposes the construction of an aircraft maintenance hangar at Andersen Air Force Base on the island of Guam.

P-109 VMM Hangar #1 was identified in the Final EIS (FEIS) for the military relocation to Guam and CNMI and Appendix E of the Military Relocation Programmatic Agreement (PA). In accordance with Stipulation IV.E.2.a. of the PA, this memo presents information to allow interested members of the public to provide comments on the DoD's determination of effects and if adverse, DoD's plan for resolving those effects.

Project works include the construction of an aviation maintenance hangar with high bay spaces, crew and equipment spaces, and administrative spaces. Building electrical systems include power, emergency power, lighting, telecommunications, intercommunications/public address, grounding, lightning protection and electronic security systems. Building mechanical systems include a fire suppression system, plumbing, heating and air conditioning and compressed air. The building will be constructed with features appropriate to Guam earthquake and environmental conditions.

Site preparation will consist of clearing and grubbing, grading, disposal and in-fills, ground improvements and preparation for construction. The effort may also require seismic fault, geotechnical/geophysical and topographic surveys and munitions explosive removal. Paving and site improvements include roadway improvements, parking for approximately 105 vehicles, landscaping and other improvements. The road improvements include an appropriate roadway storm-water runoff system. The ground improvements will include a drainage system consistent with the USMC North Ramp Area Development Plan and the storm-water pollution prevention plan. Electrical utilities includes networks of primary and secondary distribution installed in ducts and manholes, transformer/substation and street and outside area lighting with associated service equipment. The communication infrastructure will include ducts and manholes for future and current communication cabling and fiber optic lines requirements and includes the communication cabling and fiber optic lines for current requirements.

1 This PA Memo is required by Stipulation IV.E.2.a. of the PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties. Stipulation IV.E.1.b. of the PA requires the DoD to take into account comments received within 45 days of the date of the delivery of this PA memo to the SHPO and public notification via the CRI website.

Andersen Air Force Base is one of the largest airfields in the US Air Force. It covers 6,275 ha (15,500 acres) and occupies a mostly flat, uplifted limestone plateau in the northern portion of the island of Guam. The Main Operations area in the eastern third of the base includes the main active airfield and an array of operations, maintenance and community support facilities, most of which are located along the South Ramp. The North Ramp area includes operations of the Navy's HSC-25, munitions storage in the former Strategic Command storage area, and parking apron space for contingency operations. The central third of the base is a Munitions Storage Area (MSA). The western third is Northwest Field, a WWII-era airfield that is currently used for fixed-wing aircraft, helicopter training, and various field exercises and bivouacs.

The total APE for P-109 is 39 acres, all of which are included in the same footprint that was consulted on for MILCON (Military Construction) projects P-100 and P-101 (see Figure 1).

# **IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES:**

#### **Results of DoD Cultural Resources Review**

A portion of one historic property, a WW II-era runway complex, now essentially a Cold War-era airfield with the 1940s elements adapted for larger and heavier aircraft (B-36, B-47 and B-52), has been identified within the proposed location for the P-109 project. The site is significant for its association with Andersen AFB's role as an important strategic and logistical location for the Air Force during the Cold War but was originally constructed to serve as an airfield for B-29 bombers as part of the strategic bombing campaign over Japan during World War II. After the war, the U.S. Air Force took control of the base and used it first as a bomber base for the Far East Air Force (FEAF) and then as the only Strategic Air Command (SAC) bomber base in the Pacific Rim. During the Vietnam Conflict, Andersen's runways supported major B-52 bomber operations against North Vietnam, including Operations ARC LIGHT, BULLET SHOT, and LINEBACKER I and II, a crucial portion of the American strategy during the war.

Following completion of a Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) survey of the entirety of the runway complex in 2012 as mitigation for adverse effects related to MILCON projects P-100 and P-101, and also to address potential adverse effects for future Defense Policy Review Initiative (DPRI) projects within the site's boundaries, the DoD determined it to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A because of its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of national, state or local history. Draft copies of the HAER survey report were sent to the Guam SHPO and the National Park Service (NPS) for review, with only the NPS providing comments. The final version of the HAER was accepted by the NPS on November 30, 2012.

Comments for PA Memo #1 received via email on August 1, 2013 from Territorial Archaeologist John Mark Joseph noted known sites previously "recommended for possible re-evaluation which should be done as these sites look to be one continues site with different features or perhaps it should be considered a possible prehistoric district." However, none of the sites are located within

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the proposed area of potential effect (APE) for MILCON project P-109 (see Figure 1) and as such, will not be affected in any way.

No comments for the proposed project were received from the public.

## DoD's PLAN FOR RESOLVING ADVERSE EFFECTS:

As mentioned previously, the entirety of the one historic property located in the P-109 APE was subject to a HAER survey in 2012 as mitigation for adverse effects resulting from MILCON projects P-100 and P-101, which encompass the area of potential effect for the currently proposed MILCON project, P-109. Accordingly, the HAER survey also mitigates the adverse effect to the historic property resulting from P-109.

Additionally, Stipulation VI.F. of the PA provides that the DoD will retain a full-time Archaeologist throughout the life of the construction program of the Undertaking to provide site checks, oversee coordination and execution of the archaeological mitigation measures in the PA and to provide quality control. This individual is on-staff at Naval Base Guam and has also been tasked with supporting the Commander, Joint Region Marianas in responding to and reporting of any inadvertent discoveries to the Signatories, Invited Signatories, and Concurring Parties per Stipulation XII of the PA.

Lastly, Stipulation VI.G. of the PA requires the DoD to update the Guam Historic Properties Inventory data form for all historic properties in Appendix E. This requirement for the affected historic property was completed on February 9, 2012 as a component of the HAER, with the revised form forwarded to the Guam SHPO on April 10, 2012.

No additional mitigation is proposed.

P-109 Project



