

I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTION STATUS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
228-34 (COR)	Telena Cruz Nelson	RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD.	9/15/17 9:01 a.m.			9/15/2017	To Author.	9/22/17 4:00 p.m.	9/25/17 3:48 p.m.	



OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KUÅTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

September 25, 2017

The Honorable Benjamin J.F. Cruz
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
155 Hesler Place
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Régine Biscoe Lee 
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) As Introduced

Dear Speaker Cruz:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) As Introduced- "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

Committee votes are as follows:

<u>7</u>	TO DO PASS
<u>0</u>	TO NOT PASS
<u>4</u>	TO REPORT OUT ONLY
<u>0</u>	TO ABSTAIN
<u>0</u>	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE

Senseramente,


Telena Cruz Nelson
Senator



2017 SEP 25 PM 3:48 MW



OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)

As Introduced

By Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

“RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD”




OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

September 25, 2017

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members
Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety & Homeland Security

From: Senator Telena Cruz Nelson 
Chairperson, Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety & Homeland Security

Subject: Committee Report on Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) As Introduced

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on **Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) As Introduced**– “Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field.”

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)
- Copy of COR Pre-Referral Checklist on Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)
- Copy of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) As Introduced
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Copies of Submitted Testimony & Supporting Documents
- Related News Reports
- Committee Report Digest
- Committee Vote Sheet

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase'!

Senator Thomas C. Ada,
Vice Chairperson

Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz,
Member

Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje,
Member

Senator Frank B. Aguon, Jr.,
Member

Senator Telena C. Nelson,
Member



Senator Dennis G. Rodriguez, Jr.,
Member

Senator Joe S. San Agustin,
Member

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas,
Member

Senator James V. Espaldon,
Member

Senator Mary C. Torres,
Member

COMMITTEE ON RULES
SENATOR RÉGINE BISCOE LEE, CHAIR
SIKRITARIAN LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY • 34TH GUAM LEGISLATURE

September 15, 2017

MEMO

To: **Rennae Meno**
Clerk of the Legislature
Attorney Julian Aguon
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Senator Régine Biscoe Lee**
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Re: **Referral of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)**

Buenas yan Háfa adai.

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding the referral of **Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)**.

Please ensure that the subject resolution is referred, in my name, to **Senator Telena Cruz Nelson, author of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Jean Cordero at 472-2461.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,


Senator Régine Biscoe Lee
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

**I MINA' TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
RESOLUTION STATUS**

228-34 (COR)	Teresa Cruz Nelson	RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD.	9/15/17 9:01 a.m.		9/15/2017	To Author.			
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Telena Cruz Nelson <senator@cnelson@guamlegislature.org>

FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 AT 4:00 P.M.

Telena Cruz Nelson <senator@cnelson@guamlegislature.org>
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 3:30 PM

September 15, 2017

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

From: Senator Telena Cruz Nelson, *Chairperson*

Subject: **First Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.**

Håfa Adai! Please be advised that the Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety, and Homeland Security will conduct a public hearing on **Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Public Hearing Room of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*. The agenda for the hearing includes the following:

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) introduced by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field

The Office of Senator Nelson requests that written testimonies be delivered to the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910 or submitted via email to senator@cnelson@guamlegislature.org at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the hearing. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring assistance or accommodations should contact 989-7696 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. *Si Yu'os Ma'åse!*

Attachment: Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)

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Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety & Homeland Security

I Mina'trentai Kuáttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan

34th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org

T: (671) 989-4678/7696

F: (671) 969-7679



Resolution No. 228-34 (COR).pdf

126K



Telena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

Second Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

Office of Senator Telena C. Nelson <senatortcnelson@gmail.com>
Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 11:47 AM

September 20, 2017

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

From: Senator Telena Cruz Nelson, *Chairperson*

Subject: **Second Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.**

Håfa Adai! Please be advised that the Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety, and Homeland Security will conduct a public hearing on **Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Public Hearing Room of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*. The agenda for the hearing includes the following:

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The Office of Senator Telen Cruz Nelson

Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety & Homeland Security

I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan

34th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910


T: (671) 989-4678/7696

F: (671) 969-7679

senatortcnelson@gmail.com

senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org

2 attachments

 **2017.09.20_Second Notice of PH on 2017.09.22_4pm.pdf**
72K

 **TCN Resolution No. 228-34 (COR).pdf**
333K



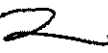
OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KUÅTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

September 20, 2017

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

From: Senator Telena Cruz Nelson, *Chairperson* 

Subject: **Second Notice of Public Hearing: Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.**

Håfa Adai! Please be advised that the Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety, and Homeland Security will conduct a public hearing on **Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Public Hearing Room of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*. The agenda for the hearing includes the following:

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) introduced by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field

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I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing
Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 p.m.
Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, *Hagåtña*, Guam

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Announcements
- III. Item for Public Consideration
 - Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)- “Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field,” by Senator Telen Cruz Nelson.
- IV. Closing Remarks
- V. Adjournment

For copies of the above-mentioned resolution, please visit the Guam Legislature's website at www.guamlegislature.com. Testimony should be addressed to Senator Telen Cruz Nelson, Chairperson, and may be submitted via hand-delivery to our office or our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910 or via e-mail to senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.com. Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services shall contact and submit their request to Bernice Rivera at our office. For more information, please call 989-7696. We look forward to your attendance and participation. *Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!*



OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña, Guam

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)- "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Jacqueline Song	ADLG	-	-	-	488-5823	songjacque@line30@gmail.com
Chenabors Quimanda	ADLG	-	-	-	487-7866	chenabors@quimanda@gmail.com
Beritany L. Pals	Office of Sec. of the Marine	-	-	-	489-2748	beritany@palmail.com
Syaena Munro	Marine Manica	-	-	-	788-3452	syamunab@gmail.com
Teresa Bejeda Neil's	Original Landowner	-	-	-	987-8841	teresa.bejeda@gmail.com
Franklyn Bennett	GLL	-	-	-	-	franklyn.bennett@gmail.com
Simone Bollinger		support			687-6610	simonebollinger@gmail.com
Clorissa Torres	Hymn Foundation	support		X	4832287	
Gonda, Jill J.	UDG	support			777-4852	Munro, 103/2ghm@i.com
Nunne Johnny	UG	support				
Nelson, Resurrection	UG	support		X		
BASS Schils		support		X	480-5995	elise.schils@guam.gov
Edna Pineda		support		X		
Zita Pangelinan	Hymn Foundation	support		X		
Choi Marko	n	n		X		



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I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña, Guam

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) - "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Francis Menco	Faya Foundation	SUPPORT		X		
TEENY RUMITANAK	GAMHA	Support			480-0235	
Penel Pirago	GWHHS	Support			488-4430	
Isa Rosano	GWHHS	Support				
Walter Salinas	GWHHS	Support				
Moran Sabino	GWHHS	Support				
Kainoa Hefflin	GWHHS	SUPPORT				
Jordan Perez	GWHHS	support				
Joe Torres	GWHHS	Support				
Trevan Lim	GWHHS	SUPPORT				
Kyle Farias	GWHHS	Support				
Emerson Waker	GWHHS	Support				
Bob Pelkey	YMLG	Support				
Jimmy Teria	FHS	Support				
Jimmy Teria	YMLG	Support				



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CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURIAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña, Guam

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)- "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Devian Toria	IHS	support				
LAREN McDONALD	ALG	SUPPORT				
Jasmine Park	ALG	support				
JALOU FLORES	ALG	support				
Leah Koch	Haga Foundation	Support				
Stacey Gu						
Teihini Davis	Southern High	SUPPORT				
Adrian E. Davis	UDG	SUPPORT				
KELLY MASH	PLSR	SUPPORT	✓			kymash@gmail.com
DEAN FLORES		SUPPORT	✓			dflores@ig.org
Laura Miras	Sub	Support				
SAMUEL BETHANOS	"	SUPPORT				
MATTHEW NICKS	"	SUPPORT				
Ursula Natividad	Masul	SUPPORT				
✓ Kaitlin Nekanus	Southern Christian Academy staff	support		✓		ngerewkt@gmail.com



OFFICE OF SENATOR

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CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
 I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, Hagaiña, Guam

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)- "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
<i>Yvonne Torres</i>		<i>Support</i>				<i>ymtorres@gmail.com</i>
<i>Alexandra Ada</i>						
<i>NEOPHAN CRUZ</i>						
<i>CRISTINA REJANO NIZUS</i>	<i>Laudowner</i>	<i>Support</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>486-6025</i>	<i>nellisc@mail.gsu.edu</i>
<i>Diana Arzola</i>		<i>Support</i>			<i>747-8817</i>	<i>janetkolsy@gmail.com</i>
<i>Lia R. De Soto</i>		<i>Support</i>				
<i>Jesse De Soto</i>		<i>Support</i>				
<i>Sabrina Perez</i>	<i>PLSO</i>	<i>Support</i>				
<i>TOMMIE GUZMAN</i>		<i>SUPPORT !!!</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>487-5083</i>	<i>tec.azman@gmail.com</i>
<i>Mariam Ibrahim</i>		<i>Support</i>				<i>M.MOHLANI@gmail.com</i>
<i>Yvonne Torres</i>	<i>Self</i>	<i>"</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<i>632-5700</i>	
<i>Eric Estrada</i>	<i>Self</i>	<i>"</i>			<i>686-9075</i>	
<i>Monica Filii</i>		<i>Support</i>			<i>482-6818</i>	<i>Monica.Filii@honoraria.gu</i>
<i>Lauren Swadden</i>	<i>Self</i>	<i>Support</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>688-1885</i>	<i>La.Swadden@gmail.com</i>
<i>Maverik PDA</i>	<i>Our hands are sacred</i>	<i>Support</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			



OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña, Guam

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)- "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Luke Davis	PSM	Support		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	777-0113	
Michael Sufryna		Support			688-4275	
Pamela Viloria	Marine Bio GWHs	Support			987-9754	
Demian Melas		Support				adamianmelas@gmail.com
Pangelinan, David		Support				
Fransdon Guibayan		Support				
Yset Neth	Chamorro (GWHs)	Support				
Jackie Jimmy	Chamorro (GWHs)	Support				
Natasha Chastelus	UDG	Support				
Rosalin Chastelus		Support				
Sansan Tillman		Support				sansan.tillman@yahoo.com
Tamie Fernandez		Support				
David Malaga		Support				
CHRIS W		Support				chrisw@yaleu.com



OFFICE OF SENATOR

TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
 I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña, Guam

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)- "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Nika Bela Cruz	ADLG	support				
Samantha Williamson	GWHS 6108	support				
Richard, James	G108	support				
Gumabek, James	BLWHS	support				
Burkard, Luke	GWHS	support	✓		403-2854	Burkard671@gmail.com
Isom, Kralle	SHS	support				
Spiller, Cruz	SHS	support		✓		
Chesie Gumabon	GCC	SUPPORT				
Margaret, Spier		support				
Kristina, Brubaker	VO6	support				
Edwene Pambrika	VO4	support				
Aimee, Parker		support				
Sunah		support				



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Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

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Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building, *Hagåtña*, Guam

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LUKE DAVIS	PLSR	SUPPORT		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		luke.davis@guam.gov
<i>Spencer Cabrera</i>		Support				
<i>Dorcas Cabrera</i>		Support				
<i>Maria Barinas</i>		Support				
<i>Mariang Terlaje</i>		Support				
<i>Kallen Perez</i>	PLSR	SUPPORT		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	486-4754	perezkallen@gmail.com
<i>Rosset Underwood</i>	SELF	support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		7277715	
<i>Jordyn Rodriguez</i>	SELF					
<i>Joan Fernandez</i>	SELF					
<i>Mark Padilla</i>	SELF	Support		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	988-7590	



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I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

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Kenneth Kiefer		Support			482-3761	kennethkief@gnm.gov
Francine Naput		Support			482-9674	francinenaput@gmail.com
Handa Cruz		Support			689-8675	
JOE WALTER GARCIA		Support		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
FRANK LASUANA	YMC of perterkot	Support	(written)		482-0958	frank.lasuana@gmail.com
FRANK C. ROBERTO	UOH KL	Support			488-7394	Aroberto513@gmail.com
Marilyn E. HANNO		Support				marilynhanno@gmail.com
Ronaldia E. Fong	Individual	Support				



OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

September 22, 2017

Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

Sponsor Statement for Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to hear opinions from the people of Guam on Resolution 228-34 (COR), **“Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field.”**

With this resolution, I hope to send a message to the federal government that as CHamoru people, we deserve to have a say in what happens on our island. It is my hope that our governor and congresswoman stand behind the voice of the people by protecting our island from the dangers this firing range brings.

The plan for the live fire training range at Northwest Field comes from the Department of Defense, but during its development, many concerns from the people of Guam were not addressed. This plan has the potential to destroy acres of pristine limestone forest, put native species in further danger, and desecrate sites that must be preserved out of respect for our ancestors and our history.

As your public servant, I hope to hear your concerns and issues and work to ensure that when these plans are being developed, our island and our people are prioritized.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
JOINT REGION MARIANAS
PSC 455, BOX 211
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5860
Ser J00/0300
September 25, 2017

The Honorable Senator Telena C. Nelson
Chairwoman, Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety and
Homeland Security, 34th Guam Legislature
Hagatna, Guam

Dear Madam Chairwoman,

SUBJECT: WRITTEN TESTIMONY RELATIVE TO LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION
228-34

In the time that I've served as Commander, Joint Region Marianas, my experiences and engagements with the island community continue to affirm the true patriotism and genuine hospitality and sincerity of the Guamanian people. Not merely do the people share a rich and profound history with the U.S. military dating back through the centuries, but more importantly in present day, we as a community are united as Americans covered and protected under the same American Flag; by the same ideals of freedom and democracy; the same spirit of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness that makes our nation strong against our adversaries and our island an integral part of this American experience.

I have learned in my time here that the multi-layered fabric of the modern Guam society is woven from a unique indigenous culture and a colonial history underscored by times of occupation and oppression but also of hope and success. Our nation was founded on similar weavings of history, first as a British colony, with subsequent Independence marred by religious persecution, civil war and gender and racial discrimination, followed by a vigorous progression of upheavals and later rising to a position of leadership on the global stage. I believe dark ebbs in the tide of history should not constrain the unlimited potential of the American people. Our collective advancement should serve as a beacon of hope, especially for those who call Guam home.

Peace is necessary to ensure that Guam moves forward confidently towards an outcome chosen by its people, unimpeded by open conflict. We believe that securing the nation today by projecting strength and ensuring readiness is one of the best ways to maintain this necessary peace. We cannot achieve a

lasting peace without the support of our treaty allies, including our steadfast neighbor Japan. We uphold the same democratic values and ideals and are both earnest in our efforts to maintain stability in the region.

The U.S. Government, in order to fulfill its obligations under an International Agreement with the Government of Japan, remains committed to relocating Marines to Guam. The relocation process started with a 2006 agreement between nations, which was followed by a long, detailed and inclusive process of planning with public participation starting with scoping meetings in 2007, community engagement on proposed actions during the public comment period that started in 2009 and initially concluded with a Record of Decision in 2010, which deferred selection of a firing range.

The proposed action in that initial analysis would have required all construction to be completed in four (4) years and would have required a surge in the workforce of 79,000 new people to the island and as much as an enduring population of 33,000 people. Many in the community thought that plan was unmanageable - too much, too soon.

As a result of meaningful discussions and thoughtful negotiations with the Government of Guam to complete the 2011 Programmatic Agreement, which is the current framework to review and resolve impacts to cultural resources, the Navy committed to Four Pillars including, One Guam, Green Guam, Net-Negative and 24/7 Access to Pãgat Trail and Cave. These pillars helped define the subsequent environmental planning efforts for the Marine Corps Relocation and continue to guide Department of Defense (DoD) actions.

In 2012, in what was called the "Roadmap Adjustment," the proposed development on Guam for the Marine Corps Relocation was reduced by distributing some of the projected Marine Corps growth to other locations such as Australia and Hawaii, which would rebalance force strength in the Pacific west of the International Date Line. Another round of lengthy planning for the Marine Corps Relocation to Guam was performed, again with public participation and regulatory consultations. This re-look at the plans resulted in a 2015 Record of Decision by the Navy selecting Finegayan as the site for the main base, Northwest Field as the site of the Live Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) and the reutilization of developed areas for family housing and urban combat training at Andersen Air Force Base.

Overwhelming feedback from the public and elected officials was crucial in the Navy's second look at the original preferred firing range alternative at Pãgat or Route 15 area. The Pãgat alternative would have eliminated the highly valued Guam Raceway, restricted access to the ancient village of Pãgat, and required the DoD to expand towards private and GovGuam lands. Again, these factored into the Navy's selection of a range complex located on current DoD footprint within the Northwest Field area. The Northwest Field alternative was suggested by those who were seeking to protect Pãgat cultural resources and the Guam Raceway. These same members of the public were also the most vocal in expressing that the DoD stay within its footprint. The Navy listened to the people of Guam and made a decision influenced by the best available evidence and community concerns.

In the analysis contained in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS), the Navy explained how current ranges do not meet qualifications standards for the Marine Corps. The Marine Corps must be ready for any contingency, whether during peacetime or conflict. They must be always prepared to use the full array of small arms weaponry, which includes pistols, rifles and machine guns among others. This unique aspect of a Marine requires that he or she train and qualify on ranges that are more complex and have different configurations than other branches of the Armed Forces. The current ranges in use by Navy, Army, Air Force and civilian law enforcement are not configured for Marines to properly qualify and be certified in the use of their weapons.

Existing ranges are too small for the operational training required for the Marines that will come to Guam. Expansion of existing ranges would have constrained both civilian and military land use or air traffic to an unacceptable degree as these activities occur or have been accustomed to the smaller size and less frequent activation of existing buffer areas.

These buffer areas associated with any range are designed to maintain the highest standard of public safety from the highly unlikely event that a bullet fragment or ricochet may fall within an area within a safety threshold of less than a 1 in 1 million chance. These fragments or ricochets, if they occur would have much less energy than the bullet fired as they are the result of surface or target impact, but people are excluded from the fragment "fall" area as a precaution.

We acknowledge that the construction of the range will impact both natural and cultural resources and we appreciate the opportunity to address some those concerns below.

We understand that former Ritidian landowners maintain hope that these areas will one day be returned to them. The DoD does not have a position on such local sentiments as such matters are outside of our jurisdiction. These lands are primarily within the Department of Interior's jurisdiction, the Refuge was established for the recovery of endangered wildlife, and these lands held in trust, can accommodate compatible activities including the establishment of a safety buffer for the LFTRC at Northwest Field.

The DoD respects the land it manages, and as an expression of that respect, we manage the environmental impacts of our actions. Our environmental stewardship is well-resourced and is carried out with the support of the environmental industry, academia and our governmental partners. The vast framework of environmental laws we must abide by is in many ways more stringent on our actions compared to GovGuam or private development. This is apparent in the scope and breadth of mitigations that we have developed through consultation required under these environmental laws.

Constructing a new base is a major and unique endeavor on Guam in modern times. Proportional to the scale of development are the unprecedented mitigation requirements that the Navy must follow, particularly as part of the relevant U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services-issued Biological Opinions, the latest of which was received in July 2017.

At the forefront of our natural resource mitigation effort is the equivalent forest restoration required for each acre of habitat disturbed at a 1:1 mitigation ratio, and the durable protection of habitat at a 4:1 ratio per acre of disturbed vegetation. To put this set of requirements in real-world terms, if another developer had five (5) acres of property with vegetation on it, that developer would be limited to developing only one (1) acre of that property, and would also need to invest in actively restoring one (1) acre of vegetation within that same lot to a functional forest. On top of these offsets, that developer must also leave the remaining three (3) acres of vegetation undeveloped in perpetuity. Taking this example even further, if you are a residential developer of one (1) acre of property, you can only productively use one-fifth of your lot.

Although the firing ranges at Northwest Field will remove 89 acres of limestone forest and 110 acres of disturbed limestone forest, DoD is committed to restoring 219 acres of limestone forest to compensate for the loss of vegetation. In addition, DoD will put mitigations in place toward the eradication of ungulates from over 300 acres of higher-quality limestone forest in Northwest Field within the safety buffer of the range. Overall, DoD plans to restore at least 1,000 acres of habitat at Finegayan to offset impacts along with preventing development in 5,234 acres of DoD footprint in Northern Guam.

Forest enhancement at Finegayan shall consist of construction of ungulate fences, removal of ungulates and invasive plant species, propagation of native species, and translocation of endangered plant species from areas affected by construction into this area. We cannot restore forests to their native state, this is impossible from an biological and economic standpoint, but we can at least improve their condition to support recovery of Guam's rare wildlife such as the native *fanihi* (fruit bat), *sihek* (kingfisher), *ko'ko'* (rail) and *aga* (crow).

DoD's commitment to conservation will have a direct, beneficial impact on the preservation of bat and bird recovery habitat on Guam. Without active forest enhancement, the existing limestone forest on northern Guam, including those at the firing range area, will continue to degrade to a point where these habitats will no longer be suitable for the recovery of Guam's threatened and endangered species. The degradation is due to lack of birds to disperse seeds, and harmful impacts by invasive animals such as deer, pig, carabao and brown tree snake and invasive plants such as the ubiquitous *tangan tangan*. The Marine Corps Relocation unlocks short- and long-term resources that will help contribute to existing DoD mission funds for conservation that would pause or even reverse this devastating trend.

The Navy's analysis of impacts for cultural resources was just as complex, if not more so, compared to natural resources. The Navy and the Programmatic Agreement Parties entered into a two-step process of first consulting with the public on the impacts of five range alternatives to ensure that each were analyzed sufficiently, followed by consultation among Programmatic Agreement Parties only on the selected alternative after the 2015 Record of Decision to determine the process of resolving impacts to historic properties. As a result, the Range Mitigation Plan (RMP) was signed into effect on October

2015 by DoD and the Government of Guam, with concurrence by the Guam Preservation Trust. The RMP ensures that archaeological sites that will be adversely affected by the LFTRC at Northwest Field will be properly mitigated in consultation with the Guam SHPO.

It would be disingenuous to say without qualification that the Northwest Field is the most impactful alternative with regards to impacts to cultural resources. The proposed range alternative with the most impacts to intact latte period resources was the Naval Magazine locations, which had numerous standing latte and similar resources. The proposed location with the least amount of cultural impacts was the Route 15 or Pãgat alternative, but it also had the highest levels of sociocultural impact due to potential restrictions to access for traditional and modern land uses given that Pãgat area is generally open to the public. Northwest Field had the most eligible properties affected in terms of numbers, but the affected resources are primarily composed of pottery/artifact scatters and post-War earth or concrete structures.

The 2011 Programmatic Agreement has also resulted in mutually beneficial outcomes for the military and the local community true to the One Guam pillar. The DoD and GovGuam succeeded in seeking funds for the Guam Cultural Repository, which is a landmark mitigation. is no other Programmatic Agreement in the Department of the Navy history with a comparable level of offsets for cumulative effects that has the potential to be as broad in its benefits to an affected community.

The facility is planned to secure all of Guam's artifact collections, including those in the military inventory, and is intended to treat our cultural record with the dignity and respect it deserves, in compliance with federal curatorial standards.

The DoD applied rigorous processes for reviewing other unique resources. One such resource is the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer (NGLA), which is Guam's sole source of freshwater for the northern part of our island.

As part of environmental review, the DoD presented to the public very comprehensive mitigation measures to protect the NGLA from increased water use due to the relocation of Marines

and also potential contamination due to LFTRC operations since the range is above the aquifer.

US EPA, during their preliminary review period for the draft SEIS, expressed their concerns regarding potential aquifer contamination from munitions use at the LFTRC. DoD updated the draft SEIS taking into account EPA's concerns, to which EPA commented: "We are pleased that the DSEIS states that, prior to the construction of the range, a site survey would be conducted, including installation of four wells; groundwater sampling would occur to provide actual data on the depth, flow direction(s) and quality of water present; and this information would be provided to the [Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment] program." In consideration of the importance of the NGLA, DoD in the Final SEIS/Record of Decision committed to a site-specific implementation of proactive, Guam LFTRC-specific (not generic) environmental actions that are more stringent than required under existing policy.

DoD concluded in the Final SEIS that, considering the implementation of these site-specific environmental actions, the LFTRC operations would result in less than significant impacts to the aquifer. The LFTRC would be located down-gradient from and approximately 2 miles (3 km) from the nearest active groundwater well (AF-5). The Marine Corps commissioned a study on the effects of pumping and drought on the NGLA (USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2013-5216: *The Effects of Withdrawals and Drought on Groundwater Availability in the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer, Guam*). Information from this report will be used to adjust pumping rates in order to avoid increased salinization and reversal of groundwater flow patterns. Hence, the overall flow of groundwater in this area would not be altered by proposed future pumping rates, and groundwater from the LFTRC area would not flow towards drinking water production wells.

Following through on its commitments to mitigate potential impacts to the NGLA, DoD awarded Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA) a \$3.7-million grant for the expansion and rehabilitation of the NGLA monitoring system. The *One-Guam Well Installation and Rehabilitation Project* will be a collaboration amongst Joint Region Marianas, GWA, the Water and Environmental Research Institute (WERI) and the United States Geological Service (USGS), and completion of this project will allow for implementation of the NGLA Monitoring Program, which will provide the long-term hydrologic data and information needed for effective, sustainable management of the NGLA. An initial

\$55.6M dollar grant has also been awarded to GWA to fix parts of the sewer collection system and the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Navy will implement specific measures to reduce the likelihood of contamination from construction and operation of the ranges. A few examples of these Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize impacts to soil from erosion and potential metals contamination associated with range operations, thereby reducing the potential for soil or sediments to enter nearshore waters include:

- Employing engineering controls and maintain grassy vegetation on berms
- Managing storm water at ranges
- Implementing quarterly inspections of the range Best Management Practices
- Collecting monitoring information (lab sampling and analyses) and range clearance at a minimum of every 5 years

Range clearance is the removal and disposal of military munitions (i.e., unexploded ordnance and munitions debris) and other range-related debris. Range managers will ensure all ordnance expended at the LFTRC is tracked. By knowing the expenditures and having the ability to measure the recoverable materials within a defined area, range clearance can be forecasted and scheduled.

To determine whether there exists a substantial threat of a release of constituents of concern (such as lead) from the LFTRC, groundwater wells shall be constructed at the range, and a baseline groundwater assessment at the LFTRC conducted prior to its operation, and future groundwater quality during range operation shall be compared to this baseline condition.

There will be close coordination between LFTRC management and environmental departments; for example, information in the most recent lab results provided by DoD water quality personnel shall be used to assist range operations managers in the scheduling and prioritization of range clearance.

In keeping with our commitments to transparency, all LFTRC environmental assessments shall be documented and made available to the public on DoD-hosted website.

Another point of concern is noise from the operational range. The Pãgat range alternative had the greatest noise impacts to civilian activities, including residential areas. The Northwest Field alternative does not have noise impacts to residential properties due to its remote location. The Navy modeled potential noise from the firing range and provides this information in its analysis. The modeled noise contours are considered conservative as it does not factor in reduction of noise levels from vegetation as well as the steep elevation change at the Ritidian cliff line.

Considering the aforementioned, the Navy does not anticipate levels of noise that would damage cultural artifacts within the safety buffer of the range and expects most noise for those outside of the safety buffer during range operation to hear noise no louder than a normal conversation. The actual levels of noise will be verified during operations and a noise study will be completed to adjust modeled noise contours for range management purposes. Cultural sites within the Refuge will be monitored by the Navy for any unlikely impacts from operation of the range.

I also want to take this opportunity to inform your office that a mutually-beneficial aspect of the awarded MILCON P-715 Known Distance Ranges project includes the rehabilitation of existing Route 3A, which is dilapidated and in need of repair. This upgrade enhances access to recreational areas of Ritidian by making vehicular trips to this remote part of our island more safe and efficient.

In closing, we appreciate the sentiments expressed by those who testified at a recent hearing on this resolution. Members of the military assigned to Guam consider themselves part of the Guam family and as such we are committed to collaborative and open communication with the community as we accomplish our national defense mission.

Sincerely,



S. S. CHATFIELD

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Commander

My name is Ann Auyong, ^{direct} a descendant of Maria Castro Ada whose land ^{was taken away by the military} @
Letekyan

I am here to testify in favor of Resolution 228-34 which opposes the current plans for construction of a live firing range complex at Northwest Field.

Guam is my birth place. It has been and always will be home.

This land has nurtured me and has given me a sense of place ^{of} belonging that can't be duplicated elsewhere. With the advent of the military build-up, I would like to present some concerns and soul searching.

1. Are we, the indigenous people, to be deprived of our rightful heritage by preventing ^{of} ^{ing} limited our access to cultural sites which have existed for millennia? Establishing a firing range denigrates and desecrates existing burial grounds of our ancestors who ^{walked} cared for these lands long before the arrival of the U.S. military. I truly doubt Americans would accept a firing range being built next to Gettysburg, the Arlington National Cemetery, or the Potomac River. Please note that we, too, revere the resting grounds of our ancestors.

2. These historic sites provide a vital link to our cultural heritage and identity. We wish to protect them for our children and future generations.

3. Are we to be deprived full use of our pristine beachfront property? Our beaches not only benefit the local community but also the tourist industry which drives our local economy. ^{resident of} What tourist would seek out a beach to hear gunfire?

4. Are our local fishermen who derive their livelihood from fishing to be further prevented from full utilization of these sites? What would the fishermen from Alaska think if they were no longer allowed to catch salmon? ^{for their sustenance?}

5. What are the long-term effects of massive amounts of ammo being discharged into surrounding water? Can EPA provide us assurance that this activity won't pose contamination risks? Unfortunately, we are already well aware of the downwind effects of nuclear testing conducted on our neighboring islands. Is this an example of good environmental stewardship? Ask yourselves: Are bullets ^{more} valuable than our ocean fish and the people who consume them?

6. Lastly, how does a firing range enhances one's quality of life when the tranquility of surrounding area is disturbed by continuous gunfire? Would the National Park Service condone such action at the Grand Canyon or Lake Tahoe?

Perhaps these questions seem a tad trivial compared to the massive war machine built by the military, however, I strongly feel that DOD is presenting our island a bill of goods that is not only disingenuous but also flawed, one-sided, and a threat to our environment and our well-being.

We, the people of this Island, are not mere pawns on a Monopoly board to be moved around at will. We are live human beings who live by the American ^{principle} ~~mantra~~ that as equals ^{our} ~~the~~ people possess inalienable rights to inclusion, life and happiness.

In closing, I wish to note that on the whole, I'm generally reticent. However, the mere sign of impending threat to this island that I call home and deeply cherish prompts me to stand up and voice my strong objection. What we are fighting for is not only economic ^{or} environmental justice, but also social justice for the people living on this island.

Si qu'os malase ni tiempo miya,

Thank you for listening and above all for giving me the opportunity to ^{express my} ~~show~~ my concerns.

Pot fabot, fanoghe pot i tano-ta ya protehi para i manmamala na tiempo.

To the U.S. military: Please respect our people.
" " " land.

September 22, 2017

Buenas yan Håfa Adai,

I na'ån-hu si Michael Lujan Bevacqua. Hu tutuge' este na tinstigu-hu komo taotao gi kumunidåt. Ti hu kuentusisiyi i inetnon-hu Independent Guåhan pat ti hu kuentusisiyi i che'cho'-hu gi Unibetsedåt Guåhan. Hu tutuge' este komo un lahen Chamorro yan lahen Guåhan yan un tåta para dos na påtgon.

Hu gof sapopotte este na Resolution (228-34) ni' madiskukuti på'go. Hu sapopotte este para meggai na rason, uno bai hu diskuti guini gi tinstigu-hu på'go.

Gi såkkan Dos Mitt Dies, humånao yu' ya hu bisita i islan Jeju giya South Korea, ko'lo'o'ña i sengsong Gangjeong. Gefpå'go na tåno' ayu. Manmångnge' yan mambutmuchahu lokkue' i taotao. Achokka' dikike' ayu na songsong, mambanidosu i taotao guihi yan i hinihot yan i tano', sa' pinat mampeskådut yan mangguagualo' i mañåsaga'.

Hu bisita ayu na tåno' gi ayu na tiempo, sa' i militåt Amerikånu yan South Korean, esta ma tutuhon plumaneneha na para u mahabao i tano' gi kanton tåsi, ya para u madestrosa para i hinatsan un nuebu na puetton militåt.

I meggaiña na taotao giya South Korea yan gi i islan Jeju, ma sapotte este. Ti dångkolo' i sengsong Gangjeong. I gobetnamento gi isla yan gi South Korea, ilek-ñiha na gof bali yan impottånte este na nuebu na sagan militåt hun. Ilek-ña i militåt na este na kinahat para u chinile' guatu mas meggai na salåpe' yan cho'cho' para i isla. Ilek-ña lokkue' hun na este na sagan militåt para u dinifende i tano' kontra enimigu.

I meggaiña na taotao giya Jeju yan giya South Korea, ma aksepta este na hinasso. Sa' para siha, tåya' magåhet gåsto. Tåya' minalingu giya siha pat gi fi'on-ñiha. Gi inatan-ñiha, håfa i gåsto para mas dinifende yan salåpe'? Noskuantos åcho' tåsi yan i lanchon noskuantos na lanchero lokkue'. Ti atdet.

Lao este i prublema. I meggaiña na taotao ti ma tungo' ayu na lugåt ya tåya' magåhet tiningo'-ñiha put i tano' lokkue'. Ti ma tungo' i tano' taiguihi i guagualo' yan i peskådut. Para este, ma tungo' na i bali-ña i tano', tahdongña kinu i sanhilo' ha', håfa a'annok, pat håfa siña makåhat gi sanhilo'-ña.

Ma tungo' na i bali-ña un lugât ti humuhuyong gi numero, gi salâpe'. Ti kuentâyon este na prinesisu. I bali-ña un lugât tahdongña lokkue' ki i usâ-ña. Humuhuyong i magahet bali-ña gi mapruthi-ña, gi madifende-ña, gi maguaiyâ-ña. Kontat ki un agradedesi i tano' siña un komprende i magâhet na bali-ña. Lao gigon un yute' enao na respetu, enao na inagradesi, malingu i kinemprende lokkue'.

I manâmko'-ta, esta ma tungo' este. Gi fino' i manâmko', "i salape' un sosodda', un yuyute', lao unu ha' i tano'-mu." Gi otro hinasso ta tungo' este gi palâbra "inafa'maolek."

Hu bisita i sengsong Gangjeong para dos dihas, ya gi unn na puenge, mandanña' i taotao ya hami yan otro na demilitarization activists, in kuentusi siha. Gi ayu na tiempo, esta ma tutuhon i taotao i sengsong kumokontra i planu-ña i gobetnamento yan i militât. Ya desde ayu esta pâ'go mananachu ha' i taotao, achokka' i militât esta ha chule' i lugât, ha destrosa i tano' ya ma baba i sagan militât gi ma'pos na sâkkan. Lao guihi na puenge hu sangâni i manmâtto na i bidan-ñiñiha, anai mamprotest, "etmas gefpâ'go gi hilo' tâno'."

Para i manggaige guihi, meggai ti ma komprende este, pi'ot sa' un atungo'-hu pumupula' i sinangân-hu gi fino' Koreanu. Unu na bihu ha chanda yu', ilek-ña taimanu na bonito hâfa masusesedi guini? Na'triste. Sen na'triste. I manggaipodet, i manggaikepble, ma kekedulalak ham.

Hu na'klârui gui' na ti gefpâ'go hâfa masusesedi yan i malabidadâ-ña i militât yan i gobetnamento. Lao este na dinanña' yan este na kinalamten sen gefpâ'go. Sa' humuyong i sinienten-miyu, ti put i chinattao, pat put i hambienton-miyu. Humuyong sa' en tingo' i magâhet na bali-ña i tano'.

Gi i lepblo-ña "An Ordinary Person's Guide to Empire" i Indian na titige' si Arundhati Roy ha tuge' este put i hinasso ni' i taotao Gangjeong kumokontra:

Everything's discounted -- oceans, rivers, oil, gene pools, fig wasps, flowers, childhoods, aluminum factories, phone companies, wisdom, wilderness, civil rights, ecosystems, air -- all 4,600 million years of evolution. It's packed, sealed, tagged, valued and available off the rack. (No returns).

Hu sangâni siha put i kinalamten giya Guâhan put i prinitehien Pâgat. Ilek-hu na hu li'e' i parehu na ginefpâ'go guini. Giya Guâhn yan gi kada tâno', guaha lugât kinenttura, lugât gaibâli para i natibu na taotao, lao meggai na lugât

taiguini, manmachule', manmasâkke' pat manmabende. Nina'magof yu' na guaha giya Guâhan yan giya Gangjeong, ni' ti ma tattitiyi este na châlan dispetdisio. Ma rekognisa na guaha bali-ña i taiprisu. Ya buente i minetgot pat i fuetsan un taotao pat un kumunidât ti put hâfa siña ma nâ'i, pat tulaika, pat ma bende. Mismo este na minetgot ginen ayu siha ni' ti para un tulaika, pat bende, pat fama'salâpe'.

Meggai giya South Korea, ma sângan na este taotao Gangjeong ni' mamprotest, mantaimamahlaho. Mangkaduku, manatmario. Masângan este put si Angel Santos. Masângan este lokkue' put si Robert Underwood pat si Hope Cristobal. Gi fino-ña' si Mike Phillips anai ha difende si Anghet Santos gi kotte, masângan este lokkue' put si MLK pat si Gandhi yan otro taotao taiguihi ni' manmao'onra pâ'go.

Ta o'onra este na klasen taotao pâ'go, achokka' guaha nai manmadespresia yan manmahokse' gi tiempon-ñiha, ta tungo' pâ'go na tininas i sinangan-ñiha yan gi bidan-ñiha, ma gigiha i taotao-ñiha gi châlan mas tininas yan gaiminaolek. Kada uno gi tiempon-ñiha, ma atan un hemplo taiguini ya ilek-ñiha nu i taotao gi oriyan-ñiha, "Bâsta!" "Esta mâtto di mâtai dimasio este, ti siña ta sedi este, nihi!"

Ya gi tiempon pâ'go, hu a'atan este na kinalâmten, para i prinitehen Litekyan, ya nina'siesiente i parehu yan gi ayu na puenge gi sengsong Gangjeon giya Jeju. Este na kinalamenten, i taotao guini ni' ma kekechomma' este na churan malabida, este etmas gefpâ'go gi hilo' tâno'. A'annok gi este na kuation yan gi este na kinalamenten hustisia, minaolek yan todû ta gof nisisita muna'utas gi este na tiempon machalapon yan mitinilaika.

Gi finakpo', uu sapopotte este na bill ni' madiskukuti guini. Hu agradesi este na chânsa ni' manâ'i yu' para bai hu kuentusi hamyo pâ'go. Si Yu'us Ma'âse.

Sahuma Minagahet ya Na'suha Dinagi

Michael Lujan Bevacqua
Familian Kabesa yan Bittot
Mangilao, Guam

Ritidian Original Landowners - Live Fire Training Complex

Maria Hernandez <hernandezm2086@outlook.com>

Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 1:57 PM

To: "senator@senatorbjcruz.com" <senator@senatorbjcruz.com>, "senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "senatorbischoelee@guamlegislature.org" <senatorbischoelee@guamlegislature.org>, "office@senatorada.org" <office@senatorada.org>, "senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, "senatorcnelson@gmail.com" <senatorcnelson@gmail.com>, "senatorsannicolas@gmail.com" <senatorsannicolas@gmail.com>, "senatordrodriguez@gmail.com" <senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "aguon4guam@gmail.com" <aguon4guam@gmail.com>, "senjvespaldon@gmail.com" <senjvespaldon@gmail.com>, "tommy@senatormorrison.com" <tommy@senatormorrison.com>, "senatormary@guamlegislature.org" <senatormary@guamlegislature.org>, "senatorlouise@gmail.com" <senatorlouise@gmail.com>, "wilcastro671@gmail.com" <wilcastro671@gmail.com>, "senatoresteves@gmail.com" <senatoresteves@gmail.com>

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Hafa adai Honorable Senators,

I am writing to you in regard to the proposed firing range at Northwest Field/Litekyan. I am the granddaughter of the late Benigno LG Flores and Dolores Martinez Flores and the great great granddaughter of Ana Matanane Pangelinan, who are the rightful owners of many hectares of Ritidian Point. Our family is feeling pain, sorrow and anxiety, after our more than five decades of fighting for our land, which was stolen from my elders in the 60s under duress and without just compensation. My family lived on the land peacefully for many, many years before the war. After the war, my Tata Benigno used his own money to rent a bulldozer and built the road leading down to Litekyan, almost losing his life from a construction accident, only to have the land be condemned shortly after. He had no negotiation options to keep the property and they took my family to court to give them money they did not want. They never paid him for the two houses he built on the property. They never paid him for the \$5,000 it cost to rent a bulldozer to build the road to the property. We have kept records related to our plight surrounding Litekyan, including receipts from payments for the bulldozer. It's important for people to know our family's story. My family navigated the cliffs and used the caves as shelter during typhoons. The Ritidian families were robbed a second time when it was turned into a Wildlife Refuge in the 90s.

In fact, the 30th Guam Legislature passed Resolution 258-30 which opposed the condemnation of the Ritidian land by the federal government for purposes of the training ranges, and reminded Congress that "the final insult to the people of Guam came when the 385 acres of the Former Naval Facility, Guam at Ritidian Point was declared excess in the 1990s and was grabbed quietly without fanfare or advance notice, by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service rather than being returned to the original landowners via the Government of Guam." Now this firing range complex might end the possibility that our families will ever

see the return of our ancestral homes. This proposal will soon desecrate and destroy this pristine land that my family, and our entire island, holds dear to our hearts, and that my elders died fighting for.

My family did not want to just be reactive to what's happening, but we really haven't had the opportunity proactively fight this firing range complex because the community, including the landowners, has not been adequately informed about the details surrounding the range and all of its impacts. Even the GovGuam buildup advisors--the "eyes and ears" for the governor--could not answer questions asked about the firing range at the recent informational briefing. Hundreds of people come forward against the range at SEIS hearings in 2014, and we hadn't heard back about plans for the range because the plans simply went under the radar and now there is a contract awarded for construction. They are moving too fast and too hard without care for our sacred sites, endangered species, land and people, when even their own studies say it is the most harmful option. People keep saying plans for the range are going to continue, but it isn't too late to change the site. The marines will not be here for another eight years.

Prutehi Litekyan currently has a growing movement against the firing range complex that continues to gain momentum, but I can't help but wonder what came of the testimonies of the hundreds of people who had spoken against this range proposal at the prior SEIS hearings in 2014. I'm wondering how 10,000+ comments were dismissed and this project pushed forward. My family was at every public hearing speaking out against this firing range and buffer zone at Ritidian--my mom Lourdes Bejado, my uncle the late Christopher Bejado, my Auntie Cathy McCollum and SO MANY MORE opposed this disastrous proposal. Community members came forward in masses on microphones from teens to manamko. Even our local fishermen are standing up against this range from the Fishermens Co-Op president to others who've highlighted so many negative impacts, including limited access to their prime fishing spot, threats to their way of life, environmental concerns and dangers of stray bullets. Because the proposed firing range would have an area that extends approximately 5 miles out into the water and 3 miles wide, fishermen would be prohibited from the area. The people feel powerless and WE NEED OUR LEADERS.

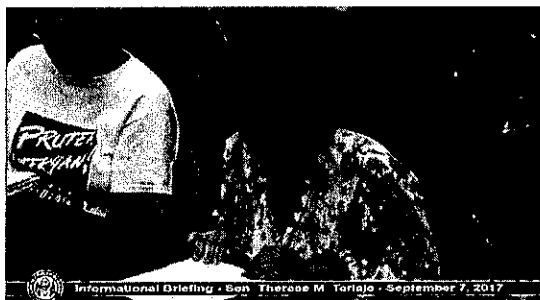
It's unfortunate that not every senator was able to attend the informational briefing held by Vice-Speaker Therese Terlaje, because if you had, there would be no way you would be in support of this destructive firing range complex. Our community is left to wonder, will all our leaders stand up for us? I'm wondering--did the military even think to consider to use the large amount of land they use for their golf courses--for recreation--before even considering our sacred land? Perhaps your stance on the issue is pro-buildup so you are pro-firing range, but not every person who testified against the range at the hearing was opposed to the military buildup. Some were in support, but it's not unthinkable to want it on our people's terms, and not be at the whim of the military.

Please - on behalf of the original landowners of Litekyan, we urge you to sign Resolution 228-34 (COR), relative to requesting the halt of the range on behalf of the preservation of our island. Prutehi Litekyan and its movement continues to grow and we are passionately fighting because we love our island. We are not going anywhere, and the military is not going anywhere, so perhaps we can come to an agreement

that all parties can be at ease with. Guam, objectively, has the highest ratio of US military spending and military hardware and LAND TAKINGS from indigenous populations of any place on earth. We cannot continue to let this be our legacy.

This David and Goliath battle isn't over and we are hopeful that the past injustice done to our nana and tata will eventually be reversed--we are one step closer with every protest and every one of our island's lawmakers who courageously stands for the people. Please don't be a part of an injustice over all past injustices.

If you didn't have a chance to listen at the informational briefing, I invite you to please take a few minutes to watch the heartfelt testimony by my mom, Lou Bejado. My mom speaks of the family's history at Litekyan and this testimony will hopefully give you an idea of the struggles we've been facing all these years : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1t4M9WZwmVw&feature=youtu.be> I've also attached the recorded testimony of my Uncle--the late Chris Bejado--from the 2014 SEIS hearings. He fought so hard for the return of our land during his life until his untimely and tragic death last year.



Descendants of original landowners testify against range - Lou and Maria

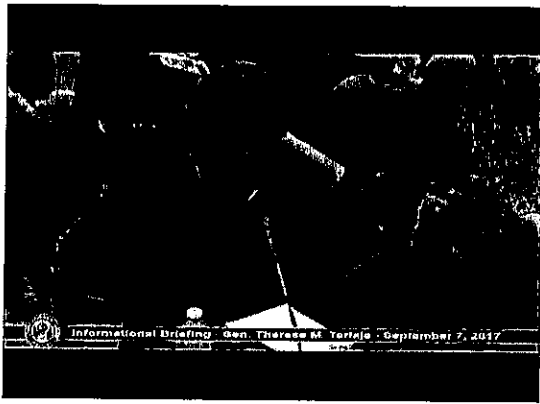
www.youtube.com

Lourdes Flores Bejado and Maria Bejado Hernandez, descendants of Ritidian original landowners, testify at an informational briefing on the proposed firing range...

Please also see powerful testimony from Fishermens Co-op President Manny Duenas <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrsqbpNuKFo> who spoke on behalf of 100 fishers with boats. In the testimony, he speaks of the other ranges here on island, and how the military promised to keep the waters open during one of their derbies, yet chased them out of the water with their gun boats.

Fisherman's Co-op president testifies re: firing range

www.youtube.com



The Guam Fishermens Co-op President Manny Duenas testifies at an informational briefing on the firing range called by the Guam Legislature's Committee on Culture and Justice held on September 7, 2017.

Again, I humbly ask that those who have not yet please consider signing Resolution 228-34 (COR). We need you, our leaders, now more than ever. Please look into your soul to help stop this injustice.

"Guam is not just a piece of real estate to be exploited for its money-making potential. Above all else, Guam is the homeland of the Chamorro people. That is a fundamental, undeniable truth. We are very profoundly, "toatao tano"--people of the land. This land, tiny as it is, belongs to us just as surely, just as inseparably, as we belong to it. No tragedy of history or declaration of conquest, no legalistic double-talk can change that fact. Guam is our legacy. Is it for sale? How can one sell a national birthright?"

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase,

Sensaramente,
Maria Hernandez
(671)482-8804

 Chris Bejado.m4a
2191K

Buenas Yan Håfa Adai!

Guåhu si Jessica Nangauta taotao Malessu' yu'. I am a Mother, daughter and lanchera of Guahan. I am here today representing my family and those that have come before me. I am here to testify in support of Resolution No. 228-34 introduced by Senator Telena Nelson.

As a caretaker of this land we call home I am deeply concerned about the effects this proposed firing range might have on our natural resources. As a farmer I care what I put into the ground and how I grow and water my food. I feel that True Security for our home aims only at SAFEGUARDING our natural resources, land, air, sea. These resources are what have sustained our us for generations.

This proposed firing range puts our aquifer at great risk of contamination by bulldozing thousands of acres of land and plants that help to filter water. The military propose to drill 11 more water wells to support the increase of marines and their dependents. It does not make sense to me to place a firing range over an aquifer that supplies water to over 90% of the island. Firing ranges around the world are know to leave heavy toxic metals in the soil and water including arsenic, lead, chromium, PCBs, and cyanide.

In the SEIS, the military documents have stated that "Under this alternative, there would be more adverse effects from construction at NWF than any of the other LFTRC alternatives."

Yes we welcome all visitors on our shores and we are giving people who share what we have with visitors but at what expense? This proposed fire range shows total lack of respect for our natural environment, our culture, and our Government must speak up about it! We have a say in what happens on our island, believe it! Know it! We must think about our own security first. The proposed range is within those divisive Anderson gates yet the Surface danger zone extends thousands of acres beyond the fence and because of it we should not support it being built. And I dont support using another site on Guåhan for this proposed build up either!

There is already an unsafe level of contamination and destruction caused by the militarization of our islands. I have attached a map to this testimony from research that was done by Dr. Luis Szyfres who was a researcher at the University of Guam College of Natural and Applied Sciences and was also member of the Guam Legislature Right To Know Commission, which Senator Frank Aguon Jr. was apart of. Attached is probably the ugliest map of Guåhan I have ever seen but I am including this in testimony in hope we can prevent adding more toxic sites to this list. Senators I further implore you to look into these toxic sites that have been identified in this document naming over 100 sites already present around our island and to DEMAND clean up before risking anymore harm to our environment and natural resources.

We know about the contamination of the Cocos Lagoon, Anderson Airforce base, the Barrigada Storage facility, Sumay, Gabgab, Tinian, the island of No'os(FDM), The Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Enewetak, Kwajalen, Belau.

This is our home. It is sacred because we are still here. Gaige ha yu guini. Our home is where the amot (medicinal plants), fruits, fish and birds have sustained our people for THOUSANDS of years. Gov Guam Please do not continue to aid the destruction of our islands by being passive or silent. No amount of money can replace or replicate what we have, Guåhan. Please senators Prutehi Litekyan before its too late and continue to put a stop to this type of destruction!

I truly appreciate those of you supporting this resolution because it shows that you care for our island, the children especially who will inherit this island when we are long gone. For the record I do

not support the proposed training range in Guåhan and I stand in solidarity with our sister islands in the NMI who also do not support the proposed training ranges in Tinian and in Pagan.

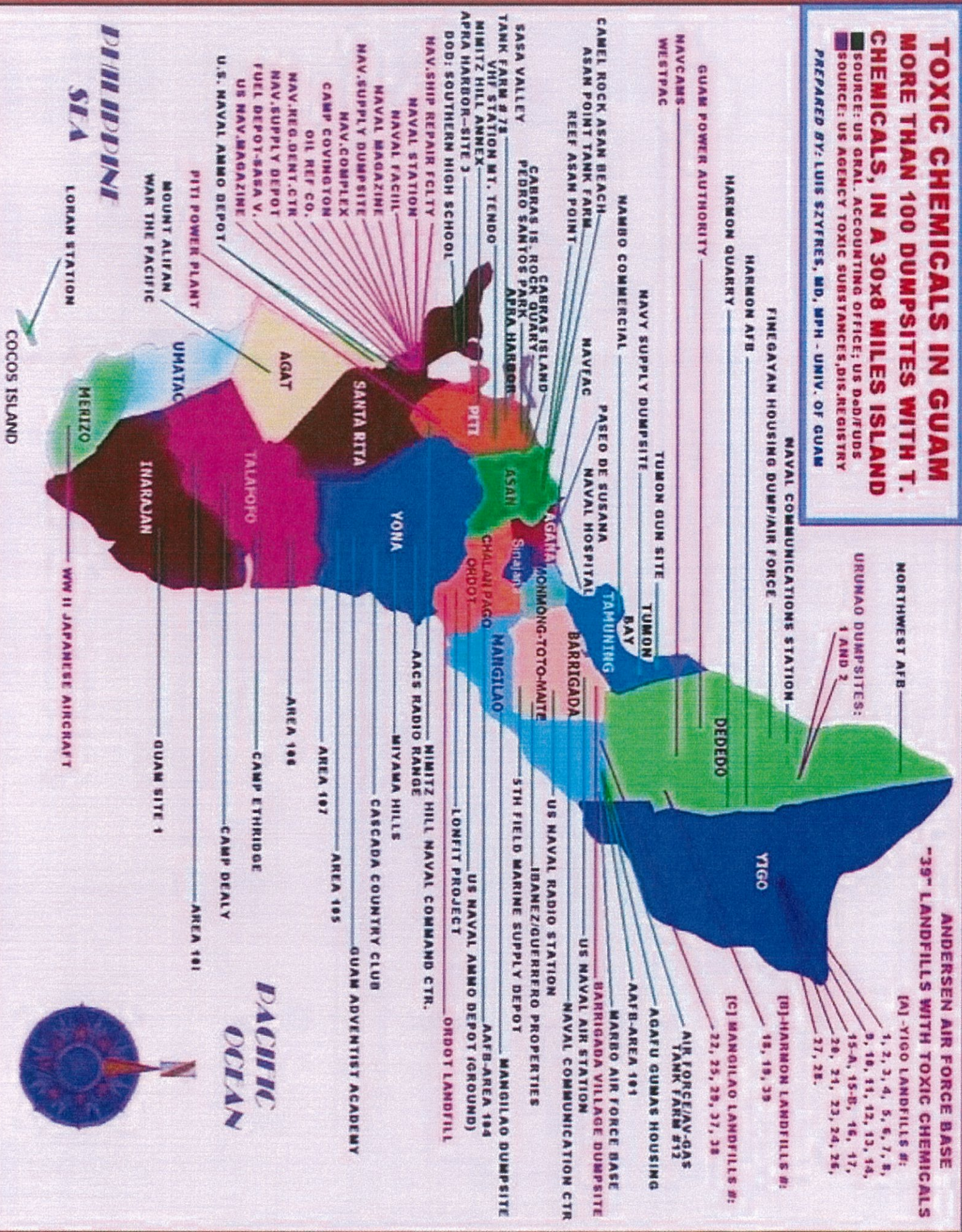
We must find ways to sustain our future generations without participating in war games and violence.

Saina ma'åse

TOXIC CHEMICALS IN GUAM MORE THAN 100 DUMPSITES WITH T. CHEMICALS, IN A 30X8 MILES ISLAND

SOURCE: US GRAL. ACCOUNTING OFFICE; US DOD/FUDS
SOURCE: US AGENCY TOXIC SUBSTANCES, DIS. REGISTRY

PREPARED BY: LUIS SZYFRES, MD, MPH - UNIV. OF GUAM



GUAM POWER AUTHORITY
HARMON QUARRY
HARMON AFB
FINEGAYAN HOUSING DUMPAIR FORCE
NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS STATION

NAVCARS
WESTFAC
NAMBO COMMERCIAL
NAVY SUPPLY DUMPSITE
TUMON GUN SITE
TUMON BAY

CAMEL ROCK ASAN BEACH
ASAN POINT TANK FARM
REF ASAN POINT
CABRAS ISLAND
CABRAS IS. ROCK QUARRY
PEDRO SANTOS PARK
AFRA HARBOR

SASA VALLEY
TANK FARM #78
VNF STATION MT. TENDO
MIMITZ HILL ANNEX
APRA HARBOR-SITE 3
DOD: SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL
NAV. SHIP REPAIR FCITY

NAVAL STATION
NAVAL FACIL
NAVAL MAGAZINE
NAV. SUPPLY DUMPSITE
NAV. COMPLEX
CAMP GOVINGTON
OIL REF. CO.
NAV. REG. DENT. CTR
NAV. SUPPLY DEPOT
FUEL DEPOT-SASA V.
US NAV. MAGAZINE
U.S. NAVAL AMMO DEPOT

PITI
ASAN
AGATA
MONMONG-TOTO-MAITE
CHALLAN PAGO
ORDOT

YONA
MANGILAO
MANGILAO DUMPSITE
5TH FIELD MARINE SUPPLY DEPOT
IBANEZ/GUERRERO PROPERTIES
US NAVAL RADIO STATION
US NAVAL AMMO DEPOT (GROUND)
ORDOT LANDFILL

AGAT
TALAHOFO
MANGILAO
MANGILAO DUMPSITE
5TH FIELD MARINE SUPPLY DEPOT
IBANEZ/GUERRERO PROPERTIES
US NAVAL RADIO STATION
US NAVAL AMMO DEPOT (GROUND)
ORDOT LANDFILL

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MOUNT ALIFAN
WAR THE PACIFIC
PITI POWER PLANT
AGAT
TALAHOFO
MANGILAO
MANGILAO DUMPSITE
5TH FIELD MARINE SUPPLY DEPOT
IBANEZ/GUERRERO PROPERTIES
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US NAVAL AMMO DEPOT (GROUND)
ORDOT LANDFILL

MERIZO
INARAJAN
MANGILAO
MANGILAO DUMPSITE
5TH FIELD MARINE SUPPLY DEPOT
IBANEZ/GUERRERO PROPERTIES
US NAVAL RADIO STATION
US NAVAL AMMO DEPOT (GROUND)
ORDOT LANDFILL

COCOS ISLAND
INARAJAN
MANGILAO
MANGILAO DUMPSITE
5TH FIELD MARINE SUPPLY DEPOT
IBANEZ/GUERRERO PROPERTIES
US NAVAL RADIO STATION
US NAVAL AMMO DEPOT (GROUND)
ORDOT LANDFILL

NORTHWEST AFB
URUNAO DUMPSITES:
1 AND 2

DEDEDO
YIGO

TAMUNING
BARRIGADA
MANGILAO
MANGILAO DUMPSITE
5TH FIELD MARINE SUPPLY DEPOT
IBANEZ/GUERRERO PROPERTIES
US NAVAL RADIO STATION
US NAVAL AMMO DEPOT (GROUND)
ORDOT LANDFILL

AGATA
MONMONG-TOTO-MAITE
CHALLAN PAGO
ORDOT

YONA
MANGILAO
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US NAVAL AMMO DEPOT (GROUND)
ORDOT LANDFILL

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE
-39- LANDFILLS WITH TOXIC CHEMICALS

- (A) -YIGO LANDFILLS #:
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,
9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14,
15-A, 15-B, 16, 17,
20, 21, 23, 24, 26,
27, 28.
- (B) -HARMON LANDFILLS #:
18, 19, 39
- (C) -MANGILAO LANDFILLS #:
22, 25, 29, 37, 38

DIAMOND
SIA

PACIFIC
OCEAN



WW II JAPANESE AIRCRAFT

Testimony for resolution 228-34

Lou Hernandez <healthshackguam@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Lou Hernandez <healthshackguam@gmail.com>
To: senatortnelson@gmail.com

Sun, Sep 24, 2017 at 8:59 AM

Hafa Adai Senator Nelson,

Thank you for introducing this very critical resolution. We are behind you and the senators who support this 110%. You are courageous! We will be praying for its successful passage.

See my testimony in writing below.

Hafa Adai to you kind senators. Thank you for taking the time to be present here today.

My name is Lou Flores bejado, granddaughter of Benigno and Dolores Martinez Flores, original Landowners of Litekyan.

They say wisdom comes with age. But wow!! Saludos to the youth of people of Guam for their depth of wisdom and passion they bring here today. They are so inspiring. From the bottom of our hearts, Gof dagkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase to all of you.

According to the draft SEIS, establishing the live fire training range complex at Litekyan will cause the most adverse impact - munitions constituents can potentially leak into the northern aquifer which supplies water to 90% of Guam's population, the combination of higher costs of goods and higher housing costs will likely affect low income people and push people into poverty and even homelessness, it will impact fishing access 273 days a year, cause widespread destruction to the pristine environment and endangered species and so much more damaging facts. Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, Governor Calvo, Lt. Governor Tenorio, Guam buildup Team who are the eyes and ears for the Government of Guam, leaders of Guahan, Are you really okay knowing this, so much so that you support the buildup? Please explain to us your position so we can understand.

No millions of dollars, no plans to mitigate the damage can justify the demise of our sacred lands, pristine forests and cultural heritage to a mere toxic chemical wasteland.

The only ones who benefit are the huge off island prime defense contractors who garner millions of dollars in contracts. They have no ties to Guam. They could care less. After their work is done, they are sitting pretty with the millions of dollars, and we are left with the desecration of our sacred lands. Not to mention those moneys don't even come to Guam. We only get a minute fraction of the pie!

They say our economy depends on tourism and military handouts. Well our government has enabled this dependence to continue by agreeing to these ridiculous plans by the military for a mere loaf of bread! And look at where we are now! We are the biggest target due to this huge presence of the military! Our lives are threatened by North Korea! So Why do we need 5000 more marines? Now our tourism market has shriveled affecting many lives. It's no lie that This military presence affects our tourism. Take a look at Saipan! They have a thriving economy, they are not a military target and Commercial airlines continue to bring tourists to their shores. So they are doing something right.

We need to remove this dependence on military handouts, create new economic markets to boost our economy. Congressman Underwood stated in his article to the press that we need to fuel the minds of our intellectuals and not just allow them to flow easily into the workforce after they graduate. We can work to become the next silicon valley, if we just find other economic thrusts to help our people. Start supporting small businesses and not harm them by raising taxes. Support our farmers so they too can be successful.

There should be a task force created to discover and bring new industries into our island to lessen the dependence on the military.

I hope by hearing the passion, the outcry and the facts behind the adversities of this firing range that we will have impacted your position. At the end of day what do you want the history books to say about your actions particularly

with this very critical issue. Hopefully it will say that you protected Litekyan. That WE protected Litekyan and that together we protected our beautiful island of Guahan. Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

U Gof agradezi hao,

Lou Flores Bejado

Sent from App for Gmail

Buenas yan Hafa Adai todus hamyo, si Else Demeulenaere yu.

I'm not only a researcher, but also a mother of three children who grew up on Guam and went to sleep holding a stuffed animal, a Fanihi. At Halloween they wanted to be a Fanihi. They were very happy when they were able to hold a live Fanihi at the refuge but never saw one in the wild. The existing continuous band of forest in the North of Guam, from east (Anao Point) to west (Urunao/Ritidian) is still intact. This continuous band of forest is not only an important habitat for the Fanihi, but also for other endangered species, like the Mariana Eight spot, coconut crabs, skinks and many endemic plant species. The deep karsty topography is truly unique in Guam and home to certain plants and animals, which only occur in Guam, and nowhere else in the world. I'm teaching cultural ecology and many times we talk about Ritidian, being a rich cultural site with latte villages, medicinal plants, caves, drawings, and as well as a place people connect visit and live at today. I don't want these to be textbook examples, but real time experiences. I love the traditional ecological stories being told, and how they connect the people to the land. It is my wish that this cultural and ecological heritage and traditional ecological knowledge stays with the people of Guam for generations to come.

Support for Resolution NO. 228-34 (COR)

“RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHERWEST FIELD,” sponsored by Senator Telen Cruz Nelson

09/22/2017

Buenas yan hafa adai honorable Senators of the 34th Guam Legislature:

Firstly, I thank you the leaders who created and supported this resolution, it is not only brave but it is caring to do so. Thank you all for hearing taking the time to read/listen to my testimony in support of Resolution 228-34. I na'ån-hu si Rosario Perez. My name is Rosario Perez and I am a student of the University of Guam. I wish that I could come before you all to deliver this testimony but unfortunately could not. Our daily lives can be very busy and distracting and we all do the best we can to be present with what are most important to us.

Although there is only so much we can do about the busyness of our lives and the weight of Guam's political voice, the detriment Litekyan is currently facing in a blaring alarm that needs to be addresses. I have heard many say things like “it's too late” or “there is nothing we can do about it” or the worst is “ it doesn't mater anyone.” At some point we are all guilty of this kind of thinking but I feel it is important to remember that not doing anything has no results.

I feel that this resolution in it self presents strong enough reasons to do something about the impeding dangers. Though you may have heard it all, those that are at stake are one thousand acres of Guam's last remaining limestone forest, native and endemic species including their habitat, ancestral and historical cultural sites, those living in nearby villages, potential contamination of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer which provides 90% of the island's population and more.

I'd like to add that not only is this a Chamorro cultural issues bit this is a human issues. The highly potential dangers that are to come from the Live Fire Training Range have noting to do with weather you are Chamorro or not. Others might disagree but I feel that prohibiting the firing range has nothing to do with your political stance or if you support the military or not. It had nothing to do with being in the military or loved ones in the military. The mentality that it is betray to Uncle Sam has no connection to the issue of the firing range. In my eyes ,this is not an “anti-military” effort. It is an anti-dehumanization effort. It is dehumanizing to risk all those that are at stake that will bring danger to Guam's past, present, and future.

I've heard argued that the firing range will protect Litekyan and will improve Guam's economy. I may not be not familiar with business and economics but I have some understanding that to thinking long term nurtures a business or an economy. Allowing the firing range in Litekyan does not seem to nurture Guam's long term economics. Should the water become contaminated with lead, the people of Guam, Chamorro or not, may have to look else were to obtain their basic needs. I would imagine that Guam would have to import water, which could raise the cost of living more than it is now.

Because our island is unique and sacred to have a diverse number of people and a unique

indigenous culture, I ask of you, my leaders, do not give up on the people of Guam. Even if our current political status limits what we can do, please don't give up regardless of political affiliation, busyness of life, sex, gender, economic class, and ethnic background. Don't give up on us. It is because the bill greatly benefits our community ensuring the anti-dehumanizing efforts of Guam that I, Rosario Perez, stand in support of resolution 228-34. *Si Yu'os ma'ase!*

E-Mail Contact Information:

Rosario L. Perez
Name

rosarioperez588@yahoo.com
E-mail Address

Hafa Adai!

My name is Adrian Davis. I am twenty-four years old. I am a Social Work student at the University of Guam. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my support for this resolution. I am in support of this resolution because there are a few things that are threatened. I decided that it is my shared duty as a citizen to help defend this island's ancestral lands.

First and foremost, I have taken a class with a few other students in latte carving and we got to learn much more of the CHamoru culture. Litekyan has many latte sites. These latte sites hold so much value in them as constructing them was not an easy task. There is a lot of work involved when carving the lattes. These lattes are also tied into the past. They are an icon that helps tell us stories. Should you further yourself in studying the lattes, you will learn that in the ancient CHamoru society, they were very resourceful back then and no doubt strong in erecting a latte. They didn't need Home Depot or a truck. It would not be right to get rid of these latte sites being that they are a form of icons that link us back to our ancient CHamoru society. We lose them, we lose part what's left of the connection to the past.

Second, I have an interest in traditional healing. Litekyan has medicinal herbs that help the traditional healers do their job. It is an interesting subject because before we had Tylenol or Excedrin, in the ancient CHamoru society if a person was sick, they would be cured using the medicine created by using the herbs. Traditional healers face an issue with locating some of the herbs in this present day. Litekyan is one of those places that has them. There is something beautiful about taking the herbs and creating medicine for the community. Think of a civilization that did not have to rely on imported pills to reduce pain or headaches. Destroying these lands limits the resources of the traditional healers. Their resources are already scarce as is. We lose

the resources, we lose them. It is not just a skill that is endangered but also a form of art and tradition.

What is at stake here is the part of our culture that we use to identify ourselves with. Throughout Micronesia, a family's land is used to trace the ancestry and heritage. It is part of their identity. Throughout the years many families have lost their lands because of the wars and colonization, which is unfortunate. With as much land as we have left, we have to protect it. Otherwise we lose ourselves and the past.

I am interning at an agency that we promote cultural empowerment with in the youth in the community. The youth in our community are growing their knowledge and establishing their identity. If we take that land away, we are taking away their identity, their connection to the past and our precious history. The children need to know that they can be safe on this island and thrive within the culture. But how can we make them feel safe if we take away part of their culture. What message are we portraying to the world in terms of being culturally competent?

Collectively if we look at the big picture, this resolution will protect the resources at Litekyan if you want a culture or community to thrive, then providing it with the necessary resources is a great way to encourage a community to have pride in who they are and live.

If you were asked to find Marbo Cave at night with just a flashlight and you were told that it is safe and secure would you try to find it? Granted, maybe some of us would. Now what if your flashlight was taken away? Would you still do it? Do not take the flashlight into our culture away from our youth and our island. Please. There are species and sites that are endangered. We still have a lot to learn from our past. I stand with everyone else in support of this resolution. Prutehi Litekyan.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 228-34

22 September 2017

Senator Telenia C. Nelson
Majority Whip
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guahan

Hafa Adai Senator Nelson,

Today you will hear powerful testimony from many citizens as our community speaks truth to power regarding:

- The risk to our northern fresh water lens.
- Family lands unjustly taken.
- Losses to the fishing community and *yo' ánte* who gather rare *ámot* in Tailálo and Litekyan.
- Safeguarding our precious and culturally significant endangered and threatened species that are found nowhere else in the world other than Guáhan or the Mariana Islands.
- Protecting what may be the last 5% of our pristine limestone forests that took millennia to develop.
- Ensuring that the cultural significance of ancestral sites are not desecrated or otherwise harmed by high levels of noise pollution and that we are not denied access to them 'for our own good' as federal officials have stated.
- And, of the bait and switch of the federal government who first said it was too important to protect our native endangered and threatened species to return Litekyan back to the families who have family buried there. Of course, the federal government now says that it's perfectly acceptable to put those species at risk by bulldozing and uprooting the natural habitat, and exposing our last official *fanihi* troop, who are obviously sound-sensitive, to the noise pollution of 6.7 million bullets a year being shot by machine guns, assault rifles, and small arms 273 days and nights a year.

Because these issues will be covered by others in detail, my testimony in support of Resolution 228-34 will focus on the fact that it is absolutely not too late for us to voice our concerns about the military's choice for a site for the live fire training ranges and appeal to the federal government to do the right thing by our community. The site chosen by the military for the live fire training ranges is the most harmful choice for our community of the many alternates available. Justifying it as the most convenient choice for the military is not in accord with the principles of One Guam, Green Guam, or being Culturally Sensitive which the Department of Defense (DOD) committed itself to at the onset of the military buildup. Anyone who tries to tell us different, *hinasson-niha na man tai-sensia, na man-udu i mañaotao*, they think we do not have the sense to know better:

I address this testimony to our community, our current political leaders, and especially those who head up the Military Buildup Committees or related entities, and those planning on

running for office this next election but who have thus far been silent. We must do everything in our power to secure at least a pause in the construction that threatens destruction of the conservation areas of Tailálo and Litekyan. It is absolutely not acceptable at this point to proceed with dismantling our cultural heritage, destroying the natural habitat of our culturally significant endangered and threatened species, and jeopardizing the safety of our drinking water as a result of the military's choice of Tailálo which will negatively affect the ancestral and private lands of Urunao, Litekyan, Pahung (Pahon), and Inapsan (Jinapsan). All of these areas, are so culturally significant that they are on the Guam Register of Historic Places, the National Register of Historic Places, or are eligible for such protections.

Na' pâra ham man ma fa'faching. In the rush to action, the military has knowingly placed themselves in legal jeopardy, perhaps rushing to get the dirty deeds done in the hopes that we will all accept these destructive and dismissive actions and will go away. But, let's look at the facts as to why, not only is there absolutely no need to rush, it would be irresponsible and a crime against *i Manaotao Mo'na* (CHamoru ancestors), our children and all the generations to come.

1. The planned arrival of the Marines is now projected for 8 years from now and may be pushed back further.
2. Whatever different members of our community think about it, the Department of Defense has stated both that they would prefer to stay in Okinawa and that their move to the Mariana Islands may not happen.
3. Genetic testing of the endemic Hâyun Lâgu to determine whether it is a species unique to Guam is in progress, estimated to conclude December 2017. If the Hâyun Lâgu is determined unique to Guam, consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act has to be reinitiated.
4. Earthjustice, representing several groups of the Northern Mariana Islands filed a lawsuit that the DOD vacate and set aside the 2010 and 2015 Records of Decisions regarding the relocation of Marines from Okinawa to the Mariana Islands. This lawsuit is ongoing, but its very existence calls into question the legality of the 2011 programmatic agreement (PA) by whose execution the DOD says it is complying with Section 106 of the NHPA. Currently, the federal courts are weeks away from a determination as to whether it will hear the case. If heard, the lawsuit may recognize that the DOD did not carry out their processes properly, which is my assessment as a social scientist, and will have to go back to the drawing board for how they assessed some or all of the buildup in all the Mariana Islands, including Guåhan.
5. Community protest based on social injustice are ongoing and growing, as demonstrated by the development of the Prutehi Litekyan - Save Ritidian group as well as the independent formation of a group of youth who care about protecting their heritage, the island of Guåhan.
6. The military has already caused irrevocable, harm to our ancestral heritage by 'accidentally' dismantling four *chahan* (earth ovens) that they were supposed to avoid as our Guam Historic Preservation Office rightly testified and determined as inappropriate. That is just in their first few days of being at Tailálo. I cannot imagine that over the next several decades, we won't hear of more practices that are detrimental to our community's cultural heritage, fresh water lens, environment, and endangered and threatened species.

It will be too late to prevent this damage only after the completion of this rush to demolish, destroy, and disturb our cultural, historical, and environmental heritage while all of these issues are hanging in the balance. *Chahan* and ancestral burials can never be placed back in the ground as they were. *Latte* can never be re-erected as they had originally been when placed there by CHamoru ancestors. Host plants to our precious Mariana Eight Spot butterfly and native Guam land snails cannot be once again uprooted and placed back as they had sprung to life there naturally. *Fanihi* cannot unhear the damaging high volume noise pollution of 6.7 million bullets a year, nor necessarily be coaxed back to where they have existed for millennia if the military is told to go back and conduct their assessments correctly, or actually listens to us this time around.

The community has spoken out against the selection of Tailalo and negative impact to Urunao, Litekyan, Pahung, and Inapsan throughout the process but has not been adequately heard or considered. We should not be dismissed or given secondary consideration in our own island home. Let this be the moment when we stand together as a community, with our elected officials leading the way from Government of Guam agency director to Senators, Governor and Lt. Governor, and Congressional Representative.

With this thought in mind, I wish to respectfully request that the resolution be amended to include two resolved clauses. The first should urge the Governor and the Attorney General to exert all measures, including legal ones, to seek at least a pause if not a halt to the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex at Tailalo (Northwest Field) until the issues of irrevocable cultural and environmental damage are resolved and or if Tailalo and Litekyan, sites are taken off the table for consideration for such types of destructive development. The second resolved clause would be to likewise urge Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo to use her office to achieve the same goals.

Un dangkolo' na si Yu'os ma'ase' yan Saina ma'ase' for your leadership in having this public hearing and sponsorship of Resolution 228-34.

Senseramente,



si Kelly Marsh (Taitano), PhD
Prutehi Litekyan - Save Ritidian member
Cultural and Historical Consultant
Adjunct Professor, University of Guam

Testimony on Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD

September 22, 2017

Buenas yan hafa adai to all honorable senators before us today:

This testimony is presented on behalf of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Guam chapter. **NASW thanks you for this opportunity to present testimony in support of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR), introduced by Senator Telena Nelson, which seeks to protect the environmental and cultural resources of the Northern Coastline of Guam and to prohibit the construction of the Live-Fire Training Range Complex at Northwest Field.**

In 2009, the National Association of Social Workers, Guam chapter submitted a 40-page testimony to the Department of Defense in response to the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) standing in opposition to the Guam Military Build-Up. Our testimony largely contained concerns related to the functioning of the island's social service programs and the impact of an increased military presence on our fragile local social service system. The Department of Defense stated that our community collectively submitted approximately 10,000 testimonies, which was reportedly unprecedented in US DOD history. Also unprecedented was the nearly 11,000-page document that we were expected to review. Our island's collective response addressed concerns related to the impact of the military build-up on our island's frail infrastructure (to include utilities, water, and waste-water systems), negative impacts on our environment, cultural properties, increased traffic, strain on our local hospital, and so forth.

Much to our disappointment, the release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) reinforced what we know: that the Department of Defense will do as it wishes and without our consent; which is consistent with our current colonial, unincorporated territorial status. We were disappointed because in spite of our massive community outpouring, the DOD only changed two things from the DEIS to the FEIS: first, was the development of a plan to address Guahan's

waste water systems- because the US EPA flagged this as a concern; and second, it slowed down its aggressive timeline of the build-up plan because the island's infrastructure could not handle the rapid rate of development that was proposed in the DEIS. None of our concerns about the negative impacts on the environment, our fragile social services system, and our cultural resources and practices were addressed. Clearly, our current political status has undermined our rights as peoples to influence and effectuate plans in our community.

We must always remind ourselves that our current relationship with the United States is not one based on love. The following are references and quotes about Guahan made by DOD personnel that clearly illustrate this point, Guam is:

- The Tip of the Spear (of US military might);
- America's Unsinkable Aircraft Carrier in the Pacific;
- Our Outpost in the Pacific;
- Fortress Pacific;
- Power Projection Hub;
- "We're seeing a realignment of forces away from Cold War theatres to Pacific theatres and Guam is ideal for us because it is a US territory and therefore gives us maximum flexibility" (Capt. Robert Lee); and
- "Guam is no longer the trailer park of the Pacific. Guam has emerged from backwater status to the center of the radar screen. This is rapidly becoming a focus for logistics, for strategic planning" (Admiral Johnson).

Clearly, we are a pawn used in the geopolitical chess game of the United States. The recent North Korea threats directed to Guahan and her people illustrates this unequivocally. In closing, we urge all members of this esteemed body, *I Liheslaturan Guahan*, to support Resolution 228-34 (COR) which will serve as a record that we as a community, did, indeed, stand-up for our rights.

Si Yu 'os ma 'ase para i tiempon miyu.

Prepared By: LisaLinda Natividad, PhD

Delivered By: Tressa Perez Diaz, PhD

September 22, 2017

Testimony on Senator Telena Nelson's Resolution

Buenas yan hafa adai, Senator Telena Nelson and members of the Committee.

My name is Hope Alvarez Cristobal, a former senator of this colony of the United States of America. I am from the Alabadu Clan—the Achaigua's, the Taimanglo's, the Fegurgur's, the Matanane's, the Navarro's. Guam is and has been our homeland where we have lived, thrived, died and are buried. Many of the members of my clan have died unnecessary early deaths post WWII from non-communicable diseases such as cancers, diabetes, CVA/stroke and other ailments associated with the environment.

I thank you for this resolution. I encourage all of the Senators to become co-sponsors. This resolution gives us a bit of hope that this Legislative body cares about the people of Guam, our sacred ancestral sites, our natural resources and the environment of this land. I applaud you for your courage to stand up to the U.S. military—as you will increasingly find that as leaders you are made to try to bring some sense to this mad world of war preparation and potential war that has permeated our lives and deaths on this tiny island of ours.

For many years, over 40 years, I have worked to protect our ancestral burials whether at Tumon or other archaeological digs throughout the island. The sacredness of these burials is not to be disputed—our community *respetu* for our dead must be upheld by everyone living on this island. That is foremost.

At the villages of Litekyan, Pahon, Inapsan, Urunao, Haputo, the latte and surface remains tell us of these sacred places. Some are pre-latte and some are latte period burials; some are more recent. Regardless, you have to believe in the sacredness of these areas and you must demand *respetu*.

The LFTRC and the sounds of military training in these areas are expected to be louder, more frequent, and more disturbing that the military would have us believe especially with the alarming number of rounds (18000/day) to be fired. There is nothing louder than a machine gun including jet engines! This alone will desecrate our ancestral burials! Put fabot, fitma este na Resolution! It is testament to your objection to the disrespect of our ancestral burials!

There are many studies of military base communities polluted and contaminated by toxins. Much of the toxins come from ammunitions stored and used at live fire training ranges and from other sources such as radioactive material from weapons systems. The DoD itself reports the presence of 95 toxic sites on its various Naval and Air Force bases.

Just last May 15, 2017, an article from Mint Press News, "U.S. Military: World's Largest Polluter—Hundreds of Bases Gravely Contaminated." This is but one article

that exposes the U.S. Dept. of Defense's toxic legacy in the form of depleted uranium, oil, jet fuel, pesticides, defoliants like Agent Orange and lead, among other pollutants found in 39,000 contaminated areas across 19 million acres just in the U.S. A 2014 Newsweek article (a retired Michigan congressman and war veteran, John D. Dingell) revealed that almost every military site in the country is seriously contaminated.

According to the same article, military bases consistently rank as the most polluted places in the world as perchlorate and other components of military aircraft fuel contaminate drinking water sources, aquifers, and the soil. The list goes on.

My dear Senators, it is no different on Guam. All the amount of love and so-called patriotism that is celebrated on this island do not negate the fact that our little, tiny island, so highly militarized has 19 superfund sites that we have not even seen any promise by U.S. Congress of proper clean-up. There are hundreds of contaminated sites throughout the island—we seem to have forgot or abandoned these concerns.

The weapons to be used at the LFTRC at Litekyan are: "Small arms to be fired that would include the 9 mm pistol (@1800 meters range according to an Army website), the .45 caliber pistol, the 5.56 mm rifle (the M16 with a maximum range of 3000 yards), the 7.62 mm machine gun (maximum range 6,764 meters)." The distinct ranges are listed as MRFR (Modified Record of Fire Range), pistols, rifles, and MPMG (Multi-purpose machine gun) and lately, we have heard, hand grenades. But, really, there could be any number of kinds of weapons in use at such a live firing range!

We are not told what kind of ammunition and what kind of toxins are in the ammunition that may be added to the landscape. For many of our own che'lus, our Guam soldiers, who have been to Afghanistan or Iraq, they must be wondering what about radioactive Uranium live-fire ammunition. They surely had to carry these munitions on their person with exposure to radiation...something that they had trained with.

The general public is not openly and regularly informed about the toxic contaminants used by the military industry on island—about the toxins, the toxic compounds that are being released into the ground, into the aquifer and into the coastlines and about their negative, cumulative, and multiplicative effects. Reports often use the term, "stressors" when discussing contaminations when in fact, "stressors" are known hazards and are highly toxic, at both acute and chronic levels.

The toxic release data by EPA for example, does not tell us much about the nature of the releases. It is usually a report of comparisons of chemical releases in Guam with releases for other jurisdictions within the U.S. but not comparisons of the standards for example. Many jurisdictions cannot compare with the fragile ecosystems found on small islands such as Guam.

When 90% of Guam's population rely on the (NGLA) aquifer, right under the AAFB for water needs, our concerns and need for responsible information is critical—especially because we are already informed by the military that “Range operations under alternative 5 (i.e. Northwest Field) have the potential to leach munitions constituents to the water.” Litekyan and the surrounding villages including Northwest Field are at the edge of this precious aquifer!

Plus, we have our own issues that relate our regulatory agencies on reliable data that give meaning for our island community. There has not been much information as to why we have such high incidences of cancers (breast, colon, leukemia, liver, kidney, lung, bladder and cervical) and other non-communicable diseases such as low birth-weight, birth-defects, diabetes, CVA/Stroke, etc.

Will the government of Guam be capable of making meaningful assessments of environmental damage and effect from such weapons and munitions used at LFTRC? How do you mitigate irreversible damage to the land and to the aquifer? Mitigation has been the buzzword throughout all the military studies, their EIS, SEIS, and the RODs. The local government gets snookered with these ideas of preserving pristine natural resources and native ecological areas.

As well, the media gives minimal attention to the health and environmental impacts of military contaminations. I recall a news report that there will only be a slight impact regarding a serious contamination in Apra--as if the assessment on serious contaminants, relates to those who have only “**slightly**” lived on Guam.

Diseases related to and from military contaminants contribute to ailments on our island can only be made with a shift by our policy makers. We can only rely on you our leaders, to speak up, to make the shift with all the authority you hold to protect our people, our resources and our island environment. We must preserve what little is left for the general public.

I truly believe that there has been inadequate consultation on the part of the DOD with respect to the special situation and needs of Guam's indigenous community. The history of our indigenous people and our ties to our lands, our culture and natural resources were not adequately addressed. We are a unique people waiting to exercise our human right of self-determination. We are not just part of the mix of Guam's population today. As a people, we are still being discussed at the United Nations because we are a non-self-governing territory waiting to decolonize. Just this political designation by the U.S. administering power itself, deserved a special consideration w/r to the impacts of such militarization. The U.S. and the Department of Defense, the Military here on Guam can not deny its responsibilities under pertinent UN Resolutions, one being that, “militarization of NSGTs is an impediment to the exercise of self-determination.”

Our people deserve to envision a future that respects and honors our inherent rights and culture that are embedded in our land, our language, our spiritual traditions,

artistic expression, rooted in self-determination and self-governance. And, the ROD as completed by the DoD, does not address this major concern.

Guam has sacrificed too much for the U.S. military. It is time for you our political leaders to stem the tide of destruction and degradation of the land, the *tinai respeto para i manaina-ta*, and the declination of our health. Mother nature had kept this island to very high standards that now its richness serves as our land. We owe it to our children to do everything we can to prevent its destruction.

I thank you for your time and respect for our people. I am grateful for your leadership and your courage in upholding your highest purpose in office, that is, to protect Guam and its citizens from harm. What is CLEAR to you has not been clear to many; this DOD undertaking is not good for our people.

Si Yu'os ma'ase'. We need your co-sponsorship of this Resolution!



HOPE ALVAREZ CRISTOBAL

The Honorable Telena C. Nelson
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

22 September 2017

Re: Resolution 228-34

Hafa adai and mabuhay. My name is Jamela Santos. I am a clinical social worker, a yoga practitioner and teacher, and I am also a student, for within every day is an opportunity to learn.

I teach as an adjunct instructor at the University of Guam in the Division of Social Work. This semester, I am teaching a course entitled, Human Behavior and the Social Environment. In this course, I am tasked to facilitate students' learning and understanding of how human beings behave and think the way they do, and how their environment shapes this.

I am approaching this testimony in support of Senator Nelson's Resolution 228-34 a bit differently than others in that I would like to make connections between the state of mental health of the people of Guam, and the impact of proceeding with building the Live Fire Training Range Complex at Tailalo (Northwest Field).

My current social work students are beginning to understand that treatment or intervention with individuals should not simply be looked at as: *that individual has problems*, nor should they relegate their cases as being connected simply to *bad behaviors*. The students are learning that an individual's behaviors are a combination of biological make up, as well as factors that can often be traced to their family's functioning and patterns, which can then be traced to their community or culture's functioning and patterns, which can then be traced to the systems that govern their community, which *should* then be traced to the historical events that led to those systems being put into place.

Our class has looked at how the history of colonization and occupation by Spain, Japan, and the United States for over 400 years has shaped the systems that govern the island. I point out that the students are learning curriculum that comes from the United States, in the English language, and with evaluation standards that are influenced by American accreditation bodies. Although these are not terrible things, I point out that there was a time that the Chamorro people did not learn the valuable life skills that helped them to survive as a people for over 4,000 years in classrooms, nor in the English language. The Chamorro people knew about how to subsist off the land and sea, and history shows that they did so successfully, until outsiders came in and told them that they were not doing it right.

Carl Rogers is a well-known American psychologist we just covered in this week's class. He is considered a "humanistic psychologist" who purported that the best environment for a person to grow and thrive in is one "that provides them with genuineness (openness and self-

disclosure), acceptance (being seen with unconditional positive regard), and empathy (being listened to and understood). Without these, relationships and healthy personalities will not develop as they should, much like a tree will not grow without sunlight and water.”¹

Similarly, Dr. Patricia Taimanglo, a well-known Chamorro psychologist surmises that the impact of centuries of colonization on the Chamorro people has created a lineage of people that are traumatized, feel inferior, and who have difficulty being able to grasp their worth as strong and intelligent people. She references this concept in her research as being connected to “intergenerational trauma.” In 1998, the time when Dr. Taimanglo conducted research for her dissertation, she gathered statistics of suicide rates among youth, substance abuse, family violence, and crime rates among Chamorros. During that time period, over 20 years ago, the statistics were rather alarming and were indicative of a community in struggle.²

Senators, as chairs of different committees, you might acknowledge the multiple crises that our island *still* faces today: suicide, substance addictions, health disparities, mental health issues, poverty, homelessness, family violence, sexual assault, and child abuse and neglect. These are issues that we seem to face year after year after year. The numbers don’t seem to be looking so good compared to Dr. Taimanglo’s statistics from the 90’s, do they? It seems that the amount of money that we could potentially spend to address each and every one of these crises is insurmountable.

Make the connections.

At some point, we MUST acknowledge that people are having a difficult time thriving because they hold in their beings a history wherein their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents were given messages that living off of the land and sea, speaking their language, and practicing traditional ways of healing would no longer be tolerated without horrible consequences. Many students were surprised to learn that when the naval government took over rule of the island in 1899, they exerted the power to limit the number of chickens and pigs ranchers could have on their lands, or that Chamorro children were fined, physically punished, or humiliated for speaking Chamorro in school. Most of the students knew that family after family lost their lands to the military and many have not lived to see them returned.³

Of course, I have the sense to acknowledge that not all Chamorro people are traumatized or suffering from substance addictions, mental or medical health issues. But the numbers of those that are, and the rate at which it is increasing tells us that something is not right in our community. Could it be that when people have to protest, rally, lobby our leaders to plead for them to return their family’s land, and to help protect the island’s natural resources, cultural

¹ McLeod, S. 2014

² Taimanglo-Pier, P. (1998)

³ Hattori, A. (1998)

heritage and the environment—could it be that being in such a position for generations contributes to whether or not they feel healthy or validated as a people?

Making a decision as a leader to support Senator Nelson's Resolution says a strong message to the people of Guam that you believe in the importance of preserving the land, water, wildlife, and culture. It does not mean you are anti-military, anti-American, or unpatriotic. It speaks to your compassion for preserving an environment that is healthy, and that promotes healing from generations that have already been hurt.

I would like to close with an exercise. Social workers like exercises that facilitate reflection. 😊

I invite you to close your eyes. I want you to think about this concept of security, safety and security. Now imagine a newborn baby and this baby's mother holding them close. You are going to talk to this newborn and their mother about the kind of security you will provide as a leader of this island.

Will you say, Nen, I want to provide a safe and secure environment for you to grow up in. I will build large chain-linked fences around you. It will be very strong, and I will make sure that the sharpest barbed wire spirals line the top of that fence. I will make sure that we have lots of guns, bombers, the fastest missiles, THAAD systems all around you to keep you safe. I guarantee that if anyone tries to hurt you, little one, they will be shot, killed, blown up, or destroyed. I do not close my eyes, ever. I am always ready for this. This is how I will ensure your safety and security.

Or, will you say to the newborn, Nen, I want to provide a safe and secure environment for you to grow up in. I will make sure that the hanom that you drink, bathe and swim in is pristine. I will make sure that nourishing foods like lemai, palaksi, and niyok are in abundance. You will be brought back to health should you become ill by amot that healers will pick from the jungle. I will keep sacred and intact the sites where your ancestors once thrived and were eventually buried. You, your children, your grandchildren, and your great-grandchildren should always be able to see these special places. If I can keep the air, water, land, and culture healthy, then ! trust that it will help you to be healthy. This is how I will ensure your safety and security.

Saina ma'ase and salamat po for engaging in this exercise, and for the opportunity to submit my written and oral testimony.

Signed,


Jameia A. Santos, MSW, LPC, RYT

Håfa Adai Guahu si Inina. Sumasaga' yu' giya To'to, para 10 años. Hu guaiya Guáhan yan Liktekyan. Mungnga ma na'falingu Litekyan.

Lee-tek-yan

Lee-tek-yan

Hasso i henerasion hu yan i henerasion i famagu'on-hu put i lugát siha gi i tano'-ta

he-ne-ra-shon-hu

ta-noh-ta

Måtai siempre i islå-ta yan i kotturå-ta kumu tåya' ta cho'gue put este na kinalamten.

Prutehi Litekyan! Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

kee-na-lam-ten

Pot fabot

**Testimony of Ricardo Bejado Hernandez, Descendant of Benigno Leon Guerrero Flores
and Dolores Martinez Flores, Original Landowners of Lot. No. 9987,**

Litekyan, Guåhan

September 7, 2017

To Our Land,

Our family has been fighting for you for decades in hopes of returning what is rightfully ours. We have fought long and hard but now find ourselves at the bitter end of this battle. It breaks my heart thinking about how you, the land will now be constructed into a military firing range. This was not our intention and we are deeply saddened by all of this. I know our ancestors who walked this land, raised their children, learned to fish, learned to craft, who learned the true spirit of Inafa'maolek would fight for you as we are doing now.

My childhood memories are not what matters at this time. What matters is the preservation of our culture, the land and our beliefs as a people. In a changing world, we must adapt but there are also many things in this world that must not be touched. It is hard to explain this situation to outsiders because their values are totally different from that of which we were raised. It is hard to get someone to walk in your shoes and see things from your perspective. My mom taught me that when I was a kid, and that is one of those core values of which I am speaking about today. Inafa' maolek. Walk in our shoes, everyone has a different perspective but if you can see it from our side, you know this is wrong. We must unite as a people to regain what is ours. I would give my life to win this fight and preserve what is left of our culture's history. I just hope the People of Guam feel the same way. Saina' Ma'ase.

19 September 2017

Dear Colleagues:

Hafa adai from Los Angeles. My name is Keith L. Camacho, and I am writing in strong support of Senator Telena Cruz Nelson's Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) to prevent the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex at Northwest Field, Guam.

Given the proximity of this firing range to the neighboring areas of Jinapsan, Litekyan, Pahon, and Urunao, coupled with the limestone topography of northern Guam, we know that the material deposits from munitions and other toxins would poison our aquifer. Let it be known, as well, that the Andersen Air Force Base, the Department of Defense, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, among other governmental agencies, have documented the potential environmental and health impacts of said military construction projects in Guam. As such, should any lawsuits and other forms of political action emerge in opposition to the Live Fire Training Range Complex, let this letter likewise serve in support of any restitution and/or redress for the Chamorro families and neighboring communities of northern Guam.

Indeed, the Department of Defense has long ruled our islands—first in Guam in 1898, then in Tinian and Saipan in 1944, followed by Rota in 1945, and all in violation of U.S. constitutional norms about and international laws on citizenship and possession. I thus applaud Senator Telena Cruz Nelson for drafting Resolution No. 228-34 (COR), another important effort in raising critical awareness about the violent impact of U.S. militarization.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at kcamacho@g.ucla.edu. Si yu'us ma'ase.

Sincerely,



Keith L. Camacho, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, UCLA

Resolution 228-34

Jesse Torres <torresjesse@hotmail.com>

Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 3:57 PM

To: "senatorcnelson@gmail.com" <senatorcnelson@gmail.com>

Hafa adai Senator Telena Nelson,

I am writing to express my support for your resolution to stop the construction of the firing range that would close down Ritidian to the public and destroy more of Guahan's natural resources.

As a native of Guahan, I do not agree with the military's decision to build their firing range so that they can destroy Ritidian with their grenades and bullets.

Chamorros have been forced for centuries to follow the rules imposed on us by outside countries.

We must demand that the military respect our wishes to protect and preserve Litekyan.

Litekyan is too beautiful to ruin. We need to protect our native animals, plants, and limestone forests. We need to protect our ocean from becoming a dumping ground for bullets and other military waste.

Fishing is a very big part of the Chamorro culture and we must keep this tradition protected. The military wants to keep us out from fishing the waters near Litekyan.

Litekyan attract thousands of tourists because it showcases the natural beauty of Guahan.

I want to thank you for helping protect Litekyan.

Si Yuus Maase.

Jesse Torres



Telena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

Prutehi Litekyan / Protect Ritidian

NorCal Bay Are <ring_of_fire510@yahoo.com>

Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:36 PM

To: "senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org" <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

Hafa Adai,

This is my Sincere attempt at reaching out to my Leaders on Island to hear my voice, & my concern, if there ever was a time to be selfish, it's Now!

I Strongly Oppose the U.S. military proposal of a Live Firing Range at NorthWest field.

I Strongly Support Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) to Preserve & Protect area proposed above.

As an Island Native & resident, my most fondest treasured memories of Guahan, are of the seclusion, isolation, & serenity of Litekyan,

I've been around the globe, & have yet to encounter such unique Geographic, & biological beauty.

On Island it's quite challenging to find a beach with less crowds, a good time to go there, back in the early 2000's was mid-week, you won't see that many people on the beach as weekends, it made me feel like a castaway in the most treasured way, I found my Escape here at Litekyan.

I recall, in broad daylight, Haggan laying eggs, and it humbling me more than any church or classroom.

Generations on their way up will look upon our doings, & measure them on our concerns we had for them.

Protecting Ritidian is in our descendants best future interests, the time to act is now, & not give away more to the U.S. Military.

Sincerely,

Allan Pangelinan Santos

(Hayward, CA)



Telena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

Save Ritidan

Patricia Keeby <keebyp@gmail.com>
To: senatortcnelson@gmail.com

Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 1:08 AM

My name is Patricia Brown Keeby, born and raised on the island of Guam and I'm sending this email to help save Ritidan one of the "Sacred" parts of the island.

Please protect it from this disastrous destruction to this part of the island, so please, please save Ritidan.



Telena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

Fwd: Re: Against the Live-fire Training Range Complex

Jean Emmanuel <jean.f.emmanuel@gmail.com>
To: senatortcnelson@gmail.com

Thu, Sep 21, 2017 at 12:13 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this email to voice my concern and strong protest against the military building of a live-fire training range complex near Ritidian, Guam. I understand that the military desires to protect the Pacific and have decided to build this training range complex in hopes of allowing adequate training for its soldiers. But, I hope to add to the many other voices of protest against this planning. Reasons are listed below:

1) Ritidian is a designated wildlife refuge, and building a live-fire training range in the area can cause harm to the wildlife that inhabit that area/areas nearby such as the "Fanihi, also known as the Mariana Fruit Bat, Aga, also known as the Mariana Crow or Corvus kubaryi", this bird is endemic to Rota and Guam, etc. (copied from website: https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Guam/wildlife_and_habitat/)

"Ritidian is also a wildlife preserve unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge (GNWR), covering 371 acres of coral reefs and 832 acres of terrestrial habitats including limestone forests" (taken from: http://www.guampedia.com/ancient-village-ritidian-litekyan-2/#Former_Chamorro_village_is_now_a_wildlife_refuge).

2) Once the live fire training is conducted, then millions of bullets, grenades, and other artillery debris will land into the ocean and can extensively damage the coral reef. The coral reef needs to be protected: "the coral reef structure buffers shorelines against waves, storms, and floods, helping to prevent loss of life, property damage, and erosion. When reefs are damaged or destroyed, the absence of this natural barrier can increase the damage to coastal communities from normal wave action and violent storms" (copied from website: https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/coral_protect.html).

Guam and the CNMI islands are known to receive hits from typhoons. As I am sure you are well aware that Saipan was badly damaged from Typhoon Soudelor, causing extensive damage. " Soudelor is the worst storm to strike Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands in nearly 30 years." (taken from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Typhoon_Soudelor)

3) I also want to ask a question as to why has the US Military decided to install a live-fire training range in Guam when Japan has a lot of land (way more than Guam or CNMI has) and they are looking to the US for protection of the Pacific, too. Japan has way more islands. In fact, they have 430 UNINHABITED ISLANDS!! "The **archipelago** consists of 6,852 islands.... of which 430 are uninhabited." (from website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_archipelago).

4) "Ritidian is also archeologically important and contains an abundance of cultural resources, including *latte* sets, water wells, limestone mortars, cave drawings, pottery and shell artifacts" (taken from: http://www.guampedia.com/ancient-village-ritidian-litekyan-2/#Former_Chamorro_village_is_now_a_wildlife_refuge).

Thus, there are many reasons that installing a live-fire training range is not a good idea!

I plea with you to listen to our concerns and address them so that there will be a peaceable solution within all the parties that are involved.

Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase from a concerned U.S. Citizen and Chamorro,

Jean Emmanuel



Telena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

Litekyan

1 message

Pamela Duvall <pameladuvall58@gmail.com>
To: senatortcnelson@gmail.com

Thu, Sep 21, 2017 at 6:53 AM

I am a Chamorro / Haoli. Born and raised here. My family and myself have visited the Chamorro village at Litekyan many times. I ask of all the Legeslature and military officials involved in this firing range to visit this wonderful Preserve. I respect the military, my dad was a Marine in the 1st. Division WW2.

This Ancestral land is PRECIOUS! We can not let it go to anything but what it is now. The military on Guahan have so much property already. Surely the firing range can be located else where on land they already own. I find it disturbing and shameful that we should have to kiss this beautiful site ,Adios.

Thank you

Pamela Duvall

29 Dasco Court
Yigo, Guam 96929
September 21, 2017

Senator Telena Cruz Nelson, Chairperson
Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety, and Homeland Security
34th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagatna, Guam 96910

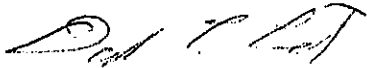
Senator Nelson:

I wish to lend my support to Resolution 228-34 (COR) as a firing range at Litekyan will be another meaningless destruction of the island's CHamorro cultural heritage in the name of national defense. There is no justification for the marine relocation to Guam that is the sole basis for the firing range. Any defense of Guam to current threats in this modern age of warfare will be provided by the THAAD battery of the U.S. Army at Northwest Field, aircraft at Andersen AFB, and U.S. Navy submarines. The sole justification for marine on Guam is a quicker response time to trouble spots in Asia. Yet this response time is moot since there are no ships or aircraft to accompany the marines to Guam to perform this mission.

The recent press coverage from the marines regarding protection of the resources at Litekyan weakens any credibility of the military to protect these resources. This includes statements that the resources are best protected by being included in the firing range. Also assurances that the limestone forest will be recreated lacks any credible scientific evidence that a limestone forest can be recreated.

The simplest resolution is to just say no and direct the Government of Guam to take all steps necessary to obstruct this action.

Respectfully submitted,



David T. Lotz

Hafa Adai my name is Isa Arriola, I am Ned and Kathy Arriola's daughter and I am from the island of Saipan. I wanted to write a testimony to express my wholehearted solidarity with everyone on Guam fighting to protect LITEKYAN against massive destruction by the military.

In Senator Terlaje's legislative briefing on Sept. 7th, she asked a very simple yet valid question directed at Tino Aguon from Fish and Wildlife Guam. And that was "Can you regrow a limestone forest?" --Her question was met with a chuckle, not because the matter wasn't being taken seriously, but because of the impossibility and absurdity of the idea that limestone forests could simply be re-grown. I point to this short interaction to highlight how the military's proposed destruction of LITEKYAN will change the environment in ways that are completely beyond repair. You simply cannot re-grow another LITEKYAN once it has been destroyed. No matter how hard the military tries, it cannot mitigate against this level of proposed decimation.

As the global community begins to suffer the impacts of climate change at accelerating rates, the last thing a bountiful ecosystem on our islands' needs is destruction. While environmentalists, community leaders, government leaders and everyday people work to pass legislation to promote the well-being of the environment, here we are being asked to destroy sacred lands to make way for rapid destruction and contamination of our precious homelands.

When the military proposes to "change" the land, it doesn't JUST destroy land—it destroys our waters, it changes air quality, it changes the chemical compositions of soil, it destroys the entire ecosystem —and eventually these changes destroy indigenous livelihoods.

And timing is critical here, because the military is not only ill equipped to mitigate the immediate impacts of its environmental destruction, but is even less equipped to "mitigate" the LONG-TERM IMPACTS of its proposed destruction to this island.

As indigenous Pacific Islanders, we are very much aware of the deep and enduring connections that exist between land, water and air. But this is also a perspective that the military has capitalized on to endanger our very lives. We must remember that the fight to save LITEKYAN cannot be disconnected from the broader process of militarization in the Marianas at large and in the U.S.'s ramping up of forces in the Asia-Pacific region to protect the "homeland". Litekyan is not just part of Guam's ecosystem, but part of the broader ecosystem that comprises our entire ARCHIPELAGO. And cross archipelago solidarity is integral to protecting all of our islands from the military's destruction to our environments.

While the military slices and dices the sky, ocean and land to complete its various projects, they forget that WE do not look at our environments in that way. We have a much richer and holistic understanding of our lands, sea and skies. If there is one thing climate change should remind us of, its that we can no longer hide from the destruction of our environments. We can't hide from the IMPACTS of environmental destruction, because one way or another, they will make themselves known—whether that's in the skyrocketing health problems indigenous Pacific Islanders face, in the historical trauma that we pass onto our younger generations or in the contaminated soil that it left behind.

This is why it is critical to unpack how the military talks about our islands as *resources*, as *"realistic" training grounds*, as sitting in a vast expanse of water perfect far enough away from the continental US to conducting training and testing. This language makes claims over us and our environments in ways that are totally incongruent with our indigenous thinking and worldviews. We are not RESOURCES, we are human beings, and these are not training grounds, they are OUR HOMES. Chamorro's have the right, in both a legalistic and moralistic capacity, to protect our sacred homelands and should never have to feel like our lives are being used as pawns in the war games between global powers.

The fact that sacred lands have not been returned to their original indigenous land owners, after being stripped away from them for all these years, only to be used for live-firing is incomprehensible.

Fighting for LITEKYAN means fighting for the right to not only exist, but to THRIVE as indigenous people on these islands we call home for a long, long time to come. I stand with all Chamorro's in the fight for REAL freedom-the freedom that was given to us by our ancestors who cleared the path for our futures and our children's futures, not the so-called freedom that America's military claims it wants to give us in exchange for our land and livelihoods. Un dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

To Senator Telena Nelson,

My name is Kyle Galindez and I am a graduate student in the Department of Sociology at the University of California Santa Cruz. My research examines the interactions between urbanization, militarization, and environmental destruction on Guam, where I was born some 28 years ago. This summer, I had the privilege of visiting Guam for the first time since I was born. I finally reconnected with my family, with my homeland, and with all of the beauty and awe that is Guam's natural world.

It was only my second day, in fact, that my family and I spent the day at the beaches located at Ritidian Point just near the wildlife refuge. I'll never forget the moment when I emerged from the trees in a cloud of black butterflies to find one of the most pristine and incredible beaches I've ever seen. It was an unreal experience.

You can imagine how I feel now to learn that all of this could be threatened by the construction of yet more militarized space. Hence, I am writing today as an off-island US citizen who calls Guam his birthplace in support of Resolution 228-34.

The threats to the environment are well-known and hardly need repeating here. But this is about so much more than protecting the environment. This is about justice. The US military already claims over one-third of the island of Guam. I was shocked, in fact, when visiting Guam to find over and over just how much of the island is inaccessible to non-military locals. I can't imagine that residents of San Francisco or Chicago or elsewhere would willingly give up a third of their land. Why should the people of Guam - whether indigenous Chamorros, Filipino laborers, or others who call Guam home - be expected to not only give up a third but to keep giving more? Have they not already given enough during the hundreds of years of colonialism, during the centuries of being caught in the crosshairs of brutal imperialist ventures, during the endless mornings and nights waking up to the sounds of bombers and jets screeching across the sky toward distant targets that have nothing to do with Guam but line the pockets of war profiteers thousands of miles away?

I implore the military to cancel its plans to develop a live-fire training range at Ritidian Point for the simple matter that asking the people of Guam to give up even one more inch of their land is an injustice in the highest order. But this goes beyond Guam. This is an injustice not only to the people of Guam but to all of us -humans, animals, plants- who call planet Earth our home and can't stand to witness the few and fragile pristine landscapes we have left be torn apart by the reckless machinations of war and militarism.

Thank you for your time,
Kyle Galindez



Telone Cruz Nelson <senatorcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

Support for resolution No. 228-(COR) -- saving Litekyan

Paula Quinene <pquinene@paulaq.com>
To: senatorcnelson@gmail.com

Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 2:01 AM

Dear Senator Nelson,

Thank you for introducing resolution No. 228-34 (COR) to protect our island, specifically Litekyan. I hope you continue to champion the preservation of the Chamorro people by also working to defend our land. We are, after all, the people of the land and the sea.

I was born and raised on Guam, and left to college with every intention of going back home to teach at Simon Sanchez High School. Alas, I ended up marrying a Chamorro man in the army, and have settled in North Carolina. My heart will always be on Guam. It's a never-ending struggle to keep from falling apart because I am not living on Guam. However, I have channeled that pain into writing books, articles, and creating videos about Guam. I believe that it was my destiny to write *A Taste of Guam*, *Remember Guam*, and *Conquered*. I don't think I would have written them if I wasn't as mahálang as I have been, and still am.

Living away from home with such mahálangness is only possible by the strength I was blessed with from being raised on Guam in our Chamorro culture. I have overcome my struggles in life by looking inside for the strength from my mom, my grandmothers, and I listen to Chamorro music. I brought my children home this past July because it was important to me to show them who they are and where they come from. They were too young to remember their last visit. As teenagers today, they LOVED their time on Guam, and have realized why Guam is so important to me. My daughter loved that she could see the mountains and the ocean everywhere we went, and helping my mom at her work. My son loved snorkeling and tending to chickens with my brother, and loved listening to my dad's stories.

I know the military issues and the right to self-determination are complicated, and goodness it's been going on forever. We as a people deserve to have a right to protect and save what little bit we have left on our island, our very own heaven on Earth. We should be able to stand up and say, "Enough is enough. This relationship we have with the United States must be more balanced!" And it's got to start somewhere. What better place than to save our beautiful, historic Litekyan. I support your resolution!

Thank you again,

Paula Ann Lujan Quinene

1992 Alumnus of Simon Sanchez High School

Guam Author

Paula Quinene
Conquered
A Taste of Guam
Remember Guam

Hafa Adai Senator Telena Cruz Nelson,

My name is Angelita Mendiola, and I hereby submit this written testimony in support of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR).

It has been centuries since our island community supported the US Military. We've given a third of our small island, our water, our lives yet we're not given a vote. We are not allowed to visit the ancestral homes of our ancestors without permission. We have been penalized for crimes against our environment, yet we who are old enough remember all the toxic wastes that were literally shoved off the northern cliff line or dumped in deep crevasses. We remember all the toxic wastes that were stored in drums, buried, forgotten and rediscovered. We remember the agent orange poisons that were sprayed to maintain the fences that were meant to keep us out of our ancestral homes. It truly is a tragedy that although this is our home, we have to "ask" permission to keep it. We are punished for what we do while we watch our masters do worse on an even grander scale.

The Feds themselves have admitted that the notion of moving forward with its current plan to build the live-fire training range complex is the "most" harmful and "least" reasonable of any other alternatives, yet they intend to move forward? We watched in stunned horror as one of our northern islands were taken for this purpose. As I read the facts of the potential effects of the northern Guam live-fire range's plan, I realize that it will make our own home more dangerous, our ocean more dangerous, and our water just poisonous. Now, we're being asked. No, we are being "told" to sacrifice the very home of our own children and grandchildren. We are being "told" to sacrifice both our past and our future. Haven't we given enough?

I support and am truly proud of our many, many local peoples who have dedicated and continue to dedicate their lives to defend our island and the US. But it breaks my heart to see that the service of the past generations as well as the service of the current generation is rewarded with the poisoning of their own home. Haven't "they" given enough? My own generation is literally dying off from the after effects of wars fought on foreign lands. Now, we're going to bring home these after effects so our future generations can die of them as well? Haven't we given enough? I believe we all have. This is why I lend my humble voice in support of Resolution 228-34. I believe it's just plain "wrong" to poison the homeland of the people who already have given so much. Much of our past was taken. Much of our present is given. At the very least, I believe we should keep our future and the homeland of our future. Haven't we given enough?

Sen Mas,,

si Angelita "Angie" Mendiola

1-671-486-4302
mikeacosta78@yahoo.com

22 September 2017

To Whom it may Concern

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am Michael Acosta, a resident of Guam and current student at the University of Guam School of Social Work division. My family moved to Guam from the Philippines in the early 1990's and ever since then, I have grown up on this beautiful island all my life. In my 22 years of PRIVILEGE on living in the land of the TaoTao Tano', I have immersed myself into the culture of the CHamoru people and their sacred lands. I have LEARNED and come to RESPECT the way of the CHamoru people and their VALUES in CULTURE, FAMILIA, LANGUAGE, and LAND. I am an indigenous son of the Philippine islands, but have made the island of Guam my home. I am not a native of the land of the TaoTao Tano', but a foreigner, and as a foreigner to Guam, I was wholeheartedly welcomed and adopted as a child of Guam, and for that I STAND WITH YOU.

I STAND WITH YOU GUAHAN and PRUTEHI LITEKYAN and THE PEOPLE OF GUAM who have come to call this island their home whether indigenous or foreigner. As a collective voice and diverse community of Guam, we ask PEACEFULLY and WHOLEHEARTEDLY to the United States Government, to SEIZE all United States Military buildup operations that is scheduled to take place in the Ritidian lands of Northern Guam. We ask that the United States Government SEIZE ALL future deforestation plans in the sacred lands of Ritidian. We ask that the United States Government and local contractors of Guam to put a HALT in the plan of building a live firing range in Ritidian for the United States Marine Corps. This HALT AND CESSATION in the buildup of the live firing range and deforestation will insure the very preservation of the sacred land of Ritidian, its surrounding areas, and native inhabiting species only found in Litekyan.

More importantly, this CESSATION of live firing range buildup and deforestation will GIVE the CHamoru people their undeniable HUMAN RIGHTS of WORTH and DIGNITY of ALL persons regardless of race, religion, class, or social status. This will also grant the CHamoru people their rights as INDIGENOUS OF THE LAND as stated in the United Nations Declaration of RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES stating that ***“indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied, or otherwise used or acquired”***. Dear Madam/Sir, the CHamoru people deserve to keep their land safe and culture preserved for their future generations to come, by putting a halt to the live firing range buildup and deforestation of Ritidian “Litekyan”, we can help the CHamoru people preserve their land and culture. It is only right that we, as foreigners, respect their land and culture. It is not too late, I believe that WE, as foreigners, or indigenous of Guam, and the United States Government can make a better informed decision that will all bind us together in UNITY and perpetuate in making this world a better place to live, one person, one community at a time. Thank you for listening. I trust and have have faith that the information provided will be of assistance and will be happy to provide more information if required.

Yours Truly and Sincerely,

Michael Acosta
Adopted Child of Guahan

To Senator Nelson and whom it may concern:

Hafa Adadi. I am a social work student at the University of Guam who supports the Prutehi Litekyan movement. I am a Chamoru decent whom was born, raised, and lived in Guam all my life. Although I may not know the ins and outs of my cultural history, background, nor language, I am aware of them and still learning. Saving Ritidian is important to me as an individual because it is a part of our culture. If Ritidian is used for other purposes, such as a firing range, then we lose a sense of our culture and identity. Lets preserve what we have left so we are able to always have that piece with us; to reminisce, teach, and show the future generations about our culture, our language, and the beautiful spots that has great meaning behind it.

Hafa Adai!

My name is Adrian Davis. I am twenty-four years old. I am a Social Work student at the University of Guam. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my support for this resolution. I am in support of this resolution because there are a few things that are threatened. I decided that it is my shared duty as a citizen to help defend this island's ancestral lands.

First and foremost, I have taken a class with a few other students in latte carving and we got to learn much more of the CHamoru culture. Litekyan has many latte sights. These latte sights hold so much value in them as constructing them was not an easy task. There is a lot of work involved when carving the lattes. These lattes are also tied into the past. They are an icon that helps tell us stories. Should you further yourself in studying the lattes, you will learn that in the ancient CHamoru society, they were very resourceful back then and no doubt strong in erecting a latte. They didn't need Home Depot or a truck. It would not be right to get rid of these latte sites being that they are a form of icons that link us back to our ancient CHamoru society. We lose them, we lose part what's left of the connection to the past.

Second, I have an interest in traditional healing. Litekyan has medicinal herbs that help the traditional healers do their job. It is an interesting subject because before we had Tylenol or Excedrin, in the ancient CHamoru society if a person was sick, they would be cured using the medicine created by using the herbs. Traditional healers face an issue with locating some of the herbs in this present day. Litekyan is one of those places that has them. There is something beautiful about taking the herbs and creating medicine for the community. Think of a civilization that did not have to rely on imported pills to reduce pain or headaches. Destroying these lands limits the resources of the traditional healers. Their resources are already scarce as is. We lose

the resources, we lose them. It is not just a skill that is endangered but also a form of art and tradition.

What is at stake here is the part of our culture that we use to identify ourselves with. Throughout Micronesia, a family's land is used to trace the ancestry and heritage. It is part of their identity. Throughout the years many families have lost their lands because of the wars and colonization, which is unfortunate. With as much land as we have left, we have to protect it. Otherwise we lose ourselves and the past.

I am interning at an agency that we promote cultural empowerment with in the youth in the community. The youth in our community are growing their knowledge and establishing their identity. If we take that land away, we are taking away their identity, their connection to the past and our precious history. The children need to know that they can be safe on this island and thrive within the culture. But how can we make them feel safe if we take away part of their culture. What message are we portraying to the world in terms of being culturally competent?

Collectively if we look at the big picture, this resolution will protect the resources at Litekyan if you want a culture or community to thrive, then providing it with the necessary resources is a great way to encourage a community to have pride in who they are and live

If you were asked to find Marbo Cave at night with just a flashlight and you were told that it is safe and secure would you try to find it? Granted, maybe some of us would. Now what if your flashlight was taken away? Would you still do it? Do not take the flashlight into our culture away from our youth and our island. Please. There are species and sites that are endangered. We still have a lot to learn from our past. I stand with everyone else in support of this resolution. Prutehi Litekyan.



URGENT: Talking points for Senators_ Live Fire Training Range Complex @ Ritidian

Luke Davis <davis.guam@yahoo.com>

Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 3:10 PM

Reply-To: Luke Davis <davis.guam@yahoo.com>

To: "senator@senatorbjcruz.com" <senator@senatorbjcruz.com>, "speaker@senatorbjcruz.com" <speaker@senatorbjcruz.com>, "office@senatorada.org" <office@senatorada.org>, "senatorsannicolas@gmail.com" <senatorsannicolas@gmail.com>, "senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, "aguon4guam@gmail.com" <aguon4guam@gmail.com>, "senatorbiscoelee@guamlegislature.org" <senatorbiscoelee@guamlegislature.org>, "senatorfcnelson@gmail.com" <senatorfcnelson@gmail.com>, "senatordrodriguez@gmail.com" <senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "senatorlouise@gmail.com" <senatorlouise@gmail.com>, "senjvespaldon@gmail.com" <senjvespaldon@gmail.com>, "tommy@senatormorrison.com" <tommy@senatormorrison.com>, "senatoresteves@gmail.com" <senatoresteves@gmail.com>, "marycamachotorres@gmail.com" <marycamachotorres@gmail.com>

Buenas yan Hafa Adai Senators and Staff,

Much appreciation to those who have been able to meet with our group. Also, many thanks to the Senators who have reached out to us and agreed to meet when schedules permit. We feel fortunate to be collaborating with you, the voice of our island's people, in order to prevent the irreversible destruction of our environmental and cultural resources.

Attached are "talking points", a breakdown of documents provided by the Dept. of Defense as part of the National Environmental Protection Act that relate to Alternative 5, the construction of a LFTRC over the Ritidian National Wildlife Refuge. We hope these will help strengthen your understanding of what is at stake and better enable you to be the voice that saves these precious resources.

Please feel free to reach out to us with questions, concerns or suggestions as to how we can align to help protect this sacred village. Hope to see you at tonight's public hearing.

Saina yan Si Yu'os Ma'ase,

Prutehi Litekyan-Save Ritidian

"And those who were seen dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music" Nietzsche

 LFTRC_Talking Points.pdf
373K

**The Proposal to Place the Live Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC)
at Tailálo (Northwest Field), impacting Urunao, Litekyan (Ritidian), Pahon, and Jinapsan
TALKING POINTS**

ACRONYMS

- LFTRC, Live Fire Training Range Complex
- ROD, Record of Decision
- SEIS, Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

ADVERSE IMPACTS (Damage, Harm, Destruction)

- Most Damaging. According to the military's study,
 - "Under this alternative, there would be more adverse effects from **construction** at NWF than any of the other LFTRC alternatives."
 - "There would be more adverse effects from **operations** under Alternative 5 than under any of the other alternatives." (SEIS:5-393)
- Not Reasonable. In other studies conducted by the military, it was determined that due to the noise, cost, land use issues, incompatibility, and impact to the community as a result of the LFTRC near Urunao, Litekyan, Pahon, and Jinapsan, Alternative 5 was "not considered to be a reasonable alternative" even with a smaller Surface Danger Zone footprint (eg, Guam LFTR Alt.:15, 34 & 36).
- Because it was so harmful, no independent study ever supported the selection of Tailálo. It was thrown out of each study as too unreasonable to even finish examining, until the SEIS when military officials put their heads together to make it work. This same strategy can thus be applied to sites that were actually assessed to be reasonable alternatives, like those at Naval Magazine, existing ranges, or indoor ranges which are applied when impacts become unreasonable upon the community (see <http://www.shootingrangeindustries.com/military-live-fire-training-solutions/>).
- Cultural Resources:
 - More than 79 ancestral and historical sites on land and in the water will be bulldozed or otherwise adversely impacted at or near Litekyan. (SEIS:5-349&389-92)
 - Excavation and soil removal associated with the construction of Alternative 5 would adversely affect 20 known archaeological sites eligible for [National Registry of Historic Places] NRHP listing, including Pre-Contact artifact scatters and sites containing latte components. In addition, culturally important natural resources could be directly impacted due to removal of limestone forest." (Guam Training Ranges Review and Analysis)
 - "Implementation of Alternative 5 could cause direct adverse effects to 20 known [National Register of Historic Properties] NRHP-eligible archaeological sites."
 - "Potential indirect adverse effects could occur to three NRHP-eligible archaeological sites." Two of which are the ancestral village of Litekyan and the ancestral village of Jinapsan, but also Pahon as well.

ÁMOT

- Yo'amte (traditional healers), who currently gather rare perhaps not found anywhere else, or anywhere else in that number, are at Tailálo and Litekyan, will not be able to access these native plants while the range is in use.

ANCESTRAL VILLAGE/CULTURAL RESOURCES (see above for adverse impacts to them)

- Litekyan is one of the oldest sites in the entire Marianas archipelago. Usage and settlement there dates back 3,300 years old or older.
- Litekyan, “contains an abundance of cultural resources, including latte sets, water wells, limestone mortars, cave drawings, pottery and shell artifacts. The land and seascapes provide evidence of changing climates and sea levels which impacted the settlement and use of this area by the earliest inhabitants of the island. Archaeological research has revealed that the area was the site of a thriving Chamorro village that predates the arrival of the Spanish in 1521 by over 600 years. Recent work has also uncovered a 3,300 year old fishing camp.” (Carson, Guampedia)
- New Findings at or near Tailålo of chahan (earth ovens), latte, lusong, and burials create a need to study their relationship to Litekyan in order to understand if they are one village or district, or whether the new findings constitute a distinct village.

BURIALS

- The high level of adverse audible impact within the Surface Danger Zone where there are known ancestral burials and contemporary family burials is a significant adverse impact in desecrating the quiet and respect code of conduct around such areas which is widely practiced by the CHamoru and local community alike.
- The SEIS notes that the adverse audible impact is potentially damaging to the significance of ancestral sites like the villages of Urunao, Litekyan, Pahon, and Jinapsan.

ENDANGERED & THREATENED FAUNA

- Species at Tailålo
 - Ababbang (E) – Mariana eight-spot butterfly (*Hypolimnas octocula marianensis*)
 - Akeleha' (E) – Native snails (Partulid snails)
 - Fanihi (T) – Mariana Fruit Bat (*Pteropus mariannus*)
- Critical and recovery habitat at Tailålo and Litekyan for our endangered and threatened species are hard to come by. If we don't safeguard them, our children and grandchildren will lose the possibility of living in the island our parents, grandparents, and ancestors once knew.
- Recovery Habitat. Training Range impact areas like Litekyan, are recovery habitat for our endangered and threatened wildlife including the Ko'ko' (Guam Rail), Sihek (Micronesian kingfisher), Fanihi (Mariana fruit bat), & the Åga (Mariana crow). (GNWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan, Ch 3). There is currently 13,962 acres in Northern Guam and 10,957 acres in Southern Guam of potential habitat for the Marianas crow, Over 1000 acres or 10% of habitat will be permanently lost for the Marianas crow, Guam Rail, and the Micronesian kingfisher. (2017 Biological Opinion).
- Haggan. Training Range impact areas like Litekyan, are where a wide variety of special native marine species can be found, including the Haggan, or Green & Hawksbill turtles and their breeding grounds and nesting areas. (GNWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan, Ch 3)

ENVIRONMENT; Threatened & Endangered vegetation

- Training Range impact areas of Tailålo and Litekyan have a collection of special plants & trees that no longer exist anywhere else as a community in Guam or the rest of the Mariana Islands. Some of these are native or endemic.
 - Aplokating-palaoan (E) (*Psychotria malaspinae*)
 - Cebello halumtåno (T) (orchid; *Bulbophyllum guamense*)

- Fadang (T) (Cycads; *Cycas micronesica*)
- Guam orchid (T) (*Tuberolabium guamense*) – the highest density found in Guam is in the main Marines' cantonment area
- Håyan Lågu (E) (Fire Tree; *Serianthes nelsonnii*). It is endemic. We currently have one mature, seeding tree left on the entire island. Tests are ongoing to see if it is a unique species to those of Rota. If so, consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act has to be reinitiated. Impacting it is not easily mitigable. Years of effort have not yet produced a mature, seeding tree.
- Håyan Sumak (T) (also Trongkon Sumak; *Tabernaemontana rotensis*)
- Limestone Forests. We may have less than 5% left of our original primary limestone forests on Guam. Further destruction of our remaining limestone forests "is not mitigable" (the damaging impact cannot be lessened). These habitats are irreplaceable and cannot be recreated once destroyed for the LFTRC. They are vital to several of the species unique to Guam listed above and below, and to several other species that are rare or may soon be listed as Threatened or Endangered.
- Ufa Halom Tano (T) (Looking Glass Tree; *Heritiera longipetiolata*)

FAMILY LAND

- The US federal government never properly compensated the original landowners of Litekyan for condemning their land, and continues to restrict the families' access to their properties, including access to family graves. (Family testimony)
- "In addition to access restrictions, there are potential indirect impacts from firing range noise, which could lessen visitor enjoyment of recreational resources in the area and affect uses by private landowners at Jinapsan Beach" (SEIS: 5-409)
- One family-owned business in the general area has been forced to close due to military-imposed restricted access, and at least one other, a beach resort, will be severely impacted by the sounds of machine guns, assault rifles, and pistols being fired nearly daily (even if distant). (eg, SEIS:5-349&392)

Fishing

- The Surface Danger Zone covers several square miles of ocean off of Litekyan, which will drastically limit traditional fishing practices.
- Over 18,000 fishing visits have been noted at Litekyan from 2003-2012 or so. (SEIS: 5-347)
- Since ancestral times, Litekyan has had a reputation for good fishing especially for certain types of fish like sizeable parrotfish.

Fresh Water Lens/Aquifer

- If the LFTRC exists up north, including at Tailålo, it will be above our aquifer. The aquifer is not under Naval Magazine, it only exists in Guam's north.
- A LFTRC at Northwest Field and other activities associated with the relocation of the Marines to Guam will adversely impact the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer, our main source of drinking water.
- "Range operations under Alternative 5 have the potential to leach munitions constituents to the water." (DSEIS)
- Plans exist to drill eleven more wells to support the incoming military personnel and their dependents. The damage from saltwater intrusion due to over-pumping is a serious threat to our water resource.
- According to the SEIS Record of Decision (2015), we will experience: a long-term increase in annual groundwater production (withdrawal) of 1.7 million gallons per day;

an increase in the rate of sewage spills, impacting groundwater quality from potential exposure to additional raw sewage; and an increased withdrawal from the NGLA that may result in higher levels of chloride concentrations.

FEELINGS OF INJUSTICE

- The SEIS assesses that feelings of social and psychological marginalization and injustice may arise from taking, destroying, and restricting access to land and heritage associated with the LFTRC near Litekyan. (SEIS:5-400)

LFTRC (Live Fire Training Range Complex)

- The LFTRC will consist of 5 units for firing machine guns, assault rifles, pistols, and non-standard small arms. (SEIS:ES-5; 2-8&67)
- Artillery will be fired at the LFTRC up to 273 days (39 weeks) out of the year on weekdays and some weekends during the day and night. (SEIS:ES-5; 2-10)
- 6.7 million (6,719,190) rounds of ammunition are estimated to be fired each year. (SEIS:2-10)
- Stray rounds could escape beyond the live-fire ranges. (SEIS: 5-391)
- Live-fire training ranges already exist within Guam's military units, and do not need to be together as one large complex, though preferred by the military. (eg, Guam LFTR Alt.:3).
- The military has not explored the viable option of indoor ranges for when environmental or other impacts are too unreasonable. (see above for link to information on military indoor ranges)

NO NEED TO RUSH.

- Marines will not be on island for 5-8 years at the earliest.
- The buildup is not even guaranteed according to the Marines themselves.
- There is a lawsuit in NMI challenging the RODs of both NMI and Guam.
- There is absolutely no rush to bulldoze and irrevocably dismantle and harm cultural and historical sites including those eligible to the national register when the buildup timeline keeps getting pushed back and the issues noted above are in the process of being determined or carried out. Currently, sources state that it will be five years or more before the first of the marines will be relocated to Guam Pollution
- On Guam and elsewhere, the US military has a long standing history of contaminating sites – burying canisters of mustard gas, leaving behind unexploded ordinance, (UXO), etc. (eg, SEIS:5-405). Other communities such as Vieques in Puerto Rico and Kaho'olawe in Hawaii have been left with the hundreds of millions of dollar price tag of cleaning up the contamination of their islands and much higher cancer rates from such training grounds.
- The military notes caution for themselves in their clearing efforts for the cantonment and the live fire training ranges due to possible UXO.

PROCEDURE, IMPROPER

- To our knowledge, private landowners were not given notice about adverse noise impacts to their properties, high levels of noise pollution that the SEIS are notes will occur. (SEIS: 5-409; see Noise Zone map, 5-337 & 5-343)
- Many sites and activities are mischaracterized as "recreational" instead of recognized as "cultural," "sacred," "ancestral," and "traditional" therefore, assessments incorrectly based on recreational sites and activities are false and misleading by stating the impact is

not significant because there are recreational areas elsewhere. Communing and visiting cultural, ancestral, sacred, and traditional sites do not operate that way.

- The DoD miscategorized the land use of these areas within the SEIS. For example, "There are a few uninhabited homes near Jinapsan Beach, but these homes would be within Noise Zone 1, although one house appears to be close to Zone 2" (p. 5-338). These are not "uninhabited homes," the appropriate categorization is that they these are family *lâncho* (ranches) which have been an integral part of local family homesteads for hundreds of years and are tightly woven into the maintenance, identity, and cultural practices of the central concept of family within the CHamoru and local cultures.

UNNECESSARY

- Several live fire training ranges exist on island and throughout the archipelago and larger Southeast Asian region. No known study adequately explored their use as an alternative. Having the ranges together is a preference, not a requirement.
- The military has not explored the viable option of indoor ranges for when environmental or other impacts are too unreasonable. (see above for link to information on military indoor ranges)

VISITATION

- Fishers. Over 18,000 fishing visits have been noted at Litekyan since 2003. Offshore fishing areas in the vicinity include Rota Banks, 45 Bank, Ritidian Point. "Additionally, there are Fish Aggregating Devices located north of Ritidian Point." (SEIS: 5-347)
- Locals and Tourists. Locals and Tourists visit the refuge every day visiting the nature center and using the beachside picnic sites. Locals regularly sign up to visit the ancestral village of Litekyan which is offered once a week or once every two weeks depending upon available staff. Refuge personnel state that the refuge is currently understaffed.
- Schoolchildren. More than 150,000 of our schoolchildren have benefited from visiting the nature, wildlife, and ancestral sites of Litekyan over the years. Much of this access will become limited or no longer allowed. (SEIS: 5-347)
- Yo'amte (traditional healers), who currently gather rare perhaps not found anywhere else, or anywhere else in that number, are at Tailâlo and Litekyan; will not be able to access these native plants while the range is in use.

September 22, 2017

Dear Senator Frank Aguon, Jr.,

I am writing this letter to you, so that you can help stop the firing range near Ritidian, because this could affect the environment on Guam and all the endangered animals that live near Ritidian. Please do something about it, because people are trying really, really hard to stop the firing range from being built in order to save all the endangered animals that live near Ritidian. So, please Senator Frank Aguon, Jr., please do something to help stop the firing range from being built and please do something to help save the endangered animals.

Sincerely,

Jesse Aguon

September 22, 2017

Dear Senators of the 34th Guam Legislature,

I am urging you that the firing range should not be built at Andersen Air Force Base, because it will affect all the people on Guam. By destroying the trees, the species will suffer and be in danger of losing their homes. The ocean will also be affected. The ammunition from the guns contains toxins, which will contaminate our land and ocean. The destruction of our forests will affect our ability to curb global warming.

We are supposed to protect this island. So, why are you allowing something that will cause a lot of damage to happen. Please do not make your people suffer from the problems the firing range will cause. It will destroy the beauty and tranquility of Guam. For me, I was born on Pohnpei, but I came to Guam because it is a beautiful place to live, and I would not want to see this beautiful island destroyed by the firing range. Because I love this island of Guam and the people, I do not want to see them sad and struggle from all the harm that is happening to Guam.

Respectfully,

Kora Dannis

September 22, 2017

Dear Senators of the 34th Guam Legislature,

I am writing this letter to all of you due to my concerns about the building of the Live Fire Range near Litekyan (Ritidian) Beach. I feel as if it isn't a great idea to allow this Firing Range to happen, due to the environment the military is going to destroy. Think about all the noise from the equipment the military is going to be using. That noise itself can drive away the animals that live near Litekyan. This Firing Range is going to damage ancient burial grounds from our ancestors and the wildlife that can only be found on Guam. The wildlife we have here could possibly go extinct. The environment will be destroyed. Regarding the ONLY Mother hayun lagu tree we have on island, please keep in mind that you will be endangering the only tree that has survived and withstood super typhoons and World War II, here on the island of Guam. Please have it in your heart to think about not only my letter, but my peer's own as well. Please think about what this Live Firing Range will harm. Please think about the amount of bullets that will be fired every year. Please think about "Prutehi Litekyan".

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Mikylah Sablan

Support for Legislative Resolution 228-34

Barbara S.N. Benavente <bvena@teleguam.net>

Sat, Sep 23, 2017 at 2:59 PM

To: "Benjamin J.F. Cruz" <senator@senatorbjcruz.com>, senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com, senatorbiscoelee@guamlegislature.org, office@senatorada.org, senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com, senatorcnelson@gmail.com, senatorsannicolas@gmail.com, "Dennis Rodriguez, Jr." <senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, aguon4guam@gmail.com, senjvespaldon@gmail.com, tommy@senatormorrison.com, senatormary@guamlegislature.org, senatorlouise@gmail.com, solutions@wilcastro.com, senatoresteves@gmail.com
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Hafa Adai Honorable Senators of the 34th Guam Legislature:

My name is Barbara (Bobbie) S.N. Benavente and I am currently a resident of Dededo Village. I am a government of Guam retiree with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (now known as Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center), where I served over 30 years as the Supervisor for the Prevention and Training Branch, also known as the PEACE (Prevention, Education And Community Empowerment) Office, before my retirement in September 2015. My life's career has been in supporting children, youth and families in Guam through the establishment of programs and services that promote health and wellness, and positive changes in their lives, in their community, and in our island. This support remains consistent even in retirement.

I write this email, in support of Legislative Resolution No. 228-34, ***RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD.***

In 2014, approximately 1,312 individuals signed a change.org online petition I created, petitioning Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo and others to ***Preserve the people of Guam's heritage and a vital national asset by protecting Ritidian Point and the Guam National Wildlife Refuge.*** We opposed H.R. 4402, entitled "The Guam Military Training and Readiness Act of 2014," introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on April 4, 2014, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs. Copies of this petition were officially submitted at each of the public hearings by the U.S. Department of Defense/Navy held at Okkodo High School (May 17th), Father Duenas Memorial School Phoenix Center (May 19th), and Southern High School (former McCool School) (May 20th). I personally handed a copy directly to Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo at the May 17th hearing, after my testimony.

I am Chamorro and I have lived on Guam all of my adult life, and will continue to do so with my husband, children, grandchildren and hundreds of relatives. For the past 42 years, my husband and I and our children and grandchildren have enjoyed Litekyan. We taught our children and grandchildren the importance of caring for our island and respecting our ocean. They've learned to take responsibility for keeping our beaches free of trash; to acknowledge what we are blessed with and to show our appreciation and thanks for Guam's natural beauty by always picking up others' trash (broken bottles, cans and other debris) they may come across, for proper disposal.

My husband has fished the northern waters off Guam and over a span of at least 40 years, has provided fish, lobsters, squid, octopus and crabs for our families. He has walked through the areas of the northern coastline and hunted coconut crabs, wild deer and pigs; he fed four generations of our families well. He continues to carry out traditions and practices of our Chamorro people, as passed on to him by his parents, grandparents and other relatives. He tells stories of how while hunting, armed military soldiers would confront him and tell him that he crossed the property line into what is "owned by the military". He has had his share of having his personal property confiscated. He has told me stories of his walking through the jungle and feeling and hearing the loud CRUNCH beneath his feet; and looking down to see metals, bullets, and other ammunition and debris that rusted into the ground; and how he looked up saw a sign that read "Ammunition Dump".

Forty years ago, we experienced aggression by armed military personnel as they ordered our families to break down and clear our camps and camping gear, off Litekyan. **Twenty years ago**, my husband and his fishing partner were ordered away from their night's fishing spot beyond the reef outside Litekyan. A military helicopter hovered in the darkness of night over their 12-foot fishing boat and signaled first with a spotlight to move from the area, then hovered even lower and used a bullhorn to order them away. Long story short and after some media and public attention on this incident, the Naval Office of the Rear Admiral defended their actions and stated that their military personnel were responding to a "distress call". Truth is there was no flare set off that night in the area and no distress call made by husband and his fishing partner. It was a few days later that we learned it was the week of annual military exercises/war games on land and sea. **Today**, the U.S. military continues to be aggressive with the people of our island and continues to threaten our rightful place in our homeland.

I stand in solidarity with the Prutehi Litekyan movement and believe whole heartedly that any further action taken by the U.S. military to increase their presence and to establish a live-fire training range complex on Guam (and in particular the intended location of the Northwest Field), must be stopped. It is not acceptable that any of portions of our island be destroyed. It is not acceptable that our ground water sources or our ocean be put at risk for contamination. It is not acceptable that our island's fishermen be prohibited from fishing in waters our island because the military intends to fire weapons and set off explosives that will put their lives at risk, should they be out fishing. It is not acceptable that our limestone forests and hundreds and hundreds of acres of Guam land would be bulldozed over to make way for activities that do not contribute to the health and wellbeing of our people in this island.

We must protect our island, our culture and the rights of our people. We must demand that the rights of our indigenous people be respected and the rights of the original landowners be honored; the U.S. Government must return the lands it occupies on Guam, to the original land owners.

First and foremost, we stand for our Chamorro people and for Guam. We must maintain our rights to fish our waters whenever and wherever we want and to have access to and to farm our lands as once done by our ancestors. We must acknowledge and accept these facts: that our water and land resources cannot support an increase of residents on our small island; that Guam is our homeland and therefore any proposed military buildup and destruction of our limestone forests and natural habitats for our fish and wildlife must not be allowed; We must reclaim our rights to determine what is best for our Chamorro people and for those who come as guests, to live and work beside us in our island; We must work towards unlearning forced lessons taught to us as young children and throughout our adulthood – that our people our insignificant and our language, our culture, our land is not ours to keep and to be proud of.

I thank you Senator Nelson for introducing and sponsoring Legislative Resolution 228-34 and also thank Vice-Speaker Therese Terlaje, Speaker BJ Cruz, and all the Senators who have at this moment stood in solidarity with Prutehi Litekyan. I will remain confident that all fifteen (15) Guam Senators will stand in solidarity and do the right thing; to protect Guam's land and natural resources; to acknowledge the rights of the Chamorro people and the original land owners of Litekyan, and to facilitate a genuine One Guam, first and foremost with the indigenous people of this land.

Respectfully,

Bobbie

BARBARA S.N. BENAVENTE

488-6258

Litekyan

Rose Marie Siguenza <rmlsiguenza@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at
8:47 PM

To: "senatortcnelson@gmail.com" <senatortcnelson@gmail.com>

Buenas yan Hafa Adai Honorable Senator Nelson,

Litekyan, Ritidian... I was invited by a friend of mine to join his photo shooters on a fieldtrip. I was reluctant at first. One being it was my very first time to ever go on one. Another, I didn't know anyone other than Luis, Rueben, and Mike. A week before the fieldtrip, the decision to go came when a former coworker of mine shared his most amazing and beautiful experience visiting Litekyan. He inspired me to go! His story engulfed my love and passion for our CHamoru heritage, our culture and our ancient ones. A 51 year old biha, CHamoru Pacific Islander born and raised on this beautiful island of Guam, this was the first time for me to visit Litekyan. I am truly humbled, loved, blessed, and honored to experience, to me, this spiritual journey in my life time. Extra special for me, was having my grandson Damian (4th generation) and his mom, my daughter (3rd generation) to experience this with me. This was not my grandson's first time. He has been there many times. And he is only 11! Big age gap between him and his biha. To touch, to feel, to hold, to see the trees, the lattes, the haligies, the artifacts, the stones, to walk from village to village in the midst of our ancestors (you can sense their presence), to relive the past, is beyond words. Each beautiful and mesmerizing photo my netu, myself and help of friends had taken, tells the story of our Chamoru ancient ones and our journey with them. But to understand and experience this most amazing and sacred journey, you must go! I can't stress this enough. I'm forever grateful & thankful I went! May I add, it rained hard at the start of our journey. I considered this a washing of the present so we may experience the past of with our ancestors.

I share my testimony, my voice, wemust not and should not allow the destruction and desecration of our beautiful sacred land of our CHamoru ancestors by allowing the Military to build a firing range. We must protect and save their land, our land for our children and our future generations to come. Their spirits live in us, in the air, the land, the water, the animals, and the trees in Litekyan and through our beautiful island of Guahan. Let the fire ignite and light across our beautiful and sacred land.... Show honor, love and respect to our CHamoru ancestors and her people. Don't allow what we have left of our CHamoru ancestors disappear.

You government leaders in high places, we hold you accountable and responsible for as leaders you have leverage. We in the community are voices speaking out. United, we can save our Litekyan.

Fanohge CHamoru!
Biba CHamoru!
Biba Guahan!!

Mâsfiet,
Rose Marie Laguana Siguenza

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

Support for Resolution NO. 228-34 (COR)

“RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHERWEST FIELD,” sponsored by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

09/22/2017

Buenas yan hafa adai honorable Senators of the 34th Guam Legislature:

Thank you all for hearing taking the time to read/listen to my testimony in support of Resolution 228-34. My name is Tasi Anghet Martinez. Protecting Litekyan gives Guahan the chance to hold onto what is left of our ancestors. In a way, it keeps us embedded in our culture and reminds us of where we've come from. Protecting Litekyan is a representation of how we used to live and how life once was on Guahan. Taking the last remaining remnants of our past will ruin our culture forever.

E-Mail Contact Information:

Name: Tasi Anghet Martinez

E-mail Address: tasianghet@gmail.com

Support for Resolution NO. 228-34 (COR)

“RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD,” sponsored by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

September 22, 2017

Buenas yan hafa adai honorable Senators of the 34th Guam Legislature:

I would like to thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to stand up with my fellow Chamorros, the people of Guam. I honestly never thought this day would come, my twenty-three (23) years of life I have never thought this day of losing Litekyan to a Live Firing Training Range Complex at Northwest Field would actually happen. However, I am so thankful that there is still hope in humanity, hope in our government, and hope in our people.

Over the years, I have witnessed jungle clearing in Dededo, especially near Route 3 (NCS). Every time, I see any clearing, my heart aches because our island is most especially beautiful with nature. I grew up loving Guam, the culture, and the people. The thing is I'm not Chamorro and a part of me found it difficult to write this because I felt that the Chamorros' voice are far more important than mine. This situation still seems unreal to me, how can a group of people feel that this is a way to protect our island when it is doing the complete opposite. Because I am able to witness the jungle clearing up north every day, losing Litekyan will be a far more tragedy. We will not only lose such a marvelous looking beach, we also lose the native species in the area. We will lose the ability to show our future generations of the Chamorro people's ancestral lifestyle. Most especially we will lose our waters. Protecting Litekyan does not go against the people's pride in America or the military. Protecting Litekyan means living this modern lifestyle and remembering our past. Protecting Litekyan will allow us to always remember "our roots," because once our roots are pulled we will lose ourselves. Protecting Litekyan allows all future generation of all race to learn about themselves. Protecting Litekyan is a way to keep us together.

I am a Filipina with a hint of Irish-American, I have relatives who have served in the United States military in all branches. But I was born and raised here on Guam, and I feel that there is a need to stand by my Chamorro brothers and sisters. I will fight along side them. Just because this situation does not directly impact the Filipinos, the Americans, the Chuukese, the Pohnians, the Palauans, and many others, this situation does impact us indirectly. So I challenge everyone, of all race, gender, and identity to stand up for human rights. We shall not live in fear, because we are stronger united. That is what our island culture is about, helping each other in a time of need. Please protect Litekyan and all our human rights, because I know there is hope in humanity, hope in the government, and hope in our people.

It is because the bill greatly benefits our community ensuring the anti-dehumanizing efforts of Guam that I, Rosario Perez, stand in support of resolution 228-34. *Si Yu'os ma'ase!*

Email Contact Information:



Chelsea Resurreccion
Name

chelsea.resurreccion@gmail.com

E-mail Address

Testimony on Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD

September 22, 2017

Buenas yan hafa adai to all honorable senators,

My name is Tressa P. Diaz. I am an Assistant Professor at the University of Guam in the Division of Social Work at the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. I am writing in strong support of Resolution No. 228-34 to protect our environmental and cultural resources and prohibit the construction of a live fire training range complex in Northwest Field.

My area of studies and research is in cancer disparities on Guam and across Micronesia, and the preservation of Indigenous health. I am personally and professionally committed to increasing cancer survivorship on Guam and in our region. As you know, cancer is the second leading cause of death on Guam. While cancer incidence and mortality in the U.S. has been in steady decline, cancer incidence and mortality on Guam has increased consistently in the last 15 years. Many of us have lost loved ones to various and multiple cancers, and many of us have supported and provided care for a loved one in the battle to fight and survive cancer.

Chamoru, the Indigenous peoples of Guam, in particular are disproportionately impacted by cancer. Although we comprise approximately 37% of the population (per the 2010 Census), we make up almost 50% of those with new cancer diagnoses, and represent more than 50% of those who die from cancer.¹ In understanding the complexities of cancer prevention, treatment, and survivorship among Chamoru, we must not only consider individual behavior such as diet, exercise, and smoking habits. Individual behavior is paramount, but studies also indicate that social determinants such as education, culture, colonization, and socioeconomic status, as well as environmental determinants such as harmful chemicals in the land we live on, the food we eat, the water we drink, or the air we breathe are just as important to consider.

Destruction of the ecology and cultural resources at Litekyan as a result of the development of the live fire training range complex at Northwest Field will cause irreversible damage to the health and wellness of the families who own land at Litekyan and to the entire population of Guam. What happens in the northern part of our island is not disconnected from the central and southern parts of our island. Guam is an intricate ecological system that is interdependent in many ways. We will feel the effects of the destruction in one way or the other, simply because human bodies are impacted by the environments they thrive or fail in.

I urge you to consider that part of cancer prevention and increasing cancer survivorship among Chamoru and all communities on Guam means protecting our land from destruction and our waters from pollution, and investing in the long-term care of our cultural beliefs, history, and traditions.

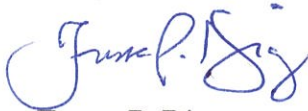
Indigenous health, although often framed by the severity of health disparities experienced across indigenous populations, is more expansive and complex than the presence of physical disease typical of Western biomedical paradigms. It is steeped in kinship, community, spirituality, and a connection to indigenous lands.²⁻⁴

It is imperative that we remember that our health and well-being is inextricably tied to the health of our land and our ocean. We cannot pretend that we are disconnected from them or that our access to these is easily given away.

I urge all members of I Liheslaturan Guahan to support Resolution 228-34 (COR).

Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.

Sincerely,



Tressa P. Diaz
PO Box 4284
Hagatña, GU 96932

1. Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (2009). *Guam cancer facts and figures 2003 – 2007*. Mangilao, Guam.
2. Look MA, Trask-Batti MK, Agres R, Mau ML, Kaholokula JK. *Assessment and Priorities for Health & Well-being in Native Hawaiians & other Pacific Peoples*. Honolulu, HI: Center for Native and Pacific Health Disparities Research. http://www3.jabsom.hawaii.edu/native/docs/publications/2013/A&P_FINAL.932013.pdf. Published September 2013. Accessed November 11, 2013.
3. Ministry of Health. *Maori Public Health Action Plan 2003-2004*. Wellington, New Zealand: Ministry of Health; 2003. [http://www.moh.govt.nz/notebook/nbbooks.nsf/0/ffea587fbc37d6d7cc257067007e9709/\\$FILE/MaoriPublicHealthPlan.pdf](http://www.moh.govt.nz/notebook/nbbooks.nsf/0/ffea587fbc37d6d7cc257067007e9709/$FILE/MaoriPublicHealthPlan.pdf). Accessed November 11, 2013.
4. First Nations Centre. *First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (RHS) 2002/2003*. Ottawa, Canada: First Nations Centre; 2005. http://www.rhs-ers.ca/sites/default/files/ENpdf/RHS_2002/rhs2002-03-technical_report.pdf. Accessed November 11, 2013.



Talena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>

L.R. 228-34

floresarmour@gmail.com <floresarmour@gmail.com>
To: senatortcnelson@gmail.com

Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 7:23 AM

Dear Senator Nelson,

My testimony before your committee is brief but passionately felt. We must end the domination of the US government over our land, our culture and our people.

It is the sacred responsibility of the Government of Guam to represent the Chamorro people in this ultimate declaration of our human rights to decide the fate of our island. There must be NO LIVE FIRING RANGE at Litekyan, or ANYWHERE on Guahan.

Si Yu'us ma'ase,

Lynn Marie Flores
Piti Village

(CSUDH, 2014). Individual campuses throughout the system are now mandated to improve their student services to provide new pathways to success, offering new redesigned general education curricula, summer bridge programs for under-prepared students, enhanced peer tutoring and counseling centers, and offer a more comprehensive array of co-curricular and non-curricular activities to increase student sense of belonging and pride.

Importance of a Promising Practice Project

Studying retention and persistence to graduation are of critical importance to higher education institutions around the country. It is crucial to prepare U.S. students to keep pace in the evolving global marketplace. Having a college degree has become a necessity for entry into the workforce. Graduates will also have larger incomes, be more productive citizens, and contribute more to society (Carey, 2005).

In addition, the federal government is now reporting completion rates of colleges to students interested in receiving financial aid as part of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid process and on the College Scorecard website (U.S. DOE, 2016) as part of the enactment of the 1990 Student Right to Know Act. Consequences of not studying student persistence in this context are to risk the ability to recruit as many new students who may need financial aid to attend college. At a time when state governments are also reducing funding for higher education, this compounds an already difficult problem and increases competition between schools for more students.

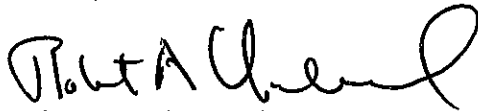
The National Council on Higher Education Achievement called on institutions to be more active in college completion efforts, “Increasing the number of graduating students isn’t an arcane science. It involves a mindset and a series of concrete actions...” (NCHEA, 2013, p. 9). There are a myriad of intervention options to consider when trying to improve graduation rates,

September 22, 2017

Dear Senator Nelson,

I write this letter as a private citizen and no connection to my employment should be inferred. I am against the use of Northwest Field as part of a live firing range. My opposition should not be interpreted as supporting all the elements of the resolution.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Underwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Robert A Underwood

Letter to the Senators.

9-22-17
2nd p.

Dear Senators,

My name is Tanya Salas. I am a 17 year old senior attending Southern High. We have heard about your doing to Ritidian. I haven't been to Ritidian, but I know their island is really beautiful and to see their island get ruined from the firing range is really sad news. We all kindly ask you guys to stop what you're planning and leave Ritidian the way it is. We want everyone to grow up knowing their history, island, and ancestors. We want everyone to grow up knowing they have a beautiful island that they live on to pass down their history to their families and future family. It saddens all of us that what you guys are planning is going to ruin what Ritidian has in their hands. please sign and support resolution 228-124! #saveRitidian2017

Sept 22, 2017

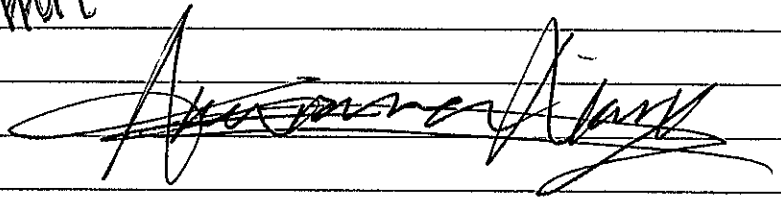
Dear Senators,

My name is Alexiana Mary Changuaf Delorie.
I Am 17 years old. And this island will be here much more
years if you stop Ritidian from being a firing range.
For what? So what for them to fire guns & us having to lose
our land. Just because Guam is still colonized by
America, doesn't mean to take all the land for them.
These white American's coming for our land & just
destroying it for them to have a firing range or to
bomb practice! THATS JUST BULLSHIT! ~~Fuck~~ your
practicing range. We don't need that on Guam &
We sure enough to not have your wars we have to fight
for a President that doesn't even allow us to vote...

PLEASE SIGN & SUPPORT

RESOLUTION

228-34



Miranda

Asan

9/22/17

4th

Dear Senators ~~of~~ ^{of} Guam.

I am 16 and I just want to let you guys know that shooting at Ritidian Cause you guys are damaging ~~the~~ ^a place that beautiful. Your making everything worse by destroying a place that is so nice and beautiful, why waisting your time shooting at a place when that not even ~~is~~ a shooting area. So we are asking you guys nicely and politely not to destroy Ritidian Cause we love that a beautiful ~~also~~ ^{also} lovely for us to see even to be at. So I am the student from Southern High School.

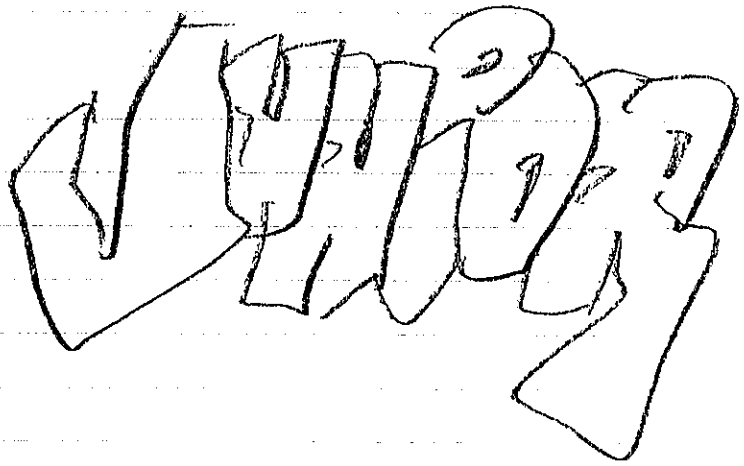
Please sign & support Resolution 228-34

09-22-17

Dear Senators, please do
whatever you can in your power
to stop ruining the one place
that has the best view on
Guam. So please thanks all
I ask. Peace out ya!

Junior E. Cruz

09.23.17
per. H.



PLEASE SIGN AND SUPPORT
RESOLUTION
228-34

09-22-17

Hafa Adai,

Dear Senators, please don't destroy Pitidani it's apart of our culture, and a place you can called land. whatever you military are thinking on doing ain't the right thing to do. just hearing this is what i called Bullshit! like why destroy something so nice, And a place ~~at~~ that some of us islanders never been too, or seen before. if you respect what i say, then sure as hell i'll have respect for you Senators.

- AQMON MYA

PLEASE SIGN AND SUPPORT
RESOLUTION
228-34

Dear Senators,

Since you guys are on Guam, you should know about our culture. You know that Ritidian is very important to our people. Those military punks don't care because they aren't from here. They don't know how much they are hurting our island. The military need to understand that Ritidian is more important than the damn shooting range. If they want to shoot shit then go in the damn jungle. Why the fuck do they have to pollute the waters, the waters have animals that are almost extinct in our island. You guys need to think about the children and their futures. Some people haven't even been there yet. Please sign and support resolution

228-34

Thanks

Dear Senators,

I'd like to state my name and occupation first, I am Franklin J. Topasna II from Southern High School, I am a student and I am not occupied. I may not know much of what is happening due to me not being really aware. But I do know that our land is our land and it holds culture and history, so I'd like to ask a question. If you had ancestors whom are important to you would you disgrace them by letting what they built be destroyed? Is what you want to be remembered by? Destroying what history we have left? Personally, I've not been to Ritidian and I do plan on going there to see how much culture is left there. So please sign and support Resolution 228-34 to save what we have left, personally I wouldn't want to be remembered as a person who let others walk in and destroy our culture, land, and history.

Sincerely,
Franklin J. Topasna II, 17,
Southern Highschool student

Justin Agvion
09-22-17
Period 3
History of Guam

Dear Senators

My name is Justin Agvion from Malessa. I want to protect Pitidion because if they build up there we won't have access there anymore and it's a sacred place. There is a lot of history there, In dangered species, and it will disturb all the animals there. If we can save pagat then we can save Pitidion! Hoperully it will be a peaceful protest and no violence. Please sign and support resolution 228-34, Thank you and have a great day.

Dear Senators,

I'm Gabby Barcinas, a Junior, from Southern High School telling you why protecting Lifestyan is important. We need to stop this fast because our ancestors were buried there and there are so many plants that won't be there anymore. It shows that the people doing this have no respect at all. How would they like it if we went to the states and took over places they respect. We don't even have much space to begin with. Why wouldn't they go somewhere else? This has all been bothering me because I've never been there yet and I'm from Guam. I will support any protest to protect my home. I hope we can stop this before it's too late. They need to find another place and learn how to have some respect. Please sign and support Resolution 228-34. We need all the help we can get.

Save Ritidian

Ritidian should stay open because there are so many cultural structures there that are important to us. Not to mention all of the endangered species that live there.

I only just moved to Guam a year ago but my grandfather works there and I've been there multiple times because of its beauty. My grandfather showed me a trail where he had found pottery and latte stones. There are 20 significant sites that we know of. There could be more. Plus my grandfather Brian Leon Guerrero found a new cave structure and I'm going to do volunteer work to help clear it of debris so we can have archeologists to go in and get more research on our past. Not to mention we can add it on the list for the tours at Ritidian.

Save Ritidian It means a lot to us.

Please sign and support
Resolution 228-34

- Kaleb Leon Guerrero

Terri Cabral
2nd PD
Sept. 22, 2017

Save Ritidian! Save Litekyan!

Dear People we follow and support.

My name is Gerardine Alexis Cruz Charfarras Cabral. I am 17 years old attending Southern High School. This is my last year here and I am still learning about my culture. You already can see that our culture is slowly fading, please don't allow the military to completely destroy our island. We have 20 nationally significant sites and endangered and threatened species. I have little family members that are still learning their Chamorro alphabet, colors, and history of our Chamorro ancestors. Our land is all we have and we will stand up and protest because it is not fair to us, to our young, to our ancestors, to me! This is our home where we grew up to love and protect this little island. Ritidian has all these cultural and historical structures that help tie us back to our ancestors. I've never been there yet, but I do know Ritidian is one of our most beautiful and important places to us. We the People! For the People! This is our Home. Please sign and support

Maria Garcia

To the Governor, why you doing this? Is it for the money or you stupid? It's your job to listen to the people, we don't want your shooting range!! I'm not from Guam but I was raised and born here so I am Chamorro. I think you should just stop because not only will you the people you'll destroy our future. You wouldn't like it if I go to the state and decided to build agat somewhere, military grounds.

please sign and support
resolution

228-341

Dear Senators,

Michelle Williams

I am a Senior that attends Southern High School. I currently live in Agat and am currently completely aware of the situation at hand with the military build-up and the removal of Ritidian for a firing range. I myself have not been to that place personally, but looking at all of the support from the people of the island, I can clearly see that that landmark is a very important and historical place that our people need to protect. I understand that the military is very important for our island and they have their needs and wants, but our people that have been born and raised here on this island, they want to protect what's theirs, and I believe what belongs to our people is our island. The military has helped Guam tremendously ~~with~~ with much things but Guam deserves to be known for not just the military, but for the culture and importance it has for others. I'm not asking for much but I don't support the firing range, so I ask nicely for you all to sign and support Resolution 228-34. Thank you!

09/22/17

Dear Senators,

my name is Danalyn Salas and I'm a senior at Southern High School. I am writing this letter to tell you that what you guys plan to do to Pitidian is wrong. I hope you know that Pitidian is home to different kinds of species and what you guys plan to do to that area is gonna make them leave their home. Would you like it if someone made you leave your home? Pitidian is a beautiful place. Why would you want to destroy a beautiful place. You would be destroying what we have left of our ancestors. I hope you re-think about your plans to Pitidian. Please sign and support Resolution 228-34. I hope you have a good day.

Danalyn Salas

Why do you say you're for "the people of the land" when you jump for the people who strip us more and more of our culture? Is it for the money? The money won't matter anymore when you glance up from looking at bank accounts and realize that you can't go anywhere and feel like you belong... even your own home. Our culture is already influenced so much by the Japanese and Spanish, who the United States liberated us from. However, they're doing the exact same thing! Except this time, you're no longer fighting for the culture. You're giving them exactly what they want for greed! You say, my future matters, but what about my history? Does that not matter? You've took many historical sights and made them touristic attractions. You took a whole village for the title "place w/ the largest Naval base", like it matters. WE MATTER! My ancestors matter & my history matters. That's what really matters. Try striving for a title that really matters. It really genuinely hurts my heart knowing that a place that's home to many endangered species and artifacts, I won't be able to visit because it's being destroyed. So pot' fabot PLEASE sign and support Resolution 228-34.

We matter.

Si qu'os malaise,
Isabella-Rose Chorghovalaf
Southern HS (17)

Tonisha Torres
Per. 2
9-22-17

Dear Senators,

My name is Tonisha Torres. I'm from Southern high school. I'm here to tell you to protect Litcheyan because it holds are cultural resources, including latte sets, water wells, limestone mortars, cave drawing, pottery and shell artifacts. It hold so much and we're just going to let it go. Why let it all go? Please respect not only us but the future. Sign and support Resolution 228-34.

Dear Senators

My name is Reggie Sablan. I am 17 years old, I am from the village of Hagat, and I'm a Senior at Southern. Senators if you truly love Guam and believe in our people then you would know that this firing range they're building in Ritidian cannot be allowed to move forward. I am sincerely saddened at thought of families of Litekyan losing their homes, but this goes much deeper. As a people of the land, as the true *tas tao* Tano, we must be able to unite and fight for the land that belongs to us, to the Chamorro people and to Guahan and all her beauty. I urge Senators to sign resolution 228-34. Please help the people Guam fight for their land, our land. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase!*

Resolution 228-34!!!

DEAR SENATORS OF GUAM

I am a student attending southern high school and I don't think the military should use LITEKYAN as a shooting range. I was born and still is being raised on this beautiful island of GUAM. If you let this go through or even think about doing this then you are not thinking about not just the people now but the past and the future. I am standing up for everyone living and breathing the land, culture, air, and life of this beautiful island of GUAM. PIGASSU MAKU a difference and sign ~~that~~ and support RESOLUTION 228-34.

Sincerely

A YOUTH THAT CARES!

Bancroft
9-22-17
4th p.

You should protect our land
because it belongs to the people.
You should stop it before you
make a mess. I never got to visit
Mitidhan but I sure would love to
one day. Think about our future think
about the kids growing up.

Please sign & support resolution

228-34

Lory
MANLEY

9/22/17

DEAR SENATORS

Ritidian, a place of culture. A place that is part of the land you were taught to protect and take pride in. The place you spent your life in, your children's life, my life. Stop being influenced by the paycheck and protect your island, protect your land. This land is going to be useless after the military leave and your taking thousands of acres for it. Your culture is important, remember that. My name is Lory Manley and I support Resolution 228-34. You do your part and support it too. Thanks!

Janaya
Charquataf

P3 9/22/17

Dear Senator,

I am a student from Southern High & I want to let you know that what you're doing is wrong. You're going to use the ritidian point as a shooting range? From what I heard, that place sounds really nice & you're going to ruin that? You should just leave the place alone because some people haven't been there yet. You're going to destroy something that's a part of our culture to built something that the military needs? Destroying something that's a part of our culture is like destroying something that's a part of us. It's like you're taking our culture away but you don't seem to care.

Please sign & support

Resolution

228-34

Dear senators of Guahan,

I am a 15 year old from Southern High School. I wanted to send you this letter to inform you that my history class and I are currently learning or hearing about how Pitidjan Point is going to be put into a shooting range. I absolutely think that shouldn't happen or at least not at that certain spot. Pitidjan is a beautiful place, I've been there once for a field trip. Out of everything/everywhere, why Pitidjan? It just doesn't make sense we, Chamorro, are here to stand up for our culture.

"NO HISTORY, NO SELF.

KNOW HISTORY, KNOW SELF.

PLEASE SIGN + SUPPORT

RESOLUTION

228-34

9/22/17

Dear Senator, please help and keep our culture alive. its not right that other people can come to our island and just flip things like they own it. our ancestors took in alot for our island. Now look whats happening how people are taking our. Pitidish point is going to be used as a shooting range by the military. like its not a good thing. keep Guvaton standing!

please sign & support
Resolution
228-34

NO HISTORY

NO SELF

Know History

No Self

Dear senators, 15

I am a 15 year old girl attending Southern high school. All I hear about is how Pitidlan will be used for a firing range. I don't understand why the government allow the military to take our land away from us. The governor needs to grow a pair and stand up for our island. He kisses up to the people in charge. The leader of our island shouldn't do that. Pitidlan is also home of turtles that are soon to be extinct. The military is wrecking our island so badly. I hope you see that. They are wrecking our island's resources. Save our island!

Sincerely,
a worried
youth.

Why? Why would you want to destroy the native land of Guam? Guam is beautiful. Destroying the land by turning it into a shooting range. Really?! I am a student attending Southern High. I really don't agree with what will happen. Guam is home to many. Why would you want to destroy it? We don't want to see pictures about our sceneries, we would like to visit the sights in person. Our future matters.

#**PROTEHILITEKYAN**

please sign and support
resolution 228-34

Dear Senators

9/22/17

Hāfa adai, I am a student from Southern High School and I would like to ask you to hear us out. We the people of Guam do not approve of this. I know we don't have a say in all of this, but hey, just listen. There is no reason for you to take our land. There are so many other places to choose from, but yet you decide to make one of the most beautiful places in the world a shooting range. That does not sound right. Think about our ancestors, our spirits, our culture and everything that comes with us from our past. You make Ritidian a shooting and disturb our ancestors living in the soil. Blood, sweat, and tears shed on the sacred grounds of Ritidian and all of that will be gone. All because of a shooting range. Think about it and I hope I persuade you to change your decision. Please sign and support resolution 228-24. Si yu'us Ma'ase.

Sincerely,

Kalah J. Buendicho

Southern High School Junior ☺

Dear Senators,

I have been fighting this act in many ways, but I think that enough is enough. It has been too much to handle. The thought of losing another piece of land to Uncle Sam. God damn. It is really bothering me to know that there are people that don't care. When really they just don't know. What is going on. I guess you can say that they don't care. This won't prove anything. Until you realize that that piece of land, along with all the other pieces of ~~the~~ Guam, is very important. Don't do this. We all have a voice. ~~and~~ Some more loud than others. If you want a future for this island, please sign and support resolution 228-34.

Sincerely,
- Andy J. Cruz Jr.

Dear Senators,

I am a sophomore from Southern High School. What the military is trying to do is wrong. Ritidian is home to the turtles of Guam that are going extinct. If the military use that area as a shooting range, it'll pollute the water and the turtles will end up dying. Ritidian is also a huge source for Guam's water supply. If the water gets chemicals and stuff in it then that'll affect a lot of people.. Why you gotta do us like that? The military has no right to destroy nature just because they suck at shooting and need to practice. Guam has many sacred lands that mean a lot to our ancestors, and us. Yall needa find some other place to go. Guam is too beautiful and has too much history to be dealing with this bullshit. Please sign and support resolution 228-34.

-Jasmine Alcantara

Dear Senators,

9/22/17

Buenas yan Häfa Adai! I am a Junior at Southern High School and I have some things to say about the military using Pitidian as their shooting range. Anyways, I think it's just straight up bullshit. We cannot lose anymore land for these shootings it's very unacceptable! We shall not let our future generations down! We shall NOT disappoint our ancestors and we shall NOT let our people down! Prutehi Litekyan! So please, sign & support RESOLUTION 228-34. Si yu'us Ma'ase!

Sincerely,
Arianna Joy Nauta

11/11/11, 11/11/11,
CLOWE

I am a junior from Southern
High, Please don't destory our
land. please sign & support
~~Resolution~~ RESOLUTION 228-34.

Tyler

6th level

9/11/11

4th floor

Dear senator,

I'm a southern High Students. Using
Ritidian as a firing, It's kinda messed up, and there's
one question, what happen's to ~~the~~ fish, and the
fishermen money.

228-84

Adcom
Bipartisan

Dear Senator,

Please STOP the military using Pitkin as their
shooting range. They are messing up and ruining
our island. That's all. ~~God damn~~ please sign and
SUPPORT resolution 228-34.

11/22/17

U.S. History

3rd period

Nathanial Borden
9-22-17
3rd Period

Dear Senator, plz plz plz plz
plz plz plz plz plz plz plz plz plz
plz plz plz plz plz plz plz plz plz
plz plz plz plz plz plz plz plz plz

"
Stop The Military
from Killing Our Culture."
"

Why do you have to use that place.
You guys should use a place
~~where~~ where no one is using, and
don't need.

But they use a place where our
people keep clean for our
Culture.

Please Sign & Support
Resolution 228-34.

Dear senators,

Though I wasn't born on Guam, my dad's family has lived in Guam for a long time. If we lose places with heritage like Ritidian or Pagan, I won't be able to witness/experience the culture of a true Chamorro legacy. I am actually interested in knowing more about the Chamorro culture since it's kind of similar to the Philippine culture. I hope the senators and anyone else who may read this, will stand up for Guam - for the Land. The land is the greatest evidence of ancient Chamorro culture. Losing the land will end its legacy and it won't be passed on the future generations. I hope you support and sign Resolution 228-34. Save the land, save the culture, and save the future.

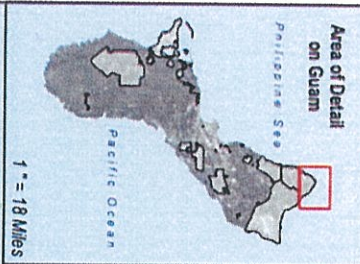
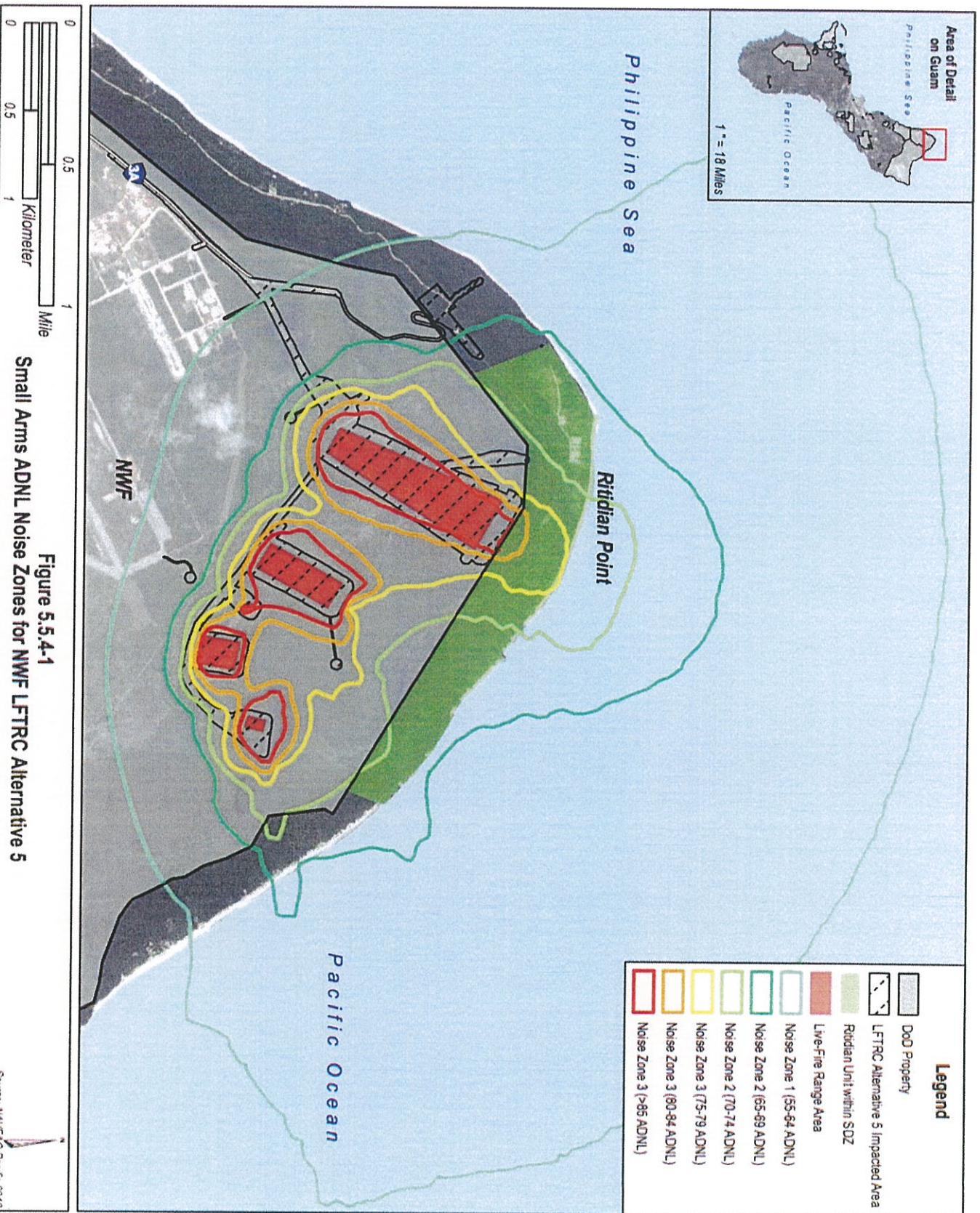
From: Mikaela Yanto, 16
Southern High School

Save Pitidian

MICHAEL
WOLF

Hey, I'm a senior at Southern High school and I have something to say about all of this crap happening on our island to our land. I am totally against the military turning our ancient land into whatever they want. I'm not even chamorro but I know it's wrong, esp. when the people of the island don't approve of such acts. I really don't care for the military so I say what I feel. They have no right to come to an island with native people already living on it and try to claim it as theirs. I'm thinking 'bout seeing the U.S. bomb by Korea cause I really don't care. We definitely thank the military for their service but quit the shit! Enough is enough.

Please sign and support
Resolution 228-34



- Legend**
- DOD Property
 - LTRC Alternative 5 Impacted Area
 - Ritidian Unit within SDZ
 - Live-Fire Range Area
 - Noise Zone 1 (55-54 ADNL)
 - Noise Zone 2 (65-59 ADNL)
 - Noise Zone 2 (70-74 ADNL)
 - Noise Zone 3 (75-79 ADNL)
 - Noise Zone 3 (80-84 ADNL)
 - Noise Zone 3 (>85 ADNL)

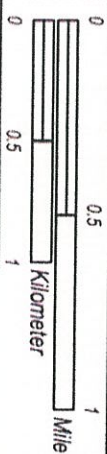


Figure 5.5.4-1
Small Arms ADNL Noise Zones for NWF LTRC Alternative 5

Source: MAI/FAC Pacific 2013

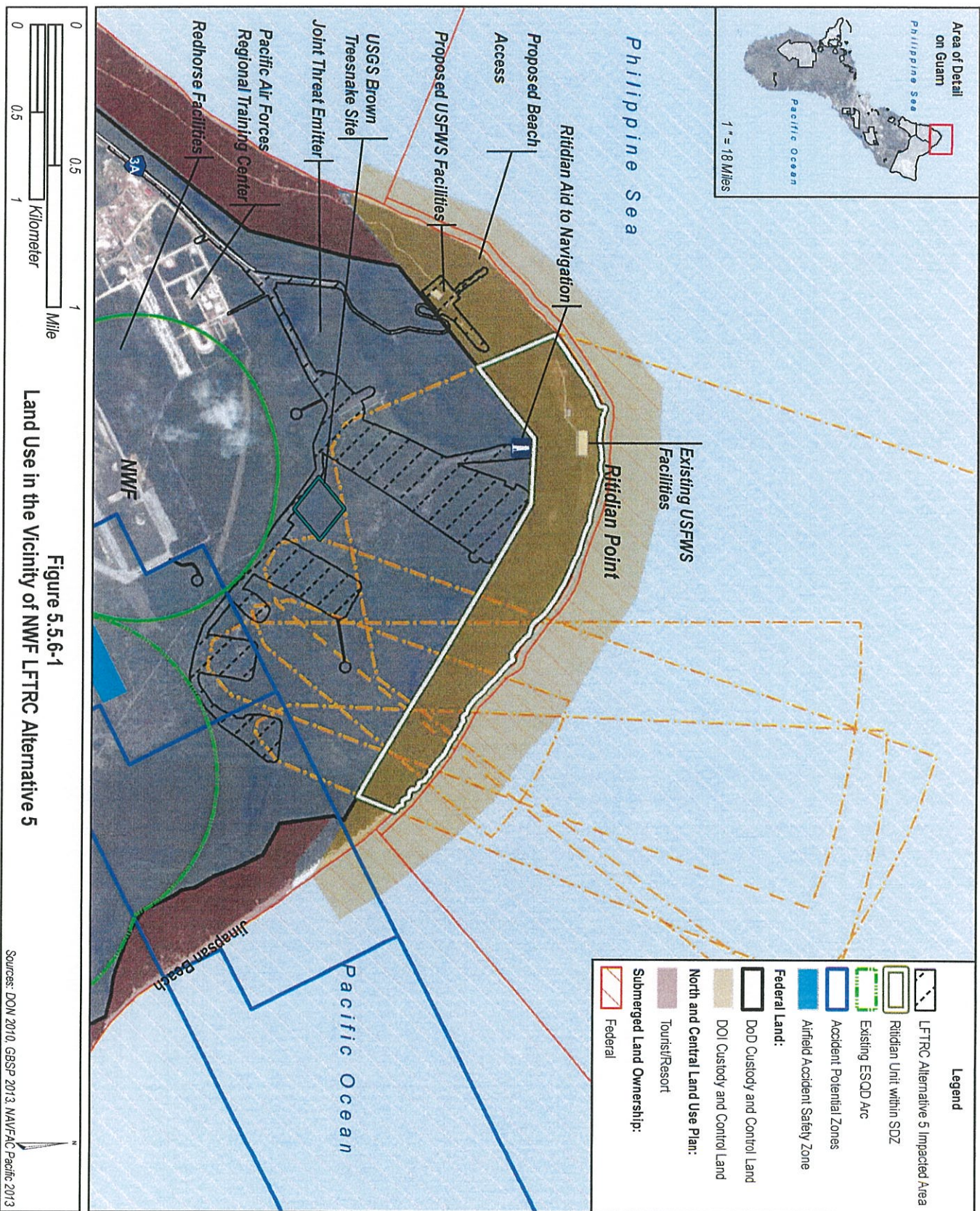


Figure 5.5.6-1
Land Use in the Vicinity of NWF LFTRC Alternative 5

Sources: DON 2010, G8SP 2013, NAVFAC Pacific 2013

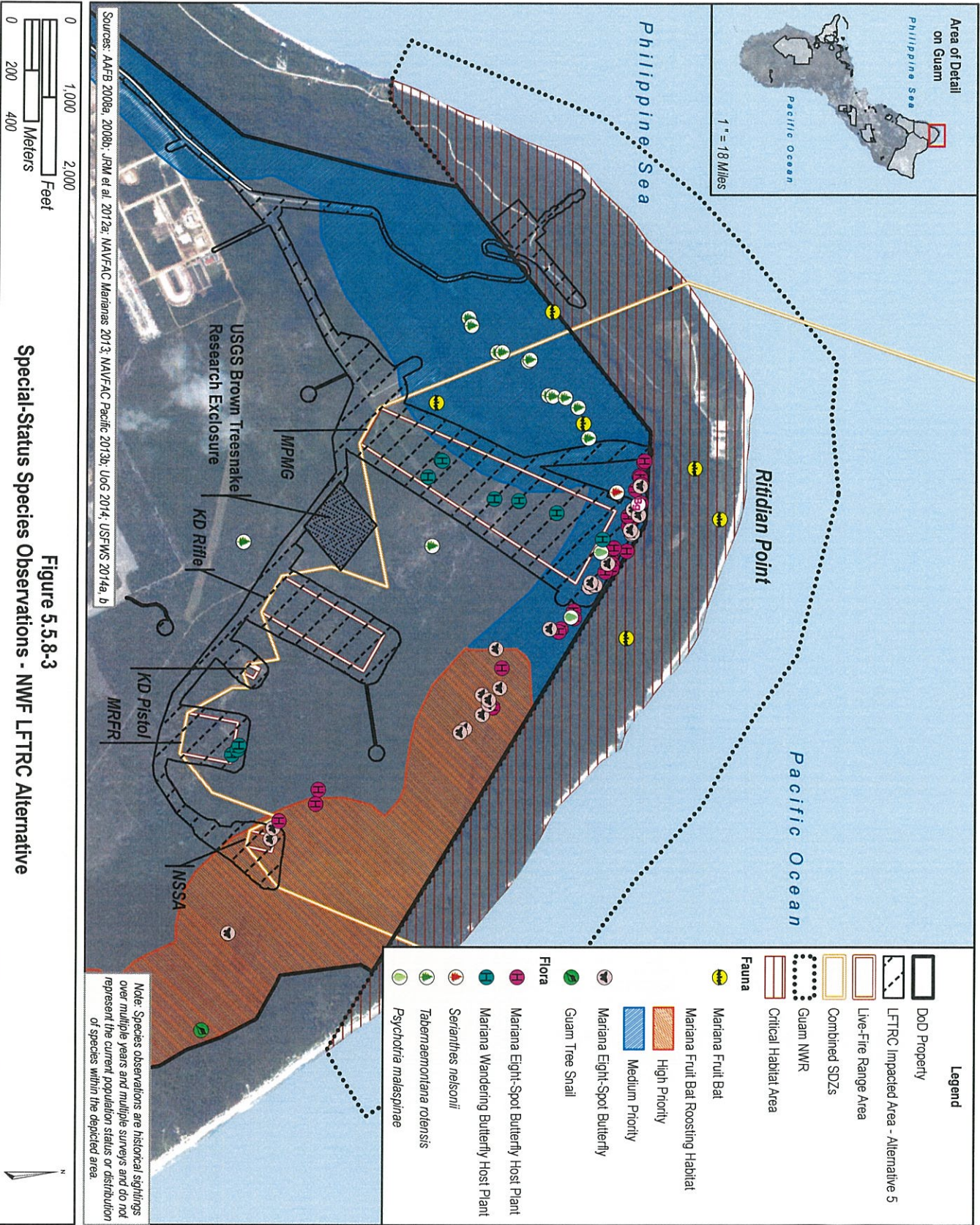


Figure 5.5.8-3
Special-Status Species Observations - NWF LTRC Alternative

Sources: AAFB 2009a, 2009b; JSM et al. 2012a; NAVFAC Marianas 2013; NAVFAC Pacific 2013b; UOG 2014; USFWS 2014a, b

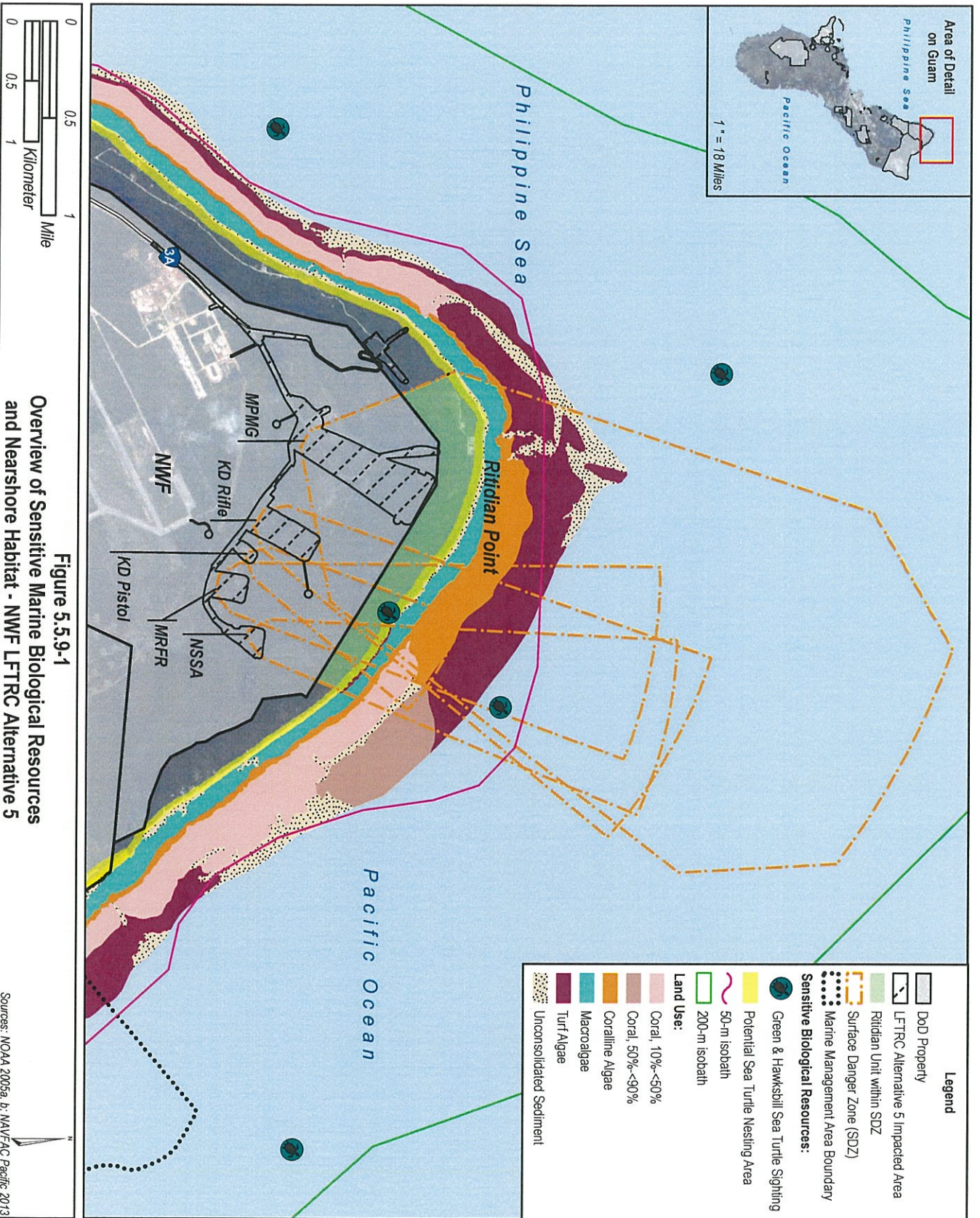
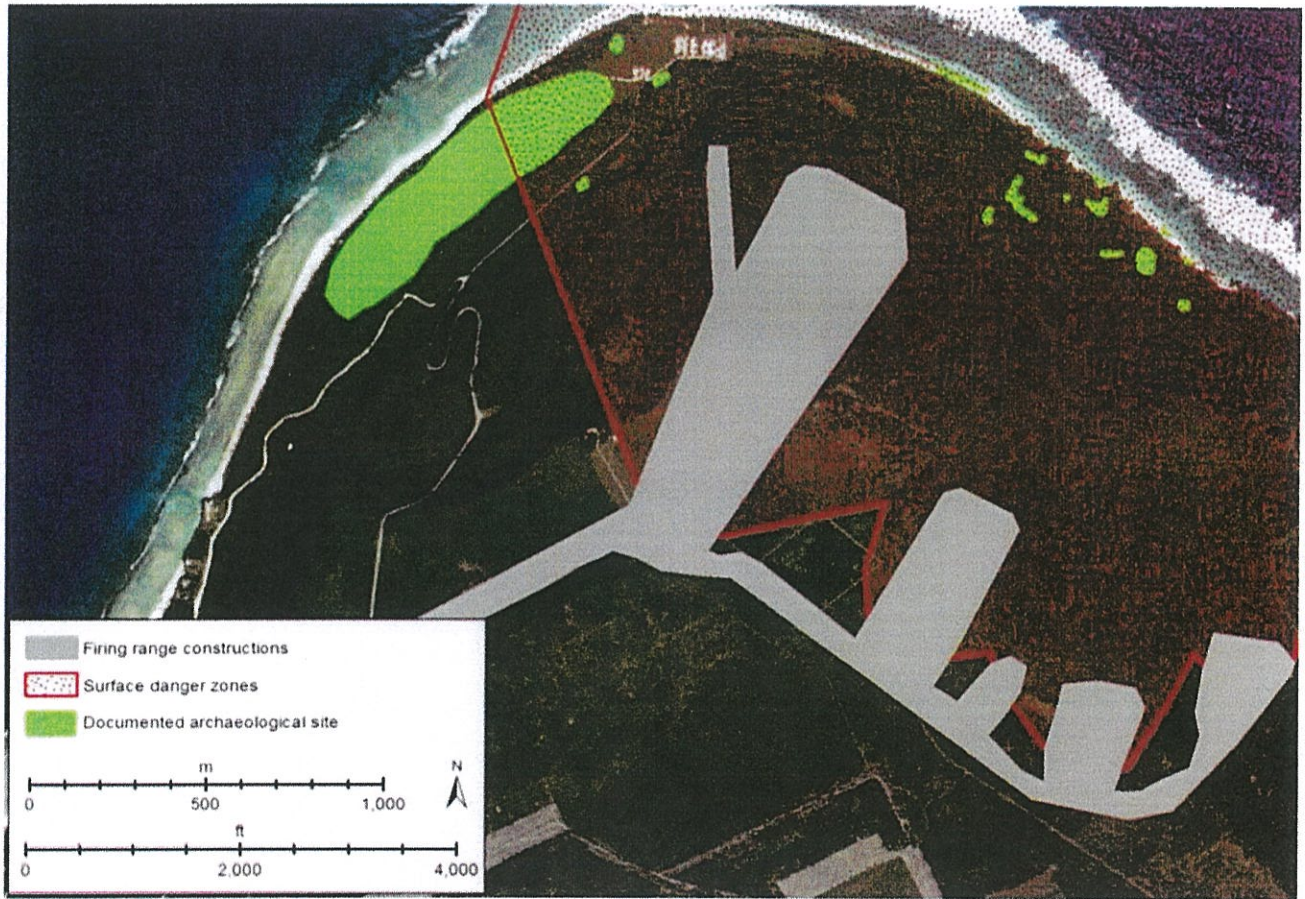


Figure 5.5.9-1
Overview of Sensitive Marine Biological Resources
and Nearshore Habitat - NWF LFTRC Alternative 5

Sources: NOAA 2005a, b; NAVFAC Pacific 2013



As prepared by Mike Carson, Micronesian Area Research Center, University of Guam, January 2017.



OFFICE OF SENATOR TELENA CRUZ NELSON

CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KU'ATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GU'AHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) As Introduced
by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson

“Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field.”

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	SIGNATURE AND DATE	TO DO PASS	TO NOT PASS	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Telena C. Nelson Chairperson		✓				
Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Vice Chairperson	9/25/17	✓				
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz Member		✓				
Senator Regine Biscoe Lee Member		✓				
Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas Member				✓		
Senator Thomas C. Ada Member				✓		
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member		✓				
Senator Mary Camacho Torres Member				✓		
Senator Louise Borja Muña Member		✓				
Senator James V. Espaldon Member				✓		
Senator William M. Castro Member	9/25/17					



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CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY
I MINA'TRENTAI KUÁTTRU NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN | 34th GUAM LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety & Homeland Security a public hearing on Friday, September 22, 2017, 4:00 P.M. in the Public Hearing Room of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Among the items on the agenda was the consideration of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR), As Introduced - "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telena Cruz Nelson.

- Introduced on September 15, 2017;
- Referral forwarded to this committee for public consideration on September 15, 2017.

Public Notice Requirements

Notices were disseminated via e-mail and facsimile to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on September 15, 2017 (5-Day Notice), and again on September 20, 2017 (48-Hour Notice), thereby meeting the noticing requirements of the Open Government Law. Notices were also transmitted to various stakeholders.

Senators Present

Senator Telena Cruz Nelson, *Chairperson*
Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje, *Member*
Senator Régine Biscoe Lee, *Member*
Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr., *Member*
Senator William M. Castro, *Member*
Senator Fernando Barcinas Esteves
Senator Thomas A. Morrison

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

Please see attached Public Hearing Sign-in Sheets

Chairwoman Telena Cruz Nelson called the public hearing on Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) As Introduced to order at 4:00 P.M. read her sponsor statement. *(Please see attached for Sponsor Statement.)*

Ann Ada Auyong
(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Marie Auyong
Guahu lökkue.

Dr. Michael Lujan Bevacqua
(Please see attached for written testimony.)

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Maria Hernandez

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Jessica Nanguata

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Lou Bejado

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Victoria Lola Leon Guerrero

Hafa Adai Honorable Senators. I want to thank you for being here and hearing us today. I want to thank Senator Telena Nelson and her Committee for introducing this powerful resolution and express my disappointment that more senators aren't here to listen to this because this is of most importance for our people right now, especially with the timeline you have shared. Thank you for taking the time to hear the people today. My name is Victoria Lola Leon Guerrero. I am originally from Toto and I live in Yona. I am a mother who loves Litekyan on so many levels. My husband proposed to me underwater in Litekyan, both my two boys took their first swim in the waters of Litekyan, and I am very grateful for the original landowners who have come before you today who have sacrificed much so that our island can enjoy this very beautiful space and who continue to fight for the justice they deserve so they can determine the future of Litekyan, we have always been clear which is to protect it. I want to talk about how it is incredibly important for us to protect this space. I would like to first begin by continuing to encourage you as senators and as elected officials of our people who really set our terms to the federal government. Many of us in this room have been actively engaged in all of the public commenting period for every single environmental impact statement concerning this buildup. Every single time, our concern has remained consistent. We fought the firing range in Pagat for the exact same reasons why people here today are fighting the firing range up in Northwest Field and Litekyan. When the SIEIS came as, we were presented with Pagat, Litekyan and Fena as an option. For me in particular, I was very clear that this buildup is unjust because consent of the people was never sought and because it led to further destruction of our lands. The firing range should not be placed anywhere on Guam because the burden of the military currently is already so great on our community. These sites have an incredibly cultural and historical significance and should never be considered for a firing range. Both Litekyan and Fena are near our water sources, which is not only dangerous and close to the historic sights there but for our health and well-being. Water is life, our community. It is a natural resource that we must always protect no matter what. That is our human right. Those who have stood against Pagat, are still standing against Litekyan. The United Nations is very clear in its charter and in any resolutions concerning decolonization that when an administering power in Guam's case (the United States) is going to make a decision that will impact the natural resources of a non-self governing territory, the consent of the community must be sought. We have never been given consent. Giving comments to an EIS is not consent. The entire process has only worked to show us that no matter how loud our voices are, they are not being heard because at the end of the day, they are continuing forward with their plans. When the SEIS came out, overwhelmingly the comments at the public hearing against the placement of the firing range at Litekyan. Yet, when the record of decision was signed, they still placed the firing range above Litekyan, completely ignoring the concerns of the community. It is through brave actions that our local leaders that we can resist. We need to consider a lawsuit as we did with Pagat. We need to appeal to the international community because they have violated international law in this instance. That is a really important thing with you as senators can do and I really encourage you to do and I would support you in doing. When the SEIS came out and they were looking at the impacts in the environment and spaces affected from the firing range, they labels many of them "less than significant impacts." I don't know how the combination of leveling just over a thousand (1,000) acres of land for the firing range and the housing is a less than significant impact when we have so few native limestone forests remaining. When we think about what military live firing ranges do, we think that it is to practice for war for somewhere in the world means death. Look at a space for what Northwest Field currently is, an undisturbed limestone forest, that gives us life, air that we need, that water should be clean and protected, that we can ensure there is

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clean water for generations to come. Guam is very blessed with a large supply of water. If we contaminate it, it is useless. It is scary for our children. I encourage our senators to make decisions that will continue to give our community life, not facilitate death. In this case, it is ultimately what it means to host a military base and we support any kind of training that eventually lead to that and that is not for our safety. We cannot be deceived by that. Most importantly with this particular space, Litekyan is one of the only places in Guam where you can go to actively see remnants of every single moment of human history dating far back as three thousand five hundred (3,500) years ago. It is one of the few places where you can go into caves and see the handprints of our ancestors with the hand and art that they left to tell for our children. According to the SEIS, only six (6) months of the year, the firing range is active. We will not be able to enter this space. It is also a space there thousands of school children go in to learn about their history and beautiful and natural environment that we have. It is also a space where people go to fish, feed their family every single day. Litekyan is a space where even through restrictions, landowners are able to access, they can go there to spend time with their families where their grandparents use to be. It is a space where many families go to celebrate birthdays, weddings, other momentous occasions, where memories are made. It is a beautiful space where our community cannot afford to lose. There is so much I can say. I want to let others speak. I want to commend this bold action, encourage our senators to continue to speak out in injustices, pursue a lawsuit and seek action from the international communities, and we can really ensure that this space is not destroyed. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase!*

Else Demeulenaere

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Rosario Perez

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Starlet Cruz and Stacey Guerrero on behalf of Manhoben for *Guahan*, provided oral testimony in support of the resolution and expressed their concerns for the importance of not having a live firing range in Guam's pristine natural environment. As representatives of the youth, they highlighted the need for the people to stand together in order to prevent a firing range on Guam.

Paul Zerzan provided oral testimony in opposition of the resolution stating that false statements were made in Senator Nelson's document that put the military in a bad light, like the actual impact the ranges would put on the surrounding environment. He expressed that Guam's environment should be preserved and that the military does a better job of taking care of the land than the people of the community. He noted that trash accumulation and pollution at local parks and beaches and that most of the historical and cultural sites on Guam could be found on military properties because the military protects them. He shared that he has every doubt that the people here would be good stewards of the land.

Bass Schils provided oral testimony in support of the resolution highlighting the critical environmental impacts, which would be detrimental, should a firing range be placed in North West Field.

Bob Pelkey

Good afternoon Senator Nelson, Vice Speaker Terlaje and Senator Esteves. Thank you for the invite to this public hearing. I am the President of the Young Men's League of Guam (YMLG) and I am also a Vietnam veteran. I want to go and buy a gun so when the North Korea missile comes, I can shoot it down with the military. Maybe we need to practice also (referring to the firing range). To be formal, I come before you as the President of YMLG. This is a very important issue because we are going to destroy our lands again. The military is dictating what we should do in our home. Who are we? We are the people of this land. Why are these people from outside coming in? They are not giving us a chance to air our concerns and are dictating what we should do with our lands. This Litekyan village, I know that the landowners are the Castro family and I am a Pelkey. Why are we going to continue destroying our lands? There are Chamorro medicines up there (referring to the village) that you cannot find nowhere but there. There are indigenous animals there that we have been trying to protect. So

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when they say “endangered” species, who decided they were endangered? The Americans, the white people. In the past, it was not endangered. But we are Chamorros, we are the ones soon to be endangered because we are constantly being invaded in our own lands. I am here today to speak because it is now one hundred (100) years that the YMLG has existed, one hundred (100) years since we have voiced this problem and pushed the issues we face today concerning our culture, traditions and the use of our lands. This war, we are not the one who brought this war to our lands. Why are they going to practice on our land when they are the ones who brought the enemies to us? Ever since, we have never involved ourselves with the act war because we truly and deeply believe in harmony and making things better for our land, our ocean, our animals and working together as one people. Even the person you despise, your mother will tell you, “Help that person, guide that person, maybe there is something he is suffering from that caused him to be that way.” We need to wake up and stand as Chamorro because this is our land. It is not too late for us to change the path we want to take for our lands. We have to, like what Mr. Garrido mentioned earlier: Let us unite our voice and make it clear that we are the one to determine if we want a firing range to be built up there. Those Mexican people and those who were affected by the recent storm, was all destroyed. This was all caused by a natural disaster. Now, we are going to allow the federal to come for them to destroy us. Then they raised their fence and tell us that only on that side of the fence we are allowed to live, not inside the fence because this is American land, since when do the Americans have land here? They sold us like we are infected, like the Spanish to the Americans, twenty (20) times over. What is the true value of the Chamorro? For me, I am worth more than twenty (20) times over and I am only one (1) person, how much are you going to pay me? We need to get together, all of us that believe in protecting our land because our natural resources, our air, the ocean, for the livelihood of our children. How many people are remaining today like me, the elderly, with white hair? So what are we going to leave behind for our kids? Are we going to leave them with bulldozer roads and firing ranges? Then I say, “When you are born into this world, I am going to buy you a firearm so you can go to Litekyan and shoot at the firing range.” We need to give you a big appreciation and ask you to continue to support this resolution. To all the senators that are not here because maybe this is not important to them or they are at other engagements, I can respect that but when the time comes for voting for this resolution, I hope that they are all here to support our people of this land because this is our land. Chamorros stand up! Thank you.

Zita Pangelinan

Hello and good evening, Honorable Senators that are here to protect our lands. We are lost as People of the land and we cannot heal our people until we heal our Land and the water. We need to get back and understand who we are so that we can protect our Lands for the wellbeing of who we are. We are here today with Rosalia Mateo, known as “Mamma Chai.”

Rosalia “Mama Chai” Mateo

My name is Rosalia Mateo, known as “Mamma Chai,” I treat the little children and the elders. I massage babies and I also treat them as well as the elders, in which we provide local medications to. I am eighty-one (81) years old, and I never bring my kids to the hospital, only in 1973. I went to see a doctor in 2009 and I have no problem for drinking CHamoru medicine and if Litekyan is closed, we cannot take any more medicine. That is where I am taking my medicine for the *manamko*. Especially for me, that is it.

Zita Pangelinan

I am Zita Pangelinan, the go-to for Mama Chai for the foundation. The months back, Mama Chai we to gather local medicine for this one infant and from eight o’clock in the morning until five o’clock in the evening she could not find any. The job of a healer is very tough, on the first month of opening *Guma Yo’amte* (house of healing), there were seventy (70) patients that we treated and this past month we treated more than three hundred (300) patients that came to see us, it is really tough and very exhausting for Mama Chai and Auntie Francis Meno who assists five other healers and an apprentice with *Guma Yo’amte* and they continue to heal patients even though the medicine is never enough. All this, the *GaoGao Uchan*, the *Tupan Ayuyu*, the *Potpotpot*, the *Inanasu*, the *Katman Tasi*, the *Pechalang*, the *Luluhot*, the *Aga Telang*, the *Meaga*, the *Dadansing malabla* a lot of this will aid our people who has heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and all other diseases relative to this. This could also aid the spirits of our people if we could protect our lands because we are all one.

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Jose Ulloa Garrido

Thank you very much for allowing me to speak tonight. I am a son of a person that was stripped of his land from both sides of his family. Until today, we have been suffering from this sickness of land taking. This is why I feel like this today and how angry I am when I speak about land, our Chamorro land on Guam. We have indeed a big family but with small land because the military took him all. I am Jose Ulloa Garrido, from Harmon Cliff Line, also known as the smoking volcano area. We are the original family who started this fight for our lands and we are still here. I will continue speaking in Chamorro but I know for a fact that not everyone understands and I am not going to ask for an apology but all of this sickness with being colonized as Chamorros and there is amongst us that we talk about ourselves that we do not all speak Chamorro. If you know our story, then you realize that you are wrong for saying that. I will speak in English now so that everyone can understand. There are a number of times where I came and spoke in on this issue and until now, we are still fighting for our lands. I really believe that there is one way to solve this problem, to have blood on this road. Research and study the status of our people, past and present because it is nothing but genocides, violence and blood. And that is the way to get what you want in the United States. I am not advocating it, I am only telling you, read the history of the United States, the path we are doing right now is very passive. But please allow me because I am getting old, and this problem that we have right now is as old as me. I was born in 1944 during the Japanese Occupation. I experienced being a colonized person in Mannengon. I was just a baby. Then after that we moved up to the concentration camp at Mata, Talofof where we stayed for four years because we had no land to go to. So just imagined how we feel, I am always a man looking back in anger. Always, and I hate to be angry. I apologize to you. The U.S. Military is not the best steward on this island, just because it has limestone forest? That is just the remains of the 20,00 they destroyed. Did you know that? When they created Andersen Air Force Base, north field, they bulldozed 18,000 acres of limestone forest. Know that, even North West Field, there is a lot of ancient villages. But let me say this because I want to be a little technical because the young generation I know the feeling, we are all environmentalists, I do not want anything destroyed up there but let me say this, madam chair, I fully support Resolution 228-34. I am or was a consulting party on this Section 106 Program and the Agreement of the military buildup and this is my statement. Thank you for having a public hearing on this resolution which allows Chamorro's like me to publicly state my concerns with patience and fortitude to listen to the many perspectives and advocacies our people have in regards to the effect of the buildup on our Chamorro history, land and culture. The clear problem I have been saying being involved in the discussion is that Guam does not have the territory capacities to observe the buildup overall. And long term needs without suffering the tremendous adverse affect this buildup will have on the Chamorro people's rights to their land and natural resources. Their economic rights, their social rights, their cultural rights, their traditional rights, their water rights, their ocean rights, their air rights, their land rights, and their right to continue existence as the indigenous people of Guam and the Marianas island. Allow me to speak on behalf of the Chamorro people, if I am allowed. Those whose rights will be most affected. Not this guy, he has no connection. He is truly an American. I am of this community, the Chamorro community. Since the landfall of people with power and might to rule over our people and territories who have no legal status to resist the invasive nature of the military buildup currently being instigated by secret forces without regards to our human rights. Some of these concerns may not be germane to the discussion at hand which focuses on Section 106 Program and the Agreement but these concerns are in fact the cumulative effects that eventually will surface and will have to be dealt with much more serious consequences. We have the right to our indigenous demographic stability, politically, socially, within our own territory with the full expectation of the increase of our own indigenous population without suffering the consequences of an increasing immigrant population that continues to arrive under the US immigration policy without regards to the U.S. commitment and obligation to protect and respect our Chamorro people in accordance to the UN treaty regarding non self governing peoples and territories. That current political status of our people and that of the Government of Guam do not have the legitimate right to approve, accommodate, and support the US military buildup, as neither have the political sovereignty, nor the natural legitimacy to do so. Although our colonial status allows us to be involved in the program and the agreement and negotiation, with respect to the protection of our prehistoric and historic heritage, we cannot support the US Military increase in the occupation as long as our people remain in historical status. Tee position I advocate, madam chair, opposes any military increase in the occupation of Guam and the Marianas that is not based on a treaty respecting the sovereignty of the United States and Guam

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or the Chamorro people. No other people. It does not matter if he has been here one hundred (100) years on Guam, he is not with us. Our colonized status can not be part of the agreement and guidelines respecting our Chamorro heritage but holds every federal and GovGuam agencies responsible and accountable for their actions and approvals of alternatives that are inconsistent with the consensus of the people concerned with the effects of the military buildup. Guam's political status does not affirm any inherent right, i.e. sovereign right for any government of Guam agency or appointed committee to represent the paramount interest or human rights of the Chamorro people not withstanding any Organic Act granting the authority to do so. The Organic Act of Guam does not have the legitimate authority to grant the Government of Guam or any agency to approve negotiations because we are all colonized. The local government in discussions of any manner have failed in any duty they have been authorized to represent the Chamorro people in any authority or issues that Chamorros are waiting to be addressed. I address that Guam's political status be taken into consideration before any Section 106 problem and the agreement. I do not want to be long in this but sometimes to bring the matter up at focus sometimes you have to speak a little longer so bear with me I am almost finished. The buildup and any agreement that have been accommodated by any Government of Guam agency, have no legitimate right to approve anything and will be a clear violation of the human rights of the Chamorro people and will remain so until Guam's political status be decided by US congress. It is not true that the onus is in Guam. The U.S. is the one that took the matter on the table to split Guam from the Marianas Islands with Spain. No one passed any law to split Guam and the Marianas. These two countries took it in their own hand. There is no need for a plebiscite to reunite. Congress only has to pass a law that says Guam and the Marianas is reunited. In any case, we demand compensatory mitigation in the taking of denial of Chamorro land, denial of access, denial of traditional hunting and gathering, denial of fishing, denial of natural resources or and or the release of our lands stolen since 1899. Let me make something open to the public. The Guam Legislature should pass a resolution to require the department of Land Management to go and survey lands in Anderson Air Force Base to find out where the heck is the Government of Guam properties within the base. There is a lot of property below the cliff that does not belong to Anderson. The Government of Guam had known that that was an issue for years but kept quiet. The Legislature should pass a resolution requiring an investigation in such matter so that we can know where federal lands begin and where it ends. Let me clue you in. At the beginning of the D.E.I.S. when all these things are coming out. Immediately, Anderson and US Navy Base went out and started tenting their survey marker right out in the street. Do you see that when you enter Anderson? The blue line that says US government property? That wasn't like that before. Did our Government of Guam be interested in finding out whether these guys are taking properties from us? We have to be all-inclusive in our desire to get things straight. I am sorry to say, yes. Ritidian below the cliff is a very important and significant archaeological history of our people, but the most accumulative archaeological sites that we have as a people is in Fena. There are over four hundred (400) latte out there that have been identified as well as artifacts, but its being kept secret because when they stole that land to create Fena, they kept that from the people. There is still information you can ask the Navy to provide because the property of Fena is a very restricted area. Also by the way, ask how many carabaos are there? I understand they massacred them several years ago. In any case, madam chair and senators, some of us are advisers only, some of us are advocates, some of us are U.S. citizens, while some of us are colonized. Many of us are enemies of ourselves. Guam should only be considered as one option. Many places are considering many options. That's the problem. They created many options in regards to the firing range. They put down Pagat, Finegayan, and now Ritidian. Guam is too small, Guam is not Australia and Guam is 3 times smaller than Okinawa. I am telling you this because these are things we should understand. And when I talk about live fire training range and alternatives, I think this is the violation of the N.I.P.A. process. The only way to stop the live firing range is to be all together and have the government and have the Governor declare independence legitimately at the UN General Assembly and the governor should mention to the assembly that the people of Guam have declared independence to be affect in two years. Other than that we are protesting as US citizens, and it is just a process within the nation. The live firing range will just proceed and I do not know what to do. I do not want the live firing range and I do not support the live firing range. It should go outside of Guam. I am sorry for being long and being angry in a public hearing. I guess I deserve to be angry after seventy three (73) years of colonization. Thank you Madam Chair.

Teihini Davis

Hafa Adai, my name is Teihini Davis and I am here on behalf of the youth community of Guam as well as representing Southern High. I sit here pretending to be someone with high tolerance for intolerable military action and behavior because in reality I do not. I want to go more into depth as to why I am for Prutehi Litekyan because it deserves all the attention in the media and its effects are long term and negative. Number one, this construction in Ritidian is only the beginning of a domino effect in which the military will be comfortable taking property from our people until those properties are no longer suitable because conditions are so and they will be considered excess. At that time, we the people of this island will no longer wake up to a place where we no longer see our beautiful colorful sunrise due to pollution, or swim or fish in our waters due to chemical contamination and I would hate for Guam to be that paradise where deforestation is normal and present. Number two, our children. Because I was born in this island, it is my responsibility to look after this land for future generations to come in the way that I know. So my kids can know how to fight for the right things like I did when I was their age and no god forbid, a place overpopulated by the military where we have to tell our kids that we have no land for them because it was taken away without our say. Number three, the families that have been fighting for Ritidian for decades. They have been walking through these doors and making testimony to reclaim their rightful land for decades. That is longer than I have been born. I am only seventeen (17) and in that span of seventeen (17) years, these beautiful strong families have been living a battle and still continuing pleading to the government, mopping the floors of these room with their tears. That is why I support returning Litekyan to their rightful landowners because we have seen the struggle they have been through. As a Chamorro, my responsibility includes standing up for the island I walk on, standing up for the land that I was raised on. This island is so small, thirty one (31) miles long and seven (7) miles wide, there has to come a time where we must say stop. No, we have not forgotten WWII, and for that to the US we are grateful, but I am not alone in saying that since then the people of Guam have been treated with little respect since the end of the war. But, my Chamorro culture is a culture of strong united people, so I have prepared my closing statement in a way that I thought would hopefully move the people in this room, our senators, our governor, our congresswoman and especially our elders who believe we are powerless. My heart breaks for my home, please people of Guam, from the young to our elders, wake up and speak up to protect Litekyan. Do not permit them to take our land, respect our land and love our culture because we are writing our history to shape the future of our island. Chamorro or not Chamorro, we are all together on this island, we swim in the same waters, we breathe the same air and when our island is destroyed, we cry the same tears. *Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase todus hamyu.*

Adrian Davis

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Dr. Kelly Marsh Taitano

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Christina Bejado Nellis

I am the descendant of Benigno Leon Guerrero Flores and Delores Martinez Flores the original landowners of Lot 9987 at Litekyan. I just wanted to say *Saina Ma'ase* to all the senators for still being here. To the youth, I am so empowered by them because I am an educator myself so seeing children up there is great. *Biba Manhoben!* I spoke a few weeks ago at the last public hearing so tonight I am going speak on behalf of my younger cousins. This is a testimony of Natalie Bejado and Kathleen Bejado. I would also like to dedicate this to my late Uncle Christopher Flores Bejado. He recently passed away in July and was a big supporter of this fight as well. Growing up, we did not have the opportunity to make memories at Ritidian like our older cousins did. The land was taken away by then so our memories associated with Litekyan are memories of beach days that had to end at four (4) o'clock in the afternoon. When we think of Litekyan we think of our father, Christopher Flores Bejado, recalling his memories of when he was a child spending most of his time at Ritidian. He would always tell us, "I need to fight for this land so you can enjoy it like I did." We love listening to our family members tell us about the times that they had spent there however it saddens us to not have experienced it ourselves. It is painful to have such a deep connection to our land but are not able to cherish it the way he was able to or that they were able to.

Nevertheless, we know this is why our family has never stopped fighting. In our Chamorro culture, we do all that we can do to provide for our future generations. We fight so hard for our rights and for our culture because that is what we do as Chamorro people, *taotao tano*, people of the land. Guam is our home and we should never allow anyone to destroy our homes for target practice. We hope that one day we will be able to go to Litekyan just as our cousins and our elders have. Just as our elders have never stopped fighting, we must now take on the cause for the hope of our future families. We will continue fighting for our land, for our father for our family and for our future generations to come. *Saina Ma'ase!* I am going to end with the quote I ended with last time from the late Senator Angel Santos, "We cannot be passive or silent when human beings endure suffering or humiliation. We must step forward and take sides. We must assist immediately. At times we may fail, at times we make mistakes. But we must never make the mistake of failing to try. People deserve nothing less." Tonight it just seems like there is so much happening and there are these deadlines. But to let go of all the beautiful parts of our island is to say that we have given up. If you look at all these people out on a Friday night when they could be doing so many other things. Just last week we were with Senator Terlaje and now it moved Senator Nelson to make this hearing then so many of the senators have signed our petition and it has become this momentous time of our lives and look at all the youth here. Just in January, I signed on to Prutehi Litekyan and my Chamorro vocabulary has grown hearing the *manamko* speak and hearing youth speak in Chamorro and its like oh my gosh I need to get to Hurao right now! That is how passionate this is moving us. To become better people. I was so moved by tonight and thank you for listening to all our testimonies. Amen.

Dr. Lisa Linda Natividad

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Lauren Swaddel

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Luke Davis

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Kallen Perez

Hafa Adai Senator Esteves, Senator Morrison, Vice Speaker Terlaje and Senator Nelson. Thanks for staying so late and thanks to Senator Nelson for introducing this resolution. My name is Kallen Perez and I am 28 years old in 2015 when I was 26, I became a cancer orphan when both my parents who were both doctors died of stage 4 cancers 88 days apart from each other. I am here to talk about my father, Dr. Chris Perez. He is not an activist, I am not speaking on behalf of him. I am speaking on behalf of myself about him. My dad would not be found at protests, he would be found at his office. That was his calling. He was also a patriot. He was in the national guard, and he held the position of state surgeon the highest position available in his command. Despite my dad's patriotism, he was not so naive to believe that everything the military does is beneficial to the earth or its inhabitants. During my dad's time in the military he was deployed to Iraq where he saw pretty atrocious things like open pit burning of plastic, tires, and human fecal matter. My dad frequently believed in the values of America including freedom justice and the pursuit of happiness. But he also realized that many of America's military actions directly goes against these values. He was a member of the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors (PARS). He believed that the bombs in the Marshall Islands had greatly impacted his health and the health of the people of Guam I commend Senator Nelson for realizing that this issue is not necessarily anti-patriotic. The opposition to the fire range is not Anti-American its pro-justice. Like my father, this resolution is pro-*Guahan*. I believe that the decisions of the legislature should be pro-*Guahan* also. Therefore I commend Senator Nelson and all the senators who support the resolution. Thank you.

Chairwoman Nelson

Thank you Kallen, I just wanted to say that your father was also my pediatrician. He did a surgery on my hand but its still a little discombobulated.

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Kallen Perez

Dad!

Chairwoman Nelson

He took the cuticle from my foot and put it in my finger and we had a long running joke where he said, "Smell your middle finger its gonna smell like your foot" Just wanted to share that with you. He also wrote my recommendation for medical school. Unfortunately I did not attend, but I did get accepted with his recommendation. He is a great man.

Former Senator Hope Alvarez Cristobal

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Bernadette Flores

Hafa Adai! My name is Bernadette Flores. I did not come here prepared with anything written but I feel compelled to say something brief. As a direct descendant of Jinapsan property owner, the Flores Castro Families. It is beyond heartbreaking to imagine our land being taken away. It is so close to Litekyan. The fear is ever present and growing, especially if nothing good comes out of all of the efforts put forth to keep Litekyan pristine and not completely destroyed. It is something that I wish I had more time to write and direct my thoughts in a more eloquent manner. It is something that is worth all the hours sitting here. Please continue the fight and thank you very much.

Luke Bukikosa

Good night. *Buenas Noches*. Is there a Chamorro word for good night besides *buenas noches*? Isn't *buenas noches* more Spanish? I just wanted to start off by making that point. I'm 16 and a junior. As youth, I feel like unless we have someone directly related to us, our connection to our ancestors is broken. And our history is broken. If we allow the military to take any more, its ironic because we were named Ladrones, the Thieves, but I feel as history went on we went from being the thieves to being stolen from. It's not even that they are stealing, they are taking what they are stealing and not utilizing it. Our students are learning a hybrid of our language that is no longer Chamorro, it is what they call post-Spanish Chamorro. It's more Spanish than it is Chamorro. When I enter Chamorro class and my *Sinot* says *Buenas Dias*, I freak out because my Spanish teacher says the same thing. Am I learning Spanish or Chamorro? My grandmothers both survived the occupation of Japan, and I do not want to make it sound like I am not appreciative of what the United States has done for us but it comes to the point where too much is too much. Sumay was the home to many people. I am sure everyone in this room is related to someone who was from there. Now Litekyan, how much are they going to take? Can you really wake up in the morning and say, "I'm not from here. I'm from somewhere that is now a military base that is used to fire rounds and rounds." We live on a beautiful island. I live a staycation every day in my life, but if you let them do this, it won't be the same *Guahan*. It will be an isolated area that is more US soil than *Guahan*. Yes we are U.S. soil but we treat it as our own. We take care of it we nurture it. But if these people were to use it as a live fire training range, these people would not clean it as the Chamorro culture states. Leave the land in a better state than they found it. These people will not leave it as they found it. They would leave their toxins and debris. This place is more than just an area. Our land is who we are. Yes, I'm only 16 and I've never even been to Litekyan. I'm from an island and I don't like to swim and I don't like eating fish but that doesn't mean I'm not from this island. You know? When I came here originally, my Chamorro teacher called me "Oh, there's extra credit". But I was compelled to come up here and say what I feel. But the military doesn't care what I say. They care what you guys say. Our leaders our senators, our speakers, our governor. They don't care who I am, or who I will be or who I was. They care about those of you sitting in those chairs in a place of position. They don't care that thousands of our family members have lost their lives to protect our island. They only care about those who are elected in the democratic society that they brought here, that they set up. And I'm not trying to say that you were given power by them. We voted for you. But it's a system that we as Chamorros did not set up. We are living lives that our ancestors do not want us to live. Can we really look in the mirror and say that I'm living the life of a Chamorro? I feel like the youth have lost a vision of what being truly Chamorro is. I feel like if

one of us went outside dressed in what our ancestors wore, no one would say "oh you're doing great, you're being traditional." They'd look at you and wonder, "this guy is stuck in the past." The respect wouldn't be given. Now the youth wear crowns and Hafaloha and Guam made companies. And that's as traditional as we get. I feel like even worse, our fluent speaker ratio is almost non-existent. I feel like just the percentage of Guam who actually speak Chamorro is just not there. We have academies like Hurao who are trying to bring it back and I'm thankful for it. In Chamorro, I actually have a friend who's fluent and whenever my teacher writes on the board, he instantly grabs it. And I say why can't I be like that? All of our *manamko* are up here speaking fluent Chamorro, and I look to my Chamorro teacher and say, "can you translate this? Because I'm lost." I'm lost and I want to be found. I just feel hopeless. My friend was telling me if you really care about it, devote your life to it. But people outside of the island don't understand how important your language and your culture is to you. If a mass genocide of all English speakers were to happen, that's happened to Chamorro speakers. They have to depend on the dying generation to teach them. Is it too much to try to understand what our language, our culture what our history is about. We always say that Chamorros are the strongest people. Are roots go as deep as coconut roots and their culture flows as deep as our water, but how can we say that about ourselves if we don't understand who we are? I'm not putting a gun against your head to say to pass this, what I'm asking is for the betterment of our youth and our future. Help us to preserve our culture. Without our culture there is no use for the safety that they preach. What use is the safety that they preach is the reason why they take our lands, and stuff, when we are not ourselves? Can you truly be safe if we don't even know who we are? Thank you, *Si Yu'us Ma'ase!*

Harold Cruz

Buenas Noches yan Hafa Adai, Senators. For the past 25 years, I've been coming down to the Legislature to testify things on Chamorro Rights, Lands when I used to protest with Senator Angel Santos. Nothing makes me feel better than sitting in a room with people who want to fight for their island, their identity, their culture and their future of their kids. Earlier I was sitting back their with my wife and saying that I was going miss Amista at 6:30 but I will try and go afterwards. The lady who sat there in the last round, she took a quote I was going to read, but it was so powerful. "We cannot be passive or silent when human beings endure suffering or humiliation. We must step forward and take sides. We must assist immediately. At times we may fail, at times we make mistakes. But we must never make the mistake of failing to try. People deserve nothing less." That was from the Late Senator Angel Santos, who in 1995 wrote this in his first term as his senator, and I was his chief of staff. If you sat in this room, then this quote is out to you. If you sit in silence, you won't get anything done. You may not think your voices will be heard, but someone will hear it. Someone will hear your cry. To make things short, I sit here with future Dr. Rebecca, on Monday, we took a tour, a coastal tour out to Litekyan from the ocean side. It really bothered me because isn't it enough that the federal government occupies one third of our island, the most pristine beautiful parts to add. Now they want to take 5 miles of the best fishing areas right outside Litekyan, and we went out there in two little boats. We counted 7 fisherman on a very beautiful day, who knew that there are only certain days to go out there where the waves were calm enough to cast your reel and bring up enough fish to sell and feed your family. We only went out two and a half miles from Litekyan from the coast. You had to have been there to have that feeling where you say to yourself, enough is enough. My message is that it's not too late. Never think it's too late. Continue your fight. I have no special interest in Litekyan besides that part of my culture is up there. I have no connection to anyone who owns lands out there. I'm fro Ordot, where you get bit by ants everyday so you call it Ordot. Don't stop the fight. Continue the fight. Reach out the senators who were not here tonight. I assure you that Senator Castro supports the resolution. My hats off to senator Nelson and Esteves who dawn uniforms, and to actually stay here tonight to support the resolution it means a lot. Takes a lot of courage to support a resolution that actually goes against another "god" you work for. Thank you for letting me testify tonight.

Rebecca Garrison

(Chamorro) I'd like to start by recognizing this space as Indigenous Chamorro land. I respectfully and humbly move forward knowing that I'm a settler of this island. Thank you to the senators especially Senator Nelson for authoring this resolution that is opposed to a live fire training range at Litekyan. I would also be remiss to not at least offer my sincerest apologies for the Taimamalao for mister Paul Zerzan but also praise the bravery of all my other non-Chamorro folks standing in solidarity.

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On Monday I had the great fortune of being invited by Senator Castro as a member of Prutehi Litekyan to accompany he, a scientist, a fellow activist, and the media with Chamorro fisherman to Litekyan. What I learned and saw that day was awe inspiring, The beauty of the waters literally took my breath away. What I learned from all the beauty there is that Litekyan is majestic. Not just from the land but from the water as well The caption shared oral histories of the different coves of Chamorro relevance. Certain spots are good for certain fish at certain times of the year. These spots are passed down from generation to generation and one of the captains said, "It was my dad's dad's dad's dad and far back since anyone can remember, that we've been fishing these waters." One can imagine the sickening ways the US Government is a settler institutions rooted in a colonial history that perpetuates itself with great fluidity in the contemporary moment. One of the main objectives of the US military, so it seems, is to forcibly and violently extract indigenous memory from certain places in an attempt to alienate indigenous people from indigenous lands and their lands skies and waters. What is beautiful is that we are coming together as a community to our best to halt this at Litekyan before it happens. Again and as always I support the returning of indigenous lands to their rightful owners. *Saina Ma'ase.*

Jamela Santos

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Fanai Castro

I speak because I was asked by elders to speak tonight. I speak with the weight of seeing those that we love on this island struggle with cancer and mental health issues. I speak with the knowledge that I as a native person who holds ancestry in these lands must live and go through all these traumas. With that, I support the resolution, and I just want to pose this question for us all to think about. How long shall war be our legacy? Those who have the power hold the power to decide how long that will be. Those who hold the power are those who know that they hold the power. *Saina Ma'ase!*

Inina Cristobal Tanaka

(Please see attached for written testimony.)

Chairwoman Nelson

Thanks Inina. It's so nice to finally meet you. I work with your father, and that was a beautiful speech. Good job. I open it up to my colleagues. If there is any comments they'd like to make. Senator Esteves.

Senator Fernando Barcinas Esteves

Thank you Senator Nelson for introducing this resolution. (Chamorro) You know, everyday we have to practice. That's the steps we take to breaking that colonial mindset as you see with most colonies dealing with post colonialism especially Hawaii which is remarkably similar. It's hard to see that and look at it with a glass house. You look at historically what people have said. I know, I know, my way is better. The Takeaway is that when you got o a place. Do you go with the glass half full or half empty? I'll speak for me personally, I'm not Chamorro but I consider you as family as anyone else. In that instance blood doesn't matter, I know you appreciate the land and the culture more than anyone else more so than some of my own people. The blood doesn't connect us, it's the land that ties us. I appreciate the opportunity to speak. I wanted to throw a little history into this. (CHAMORRO) Quinine is an extract from a plant in Peru. Malaria has been a disease that plagued the world for centuries. You know who got it right? Peru got it right. They cured Malaria. Were they industrialized? Not by any means. So to not value the importance of medicine and local values, we don't know what's coming next, but what's to say the cure for the world's next big epidemic doesn't reside in Litekyan, doesn't reside in the limestone forest that either Ms. Meno or Ms. Mateo maybe know. They're just passing down generation by generation or that little composition notebook that nana keeps for her recipes or for her healing or for basically all the info we need to past down. With this I want to thank everyone for coming out. I know everyone wonders why and how long we do this for, the fight goes on. This is all on record for posterity's sake. Take it for what it is, whether I'm speaking as an indigenous person as a veteran, as a senator, I wear many hats. We are diverse in many ways. When you brought up what would I say to my newborn girl, after the

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election I was blessed with my first child and I think all the time can I look her in the face and say that I didn't fight tooth and nail to ensure that our culture isn't a cliff-note in a dusty book that no one is going to read. I think about that, is that what I'm going to leave her with? To think that any and every inch we give takes us closer that in whatever hat you want me to wear. We can talk historical fact, intellectual fact, emotional and subjective side, I can challenge that. What you are all doing here today brings values. I've been to many hearings, and I think you can say that I didn't expect to see that so many kids. I wish that young man Mr. Luke was here. The youth here thinks we have so much power. But everyone in this room who've fought this fight knows that at the end of the day the powers that be don't even listen to us elected officials. But we keep fighting. I apologize that that was long and drawn out and my Chamorro was broken. I thank all senators, and senator Nelson for sponsoring and thank everyone for being here.

Senator Thomas A. Morrison

Thank you Senator Nelson. I do want to thank Dr. Taitano, Ms. Perez, Ms. Hernandez for all the emails that were sent to me this past week having a connection with a significant place a southern historical sight. Having that connection, I can't even imagine what my family particularly my mother and what siblings she has left, how they would feel. I'm sure they would be angry. I have that connection in a sense to kind of relate. Importantly, I want to point out contrary that some may think, I strongly support this resolution. Sometimes just quietly sitting and listening and watching in order to understand the situation is important. I'm sorry I didn't respond to those emails which lead you to believe I have a different view of this whole issue. I think if you see my view historically on issue regarding protecting our natural resources and programs put in place to strengthen what we believe in. I think you can understand based on that history where I stand on the issue. I also would like to thank those responsible for the *Manhoben Para Guahan* video I had a chance to watch today. It was very moving. Two of those were my relatives from Southern high so I thank those who worked hard to make the video and I think it needs to get out there further to our community. It was powerful testimony from our youth, unscripted, pointing out our views is very important. I thank the senator for this resolution. I also saw an email that pointed out that because I didn't co sponsor the resolution and I wasn't aware that I was asked to be co sponsor of this measure but I do certainly welcome the invitation when we are to deliberate this resolution I do welcome as the senator mentioned for everyone to be included in this resolution. Thank you Chairwoman, I thank you all for testimony. I hope the powers that be are listening to the testimony here when they make their decision. I'm not sure that if they were watching this, I would hope that positions would change. There's folks that say its not too late, I do call on our Congresswoman and our governor and Lieutenant Governor to join this effort. Thank you

Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje

I will be very brief I just want to say thank you to everyone who testified tonight. You left us humbled and inspired. I think it is very similar to when there is a fight for Pagat or for us they've been fighting in many different ways for all their lives. We see the implications of that in everything they do. We received the benefit of that and have received courage from those who have come before us. It's that that gives us hope. Seeing the young people and of course watching how all this moves. You think that you are alone and you find out that you are really not and you find out that there are many people who feel the same way. It gives us hope. I have seen legislatures do things that are very bold and I hope this is one of the times. There is not one senator who sits that does not have a connection to Guam, our ancestors. I have a lot of hope in that. I am looking to our Governor, I feel his influence would be very instrumental. Everyone says we stand together. One man said, they are only going to listen to us (senators) but I do not believe that. We want our leaders to be lined up with us. We met with a Congressional Delegation that our Congresswoman allowed us to meet. We were very united. Not all senators were there, just like tonight, and that is unfortunate. There is a lot to be said about hearing it firsthand. Hopefully they are listening. In the CODEL meeting, we were all united in what is needed is a pause. We need a pause in the clearing of artifacts from these place and the plants. We know this is going on. We know there is a time line, and thanks to Dr. Marsh we have a list of why we should pause. I believe it is not damaging to anyone to pause. It is very serious matter for everyone because we know that many of our government and business leaders of Guam have gambled on this buildup and have said they would bring millions of dollars into Guam, but we are looking in multi million dollar contracts. These are our brothers and sisters doing

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these contracts. It is the University of Guam that finds out which plans are which. Everyone is trying to do our part in protecting Guam. The *infresi* was a genius way to put it all together. Everyone is trying to do that but it is very complicated with these million dollar contracts. It is a huge responsibility to do that. Know that no one is taking that responsibility lightly. I am very happy we passed the budget. It looks to me as the Government of Guam will survive, I would not say we are thriving, but a lot of work is needed. Many of you have given us a lot of ideas to improve and we need to all of that. We need to improve our own environmental stewardship; I have no debate on that. I thank you for helping us, we are here to help you and do not go because we need everybody. One inspiring thing I heard besides the testimony is that the leader of CODEL used to be a state senator but he said I know all about saving trees in our state they wanted to build highway through a one hundred (100) year forest. And archaeological sites, absolutely we need to save all of that. He has also said that the military has been good if they are talked to. He has hope for that but I am hoping that he can hear from all of us. But we just have to let them not put us against each other. Do not let them put money against us, we are going be okay, just do not let him do that. What everybody has said here tonight especially the youth, you cannot leave her not moved. These are people who have not been to this beautiful place and they are still feeling like this and that is right. We just have to keep doing what is right. I want to thank Senator Nelson for sponsoring this, I really admire her. I think she is in a position that I am hoping that will bring together all our veterans. We have a lot of veterans in the Legislature and I am very grateful for them because I think they change the discussion. We need to vocalize. I am like Senator Morrison, I am a little shy but we need to do it. Thank you everybody.

Chairwoman Nelson

I want to thank everyone for being here, I want to apologize to my colleagues. We wanted to get it in just in time for a public hearing right before session. Tomorrow they are going to go down to Haputo to collect natural resources, and the 25th they are going to bulldoze in the area of the cantonment area but definitely I am calling my colleagues to co-sponsor this. I have not talked to each one individually, but as many as I did have all agreed to co-sponsor this. We need to be united as a body. That's the only way to get it done. We need to be united. Very simple, but also very challenging at the same time. I believe that at least for me that they are really concerned with the people of Guam and their welfare. I hope we live up to that on Monday. I'm also grateful to the landowners that came out. Also it is personal to me this thing that is happening at Litekyan because at one time our land was going to be the firing range at Pagat. We Are *Guahan* group and the Preservation Trust and Joe Quinata and Camacho were very instrumental in getting it relocated and I don't think it's fair that we are looking at another piece of property. These are landowners, these are people who have a history there. I learned how to farm on my land, I learned how to spearfish, collected lobster for basketball season so me and my friends could eat lobster. It's very priceless. I understand how it feels. It feels like you're losing a piece of yourself. When we start to question the cultural identity that starts to become the intergenerational trauma that you talked about Jamela, with Dr. Taimanglo's desertation that she wrote on. Thank you for coming today we are humbled to sit here and listen to you. Especially the youth, the young ones, eleven (11) year old and younger ones are such an inspiration. If only we had the courage at that young age, I am sure we would be accomplishing so much more. Thank you for coming out and everyone have a good night. Thank you for your commitment to this cause.

Chairwoman Nelson thanked those who testified and the senators present at the hearing.

No further testimony being offered, Chairwoman Nelson then declared that Resolution No. 228-34 (COR) was duly heard.

III. WRITTEN TESTIMONY

A. Please see attached written testimonies in support of Resolution No. 228-34 (COR):

1. Ricardo Bejado Hernandez
2. Keith L. Camacho, Ph.D., Associate Professor, UCLA
3. Maria Hernandez
4. Jesse Torres

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5. Rose Marie Laguana Siguenza
6. Allan Pangelinan Santos
7. Patricia Brown Keeby
8. Jean Emmanuel
9. Pamela Duvall
10. David T. Lotz
11. Isa Arriola
12. Kyle Galindez
13. Jessica Nanguata
14. Paula Ann Lujan Quinene
15. Angelita "Angie" Mendiola
16. Elizabeth Aflague
17. Michael Acosta
18. Adrian Davis
19. Julio J. Gomez
20. Yvonne Y. Johnny
21. Luke Davis
22. Janela Santos, MSW, LPC, RYT
23. Sheena Mesa
24. Dr. Lisa Natividad, Ph.D.
25. Chelsea Resurreccion
26. Tasi Anghet Martinez
27. Dr. Robert A. Underwood
28. Former Senator Hope Alvarez Cristobal
29. Mikylah Sablan
30. Kora Dannis
31. Jesse Aguon
32. Inina Cristobal Tanaka
33. Dr. Kelly Marsh (Taitano), Ph.D.
34. Tanya Salas
35. Alexiana Mary Chargualaf Delorie
36. Marsana Asan
37. Junior E. Cruz
38. Mya Aguon
39. Jonathan Urdonuta
40. Franklin J. Toposna, II
41. Justin Aguon
42. Gabby Baracinas
43. Kaleb Leon Guerrero
44. Gerri Cabral
45. Austin Suba
46. Janalyn Salas
47. Isabella-Rose Chargualaf
48. Tonisha Torres
49. Reggie Sablan
50. Norbert Babauta
51. Cory Manley

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Tel: (671) 989-4678/7689 | Email: senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org

52. Janaya Chargualaf
53. Leinua Tajalle
54. Aiden Sanchez
55. Isaiah J. Buendicho
56. Andy J. Cruz, Jr.
57. Jasmine Alcantara
58. Giana Joy Nauta
59. Clowe Mantanona
60. Tyler G.
61. Adam Gapasangra
62. Nathaniel Borden
63. Mikaela Yanto
64. Micaiah Wulf
65. LisaLinda Natividad, Ph.D.
66. Tressa P. Diaz
67. Barbara San Nicolas Benavente
68. Lynn Marie Flores

B. Additional written testimony submitted for Resolution No. 228-34 (COR):

1. S.S. Chatfield, Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy Commander

IV. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Housing, Utilities, Public Safety & Homeland Security hereby reports out **Resolution No. 228-34 (COR), As Introduced** - "Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at the northwest field," by Senator Telen Cruz Nelson with the recommendation **TO DO PASS.**

I MINA'TRENTAI KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2017 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)

Introduced by:

Telena Cruz Nelson 

RELATIVE TO ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF GUAM, AND PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX AT NORTHWEST FIELD

2017 SEP 15 AM 9:08 C.S.

1
2 **BE IT RESOLOVED BY *I LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, Guam is an unincorporated territory and Pacific island with a
4 unique and vulnerable ecosystem; and

5 **WHEREAS**, after 57 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the
6 Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, there still remain 17
7 Non-SelfGoverning Territories, including Guam; and

8 **WHEREAS**, it has been identified by the United Nations, that military activity
9 has a negative impact on the civil rights and interests of the peoples of Non-
10 SelfGoverning Territories, including Guam, and on the exercise of their rights of
11 selfdetermination;; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Defense plans to construct the Live Fire
13 Training Range Complex on Northwest Field; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Defense has not adequately proven the need
2 for another live fire training range when several exist on island and throughout the
3 archipelago and region; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Defense lacks the necessary data to adequately
5 determine impacts on the environment and historical sites owing to incomplete
6 surveys according to federal (Section 106) standards; and

7 **WHEREAS**, at stake are one thousand acres of some of our last remaining
8 pristine limestone forests, which are natural wonders created by centuries of
9 geological processes and biological evolution and adaptation resulting in unique karst
10 formations, plants and animals; and

11 **WHEREAS**, these limestone forests are home to several endangered or
12 threatened species found only in Guam or within the CNMI, and conservation best
13 practices require that to protect a species, it is essential to protect the habitat in which
14 they live; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Guam's native and endemic species face multiple threats
16 including climate change, overharvesting, invasive species, pollution, and habitat loss,
17 which are the main causes of extinction; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the construction and operation of the Live Fire Training Range
19 Complex at Northwest Field will adversely impact ancestral and historical sites
20 located at Northwest Field – as well as those in the adjacent villages of Litekyan,
21 Urunao, Pahon, and Jinapsan, causing more adverse impact than any other site
22 alternative; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the unavoidable noise pollution generated by the operation of a
24 Live Fire Training Range Complex on Northwest Field would desecrate the numerous
25 ancestral and family burials at Litekyan; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex on
2 Northwest Field could bring about the destruction of historical sites that are also
3 significant sacred and spiritual sites for the indigenous CHamoru people, as well as a
4 number of sites considered for the Guam and National Register of Historic Places; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Litekyan is land held in trust for the community to protect our
6 heritage and provide a space for Chamorro people to connect to our ancestral past; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the overlay of the selected site for the Live Fire Training Range
8 Complex into Litekyan breaks the spirit of the Government's agreement with the
9 Department of Defense (DOD), specifying that military projects would stay within the
10 DOD footprint; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex on
12 Northwest Field could allow for contamination of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS**, according the Draft SEIS, "*Range operations under Alternative 5*
15 *have the potential to leach munitions constituents to the water;*" and

16 **WHEREAS**, the 6.7 million bullets contain lead and other chemicals that can
17 leach into our aquifer and potentially contaminate our drinking water that supplies
18 about 90% of the island's population; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex on
20 Northwest Field would be unreasonably destructive to Guam's endangered species
21 and the islands Northern Guam Lens Aquifer; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex on
23 Northwest Field would be unreasonably destructive to significant ancestral and
24 historical sites; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex on
26 Northwest Field would prevent access for traditional healers, fishermen, native

1 landowners with generational ties to this region, school children, tourists, and the
2 CHamoru people at large, is an obstruction to reconnecting to, practicing, and
3 maintaining cultural heritage and practices; and

4 WHEREAS, no mitigation measure can adequately replace permanent damage
5 to our natural and cultural resources; and

6 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Government of Guam defend the rights
7 and fight for environmental justice of the people of Guam; now therefore be it

8 **RESOLVED**, that 1. That all necessary steps be taken to halt the construction
9 of the construction of the Live Fire Training Range Complex at Northwest Field,
10 Andersen Air Force Base located directly above and thus would detrimentally impact
11 Litekyan. 2. That the 2011 Programmatic Agreement be amended to prohibit
12 Litekyan, which is listed in the Guam Register of Historic Places, from being included
13 as one of the areas of impact for military expansion on Guam. 3. The Government of
14 Guam and Department of Defense to adopt a policy that clearly protects cultural and
15 historical sites and to implement a policy of avoidance of adverse impacts instead of
16 the imposed policy of mitigation of adverse impacts for upcoming projects. 4. The
17 Government of Guam and the Department of Defense to immediately disclose all
18 information regarding all State Historic Preservation Office concurred DoD Section
19 106 undertakings and the construction dates of implementation, as well as, ongoing
20 mitigation for past and current DoD projects involving Guam's land and marine
21 resources. 5. For a Temporary Restraining Order on any construction or action that
22 increases the Department of Defense footprint on Guam and an immediate site visit of
23 the boundaries of the SDZ and the footprint of the planned LFTRC.; and be it further

24 **RESOLVED**, *I Mina'Trentai Kuattro Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
25 on behalf of the people of Guam respectfully request to address the protection of the
26 environmental and cultural resources of the Northern Coastline of Guam, and

1 Prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at Northwest Field;
2 and be it further

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
4 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the State
5 Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); to the Department of Interior; to the Honorable
6 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam Delegate to the United States Congress; and to the
7 Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI KUATTRO NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE ____ DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2017.**

BENJAMIN J. F. CRUZ
Speaker

REGINE BISCOE LEE
Legislative Secretary



https://www.postguam.com/news/local/community-calls-for-halt-to-plans-for-firing-range/article_20866582-9f6b-11e7-b96c-d3b434b6b033.html

Community calls for halt to plans for firing range

Manny Cruz | The Guam Daily Post Sep 23, 2017



PUBLIC HEARING: Sen. Telena Nelson, left, hears testimony during a public hearing on the proposed live-fire training range at Ritidian yesterday at the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña. Norman M. Taruc/The Guam Daily Post

Watch the video

Litekyan hearing

<http://bit.ly/2yhqQsO>

Sen. Telena Nelson's resolution calling for a halt to the construction of the Department of Defense's live-fire training range received overwhelming support by community members at a public hearing on Friday.

The senator introduced Resolution 228-34 on Sept. 15 and notes that not only does DOD lack the necessary data to determine impacts to the environment and historical sites to federal standards, but they also have not adequately proven the need for another live-fire training range when several already exist on island and throughout the archipelago and region, the document states.

"I'm a mother, a daughter and lanchera of this land. As a farmer, I care about what goes into our natural environment, and the proposed firing range puts our environment in danger by bulldozing vital lands and introducing lead and other contaminants to our main water source – our northern aquifer," said Merizo resident Jessica Nangauta. "Military documents even state that this firing range will have the most adverse impacts to the environment out of all its other options. Please, senators, prutehi Litekyan."

More than 1,000 acres of limestone forests, home to endangered and threatened species found only on Guam and in the Mariana Islands, are at risk of destruction or contamination. But the training range's surface danger zone, or SDZ, also extends miles out from shore.

Sen. Wil Castro, who supports Nelson's resolution, recently conducted an ocean-bound site visit to the areas that would be cordoned off as part of the SDZ.

"The surface danger zone would close off this entire area," Castro said. "Telling these fishermen they have to move out five miles would cause a devastating impact to our traditional fishing culture."

'This timeline is extremely crucial'

Nelson said she and her fellow legislators must act expeditiously if the resolution is to have its intended impact. She cited a Department of the Navy memo detailing plans to move forward with the range on Sept. 25.

"This timeline is extremely crucial," she said. "This resolution needs to be heard on session floor by Monday."

Water, along with land rights, political status and displacement, remained a central issue throughout the hearing.

"Guam is blessed with a large supply of water," said University of Guam Press Managing Editor Victoria Leon Guerrero. "But if we contaminate it – it's useless."

Overwhelming support for resolution against firing range complex 092

John I Borja, jborja@guampdn.com

Published 3:29 p.m. ChT Sept. 23, 2017 | Updated 3:29 p.m. ChT Sept. 23, 2017



(Photo: John I. Borja/PDN)

A legislative resolution with an assertive call to halt the construction of planned military firing ranges received overwhelming support Friday in a crowded hearing room.

Sen. Telena Nelson, D-Dededo, sponsor of [Resolution 288-34](http://www.guamlegislature.com/COR_Res_34th/Res.%20No.%20228-34%20(COR).pdf) ([http://www.guamlegislature.com/COR_Res_34th/Res.%20No.%20228-34%20\(COR\).pdf](http://www.guamlegislature.com/COR_Res_34th/Res.%20No.%20228-34%20(COR).pdf)), held a hearing in hopes of getting the resolution into the September session agenda. Session is scheduled for Monday.

The live-fire training range complex, which has been a focal point of controversy in recent months, is planned to be built above Ritidian, at Northwest Field, on Andersen Air Force Base. Opponents of the firing range complex say the development and subsequent training would bring destruction to the land's natural and historical resources.

Nelson and other senators listened to more than 20 oral testimonies from individuals of different generations who supported the resolution, the youngest being 11 years old. Descendants of the original Ritidian landowners also testified on behalf of their families, who said the military seized their properties from them for military defense purposes and have yet to return the land to them.

Ann Auyong, a direct descendant of original Ritidian landowner Maria C. Ada, called on the military to "please respect our people and respect our land and culture."

Catherine Flores McCollum, another descendant of original Ritidian landowners, said the fight to reclaim the land has gone on for so long, and it's heartbreaking to see the younger generation picking up the responsibility.

"Many of us have taken on this activism so that our children wouldn't have to," McCollum said.

Local farmer Jessica Nangauta, said her family lives off the land, just as the indigenous people of Guam have for centuries. More military development on the island threatens natural resources people have relied on for so long, she said.

Southern High School students Stacey Guerrero and Starlet Cruz said now is a crucial time for Guam's youths to get involved.

"We have no right to call this land our home if we're not fighting to protect our land," Guerrero said.

She told senators she has faith the indigenous people of Guam will one day restore what originally belonged to them.

Cruz grew emotional during her testimony as she told senators her generation isn't ready to hear about the end of Guam's native endangered species. She said some of her peers haven't seen the animals, such as the Mariana kingfisher and Mariana crow.

"How much more are they going to take from us?" she asked.



A public hearing on a resolution to halt the planned military firing ranges is held at the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña on Sept. 22, 2017. (Photo: John I. Borja/PDN)

Opposition

Not everyone who testified supported the resolution, however. Barrigada resident Paul Zerzan said false statements were made in Nelson's document that put the military in a bad light, like the actual impact the ranges would put on the surrounding environment.

While Zerzan agrees Guam's environment should be preserved, he said the military does a better job of taking care of the land than the people of the community.

He noted trash accumulation and pollution at local parks and beaches. Most of the historical and cultural sites on Guam could be found on military properties because the military protects them, he added.

"I have every doubt that the people here would be good stewards of the land," he said.

He received boos and disapproval from the audience. Nelson calmed the crowd and reminded them to show respect.

"We do not respond in violence the way Westerners have responded to us historically," Nelson said.

Senators on Monday will decide whether the resolution should be on the session agenda.



A public hearing on a resolution to halt the planned military firing ranges is held at the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña on Sept. 22, 2017. (Photo: John I. Borja/PDN)

READ MORE:

Generations of protest: Former Ritidian landowners want their land back
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/04/generations-protest-former-ritidian-landowners-want-their-land-back/624063001/>)

Save Ritidian to congressional delegation: Stop firing ranges
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/22/save-ritidian-congressional-delegation-stop-firing-ranges/692024001/>)

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Prutehi Litekyan members confront Con Delegation

By Clynt Ridgell - September 22, 2017



Members of the group Prutehi Litekyan confronted a Congressional Delegation after t legislature this morning.

Guam – A congressional delegation led by South Carolina Republican Representative Joe Wilson assets here. Today(Fri.) they went to the legislature where they were unexpectedly greeted by

Save Ritidian which lead to a tense meeting in which Prutehi Litekyan members told the Congre

"We feel that we haven't had the opportunity really to speak to any of the congressional delega
been wanting to come out in opposition of this firing range at Northwest Field and Litekyan" sai

"I look forward to reading this and accepting it and it's been my experience particularly at Parri
were discovered there actually it's the military that discovered them," said Congressman Wilson
archaeologically developed to be protected." Wilson was referring to his experience with how th
coast of South Carolina. Wilson is heading a congressional delegation that is on Guam to look a
he and Congresswoman Bordallo met with local senators.

Members of Prutehi Litekyan or Save Ritidian were waiting outside of the Speaker's office with t
CODEL. Bordallo and Wilson did indeed take some time to meet with them and the group prese
signatures against the placement of a live fire training range complex at the Northwest Field ab

"The input that is taken from the community is highly respected. And I'm just confident the U.S
proactive in protecting the cites and health and safety of the community," said Congressman W

Prutehi Litekyan members thanked the CODEL for taking time to meet with them but they did r
frustration. "Hundreds of people went up to a microphone to speak against this firing range sir
because right now we don't feel represented by our congresswoman. She doesn't really represe
Hernandez. "It's been my experience that a champion on the armed services committee and in
Bordallo on behalf of the people of Guam and on behalf of a strong military and on behalf of de
of the United States," replied Congressman Wilson.

Former Senator and Prutehi Litekyan member Hope Cristobal then chimed in saying, "Sir there
hoping you will find it in your heart to look at those others and not start a new one at Litekyan
and we will never be able to recover lost archaeology." The Congresswoman interjected saying,
where they are?" "Well they are in the footprint right now," replied Cristobal. "Because we don't
said Bordallo. "You can use the existing firing ranges there are at least four or five of them," sai
"Mrs. Congresswoman we've been speaking out to you for many years. The Ritidian families we
you've betrayed us. We feel true betrayal." Congressman Wilson then came to Bordallo's defens
stands up for the people of Guam." However, another Prutehi Litekyan member replied saying "
herself then replied saying "It's not that I haven't brought these subject matters to the U.S. Co
people in the congress." Another Prutehi Litekyan member interjected saying "Why did you kee

Guam. I love the culture,” replied Bordallo. “If you love Guam you would not have chosen Litek’s statement that it is the most adverse negatively adverse impact to the environment the people want our lands to be desecrated to a mere toxic wasteland,” said another member of Prutehi Lit

Both Bordallo and Wilson promised that they would look over the letters, petition and other docs shared with them.

Related

Prutehi Litekyan continues to push to stop firing range above Ritidian Wildlife Refuge
September 7, 2017
In "Guam News"

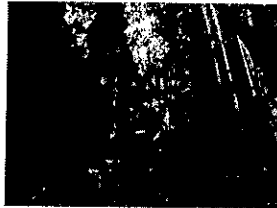
Prutehi Litekyan stands united to save sacred lands; opts-out of Programmatic Agreement
April 27, 2017
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Comments

Firing ranges to be discussed at Legislative hearing Friday

John I Borja, jborja@guampdn.com Published 4:50 p.m. ChT Sept. 21, 2017



(Photo: Rick Cruz/PDN)

A public hearing on a resolution to put a halt to the contested Live Fire Training Range Complex will be held Friday afternoon.

The public is invited to listen and provide comment on the firing ranges that are planned to be built on Northwest Field at Andersen Air Force Base. The hearing begins 4 p.m. at the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña.

Resolution 228-34 ([http://www.guamlegislature.com/COR_Res_34th/Res.%20No.%20228-34%20\(COR\).pdf](http://www.guamlegislature.com/COR_Res_34th/Res.%20No.%20228-34%20(COR).pdf)), introduced by Sen. Telena Nelson, D-Dededo, reflects much of the concerns raised by Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian, a group that has been advocating against military development near Ritidian since the beginning of the year.

Essentially, the resolution finds that the proposed firing range complex, consisting of five ranges, will bring about destruction to cultural and historical sites, Guam's native endangered species and the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer.

The range complex would be built above Ritidian. It's one of several projects to accommodate the Marine relocation from Okinawa to Guam, expected to start around 2025.

"The overlay of the selected site for the Live Fire Training Range Complex into Litekyan breaks the spirit of the government's agreement with the Department of Defense (DOD), specifying that military projects would stay within the DOD footprint," the resolution states.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service oversees Ritidian, which is being used as a wildlife refuge spanning 100 acres of land and sea. Currently, the public can access Ritidian daily. However, the surface danger zone for one of the firing ranges, for machine guns, extends outward to Ritidian. In the event that firing range was in use, the refuge would be closed to the public.

While the military has stressed that it has outlined extensive prevention and mitigation efforts to address environmental and cultural concerns, the resolution states "no mitigation can adequately replace permanent damage to our natural and cultural resources."

The resolution includes several calls to action:

- halt the construction of the firing ranges;
- amend the 2011 Programmatic Agreement to exclude Ritidian as an area of impact for the military buildup;
- formulate a policy that enforces avoidance, rather than mitigation, of adverse impacts to cultural and historical sites;
- disclose all local and federal government documents relating to the Department of Defense military projects on Guam;
- enforce a temporary restraining order on construction to allow a site visit to the areas of impact.

READ MORE:

Generations of protest: Former Ritidian landowners want their land back
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/04/generations-protest-former-ritidian-landowners-want-their-land-back/624063001/>)

Save Ritidian: Meeting with rear admiral 'didn't take us anywhere'
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/06/save-ritidian-meeting-rear-admiral-didnt-take-us-anywhere/636305001/>)

Opinion: Not too late to change firing range site

Kelly G. Marsh, Ph.D. Published 9:44 a.m. ChT Sept. 20, 2017



(Photo: Rick Cruz/PDN)

The federal government gets things wrong. Slavery was legal. Chamorros, Filipinos and other non-Caucasians were provided fewer, if any, rights. By law, segregation was alive and well in the U.S. during the lifetime of many of us.

The U.S. has also gotten it wrong regarding the current military buildup. The Department of Defense moved forward too fast and too hard before they had their paperwork and studies in place regarding their preference for a live-fire training range complex that would impact Págat. They are also moving too fast and too hard regarding the selection of "Alternative 5," or Tailálo (Northwest Field), a conservation area that sits over the ancestral villages of Urunao, Litekyan (currently a wildlife refuge), Pahon and Jinapsan (though they were quick

to throw out the other NWF option that would impact their recreational beach of Tarague but doubled down on impacting a national wildlife refuge).

All this has led to our community being confronted with the impending, irrevocable and unnecessary damage from a massive live-fire training range complex at which 6.7 million bullets a year will be shot by machine guns, assault rifles and pistols, and where hand grenades will be detonated. Each of these is not only destructive to the land but also leach contaminants.

Over local objections and their own studies which say it is the worst option, the military has chosen to sit these ranges above our island's fresh water lens. It is a site where reside some of the very last few of our special species, like the Mariana fruit bat, that make Guåhan uniquely Guåhan; where turtles still nest; where rare traditional medicine grows; where fishers fish; and where stand some of the last of our limestone forests that took millions of years to develop. It would also sit over one of our archipelago's oldest villages, in which there are ancestral and modern burials.

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All of this, held in trust for us for generations, will be bulldozed, damaged, disturbed or potentially lost to this generation and all future generations.

READ MORE:

[Descendants of former Ritidian landowners testify before Guam Legislature](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/08/descendants-former-ritidian-landowners-testify-before-guam-legislature/644937001/)
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/08/descendants-former-ritidian-landowners-testify-before-guam-legislature/644937001/>)

[Former Ritidian landowners to testify against military development at Guam Legislature](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/06/former-ritidian-landowners-testify-against-military-development-guam-legislature/636172001/)
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/09/06/former-ritidian-landowners-testify-against-military-development-guam-legislature/636172001/>)

Second-class citizens

What we are really being asked to decide is to continue to be second-class citizens in the U.S. system. They want us to accept as right that the objections of our government agencies are largely ignored and that public comments submitted by our local scientists, cultural practitioners and community members are discounted because they speak truth to power in pointing out the hypocrisy in selecting a conservation area and wildlife refuge as a site for a massive live-fire range complex.

We are being asked to be OK with sitting in the back of the bus while the military sits up front because they would like a range that is close to where they would like to live, even though their own studies tossed out impacting Tailálo and Litekyan as too unreasonable to even consider.

When Tailálo and Litekyan were excess military lands decades ago, they said it was too important to save the endangered and threatened species to return those areas to original landowners, yet now they're not important enough and the military says it's OK to harm them with the noise pollution and other harmful actions.

The final military study, the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, continues to say that of the military's many options, selecting Tailálo is the most damaging and harmful option, both during construction and its future decades of operation. Yet somehow we are to accept this decision as the military living up to their commitments to One Guam, Green Guam and being culturally sensitive. Where is the balance between weighing this as the worst option for us but a convenient (not necessary) option for them?

READ MORE:

[Opinion: De-linking from U.S. tax code good idea](http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/readers/2017/09/20/opinion-de-linking-u-s-tax-code-good-idea/680031001/)
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/readers/2017/09/20/opinion-de-linking-u-s-tax-code-good-idea/680031001/>)

[Our View: Guam needs to build new, modern prison](http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/editorials/2017/09/20/our-view-guam-needs-build-new-modern-prison/680023001/)
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/editorials/2017/09/20/our-view-guam-needs-build-new-modern-prison/680023001/>)

Not too late

It is not too late. The Marines don't arrive for eight or more years. It's not the only option. In fact, a court case to determine whether the military conducted a proper assessment for the Mariana archipelago is pending. DOD has chosen to commence construction and ignore this legal jeopardy to their project, even though there is absolutely no need to rush to cause irrevocable damage.

Any decision to allow ourselves to be a secondary consideration in this matter will be written into our history books. In those books, our children will learn whether we stood up for the health, heritage and values of the community and held the military to their commitments to us or not.

Next year will mark the 120th year of being part of the U.S. Will their obvious discounting, disregard and destruction of what we hold dear be what rings in that anniversary? Where is their consideration today for our interests in making decisions about our land?

Kelly G. Marsh (Taitano), Ph.D., is a cultural and historical consultant, an adjunct professor at the University of Guam and a member of Prutehi Litekyan-Save Ritidian.

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/readers/2017/09/20/opinion-not-too-late-change-firing-range-site/669172001/>



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U.S. military 'targets'

Amid North Korea-US tensions, Asia-Pacific communities hosting US bases see military presence as making them a target.

Jon Letman is an independent journalist in Hawaii, covering



by Jon Letman wildlife conservation, and the
politics of the Pacific Rim.

Lihue, Hawaii - The frequency of activity has increased but the pattern remains predictable: a defiant North Korean missile test followed by provocative war games, then another missile launch, more angry threats and warnings, followed by counter-threats and new sanctions, and now a sixth nuclear test and more severe warnings and accusations.

In this geopolitical tit-for-tat, Asia-Pacific communities that host US military bases watch cautiously as fiery rhetoric pushes the two nuclear-armed adversaries ever-closer to what would be a catastrophic war.

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The island of Guam came into sharp focus in August when North Korea announced plans to fire four Hwasong-12 ballistic missiles near the US territory following President Donald Trump's threat to unleash "fire and fury like the world has never seen" against North Korea.

Guam's Pacific Daily News reported that a missile launched from North Korea could reach Guam and its more than 160,000 US citizens in just 14 minutes.

As Guam residents were being advised how to prepare for a possible nuclear strike, President Trump cheerfully assured Guam's governor that the extra media attention would boost the island's tourism industry.

"You've become extremely famous all over the world," Trump said, promising the US territory's governor that tourism would increase "tenfold with the expenditure of no money."

"Like a spear into battle"

But on an island labelled with the tagline "Where America's Day Begins," many of its residents long for the day when American militarism ends.

"The US military likes to couch their activities in solely defensive metaphors," says Michael Lujan Bevacqua, a Chamorro studies professor at the University of Guam. "The reference to Guam as 'the tip of the spear'," he says, "offers a sliver of truth."

Bevacqua argues that like other empires, the US describes its foreign presence as a source of order and safety, "never the destabilising force ... even if it takes land and resources, even if it poisons the earth, even if it depresses or constricts the local economy."

“

The US military likes to couch their activities in solely defensive metaphors.

”

**Michael Lujan Bevacqua, University
of Guam**

The US military presence can be characterised as a shield with a giant target on it, Bevacqua suggests. In Guam, it is "really the source of the danger just as much as a source of defence".

As a US possession (non-self governing territory) without voting rights, Guam will be "dragged along like a spear into battle," Bevacqua notes. "Whether the spear loves battle or would prefer peace is irrelevant, as our purpose is to be something used in a fight and

little more."

Vivian Dames, a retired faculty member of the University of Guam, says: "All of these islands in Micronesia, regardless of political status, have some sort of political affiliation with the United States because of the US' long-standing strategic interest in this region and they all serve the function of being the westernmost, forward defence for the United States."



Michael Lujan Bevacqua uses a map to show where US bases on Guam are located. The military occupies nearly one-third of the island [Jon Letman]

Dames is referring to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands around 200km north of Guam and the vast sweep of ocean where the military conducts year-round training and live-fire testing and which the military seeks to expand to an area larger than much of the western United States.

"While these islands, especially the Marianas, are strategically very important to the US," Dames says, "most Americans know very little about us and the ongoing effects of American militarism."

A short drive from the University of Guam, Andersen Air Force Base is the staging grounds for a continuous bomber presence that includes B1-B bombers and B2 Spirit bombers which are capable of carrying B61 tactical nuclear weapons and the B83, a thermonuclear weapon 60 times more destructive than the bomb dropped on Nagasaki.

Increasingly, bombers based at Andersen conduct precision strike exercises and in July the 37th

Expeditionary Bomb Squadron deployed to Guam from South Dakota, arming the island with a pre-emptive attack force capable of an offensive attack.

Guam also has a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) antimissile battery, Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station and an 18,000 acre Naval Ordnance Annex. Naval Base Guam is the home port for fast attack nuclear and non-nuclear submarines.



Beyond this sign sits Anderson Air Force Base on Guam's northernmost point Litekyan (Ritidian). The US military plans to build a live-fire training range complex in the area on land many indigenous Chamorro people consider sacred [Jon Letman/Al Jazeera]

Guam is not the only place

From the US military's perspective, Guam is essential to maintaining a "ready to fight tonight" capability, but to North Korea, this much firepower from a hostile adversary represents a lethal threat.

In August, as tensions threatened to boil over, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson visited Guam where he said: "The North Korean missile capability can point in many directions. So, Guam is not the only place that would be under threat."

This stark reality is all too well known across the Asia-Pacific region where many communities host US bases. Between Guam and North Korea, the US has over 180 military bases, installations and more than 90,000

troops who train alongside their allies Japan and South Korea which represent the eighth and 10th largest global military expenditures.

In South Korea, the US is consolidating its bases but will also soon claim the largest overseas US military base in Pyeongtaek, 64km south of Seoul. Although South Korea arguably faces the most imminent threat from North Korea, many South Koreans await the day when the US will finally leave. More than six decades after an armistice halted the 1950-53 Korean War, longtime peace activist retired Catholic priest Father Mun Jeong-hyeon asks: "Why Korea was divided? Why is the USA stationed in this country for a long time?"

[Read more about US bases in South Korea and the fraught relations between locals and troops: Pyeongtaek - A US base, Americana in rural South Korea](#)

Satoko Norimatsu, an editor at Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus and co-author of Resistant Islands: Okinawa Confronts Japan and the United States, says: "Of course, US bases in Japan pose a threat to people and the environment around them."

She's referring to a nationwide network of more than 100 US bases that run the length of the country, with the greatest concentration in Okinawa. "North Korea understandably declared US bases in Japan would be their target," she says.

Norimatsu stresses the importance of viewing local demilitarisation movements like those in Okinawa, Guam and elsewhere in a larger context and says there's a need for multinational, multilingual efforts against US militarism across the region.



Demonstrators stage daily sit-ins outside Camp Schwab, a US Marine Corps Base in northern Okinawa where the US and Japan are forcibly building a new aircraft landing facility on reclaimed land at Cape Henoko despite lawsuits, demonstrations and international protests. Photograph taken in June, 2015 [Jon Letman/Al Jazeera]

Okinawa - 'Keystone of the Pacific'

In a 1956 US Army propaganda film, the narrator states: "To exploit Okinawa's strategic location, major commands were moved here a few years ago from Japan. This has created a fluid force poised to move anywhere at a moment's notice. The defence of the island is of primary concern. Tactical training never stops."

Seventy-two years after the Battle of Okinawa in which one-quarter to one-third of the civilian population was killed, roughly half of the 55,800 US forces in Japan remain stationed in Okinawa.

“

With the large concentration of US military bases, Okinawa is a perfect target for foreign military aggression.

**Hideki Yoshikawa, director of
Okinawa Environmental Justice Project**

In 1972, the US relinquished direct military control of Okinawa to Japan but still operates over 30 military installations and continues to build more by force. Global sociology Professor Kosuzu Abe of the University of the Ryukyus describes the continued US presence in Okinawa as "too large, too long and too dangerous".

"Accepting a foreign military for such a long period ruins the health of the local economy and our community," says Abe, who teaches at a university campus where US military aircraft regularly fly overhead.

Besides the threat of living among dozens of military bases, Okinawans face the danger of external attack in the event of war. Hideki Yoshikawa, director of Okinawa Environmental Justice Project, insists US bases don't protect his home island.

"With the large concentration of US military bases, Okinawa is a perfect target for foreign military aggression," he says. Yoshikawa points out that because US installations built surrounded by densely



Tens of thousands of colorful origami folded paper cranes hang on a memorial at the Hirameyuri Peace Museum honouring students who were killed in the Battle of Okinawa in 1945. The bitter memories of war have fuelled a passionate anti-military sentiment on this island in southernmost Japan. Photograph taken in June, 2015 [Jon Letman/Al Jazeera]

populated Okinawan cities, "any aggression directed at US military bases in Okinawa would have spillover effects on our civilian population."

Yoshikawa imagines a future Okinawa free of US bases in which his people could pursue a UN-sanctioned international non-military zone, a concept backed by many base opponents.

Read about the Okinawans standing against a US military base

Living in a state of 'strategic denial'

The danger of being used by the US military is tragically familiar to the people of the Marshall Islands where the US tested 67 nuclear bombs between 1946-1958, leaving behind a legacy of sickness, death and forced displacement. Today, the US continues to test offensive weapons in the Marshall Islands, using Kwajalein Atoll as a target for unarmed Minuteman III ICBMs.

In addition to missile and rocket testing from the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site at Kwajalein, the US claims the right of "strategic denial" which gives it exclusive military control over more than half a million square miles of air, land and sea between Hawaii and Guam as provision of compacts of free association between the US and three Micronesian nations.

Desmond Doulatram, a representative of an NGO called Radiation Exposure Awareness Crusaders for Humanity - Marshall Islands (REACH-MI) says: "One can rightfully argue that Kwajalein is also becoming a huge liability ... the presence alone ... puts the Marshall Islands at a huge disadvantage given its nuclear and environmental-related activism."

Doulatram quotes the first Marshallese President Amata Kabua who said: "When you grow up with your brother and he's a lot bigger than you and he slaps you ... what

can you do?"

Hosting the US base and weapons tests is part of a compromise that the Marshall Islands have accepted for better or worse. Currently, the US pays just over \$21 million annually to local land owners for the lease of Kwajalein Atoll that runs through 2066 (with the option to extend until 2086).

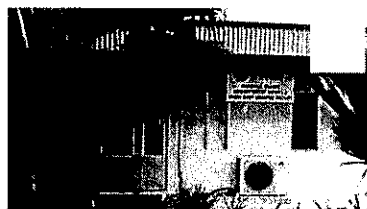


Known as a large ocean state, the Republic of the Marshall Islands has just 181 square kilometres of land but nearly two million square kilometres of sea. Forced relocation and demographic shifts after World War II have made crowding and urbanisation a problem in the low-lying Micronesian nation. Here, in downtown Majuro, the capital, the living and the dead vie for space [Jon Letman/Al Jazeera]

Learn more about how Marshall Islanders took world nuclear powers to the International Court of Justice for health damage caused by nuclear tests conducted before 1958

Pearl Harbor is still armed

On the Hawaiian island of Oahu, a short drive from Pearl Harbor, Camp HM Smith is home to US Pacific Command which oversees all US military



operations in East Asia and the Pacific within its self-proclaimed Area of Responsibility.

In July, Hawaii's Emergency Management Agency released a public message announcing preparations for the possibility of a nuclear attack. An ICBM launched from North Korea is believed to be able to reach Hawaii in just 20 minutes.

A testament to the legacy of nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands, the US Department of Energy maintains a whole-body counting facility in Majuro for measuring high-energy gamma-emitting radionuclides like cesium-137 in people exposed to areas polluted by past US tests [Jon Letman/Al Jazeera]

“

The notion that small island nations have no choice but to stay dependent on the US military for economic survival is the same logic of an abuser telling a woman she has no choice but to stay in a violent relationship.

”

Kim Compoc, University of Hawaii

Kim Compoc, a lecturer with the Departments of English and Ethnic Studies at the University of Hawaii, says Hawaii's large military presence makes the islands more vulnerable and, because of their proximity to Asia, a more plausible target than the continental US.

Compoc rejects the argument that Hawaii must rely on the military. "The notion that small island nations have no choice but to stay dependent on the US military for economic survival is the same logic of an abuser telling a woman she has no choice but to stay in a violent relationship," she says.

In June, Compoc was part of a delegation from Hawaii which travelled to Okinawa for the ninth gathering of the International Women's Network Against Militarism to counter preparations for war and build solidarity. "It was very moving to speak about Hawaiian sovereignty there and have Okinawans hold their fists up in solidarity," Compoc says.

Building this kind of solidarity across cultures, languages and national identities is at the heart of Kyle Kajihiro's work as a board member of Hawaii Peace and Justice. "The protection of our islands, whether Hawaii, Guam, or Okinawa, is not the primary purpose of US bases. The US uses our islands as military platforms and command centres to launch attacks and wage wars in other parts of the world," Kajihiro says.

Kajihiro points out that prior to the 1893 US overthrow of what had been the independent Kingdom of Hawaii, its leaders had anticipated the danger of being drawn into a war if Hawaii was allied with a large military power. The creation of an alliance of Pacific Island states that those leaders sought lives on today in the desire for a pan-Pacific alliance as the threat of war looms large across the region.

Recalling historical attacks and battles from Guam and Okinawa to Kwajalein and Pearl Harbor, Kajihiro says,

"when the US militarises our islands ... we become targets."

Source: Al Jazeera

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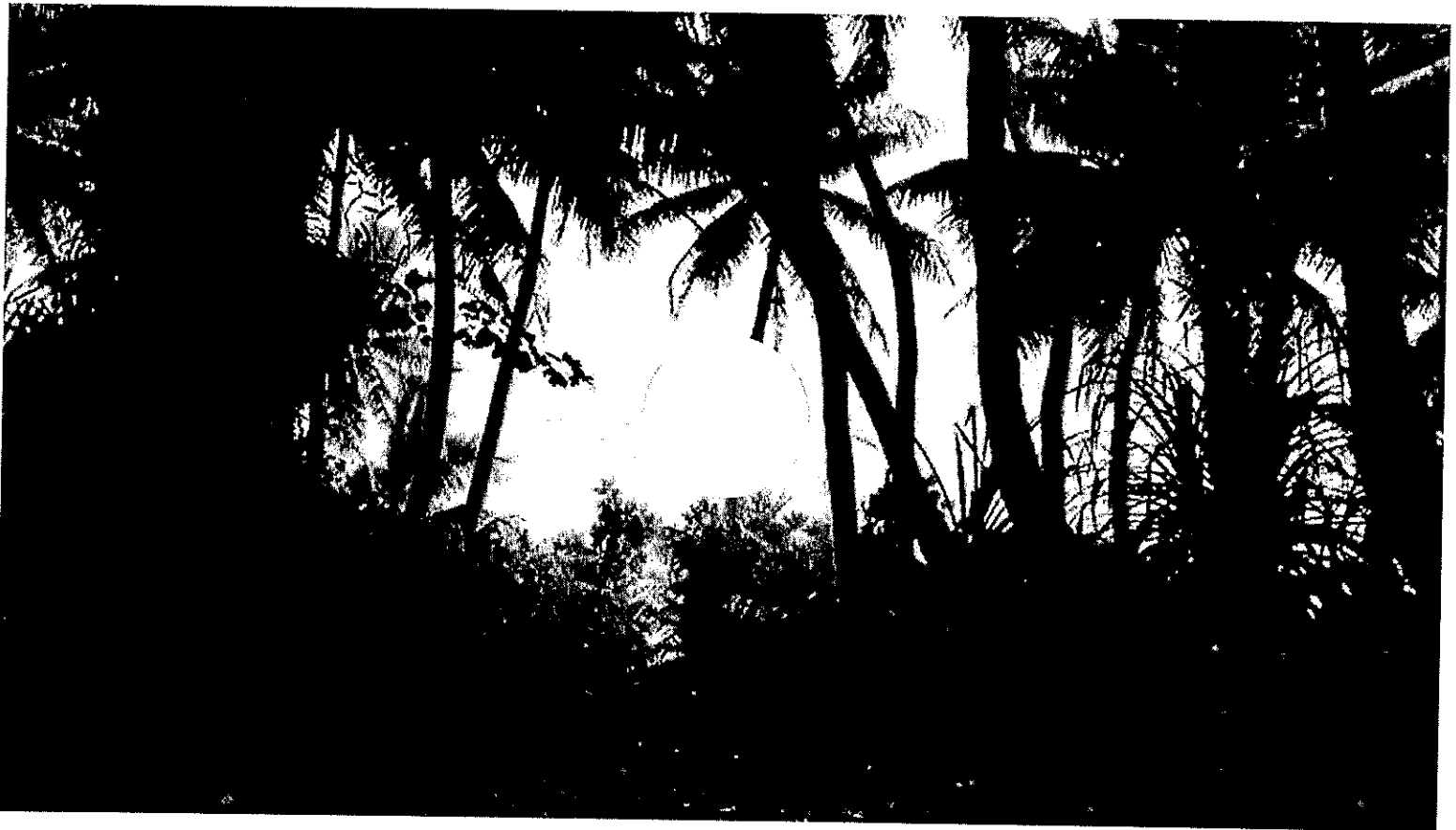
Save Ritidian group to hold peaceful protest against live-fire training range complex

JOHN I BORJA | PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

4:32 pm ChST August 28, 2017

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- What: Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian peaceful protest
- When: 3:30 - 6 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 29
- Where: Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex, Adelup

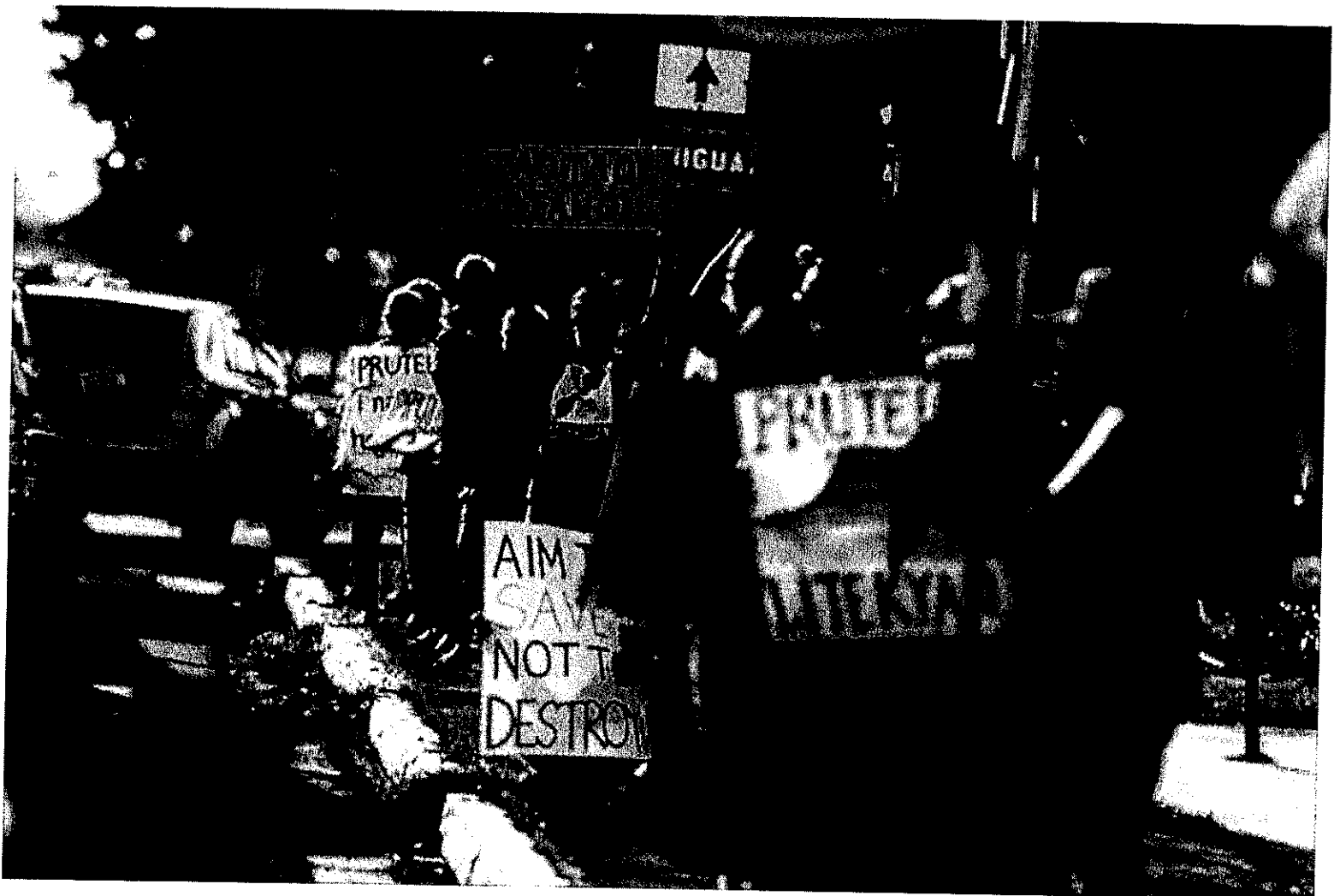


Dededo resident Tom Alger expresses his concerns on the military's plans to build a live-fire training range that may affect the Guam National Wildlife Refuge - Ritidian Unit.

RICK CRUZ & SHAWN RAYMUNDO/PDN

Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian on Tuesday will hold a peaceful protest to reaffirm its opposition against the military's live-fire training range complex.

The \$78 million project, slated to be at Northwest Field in Andersen Air Force Base, near Ritidian, is part of the relocation of 5,000 Marines from Okinawa to Guam, which is expected to start around 2025.





Supporters of the direct action group, Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian, participate during a wave at the Chief Kepuha Loop in Hagatna on Friday, March 3, 2017. The event was held to protest the signing of the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan that would allow construction of life-fire training range at Andersen Air Force Base.

RICK CRUZ/PDN

The relocation projects are designed to enhance defense efforts and restructure U.S. armed forces in the Asia-Pacific region. However, the military buildup has been contested by members of the public since it was first announced more than a decade ago.

Prutehi Litekyan resists the construction of the firing range complex, stating it will cause destruction to some of Guam's most historic sites. The impacted lands hold artifacts scattered across ancient villages in the north, and serve as habitats for native species, including Guam's only adult *Serianthes nelsonii*, or hayun lågu. The military was mandated by the Department of Defense to create conservation and mitigation plans to protect these species and properties.

(Story continues below)

[View | 8 Photos](#)

Live-fire range to affect wildlife refuge

The group doesn't have the power to stop the project's construction, but its members are reaching out to those who do. From 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., the group will congregate in front of the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex at Adelup to call on local leaders to do what they can to halt the project.

The firing range complex includes the design and construction of four, live-fire training ranges, along with an administration building, structures for communication and surveillance and a gate facility to manage entry into the complex, according to Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific.

Last week, NAVFAC **awarded the design and construction contract** to Black Construction Corp.

More: Contract for Marine Corps base construction awarded

Buildup director still confident

Robert Crisostomo, director of the Military Buildup Office and special assistant to Gov. Eddie Calvo, on Monday said he remains confident with the way projects are moving along.

Crisostomo works closely with Guam's State Historic Preservation Office to ensure historical properties on federal land are either untouched or mitigated safely. Crisostomo said he supports the office's decisions so far with regard to the relocation projects.

Ad

“Moving forward, if any of the construction starts and we find unrealized artifacts, the project will stop until mitigation efforts are done,” Crisostomo said. A repository for such artifacts, outlined as one of the military buildup projects, is still in its planning phase, he said.

More: Senators updated on military firing ranges

‘Patriotic people’

Agat resident Siobhon McManus will be attending the peaceful protest for several reasons, one of which is family.

“My late grandpa, Jose Flores, was from Litekyan. He used to tell me stories of him as a little boy playing on those beaches where fishermen and salt harvesters made their living,” she said.

McManus, 22, said her grandfather’s family was displaced after World War II and didn’t receive compensation.

“I’m protesting on behalf of a patriotic people whose love for their country has been exploited and defiled by an institution that does not and has never truly cared for the well-being of those who call Guam home,” McManus said.

Ad

(Story continues below)

*This is what our lush, green limestone forests will be reduced to.
[#nativelivesmatter](#) [#prutehitekyan](#) [#NOfiringrange](#)
pic.twitter.com/BITOOof1Nb*

— Prutehi Litekyan (@PrutehiLitekyan) [August 27, 2017](#)

Despite news of last week's contract awarding, Prutehi Litekyan spokeswoman Sabina Perez said she still is hopeful there is enough time for intervention. The protest is meant to gain visibility among local leaders and to remind Gov. Calvo that the group is waiting on his response to a prior meeting they held.

Prutehi Litekyan in July, met with the governor and discussed a proposed executive order to halt the construction of the firing ranges. The group is waiting for the governor's response and a possible follow-up meeting to discuss the executive order.

Crisostomo, of the buildup office, said while there hasn't been a set date, the governor hopes to meet again with the group by the end of September.

Ad

“We’re still sifting through concerns that they have submitted, along with the executive order

Your Marine Corps

(/news/your-marine-corps/)

US Marines live-fire range planned on 'pristine' Guam land

By: The Associated Press 📅 August 27

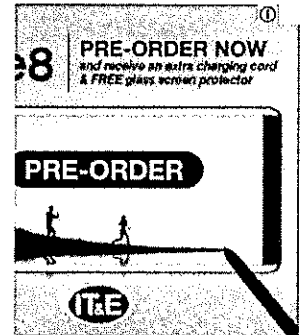
HAGNATA, Guam — A U.S. military live-fire training range is being built on Guam to support the relocation of Marines.

Black Construction Corp. was awarded a \$78 million contract on Friday, the Pacific Daily News (<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/25/marine-live-fire-training-range-contract-awarded/599778001/>) reported.

"We are committed to Guam, and our forward presence here will play an essential role in strengthening the military's ability to maintain regional security and protect the nation's interests in the Pacific," said Col. Brent Bien, who is the officer in charge of the Marine Corps Activity Guam.

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Top Headlines

The complex will be built in Andersen Air Force Base on a patch of land that the community has said is one of the last pristine places on Guam.

It will be near a wildlife refuge and will require part of the refuge to be closed when the range is in use.

Sabina Perez, spokeswoman of a group against the complex, said the military seems to be rushing to get its projects started.

"Our group has been contacting our local leaders to tell them to prevent this toxic legacy from happening," Perez said.

The group, called Prutehi Litekyan, has garnered the support of Speaker Benjamin Cruz, D-Tumon, Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje, D-Yona, and Sen. Fernando Esteves, R-Yona.

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"No amount of money can compensate for the permanent destruction, loss of access and other adverse impacts to Guam's historic sites, 187 acres of limestone forests, endangered species and fishing areas that are part of this particular live-fire training range project," Terlaje said. "The Department of Defense has not kept its promises to avoid these adverse impacts to Guam and in fact continues to expand its control over lands and waters of Guam and the Marianas."

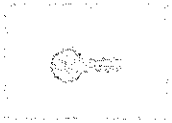
Terlaje is calling on Gov. Eddie Calvo to make time to meet with federal authorities to find ways to prevent the potential impacts of the firing range complex.

The group also is working on scheduling a face-to-face meeting with military officials, Perez said.

Work is expected to be completed by November 2020, but a groundbreaking date has not been scheduled.

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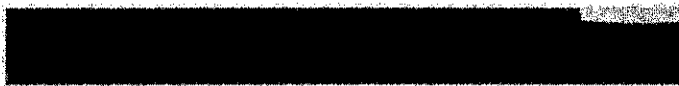
POLL: The poll question, Do you support the decision to build a firing range at Northwest Field?, will close at 5 p.m., Aug. 27, 2017.

Do you support the decision to build a firing range at Northwest Field? (Poll Closed)

Yes **43.03%** (13,179 votes)



No **56.97%** (17,445 votes)



Total Votes: **30,624**

Local, off-island families oppose Marine firing range impact on Ritidian

SHAWN RAYMUNDO | PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

6:56 pm ChST August 26, 2017



Dededo resident Tom Alger expresses his concerns on the military's plans to build a live-fire training range that may affect the Guam National Wildlife Refuge - Ritidian Unit.

RICK CRUZ & SHAWN RAYMUNDO/PDN

On a wet and gloomy Saturday morning, local and visiting families, undeterred by an onslaught of rain, filed into parking stalls along the stretch of dirt road at Ritidian Beach.

At the end of the line, a large truck carrying several passengers in the bed slips into one of the spots. With family from off-island in town, Dededo resident Tom Alger took them to Ritidian to explore some of the jungle life and caves in the area.

“We just took a tour with the conservation people down here,” he said.

For about the last 20 years, Alger, 49, has been coming to Ritidian to fish. He and his family make trips to the wildlife refuge once in a while.

“It’s pristine,” Alger said. “The best location on island for off-island tourists to come. ... This is the most pristine beach you can find on the island.”

On Friday, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific announced the controversial proposal to construct a live-fire training range near the wildlife refuge had reached a final deal, with Black Construction Corp. awarded the \$78 million contract.

READ MORE:

Ritidian advocates oppose firing range; military seeks public input on buildup projects

Senators hear updates on military projects in Ritidian, Finegayan

The complex, which will be located at Northwest Field on Andersen Air Force Base and above the wildlife refuge at Ritidian, will require part of the refuge be closed for safety reasons when the range is in use.

“I think they should find a resolution where they can work things out, where keeping this place open and keeping the range further down toward the flight line ... to preserve this better,” Alger said.

Yigo resident Tasha Tenorio and her family set up camp for the day.

“It sucks, it really does,” Tenorio said of the firing range. “This is a family beach. We always come here every weekend, so it’s kind of scary with the buildup coming and everything.”

Ad

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Community groups, such as Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian, have protested the construction of the range near the refuge. They argue Ritidian is one of the last pristine places on Guam, and military development could harm native species and ancient sites.

Alger, who said he's not part of the Save Ritidian movement, said he does share their concerns about temporarily shutting down the refuge and beach, or limiting access to it.

"What the military does with their property is fine, but I didn't know it was going to affect too much of this area where they would close it down more," he said. "There will be less days we'll be able to come down here."

Ad

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[Save Ritidian group, military officials have not met](#)

[Live-fire training range complex contract awarded to Black Construction](#)

Government accountability reporter Shawn Raymundo covers local politics and the territory's executive and legislative branches. Follow him on Twitter @ShawnzyTsunami and Instagram @Shawn_DeL_Mundo. Follow Pacific Daily News on [Facebook/GuamPDN](#) and [Instagram @guampdn](#).

Local, off-island families oppose Marine firing range impact on Ritidian

Shawn Raymundo, sraymundo@guampdn.com Published 5:07 p.m. ChT Aug. 26, 2017 | Updated 6:56 p.m. ChT Aug. 26, 2017



(Photo: Rick Cruz/PDN)

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[Ritidian advocates oppose firing range; military seeks public input on buildup projects](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/07/ritidian-advocates-oppose-firing-range-military-seeks-public-input-buildup-projects/544165001/)
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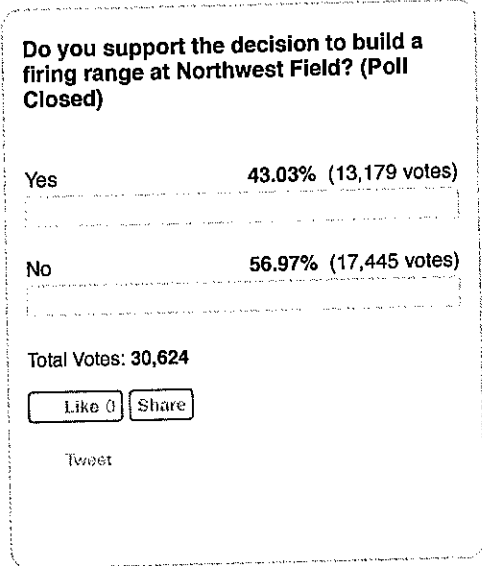
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[Live-fire training range complex contract awarded to Black Construction \(http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/25/marine-live-fire-training-range-contract-awarded/599778001/\)](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/25/marine-live-fire-training-range-contract-awarded/599778001/)

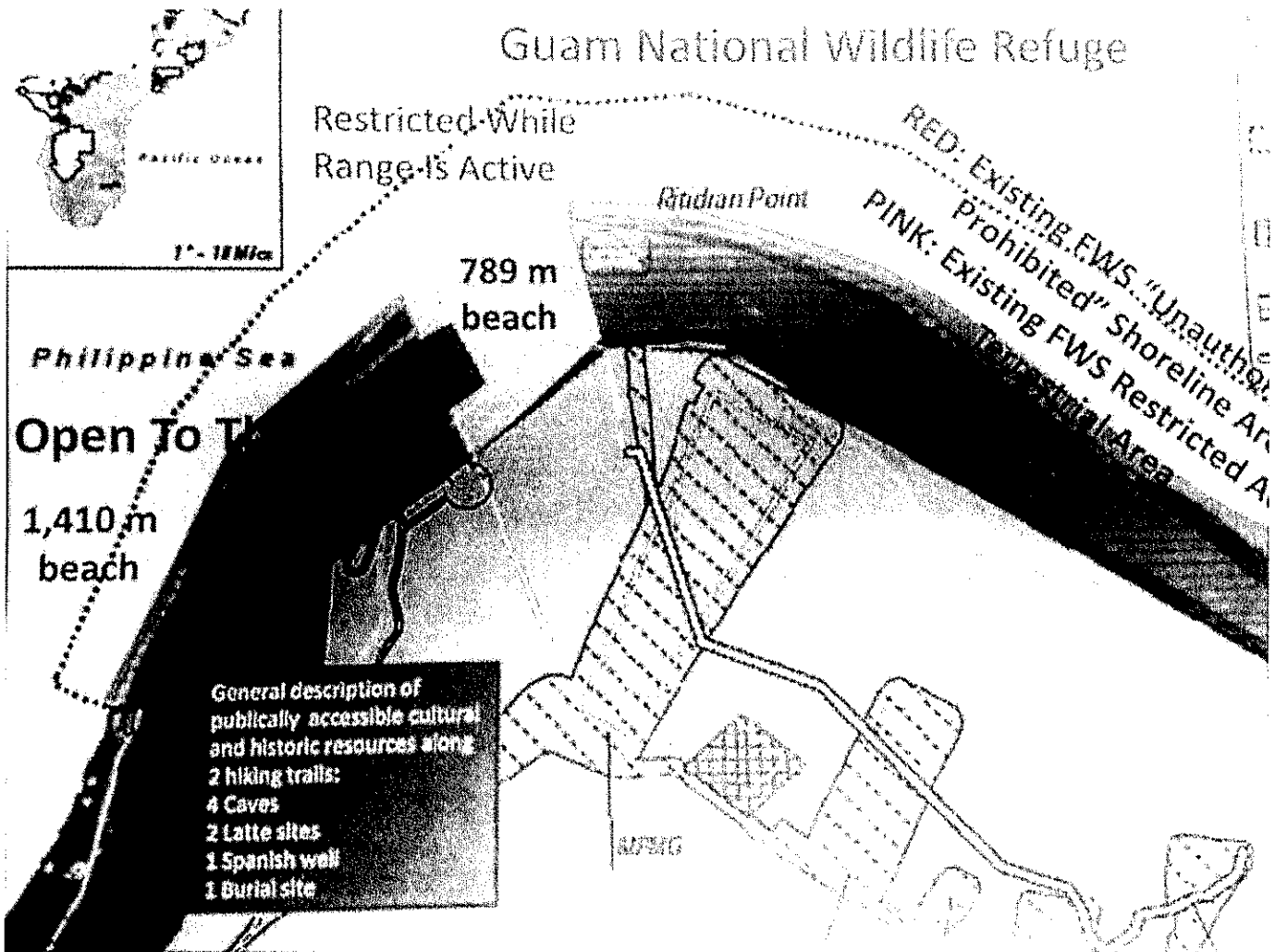
Government accountability reporter Shawn Raymundo covers local politics and the territory's executive and legislative branches. Follow him on Twitter @ShawnzyTsunami and Instagram @Shawn_Del_Mundo. Follow Pacific Daily News on Facebook/GuamPDN (<http://www.facebook.com/guampdn/>), and Instagram @guampdn (<http://instagram.com/GuamPDN>).

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Live-fire range to affect wildlife refuge

NAVFAC awards construction for North range

By Clynt Ridgell - August 25, 2017



The \$78 million contract was awarded to Black Construction and should be completed

Guam – A major linchpin for the Guam military buildup is almost in place. NAVFAC Pacific has a live-fire training range complex at the Northwest field on Andersen Air Force base.

A crucial component for the relocation of U.S. Marines from Okinawa, Japan to Guam will soon receive a \$78 million-dollar contract to Black Construction for the design and construction of the live-fire training range on Andersen Air Force base.

Marine Corps Activity Guam Public Affairs Officer Major Tim Patrick spoke on K57's mornings with

"The contract is one part. There's really gonna be two projects in the live fire training range complex. The contract that we signed today takes care of most of that development so it's gonna take care of some administrative buildings, some radio, some surface radar sites, camera sites, also some ranges themselves. Most importantly it's gonna take care of three alpha or Rt. 3a," said Major Patrick.

Last week, NAVFAC Pacific awarded a contract for the construction of infrastructure for the future Marine Corps Activity Guam. Both the marine cantonment and training range projects are set to be completed in 2020 and will begin arriving on Guam in installments by the mid 2020's.

The live-fire training range complex will be comprised of four live-fire training ranges. These ranges are located in the area which is the home to some ancient Chamoru villages and latte sites. Some groups like Prutehi Laka have opposed the construction of this firing range because it will adversely impact these sites and resources.

"At the end of the day we realize that we are going to have some impact and that's why we go to the community, we go to the funds, lots of resources to mitigating the risks that have been identified. So, that right there is the challenge and listen to public concerns and really focus on okay what do we need to do to find the best balance between safety or security in the area or region and just risk mitigation in the community, cultural resources and the environment."

Biological monitor Christiana-Jo Quinata says that out of the 700 acres that have been set aside for the training range, 315 acres is cleared. "315 acres is the actual construction footprint and then 89 of those acres is the native vegetation that one of our conservation measures is to fence off this area," said Quinata adding, "Approximately 89 acres is fenced from ungulates so we put up an ungulate fence. Deer and pig fence to keep them out and then we're going to let the native vegetation to come back," said Quinata.

READ FULL RELEASE BELOW:

NAVFAC Pacific Awards Construction Contract for Marine Corps on Guam

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM – Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific awarded a \$100 million contract to Black Construction Corp. of Harmon, Guam, for the design and construction of a live fire training range at Andersen Airfield, Andersen, Guam.

This project directly supports the plan to relocate Marines to Guam which has been 12 years in the making.

awarded since the Department of the Navy (DoN) completed final regulatory requirements this

“Following extensive work to meet the Department of Defense (DoD) mission, while focusing on the protection of cultural resources, the Marine Corps is pleased to see this contract awarded,” said Marine Corps Activity Guam. “We are committed to Guam, and our forward presence here will play an important role in our ability to maintain regional security and protect the nation’s interests in the Pacific.”

This project will provide training facilities and live fire ranges. The work to be performed provides a complex of four live-fire training ranges and supporting structures. The supporting structures include an administration building, area distribution node with radio frequency communication tower, two storage buildings, and a gate facility into the complex. This project also provides for the rehabilitation and widening of Range Control Point of the range complex.

Work will be performed on Yigo, Guam and is expected to be completed by November 2020. The project was announced on the Navy Electronic Commerce Online website, with 11 proposals received.

Related

Department of Navy Signs Record of Decision for Guam Military Buildup
August 28, 2015
In "Guam News"

Guam Pacific Gets \$7.5M Contract for AAFB Combat Communications Facility
June 7, 2011
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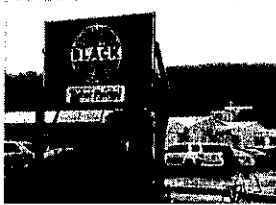
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Live-fire training range complex contract awarded to Black Construction

Jerick Sablan and John I Borja, Pacific Daily News Published 8:41 a.m. ChT Aug. 25, 2017 | Updated 6:14 p.m. ChT Aug. 25, 2017



(Photo: PDN file)

A \$78 million contract for a live-fire training range complex was awarded to Black Construction Corp. Friday, according to an announcement from Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific.

The live-fire range complex, which will be located at Northwest Field on Andersen Air Force Base, is being built to support the relocation of Marines to Guam.

The range has been the subject of controversy on the island, with community groups holding protests near the proposed site. Opponents argue Ritidian is one of the last pristine places on Guam, and military development within or around the land could harm native species and ancient sites.

Located above the wildlife refuge at Ritidian, the firing range complex will require part of the refuge to be closed for safety reasons when the range is in use.

Last week, the Navy announced it awarded a \$164.89 million contract to Granite-Obayashi for utilities and infrastructure at the Marine base.

"We are committed to Guam, and our forward presence here will play an essential role in strengthening the military's ability to maintain regional security and protect the nation's interests in the Pacific," said Col. Brent Bien said in the release Friday. Bien is the officer in charge of the Marine Corps Activity Guam.

The contract provides for the design and construction of a complex of four live-fire training ranges and supporting structures, the release states.

The supporting structures include a range maintenance building, administration building, area distribution node with radio frequency communication tower, two surface radar and camera sites, and a new entry gate facility into the complex, the release states.

The project also provides for the rehabilitation and widening of Route 3A from Potts Junction to the Entry Control Point of the range complex.

Work is expected to be completed by November 2020, the release states.

Though a groundbreaking date for construction is not known, NAVFAC stated it takes at least six months for the transition from design to construction. Catherine Norton, public affairs officer for NAVFAC Marianas, said the military has a formal process in place to ensure that the project proceeds in a timely manner.

The contract was competitively procured via the Navy Electronic Commerce Online website, with 11 proposals received, the release states.



Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian supporters, youths and adults take part in a wave in front of the ITC building in Tamuning on Aug. 7, 2017. (Photo: John I. Boja/PDN)

Defending native land

Despite the contract award, a grassroots group opposed to the range is still hopeful that its effort will result in the intervention of its construction.

Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian has been battling the project since January, stating the northern land is historically and environmentally significant to the people of Guam.

"Our group has been contacting our local leaders to tell them to prevent this toxic legacy from happening," said spokeswoman Sabina Perez. "They have to believe that they have the power to do so."

Perez said the military seems to be rushing to get its projects started, and she expressed disappointment in its efforts to provide information to those living outside the base. Perez noted that the military hasn't addressed 906 public comments that were submitted during the planning of the firing range complex.

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There's still some time for leaders to take action, Perez said. The group's efforts have garnered the support of Speaker Benjamin Cruz, D-Tumon, Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje, D-Yona, and Sen. Fernando Esteves, R-Yona.

"No amount of money can compensate for the permanent destruction, loss of access and other adverse impacts to Guam's historic sites, 187 acres of limestone forests, endangered species and fishing areas that are part of this particular live-fire training range project," Terlaje stated Friday.

Terlaje has been vocal about her stance on the firing range complex construction to her colleagues, officials in charge of the military buildup as well as the community. She also expressed discontent during a Programmatic Agreement workshop in late April, where representatives from the Department of Defense and local leaders met to review progress on the military buildup projects involving historic properties.

"The Department of Defense has not kept its promises to avoid these adverse impacts to Guam and in fact continues to expand its control over lands and waters of Guam and the Marianas," she said.

Terlaje is calling on Gov. Eddie Calvo to make time to meet with federal authorities to find ways to prevent the potential impacts of the firing range complex.

Prutehi Litekyan had met with the governor to express its concerns. The group drafted a proposed executive order to halt the construction of the firing ranges, and is waiting for a follow-up meeting with the governor to be scheduled.

The group also is working on scheduling a face-to-face meeting with military officials, Perez said.

'Breaks my heart'

"The idea of four, live-fire training ranges at such a culturally sound spot makes me uncomfortable and it just breaks my heart," said Alissa Eclavea, a resident of Agat.

Not including the construction of the Marine base, the military already owns a significant portion of our land, Eclavea said. These areas host some of the most beautiful parts of Guam, and they can only be visited by those with base access, she said.

Eclavea, 25, has expressed her opposition to the Marine relocation since she was 17, when she first testified in front of the Guam Legislature. She said she's especially disappointed that lands enriched with historical properties can be taken away so easily.

"I'm tired of people having the misconception that Guam is safer with more military on our island," she said. Eclavea added that it seems convenient that the contract award is happening soon after North Korea's threats to fire missiles near Guam.

READ MORE:

[Guam residents near military buildup site react to announcement about Marine base](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/19/guam-residents-near-military-buildup-site-react-announcement-marine-base/582654001/)
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/19/guam-residents-near-military-buildup-site-react-announcement-marine-base/582654001/>)

[Save Ritidian group, military officials have not met](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/13/save-ritidian-group-military-officials-have-not-met/558435001/)
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/13/save-ritidian-group-military-officials-have-not-met/558435001/>)

[Guam buildup project for Marine Corps base construction awarded](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/08/18/contract-awarded-marine-corps-guam-buildup/578376001/)
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https://www.postguam.com/news/local/outpouring-of-support-in-latest-petition-against-firing-range/article_9941fabc-7d8e-11e7-bed8-f713f9162447.html

Outpouring of support in latest petition against firing range

Manny Cruz | The Guam Daily Post Aug 10, 2017



NATIVE LANDS, NATIVE HANDS: Environmental and indigenous rights advocates at a "Wave to Save" at the ITC intersection in Tamuning on Monday. Manny Cruz/The Guam Daily Post

Activist group Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian received more than 1,000 signatures in just 48 hours for a petition calling on government of Guam leaders to halt plans for a firing range at Northwest Field near Ritidian.

Save Ritidian petition

View the petition online by clicking [here](#).

"Now more than ever, we need our elected leaders to stand up for the rights of our people and to protect our island and to not allow the military to repeat the toxic legacies of Vieques, Kaho'olawe, Okinawa and Pohakuloa, where militarized toxification of indigenous sacred sites continues," the group stated.

The petition calls for local leaders to:

- file a temporary restraining order to prevent the irreparable harm to endangered native flora and fauna found nowhere else in the world, the harm to our aquifer and water resources, and the desecration of sacred sites at Litekyan, Urunao, Pahon and Jinapsan;
- immediately set-up a legislative site visit to the areas of impact; and
- introduce and pass a resolution urging Gov. Eddie Calvo to take all necessary steps to halt the construction of the live-fire training range complex at Northwest Field on Andersen Air Force Base.

The surge in support comes after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently issued an opinion supporting the Department of Defense's takeover of the northern area for the live-fire training range.

The petition has resulted in a response by both the executive and legislative branches of the local government.

Robert Crisostomo, director of the Military Buildup Office and special assistant to the governor, responded to Prutehi Litekyan's request for a follow-up meeting with Calvo.

"We are placing the interests and concerns of Prutehi Litekyan as a high-importance item," Crisostomo said. "As for a follow-up meeting, as requested by the group I will work with the front office on the most opportune time based on the governor's hectic schedule."

The environmental group also held a "Wave to Save" on Aug. 7 in an effort to raise awareness of Ritidian and the numerous flora and fauna endemic to Guam, including the island's only hayun lãgu, or *Serianthes nelsonii*, tree.

"There's too much at risk, and an entire ecological web that we have to be concerned about, for there to be 'no cost.' There's a big cost the Department of Defense is not explicitly talking about," said former Sen. Hope Cristobal, director of the Northern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District.

Ritidian advocates oppose firing range; military seeks public input on buildup projects

JOHN I BORJA | PACIFIC DAILY NEWS
3:14 pm ChST August 8, 2017



Moñeka De Oro, Mangilao resident and member of Prutehi Litekyan, joins others in urging local leaders to take a stand against the firing range.

JOHN I. BORJA/PDN

A local group on Monday was at one of Guam's busiest intersections, during the busiest time of day for traffic, to make known its unified stance: keep the military firing range out of Ritidian.

Advocates of Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian gathered across the ITC Building in Tamuning during the rush hour for a wave to let the community know they do not approve of the live-fire training range complex to be built at Northwest Field, located in Yigo near Ritidian.



Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian supporters, youths and adults take part in a wave in front of the ITC building in Tamuning on Aug. 7, 2017.

JOHN I. BORJA/PDN

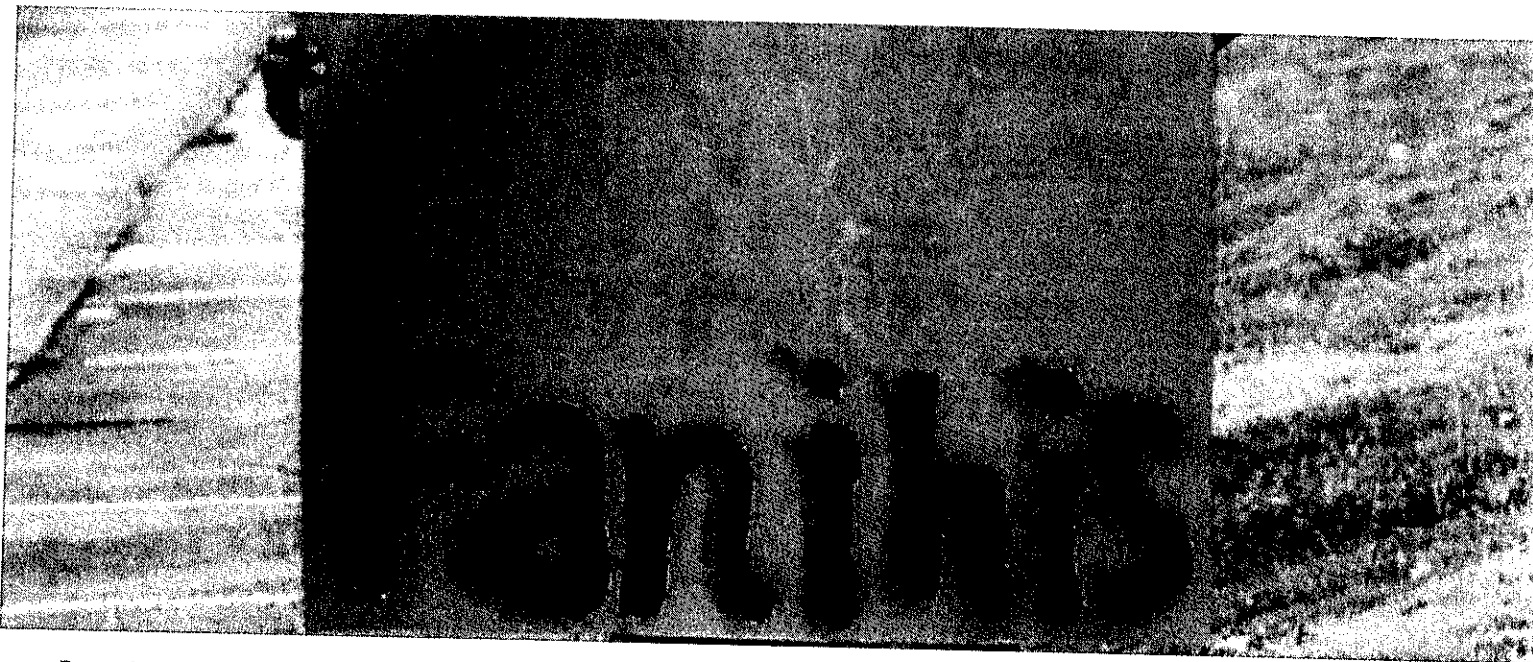
Passing cars honked as supporters held up signs saying "Prutehi Litekyan," "Limestone Forest Irreplaceable" and "Ritidian is the land of our people, not a place for weapons of war."

"We're out here today to encourage our local leaders to put a stop to the destruction of our sacred lands," said Moñeka De Oro, a Mangilao resident who has been with the group since it started.

Supporters of the cause have argued that Ritidian is one of the last pristine places on Guam, and military development within or around the land could harm native species and ancient sites.

(story continues below)





Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian supporters youths and adults take part in a wave in front of the ITC building in Tamuning on Aug. 7, 2017.

JOHN I. BORJA/PDN

The firing range, to be built on federal property, is part of the planned relocation of 5,000 Marines and their dependents from Okinawa to Guam. Located above the wildlife refuge at Ritidian, the firing range will require part of the refuge to be closed for safety reasons when the range is in use. Guidelines for the military buildup along with impacts on cultural and historical properties are detailed in the 2011 Programmatic Agreement.

POLL: Do you support plans for a firing range near Ritidian? Poll closes at 5 p.m. Aug. 8, 2017.

In the agreement, the military is required to survey potential sites for military development,

to ensure there will be no adverse effects on cultural and historic properties. In the event that a property is at risk, federal officials can order a mitigation to relocate historic artifacts and native species so the land could be used.

De Oro, as she was joining fellow supporters in greeting passing motorists, said that Ritidian should remain intact and untouched, as it is rich with Guam's history.

"I think that it's time to protect what's left of this island, especially if it's pristine and in really good health," De Oro said.

The group is seeking Gov. Eddie Calvo's help in removing Ritidian from a list of potential areas that will be affected by military development. Prutehi Litekyan also wants stronger policies in place to preserve Guam's cultural and historic sites.

Calvo in April announced that he no longer supports the military buildup, saying the federal government isn't holding up its part of the Programmatic Agreement. In May, Congresswoman Del. Madeleine Bordallo said despite Calvo's comment, the buildup will move forward.

(story continues below)

Ad

Franceska De Oro, left, and Moñeka De Oro hold signs in support of Prutehi Litekyan's efforts during a wave in front of the ITC building in Tamuning on Aug. 7, 2017.

JOHN I. BORJA/PDN

Projects up for input

While the dispute with the firing range continues, residents have the opportunity to respond to three of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas' projects that will aid the military buildup.

The projects include construction and installation of storage units to house explosives and ammunitions, water well facilities and more fences, according to a NAVFAC news release. The proposed actions will occur within Andersen Air Force Base and Naval Base Guam properties.

The Department of Defense reviewed the proposals and stated none of the projects will have adverse effects on historic properties on the island. However, memos for these three projects were issued to allow people from the community to provide feedback, which will be kept on record, according to NAVFAC.

Those interested in commenting on the projects can email criwebcomment@navy.mil up until Sept. 14.

The military coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office to determine areas of cultural and historical significance in the Mariana Islands that potentially may be impacted

by the development.

Ad

(story continues below)

This satellite image provided by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas shows the proposed site for the Andersen Air Force Base Munitions Operation and Storage.

COURTESY OF NAVFAC

Munitions storage

One of the projects under the Programmatic Agreement include the construction of 12 earth-covered magazines and two ordnance pads. These munitions storage units are proposed to help reduce the risk of explosions near other ammunitions and explosives.

Ad

The project would use about 50 acres of land on Andersen Air Force Base, south of Northwest Field. Limestone forests occupy much of the space, according to the project's memo.

Two historic sites that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places were found within this space. Both contained scattered artifacts from Guam's Latte Period, which was between the years 800 and 1700.

The Department of Defense issued conditions for adjustments on the original project proposal to avoid obstruction of these sites' status as a historic properties.

Perimeter fencing

Ad

In an effort to help restore native species within the Finegayan limestone forests on Navy and Air Force bases, the military is proposing a perimeter fence to keep out pigs and deer, which have proved harmful to the forest's plants and other animals.

The memo identified ancient villages the perimeter fence will be built around or within: Ukudu, Ritidian, Fafalog, Haputo and Finaguayac. While historic properties fall within the fence, the Department of Defense determined that no historic properties lie on the ground where fence will be staked.

Water well facilities

The proposed water wells, which would pump 1.2 million gallons a day, would provide water to Marine housing, training and operation facilities.

Additional facilities would be constructed to accommodate the wells, including a site for water treatment and storage.

According to NAVFAC, the well facilities would be at the Air Force base, near Potts Junction, and would take up nearly 50 acres of land.

For more information on these projects, www.go.usa.gov/kZWG.

READ MORE:

[Military buildup presses on while cautious of historic properties](#)

[Senators hear updates on military projects in Ritidian, Finegayan](#)

Originally Published 6:50 pm ChST August 7, 2017
Updated **3:14 pm ChST August 8, 2017**

Group wants to save Ritidian from becoming firing range

Posted: Mar 06, 2017 12:58 PM

Updated: Mar 13, 2017 12:58 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

It's home to endangered species and some of the island's most important archaeological sites - and while the United States military has identified Ritidian as the next spot for a live fire training range, a local advocacy group is campaigning to stop the range's construction before it's too late.

"The more people that speak out the more that we can protect our endangered species - it's not too late," said Sabina Perez.

Local direct action Group Prutehi Litekyan - Save Ritidian - isn't backing down with efforts to prevent the construction of a live fire training range in Northern Guam. The group recently started a petition they hope will dissuade elected officials from signing the Integrated National Resource Management Plan which is up for resigning this year.

"We're urging them not to sign this document if it entails a construction of a live fire training range complex over at Andersen Air Force Base," said Perez, Save Ritidian organizer. She added that the proposed firing range would have destructive effects on Guam's cultural ancestral sites that date back 3,500 years, the island's aquifer, and its endangered species.

"So one of them is known as the Hayan Lagu tree," she detailed. "There's only 30 of these trees in the world and they only exist in Guam and Rota; there's only one mature tree on Guam and its standing in close proximity to the largest of the firing ranges that they plan to build."

She adds that the mother tree has the potential to provide seedlings that could regenerate the species. "So I don't think she can withstand a firing range with 6.7 million bullets being fired annually," she projected.

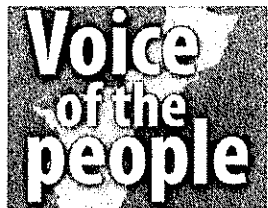
Another concern raised by organizer Joni Kurr is that insulation of the firing range would limit public access to the area. She told KUAM News, "People won't be able to go and visit these sites 548 there are families who have family members that are buried on this land. These are original landowners as well who have been almost continuously protesting the military's presence and the military's lack of proper compensation for taking away their land."

The group calls the proposed construction of the Ritidian range an "environmental injustice" and they're asking the community to support the cause by signing an online petition directed at Governor Eddie Calvo and Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo. You also learn more about the group by emailing save.ritidian@gmail.com.



Opinion: Firing range would threaten forest

Linda Tutreau and Joni Quenga Kerr Published 2:22 p.m. CHT Nov. 14, 2016



(Photo: PDN file photo)

Hayun lāgu is one of the most endangered trees in the world. The entire global occurrence of hayun lāgu (*Serianthes nelsonii*) is comprised of only one adult tree on Guam and perhaps no more than 30 adult trees in Rota. Of special significance to Guam, this tree was named in 1919 for Peter Nelson, a botanist and director of the Guam Department of Agriculture, who collected the first specimens to be described to science. Standing on the Ritidian cliff line, the last mother tree on Guam, the last seed source for the entire Guam population, will be completely surrounded by a firing range. In designing their plans for the firing range complex, Department of Defense (DoD) planners drew a small notch in the northwest corner of their largest range, indicating that the tree would be spared, but all the surrounding forest would be cut down and completely removed for the impact area. However, scientific literature abounds with evidence of the harmful effects of fragmenting forests and

creating disturbed edges. The last hayun lāgu on Guam, will become more exposed to damaging winds, fire from training exercises, and easier incursion from invasive plants and insects that are so distinct in these types of edge habitats. Many of Nelson's descendants still live on Guam, and many have not had the chance to see the tree that carries their family's name. If the firing range is constructed as planned, there is a chance they never will.



The fact that Guam's last hayun lāgu occurs on this cliff line is not surprising as this forest is uniquely pristine and harbors a variety of Guam's rare species. Located within the proposed footprint of the firing range complex and main cantonment areas is one of a very few pristine limestone karst forests left in Guam. Limestone karst forests, the dominant forest type in the Marianas, are some of the most amazing, yet most endangered, habitat types in the world. This forest is so valuable that even DoD has attempted to set it aside as a conservation area multiple times – including an agreement with the Guam National Wildlife Refuge as Refuge Overlay to be considered endangered species recovery habitat, and even for use as a mitigation area for another large-scale project, called Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, or ISR, Strike. To mitigate for ISR Strike, DoD was required to install a fence to keep deer and pigs out and protect native species in this area. This million-dollar fence is scheduled to be demolished and the forest turned into the firing range complex.

The Rotary Club of Northern Guam presented a check to the University of Guam to help re-propagate the *serianthes nelsonii*, the large tree in the background, into its natural habitat. The name of the tree in Chamorro is hayun lāgu. The tree is on Andersen property. (Photo: PDN file)

We are writing to the people of Guam to remind them of just how precious this forest is and how catastrophic it would be to lose this gem. It contains endemic species that are found nowhere else on Earth, and are already in trouble from habitat loss and invasive species. In addition to hayun lāgu, the firing range could wipe out one of the last and largest populations of the Mariana Eight-Spot butterfly (*Hypolimnas octocula*), a species extinct on Saipan and now known only from Guam. The list goes on: thousands of fadang (*Cycas micronesica*) would be cleared and at least five other plants listed under the Endangered Species Act, or ESA, would be affected. Furthermore, fadang is on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of endangered species. Very little of this was highlighted in the supplementary Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The plant

species recently listed under the ESA were not even documented accurately. Once this forest is cut down and its limestone floor destroyed by live ammunition and military exercises, it can never be restored to its current pristine state.

[OUR VIEW: Ahead of military buildup, save medicinal plants \(http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/11/01/our-view-ahead-military-buildup-save-medicinal-plants/93100102/\)](http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/11/01/our-view-ahead-military-buildup-save-medicinal-plants/93100102/)

Ritidian, or Litekyan, harkens back to prehistory when Chamorro ancestors lived and thrived near the sea. The buildup threatens to shatter the forest and its cultural heritage connection to the native people of Guam. Indeed, fishers, refuge visitors, and recreational users maintain substantial ties to the area. At the very least, DoD owes the people of Guam a revised EIS before these plans move forward.

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In addition, if DoD continues to dismantle previous mitigation, how can the people of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands believe anything that DoD promises us? This mistrust materialized in a lawsuit filed in U.S. federal court on July 27, 2016. The Tinian Women's Association, Guardians of Gani (Gani are the Mariana Islands north of Saipan), Earthjustice and the Center for Biological Diversity sued the U.S. Navy over current and proposed training plans in the CNMI, focusing on compliance with the ESA and other environmental laws. If DoD destroys a previously required mitigation project, why are they allowed to move forward with multiple construction projects and training on Guam? Are there other DoD actions that fail to comply with the law? Is DoD making the case that they are above the law and that they do not have to comply when it comes to resources that belong to the people of Guam and the CNMI?

So far, they seem to be getting away with it.

Chamorro healers save medicinal plants

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/10/26/chamorro-healers-save-medicinal-plants/92760962/>).

What can concerned residents of the Mariana Islands do to prevent destruction of our resources? Stay informed, make noise, fight back. Our actions must be visible and compelling for our leaders and DoD to take notice.

Contact the Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office (mailto:pifwo_admin@fws.gov) to encourage the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to take a stronger stance on the listed species they are mandated to protect.

Urge our governor to take a stand against DoD's plans: Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo (<http://governor.guam.gov/contact/>).

Write to our Mariana Island representatives in Congress and adamantly oppose DoD's ISR/Strike and reckless plans for Tinian and Pagan that threaten our valuable resources: Madeleine Z. Bordallo (<https://bordallo.house.gov/contact/email>) and Gregorio Killili Camacho Sablan (<https://sablan.house.gov/contact-me/email-me-zip-authenticated>).

Linda Tatreau is a retired Guam Department of Education teacher. Joni Quenga Kerr is an associate professor at Guam Community College.

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/readers/2016/11/13/opinion-firing-range-would-threaten-forest/93777904/>

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Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas,
Member

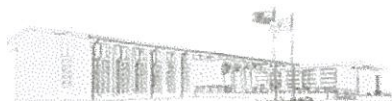
Senator James V. Espaldon,
Member

Senator Mary C. Torres,
Member

COMMITTEE REPORT CHECKLIST

Part 1 / 1

RESOLUTION NO. 228-34 (COR)	
Relative to addressing the protection of the environmental and cultural resources of the northern coastline of Guam, and prohibiting the construction of the live fire training range complex at northwest field.	
Referred to: Senator Telena Cruz Nelson, <i>Sponsor</i>	
(A) PUBLIC HEARING	(1) HEARING NOTICES SR §§ 6.04(a)(1) and 6.04(a)(2), Open Government Law (5 GCA, Ch. 8)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (a) Five (5) working days prior (ALL Senators & ALL Media)
	Date and Time of Notice: <i>Friday, September 15, 2017 @ 3:30 p.m.</i>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) Forty-eight (48) hours prior (ALL Senators & ALL Media)
	Date and Time of Notice: <i>Wednesday, September 20, 2017 @ 11:47 a.m.</i>
	(2) Date and Time of Hearing: Friday, September 22, 2017 @ 4:00 p.m.
	(3) Location: The Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building
	(4) HEARING WAIVED by Speaker in case of emergency SR § 6.04(a)(1) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A If YES: Attach memo indicating WAIVER



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**Committee Report Checklist on
Resolution No. 228-34 (COR)
Part 1 / 1**

	<p>(1) Committee Report filed with COR? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>If YES: Date & Time: Monday, September 25, 2017 @ 9:45 a.m.</p>	Notes:	<p>If NO: UNABLE TO PLACE ON SESSION AGENDA SR § 6.04(d)(1)</p>
	<p>(1)(a) Secondary CMTE Report filed with COR? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p>If YES: Date & Time:</p>		
<p>(B) COMMITTEE REPORT</p>	(2) COMMITTEE REPORT COMPONENTS		
	(a) Front Page Transmittal to Speaker		X
	(a)(1) COR Chair Signature Line		X
	(b) Title Page		X
	(c) Committee Chair Memo to All Committee Members		X
	(d) COR Referral Memorandum		X
	(e) Notice of Public Hearing & Other Correspondence		X
	(f) Public Hearing Agenda		X
	(g) Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet (5)		X
	(h) Written Testimonies & Additional Documents		X
	(i) Committee Vote Sheet(s)		X
	(j) Committee Report Digest(s)		X
	(k) Resolution History		X
	(k)(1) Copy of Resolution as introduced		X
	(k)(2) Copy of ^{Resolution} Bill as amended/substituted by Committee (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
	(n) Related News Reports (optional)		X
	(o) Miscellaneous (optional)		X
(p) Committee Report Checklist(s)		X	
	Originals	X	
	Single-Sided	X	
	Letter Size	X	
	No Staples/ Paper Clips	X	
<p>(C) COR Action</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CMTE Report duly filed; Available for Placement on Session Agenda</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> CMTE Report non-conforming for acceptance; Return to Committee</p>	<p>COR CHAIR (Signature, Date & Time)</p> <p><i>Leguible</i> 10:20 AM: 9.25.17</p>	