

PORT AUTHORITY OF GUAM

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NEWS RELEASE

Assistant Secretary of the Navy visits Port Authority of Guam

Second visit by high ranking defense official in less than two weeks

Piti, Guam, May 12, 2010: Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment Jackalynne Pfannenstiel toured the Port Authority of Guam today following a meeting with the agency's General Manager.

Pfannenstiel met with General Manager Enrique J.S. Agustin and they discussed the impact the military buildup will have on port facilities along with the Port's plans to modernize and efforts to obtain federal funding. Pfannenstiel was then given a tour of the facilities and shown the progress already underway by the Port.

Pfannenstiel was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations and Environment) on March 5, 2010. According to the U.S. Navy, in this position, Pfannenstiel is responsible for formulating department-wide policies, procedures, advocacy and strategic plans, as well as overseeing all DON functions and programs related to installations, safety, energy and environment. This includes effective management of Navy and Marine Corps real property, housing, and other facilities; environmental, natural, cultural and marine resource protection, planning, conservation and compliance, both ashore and afloat; safety and occupational health for both military and civilian personnel; timely completion of closures and realignments of installations under base closure laws; **the U.S. – Japan agreement to realign U.S. forces in Japan and relocate 8000 Marines and their families from Okinawa to Guam**; and the development of the department's energy strategy, policies and guidance.

On April 30th, Assistant Secretary of Defense, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, Wallace "Chip" Gregson also visited the Port Authority of Guam and toured the facilities. These latest visits follow other high-profile dignitary visits that have sought out tours of the Port such as the visit in September of Four-Star General Duncan J. McNabb, the Commander of the U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) which is one of the nine U.S. Military combatant commands.

"The visits by these high-ranking officials show that there is an elevated level of interest in our Port by the federal government, especially the Department of Defense," Agustin said. "During these visits and tours we take the opportunity to express to them our need to upgrade our port facilities for our local community and also to accommodate the military buildup. We also tell them how critical it is that we receive federal funding to support the Port Modernization Program."

-30-

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