



Senator  
**THERESE M. TERLAJE**

*I Mina'trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

35th Guam Legislature

Committee on Health, Tourism, Historic Preservation, Land and Justice

June 19, 2019

***Transmitted via Electronic Mail***

[governor@guam.gov](mailto:governor@guam.gov)

**Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero**

Governor of Guam

Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex

Adelup, Guam

Håfa adai Governor Leon Guerrero,

On June 17, 2019, the State Historic Preservation Officer requested an extension from the Department of Defense (DOD) until Friday, June 21, 2019 to review the latest "inadvertent" discovery of lusong and latte period ceramic scatter at the P715 site of Live Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC). In the extension request, it was also stated that the SHPO has not approved the amended Work Plan for data recovery at site P715.

It is unclear if the DOD is operating under the timeline of 48 hours for inadvertent discoveries to be collected and cleared or if the extension request was granted or if you have called for a pause as requested in my previous June 12, 2019 letter.

To summarize the concerns again regarding the new discoveries of historic properties at Northwest Field, four new inadvertent discoveries of historic properties were uncovered in the 18-acre Known Distance Rifle Range (KDRR) and adjacent roadway. The MCAG report noted that 3 areas are "probable sites or extensions of one larger site, pending confirmation by additional investigations." The properties found contained fire features (potential earth ovens), Latte Period ceramic scatters, various lithics, and shell artifacts, all of which were densely situated encompassing a large portion of the proposed Known Distance Rifle Range. Additionally, a lusong and latte period ceramic scatter was found in an adjacent roadway near the firing ranges. One of the MCAG reports also noted that "stump pulling activities continue to expose archaeological materials as they move north." The SHPO at the time was concerned that there are already too many new discoveries of historic properties to ignore their frequency and has contended that more surveying is necessary to ascertain if the area was an ancient village.

The four new inadvertent discoveries at Northwest Field are in addition to the 14 known historic properties that have already been removed (via "data recovery") and the eighty other historic properties and adjacent village of Litekyan which will be impacted by the proposed LFTRC site. "Data recovery" as written in the Programmatic Agreement is the removal of only a sampling of archaeologically relevant material (i.e. latte, lusong, earth ovens, pottery pieces, etc.) and any remaining artifacts at the site are left to the discretion of the contractor to dispose.

I am respectfully requesting that you and the Acting SHPO stand firm behind the protection of all of the historic sites at the proposed LFTRC. **Given these discoveries and the circumstances before us, I still continue to ask that a pause be placed on the LFTRC project to give more time for the Acting SHPO and community to consider the importance of the new discoveries and for you to lead discussions with the military as to whether they can avoid the additional historic properties discovered.** As you know, the largest of the five firing ranges, the 59-acre Multipurpose Machine Gun (MPMG) Range closest to the endangered *Serianthes Nelsonii* tree is slated to be cleared next which may result in additional significant inadvertent discoveries of historic properties. I

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would like to meet with you and the Acting SHPO regarding this matter and I am sure other members in the community who have years of experience would be willing to apprise you of their efforts towards protecting our cultural and historic sites in these areas.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention and efforts in this regard.

Sincerely,



Therese M. Terlaje

CC: Richard Ybanez, Acting State Historic Preservation Officer  
Carlotta Leon Guerrero, Chief Advisor on Military and Regional Affairs  
Joe Quinata, Guam Preservation Trust  
Michael Makio, Chairman, Guam Historic Preservation Review Board  
Ann Marie Arceo, President, Department of Chamorro Affairs  
Independent Guåhan  
Prutehi Litekyan  
Fuetsan Famalao'an  
Nasion CHamoru  
Mañe'lon Marianas  
Manhoben Para Guåhan  
Guåhan Coalition for Peace and Justice  
Our Islands Are Sacred  
Håya Foundation  
Chief Hurao, Inc.  
Duk Duk Goose, Inc. (Nih!)  
GCC Eco Warriors  
ChamGlam Botanika  
Health Shack  
Z's Green Canteen  
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