

Marine Corps Special Ops Team Set to Arrive; Forces Will Rotate; Calvo Welcomes Increased Marine Presence

A release from the Governor's Office * Contact Phill Leon Guerrero at 929-7467 or Phillip.Leonguerrero@Guam.gov

"Guam is being tapped to play a key role in the re-balancing of military forces in this region. We take this duty very seriously and we welcome the Marines to their new home. We are honored to do our part for the country and the security of our allies. This gives us a chip in the game – an opportunity to work collaboratively while building a mutual respect for each other's needs. Ensuring a smooth integration moving forward is a priority. I'm looking forward to establishing a supportive relationship with our military partners." – Governor Eddie Baza Calvo

Marine Special Operations Unit First in Series of Incoming Rotational Forces

A Marine Corps unit from the Marine Corps Special Operations Command will be arriving on Guam. This is the first of a series of forces who will rotate on Guam. The MARSOC unit will be integrating with existing special operations trainings and missions occurring in the region. They will be colocated with the Naval Special Warfare Unit already stationed on Guam. These Marine forces are part of a rotational cycle of similar units that also will make their way to Guam during the re-balancing ("military buildup") of forces throughout the region.

Captain Barry Morris, MARSOC Public Affairs Officer, said the purpose for the units' deployment here is that "this deployment is the start of MARSOC's efforts to provide persistent forward deployed fully enabled MSOCs to select Theater Special Operations Commands (TSOC) in order to conduct routine, partner-nation training and other operations throughout the Southeast Asia-Pacific region."

Local, military officials committed to partnership, open communication

Governor Eddie Calvo is optimistic and open to exploring mutually-beneficial strategies to ensure a smooth integration process for both the local community and military personnel. "The potential for a successful integration relies on both parties and the willingness to work together. I'm certain the influx of military forces on Guam can be an opportunity for growth in critical areas – if we build relationships on an open, supportive and collaborative level."

Colonel Philip Zimmerman, Officer-in-Charge, Marine Corps Activity Guam (MCAG) said of the arrival of the Marine Special Operations Company's (MSOC), "they will be a great addition to the Marine Corps family here in Guam."