



PRESERVE AND PROTECT PĀGAT VILLAGE ACTION TIMELINE

HISTORY/BACKGROUND

The United States military plans to undertake a massive buildup on Guam that is estimated to cause a 45% population increase on the island over the next five years. In addition to concerns about Guam's already overtaxed infrastructure and fragile natural environment, many islanders are worried about the potentially devastating impact on the island's cultural resources. Current plans call for the construction of five Marine Corps firing ranges within several hundred feet of Pāgat.

Department of Defense plans for a firing range on a bluff directly above the site would bring military exercises, live ammunition, and security fencing to Pāgat. As a result, access to this cherished place will be significantly curtailed, treasured artifacts will be threatened and thousands of years of Chamorro history will be placed at risk.

The Guam Preservation Trust nominated Pāgat village to *America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places*, a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation based in Washington D.C.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

May 20, 2010: Pāgat Village is selected as one of 2010's "America's 11 Most Endangered Sites" by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Representing the National Trust for Historic Preservation was Attorney Brian Turner from the NTHP Western Office.

May 29, 2010: The Guam Preservation Trust celebrates the efforts to save Pāgat village at Skinner Plaza.

July 19-July 27, 2010: Anthea Hartig, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Director-Western Office; Brian Turner, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Attorney-Western Office; Nicolas Yost and Matthew Adams, Attorneys of the law firm of SNR Denton US LLP's San Francisco Office, visits Guam.



July 23, 2010: Federal officials from the White House Council on Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, and Department of Defense visited Pāgat. During the visit, several hundred peaceful protesters gathered at Pāgat's trailhead to demonstrate against the plans for the firing ranges.

July 26, 2010: Guam Preservation retains legal representation by Nicolas Yost & Matthew Adams from the law firm of SNR Denton US LLP.

July 28, 2010: Deputy Secretary of Defense Lynn hopes to "mitigate" Pāgat concerns.

August 9, 2010: Matthew Adams submits letter on the July 23 public briefing and on public comments on the FEIS.

August 10, 2010: Attorneys urge extension of comment period.

August 12, 2010: Pāgat to be featured on 'Pacific Plus' documentary.

August 25, 2010: The law firm of SNR Denton US LLP submitted comments on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on behalf of the Guam Preservation Trust and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, stating that the document is "legally inadequate" for its failure to evaluate alternative sites for the firing ranges. The Department of Defense expects to sign the Record of Decision by the September 10 to meet fiscal year requirements.

August 29, 2010: The Guam Preservation Trust and the National Trust for Historic Preservation submitted comments on the draft Programmatic Agreement which are critical of the current Department of Defense plans to address the military buildup's impact to historic properties on Guam.

September 9, 2010: The Department of Defense intends to conclude the environmental review process for the Guam Military Buildup by September 20. Its plan to build five firing ranges above and directed towards Pāgat Village has become one of the most divisive aspects of the multi-billion dollar troop relocation. Advocates are hopeful that the military will back away from the controversial range plan in the September 20 decision.

November 17, 2010: The National Trust for Historic Preservation, joined by Guam Preservation Trust and We are Guahan, filed a legal action against the U.S. Department of Defense challenging its plans to construct a complex of five firing ranges in Guam that are immediately adjacent to and directed toward Pāgat Village. The lawsuit was filed in Honolulu, where the environmental review process was coordinated by the Navy.