

Four-Star General Visits Port

General McNabb sees first hand Modernization Plans and progress at Port

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Four-Star General Duncan J. McNabb visited the Port Authority of Guam this afternoon and met with Governor Felix P. Camacho along with the Port Board Chairman and General Manager regarding the agency's plans to modernize the commercial sea port.

"This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have a four-star general here to witness the progress we have made and our plans to upgrade our facilities," said Port General Manager Glenn A. Leon Guerrero. "We also explained our efforts to seek federal funding for the upgrades and General McNabb seemed very receptive to the work we have been doing."

McNabb is the Commander of the U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) which is one of the nine U.S. Military combatant commands. USTRANSCOM provides air, land and sea transportation for the Department of Defense and is supported by Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine and Coast Guard personnel. USTRANSCOM is the single manager for global air, land and sea transportation for the Department of Defense.

His position and review of the Port is critical as the agency seeks Strategic Designation approval from the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC) and the Department of Transportation's U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD). Federal officials from SDDC and MARAD were on Guam last month to conduct their assessment on PAG's request.

The benefits of Strategic Port designation to a U.S. seaport are numerous and significant. They include: increased federal investment in the port district; improved access to federal security and port infrastructure funding; dramatically increased cargo volumes during periods of military deployment; and the establishment of an ongoing partnership between the seaport and the Department of Defense, resulting in the development of joint projects benefiting both the military and the commercial port. In addition, a strategic designation status will showcase to the commercial industry the Port's capacity to serve the needs of their companies, our region and the people of Guam. Port officials are hoping that McNabb's visit will assist in the Strategic Designation efforts.

"During our presentation and tour we were able to show General McNabb our plans to modernize and he was able to witness just how strategic our commercial sea port is to our community, our region and to national security," Leon Guerrero said.

McNabb was joined by Brig. General Michelle D. Johnson, Director, Strategy, Policy, Programs and Logistics for USTRANSCOM and Brig. General Philip M. Ruhlman, Commander, 36th Wing Andersen Air Force Base.

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