



**Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD**  
*I Mina'trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan*  
 31st Guam Legislature

Asst. Minority Leader

Committee on Education &  
 Public Libraries  
 Member

Committee on Health & Human  
 Services, Senior Citizens, Economic  
 Development and Election Reform  
 Member

Committee on Military Buildup, Homeland  
 Security and Public Governance  
 Member

Committee on Municipal Affairs,  
 Tourism, Housing and Recreation  
 Member

Committee on Rules, Federal  
 Foreign & Micronesian Affairs and  
 Human & Natural Resources  
 Member

Committee on Utilities, Transportation,  
 Public Works, and Veterans Affairs  
 Member

Committee on Youth, Cultural Affairs,  
 Procurement, General Government  
 Operations and Public Broadcasting  
 Member

Committee on Public Safety, Law  
 Enforcement and Judiciary  
 Member

21 April 2011

**The Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.**  
 Speaker  
*I Mina' Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan*  
 155 Hesler Place  
 Hagåtña, Guam 96910

**VIA: The Honorable Rory J. Respicio**  
 Chairperson, Committee on Rules

**RE: Report on Res No. 24-31 (COR)**

Dear Speaker Won Pat:

Transmitted herewith for consideration by the Body is the Report on Res No. 24-31 (COR) – "Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities," which was publicly heard on 08 March 2011.

The voting record is as follows:

- TO ADOPT**
- NOT TO ADOPT**
- TO REPORT OUT ONLY**
- ABSTAIN**
- TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE**

2011 APR 27 AM 11:13

Respectfully,

Aline A. Yamashita, PhD  
 Senator

805 S. Marine Corps Drive  
 O'Hara Pacific Plaza, Suite 1104  
 Tamuning, GU 96913

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**REPORT  
ON  
RESOLUTION NO. 24-31 (COR)**

**“Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”**



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Procurement, General Government  
Operations and Public Broadcasting

Member

Committee on Public Safety, Law  
Enforcement and Judiciary

Member

20 April 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**To: All Senators**

**From: Aline A. Yamashita, PhD**   
**Senator**

**Subject: Report on Resolution No. 24-31 (COR)**

*Hafa adai.*

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Report on Resolution No. 24-31 (COR) "Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities."

This report includes the following:

- Vote Sheet
- Report Digest
- Copy of Resolution No. 24 (COR)
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Testimony
- Copy of COR Referral of Resolution No. 24 (COR)
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Related News Reports

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you. *Si Yu'os ma'åse'.*

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## VOTING SHEET

**Resolution No. 24-31 (COR) – A.A. Yamashita, PhD – “Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”**

Senator	Signature	Date	To Adopt	To Not Adopt	To Abstain	To Report Out Only	To Place in Inactive
Speaker Judith Won Pat		4/21/11	✓				
Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz		4/21/11	✓				
Senator Tina Muna-Barnes Legislative Secretary		4/21/11	✓				
Senator Rory Respicio Majority Leader		4/21/11	✓				
Senator Judith Guthertz Asst. Minority Leader		4/21/11	✓				
Senator vicente "ben" pangelinan							
Senator Thomas C. Ada							
Senator Adolpho Palacios							
Senator Dennis Rodriguez, Jr.		4/21/11	✓				
Senator Frank Blas, Jr. Minority Leader		4/21/11	✓				
Senator Aline A. Yamashita Asst. Minority Leader		4/20/11	✓				
Senator V. Anthony Ada							
Senator Mana Silva Taijeron		4/21/11	✓				
Senator Christopher M. Duenas		4/21/11	✓				
Senator Shirley "Sam" Mabini		4/21/11	✓				

<b>For Sponsor's Office Use Only</b>	
Sponsor Signature:	
Staff Contact Person:	TANYA M. C. MENDIOLA
Date:	04-21-11
<b>FOR COR/Clerk's Office Use Only</b>	_____ Certified _____ Returned
Name:	_____
Date:	_____
Notes:	_____

## REPORT DIGEST

### I. OVERVIEW

Res No. 24-31(COR) was introduced on 14 February 2011 by Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD, and was subsequently referred by the Committee on Rules to the Sponsor on 15 February 2011.

The Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD convened a public hearing on Bill/Res No. Res No. 24-31(COR) on Tuesday, 08 March 2011 at 9:00AM in *I Liheslatura's* Public Hearing Room.

#### **Public Notice Requirements**

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via hand-delivery and e-mail to all senators and via email to all main media broadcasting outlets on Tuesday, 01 March 2011 (5-Day Notice), and again on Friday, 04 March 2011 (48-Hour Notice). Additionally, on Monday, 28 February 2011 the *Pacific Daily News* published on its online website an article entitled "Senator to hold hearing on buildup noise mitigation," relative to the public hearing.

#### **Senators Present**

Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD, Sponsor

Senator Christopher M. Duenas

Senator V. Anthony Ada

### II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 9:13AM.

**A. Those present providing testimony were:**

**Danny Jackson (Magalahen Pagat)**

Mr. Jackson testified in support of the resolution. He stated that military aircraft fly at low altitudes over his home in Pagat, Mangilao estimating that planes fly as low as 75 feet. He stated that his concern does not lie as much with commercial airlines because they follow scheduled flight times. Rather, he is concerned with safety issues if an aircraft were to crash and the adverse effects on students if military aircraft fly over or near schools during school hours.

Mr. Jackson said he has complained about the noise and how it affects his grandchildren, who reside with him, stating that sometimes planes fly over his residence at 10:30 p.m. and 1 a.m. He testified that his neighbors share similar concerns.

He further stated he is glad that Senator Yamashita raised this issue, but the discussion of noise pollution produced by military aircraft is not new and has been brought up by former Senator Angel Santos. He stated that the “*Taotao-tano*” are the only ones who are vocal about their opposition to colonization and the impending Guam build-up of US military forces.

Mr. Jackson additionally stated his concerns about indigenous fishing rights.

**Ofing Jackson**

Mrs. Jackson testified in support of Resolution 24-31 and that she concurs with

her husband's testimony. She mirrored Mr. Jackson's statements about living along Route 15, Mangilao, adding that she has contacted the Mangilao mayor and the Guam Police Department about noise from military aircraft exercises. Like Mr. Jackson, Mrs. Jackson stated that the late-Senator Angel Santos tried to address the issue since 1991. She added that she supports the resolution as includes the wildlife.

**Vicente Garrido (*Faet*)**

Mr. Garrido testified in favor of the resolution, stating that he suffers from hearing loss and his service during the Vietnam conflict provided him with first-hand knowledgeable of military aircraft noise. He suggested that the military compensate people for hearing loss and stated that this should have been included in Final Environmental Impact Statement.

He added that he lives in Machanao, Dededo and sees /experiences the noise produced during exercises, stating that they dive bomb over residences during training. He stated that if they insist on having exercises over housing areas, they should be conducted over military residential housing. Furthermore, he stated that Senator Judith Guthertz introduced a bill previously to have a no fly zone over Tumon, but questioned why this is not for everywhere on Guam. He added that planes fly at such low altitudes that he can see the pilot.

Additionally, he testified that his 96-year-old mother, who lives along Harmon cliffline, and lived through WWII, is traumatized from the war and will hide in closet when she hears military aircraft flying overhead.

**Bobing Wolford**

Mr. Wolford testified in support of Resolution 24-31. He stated that the noise

from military aircraft disturbs infants, school children and the seniors who are at home.

**Francis Perez**

Mr. Perez testified in support of the resolution. Mr. Perez said he is a resident of Ramirez way in Toto, which lies within the final approach of the AB Won Pat Guam International Airport runway and his family is affected by the noise of approaching commercial aircraft and military aircraft. He spoke about the airport's noise mitigation program and how it does not apply to the area where he lives and he does not think this is fair, and wants to be included in the grid used to decide who receives grants for noise-abatement projects.

**Ivan Quinata**

Mr. Quinata, acting Guam Environmental Protection Agency administrator, provided oral and written testimony in support of the resolution. Mr. Quinata stated that during the review process of the 2010 Draft Environmental Impact Statement, GEPA brought up the concerns stated in the resolution. He added that the Agency is very concerned about the present and future flight plans of military aircraft and the noise they will generate, and believes there will be potential impacts to residents and wildlife. Additionally, GEPA concurs with US EPA's response that the Record of Decision did not adequately address noise-level issues. He stated that GEPA believes that a comprehensive noise-impact study needs to be conducted. He added that the results of the studies will help the community plan on how to address the issues.

**Nito Blas, Mangilao Mayor**

Mayor Blas testified in favor of Resolution No. 24. He stated that he would like to add in a "no-fly zone" for the Mangilao district. He added that anytime the



military holds flight exercises, residents should be notified. Mayor Blas stated that residents startled, by the noise from the exercises held at late hours of the night, have called him, but he was unaware of the exercises, so he couldn't inform his constituents about the exercises. He further stated that children are sometimes awakened and are unable to go back to sleep because of the noise or fear and if there are exercises or if there is an emergency, as mayor, he should be the first person notified so he can inform residents.

**Ronald Flores, Yigo Vice Mayor**

Vice Mayor Flores provided testimony on behalf of Yigo Mayor Robert Lizama in support of the resolution. Mr. Flores stated that Yigo, is the most affected village as it sits just beyond the Andersen Air Force Base fence line. Mr. Flores stated that he lives four miles from the AAFB where he can hear the revving of jets and can only imagine what residents living along the fence line experience. He added that since 1991 his village has seen a buildup of military-related activities, and now that there are fighter-bombers there is a notable increase of noise pollution. He further added that during the Vietnam War, as Guam was being used as a staging site, his grandfather had to move his farm because his chickens weren't laying as much eggs as they once did. Therefore, Mr. Flores stated that he agreed with GEPA acting Administrator Quinata, that more studies must be done on the health impacts this may have on people and wildlife.

**Jose Ulloa Garrido, Free Association task force chairperson**

Mr. Garrido testified in favor of Resolution 24. He said the resolution is significant because Chamorros have been denied the right to say what happens on the island, which is why Guam is listed in the United Nations as a non-governing territory.

He said Okinawans were compensated for suffering from noise pollution. He stated that he served as a consultant on the Programmatic Agreement and recommended that there be a mechanism in place or plan to provide for some form of compensation for people who are adversely affected by the military build up. He stated that Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas should have a unified stance to address this. He added that the CNMI receives compensation from the US as the northern islands are being used for bombing and training exercises, but Guam does not receive any compensation. Mr. Garrido further stated that noise pollution was not discussed at length during discussions with the Joint Program Office Guam because it was viewed as anti-military.

**B. Those providing written testimony were:**

**Pedro Flores and Family, Yigo Residents**

Mr. Flores provided written testimony via email in support of the resolution stating that his grandchildren's sleep is routinely interrupted when military helicopters fly over his home. The noise causes vibrations and cited a recent incident when a helicopter flew over his residence at 8:30 p.m. He stated that he knows when aircraft are preparing to take off because he can hear the noise from his home, located near the Bank of Guam Yigo branch. He further stated that at night, during the weekdays, aircraft should fly over water and not over residential areas, and is additionally, concerned about the possibility of a crash occurring over residential areas.

**Gregory Woodward**

Mr. Woodward, a resident of Yigo, provided written testimony via email in support of the resolution. Mr. Woodward is retired military (more than 24 years), so he understands the need for frequent training. He wrote that his concern was relative to the types of aircraft the US Marines would bring with them because different types of aircraft are noisier and fly at lower altitudes. He proposed that the military not fly over populated areas, and that military officials be brought to the table to discuss quality of life and safety issues. He added that commitments should be made in writing.

### **Russell Young**

Mr. Young, a Dededo resident and military employee, provided written testimony via email in support of the resolution. He wrote that he lives 7 minutes from AAFB, but his home is on the flight-line landing path and that noise can be deafening when planes are landing. He added that, “you can sometimes feel the big planes as they land. They are low in altitude and very noisy. Especially during exercises. We would be very excited about noise mitigation for our house.”

### **Consolacion Blas Snipes**

Ms. Snipes, a resident of Yigo, provided written testimony via email in support of the resolution. She stated that she lives alone in close proximity to AAFB and her dogs, which she considers her children, are frightened by noise from military aircraft overhead. Ms. Snipes is a farmer and home 99 percent of the time and irritated by the noise. She asks that senators, the governor and Congressional delegate assist her as she lives on a fixed income as a retiree and cannot afford to replace the windows in her residence with noise reducing infrastructure.

### **Noboru Izumi**

Mr. Izumu, General Manager of Starts Guam Golf Resort, provided written testimony via email in support of the resolution. Mr. Izumi wrote that during training exercises or when aircraft fly over the resort properties, he receives several complaints from resort guests. He further stated that sometimes the hotel “shakes” from planes flying at low altitudes and the guests’ complaints include the inability to have conversations or watch, uninterrupted, a television program. Additionally, he stated that late night flying (after 8:00 p.m.) interrupts guests as they sleep and strongly suggested that aircraft not fly over the hotel at anytime and/or as guests are using golf course properties.

### **Carl Peterson**

Mr. Peterson provided written testimony via email stating that the noise of military aircraft “equates to jobs, our standard of living, opportunity; and our retirement wherever it comes from.” He also wrote that he spoke with several people about the recent military exercise “Cape North” involving the US and Japan and asked of they had been disturbed by noise, to which they replied they had not. He further wrote about the economic advantages provided by an increase in military activity-.

He further wrote, “There of course is a lot of media-driven hype from Okinawa. But with in-depth research it’s pretty easy to discern that by and large the complaints come from those “politically connected” (working with the Gov’t/guaranteed jobs) and that a great deal of hype is about getting more funds from their central Gov’t. But has anyone asked all the businesses connected with serving their customer? Do you think they are excited about being put out of business? The logic should be obvious.”

Mr. Peterson further stated that like tourism, the military is also another industry, so “we must be balanced in our approach” and “during Vietnam we had 152 B-52s on the ground at AAFB (a lot of noise). And they provided 24-hour employment for hundreds of people who paid a lot of taxes to our Gov’t.” He also stated that homes should not be built in zones outlined in the FAA.

He further wrote “that the new mantra should be: PARDON THE NOISE: IT’S THE SOUND OF FREEDOM, COMMERCE, AND PROSPERITY! And when people start really complaining about the inconvenience of the traffic as more roads are built and more vehicles are on the road we should have a mantra for it too: PARDON THE CONGESTION, IT IS A SIGN OF PROGRESS, REPAIR, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE.”

### **Lydia Taimanglo**

Ms. Taimanglo, provided written testimony via email in support of the resolution. She asked if the military can install windows and doors to sound proof her home because she lives in the military aircraft flight path. She stated that she lives “in Yigo, and when an aircraft is ready for landing, I can see the tires of the aircraft. That’s how low the aircraft is.”

### **Vicente C. Castro**

Mr. Castro, a resident of Chalan Koda and Piga Subdivision in Dededo, provided written testimony stating that his family and nearby residents are adversely affected by noise produced by military aircraft. He further noted that although he is unsure whether he lives within the military landing path or training area, where his “home is located, there are many military aircrafts that fly over causing loud noises and vibration to my house and the surrounding homes.” He

further wrote that he believes with the military build up the noise will increase and he humbly requests assistance in soundproofing his home as well as that of his neighbors.

**John S. Unpingco, governor's special assistant, Veterans Affairs Office**

Mr. Unpingco provided written testimony on Resolution No. 24. He stated that while the Air Force used to perform Airbase Installation Compatibility Zone where certain areas in and around the air installation are rated in terms of noise levels, it is time to revisit this procedure in light of the build-up. He further noted that he is unsure whether increasing the flight altitude during aircraft landing and take off can be uniformly implemented using Visual Flight Rules versus instrument rules.

**Rear Admiral Paul J. Bushong, Joint Region Marianas Commander/ US Navy Commander**

Admiral Bushong submitted written testimony stating that the Final Environmental Impact Statement does not identify significant adverse operations impacts to humans associated with the build up. Therefore, the Record of Decision does not prescribe mitigation. Furthermore, he stated that proposed routes for the Marine's aviation practices avoids off-base or non- Department of Defense lands to the greatest extent possible, and aviation training flights are mostly either over DoD lands and open water. Lastly, that the National Environmental Policy Act identified avoidance as a form of mitigation.

**Discussion**

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and Mr. Garrido spoke about indigenous fishing rights. Senators Yamashita and Duenas assured them the process is moving forward in

the legislature.

The public hearing was adjourned at 10:38 AM.

### **III. FINDINGS**

Invitations were extended, in letters sent via email and subsequent phone calls, to the Joint Region Marianas and Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) for their participation and input. The Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD, was informed that Joint Region Marianas Commander Bushong and Deputy Commander Doucette would be off island at the time of the public hearing, but would submit written testimony. No response was received from JGPO.

The Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD, finds that there is community support and a desire for noise mitigation measures to improve quality of life. There is also a call for a comprehensive noise impact study, so the community can better plan for or prevent potential adverse effects.

**I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN  
2011 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Resolution No. 24-31 (con)**

Introduced by:

A. A. Yamashita, PhD

2011 FEB 14 PM 2:54  
A. A. Yamashita

**Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.**

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**  
2 **MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:**

3 **WHEREAS**, an accord was signed in 2006 between the Unites States  
4 Government and the Government of Japan to relocate 8,600 US Marines and  
5 their 9,000 dependents from Okinawa, Japan and approximately 600 military  
6 personnel attached to the US Army, and their approximately 950 dependents  
7 to Guam with an impact to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
8 Islands beginning this year and expected to reach completion in 2014;

9 **WHEREAS**, the realignment of US Forces will impact Guam and the  
10 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands socially, environmentally  
11 and economically and there is a need to mitigate some of the potentially  
12 negative impacts;



1           **WHEREAS**, in 2009, the Naha branch of the Fukuoka High Court  
2 awarded 5.62 billion Yen – which was approximately \$57 million US – to 5,519  
3 litigants who are Naha residents who claimed their health suffered from noise  
4 from the Kadena Air Force Base flight activities;

5           **WHEREAS**, Okinawan litigants tried to place a ban on early-morning  
6 flights because they were disruptive and posed health-hazards to students in  
7 nearby schools;

8           **WHEREAS**, in February 2010, the US Environmental Protection Agency  
9 Region IX, Regional Administrator in a letter to the acting Assistant Secretary  
10 regarding EPA comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
11 (DEIS) for the Guam and CNMI Military Relocation, citing concerns about the  
12 potential noise pollution caused by impending flight activities at Andersen  
13 Air Force Base, Guam;

14           **WHEREAS**, the US EPA cited that “the DEIS appears to underestimate  
15 the significance of noise impacts. The noise impacts from the Anderson AFB  
16 ISR Strike DEIS alone were substantial, with that analysis showing that 2,310  
17 people off-base will be exposed to sound 65 dBA (A-weighted sound level  
18 measured in decibels) and above, with 552 potentially highly annoyed by the  
19 change, representing roughly ten times more people experiencing these  
20 impacts that at present;”

21           **WHEREAS**, the relocation of military personnel to Guam and the  
22 required training activities will include flight operations that will  
23 undoubtedly cause increased noise traffic that will impact all of Guam and the

1 CNMI, but most especially in northern Guam where several schools are  
2 located near Andersen Air Force Base;

3 **WHEREAS**, the US Department of Transportation Federal Aviation  
4 Administration issued Advisory Circular (AC) No: 91-36D relative to Visual  
5 Flight Rules (VFR) Flight Near Noise-Sensitive Areas, effectuated September  
6 17, 2004, that encourages pilots making VFR flights near noise-sensitive areas  
7 to fly at altitudes higher than the minimum permitted by regulation and on  
8 flight paths that will reduce aircraft noise in such areas;

9 **WHEREAS**, as defined in the AC, an area is “noise-sensitive” if noise  
10 interferes with normal activities associated with the area’s use. Examples of  
11 noise-sensitive areas include residential, educational, health, and religious  
12 structures and sites, and parks, recreational areas (including areas with  
13 wilderness characteristics), wildlife refuges, and cultural and historical sites  
14 where a quiet setting is a generally recognized feature or attribute;

15 **WHEREAS**, the Final Environmental Impact Statement states that while  
16 mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce adverse noise impacts to  
17 the community concerning construction of military facilities directly related to  
18 the buildup, it lacks measures to address potential adverse affects of increased  
19 aircraft-related traffic such as noise annoyance to the community caused by  
20 the buildup and post-buildup activities;

21 **WHEREAS**, the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority  
22 (GIAA) recognized the potential impact aircraft noise can have to residences,  
23 and established a residential sounds solution program that provides for grants

1 to home owners to participate in a noise abatement program, including  
2 sound-insulation procedures, if their residences are determined to fall within  
3 the FAA approved Noise Exposure Map;

4 **WHEREAS**, the intent of the program is to reduce the impact on  
5 communities surrounding the airport to reduce interior noise levels for each  
6 home to forty-five (45) decibels and to achieve at least a five (5) decibel  
7 reduction in the homes;

8 **WHEREAS**, it is acknowledged that the military may not fall under the  
9 purview of the FAA and that the AC asks for voluntary compliance, now,  
10 therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na*  
12 *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the  
13 people of Guam, respectfully requests and urges— in the spirit of cooperation  
14 and goodwill— that military aircraft adopt the recommendations provided in  
15 AC No: 91-36D relative to Visual Flight Rules (VFR) Flight Near Noise-  
16 Sensitive Areas to reduce and control the effect of aircraft noise impact on the  
17 community; and that the military to adopt and implement a program similar  
18 to that of GIAA for noise abatement for residences, churches, schools,  
19 businesses, organizations, and all others affected, and be it further

20 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on  
21 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and  
22 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Barrack  
23 Obama, President; Honorable Ron Mabus, Secretary of the Navy; Honorable

1 Anthony M. Babauta, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas;  
2 Guam; Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam Delegate to US Congress;  
3 Rear Admiral Paul J. Bushong, Commander, Joint Region Marianas; Brigadier  
4 Geneneral John W. Doucette, Deputy Commander, Joint Region Marianas; Mr.  
5 Joseph Ludovici, Executive Director, Joint Guam Program Office; and to the  
6 Honorable Edward J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES  
OF *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE \_\_\_\_  
DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2011 (2012).**

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**JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.**  
Speaker

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**RORY J. RESPICIO**  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Legislative Secretary

Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD

I Mina'trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan

31st Guam Legislature

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Tuesday, 08 March 2011 • 9:00 a.m. • Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room

Res No. 24-31 (COR) – (A.A. Yamashita, PhD) – “Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam’s community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”

NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Maga' Lahin Pagat	Nasion Chamoru	support		✓	637-5894	
Ofing Jackson	''	support		✓	637-5894	
Faet <sup>Ueste</sup> <sub>Gumila</sub>	Nasion Chamoru	support		✓	632-5700	
Bobing Wolford	Indiv.	<del>Oppose</del> support		✓	789-5826	
FRANCIS PEREZ	INDIVIDUAL	Both		✓	477-6462	
IVAN QUINATA	SEPA	SUPPORT		✓	475-1658	

Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD

I Mina'trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan

31st Guam Legislature

Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet

Tuesday, 08 March 2011 • 9:00 a.m. • Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room

Res No. 24-31 (COR) – (A.A. Yamashita, PhD) – “Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam’s community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”

NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	SUPPORT? OPPOSE?	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	ORAL TESTIMONY	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
<i>AVA.</i>						
<i>NI TO ISLAS Mayor</i>						
<i>Ron Flores</i>	<i>Yigo Vice Mayor</i>	<i>Support</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>673-9444</i>	<i>rmf.ygo@yahoo.com</i>
<i>Joe Garrido</i>	<i>Chalan, TFFA F. GUAM CITIZENS</i>	<i>Support</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>632-7968</i>	<i>HUMMATAK@GUAM.NET</i>
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**Testimony of  
Ivan C. Quinata  
Acting Administrator  
Guam Environmental Protection Agency**

**On Resolution 24-31 (COR)  
Before the Committee on Rules, Natural Resources, and  
Federal, Foreign & Micronesian Affairs  
Legislative Public Hearing Room  
31<sup>st</sup> Guam Legislature**

**March 8, 2011**

Buenas yan Hafa Adai. Good Morning members of the Committee, I am Ivan C. Quinata the acting Administrator of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency. Thank for the opportunity to testify this morning on Legislative Resolution 24-31 (COR), a resolution to request the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.

The Guam EPA is in total support of Resolution 24-31 (COR). The Agency did in fact bring these concerns up during the review process of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2010. The Agency is very concerned with the present and future flight patterns of military aircraft and the noise generated from them. Based on the initial review of the current and proposed flight patterns, Guam EPA feels there may be potential impacts to residents and the wildlife in these affected areas.

As stated in the Agency's response to the DEIS, the concerns made then and the subsequent response after the release of the Record of Decision remain the same and concur with that of the concerns and response by officials from the U.S. EPA. The ROD was not satisfactory in addressing the noise level issue. The Agency found the previous noise study to be inefficient and saw deficiencies in the DEIS that dealt with the noise generated from operating military aircraft.

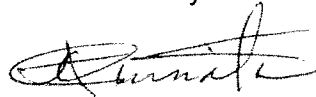
It is recommended that a new and more comprehensive Noise Study, one that is conducted by the Federal Government, be done to address the actual noise levels outside the federal facilities conducting flight operations. Results from the study can then be used to assess the effects of high noise levels of military aircraft operating in those affected areas and help create and implement any Noise Abatement program. Only after such a study can the planning process begin to design the course of action

needed to address and implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.

Guam EPA is in support of Resolution 24-31 (COR) and hopes the expected outcomes to this resolution will result in addressing quality of life issues for the community at large.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide my Testimony on Resolution 24-31 (COR).

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan C. Quinata". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "I" and "Q".

IVAN C. QUINATA  
Acting Administrator



**From:** aline4families@teleguam.net  
**Subject:** [Fwd: Re: Resolution 24]  
**Date:** March 10, 2011 5:33:38 AM GMT+10:00  
**To:** aline4families@gmail.com, tanya4families@gmail.com,  
lou4families@gmail.com, evelyn4families@gmail.com  
1 Attachment, 1.7 KB

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:** Re: Resolution 24  
**From:** "Dee Flores" <fdee7383@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** Wed, March 9, 2011 9:33 pm  
**To:** aline4families@teleguam.net

-----  
Senator Yamashita, thank you for letting island residence e-mail testimony  
to you

for Resolution 24. I live in the village of Yigo. My grandchildren go to  
bed at

8:00PM Sunday Thur Thursday, this is because they have to get their rest for  
school this next day. Well, just this evening at 8:30pm a military helicopter  
flew over the house and back to Anderson Air Force Base. Windows vibrating  
and the noise outrageous. This needs to stop, Especially during the evenings  
when the kids are in bed already. The noise during the day is just as bad. I know  
then these air crafts are taking off because their engines can be heard  
all the way to my house which is located near the Bank of Guam in Yigo. This is  
pretty far from the airstrip of AAFB. When the loud planes that look like bats  
are here and flying in our skies, I think they use my house as turning point. ( My  
roof is real white) to return to AAFB. It never fails. They turn tight over my  
house.

I think they should fly over the waters with is closer to their airstrip  
because if there is an accident over the water, the casualties below will probably  
be zero, because the pilots in the jets do use parachutes right? But if they  
continue to fly over the homes in Yigo and there is an accident, there will be a  
whole lot of casualties. I would like them to fly over the ocean and please reduce  
the noise somehow, oh and then no flying after dark.

Thank-you,

Resident of Yigo

Pedro Flores and family

untitled-[2].html (1.7 KB)

From: Gregory Woodward <gregorywoodward@hotmail.com>  
To: <aline4families@teleguam.net>  
Subject: NOISE ABATEMENT BILL  
Date: Tue, 15 Feb 2011 01:46:09 +0000

Feb 15th

Hello Senator --- Kudos for trying (I wish you all the best) to get the military- primarily the Navy and Air Force- to put some strict noise abatement regs in place asap. As I type this, the U.S. and Japan are holding joint exercises involving continual noisy F-16 flyovers. As an aviation buff and also having served at a U.S. Coast Guard Air Station I have two BIG concerns: Low altitude helo and fighter/bomber aircraft are extremely noisy and disruptive and also present a safety of life issue if they should suffer any mechanical failures. Altitude is a pilot's best friend so by flying higher and not so close to the populated areas of Guam this would help mitigate this danger and hopefully reduce current disruptive and annoying noise levels.

Regarding the noise issue military fighters and bombers in particular appear to be exempt from the stringent FAA engine noise abatement standards required for newer commercial aircraft. (Newer Commercial Aircraft are required to use the much quieter Stage III engines). As a result B-52's bombers and F 15/16 fighter jets, for example, are indeed significantly more noisy and disruptive at low altitude than just about any other aircraft flying around in our airspace. The only other exception would be the H 60 helos that HSC 25 flies around sometimes right over Marine Corps Drive. Definitely not a good idea if they lose an engine and then have to make an emergency landing. These helos too are very loud and create a lot of resonant vibration from their rotor blades that can be very disruptive at the low altitudes they routinely fly at.

Thank you for pursuing this and for trying to get the Navy and Air Force reps to the table to address these concerns. This problem will be greatly exacerbated once the F-15/16's from Kadena and the Marine Harrier jets (the Harriers are one the noisiest jets on record by the way) start performing their training missions here on Guam. All we have to do is look at how upset the Okinawans are over this issue to know it is an important quality and even safety of life concern. We need the military's assurance in writing specifically addressing how they are going to correct this "oversight". Thanks again for all your efforts on our behalf...

Cheers! -- woody

"Many waters cannot quench love neither can the floods drown it..." (Ecc 8.7a)



Evelyn Claros &lt;evelyn4families@gmail.com&gt;

## Fwd: Noise mitigation

Lourdes Benavente <lou4families@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 7, 2011 at 12:47 PM

To: Aline <aline4families@gmail.com>, Evelyn Claros <evelyn4families@gmail.com>, tanya mendiola <tanya4families@gmail.com>

We already an email from him, just followed up.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gregory Woodward** <[gregorywoodward@hotmail.com](mailto:gregorywoodward@hotmail.com)>

Date: Mon, Mar 7, 2011 at 12:20 PM

Subject: RE: Noise mitigation

To: [lou4families@gmail.com](mailto:lou4families@gmail.com)

Mar 7th

Good morning, Lourdes....thank you for your response to my earlier E-mail outlining my concerns....yes indeed, please feel free to include *all* my comments in tomorrow's hearing...I sure wish I could attend but I have a prior commitment with Fr. Jeff up at our Lady of Lourdes Church in Yigo, tomorrow at 9:00, the same time as the hearing.

One key concern I have is exactly what kind of aircraft the Marine Corps Air Wing will bring with them from Okinawa, and where do they plan do all their training with these aircraft? If you've never heard a Harrier jet (the one the Marines use) before, it's an incredibly loud and noisy aircraft.....in fact, it's one of the noisiest around. The Marines also have a variety of Helo's that they use: Huey's, Cam ache's, Apache's, H-60's--- all of which are very loud at the low altitudes that they typically fly at.

I'm retired military myself (24+ years), so I understand the need for frequent training. My proposal is that the Marines utilize Northwest field to conduct their aircraft training sorties, and that they do not fly over populated areas.

Senator Yamashita and the rest of her committee need to bring all the concerned parties-- Air Force, Navy, and Marines, to the table to discuss these quality and safety of life issues, and insist that all assurances and promises made be put into writing, otherwise, they're free to operate as they please, as does HSCS-25 (Navy H-60) helos now, when they routinely fly over and along Marine Corps Drive at low altitude (1,000 feet or less). This is unsat--if they experience an engine failure, for example, at that low altitude-- what assurance do we have that they will be able to maintain their altitude and not crash unto the busy road and heavily populated area below?

I would like to thank the good Senator and her staff for tackling this issue. People may not be concerned now, but I guarantee that if the Marines start buzzing all around populated areas with these aircraft, it's gonna' quickly become a real sore spot in our relations with them, as it already has with the Okinawans. Let's be proactive now so we don't have to operate reactively in the future, and nip this one in the bud before anything tragic happens.

**From:** aline4families@teleguam.net  
**Date:** March 2, 2011 9:00:17 AM GMT+10:00  
**To:** aline4families@gmail.com, tanya4families@gmail.com,  
lou4families@gmail.com, evelyn4families@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [Fwd: airplane noise]

----- Original Message -----

Subject: airplane noise  
From: "Young, Russell F Civ USAF 36 FSS 36 FSS/FSCG"  
<russell.young@andersen.af.mil>  
Date: Wed, March 2, 2011 7:19 am  
To: aline4families@teleguam.net

Aline Yamashita,

We live 7 min from Andersen which is good for my commute to work, but it is also right on the flight line landing path. The noise can be defining as the planes land. You can sometimes feel the big planes as they land. They are low in altitude and very noisy. Especially during exercises. We would be very excited about noise mitigation for our house.

Russell Young

292 Chalan Ubas St.

Dededo, Guam

February 23, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Consolacion Blas Snipes a resident of Dededo since 1998. I am submitting my concern regarding the situation of living very close to Anderson Air Force Base.

I am now 63 years old and live all by myself with my puppies. I am very sensitive to noise and always ensure that my place is secured. Windows and doors are always locked. My puppies are my babies and I feel for them when airplanes fly over my home. They get frightened and always crying because of the noise. They will try and cover their ears with their paws to lessen the noise. But I know that won't work. It's too close to the roof and the impact of noise is so great. My windows will rattle each time a plane flies over. Planes that fly over my home are not only military planes but also commercial planes.

Because of the military build-up, more planes are flying over more often than before. Each time it flies over, my house shakes like an earthquake just happened. My ears are ringing at night when I go to bed. Because I'm a farmer and tend to my farm, I stay home almost 99% of the time. I don't go anywhere and I am constantly irritated by the airplane noise.

I'm respectfully requesting our Senators, Congresswoman and our Governor to see what they can do to assist me. I don't really know what can be done to lessen the noise, maybe you can think of something that would help me. I'm sure that my neighbors also feels the same as I am. My windows are rattling too much that they need replacing. Maybe the federal government can help out in replacing my windows and doors. I don't know if they make noise reduction windows and doors, but maybe that's a solution. At least to reduce the noise and assist me financially to replace them. I am only a farmer that lives on a very small retirement pension and can't really afford to keep changing my windows and doors. I'm afraid that when the military build-up is finally completed, the problem will be worst.

I hope that you can do a research on how we can be assisted on reducing the noise and replacing all the damages that these planes did when they are flying over our homes.

Respectfully,

Consolacion Blas Snipes  
Dededo Resident

TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTION NO. 24

Regarding the noise of Jet Fighters and Military Planes

We are having a lot of complaints from the guests about big noise of Military Planes flying over our property. Especially over the Hotel. The Hotel itself is sometimes shaking because of the huge noise and vibration made by the planes flying really low.

The guests are also complaining that they can't have a normal conversation and they can't hear the TV and so on. And sometimes, the noise scares the guests as if the plane is crashing.

Late night flying (after 8 P.M.) is annoying the sleep of the guests in Hotel as well. Some of our guests are going to bed early night around 8~9 P.M. to prepare to play golf in the early morning.

We strongly request that the plane dose not fly low over our hotel anytime. Ideally we would also request that the planes dose not fly over the golfers as well because this also frighten them.

Starts Guam Golf Resort

GM Noboru IZUMI

3/7/2011

**From:** aline4families@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Fwd: Noise Resolution  
**Date:** February 16, 2011 5:23:40 AM GMT+10:00  
**To:** tanya4families@gmail.com, evelyn4families@gmail.com,  
lou4families@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** L CARL PETERSON <carlpete@moneyresourcesinc.com>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 15, 2011 at 7:48 PM  
**Subject:** Noise Resolution  
**To:** Senator Aline Yamashita <aline4families@gmail.com>

(Please take this in the light it is offered. I am sending this to you as you are an intelligent, logical, mature person who has stated that Senators cannot possibly know everything about all things and that constructive, insightful comment is encouraged. I hope this is considered in that realm).

At 7:05 this morning I walked out on the patio and listened. All I could hear was industrial noise - motors making sound.

I wondered, "what would it be like if there was no sound; if all was silent?"

Of course we know that without noise there can be no economy - people have to go to and fro from work; transportation must be offered to tourists; planes must land to bring them here; and, among many other things, generators must provide the power for our collective cash registers to ring. So no noise equates to no employment; no jobs; no businesses; and no tax revenues to provide the transcendental capital required to hire Gov't employees to do what they do. Noise equates to jobs, our standard of living, opportunity; and our retirement wherever it comes from.

The giant exercise that is ongoing (called Cope North) is between the United States and Japan - it involves 367 Japanese participants who are entirely housed in our hotels (in addition to many American military visitors who make up the exercise). It is an enormous contribution to our economy. Lots of jobs downtown; lots of tax revenues. I asked several people today if they heard the jets from this exercise the last couple of days. So far no one has said they had even heard a plane!

If we are really concerned about noise, all we should do is go to MongMong. For over 45 years now, jets have flown very low over that housing - much lower than they will up at AAFB - but we have never seen a resolution telling them to make less noise.

There of course is a lot of media-driven hype from Okinawa. But with in-depth research it's pretty easy to discern that by and large the complaints come from those "politically connected" (working with the Gov't/guaranteed jobs) and that a great deal of hype is about getting more funds from their central Gov't. But has anyone asked all the businesses connected with serving their customer? Do you think they are excited about being put out of business? The logic should be obvious.

When the base was constructed, there was almost no other residential or commercial activity around the base in Okinawa. But opportunity brought opportunists - people who were ready to risk capital in order to start a business to serve the needs of the base. Now millions have moved there in order to provide a multitude of services. It begs the question, when no one lived there previously, for what purpose did why completely surrounded the base with buildings? Could it be because of the economic activity it afforded a great number of people? Could it be that the complainers are those who are not living near the base/are not afforded/given the same opportunity?

If the resolution you introduced was a chance to be recognized as being the caring person that you are, that is one story (albeit, actions always have consequences). But if it is to really protect people from being too close to the landing strip at AAFB (it is much farther away from people than MongMong is) then it would make sense to ensure that no one builds in the ACUZ (sp?) zone already outlined by the FAA. But like tourism, the military is another industry so there must be some balance in our approach. Perhaps you know that during Vietnam we had 152 B-52s on the ground at AAFB (a lot of noise). And they provided 24-hour employment for hundreds of people who paid a lot of taxes to our Gov't.

Again, I hope you appreciate this insight - as you have said it is important to look at all angles.

Carl



TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTION NO. 24

From: **L CARL PETERSON** <carlpete@moneyresourcesinc.com>

Date: Fri, Mar 18, 2011 at 11:33 PM

Subject: RE: Resolution 24

To: Lourdes Benavente <lou4families@gmail.com>

I presume you mean the email I sent to Sen. Aline? If so, yes. And if it is not there, please add that the new mantra should be: **PARDON THE NOISE: IT'S THE SOUND OF FREEDOM, COMMERCE, AND PROSPERITY!**

And when people start really complaining about the inconvenience of the traffic as more roads are built and more vehicles are on the road we should have a mantra for it too: **PARDON THE CONGESTION, IT IS A SIGN OF PROGRESS, REPAIR, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE.**

**From:** Lourdes Benavente [mailto:lou4families@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2011 1:36 PM

**To:** L CARL PETERSON **Subject:** Resolution 24

Hafa Adai,

We are requesting your permission to use your email as testimony for resolution 24, noise mitigation.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase --

Lourdes M. Benavente  
Education Liason  
Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD.  
31st Guam Legislature  
(671)648-3474  
Families First!

Subject: resolution

From: Lydia Taimanglo <ltaimanglo10@gmail.com>

To: aline4families@teleguam.net

Received: by 10.151.154.2 with HTTP; Mon, 14 Feb 2011 16:23:52 -0800 (PST)

Buenas yan Hafa Adai.

I am a concern citizen. I want to thank you for introducing the resolution.

I like to ask you Senator if the militay can install windows and doors of sound proof, due to the fact that the military aircraft flight paths is just right on top of my roof.

I lived in Yigo, and when an aircraft is ready for landing that I can see the tires of the aircraft. Thats how low the aircraft is. I support you and the resolution that you have introduce.

Thank you and God Bless You.

Sincerely.

RECEIVED  
9/16/11

SEN. ALINE YAMASHITA'S  
OFFICE

To: Senator Aline Yamashita, 31<sup>st</sup> Guam Legislature

I, Vicente C. Castro current resident of Chalan Koda & Piga Subdivision in the Municipality of Dededo. I am seeking assistance for the noise and vibration that affects me, my family, and the current residents of area. Where my home is located, there are many military aircrafts that fly over causing loud noises and vibration to my home and the surrounding homes. I am unsure if my home is in the landing path or training area of ~~the~~ these aircrafts. Also with the military build-up, I anticipate that there will be a higher increase of these activities conducted by the military. I humbly ask for your assistance in sound proofing my home and surrounding homes in this area. My family supports your efforts in reducing the noise from these aircrafts that fly over my home and the surrounding homes.

Thank You

  
Vicente C. Castro



**Eddie B. Calvo**  
Governor

**Ray Tenorio**  
Lieutenant Governor

# **VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE**

## **Guam Veterans Cemetery**

172 South Marine Corps Drive  
Asan, Guam 96910  
Telephone: (671) 475-8389/90/92/94  
Facsimile: (671) 475-8396



**John S. Unpingco**  
Governor's Special Assistant

**TESTIMONY**  
**on**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 24-31**  
**by**  
**JOHN S. UNPINGCO**

Thank you for the privilege of testifying on Resolution No. 24-31. While the Air Force used to perform AICUZ, Airbase Installation Compatibility Use Zone whereby certain areas in and around an air installation are rated in terms of their ability to operate given the noise levels of aircraft, certainly some kind of update to this would be in order in view of the increased use of Andersen Air Force Base for the build-up.

As to the VFR rules, this is simply Visual Flight rules as opposed to instrument flight rules (IFR). I do not know if the increased height in approaching for a landing could be uniformly implemented. It would be a matter of the individual pilot's judgment and perception how far from the ground he was.

This, then, is the input I have on Resolution No. 24-31



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
U.S. DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE GUAM, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS, FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, REPUBLIC OF PALAU  
PSC 455, BOX 211  
FPO AP 96540-1000

5090  
Ser J00L/0229  
21 Apr 11

The Honorable Aline A. Yamashita, PhD  
Senator, 31<sup>st</sup> Guam Legislature  
865 South Marine Corp Drive  
Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104  
Tamuning, Guam 96913

Dear Senator Yamashita:

Subject: PUBLIC HEARING ON RESOLUTION NO. 24-31 NOISE MITIGATION

Thank you for your letter of March 4, 2011 which requested the military adopt recommendations provided in AC No. 91-36D to reduce and control the effects of noise on the community, as well as implementation of a noise abatement program at the AB Won Pat Guam International Airport.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement does not identify significant adverse operational impacts to human receptors associated with aviation noise from the proposed action (military build-up). As such, the Record of Decision does not prescribe mitigation for aviation-related noise to human receptors.

Proposed routes for aviation training for the Marine Corps Air Combat Element avoids operations over off-base or non-Department of Defense (DoD) lands to the greatest extent possible. Aviation training flight profiles are mostly either over DoD lands and open water off the coast of Guam at distances sufficient to minimize, if not eliminate, significant noise disturbances to sensitive receptors. The National Environmental Policy Act identifies avoidance as a form of mitigation.

My point of contact in this matter is Paul M. Fisher, Office of General Counsel. He may be reached via telephone at (671) 349-2021, or via email at [paul.fisher@fe.navy.mil](mailto:paul.fisher@fe.navy.mil).

Sincerely,

P. J. BUSHONG,  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Commander



4:20 pm

Ofc of Sen A Yamashita



# COMMITTEE ON RULES

*I Mina'trentai Unu na Liheslaturan Guåhan* • The 31<sup>st</sup> Guam Legislature  
155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • [www.guamlegislature.com](http://www.guamlegislature.com)  
E-mail: [roryforguam@gmail.com](mailto:roryforguam@gmail.com) • Tel: (671)472-7679 • Fax: (671)472-3547

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CHAIRPERSON  
MAJORITY LEADER

Senator  
Judith P. Guthertz  
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vicente c. pangelinan

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Aline A. Yamashita  
ASST. MINORITY LEADER

Senator  
Christopher M. Duenas

February 15, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Pat Santos  
*Clerk of the Legislature*

**Attorney Therese M. Terlaje**  
*Legislative Legal Counsel*

**From:** Senator Rory J. Respicio  
*Chairperson, Committee on Rules*

**Subject:** Referral of Res No. 024-31 (COR)

As Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, I am forwarding my referral of Res No. 024-31 (COR). Please ensure that the subject resolution is referred, in my name, to the respective sponsor, as shown on the attachment.

I also request that the same be forwarded to all Senators of *I Mina'trentai Unu na Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 472-7679.

*Si Yu'os ma'åse!*

(1) Attachments

2011 FEB 15 PM 2:26

*I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
**Resolutions Log Sheet**  
**February 14, 2011**

Page 1 of 1

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Introduced	Date of Presentation	Date Vote Sheet Issued	Date Referred	Committee/ Office Referred	Date Adopted
024-31 (COR)	A. A. Yamashita, Ph.D.	Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.	2/14/11 2:54 p.m.			2/15/11	Sponsor	



Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD  
I Mina'trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan

**COPY**

GUAM LEGISLATURE  
REPRODUCTION MAIL ROOM  
DATE: 03-01-11  
TIME: 10:37  
RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

PRINT: TONY  
SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

01 March 2011

**Memorandum**

**To:** All Senators  
**From:** Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD  
**Subject:** **First Notice- Public Hearing Resolution No. 24  
Tuesday, 08 March 2011**

*Hafa adai.* Please be advised that my office will hold a public hearing **Tuesday, 08 March 2011** in the Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room beginning 9:00 a.m. to receive testimony on:

• **Resolution No. 24-31 (COR)**

“Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam’s community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”

Written testimony may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to ten (10) days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, 865 S. Marine Corps Drive, Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104, Tamuning, Guam 96913 or via email: [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net)

We comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you require assistance or accommodations please contact us at (671) 648-3474.

I look forward to your participation.

**cc:** Sergeant-At-Arms/Protocol/AV  
Clerk of the Legislature  
MIS  
All media

Asst. Minority Leader

Committee on Education & Public Libraries

Member

Committee on Health & Human Services, Senior Citizens, Economic Development and Election Reform

Member

Committee on Military Buildup, Homeland Security and Public Governance

Member

Committee on Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Housing and Recreation

Member

Committee on Rules, Federal, Foreign & Micronesian Affairs and Human & Natural Resources

Member

Committee on Utilities, Transportation, Public Works, and Veterans Affairs

Member

Committee on Youth, Cultural Affairs, Procurement, General Government Operations and Public Broadcasting

Member

Committee on Public Safety, Law Enforcement and Judiciary

Member

865 S. Marine Corps Drive  
Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104  
Tamuning, GU 96913

(671) 648-3474  
Email: [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net)  
[aline4guam.com](http://aline4guam.com)



From: "Tanya M.C. Mendiola" <tanya4families@gmail.com>  
Subject: **Resolution No. 24 Noise Mitigation Public Hearing- Tuesday 08 March 2011 (Sen. A. Yamashita)**  
Date: February 28, 2011 10:16:39 AM GMT+10:00  
To: aline4families@teleguam.net  
Cc: hottips@kuam.com, mvariety@pticom.com, Guam PDN <news@guampdn.com>, news@spbgum.com, action@weareguahan.com, admin@weareguahan.com, clynt@spbgum.com, David Crisostomo <dcrisostomo@guampdn.com>, dmgeorge@guampdn.com, D Tamondong <dtamondong@guampdn.com>, Gaynor Dumat-Ol <gdumat-ol@guampdn.com>, Gerry Partido <gerry@mvguam.com>, janela@mvguam.com, Jason Salas <jason@kuam.com>, Jesse Lujan <jesselujan27@yahoo.com>, john@kuam.com, jtyquiengco@spbgum.com, kevin@spbgum.com, Alicia Perez <kstone@ite.net>, Mindy Aguon <mindy@kuam.com>, mpieper@guampdn.com, nick.delgado@kuam.com, parroyo@k57.com, reporter3@glimpsesofofguam.com, rgibson@k57.com, ricknauta@hitradio100.com, Sabrina Salas-Matanane <sabrina@kuam.com>, slimtiaco@guampdn.com, thebigshow@k57.com, therese.hart.writer@gmail.com, Zita Taitano <zita@mvguam.com>, Lannie Walker <lannie@kuam.com>, Ronnie Perez <officemanager@hitradio100.com>, William Gibson <breakfastshowk57@gmail.com>, egthompson@guampdn.com, editor@mvguam.com  
\* 2 Attachments, 419 KB



**MEDIA ADVISORY**

28 February 2011

Please be advised that Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD will hold a **public hearing** on:

**Resolution No. 24-31 (COR)**

“Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam’s community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”

**Date: Tuesday, 8 March 2011**

**Time: 9:00 a.m.**

**Location: Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room**

Written testimony may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to ten (10) days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, 865 S. Marine Corps Drive, Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104, Tamuning, Guam 96913 or via email: [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net)

We comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you require assistance or accommodations please contact us at (671) 648-3474.

The resolution, introduced 14 February 2011, is attached for review. It asks the military to:

- 1) implement FAA Advisory Circular (AC) No: 91-36D that encourages pilots making flights near “noise-sensitive” areas to fly at higher altitudes to reduce aircraft noise; and,
- 2) recognize the potential impact aircraft noise can have on surrounding communities, and offer people a recourse for noise mitigation such as the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority’s Residential Sounds Solution Program that gives qualified residents grants to sound proof homes.

From: "Tanya M.C. Mendiola" <tanya4families@gmail.com>  
Subject: **Notice of Government Meeting**  
Date: February 28, 2011 9:26:55 AM GMT+10:00  
To: cmelyan@guampdn.com  
1 Attachment, 243 KB



Hafa adai Catriona: It is always a pleasure talking to you. As per our conversation attached (and pasted below), is the information for posting. We are hopeful PDN is able to post it tomorrow (1 March 2011).

Please let me know if there are any issues with this submission that may prevent it from being posted.  
Have a wonderful week.

With many thanks,

Tanya

Tanya M. Champaco Mendiola

Media Advis...tion). (243 KB)  
Chief Analyst  
Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD  
31st Guam Legislature  
Physical/Mailing Address:  
865 S. Marine Corps Drive  
Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104  
Tamuning, GU 96913  
Phone: (671) 648.3474  
visit: [alineaguam.com](http://alineaguam.com)  
**Families First!**

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

28 February 2011

Please be advised that Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD will hold a **public hearing** on:

### **Resolution No. 24-31 (COR)**

“Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam’s community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”

**Date:** Tuesday, 8 March 2011  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room

Written testimony may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to ten (10) days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, 865 S. Marine Corps Drive, Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104, Tamuning, Guam 96913 or via email: [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net)

We comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you require assistance or accommodations please contact us at (671) 648-3474.

Thank you.

From: Tanya M.C. Mendiola <tanya4families@gmail.com>  
Subject: **Re: 2nd Notice- Resol 24 Public Hearing**  
Date: March 4, 2011 11:13:01 AM GMT+10:00



To: Senator Chris Duenas <duenasenator@gmail.com>, "Senator Frank Blas, Jr." <frank.blasjr@gmail.com>, "Senator A.B. Palacios" <senabpalacios@gmail.com>, Senator Rory Respicio <roryforguam@gmail.com>, Senator Tom Ada <Tom@senatorada.org>, Speaker Judith Won Pat <speaker@judiwonpat.com>, "Vice Speaker Benjamin J. Cruz" <senadotbjcruz@gmail.com>, Senator Judith Guthertz <senatorjudiguthertz@gmail.com>, Senator ben pangelinan <senbenp@guam.net>, Senator Mana Silva Tajeron <senatormana@gmail.com>, Senator Tony Ada <vanthonyada@gmail.com>, Senator Dennis Rodriguez <senatordrodriguez@gmail.com>, "Senator Dennis Rodriguez Jr." <dgr.rodriguez@yahoo.com>, Senator Sam Mabini <senatorsam@senatormabini.com>, Senator Tina Muna-Barnes <senator@tinamunabarnes.com>, Yong Pak <yong@guamlegislature.org>, clerks@guamlegislature.org, sgtarms@guamlegislature.org, chelsea@tinamunabarnes.com, Rhea Taitano <rhea@tinamunabarnes.com>, mis@guamlegislature.org, Angela Leon Guerrero <leonguerrero.angela@gmail.com>, jmesngon.senatordrodriguez@gmail.com, joshua.tenorio@senatorbjcruz.com, juliette@senatorada.org, Princess Fejeran <maryfejeran@gmail.com>, pjtcruz@yahoo.com, rob.tupaz@gmail.com, cipo@guamlegislature.org, olivia palacios <oliviampalacios@gmail.com>, smendiola@guamlegislature.org, alerta.jermaine@gmail.com, edpocaigne@judiwonpat.com, jenniferdulla@gmail.com, Leslie Gatan <leslie.g@senatormabini.com>, Alicia Perez <kstone@ite.net>, Michele Catahay <michele@kuam.com>, Josh Tyquiengco <jtyquiengco@abc7guam.com>, Nick Delgado <nick@kuam.com>, Oyaol Ngirairikl <odngirairikl@guampdn.com>, Zita Taitano <zita@mvguam.com>, Gerry Partido <gerry@mvguam.com>, Sabrina Salas-Matanane <sabrina@kuam.com>, Jason Salas <jason@kuam.com>, Jesse Lujan <jesselujan27@yahoo.com>, Gaynor Dumat-Ol <gdumat-ol@guampdn.com>, David Crisostomo <dcrisostomo@guampdn.com>, Dion Tamondong <dtamondong@guampdn.com>, marie calvo monge <mcalvo@kuam.com>, Mindy Aguon <mindy@kuam.com>, B Kelman <bkmelman@guampdn.com>, Marvic Cagurangan <marvic@mvguam.com>, Therese Hart <therese@mvguam.com>, Newtalk K57 <news@k57.com>

Bcc: Lourdes Benavente <lou4families@gmail.com>, Evelyn Claros <evelyn4families@gmail.com>, Aline Yamashita <aline4families@gmail.com>

➤ 1 Attachment, 300 KB

*Hafa adai:* Please find attached, the second notice of a public hearing on **Tuesday, 08 March 2011** beginning **9a.m.** in the Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room for **Resol 24-31 (COR)** "Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities."

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 648-3474 or email: [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net).

Thank you.

*Senseramente,*

Tanya M. Champaco Mendiola  
Chief Analyst  
Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD  
31st Guam Legislature  
Physical/Mailing Address:  
865 S. Marine Corps Drive  
Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104  
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Member

Committee on Municipal Affairs


**Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD**

*I Mina'trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan*  
31st Guam Legislature

04 March 2011

**Memorandum**

**To:** All Senators

**From:** Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD 

**Subject:** **Second Notice- Public Hearing Resolution No. 24  
Tuesday, 08 March 2011**

*Hafa adai.* Please be advised that my office will hold a public hearing **Tuesday, 08 March 2011** in the Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room beginning 9:00 a.m. to receive testimony on:

Tourism, Housing and Recreation  
Member

Committee on Rules, Federal,  
Foreign & Micronesian Affairs and  
Human & Natural Resources  
Member

Committee on Utilities, Transportation,  
Public Works, and Veterans Affairs  
Member

Committee on Youth, Cultural Affairs,  
Procurement, General Government  
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- **Resolution No. 24-31 (COR)**

“Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam’s community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”

Written testimony may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to ten (10) days after the public hearing to the Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, 865 S.

Marine Corps Drive, Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104, Tamuning, Guam 96913  
or via email: [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net)

We comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you require assistance or accommodations please contact us at (671) 648-3474.

I look forward to your participation.

cc: **Sergeant-At-Arms/Protocol/AV**  
**Clerk of the Legislature**  
**MIS**  
**All media**



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Committee on Education &  
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Member

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Services, Senior Citizens, Economic  
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Member

Committee on Military Buildup, Homeland  
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865 S. Marine Corps Drive  
Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104  
Tamuning, GU 96913

PH: (671) 648-3474

Email: [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net)

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**Office of Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD**  
*I Mina'trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guahan*  
31st Guam Legislature

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Tuesday, March 08, 2011**  
**Legislature's Public Hearing Room • Hagåtña, Guam**

**AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Announcements**

**III. Item for Public Consideration**

**9:00 AM**

**Resolution No. 24-31 (COR) – A.A. Yamashita, PhD** – “Relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.”

**IV. Remarks**

**V. Adjournment**

Electronic copies of the aforementioned item can be found on the Guam Legislature's website at [www.guamlegislature.com](http://www.guamlegislature.com).

Testimony should be addressed to Senator Aline A. Yamashita, PhD and may be submitted via hand-delivery to our office at 865 S. Marine Corps Drive, Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104, Tamuning, GU 96913 or our mailbox at the Main Legislature Building at 155 Hesler Place, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, or via e-mail to [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net).

Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services can contact and submit their request to Evelyn Claros and Lou Benavente. For further information, please call our office at 648-3474.

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Pacific Daily News

## NEWS UPDATE: Senator to hold hearing on buildup noise mitigation

PACIFIC DAILY NEWS • FEBRUARY 26, 2011

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Sen. Aline A. Yamashita will hold a public hearing on a resolution to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities next week.



Resolution No. 24-31 (COR) is "relative to ensuring that the health, safety and quality of life of Guam's community is preserved by requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities."

The resolution, introduced Feb. 14, asks the military to:

- 1) implement FAA Advisory Circular (AC) No: 91-36D that encourages pilots making flights near noise-sensitive areas to fly at higher altitudes to reduce aircraft noise.
- 2) recognize the potential impact aircraft noise can have on surrounding communities, and offer people a recourse for noise mitigation such as the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority's Residential Sounds Solution Program that gives qualified residents grants to sound proof homes.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 8 at 9 a.m. in the Legislature public hearing room.

Written testimony may be submitted on the day of, prior to, or up to 10 days after the public hearing to the office of Sen. Yamashita at 865 S. Marine Corps Drive, Orlean Pacific Plaza, Suite B104, Tamuning, Guam 96913 or via email at [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net).

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# Senator: Reduce jet noise

Oyaol Ngirairiki  
Pacific Daily News

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Sen. Aline A. Yamashita yesterday introduced a resolution to address potential health and safety impact from increased military air traffic associated with the military buildup.

"We must learn from the Okinawan experience," Yamashita stated in a press release. "In the spirit of cooperation and goodwill, I hope the military will work with us and put in place measures that will show their commitment to the safety and welfare of our families."

Resolution 24 asks the military to encourage pilots making flights near "noise-sensitive" areas to fly at higher altitudes to reduce aircraft noise.

It also asks the military to recognize the potential impact aircraft noise can have on surrounding communities, and offer a noise mitigation program similar to the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority's Residential Sounds Solution Program.

In the last several years, the airport authority has installed windows and doors at nearby homes that reduce the sounds of planes, essentially building an almost sound-proof home for residents living near the airport and other areas below flight paths.

The resolution is a proactive measure to avoid adverse issues such as those faced by Okinawans living near Kadena Air Force Base.

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Yamashita

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To share your view, send e-mail to Sen. Aline Yamashita at [aline4families@teleguam.net](mailto:aline4families@teleguam.net)



Yamashita said in her press release.

In 2009, more than 5,000 people were awarded 5.62 billion yen -- which was then approximately \$57 million -- because their health was adversely affected by noise from Kadena flight activities.

More recently, nearly 500 of the original litigants tried to force the military to ban late night and early morning flights with one litigant stating, "It's too late to deal with the problem after something happens. like a crash."

The resolution also notes statements made by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, noting the draft Environmental Impact Statement appears to underestimate the significance of noise impact.

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## Yamashita moves for noise mitigation

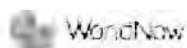
*Posted: Feb 15, 2011 9:39 AM*

*Updated: Feb 15, 2011 9:39 AM*

by Nick Delgado

Guam - Senator Aline Yamashita wants the military to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities. The freshman lawmaker introduced Resolution 24, which requests Joint Region Marianas to ensure these procedures are in place.

The issue was pointed out in the environmental impact statement. The resolution states that residents near Kadena Air Force Base in Japan were awarded \$57 million in 2009 after taking legal action that their health suffered from the noise. The recommendation is that the military adopts visual flight rules as well as implement a program for noise abatement.



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# Noise Mitigation Resolution Public Hearing TUESDAY

*Last Updated on Monday, 07 March 2011 18:58*

*Written by News Release*

*Monday, 07 March 2011 18:49*

✖

*Guam News - Guam News*

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Guam - Senator Aline Yamashita, PhD will hold a public hearing Tuesday, 08 March, at 9 a.m. in the Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room to receive testimony on Resolution No. 24-31 (COR), requesting the Joint Region Marianas to implement noise mitigation measures to reduce the impact of military aircraft activities.

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Although Sen. Yamashita, a Republican, the minority party in the legislature, does not have a standing committee, she is holding the hearing in compliance with Rule VII, Sec. 7.03 (e), of the Legislative Standing Rules and the mandates of 2 GCA § 2103, which require author's of substantive resolutions to hold public hearings if the resolution is sent to the President of the United States or a member of the US Congress.

Since the resolution's introduction on February 14th, members of the community have contacted the senator's office expressing concern about the impacts of noise produced by military aircraft.

"We have invited residents, our mayors, the military, and other stakeholders to provide testimony," says Sen. Yamashita, "in an effort to prevent what occurred in Japan; to learn from their experience. We want to protect the physical and mental health of our people, work proactively & collaboratively to install safety measures in our homes and community."

The resolution's goal is to collaboratively address the potentially adverse issues associated with the Guam Build Up. Some of the issues to be addressed during the hearing are options for noise abatement, including:

\* The military's voluntarily compliance with a flight circular issued by the FAA in 2004 – where pilots fly at altitudes higher than the minimum permitted near "noise sensitive areas;" and,

\* Possible implementation of noise mitigation programs similar to the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority (GIAA) residential sounds solution program that provides for grants to home owners to participate in a noise abatement program, including sound-insulation procedures, if their residences are determined to fall within the FAA approved Noise Exposure Map;

Last year, in a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, the US EPA cited that "the DEIS appears to underestimate the significance of noise impacts. The noise impacts from the Anderson AFB ISR Strike DEIS alone were substantial, with that analysis showing that 2,310 people off-base will be exposed to sounds 65 dBA (A-weighted sound level measured in decibels) and above, with 552 potentially highly annoyed by the change, representing roughly ten times more people experiencing these impacts than at present."

Additionally, in 2009, an Okinawan high court awarded residents approximately \$57 million because of the noise impacts from nearby Kadena Air Force Base. The residents also asked the military to ban late-night and early-morning flights.

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# Aircraft noise-reducing resolution gains support

Erin Thompson  
Pacific Daily News

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A woman in Dededo is worried that the military buildup -- and the ensuing increase in noise overhead -- will make life for her dogs worse.

"My puppies are my babies and I feel for them when airplanes fly over my home," said 63-year-old Dededo resident Consolacion Blas Snipes. "They get frightened and always crying because of the noise. They will try and cover their ears with their paws to lessen the noise."

Snipes was one of several people who presented written and oral testimony to the Legislature yesterday in support of a resolution requesting the military adopt noise mitigation measures as military activity on the island ramps up.

If adopted, Resolution 24 would be sent to President Barack Obama asking that the military adopt recommendations from a

2004 Federal Aviation Administration advisory on flights near noise-sensitive areas.

The advisory notes that "excessive aircraft noise can result in annoyance, inconvenience or interference with the uses and enjoyment of property, and can adversely affect wildlife."

While the advisory says that avoidance of noise-sensitive areas is preferable, it recommends that in cases where that is not possible pilots should fly not less than 2000 feet above ground level -- at its highest point

Sens. Aline Yamashita, Chris Duenas and Tony Ada yesterday heard testimony on the resolution, much of which centered on the

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impact of current noise from aircraft.

Ivan Quinata, acting administrator for the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, said the military needed to do a more complete noise study on the impact of noise on the community.

"The agency is very concerned with present and future flight patterns of military aircraft and the noise generated from them," Quinata said.

Mangilao Mayor Nito Blas said he wanted to see a no-fly zone around Mangilao, and needed more warning about the times of flights. He said residents of the village often call him when the noise from flights wake up their families during late hours.

"We need to be informed," said Blas.

Speaking in support of the resolution on behalf of the mayor's office, Yigo Vice Mayor Ron Flores called Yigo the "most impacted village" on the issue of noise. He said with the increase of activity there would be an increase in noise pollution, and that he wanted to see more studies done to find the health, environmental and safety impacts of military flights taking off and landing from Andersen Air Force Base. He said he lives four miles from the base, and he can still hear the jet engines of airplanes taking off and landing.

"It's quite noisy, at all hours of the day and night," said Flores.

He questioned what the noise impact would be for those living much closer to the gate, and for school children attending class near the base.

"How much is this affecting the kids, the infants? The farmers, how much is this affecting their lifestyle? The chickens, the pigs ..." he asked.

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