

Camacho Proclaims "National Guard Week"

Guam National Guard celebrates 27th anniversary, welcomes home 141 Soldiers

December 10, 2008

Governor Felix P. Camacho last night welcomed home 141 Soldiers of the Guam National Guard and this morning proclaimed December 7 through December 13, 2008 as "National Guard Week."

"Tuesday night, as we welcomed Soldiers and saw the emotional homecoming between them and their families, it showed the tremendous sacrifice they all made," Governor Camacho told members of the Guam National Guard during this morning's proclamation signing. "As Commander-in-Chief these past six years, I've come to have enormous respect for every single one of you. You are an asset, not only to our nation and its security, but also to our island and our community."

Governor Camacho proclaimed "National Guard Week," commemorating the 372nd birthday of the National Guard and the 27th anniversary of the Guam National Guard and honoring all the heroes who fight bravely to build an island and a nation strengthened by the freedoms upon which this country was founded. The Guam National Guard was founded on July 21, 1981. "It is a testament to our freedom and a gesture of gratitude for the hard work, dedication and sacrifices our Guam National Guard Soldiers and Airmen continually provide," the proclamation reads.

"They answer their call to duty with great sacrifice and honor," Adjutant General Donald Goldhorn said.

The Adjutant General said this is a special time for the Guam National Guard. "This is a great celebration today, not just of our roots, but for the first time in many years, most of the Guard is home for Christmas."

The Guam National Guard has served throughout the Global War on Terror in several theaters including Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Governor Camacho recognized the four Guam National Guard Soldiers who died defending our freedom: Sergeants Gregory Fejeran, Christopher Fernandez, Samson Mora and Brian Leon Guerrero.

"They and the hundreds of Guardsmen and active duty personnel have earned our eternal gratitude and respect," the Governor's proclamation reads.

"We are one of the most successful National Guards in the nation because of the high caliber of leadership of our members," The Adjutant General told Governor Camacho.