



MORE EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS IN GUAM

The Philippine Consulate in Agaña has reported on the impending transfer next year of 8,000 US Marine forces and their families from Okinawa to Guam. It is projected that as much as US\$10.2 Billion and possibly more will be spent in building facilities in Guam to accommodate the 8,000 marines. The Guam Contractor's Association (GCA) expects that the planning, design and bidding on the construction projects will take two years to complete, and anticipates actual construction to begin by late 2007 or early 2008. With the construction boom expected to last until 2014, the GCA foresees 15,000-20,000 employment opportunities during this period, with the bulk of work being done inside Guam's military bases.

Construction trades and skills that will be needed for the anticipated work include rough and finishing carpentry, masonry, electrical, plumbing, structural steel, welding, air conditioning and refrigeration, heavy equipment operation and repair and other associated skills.

With the increase in military personnel and their families over the next several years, the local government of Guam will also be taking on infrastructure projects, construction and renovation of new and existing facilities and other improvement during this time to accommodate the expected increase in population.