



Håfa ádai & Buenas

Welcome to Guam...where America's defense begins

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JOINT REGION MARIANAS

Department of Defense in FSM & Palau

Prepared for:
Department of Insular Affairs FAS Meeting



INDOPACOM



PACFLT



USARPAC



CNIC

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(Freedom for All)

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INDOPACOM AOR



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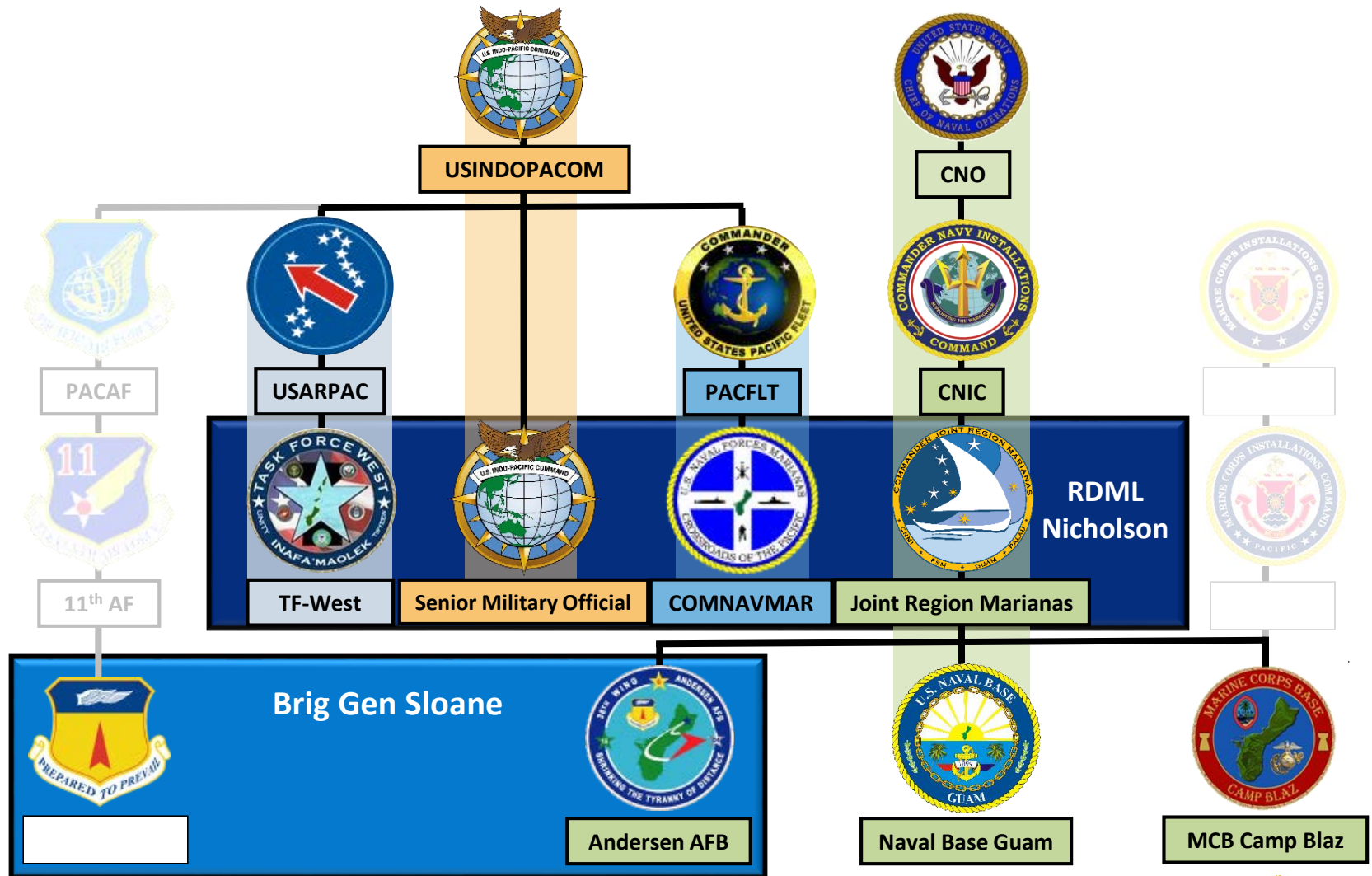
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Command and Control

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United States Priorities in FSM and the Republic of Palau



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- (1) supporting economic, political and social stability;
- (2) meeting our security and defense responsibilities and increasing maritime security;
- (3) and partnering to address climate change resilience and emergency preparedness.

Security and Defense Responsibilities (COFA Title III):

- Requires the United States to defend the FSM & Palau as it would any US Territory.
- The United States has sole responsibility for the security and defense of the FSM and Palau
- Requires the U.S. and FSM/Palau to meet semi-annually at the Joint Committee Meetings (JCM) to discuss mutual security and defense concerns

*"WE ARE
THEIR
MINISTRY OF
DEFENSE....."*





Federated States of Micronesia SMO Overview

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JOINT REGION MARIANAS

- Established 1978 (independence from US)
- 607 islands with land mass about 271 square miles
- Population: ~104,468 (majority in Chuuk)
- Capital Palikir (on Pohnpei)

**Exclusive Economic Zone:
~1.0 million square miles**





DOD and FSM Relations

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Defense Attaché Office:

- Located in Kolonia, Pohnpei
- Coordinates the bilateral security and defense meetings with the FSM
- October 2022, JRM hosted the mid-year JCM in Guam.

October JCM Highlights:

- Establishment of a working group to discuss legal framework and process for establishing “defense sites” in the FSM
- FSM requested the return of the Civic Action Teams to all states of the FSM
- U.S. and FSM sign “Expanded Shiprider Agreement” to allow the US Coast Guard to act on behalf of FSM to combat illicit maritime activity when an FSM law enforcement officer is not present
- Presentation of proposed military infrastructure projects in Yap State.



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DOD and FSM Relations

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US Military Activity:

- The Navy Seabees are currently providing two teams in FSM (Yap and Pohnpei states) to conduct small scale community engagement and infrastructure projects
- US Army Pacific (Oceania Engagement Team) are currently in Yap and Chuuk for small scale Civil-military engagements (health care, community support, etc)
- Security Cooperation Activities to assist in National Police support
- Annual “Operation Christmas Drop”
- Newly established USCG-led “Shiprider” program





Republic of Palau SMO Overview

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JOINT REGION MARIANAS

- Established 1994 (independence from US)
- 340 islands with land mass about 177 square miles
- Population: ~18,000 (majority on Koror)
- Capital Ngerulmud (on Babeldaob)

**Exclusive Economic Zone:
~280,000 square miles**





DOD and Palau Relations

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INDOPACOM Liaison Officer (LNO):

- Palau has an LNO since November 2022. Rotational active duty (6-months) officer (LtCOL Fossum)
- Palau has a National Security Coordinator (Ms. Jenn Anson) that is the official Palau representative for all DOD matters in Palau on behalf of the President
- JRM and the Palau National Security Coordinator schedule the Joint Committee Meetings
- In November 2022, Palau hosted the mid-year JCM in Palau

November JCM Highlights:

- Presentation of proposed military infrastructure projects in Peleliu, Malakal Harbor and Angaur
- Request to increase legal support to Palau Attorney General





DOD and Palau Relations

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US Military Activity:

- Civil Action Team has been established at Camp Katuu in Palau since the 1970s and has six key tasks:
 1. Community Construction Projects
 2. Medical Civic Actions
 3. Community Relations
 4. WWII Monument Maintenance
 5. Emergency Response/Disaster Relief
 6. Senior Military Official Support
- US Air Force is constructing Tactical Over-the-horizon Radar (TACMOR) sites in Anguar (receiver site) and Babeldaub (transmitter site)
- US Army Pacific has Oceania Engagement Team providing civil engagements (medical, community outreach, etc)
- On-going military training (use of Peleliu, Anguar and Koror International Airport)





“POSTURE PROJECTS”

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INDOPACOM has established the “Pacific Deterrence Initiative”

The Pacific Deterrence Initiative (PDI) is a set of prioritized defense investments and activities established by Congress to enhance U.S. deterrence and defense, assure allies and partners, and counter adversary threats in the Indo-Pacific region in response to China's growing military power

Current FY2023 PDI is a \$6.1 billion program.

MODERNIZATION & STRENGTHENING - \$1.8B

IMPROVED LOGISTICS, MAINTENANCE AND PREPOSITION - \$0.3B

EXERCISE, TRAINING, EXPERIMENTATION AND INNOVATION - \$2.3B

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS - \$1.2B

BUILDING CAPACITY/COOPERATION WITH ALLIES - \$0.4B

PDI AREAS: Australia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Japan, Republic of Marshall Islands and Timor-Leste

In Joint Region Marianas AOR – Guam, CNMI, FSM and Palau

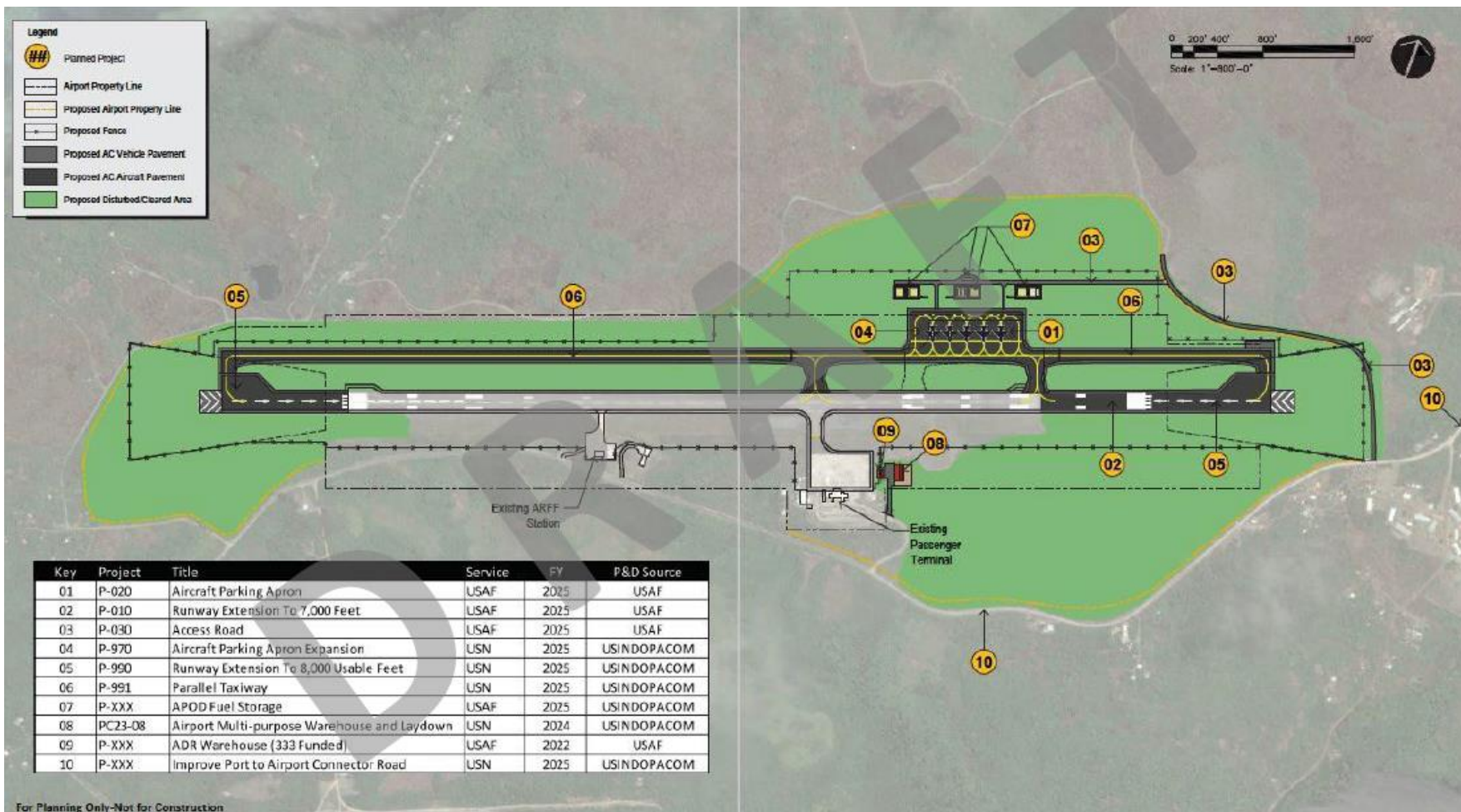




Proposed Projects: Yap International Airport

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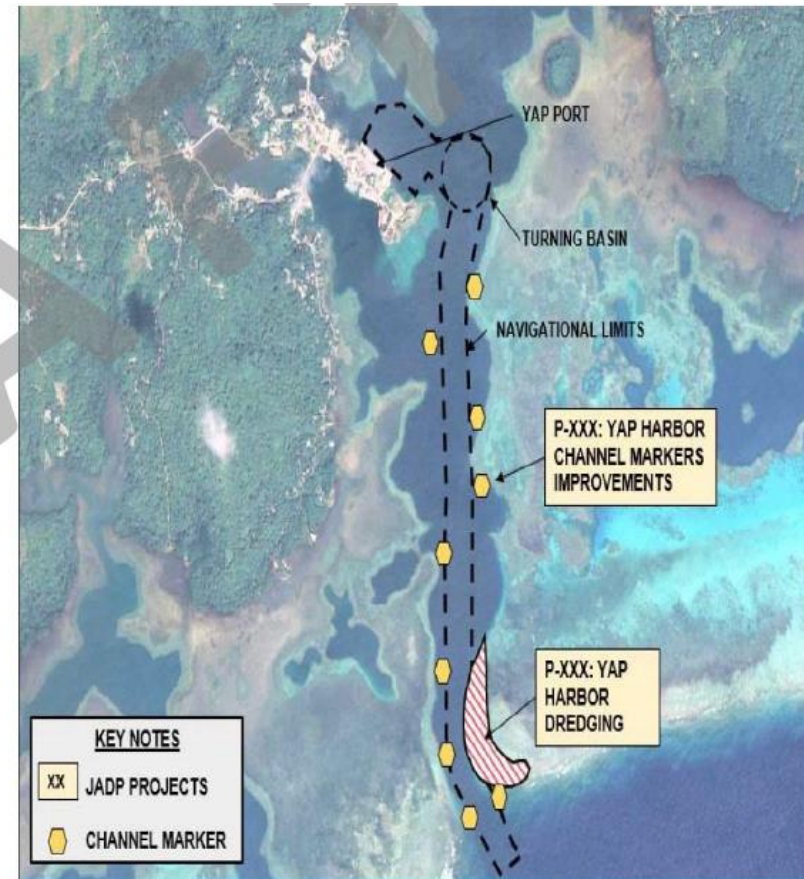
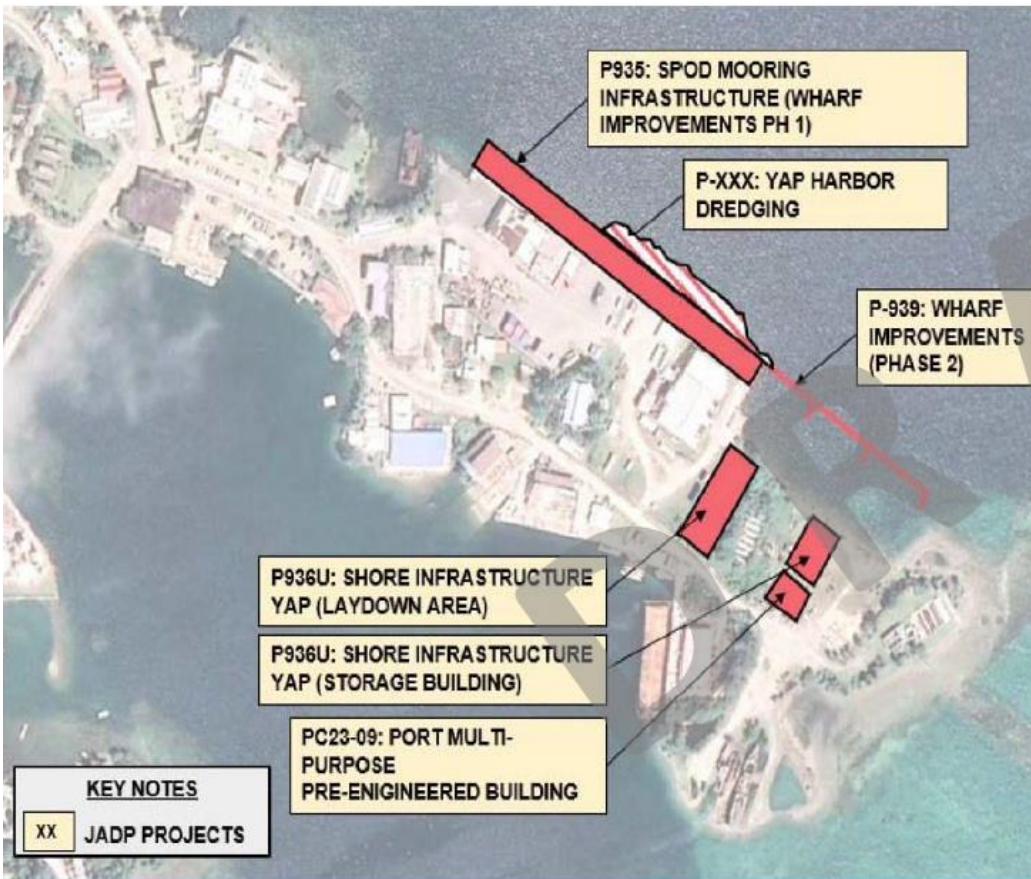




Proposed Projects: Yap Sea Port & Channel

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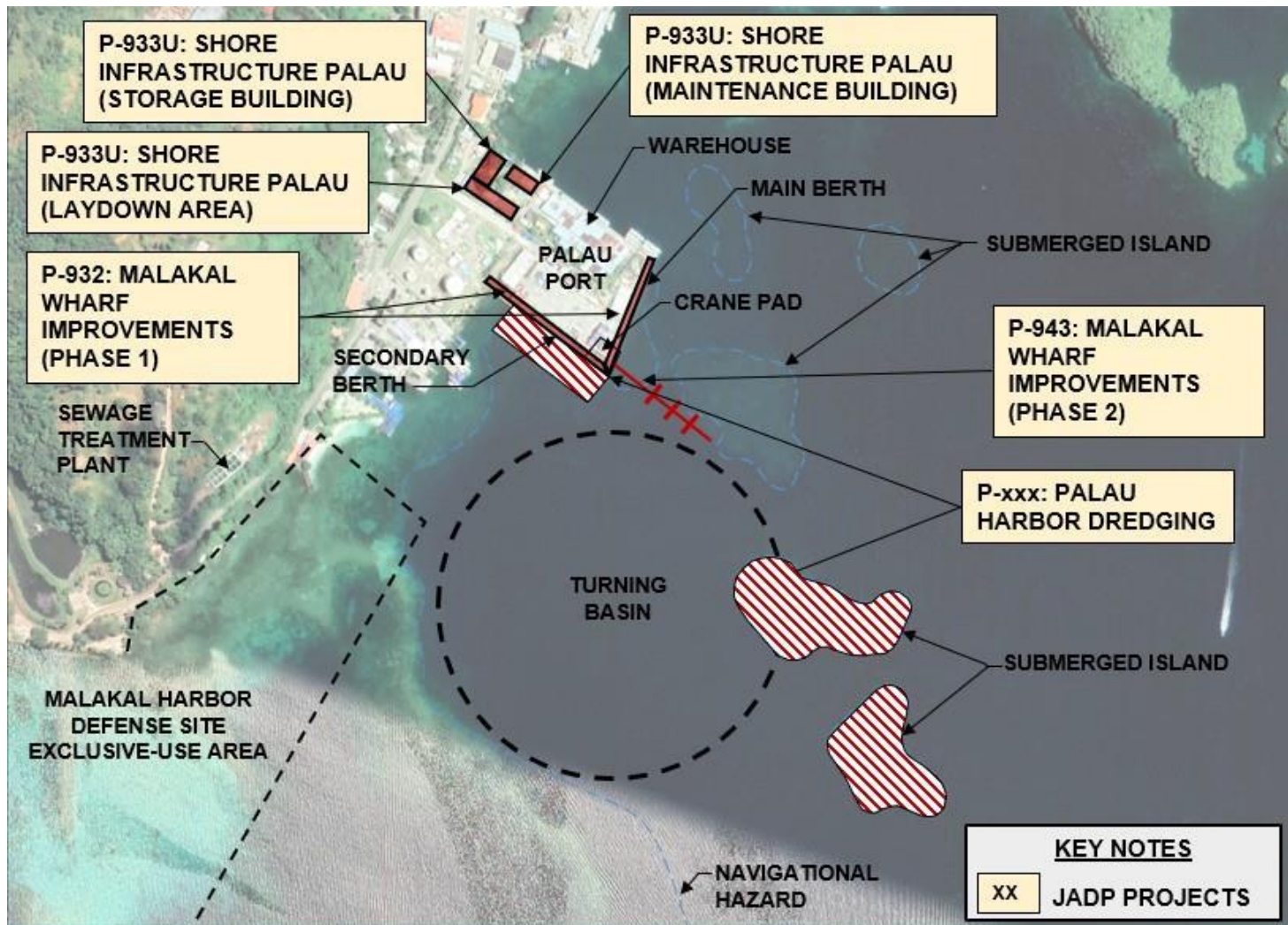
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Proposed Projects: Palau Sea Port

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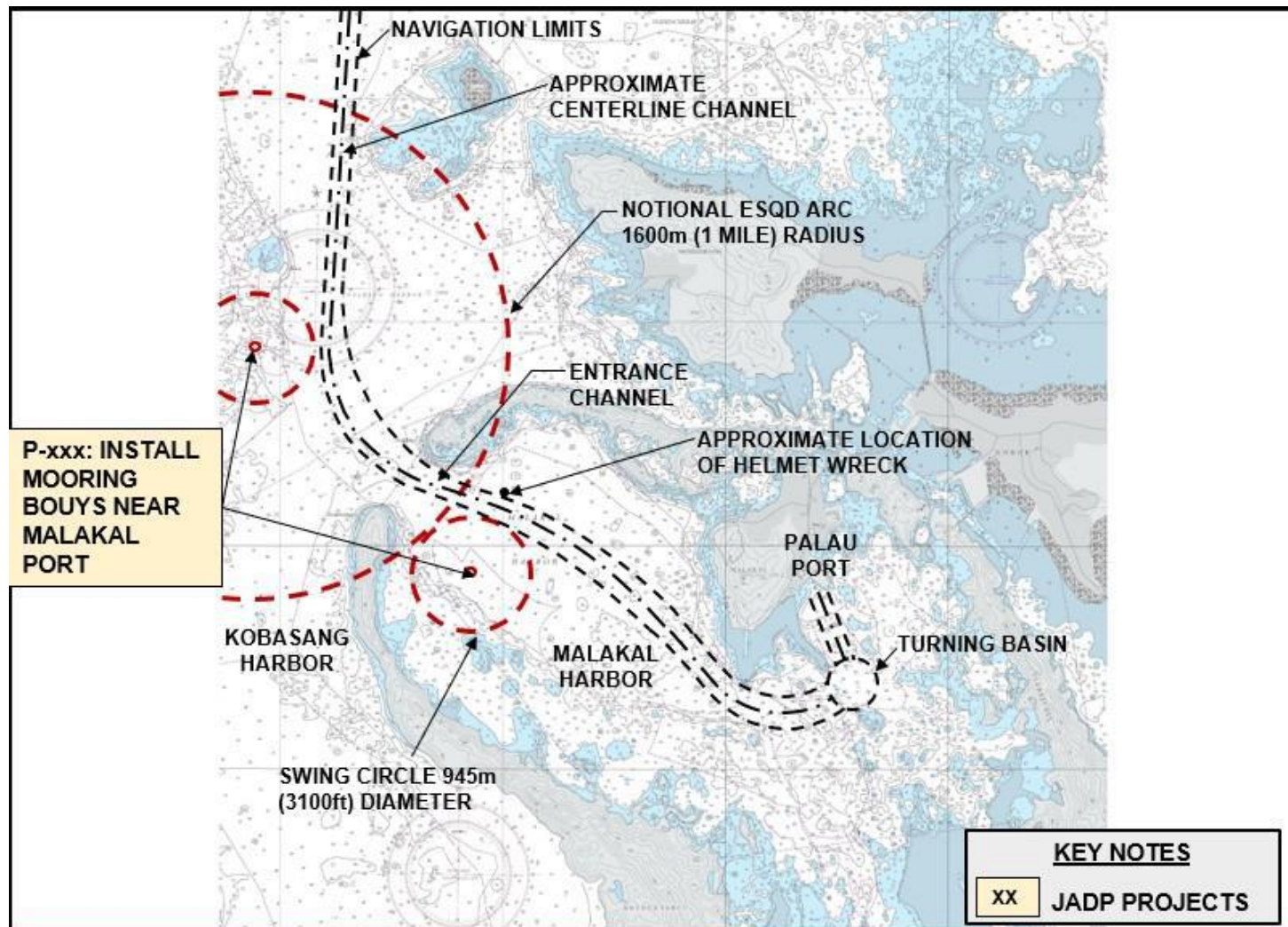




Proposed Projects: Palau Channel



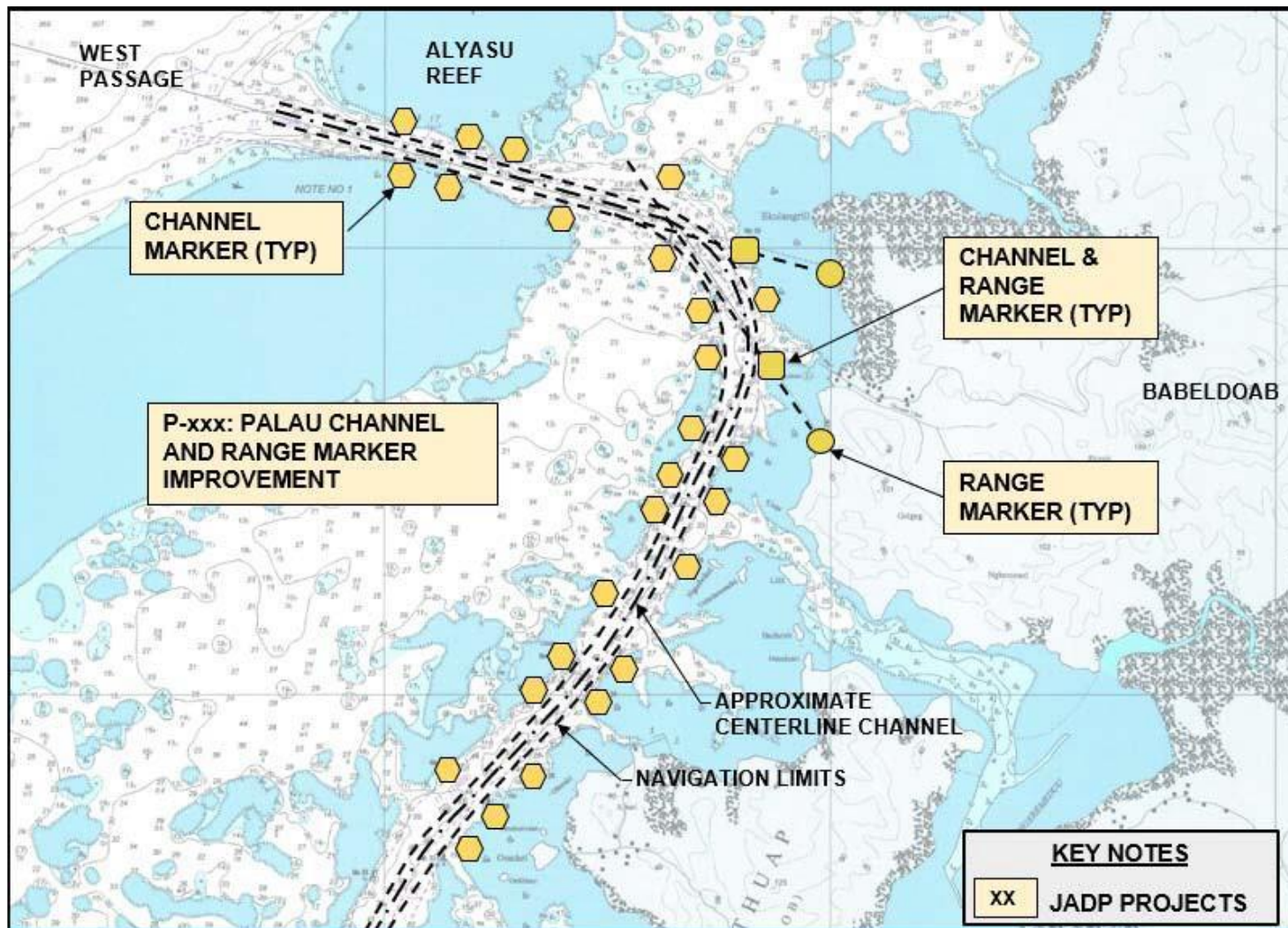
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Proposed Projects: Palau Channel

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Proposed Projects: Peleliu Runway



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Estimated Overall MILCON Project Timeline:

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February – September 2023
Geotech/LIDAR/Archeological/Natural
Resource/Diving Surveys

2023 - 2024
Project development, refined cost
estimates, contract preparation

Environmental Impact Assessment
process per FSM and Palau Law

Smaller projects (warehouses, wharf repairs, roads)
are smaller in scale and are completed more quickly

Spring of 2025
Award of MILCON projects

Time...





Military Exercises

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FORAGER 21
VALIANT SHIELD 22
IRON THUNDER 22
COPE NORTH 23
NORTHERN EDGE 23



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Engagement Process:

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FORMAL

INDOPACOM Joint
Posture
Management
Office - PROJECTS



JRM/SMO



US Embassies
(FSM & Palau)
w/DIPNOTES



Palau NSC /
FSM Exec
Staff



TECHNICAL COORDINATION

USAF/USN/USMC/
USAR TRAINING
Requests





QUESTIONS?

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