

**Media Advisory
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U.S. Embassy, Georgetown**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Continuing Promise Opening Ceremony at New Amsterdam Hospital

The Regional District Chairman Mustapha Zulfikar will host an opening ceremony for the USSOUTHCOM Continuing Promise 2010 – Partnership of the Americas medical and engineering visit at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 20 at the Berbice Regional Health Authority. The Embassy Charge d’Affaires Thomas Pierce and Prime Minister of Guyana Samuel Hinds are expected to give remarks. Following the opening ceremony, the Prime Minister and Charge d’Affaires will fly by helicopter to the USS Iwo Jima anchored about 15 nautical miles off shore.

Local media will be invited by the Public Affairs Officer to visit nearby medical and construction sites from the visit.

The USS Iwo Jima is bringing health care and other services to communities in Latin America and the Caribbean region during a four-month humanitarian and civic assistance deployment. The ship’s humanitarian teams – comprised of U.S. military personnel, Guyanese doctors and civilian relief volunteers – will provide not only medical care, but also construction support to Guyana from Oct. 18 to Oct. 26. These construction projects include repairs to a medical waste incinerator at Berbice which provides service to all of Region Six; construction on a Corentyne Secondary School that will improve the electrical, and plumbing; and improvements to an agricultural packaging and storage facility at Blackbush Polder (in Mibikuri Village). All projects were selected in partnership with regional and central Guyanese officials.

Continuing Promise 2010 is a function of U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM)/ Commander, Fourth Fleet (C4F).

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