WASHINGTON — The whole-of-America response to fighting the COVID-19 pandemic continued today, as USNS Mercy medical personnel treated non-COVID-19 patients onboard the hospital ship, while their U.S. Army medical colleagues in Guam assessed a surgicenter on the Pacific island.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Defense Mark T. Esper, participated in a Brookings Institution webinar, "A conversation with Secretary of Defense Mark T. Esper," where the secretary discussed U.S. defense policy, how the armed forces will ensure readiness amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and the investments needed to fight the wars of the future.

FEMA continues to expedite movement of commercially pre-sourced and procured critical supplies from the global market to medical distributors in various locations across the U.S. through Project Airbridge.

As of May 3, Project Airbridge has completed 116 flights with an additional 20 scheduled or in transit. Four flights landed Sunday, two in Chicago, one in Columbus, Ohio, and in New York City. One flight is scheduled to land today in Chicago.

Through Project Airbridge, the following supplies have been delivered from overseas manufacturers to the U.S. and into private sector supply chains from March 29 to May 1:

- More than 768,000 N-95 masks.
- More than 857 million gloves.
- More than 75.5 million surgical masks.
- More than 12.8 million surgical gowns.
- More than 2.2 million thermometers.
- More than 648,000 face shields.
- More than 289,000 coveralls.
More than 109,000 stethoscopes.
More than 370,000 oxygen masks.
More than 250,000 swabs.
More than 160,000 cannulas.

USNS Mercy Continues Support in Nation's COVID-19 Response

LOS ANGELES (May 4, 2020) — Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Ashley Ngatia walks alongside a physical therapy patient in the intensive care unit aboard the hospital ship USNS Mercy. Mercy deployed in support of the nation's COVID-19 response efforts and serves as a referral hospital for non-COVID-19 patients currently admitted to shore-based hospitals. DoD is supporting FEMA, as well as state, local and public health authorities in helping protect the health and safety of the American people.

_DoD photo by Marvin Lynchard_

Army Task Force Conducts Medical Assessments in Guam
TAMUNING, Guam (May 4, 2020) — U.S. Army Col. Matthew Garrison (left) and Sgt Maj. Miguel A. Baez Jr., members of Task Force West, help assess medical capabilities at the Guam Surgicenter in support of the fight against COVID-19.

*U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Luisito Brooks*

**Texas National Guard Operates at Mobile Testing Site**
MISSION, Texas (May 4, 2020) — U.S. Army Spc. Tamra Townsend, a Combat Medic Specialist, cuts a sterile swab stick at Diaz-Villarreal Elementary School. The Texas Military Department is supporting the critical healthcare infrastructure and assisting with mobile testing sites.

Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. De’Jon Williams

###