

GIKISHO NO.19  
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### Protest and Request: Noise Produced at Night by Military Aircrafts

It has been 18 years since the Japanese and United States Governments established the SACO Agreement, and 10 years since the helicopter crash at Okinawa International University. MCAS Futenma is still present amidst our densely populated city. The residents of Ginowan continue to be burdened by various base-related concerns such as the possibility of accidents involving aircrafts and the nightly noises produced by them.

The city has been requesting the closure of the base within the next 5 years and solutions to base-related issues through the “Council for Promoting the Alleviation of the Burden of Futenma Air Station” and its Operations Department. We are especially emphasizing the cease of accepting out-side aircrafts and aircraft activities at night, for they are the most tangible and affective burdens that the residents of Ginowan face.

However, not only have the night flight issues not been improved, but aircraft noise has been reported well after 22:00 into hours as late as or later than 24:00- this is much later than the time agreed upon under the Aircraft Noise Abatement Countermeasures at Futenma Air Station to restrict night flights.

Additionally, the city has received 23 noise complaints by the 8<sup>th</sup> in the month of September; 9 of which have been complaints of noise after 24:00. The noise problems seem to have worsened.

The city strongly protests the night flights which have intensified and is imposing a burden on the residents of Ginowan City and demand the discontinuation of night flights.