

GIKISHO NO.24

January 14, 2015

Lieutenant General John Wissler  
Okinawa Area Coordinator

Atsushi Sakima  
Mayor, Ginowan City

Protest and Request: Night-time Flight Activities and Noise Pollution

18 years since the SACO Agreement, and 10 years since the helicopter crash at Okinawa International College, Marine Corp Air Station Futenma continues to exist in the middle of our densely populated city of Ginowan. With a total population of around 96,000, approximately 7000 people live on each square kilometer of land, excluding US property. The residents continue to carry the burden which comes with hosting a military base such as the noise pollution and the constant risk of aircraft related accidents.

The noise levels produced by the military's night-time flight activities have affected the lives of the Ginowan City residents greatly and the city has requested time and time again for the military's cooperation in improving the situation. However, by the 13<sup>th</sup> of this month, the city has already received 30 noise complaints as well as night-time flight activities from nearby residents. On January 10, around 00:00, a noise level of 83.3dB was recorded near Ojana District. Despite our complaint on December 24, 2014, the city is extremely disappointed to see that, already, we are witnessing flight activity after 22:00.

Once again, the city strongly protests the military's night-time flight activities, circular flight training, and acceptance of incoming foreign aircrafts.