

GIKISHO NO.29  
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Lt. General Lawrence D. Nicholson  
Commander, Marine Forces Japan  
III Marine Expeditionary Force

Atsushi Sakima  
Mayor  
Ginowan City

### Protest and Request: Fighter Jet Traffic and Activity on MCAS Futenma

MCAS Futenma is located in the center of the city and is consequently bordered by an urban district where many residents live and work. The risks of aircraft crashes and effects of noise pollution and other base related impairments are tremendous.

At each opportunity, the City of Ginowan has requested prohibition of traffic and activity of aircrafts which are not based on MCAS Futenma such as the fighter jets. Efforts put forth by the Council for Promoting the Alleviation of the Burden of Futenma Air Station seemed successful in the past few years, as fighter jet activities significantly decreased.

However, on October 17 and 18, fighter jet activity noticeably increased once again. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, noise levels of 114.9dB were recorded at 20:00 in the Ue-Ojana district- a time period of the day when many families are spending quality time together at home. Moreover, noise levels of 116.1dB were recorded again in the same district on the 18<sup>th</sup> at 16:57. The city received 18 complaints in those 2 days.

The jets' activities on MCAS Futenma, despite the city's requests and protests to mitigate base related burdens in other aspects such as the city being coerced into hosting the 24 Ospreys, the frequent flight of military aircrafts over residential areas, and night time flight activity and noise pollution, cannot be condoned and we must express of deepest disappointment.

Thus, the city strongly protests the fighter jets' traffic and activities and demands more consideration towards the residents' daily lives.