

GIKISHO NO. 44
January 26, 2017

Lieutenant General Lawrence D. Nicholson
Okinawa Area Coordinator,
III MEF

Atsushi Sakima
Mayor,
Ginowan City

Protest: Emergency Landing of an Aircraft Operated out of MCAS Futenma

On January 20, the city received notice from the Okinawa Defense Bureau in regards to an AH-1Z operated out of MCAS Futenma making an emergency landing at Ikei Island.

There has recently been a string of unfortunate events including the MV-22's crash landing last month, the CH-53's landing gear malfunction, as well as abnormal noises coming from other aircrafts. These mishaps as well as the continued night time flight activity has caused the residents' anxiety and distrust in the military aircrafts to reach its peak.

We have reiterated our concerns and demands to corresponding entities, but have yet to see any improvement. These recurring issues have caused much frustration and disappointment.

Thus, we vehemently protest this recent emergency landing and demand a thorough investigation of causes and an effective plan to prevent recurrence as well as our demands expressed in Petition No. GIKISHO43 be met.

Additionally, we strongly insist on the closure of base at the earliest possible date as well as mitigation of base related risks and burdens.