

GIKISHO NO.30  
July 25, 2017

Lt. General Lawrence D. Nicholson  
Commander, Marine Forces Japan  
III Marine Expeditionary Force

Atsushi Sakima  
Mayor  
Ginowan City

### Protest: Noise Pollution Caused by Night Time Flights by the U.S.Military

The city has taken every opportunity to protest the adverse effects that the noise pollution has on the resident's lives, but have not yet seen any improvement. The citizens have reached their breaking point.

In just this month of July, an aircraft noise has been reported between the hours of 22:00 and 24:00. An aircraft noise level of 94.7dB was also recorded in the Nodake District at 22:52 on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

This situation has caused resentment and frustration for many residents who are disturbed by the noise and have been stripped of their rights to enjoy a peaceful night at home.

During July 2017, citizens have filed 36 complaints to include numerous complaints in which exemplify the severity of the impact on the citizens lives such as; "The aircraft are so loud even until 24:00", and "I can't sleep every night because of the noise".

As Ginowan City Mayor whose duty is to protect the lives and assets of over 97,000 citizens, current conditions can not be condoned. Thus, the city strongly protests and demands the following terms be met:

- Cease all flight activity after 22:00 to abide as agreed under the Aircraft Noise Abatement Countermeasures at Futenma Air Station and to show thorough consideration toward the residents at all other hours of the day.
- The closure of MCAS Futenma at the earliest possible date and return of land to solve the root cause of these arising issues, as well as realization of the agreement to cease all operations on MCAS Futenma in the next 5 years and the alleviation of these risks and burdens.