

GIKISHO NO.51
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Consul General Joel Ehrendreich
American Consulate General

Atsushi Sakima
Mayor
Ginowan City

Protest: Details on Accident of Parts Falling into the City Day-Care Center

Yesterday On December 7th, a serious accident occurred in which a cylindrical part, which seems to belong to CH-53 Helicopter that belongs to MCAS Futenma, fell into the roof of the day-care center in the Nodake district of Ginowan City.

This accident which occurred this time is a very serious accident involving human life in which parts of US military equipment actually dropped into a region which is a residential area and are densely populated area in the city. This absolutely must not be, and I feel strong indignation in response to this incident. Much more, accidents that happen at a day-care center where children who will lead the future are playing and leaning from each day is a ruin of nomadic disasters, and many children who have been playing in the garden which is only a few centimeters away from the area of the falling objects. The impact is incalculable, including other children and teachers who heard a loud noise when the parts fell into. Further, we heard that many parents were listing and who heard that the accident, and that there were many people who ran as soon as the incident happened to the day-care because of so much worry, it is extremely regrettable action that has caused great anxiety and influence on the day-care stuff. Also, concerns are spreading not only to the surrounding residents but also to the citizens as a whole, and it is urgent to dispel them.

The MCAS Futenma in the center of the city and is said to be the "world's most dangerous base" can lead to catastrophes involving citizens in any trouble, Ginowan city has strongly been requested to close and return to the people as soon as possible that continue to appeal. However, the current situation that the life's of the citizens are being threatened by this accident this time are highlighted again.

The current situation in which the danger of life on the citizen which is located right next to everyday life is extremely unique, and the fact that both Japan and the US and the US military are sincere that it will be irreparable if a mistake like this is made again. A step like this we must not accept ourselves, we must implement measures that have a sense of crisis and I have stepped forward not only one step but two steps so far.

I, the Ginowan City Mayor whose duty is to protect the lives and assets of over 98,000 citizens, can not condone the current conditions associated with this aircraft. Thus, the city strongly protests and demands the following terms be met:

Note

- To fully redeem the MCAS Futenma, which is a citizen's desire, take all measures and realize it as soon as possible.
- Suspend operation within 5 years and make efforts with a sense of crisis and realize it as soon as possible to eliminate the risk of MCAS Futenma and reduce the base burden until returning.
- Explain to the affected day-care center to be able to eliminate anxiety.
- Stop flying above the urban area and residential area until the cause of this accident is investigated because it is a matter directly related to human life as well as implementing and disclosing a thorough case investigation about the accident this time.
- In light of the succession of accidents and troubles of the MCAS Futenma affiliated aircraft, including this accident, it must check the safety management system again for all expectations belonging to MCAS Futenma, and strictly check the safety of all aircraft.