

GIKISHO NO.45
June 12, 2018

Consul General Joel Ehrendreich

U.S. Consulate General Naha

Atsushi Sakima
Mayor
Ginowan City

Protest: Fighter Jet Traffic and Activity on MCAS Futenma and Noise Pollution Caused by
Night Time Flights by the U.S. Military.

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.

However, on the 8th of June at 08:00 to 08:06, the fighter jet activities on MCAS Futenma in quick succession made a very loud noise throughout the city. In particular, noise levels of 121.1dB were recorded in the Ue-Ojana district. The city received heartrending voice from the citizens such as; "I never heard that kind of noise and there are aircrafts flying at low altitude, it was very scared".

Additionally, noise pollution continued after 22:00 and numerous night time noises are measured throughout the city, as well as the complaints of the noise pollution caused by the night time flights continued to increase. Just in last week alone there have been 20 reported complaints as; "I have a hard time and my children can not sleep".

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 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 as well as noise pollution caused by night time flights and demands more consideration towards the residents' daily lives.