

GIKISHO NO.69  
March 28, 2018

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

Atsushi Sakima  
Mayor  
Ginowan City

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

The city has taken every opportunity to protest the adverse effects that the noise pollution has on the resident's lives. However the U.S. military's aircraft, regardless of day or night, continues to have adverse effects on the lives of the citizens.

Especially the night time damage of noises pollution after 22:00 is serious issue, and numerous night time noises are measured throughout the city. On March 20, there was 24 reported complaints due to night time noise pollution. Just in this month alone there have been 65 reported complaints for the same reason.

In addition, this fiscal year, as many as 455 complaints have been received. This is the most complaints of the noise pollution we received, to date out of any fiscal year. The citizens are forced to live their daily lives exposed to this noise.

It is with heartfelt voices of the citizens, such as appealing fear of night flight activities as; "The night activities are so loud that it is waking our children up", and "I am scared because I do not know if or when there will be a failure with the aircraft".

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

#### Note

- Cease all flight activity after 22:00 to abide by the Aircraft Noise Abatement Countermeasures at Futenma Air Station.
- Strict limiting of flight activity after 19:00, which is deemed to be family or resting.
- Prohibition of the fighter jets' traffic as well as flight activity above residential areas.
- Return of land at the earliest possible date to solve the roots of this issue as well as a system which helps the residents see and feel the mitigation of base related risks and burdens in the meantime.