

GIKISHO NO.84
February 5, 2019

Mr. Robert T. Koepcke
Consul General
American Consulate General

Masanori Matsugawa
Mayor
Ginowan City

Protest: Noise Pollution Continued Caused by Activity of Aircraft which are not based on
MCAS Futenma

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 that tremendously influences daily lives of citizens. Our recent protest was on November 2018 regarding noise pollution caused by aircraft activities.

However, aircraft which are not based on MCAS Futenma continued to fly one after another. On the 17th of January, the fighter jet (FA-18) activities on MCAS Futenma made a very loud noise throughout the city, noise level of 122.5dB were recorded in the Ue-Ojana district of Ginowan City. Moreover, noise levels of 121.1dB were recorded again on the 1st of February, as well as numerous noises which is recorded over 100dB are measured throughout the city. The complaints of the noise pollution caused by the flight activity continued to increase, the situation has not changed, these recurring issues have caused much frustration and disappointment.

Despite the city's requests and protests to mitigate base related burdens, the situation has not changed, 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 and demands more consideration towards the residents' daily lives.

We strongly insist on the closure of base at the earliest possible date and return of land to solve the root cause of these arising issues, as well as mitigation of base related risks and burdens.