RESOLUTION OF PROTEST OVER THE INCIDENT OF ATTEMPTED RAPE BY A U.S. FORCES CIVILIAN WORKER

On July 30, 2021, the Okinawa Prefectural Police arrested a U.S. base civilian worker on allegations of attempted rape of a woman on a street in the central region of Okinawa Island, which took place in April of this year.

Such acts do not just cause physical and mental anguish on the victim but also encroach on the victim's dignity. The occurrence of such a heinous incident in a quiet residential area has also left the people of Okinawa Prefecture with widespread concern and indignation.

Every time an incident such as this occurs, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly has strongly called for the thorough enforcement of discipline, prevention, and the education and training of all relevant persons. This includes the crimes in April of 2016 when a woman was assaulted and murdered by a former U.S. Marine Corps personnel, and also in April of 2019, over the murder of a woman by a U.S. Navy personnel. In addition, we had just adopted a resolution and made tough calls just in January of this year over the incident of forced indecent acts by a U.S. Marine Corps personnel.

Despite this, yet another such heinous crime has taken place, and this shows that the strengthening of management structure by the U.S. Forces towards the prevention of crimes is not thoroughly addressed. With the present situation in which crimes and accidents continue to occur, we cannot help but carry a strong sense of distrust towards the attitude of the U.S. Forces itself in their attempts at being good neighbors to the residents of Okinawa Prefecture.

To that end, we, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly, in our duty to protect the lives and properties of the people of Okinawa, solemnly protest this recent incident and call for the prompt execution of the following five items.

- 1. Offer apologies, complete compensation, and thoughtful mental care to the victim.
- 2. Enforce strict discipline to U.S. Forces service members and civilian employees and establish drastic and specific preventive measures that are effective, and disclose these measures to the people of Okinawa Prefecture.
- 3. Regulate civilian workers who are also positioned under the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) to comply with the nightly curfew.
- 4. Establish fast-response working-level talks, including a review of the roles of the Coworking Team.
- 5. Execute fundamental revisions in the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement.

The above is resolved as stated on this 19 day of August 2021.

Okinawa Prefectural Assembly