RESOLUTION OF PROTEST OVER THE INCIDENT OF FORCED INDECENT ACTS BY A US FORCES PERSONNEL

On February 11, the Okinawa Prefectural Police arrested a US Marine Corps Private First Class stationed at Camp Courtney for forcible indecent acts. In this incident, which occurred at around 5:00 AM on January 31, the Private First Class allegedly committed indecent acts on an adult female in a parking lot in Naha City. On top of possibly violating the US Forces' Liberty Policies and guidelines against the spread of COVID-19, the recent incident that is alleged to have occurred is an act against women that not only causes physical and mental anguish but is a crime against a person's dignity.

As of the end of December 2020, the number of cleared criminal cases committed by US Military personnel and related persons since the reversion of Okinawa to Japan has reached 6,069 cases. With the occurrence of each incident and/or accident, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly has strongly protested to and urged the US Forces and other bodies to enforce strict discipline, implement preventive measures, and provide thorough education and training for their relevant personnel. The recent incident has taken place despite our repeated calls which suggest that the efforts by the US Forces in providing human rights education for their personnel, and the management system of the US Forces are not functioning, and we cannot help but harbor strong resentments.

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

- 1. Promptly offer apologies and complete compensation to the victim and her family.
- 2. Enforce strict discipline among US Forces personnel, civilian employees, and other related persons, and take effective measures to prevent recurrences.
- 3. Comply with the guidelines set for restrictions during off-duty hours (Liberty Policy).
- 4. Cooperate to promptly hold the Meeting of Cooperative Working Team (CWT) for Prevention of Incidents and Accidents Caused by US Military Personnel, Civilian Employees, and their Dependents.
- 5. Fundamentally revise the Japan-US Status of Forces Agreement.

The above is resolved as stated on this 24th day of February 2021.

Okinawa Prefectural Assembly