

**RESOLUTION OF PROTEST
OVER THE
INCIDENT OF FALLING PARTS FROM
A U.S. FORCES MV-22B OSPREY**

At approximately 9:30 PM on August 12, 2021, an incident occurred in which an MV-22B Osprey stationed at MCAS Futenma dropped parts of the aircraft, including a panel measuring approximately 109 centimeters in length 69 centimeters in width, and weighing 1.8 kilograms. These parts fell while the aircraft was flying over the Central Training Area between U.S. Forces Camp Schwab, Camp Hansen, others, and MCAS Futenma. The specific location of where the parts fell is unknown. Although there has been no confirmation of injuries or damages to properties, such an incident could potentially lead to severe consequences concerning human lives and properties.

Furthermore, despite our repeated calls for prompt information reporting, Okinawa Prefecture was notified of this incident approximately 20 hours after its occurrence, which shows that basic notification frameworks have not improved. In addition, the U.S. Forces resumed flight drills using the same model of aircraft the following day, and we cannot repress strong indignations in such handling of this incident where it is as though the sentiments of the Okinawan people are ignored.

Aircraft stationed at MCAS Futenma have been involved in numerous incidents in the past, and just this year alone, we have seen incidents where a UH-1Y helicopter made an emergency landing on June 2; a CH-53E helicopter dropped a shipping container off the coast of Tonaki Island on July 13; and an AH-1 helicopter made an emergency landing in Kushima City, Miyazaki Prefecture on July 27. With such a series of incidents, the concern and distrust felt among the people of Okinawa in the operational frameworks of the U.S. Forces only continue to rise.

With each occurrence of incidents and accidents involving the U.S. Forces, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly has strongly called for investigations into the causes of the incidents and the implementation of preventive measures. Despite our calls, it is deplorable that such an accident has taken place once again, which is simply unacceptable.

To that end, we, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly, in our duty to protect the lives and properties of the people of Okinawa, strongly protest the recent accident, and call for the prompt execution of the following five (5) items.

1. Strive to prevent recurrences by implementing thorough inspections of U.S. Forces aircraft and investigating the accident's causes.
2. Strictly adhere to the notification system for when incidents occur and promptly and accurately provide information.
3. Suspend flights and flight exercises of the same model of aircraft until preventive measures are implemented.
4. Return MCAS Futenma as earliest possible.
5. Promptly hold working-level talks between the Government of Japan, United States Government, and the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

The above is resolved as stated on this 10th day of September 2021.

Okinawa Prefectural Assembly