## RESOLUTION OF PROTEST OVER THE FATAL ACCIDENT CAUSED BY A US MARINE CORPS PERSONNEL DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL

At approximately 5:25 AM on November 19, an official US Forces' truck and a mini-truck that was attempting to make a right turn, crashed at the Tomari Intersection on National Route 58 in Naha City, killing a corporate worker from Naha.

A breath test showed that the US Marine Corps personnel driving the official US Forces' vehicle had three times over the legal blood-alcohol limit, and was arrested the same day by the Naha Police Department.

Every time an incident or accident happens involving US Forces personnel and other related persons, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly has made strong demands to the US Forces and relevant agencies for the enforcement of discipline, preventive measures, and other such actions. Despite our calls, this recent accident took the precious life of our Prefecture's citizen in an accident caused by a US Marine Corps personnel. This is extremely regrettable and to have accidents like this happen time and again due to the fact that we are hosting the military bases leaves our anger insuppressible.

In the light of this recent accident in particular, where an official vehicle was used outside of official duties, we cannot help but feel that the enforcement of discipline and preventive measures by the US Forces is no longer working. The US Forces and both the governments of Japan and the US must conduct thorough investigation into the circumstances and relevant issues of this accident, and handle the compensation to the bereaved family and other action with sincerity and in good faith. Furthermore, the Government of Japan must take a firm stand toward the US side to ensure that such accidents do not happen again.

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

1. Promptly offer apologies and complete compensation to the bereaved family.

2. Call for the prompt relocation of the US Marine Corps out of the Prefecture and the country.

3. Address change of commander(s) and superior(s) in cases of heinous crimes and others by military personnel and those under the SOFA in Okinawa.

4. Establish a special measures council with Okinawa Prefecture, Government of Japan, and the United States Government to address preventive measures against incidents and accidents.

5. Execute fundamental revisions in the Status of Forces Agreement.

The above is resolved as stated on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017.

## **Okinawa Prefectural Assembly**