RESOLUTION OF PROTEST OVER THE INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT CAUSING INJURIES BY A US MARINE CORPS PERSONNEL

It has come to light that a US Marine was indicted by the Naha District Public Prosecutors Office in December of 2021 over an alleged incident in which a woman was injured in an attempted sexual assault that took place in October of the same year.

This incident has impacted the citizens of Okinawa Prefecture with alarm and dismay. Not only has it caused great physical and emotional suffering to the victim, but such acts infringe on a person's dignity, and this is absolutely unforgivable.

With each incident and/or accident involving the US Forces, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly has strongly called for the implementation and enforcement of discipline, prevention, and education of all relevant persons. The Assembly adopted a Statement of Opinion/Resolution of Protest over similar incidents in January and August of last year and called for strict preventive measures.

Despite this, another heinous crime has allegedly taken place. We cannot help but harbor strong resentments and question the efforts of the US Forces in their human rights education and management systems of their personnel.

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 incident and strongly call for the prompt execution of the following five (5) items.

- 1. Offer apologies, complete compensation, and emotional care and support to the victim.
- 2. Enforce strict discipline among US Forces personnel, civilian employees, and other related persons; develop drastic and specific measures that are effective in preventing recurrences of such incidents; and disclose these measures to the citizens of Okinawa Prefecture.
- 3. Establish fast-response working-level talks, including a review of the roles of the Meeting of Cooperative Working Team (CWT) for prevention of incidents and accidents caused by US military personnel, civilian employees, and their dependents.
- 4. Take appropriate responses in the pre-indictment transfer of custody of the accused based on the Agreement of the Japan-US Joint Committee.
- 5. Fundamentally revise the Japan-US Status of Forces Agreement.

The above is resolved as stated on this 13th day of May 2022.

Okinawa Prefectural Assembly