

Ref. No.661  
October 22, 2012

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton  
Secretary of State  
The United States of America

**Re: Enforcement of Stricter Discipline on the U.S. Military Servicemembers**

This is an urgent call from Okinawa Prefectural Government regarding a sexual assault allegedly involving U.S. Navy servicemembers which took place in central Okinawa on October 16, 2012.

OPG believes that ensuring the proper maintenance and smooth operations of U.S. Forces stationed in Japan under the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangement require understanding and cooperation from the local communities, and that the well-being of the residents should be given the highest priority.

Any incident could undermine the trust that the people of Okinawa have toward U.S. Armed Forces.

The U.S. military stationed on Okinawa must guarantee the safety of the local residents, and tirelessly seek for the trust of the prefectural citizens. We believe that the highest sense of discipline is indispensable in the activities and behaviors of the servicemembers.

Every time an incident or accident involving U.S. servicemembers occurs, it inflicts great anxiety and shock to the residents of Okinawa. We find it deeply regrettable that this alleged heinous offense took place.

OPG demands that the U.S. military make every possible effort to prevent the recurrence of such incidents, by enforcing stricter discipline for all the U.S. military servicemembers and putting in place all-out, effective preventive measures.

Hirokazu Nakaima  
Governor  
Okinawa Prefecture

Ref. No.661  
October 24, 2012

The Honorable Leon E. Panetta  
Secretary of Defense  
The United States of America

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