

Brigadier General Matthew H. Molloy  
18<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander  
Kadena Air Base

**Re: Fuel Leakage Incident at Kadena Ammunition Storage Area**

In regard to the generator fuel leakage incident that occurred on August 6, 2011 at Kadena Ammunition Storage Area, the Okinawa Prefectural Government received the notification after a considerable lapse of two days, on August 8, 2011.

The location of this recent fuel leakage was at the Hija River basin, an essential source of tap water for the residents in the region and depending on circumstances, this incident could have potentially affected this precious water source. Additionally, underground water below Kadena Air Base and communities adjacent to Kadena Ammunition Storage Area is also an invaluable source of running water.

Despite a number of similar fuel leakage incidents in the past, notification to the OPG and relevant national agencies have been delayed repeatedly, and this could result in river and underground water pollution which would have adverse effects in our efforts in ensuring the quality of running water and living environment for our residents. It is truly regrettable that such concerns give rise to great anxiety among the citizens of the prefecture and raise questions regarding the management and operation systems of U.S. Forces facilities.

To that end, we ask that impacts from heavy rain and other natural calamities be considered in conducting thorough inspections of facilities under your command, and take all possible measures to avoid a recurrence of similar incidents.

Furthermore, in the event of future leakage incidents, the OPG calls for the following four items.

1. Immediately notify relevant authorities regardless of the scale of the leakage incident.
2. Appropriately handle such situations to prevent adverse impact on the river and underground water sources.
3. Appropriately handle the soil containing leaked fuel and clarify the handling methods and results.
4. Upon conducting such handlings and measures, disclose the relevant information in a prompt manner.

Hirokazu Nakaima  
Governor  
Okinawa Prefecture