

**RESOLUTION OF PROTEST
OVER THE
US FORCES MV-22 OSPREY EMERGENCY LANDING INCIDENT**

At approximately 5:00 PM on September 29, an MV-22 Osprey from the US Forces Marine Corps Air Station Futenma made an emergency landing at the New Ishigaki Airport due to mechanical problems. Additionally, another MV-22 Osprey made an emergency landing immediately after the first one, causing the Airport to close temporarily. This incident impacted many people using the said airport, and at the same time, further increased concerns and fear toward the Osprey among not only the people of Ishigaki Island, but among all citizens of Okinawa Prefecture.

In regard to the Osprey, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly and all of the 41 municipal assemblies in the Prefecture adopted protest resolutions reflecting the strong sentiments of the citizens against the deployment of the Osprey to Okinawa due to repeated incidents/accidents in its test flights in the development stages as well as after being actually deployed on combat missions. Despite this, the deployment went ahead. On December 13 of last year, an Osprey crashed along the shores of Nago City, and another made a belly landing at MCAS Futenma. After these incidents in Okinawa, on August 3 this year, an Osprey attempting to land on a US vessel off the eastern coast of Australia, crashed into the waters, killing three members of its crew.

It is truly regrettable that despite the strong protests and calls addressing the Osprey incidents/accidents up to the present time to relevant and major government officials from the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly, local municipalities, and other related bodies, we are seeing frequent incidents and accidents. Both governments of Japan and the US must take a serious look at the present and actual situation in which incidents and accidents involving the Osprey are happening in succession, thoroughly review the framework of the US Forces' safety management, and work to dispel the anxiety of the Okinawan people, and doubly secure safety measures.

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 emergency landing incident and call for the prompt execution of the following three items.

1. Immediately cease the flight of the Osprey which has seen a series of problems and withdraw them from deployment in Okinawa.
2. Aim to stop the operations of MCAF Futenma within five (5) years.
3. Aim to withdraw the Marine Corps from Okinawa.

The above is resolved as stated on this 16th day of October, 2017.

Okinawa Prefectural Assembly