

**RESOLUTION OF PROTEST
OVER THE
INCIDENT OF A WATER BOTTLE FALLING FROM
A U.S. FORCES MV-22 OSPREY**

At approximately 6:45 PM on November 23, 2021, an incident occurred in which an MV-22 Osprey stationed at MCAS Futenma dropped a water bottle onto a residential area in Ginowan City.

Although no injuries or other damage involving Okinawan residents have been reported at present, the location of the incident was by the front door of a private home in a densely populated neighborhood, and such an incident could have resulted in a severe accident involving the lives and properties of the local people.

The accident only came to light when the local municipality contacted the Okinawa Defense Bureau the morning after, and a report to the Okinawa Prefectural Government was made 14 hours after the incident. We cannot help but feel strong indignation in how no improvements have been made despite our repeated and urgent calls regarding prompt reporting when incidents and accidents occur, how the same model of aircraft continued to fly the day after the accident without sufficient investigation into the cause of the accident nor explanation offered to the Okinawa Prefectural Government and the municipal government.

Furthermore, in August, an MV-22 Osprey from MCAS Futenma, the same model in this recent incident, dropped a panel. The operational structure of the U.S. Forces, which have repeatedly dropped objects from aircraft, is not acceptable.

To that end, we, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly, in our duty to protect the lives and properties of the people of Okinawa, strongly protest the recent accident, and call for the prompt execution of the following six (6) items.

1. Suspend all flights of the same model of aircraft involved in this incident until the causes of the accident are thoroughly investigated, and preventive measures are implemented.
2. Promptly disclose the causes of the accident and details of preventive measures to the people of Okinawa.
3. Strictly adhere to the notification system for incidents and promptly and accurately provide the information.
4. Return MCAS Futenma as earliest possible.
5. Promptly hold working-level talks between the Japanese Government, the United States Government, and the Okinawa Prefectural Government.
6. Eliminate the Act on Special Provisions of the Civil Aeronautics Act and fundamentally revise the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement.

The above is resolved as stated on this 21st day of December 2021.

Okinawa Prefectural Assembly