“Danger Posed by Futenma Air Operations”

December, 2009
The City of Ginowan, Okinawa, Japan

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Under heavily crowded conditions, 90,000 Ginowan residents’ homes and over 121 public facilities are located around USMC Futenma Air Station.
August 13, 2004 a Marine CH-53D
Crashes into Okinawa International University

The CH53D crash in 2004 was vivid proof that Ginowan citizens constantly lived with
the danger involved in military operations from Futenma.
Therefore, Ginowan Citizens now desire from the bottom of their hearts the immediate end
to the operations and quick return of this base.
US military air operations in Ginowan

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Damage to lives of Ginowan citizens caused by military air operations at Futenma Air Station

Citizens’ Complaints against military operations from Futenma

[Example]

- Helicopters fly over us every five minutes
- It’s 1:30 am. I was stunned by the roar of an Airplane from Futenma.
- My child won’t sleep because of the noise and doesn’t drink milk.
- I thought a crash happened again.
Increasing US military training flights from Futenma Air Station located in the center of urban areas

An F18 is approaching Futenma, flying low over the residential area
A KC130 is flying over the residential area
A CH-46 flies over a hospital

MCAS Futenma Aircraft Noise

Six CH-46Ds make a formation flight in Ginowan
Ginowan City Government’s efforts to regain the land of Futenma Air Station

12 April 1996 The SACO Final Report on Futenma Air Station
1 May 2006 United States-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation
Futenma Air Station is planned to be relocated to Camp Schwab and its coastline by 2014

July 2004 First request tour to the United States
Because danger created by the existence of Futenma Air Station reaches its limit, Mayor Yoichi Iha makes a request visit at Washington DC and Camp Smith in Hawaii.

August 2004 A US large helicopter crashes into Okinawa International University
Right after the first request tour to the US, a CH-53D helicopter crashes into Okinawa International University, and explodes into flames.

July 2005 Second request tour to the United States
The Ginowan delegation visits Washington DC again to request an early return of Futenma Air Station and begins researching an operational status of US military bases in the United States.

November 2006 The Ginowan City Government requests the US military to follow its safety standards during operating in Ginowan.
The city discovers there is safety standard for US military air installations, and requests the US military apply such a standard to Futenma Air Station.
A reply from Lieutenant General John F. Goodman, Commander, US Marine Forces, Pacific
About operations at Futenma Air Station, Lieutenant General Goodman says in his letter, “my command will strictly follow the laws and standard operating procedures”.

December 2007 The city discovers serious shortcomings about the Futenma clear zones.
The city government obtains the 1992 Futenma Master Plan and analyzes it. The city discovers the grave fact that there are 18 public facilities including an elementary school and a child center, about 800 private homes, and approximately 3,600 residents living within the clear zones.
Inconsistencies in the Account of Lt Gen John F. Goodman, Former Commander, US Marine Corps Forces in the Pacific

19 December 2006

Lieutenant General John F. Goodman, Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific,

“Our entry and exit routes from the helicopter pattern at Futenma are specifically designed to avoid over-flying the local schools and some cultural areas when possible,”

“do a good job of avoiding over-flight of schools, hospitals, and cultural areas whenever possible.”

“I want to give you my personal assurance that all forces under my command will strictly follow the laws and standard operating procedures that are designed to ensure that our forces operate safely and effectively.”
Serious defect in Futenma clear zones

Clear zones are for precluding vertical obstructions for arriving and departing aircraft.
The city reveals the fact about the Futenma clear zones. The Futenma clear zones extend, beyond the fence of Futenma Air Station, to residential areas in Ginowan City.

**MCAS FUTENMA MASTER PLAN JUNE 1992**

Airfield clear zones have been established at MCAS Futenma on either side of the runway centerline, and beyond the ends of the runway, to preclude vertical obstructions for arriving and departing aircraft.
Within the “clear zones,” there are 18 facilities including public buildings, nursery schools, hospitals, and nearly 800 homes. About 3,600 residents live there.
Futenma clear zones, that should be cleared, fall into residential areas in Ginowan City.

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MCBH KANEHOE BAY AICUZ

Clear zones are for precluding vertical obstructions for arriving and departing aircraft.
Jun 26 2008 Court Decision on Futenma Noise

“Ginowan City is a poor location for the base. This results in unacceptable noise levels which have a grave impact on the people living in surrounding areas ... [We] note the growing anxiety of residents over the possibility of further aircraft crashes.”

“The court orders the Japanese government to pay over ¥140 million in compensation for physical and psychological damage.”

[Picture]
August 13, 2004 a Marine CH-53D Crash into the Okinawa International University
What Ginowan Citizens Demand

The people of Ginowan demand an immediate end to US military air operations that are never allowed in the United States. The people of Ginowan resolutely demand their lives be free from the fear of another crash, which they consider to be nothing other than an accident waiting to happen. In other words they demand the unconditional closure of the base now, not in 2014.