

基地と人権

Military bases and human rights

米軍基地が集中している沖縄では米兵による事件・事故が多発し、米軍機の墜落も相次ぐ。米軍機の騒音に悩む県民も多く、1972年の日本復帰後も基地の存在が県民の生命や生活を脅かし続けている。第2次世界大戦の他の敗戦国と比較し、米軍の自由な活動を保障する日米地位協定の抜本的改定を望む声は根強い。基地が人権を制約する現状からの脱却を県民は望んでいる。

There have been many crimes and incidents involving U.S. military personnel, including military aircraft crashes in Okinawa where Japan's U.S. bases are concentrated. Okinawan people suffer reduced livelihood, and psychological and physical damage from U.S. military aircraft noise. Even after Okinawa's return to Japanese sovereignty in 1972, which Okinawans hoped would improve their situation, the existence of the U.S. military bases has been a

threat to the lives and the livelihoods of Okinawan people.

The Japan-U.S. Status-of-Forces Agreement assures more freedom for U.S. military than agreements reached between the United States and other nations defeated in World War II. There has been strong demand for fundamentally revising the agreement. Okinawan people wish to escape from the current situation, in which the U.S. bases restrict their human rights.

墜落 年に1件超ペース

沖縄の空には、多くの米軍機が飛び交う。米統治下、復帰後を問わず、県民は米軍機がまき散らす騒音被害に悩まされ、墜落の不安を抱えてきた。

復帰前の1959年、民間地に墜落し跳ね上がったジェット機が宮森小学校に突っ込み、児童を含む18人が死亡した。復帰後も墜落は頻発し、ことし8月に発生した事故を含めて46件発生している。平均すると、1年に1件以上は墜落事故が発生していることになる。2004年8月には普天間基地に隣接する沖縄国際大学にヘリが墜落。民間人負傷者こそ出なかったが、破損した部品が付近住宅に飛散するなどの被害を出した。

騒音被害も深刻だ。嘉手納・普天間基地を抱える自治体住民を中心に、夜間・早朝でも飛行する米軍機のごう音に、睡眠不足や難聴など心身への悪影響を訴えている。両基地の周辺住民が米軍機の飛行差し止めを訴えた訴訟では、裁判所も騒音被害を認めた。

米軍機被害からの解放を願う県民の思いをよそに、12年には墜落の可能性が高いと指摘されるオスプレイが配備された。



Debris from a U.S. military helicopter can be seen scattered around the Okinawa International University campus after the helicopter crashed, bursting into flames in Ginowan, Ginowan City on August 15, 2004.

Aircraft accidents occur every year

Many military aircraft fly over Okinawa, causing anxiety among citizens. A series of aircraft crashes and ongoing noise pollution have put Okinawans on edge both before and after the reversion of the prefecture from the U.S to Japan.

In 1959, when Okinawa was still under U.S. military occupation, a fighter jet plummeted onto private land, bounced on the ground and crashed into an elementary school, killing 18 people, including school children. Aircraft accidents continued to occur even after Okinawa was returned to Japan. There have been 46 accidents, the most recent one occurring in August this year. In August 2004, a helicopter crashed into the Okinawa International University building, which stands adjacent to the Futenma Air Station. There were no civilian casualties, but neigh-

boring houses were damaged by debris from the aircraft.

Noise pollution is also a serious problem. Local residents, especially those living in the cities that host Kadena Air Base and Futenma Air Station, complain of impaired hearing, lack of sleep and other physical and psychological damage caused by the roar of aircraft flying at night and in the early morning. People living near the military bases filed a lawsuit, requesting a ban on military training flights. The court admitted that damage had been caused by the aircraft noise.

Despite the wishes of the Okinawan people to become free from the problems arising from military aircraft, Osprey helicopters were deployed in 2012. The Osprey is said to have a high risk of crashing.

女性脅かす米軍の性犯罪

1945年4月、米軍が沖縄本島に上陸した直後から米兵による強姦(ごうかん)事件が多発した。戦後70年たった現在も米兵による性犯罪は繰り返され、女性の人権が侵害されている。「基地・軍隊を許さない行動する女たちの会」がまとめた「沖縄・米兵による女性への性犯罪」年表によると、女性に関連した強姦や殺人、放火などの犯罪は46年で439件、47年で242件に上った。同会の共同代表を務める高里鈴代さんは「女性にとって新たな戦場が始まった」と語る。

性犯罪は、集団による加害行為が多く、乳児から幼児・児童を含むあ

らゆる年代が被害に遭った。畑、道路、基地内や家族の目の前など至る場所で発生し、被害を受けて出産した事例もあった。加害者のほとんどは軽い刑で済んだか処罰されていない。60年代～75年のベトナム戦争時は、毎年1～4人が絞殺されるなど残忍さが際立った。

高里さんは性犯罪の背景に軍隊の「構造的暴力」があると指摘する。「軍隊は破壊と殺傷の方法を日々訓練する。兵士たちは感覚がまひし抑圧から逃れるために、弱者へストレスを発散する。沖縄を植民地として見るような差別意識もある」と断じた。



Suzuyo Takazato From co-representative of Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence

Sexual crimes perpetrated by the US military a threat to women

When US forces landed on Okinawa Island in April 1945, cases of rape by US forces were widespread. Now, 70 years after the end of the war, sexual crimes by US servicemen still occur, violating the human rights of women.

According to a record of sexual crimes committed against women by US military members on Okinawa compiled by the organization Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence, in 1946, there were 439 incidents of crime committed against women, including rape, murder, and arson. In 1947, such

crimes numbered 242. Suzuyo Takazato, co-representative of the organization, says that after the war, "women faced a new kind of battlefield."

Many of these crimes are perpetrated by groups, and victims have included those of all ages, including infants and children. They have occurred in fields, on roads, within base compounds, and in front of the victim's family's eyes. Some victims become pregnant and give birth. Almost all perpetrators have received only a light sentence, or no sentence at all. The brutality of

these crimes became especially striking during the Vietnam War in the 1960s and 70s, when one to four victims were strangled to death each year.

Takazato emphasizes that structural violence within the military is behind these sexual crimes. She states, "Soldiers become numb, and in order to run from their pent-up emotions, they take their stress out on those weaker than themselves. There's also a sense of discrimination in which they view Okinawa as a colony."

地位協定 権利を制約

沖縄に74%が集中する在日米軍基地の運用は1960年に締結された日米地位協定が定めている。59年にドイツと締結された「ボン補足協定」は71年、81年、93年と過去3度改定されたのに比べ、日米地位協定は一度も改定されず、日本側の権利が大きく制約されたままだ。一方、イタリアが米国と95年に結んだ地位協定は在伊米軍基地をイタリア側の司令部の下に置く枠組みとなっており、日本側が米軍基地の運用を制約できない「排他的管理権」を米側に保障した日米地位協定と大きく異なる。

ドイツのボン補足協定は米軍基地にも基本的にドイツの法律を適用する。米側はあらゆる活動で環境影響評価を行う義務があり、連

邦、州、地方自治体が調査のために基地に立ち入れる。危険性や騒音が大きい低空飛行や夜間飛行訓練も原則禁止している。一方、日米は「騒音防止協定」を締結しているが、「運用上必要」などの「抜け道」がある。米軍機の低空飛行についても日本の航空法の適用外としている。自治体の立ち入りも米側の「許可」が前提となり、多くが制約される。

イタリアでは米軍が飛行訓練をする際、伊側への通告義務があるほか、昼寝をする習慣に配慮して夏場の午後1～4時は飛行できない。またイタリア側は米軍の行動で公衆の生命、健康に危険が及ぶことが明白な場合、伊側の司令官に米軍の行動を直ちに中止させる権限を与えている。

Status of Forces Agreement restricts rights

Okinawa's current U.S. military base concentration, 74% of U.S. Forces Japan base land, is allowed by the status of forces agreement (SOFA) between the U.S. and Japan, which entered into effect in 1960. Although the NATO SOFA Supplementary Agreement of 1959 with Germany (a supplement to the Bonn Agreement) has been revised 3 times (in 1971, 1981, and 1993), by comparison the U.S.-Japan SOFA has not been revised even once, and therefore a great limitation on Japan's rights remains in effect. Another example is the SOFA binding Italy and the U.S. since 1995, which differs greatly from the U.S.-Japan SOFA, in that the U.S.-Japan SOFA guarantees the U.S. exclusive administrative rights, giving the U.S. unrestricted use of military base facilities, whereas the SOFA between Italy and the U.S. has a framework placing U.S. military bases under Italy's command.

The NATO SOFA Supplementary Agreement has in essence adopted U.S. bases into German law. It is U.S. duty to conduct all operations with an evaluation of the environmental impact, and to

allow officials of the commonwealth, individual states, and local authorities to enter base compounds for investigative purposes. The U.S. military is prohibited from risky and noisy activity such as low-altitude flying and nighttime training. Even though Japan and the U.S. have concluded a noise-prevention agreement, loopholes such as "operations take priority" are often applied. Low-altitude flights of U.S. military aircraft fall outside of Japan's Civil Aeronautics Act. Member of local administrative bodies must receive permission from the U.S. military before entering base compounds.

In Italy, the U.S. is obligated to announce the times of aviation drills and gives consideration to the custom of taking afternoon naps in the summer by suspending flights between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Additionally, should the U.S. military cause a public nuisance or health risk to daily lives of the people, Italy's commanding officers have the authority to immediately curtail the U.S. military's behaviors.

後絶たぬ米兵犯罪

米軍基地が集中する沖縄では、凶悪犯罪が米軍人・軍属によって何度も繰り返されてきた。米軍は事件のたびに「綱紀粛正」を誓ってきたが、実態は今も変わらない。

1955年9月、6歳の幼い少女が性的暴行を受け殺害されるという痛ましい事件が起こった。「由美子ちゃん事件」として知られる。米軍軍曹が女性暴行致死などの罪で軍法会議にかけられ、死刑を宣告された。しかし米国へ移送され、懲役刑に減刑された。

72年に沖縄が日本に復帰してからも、女性や子どもを狙った卑劣な犯罪は後を絶たな

い。95年には米海兵隊員3人が女子小学生に性的暴行を加えた。事件を糾弾する県民大会には約8万5千人が参加し怒りの声を上げた。2012年には本島中部で米海軍兵2人が女性に性的暴行を加えた。

ひき逃げも多い。1970年、糸満市で酒に酔った米軍人が女性をひき殺した。米軍人は軍法会議で無罪となったが、後に米国側の機密報告書で判決が「誤審だった」と認めている。2009年11月には、米陸軍2等軍曹が読谷村で歩行者の男性をはねて死亡させた。

Never-ending crimes by US soldiers

Heinous crimes have been committed repeatedly by U.S. military personnel in Okinawa, where Japan's U.S. bases are concentrated. The U.S. military promises stricter discipline every time an incident occurs, but the situation remains the same.

In September 1955, a six-year-old girl was raped and murdered. The tragedy is known as the Yumiko-chan Incident. A sergeant of the U.S. Forces was tried by court-martial on charges of rape and murder and sentenced to death. The conviction was reduced to imprisonment after he was transported to the United States.

Despicable crimes targeting women and children have continued even after Okinawa returned to Japan in 1972. In 1995, three Marines raped an

elementary-school girl, which prompted a major prefectural rally, with 85,000 citizens coming together to express anger against the case. In 2012, two sailors raped a woman in the central area of the Okinawa Island.

There have also been many hit-and-run cases. A service member who was driving drunk hit and killed a woman in Itoman City in 1970. He was found not guilty at a court-martial hearing, but later a confidential American report referred to the verdict as a "misjudgement." In November 2011, a car driven by an army staff sergeant hit and killed a man in Yomitan Village.