

島ぐるみで抵抗

Okinawans unite to resist suppression of human rights

Since the end of the war, Okinawans have risen up in dissent time and time again, gathering to hold large-scale rallies to protest various forms of oppression including land seizures, crimes, and accidents caused by the U.S. military. In recent years, Okinawans have also united to act in fierce resistance against government policies that are unacceptable from the perspective of Okinawan society, such as historical revisionism and the deployment of the MV-22 Osprey aircraft.

危険除去、超党派で要求

■ 普天間県内移設反対県民大会 (2010年4月25日)

2010年4月25日、読谷村運動広場で「米軍普天間飛行場の早期閉鎖・返還と、県内移設に反対し、国外・県外移設を求める県民大会」が開かれた。

普天間移設問題関連では初の超党派の大会。主催者発表で9万人が参加し、歴史的意義のある大会となった。仲井真弘多前知事も登壇し、普天間飛行場の危険性除去などを訴えた。

09年に民主党が政権を取り、鳩山由紀夫元首相が普天間飛行場の移設先を「最低でも県外」と述べたことで、県民世論は党派を超え「県内移設反対」となった。

大会で盛り上がった世論は、仲井真前知事が2期目の選挙で「県外移設」を掲げたことや、その後の超党派でのオスプレイ配備反対の動きにも影響を与えた。



超党派が普天間飛行場の県内移設に反対する声を上げた「普天間飛行場の早期閉鎖・返還と国外・県外移設を求める県民大会」＝2010年4月25日、読谷村運動広場
Prefectural people's rally at which Okinawans came together across party lines to demand the prompt closure of U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and its relocation outside of Okinawa. April 25, 2010, Yomitan Village Athletic Plaza.

Rally against Futenma relocation within Okinawa on April 25, 2010

On April 25, 2010, a rally took place in Yomitan to seek Futenma Air Station's closure, return, and protest relocation within Okinawa, and demand relocation outside of Japan or at least Okinawa.

This was the first non-partisan rally relating to Futenma Air Station issues. Organizers announced that 90,000 people had attended, and the rally held historic

significance. Former governor of Okinawa Hirokazu Nakaima gave a speech, calling to get rid of the danger surrounding Futenma.

In 2009 the Democratic Party came to power with then Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama. He stated that it was terrible but Futenma should be relocated outside Okinawa, and prefectural public opinion

crossed party lines.

The rally helped swell public opinion, as former Governor Nakaima in his second term raised the issue of relocating Futenma outside the prefecture. It also had an impact the movement against Osprey deployment in Okinawa.

建白書の原動力に

■ オスプレイ反対県民大会 (2012年9月9日)

米海兵隊の垂直離着陸輸送機MV-22オスプレイが2012年10月に米軍普天間飛行場に配備されることが決まったことを受け、同年9月9日、宜野湾市の宜野湾海浜公園で「オスプレイ配備に反対する県民大会」が開かれた。

超党派で開かれた大会には主催者発表で10万1千人が参加し、オスブ

レイ配備反対の強い民意を示した。

大会後もオスプレイ配備反対の取り組みは続き、翌13年1月には県民大会実行委の共同代表と県議、県内41市町村の首長・議会議長（代理を含む）らが上京し、安倍晋三首相にオスプレイ配備撤回と米軍普天間飛行場の県内移設断念を求める「建白書」を提出した。



オスプレイの県内配備撤回を訴えた「配備に反対する県民大会」＝2012年9月9日、宜野湾海浜公園
Prefectural people's rally opposing the deployment of the V-22 Osprey aircraft to Okinawa. September 9, 2012, Ginowan Seaside Park.

2012 Osprey deployment motivated petition against Futenma relocation within Okinawa

When it was declared that U.S. Marine Corps' vertical takeoff and landing MV-22 Osprey would be deployed to Futenma Air Station in October 2012, a citizens' rally was held on September 9 at Ginowan

Seaside Park to oppose the deployment. According to organizers of the non-partisan rally, 101,000 people attended, showing the strength of popular will against Osprey deployment.

Even after the rally citizens continued to make efforts opposing Osprey deployment. In January 2013, leaders and representatives from throughout Okinawa traveled to Tokyo and submitted a petition to Prime

Minister Shinzo Abe. The petition asked for retraction of Osprey deployment and abandonment of the plan to relocate Futenma Air Station within Okinawa.

政府の主権回復記念式典に抗議する『『屈辱の日』沖縄大会』＝2013年4月28日、宜野湾海浜公園屋外劇場
Rally protesting the Japanese government's celebration of Restoration of Sovereignty Day, known in Okinawa as the "day of disgrace" on which they were traded to the U.S. in exchange for the freedom of the rest of Japan. April 28, 2013, Ginowan Seaside Park outdoor theater.



政府式典に怒り

■ 「屈辱の日」沖縄大会 (2013年4月28日)

1952年4月28日の対日講和条約の発効を祝う政府式典が開催されることに抗議する「4・28政府式典に抗議する『屈辱の日』沖縄大会」が2013年の4月28日、宜野湾海浜公園で開かれ、1万人以上が参加した。

日本が主権を回復し、国際社会に復帰を果たした一方、切り離された沖縄は米国による合法支配が認められた形になっ

た。日本の独立と同時に切り捨てられたとして沖縄では「屈辱の日」として記憶されており、記念式典の開催に強い反発が起こった。

しかし政府は主権回復式典を強行。「屈辱の日」沖縄大会は都内での政府式典と同時刻に開催され「沖縄の心を踏みにじるものだ」などと怒りの声が上がった。

Okinawans rally against Japanese government's April 2013 Peace Treaty celebration

Over 10,000 people gathered at Ginowan Seaside Park on April 28, 2013 to protest the Japanese government's celebration of the San Francisco Peace Treaty coming into effect back in 1952. Okinawans often see it as a "day of disgrace."

Japan recovered its sovereignty and made a comeback into international society, but on the other hand Okinawa was separated from it and put under U.S.

rule. The day is a memory that at the same time that Japan got renewed independence Okinawa was discarded. The celebration sparked strong opposition.

Despite this the government still celebrated on April 28, 2013. At the exact same time as the celebration was being held in Tokyo, Okinawans gathered and raised their voices in protest.