

It's our treasure, the world class ocean.

It's funny to make base on our treasure

Chinatsu Tanahara, 6th grade (Urasoe city)

I disagree to make "Futenma base" on Camp Schwab in Henoko. I heard 2/3 will be made on the sea and 1/3 will be on the land.

I always think why people want to make military bases on this small island. I think people in other area also dislike having one, so I don't understand why they could make another one in Okinawa.

2/3 of the base will be on the sea. I couldn't agree less because sea is treasure for we Okinawan people. And the sea has marine forest which is food of dugong.

I say "no" to make more military base on Okinawa. I think we can have a better idea, and I am willing to do anything for not making one.

Overview of the protest activity for not making new military base on Henoko

1996	APR	Japan and U.S. agreed to relocation and return of the Futenma base
	DEC	Alternative facility on "East-cost of Okinawa" was specified in SACO
1997	FEB	Nago refused the construction of offshore military heliport in a referendum
2004	APR	Protest movement had started to prevent Defense Facilities Administration Bureau Naha (DFABN) from boring exploration
	AUG	U.S. military helicopter crashed at Okinawa International University
2005	SEP	The tower of boring exploration was removed, Victory of protest movement
	OCT	Security Consultative Committee, ad report of realignment of U.S. forces determine the coastline plan
2006	MAR	35,000 people gather in public demonstration demanding a retraction of the coastline plan
2007	APR	Defense Facilities Administration Bureau Naha sent Maritime Self-Defense Force warship, 6 patrol boats of Japan Coast Guard, 32 of work and research ships for current situation survey (preliminary poll) which is against the EIA law. Protest activity against the costal plan has started.
	JUL	Protest activity against helipads construction on Takae Higashi-village
	AUG	The EIA procedure was publicized
2008	JAN	"Okinawa Dugong Case" in U.S. Department of Defense lost lawsuit
	MAR	Okinawa prefecture proclaim and sent opinions for extra amendment Sit in the public gallery campaign delayed winter research from February to December
		Okinawa Bureau of Defense Policy started a survey of environmental existing conditions
	MAY	Japan Coast Guard sent 4 rubber rafts from Camp Schwab to control protest activity, since then rafts terminate and stay resident A meeting was held on the beach of Henoko commemorating the 1500th day of the sit in protest
	JUL	The governing and opposition parties reversed in Okinawa prefectural assembly
		Okinawa prefectural assembly adopts the resolution of dropping new construction of U.S. base on Henoko, in front of the public gallery to capacity. On the same day, governor Nakaima joined the 8th Relocation Conference.

Environment research without hearing voice of the people is the research which violates the EIA law. We have been stopping and observing the illegal research everyday on the ocean.



➡ Nago referendum was the origin of the struggle of Henoko, which implied in a document of resolution of the prefectural assembly for withdrawing a new base construction plan.



ⓘ Henoko, May 18th 2007. Contractors riding fish boat and placing research devices. Speed boat of Japan Coast Guard interrupt protest's canoe.

➡ On May 18th 2007, the government sent "Bungo" a minesweeper tender of the Maritimes Self-Defense Force to back up the illegal environment research.



➡ Sit-in protest has gone on with protest activity on the ocean. It has already been 8 years, over 1500days.

V字案初の「ノー」



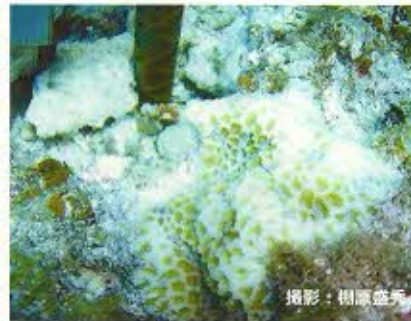
➡ Okinawa prefectural assembly adopted the resolution and statement to veto new base construction on offshore of Henoko Nago city. A document of resolution press governor Nakaima to drop a construction of new U.S. military facilities.

Our monitoring behavior revealed the illegal research destroying the environment!



撮影：牧志治

Pickets are found on dugong's marine forest. Accidental ingestion could put dugong's life in peril!



撮影：榎原盛秀

Corals were destroyed by research devices which suppose to check spawning coral!



撮影：榎原盛秀

A camera was placed to block a passage of dugong; it seems to throw dugong out of the sea.

Stop and observing protest activity and Okinawa Dugong Case reach for each other's hands!



Environment research for onshore Camp Schwab and around Henoko dam should be done, but they have ignored and already begun the construction of site renovation and army barracks. Bureau of Defense Policy Okinawa insist that they arrange the data, which is illegally collected, and make preparation document for the procedure of the report and public comment in 2009, we have to stringent check on how they write about the impact on environment.

What legacy do you want to leave to your children?

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) has released protection warning twice (Oct 2000 and Oct 2004), International Coral Reef Society has adopted Okinawa Declaration (2004), Japan Society for Impact Assessment pointed the assessment as violation of Environmental Assessment Law (2005).

Henoko and Oura bay is surrounded by both green mountains and coral ocean.

People had carried on their own history and geographic characteristics. In 1997, people in Nago city raised objections against the plan to construct a new U.S. base, a referendum met grassroots wishes and the result was "No Base". Yet in complete disregard of their wishes, the plan has been backtracking and has continued today. Until today, carrots and sticks policy of Japan has driven a wedge in to communities and caused hardships in the lives of the people.

In addition, new revelation of the base came out by "Okinawa Dugong Case" submitted in the state. Different from the Japanese government explanation, the plan of "V-shaped runway on the coastline" was actually a huge military fort even with military port.

Today, Japanese government has enforced "Environmental survey of existing conditions" on that premise of the construction in Henoko and Oura bays, since which violate the EIA law, the government is severely criticized both by citizens and authorities.

The deeply moving ocean

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Reference: Dugong Network Okinawa (Interim blog), "Report of the marine forest monitoring study on the east coast of northern part Okinawa island -July, 2007" (Nature Conservation Society of Japan), NACS-J, WWF Japan, Okinawa Reef Check and Research Group, Geography laboratory of Kokushikan University, Bulletin "Report of joint survey of Blue coral on Oura bay, Okinawa" - Henoko and Oura bay, which have rich biodiversity-July, 2008, etc.

Why do they want a base on this beautiful ocean?



新沿岸案で合意



On April 7th 2006, Japanese government urged the mayors of Nago and Ginoza to sign for the agreement of constructing V-shaped runway to avoid U.S. military planes flying over their heads.

However!



The dispatch, submitted by U.S. military for Okinawa dugong case, revealed that U.S. has insisted on flying overhead at the U.S.-Japanese consultation on the very same day.

Japanese government heard U.S. saying "We flyover" in the noon, but they misled mayors into believing "not overhead" and brought them to agreement at night. That's inexcusable!!



What is Okinawa Dugong Case?
In 2003, a case was filed in the San Francisco Federal Court, with the Okinawa Dugong as the primary plaintiff, along with Okinawan citizens and environment conservation groups of U.S. and Japan. They against defendant, Secretary of Defense and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). The presiding judge ordered defendant to submit a conservation measures according to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).



Okinawa Dugong Case revealed Japanese government told Okinawa an irresponsible lie.

キャンプ・シュワブ



図-2-2-5-1 代議館本体の形状

Japanese government kept a tight lid on information even in the EIA.

Experts say that's impossible to have EIA with the information.

On August 14th 2007, the procedure of EIA started. Yet the procedure provided by the government does not include relevant information.



The Document submitted by U.S. military in Okinawa Dugong Case stipulated the needed function of the offshore base, it says...

- ① U.S. military fly over the land
- ② Make a place to load bullets onto helicopters and fighter plane (Futenma doesn't have the facility)
- ③ 214meters long military port is required
- ④ Consider the locomotion strategy of crippled plane
- ⑤ Indicate a facility for washing aircrafts everyday
- ⑥ Environment research on Camp Schwab overland and Henoko dam should be done
- ⑦ Indicate contour of noise

Although Japanese government reflects to the U.S., they do not show anything to us until today.

Japanese government has pressured the issue;

On February 5th 2008, the government submitted additional explanatory materials for examining meeting of EIA, which says...

- For the landfill, there will be a mass collection of sea sand around Okinawa
- Make 920m guidance light on Henoko and 430m guidance light on Oura bay (depth of the sea is 30m)

Even this "addition and adjustment" will cause serious environmental influences. Japanese government avoid to go through the proper channels, and has forced through environment research without hearing opinion and comment from citizen and experts.



Don't destroy the sea! Dugongs are swimming and corals are alive!

Dugongs and sea turtles are living in Haseko coast and Oura bay
 River Oura and Tama flow in the bay. A tidal flat stretches out of the estuary. Haseko has the largest marine forest of Okinawa Island and Oura bay has a wide variety of coral habitat. On the sand area, dugong's favorite marine algae, "pods in water", create sea grass bed and huge clump of the coral "Hump coral" became oaks of marine life such as anemone fish. There is a mangrove forest in a head of Oura bay, where the northern limit of endangered species "walking goby" is. The marine area has high biodiversity especially in coral reef ecosystem. Therefore the area combined as coral reef natural ecosystem. The area is selected as "The marine area protected environmental protection" by Okinawa prefecture and "500 Important Wetlands in Japan" by environmental ministry.

"MULLUSHERA CRISTATUS"
 This species is found in coastal of Okinawa prefecture and had mangrove forest habitat of Oura bay.

"WALKING GOBY"
 This species is found in coastal of Okinawa prefecture and had mangrove forest habitat of Oura bay.

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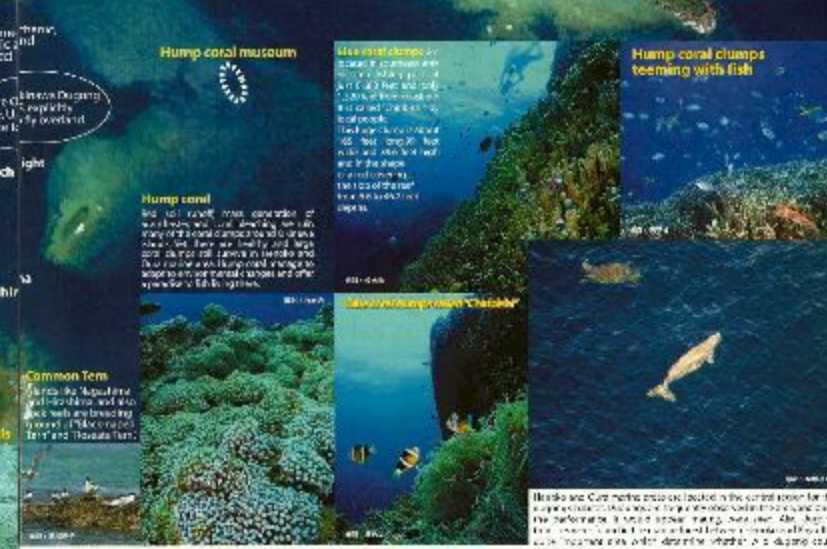
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A fisherman says...
 We have been fishing with the traditional gear since many years ago. We use the same old gear and catch many marine fishes on the Oura bay. Oura bay is rich in marine life. We have many kinds of fish, which can be used as food. We have many kinds of fish, which can be used as food. We have many kinds of fish, which can be used as food.

Arrangement plan of new base construction



Haseko and Oura bay are located in the coral reef zone for the largest marine forest of Okinawa Island. The bay has the largest marine forest of Okinawa Island. The bay has the largest marine forest of Okinawa Island.

MANGROVE FOREST



There are mangrove forest consist of "Burma mangrove" and "Red mangrove on the estuaries of Oura and Tima rivers.

WALKING GOBY



Suku tideland stretches out of the head of Oura bay. This small muddy tideland is the northern limit of "Walking goby".

"OULASTREA CRISPATE"



Rainwater and sediment flow on the brackish water region. In the harsh environment, the hard coral

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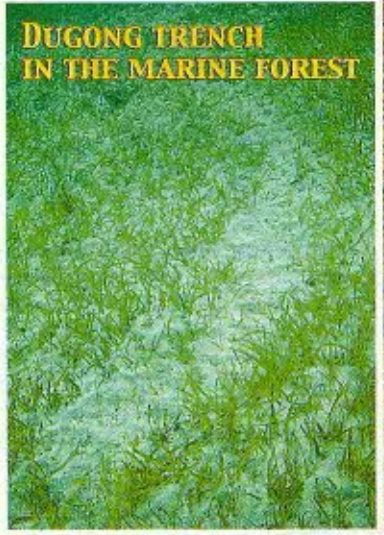


"Oulastrea crispata" live in lodgings of Strombidae, so it's called a "walking coral".



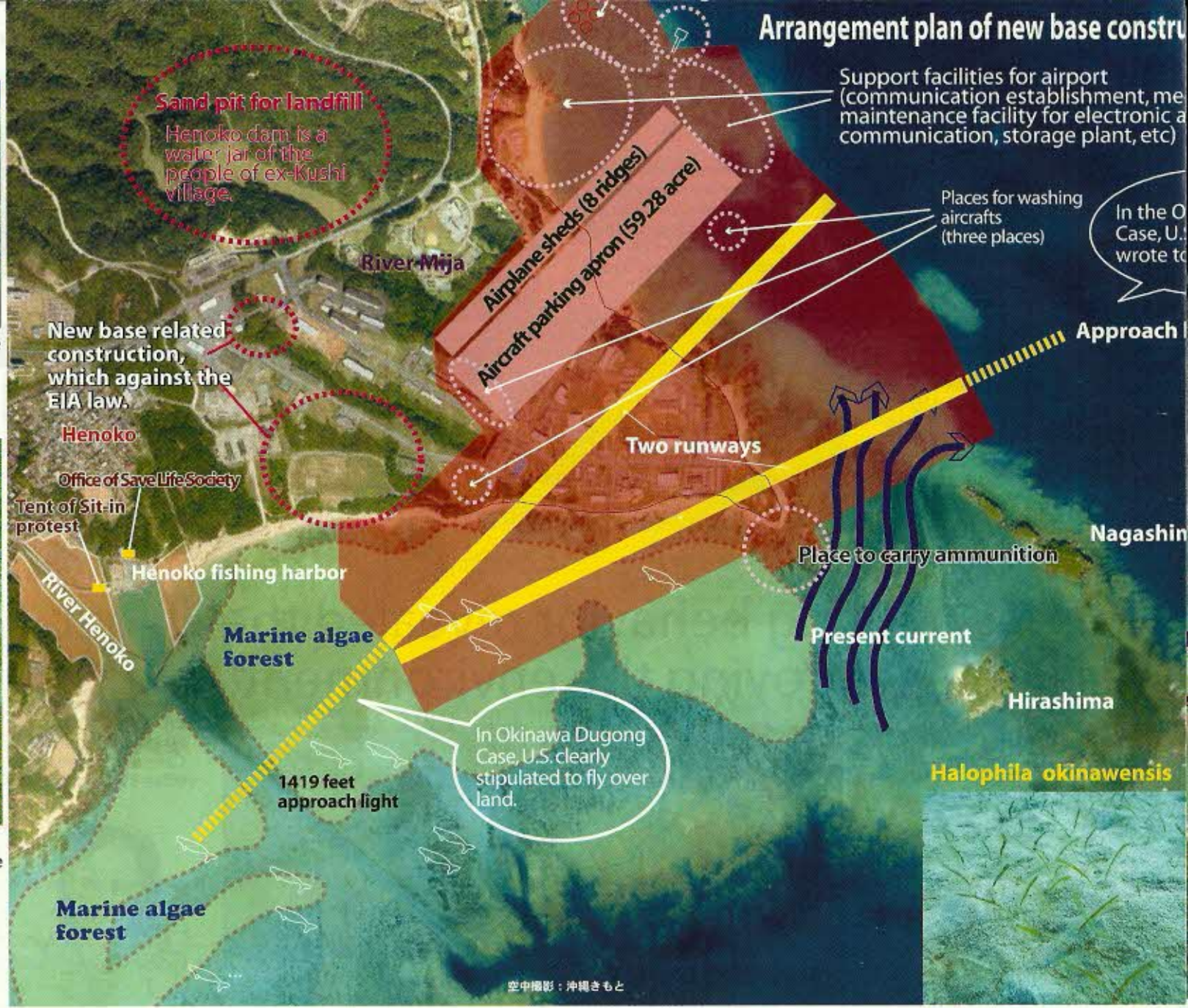
ANEMONE FISH CASTLE

All of Japanese six types of anemone fish living in Henoko and Oura bays. There is a large colony of "Amphiprion frenatus" in this area.



DUGONG TRENCH IN THE MARINE FOREST

Marine forest is essential for wild dugong. Henoko marine area has the biggest one in Okinawa. Dugong trenches, which can be seen after dugong eating marine algae, are identified in the marine forest between Henoko and Kayo.



空中撮影：沖繩きもと



Halophila okinawensis


Corals are alive!

Dugongs and sea turtles are living in Henoko coast and Oura bay

River Oura and Tima flow in the bay. A tideland stretches out of the estuary. Henoko has the biggest marine forest of Okinawa island and Oura bay has a wide variety of coral inhabit. On the sand area, dugong's favorite marine algae, "paddle weed", create sea grass bed, and huge clump of the coral "Hump coral" became oasis of marine life such as anemone fish. There is a mangrove forest in a head of Oura bay, where the northern limit of endangered species "walking goby" is. The marine area has rich biodiversity especially in coral and coral reef ecosystem, therefore the area considered as a crucial in natural conservation. The area is selected as "The marine area promoted environmental protection" by Okinawa prefecture and "500 Important Wetlands in Japan" by environment ministry.

A fisherman says...

We Oura fishermen have lived with this sea from a distant past. Even today, many of us dive and gill fish for earn our bread and butter. There are marine forests on the offshore Schwab and Oura bay which is the suitable site for egg-laying for every fish. Also it's a home of Hawaiian sea urchin, which can be traded high price in auction market. What happen if corals and marine forests are destroyed? We fishermen know it better than anyone does. The plan Japan and U.S. agreed with surely ruin our life.


Blue coral clumps called
"Chiribishi".

Cape Abu

Hump coral museum



Blue coral clumps are located in southeast area of Tima fishing port at just 6,600 feet and only 1,320 feet from coastline. It is called "Chiribishi" by local people. This huge clump is about 165 feet long, 99 feet wide and 39.6 feet high and in the shape of a rod covering the slope of the reef from 6.6 to 46.2 feet depths.

Hump coral clumps teeming with fish



攝影：西平伸

Hump coral

Red soil runoff, mass generation of acanthaster, and coral bleaching are ruin many of the coral clumps around Okinawa islands. Yet, there are healthy and large coral clumps still survive in Henoko and Oura marine area. Hump coral manage to adapt to environmental changes and offer a paradise to fish living there.

攝影：牧志治

Blue coral clumps called "Chiribishi"



攝影：牧志治

Common Tern

Islands like Nagashima and Hirashima, and also rock reefs are breeding ground of "Black-naped Tern" and "Roseate Tern."



攝影：葉城淳子



攝影：東恩納琢磨

Henoko and Oura marine areas are located in the central region for the dugong's habitat. Dugongs are frequently observed in the area, and once the performance, it would appear mating, were seen. Also dugong trenches were found in the marine forest between Henoko and Kayo. It is quite important area which determine whether wild dugong could survive or extinct.