

1.The Beginning of the Struggle

(2) 〈The Sudden Requisition of the Uchinada Dunes〉 (September, 1952)

Unexpectedly, on September 6th, 1952, the American military began to secretly observe the soon-to-be-purchased Uchinada Dunes. Several days later, word got out that the National Police Reserve (now known as the Japanese Self-Defense Forces) had begun to make moves towards confiscating part of the dunes, spurring Uchinada Village Mayor Matajiro Nakayama to head to Tokyo in order to appeal this decision. However, his efforts proved to be in vain, as on September 18th, the Japanese government informed the Uchinada Village Authorities that "the American military has expressed interest in requisitioning the dunes and using them as a weapons testing range." On September 20th, they then relayed the particulars and conditions of the impending land requisition to Ishikawa Prefecture. This news quickly spread among the citizens of Uchinada.