

## Topics

### (5) 〈Regional Differences born from the Struggle〉

Following the August of 1953, regional differences between districts in Uchinada became pronounced as a result of the Uchinada Struggle. The first residents to cease participation in the sit-ins were those from the Onebu district. In the Onebu Citizen's Meeting held on August 2nd of 1953, it was decided that Onebu would cut its ties with groups outside of the city and the prefecture, and on the 16th, they created the Aison Kindred Spirits, a group targeted towards young people. On the other hand, the last districts to cease their sit-ins were located in the north of Uchinada and included Kurotsubunejinai (now Miyasaka), Nishiaraya, and Muro.

These regional differences developed as a result of how much the citizens' lives were impacted by the weapons testing. The residents of Onebu—first to stop joining the sit-ins—were comparatively not as impacted by the testing as other regions, and instead of continuing the protests and making lives difficult for its citizens, many of its residents wanted to use the reparations to create new jobs. On the other hand, residents in the north lived closer to the ocean and depended on fishing in order to make their livelihoods, and because they were closest to the testing range, they were also most impacted by the noise of the bombardments. Therefore, they feared that their lives would continue to grow more difficult should the testing continue. Many of them rebelled until the bitter end, as they felt that they had no choice but to take back the sand dunes if they wanted to live their peaceful lifestyle once again.