



Rycom
SPECIAL SERVICES



presents

**ISLAND
TOURS**



25 Hoot

Foreword

These eight suggested tours have been prepared with an eye to condensation. All of them, however, may be further shortened at the desire of the sightseer.

The map used for road direction was the AMSL 691 (AMS 1 1950) prepared under the direction of the Engineer, FEC, by the 64th Engr Base Topographic Battalion.

The roads aside from a few main arteries are indifferent or poor, and in many places bailey bridges constructed by American troops in 1945 have not been replaced with permanent structures. This is particularly true in the southern portion of the island. Buses or heavy vehicles should avoid these roads which in many cases are narrow and almost impassable in wet weather.

A good sightseeing premise is not to enter enclosed areas unless specifically invited. The Okinawans are essentially law-abiding, peaceful people who will appreciate your observance of their privacy.

As a warning.....in wooded areas or when leaving the roads on foot beware of the deadly habu (of the pit viper family) and the maimushi snakes (similar to the American copperhead). There are four species of habu, all about five feet in length, somewhat smaller than a man's arm and having large fangs. Their favorite locales are in vines, low branches, dense underbrush or on light reddish clay loams.

Do not enter caves. There is no guarantee that they are free from mines, overlooked in the general clean-up. Do not pick up rusted or unexploded ammunition.

NOTE: Special Services operates three authorized beaches for swimming under the supervision of qualified life guards. They are Ishikawa, Yaka, and Okuma.

FAMILIAR SIGHTS

Gusuku) Castle. In all larger muras or cities it was the custom for the Mayor to
Jo) live in a gusuku and legends arose from their isolation.

Shima (Jima): Island

Ko: Body of water

Jinja: Shrine

Shinto Shrines differ from Buddhist shrines in that they have the altar or Kamidama (God-Shelf) with beads, amulets and ofuda (charms) instead of the God-Statue. Amaterasu, the sun-goddess, handles a rosary of beads, therefore rosaries are used in saying shinto prayers. The prayers are spoken with half-closed lips (so no evil can enter) in a perfunctory manner so that no undue emotion will distract the God's attention from seeing the inward condition of the worshipper's heart.

Before walking under a torii or entering a shrine, the shintoist washes his hands and mouth for purification.

O Haka: Tombs

32,000 of these family burial places were recorded in 1940. Three types occur: a. The cave; b. the house; c. the turtleback. The cave type is the oldest and is still used by poor families. The turtleback symbolizes the 10,000 years of life accredited to the tortoise, and the house structure, a more recent import, was imported from China. The interiors remain identical with doors broad enough to receive coffins which are placed near the front. The altar shelf is at the rear on which the urns containing the bones are placed. These urns are arranged according to rank, generation and kinship as each new urn is added. Behind the altar is a 3 foot deep hole into which bones are dropped when lack of space requires their removal from the urns.

Brightly colored urns indicate the head of a house, family or clan.

So much money has been expended on the construction of elaborate tombs that recently the Governor of Okinawa passed a law limiting the amount of money permitted to be spent on these structures.

Shintai: (Sacred Spot) Three stones placed in a triangular position along a roadside, on a mountain side or in a grove of trees should never be moved. They may be ashintai or sacred fetish, an "oranjo" or sacred prayer site dedicated to the Fire God.

Torii: (The Symbol of the Sun) Toriis are associated with the shinto cult, which (to the Japanese) was founded by the Sun Goddess, Amaterasu-O-Mi-Kami. The Okinawans easily adopted the torii to their use as their religion was predicated on the Sun-God, Tedo-Ko, and there was no conflict in the Okinawan's acceptance of the sun symbol.

The Torii was originally constructed as a cock-perch as the cock proverbially saluted the dawn. They were live sacrifices after they had been placed on the perch to salute the awakening of the day. After sacrifices were discontinued, the large torii became the symbol of sanctity and purity of mind and heart.

In former ages torii were placed in groups of three under which the worshipper must pass to enter the Sun God's presence. The first torii admitted the supplicant into the realm of sunshine, the second, into the direct rays of the sun and the third in the immediate presence of the God. Now, worshippers clap their hands twice, with heads bowed, but prior, they clapped them three times even as the cock crows thrice at dawn (the hands being the cock wings) to draw the attention of the Sun God to their prayers.

PICNIC SPOTS

Nakadomari Beach
Imbu
Manza Mo

Beach on #13 north, after leaving the check point

* Ishikawa Beach

* Yaka Beach

Onoyama Park

* Nakagusuku Castle

Chinengusuku Castle

China Beach (below Military Govt) on #54

Point Tarre

(* Indicates that tables are located there)

REST CENTERS (OVERNIGHT)

Okuma Rest Center - (Officer, DAC)

Yaka Rest Center - (EM, DAC)

TOUR NO. 1

OBJECTIVE: MOTOBU PENINSULA

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kue

VEHICLE: Bus, Car, Jeep or
3/4 Ton

ROADS: Good

TYPE: All Day

Take Route No. 1 north as far as Nago and follow through on No. 112 straight ahead. Continue on No. 112 to TOGUCHI where No. 124 runs directly into road at the coast line. Follow No. 124 keeping to left at the fork, pass the emergency airfield to NAKIJIN. To see HOKUZAN CASTLE, turn right at NAKIJIN. Return to point of departure of No. 124 to continue as far as junction of No. 1 and No. 124 at NAKOSHI. Turn right on No. 1 at NAKOSHI, through TAIRA and NAGO and continue down coast to KUE.

ALTERNATE: Turn left at intersection of No. 108 and No. 1, on No. 108, (approximately four miles south of NAGO). This route is over mountains leading to No. 13. Take No. 13 past the check point down the Pacific coastline to Junction of No. 24 (four corners). Turn right at Kadena Junction (No. 24) on No. 1 to KUE.

POINTS OF INTEREST

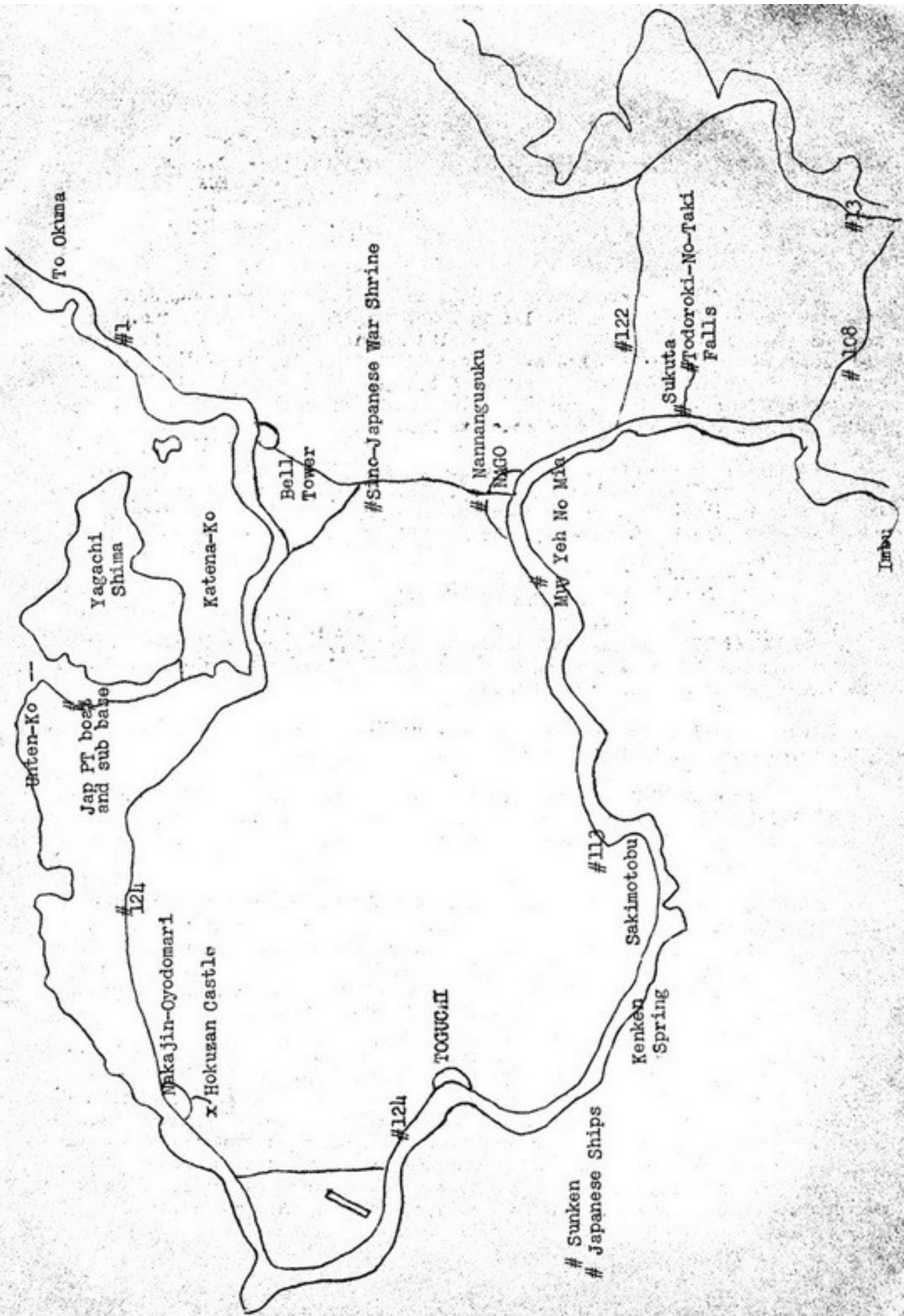
NAKADOMARI BEACH is located on No. 1, approximately one-half mile beyond the intersection of No. 1 and No. 6. This was a former rest center. It has a nice beach and is suitable for picnics.

TOKOROKI DAKI is the highest waterfall on the island. It is located below NAGO, first road south of intersection No. 1 and No. 122.

At the town of TOGUCHI it is possible to see the island of IE SHIMA where the ERNIE PYLE MEMORIAL is located. Above the MANNA GAWA (river) is located a former emergency landing air strip. Formerly, it was possible to obtain an LST to make the trip.

The UNTEN-KO (sometimes called the KATENA KO) is the strip of water between YAGACHI SHIMA (island) and the MOTOBU. This was a former Japanese submarine base. Tradition has it that a Japanese samurai, Minamoto-No-Tamotomo, landed here about the middle part of the twelfth century AD. It is a fact, however, that Japanese warriors from Satsuma landed at UNTEN-KO and invaded Okinawa in the early part of the seventeenth century, 500 years later.

MUY YEH NO MIA is located on the outskirts of NAGO just before Rev. Harlan Woodruff's Christian Church. MUY YEH NO MIA is a shrine that was originally built as a typhoon shelter in ages past. As far back as the year 1400 Okinawa was bothered with Chamber of Commerce "unusual weather" and the ruler of the NAGO area determined to plant a grove of trees to serve as protection against the high winds. Even then the Okinawans were sorely pressed for timber for building and firewood, and guards had to be placed around the area. This is one of the few shrines that can boast of trees surrounding the grounds.



To Okuma

#1

Yagachi Shima

Katena-Ko

Bell Tower

#Sinc-Japanese War Shrine

Nannangusuku

#122

Sukuta #Todoroki-No-taki Falls

108

#13

Imbu

Haten-Ko

Jap PT boat and sub base

#121

Naka Jin-Oyodomari

x Hokusan Castle

#124

TOGUCHI

#113

Sakimoto

Kenken Spring

Mw Yeh No Min

Sunken Japanese Ships

Tour No. 1

HOKUZAN-JO was also called NACHIJUN-NU-GUSUKU because of its location in NAKIJIN town. In the middle portion of the fourteenth century AD, Okinawa was divided into three provinces and governed separately. HOKUZAN-JO was the castle of the King of the Northern Province. Dense foliage covers most of the castle ruins; however, parts of the wall still stand. A sheer cliff drops to a gorge on one side. Historians place this as being erected between 700 and 1000 AD. Hokusa was the residence of Tatemono, the Japanese prince, who escaped from Japan and married an Okinawan princess. It was destroyed when the King of Southern Province at Nanzan-Jo came north and overran the Motobu, killing Tatemono. The legend goes that the Southern King sent a lovely girl spy to Tatemono's palace for the purpose of reporting garrison strength, vulnerability, etc. She fell in love with him and bore him a child. She returned south leaving the baby, but the call of mother-love caused her to run away and rejoin Tatemono before the destruction.

It will be necessary to park the vehicle below and walk approximately a mile.

Near the village of KEN KEN there is a fresh water spring arising in the ocean. According to legend, Ken was a very strong Okinawan warrior, who set upon himself the task of conquering a wild horse. As he was riding this animal, the horse stamped his rear foot, and in that spot the fresh water spring arose.

The AIRAKAUEEN LEPROSARIUM is located on the island of YAGACHI. Around 850 lepers are located in the colony. It is partly self-supporting. For further information and visits, it is suggested contact be made with the Public Health and Welfare Department of the Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands.

NOTES

TOUR NO. 2

OBJECTIVE: Point Tarre
(Northern Tip of Island)

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kus

VEHICLE: Car, jeep or 3/4 ton
for the whole distance.
It is not advisable to
take a bus all the way
to the Point.

ROADS: Good to two miles past Okuma -
narrows beyond that point.

TYPE: All Day

Take Route No. 1 north to NAGO and turn right at Police Box keeping on No. 1 through TAIRA and NAKOSHI (turn right, remaining on No. 1) and follow coast-line to tip of island. Same route on return.

ALTERNATE: Turn left onto No. 108 (approximately four miles south of NAGO) which crosses the island. Continue on No. 108 until No. 13 is reached. Continue on No. 13 to No. 24 (four corners). Turn right on No. 24 to No. 5, thence to No. 1, and return.

POINTS OF INTEREST

HIJA-BASHI BRIDGE (now a Bailey Bridge) spans the river called BISHIGAWA. This river emanates from a pond called MURU-CHEI and flows into the China Sea. There are many lovely scenic spots on the river banks. YUSHIYA, an Okinawan maiden, had been sold to become a geisha girl, and on her journey to NAHA, paused on this bridge to look at the surrounding beauty. She later wrote an ode to this bridge and became celebrated as a poetess.

Take left fork from Route No. 1 at the village of ONNA to reach MANZA-MO known as the field of ten thousand soldiers. It is well known for its scenic view. This area was immortalized in the "Ode to Welcome" written by UNNA NABII, poetess, during the latter part of the eighteenth century when the ruling king was on an inspection tour. The coastline of ONNA is rugged and distinguished by high white cliffs. There are many picnic spots to be found. The main cliff is marked with a large Torii.

Near NAKOSHI can be seen THE OLD BELL TOWER. Though its original purpose has long been forgotten, before World War II, this area was used as an assembly place, and the grounds for military training.

Before reaching NAGO, there is a village called CHUDA, where a small spring named CHUDA-NU-TIMIJI finds its source. The romantic legend surrounding this spring states that many years ago a young girl carrying water in an earthen jar on her head was stopped by a thirsty youth who begged a drink of water. She poured water into her cupped hands and permitted him to drink, whereupon they fell in love. From the water dripping from the maiden's hands this tiny spring was started. It is famous in Okinawa romantic history and poetry.

Tour No. 2

SHUYA-WAN is the bay between TSUHA and NEROMA. The small island of MIYAGI is situated approximately in the center of this beautiful bay. The bay is always calm and mirrors the reflection of the green hills and shrubbery. This was the scene of the famous Okinawan Drama (KUMIYUDUI) called HANAURI-NO-EN.

HEDO village is located at the tip of Point Tarre, and is the most northern observation point on Okinawa.

At OKUMA cut-off, (driving north) turn right, travelling through the village. It will be necessary to walk to the river bed and climb the hill to view HIJI OTAKI. This is one of the loveliest waterfalls on Okinawa, and the surrounding lake manifests tranquil beauty.

MUY YEH NO MIA - See Tour No. 1.

JAJICHI-ITABISHI, located approximately three and one half miles above Okuma, is a famous seashore in Ryukyuan classical song. JAJICHI-ITABISHI, with its lovely music and lyrics- "the foaming waves against the coral reef in the bay of JAJICHI is suggestive of white teeth of laughing girls from JAJICHI village."

NOTES

TOUR NO. 3

OBJECTIVE: Circle the Northern
Part of the Island

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kue

VEHICLE: Car - Preferably
Jeep

ROADS: Good for five miles beyond inter-
section of 108 and 13. Dwindles
to very poor past Route No. 122.
Note: No. 4

TYPE: 6 - 7 hours

Travel on Route No. 1 south to No. 130, turn left on No. 130 until No. 5 is reached. Turn left onto No. 5 to No. 24 (Koza Junction). (No. 24 merges with No. 5.) Continue on No. 24. Turn left on No. 13 (4 corners) continue past ISHIKAWA, YAKA, and Check Point at intersection of No. 108. Continue on No. 13, turning left, passing No. 122. (From this point the road is very poor.) Remain on No. 13 to intersection of No. 4 and No. 13 at East TAIRA. Turn left on No. 4, crossing the mountains to No. 1. Turn left on No. 1 and return.

POINTS OF INTEREST

OKINAWAN MUSEUM: Can be located at the intersection of Routes Nos. 6 and 13. At this point, turn right for two blocks and turn right again to Museum. This is a typical pre-war Okinawan family house of moderate means. The Museum contains many former objects and items of Okinawan culture. A stone wall encloses this area and the entrance is guarded by the Shi Shi, which is the lion that drives away the evil spirits. The serene miniature garden is also typical of pre-war Okinawan family surroundings. It was here that the original compilation of Okinawan history and information was set down by Okinawan scholars and U.S. Navy.

ISHIKAWA: This town was the first seat of the military and gunto governments at the close of hostilities of World War II. Its normal population was classed as a village, but became swollen to a town of approximately 20,000 inhabitants during the war due to the fact that many citizens of NAHA and SHURI fled here. The beach opposite ISHIKAWA contains a full complement of recreational facilities for the occupation forces.

YAKA BEACH: The U.S. had the largest prisoner-of-war camp on this site at the close of the war. This area was converted into a recreation beach by the Civilian Welfare Council of District Engineers. It was later turned over to Special Services for an enlisted men's rest center.

There are numerous tea farms in this area.

KIN-GU (Gold) Village has three special attractions; namely, the temple, the caves, and the springs (Okawa).

Tour No. 3

Take the left fork from No. 13 upon entering the village and drive approximately one block for a view of the temple. This temple was undamaged by the war, and is one of the eight main shrines here that was united with Kannon Temple (See Tour No. 8) of the Shingan Sect when Shintoism and Buddhism were joined. The central Buddhist figure and carved table are of special interest.

The caves may be seen throughout this section. According to legend, a dragon lives in these caves waiting to devour the curious ones. It is interesting to note that this Okinawan taboo is still active among its people. Extreme caution should be exercised in visiting caves. It is the home of the Habu snake, whose bite is deadly.

The natives of the northern sector of this tour will be found to be little taller than their southern brothers and are apparently freer from the ravages of diseases. Their chief occupation is logging, fishing, and basketweaving. Little or no industry was instituted here prior to the war. The Okinawa National Park, designated by the Japanese, borders the coastline in this area; however, it has never been developed by the Japanese or the Okinawans. Several natural beaches are to be found north of No. 108; one is accessible; however, the others are not immediately adjacent to the highway.

FUTAMI WATERFALL: One of the loveliest on the island and is located behind Futami on No. 13 beyond No. 122.

OKINAWAN WAR CEMETERY: Originated by Americans for Okinawans who died as a result of wounds received in fighting around Kushi.

NOTES

TOUR NO. 4

OBJECTIVE: White Beach, Bolo Point

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kue

VEHICLE: Car, Jeep,
3/4 Ton, or Bus

ROADS: Good to Fair

TYPE: Three and one-half hours

Take Route No. 1 north to Kadena Circle; turn right on No. 16 to No. 24. Turn left on No. 24 and continue to No. 10. Turn right on No. 10 for Section Base (This is first major right-hand fork by High School). Return and continue on No. 8 to White Beach. Return Junction of No. 8 and No. 10. Take No. 8 to Tengan past KAWASAKI to No. 13. Turn right on No. 13 to Junction No. 6. (Old Okinawan exhibit on side road to the right. See Tour No. 3). Turn left on No. 6, crossing mountains to NAKADOMARI and turn left on No. 1. At this point No. 1 and No. 6 merge. (At this intersection, to reach NAKADOMARI BEACH, turn right and travel approximately one-half mile). At the intersection of No. 1 and No. 6, take sharp right turn on No. 6. No. 6 runs into No. 12. Continue and keep straight for BOLO POINT on No. 12. Turn left on beach road which is unmarked. Pass BOLO airfield on No. 12. Drive down to YONTAN airfield and return to No. 6. Pass SOBE. Turn right by BISHIGATA (river). Pass Kadena circle and south down No. 1 to return.

POINTS OF INTEREST

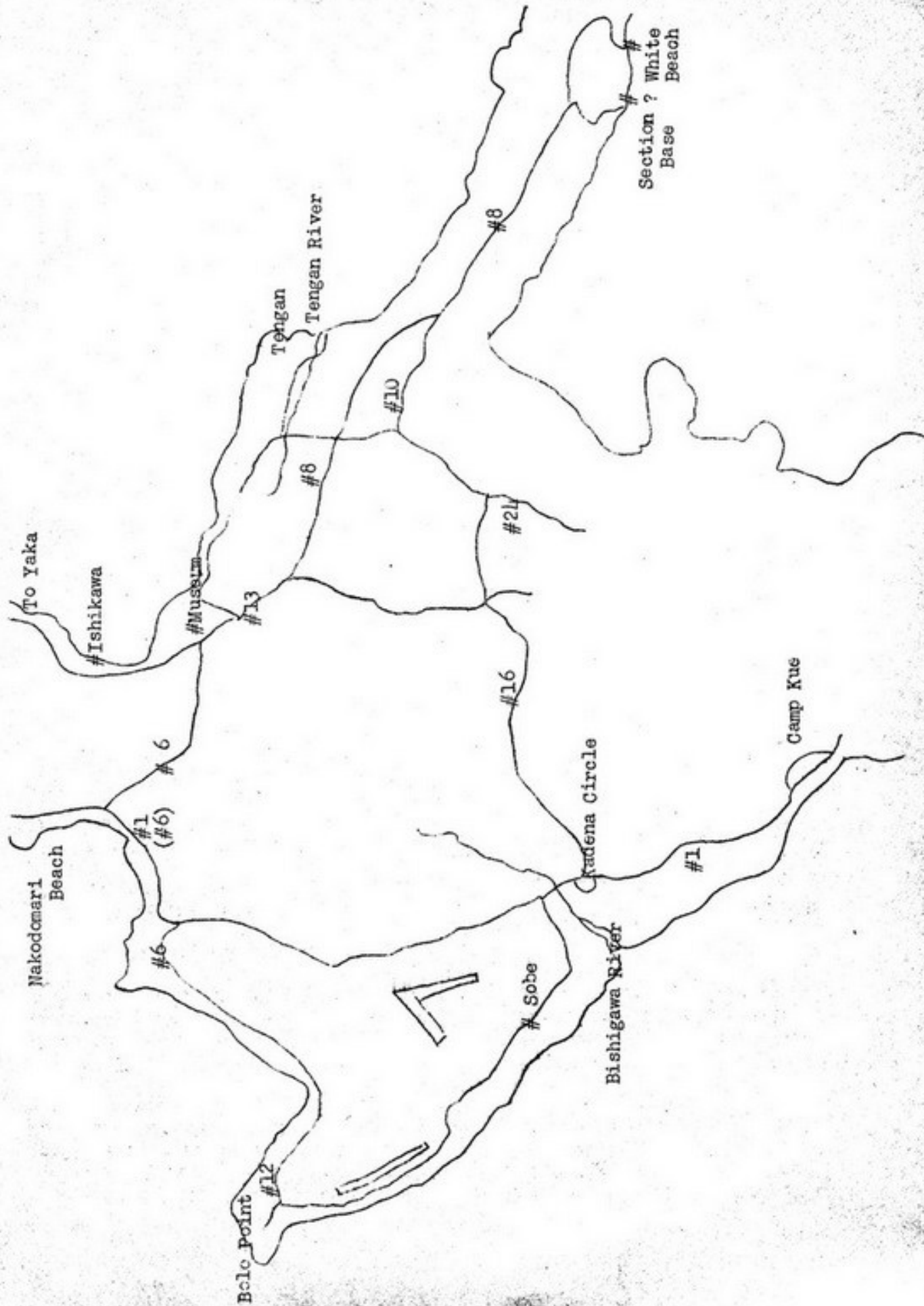
SECTION BASE: This was a former SEABEE CAMP. Located on Route No. 8. Take right turn at the High School and travel over the hill to the Base.

WHITE BEACH: This is the port for the large transport ships. In addition to viewing the twin-engined ships here, there is a small beach around the point. Two Navy clubs are operated here; an EM and Officers.

TENGAN RIVER: (For jeeps and cars only.) This area has nice picnic grounds. To reach the mouth of the river, take road at main entrance to TENGAN. Turn right at the sign of the Post Engineer. Continue on the main road past the Check Point and turn right passing through the village. Take left fork down the hill, across the bridge and turn left.

OKINAWAN MUSEUM: See Tour No. 3.

BOLO POINT and the HAGUSHI BEACHES: These areas were the initial landing beaches of the American troops on April 1, 1945. The First and Sixth Marine and the III Amphibious Corps landed north of HAGUSHI as the Second Marine Division lay in floating reserve. At the same time, the Seventh and Ninety-Sixth Infantry Divisions of the Twenty-Fourth Corps struck south of HAGUSHI as the Seventy-Seventh Division remained in floating reserve.



Tour No. 4

BOLO and YONTAN AIRFIELDS: These were Japanese operational airfields. At 11:45 AM, fourteen minutes less than three hours after the first invasion craft discharged their human cargoes, YONTAN was secured. At 12:40 PM, four hours and ten minutes after the first wave felt solid ground, KADENA Airfield was in American hands.

SOBE REEF: In warm weather and at low tide, SOBE REEF is popular with the Okinawans for fishing. (At high tide, the reef is submerged.) Fire-fishing (learned by Okinawans who visited the Hawaiian Islands) is particularly attractive. Each fisherman carries a spear and flaming torch to lure the fish.

BISHIGATA: See Tour No. 2.

BAKI RAMPS: (Route No. 5 between No. 16 and No. 20) - former suicide plane ramps similar to the Kamikaze. Planes carried a torpedo.

STIFFELL MEMORIAL PARK: Route No. 5 - dedicated to the signing of the Japanese capitulation.

TOUR NO. 5

OBJECTIVE: Nakagusuku Castle
and Chinengusuku Castle

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kue

VEHICLE: Jeep, 3/4 Ton,
Car

ROADS: Good, except to Chinengusuku -
Fair

TYPE: 5 Hours

Take Route No. 1 south to No. 130 and turn left. Continue on No. 130 to No. 5 (Sukiran Housing). Turn right on No. 5 and left on No. 30. Continue on No. 30 until No. 146 is reached. Turn right on No. 146 to NAKAGUSUKU CASTLE.

CHINENGUSUKU CASTLE: Retrace steps from Nakagusuku on No. 30 and turn right continuing on No. 30 until No. 13 is reached. Turn right on No. 13, past KUBASAKI to YONABARU intersection. Turn left on No. 44. Continue on No. 44 to foot of CHINEN Hill. Turn up No. 137 at CHINEN; continue on to last road, and turn left for CHINENGUSUKU CASTLE. Return on No. 137 down the hill to No. 64. Pass CHINA into No. 44. Continue on No. 44 until No. 13 is reached. Return on No. 13.

ALTERNATE RETURN: Turn right on No. 64 (No. 137). The island of O-SHIMA may be seen from here. It is an active fishing village. Turn right at No. 46 and continue to junction on No. 5. Take No. 5 past SHURI Village (art center). Continue on No. 5 until Nos. 5 and 34 are reached. Turn left to reach No. 1; turn right on No. 1 to return.

NAKAGUSUKU CASTLE: The castle was built approximately 500 years ago by Gosamaru, father-in-law of King Sho Taikyu. High in favor with the King, his fortunes changed when a traitor, Amawari, insinuated himself in the King's good graces and charged that Gosamaru was planning an attack on Shuri. Amawari, who desired Nakagusuku for himself as well as the downfall of Gosamaru, persuaded the King to permit him to lead an army against the castle and its owner. The hero of Nakagusuku, although forewarned by spies of the impending battle, refused to pit his army against one bearing the banner of the King. He killed his entire family, except his smallest child who was taken away by a nurse, and then committed hara-kiri. In order to warn the king of the traitor, he wrote a note explaining his actions and placed it in his cheek, before he killed himself.

When Amawari captured the undefended castle he found Gosamaru's body, beheaded it and delivered the head to the king. Sho Taikyu noticed the lump in the cheek and found the note. Amawari was pursued to his own castle (located in the White Beach area) where he put up a fight. His army was defeated and his castle razed but Amawari escaped in women's garb. During the battle, however, he had been severely wounded and his wound proved his undoing. The general who defeated his Army took up the search for the missing traitor and found him near Kadena where he killed him.

Gosamaru was then buried in his own family tomb at NAKAGUSUKU and the tomb has become an Okinawan shrine.

Tour No. 5

Some of the walls of this castle still remain, and remnants of baths and various foundations can still be seen. This is a choice picnic setting and has been beautified by the Civil Administration of the Ryukyus. At one spot, it is easy to see both the China Sea and the Pacific Ocean.

CHINENGUSUKU CASTLE: This is the oldest ruin on the island, and only fables and legends tell of its origin. The most popular story is that the king of the Southern Division of Okinawa had a very large realm to govern so he selected two men, supposedly brothers, to oversee CHINEN CASTLE in the eastern sector. One of the men disappeared from the Castle and returned later with an Army, marched against CHINENGUSUKU, and destroyed the castle. This is a nice picnic spot.

KUTAKA SHIMA: This island lies directly east of CHINEN. According to the OMORO (the Okinawan Bible) this was the seat of the creation of the world. It was here that the goddesses of wind and sea joined forces to create the earth. It is believed by the Okinawans that the first man and woman left here to populate Okinawa. Legends associate the original castle of CHINEN with KUTAKA SHIMA.

Due to the many springs and streams in the CHINEN peninsula, there is much lush growth, and the Youde, or what we commonly call the lily, grows in abundance among the hills and ravines.

CONICAL HILL: The hill lies between YONABARU and GAZA Villages. The capture of the Hill on 13 May 1945 by the 96th Infantry Division was considered to be the most important single factor in the collapse of the SHURI LINE. The capture of this Hill opened the way for an envelopment of the enemy's right flank.

NOTES

TOUR NO. 6

OBJECTIVE: Nami-No-Ue, Oneyama Park,
Suicide Cliff, Buckner Memorial,
Virgin's Cave, Minatogawa Quarries, Timigusuku

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kue

VEHICLE: Car, Jeep, 3/4 Ton,
Buses could take the
alternate route thru
Itoman

ROADS: Good to poor

TYPE: Dependent on amount of
time spent at spots of
interest. Four hour
minimum.

Take Route No. 1 south to NAHA. Cross the NAHA bridge past ONEYAMA PARK to first road. Turn left at No. 7. At intersection of No. 13 and No. 7, turn left keeping on No. 7 until No. 64 is reached. Turn right on No. 64 - which is extreme southern end of the island. Continue on No. 64 for about one and one-half miles to village of MABUNI. Turn right on the main road to SUICIDE CLIFF. A marker flag is in evidence at this spot.

RETURN: Continue on Route No. 64 past the GUSHICHAN GAWA (river) to Junction of No. 64 and No. 48. Turn right on No. 48, past the intersection of No. 13. No. 48 connects with No. 46. Continue on No. 46 to No. 44. Turn left on No. 44, and right on No. 1, to return.

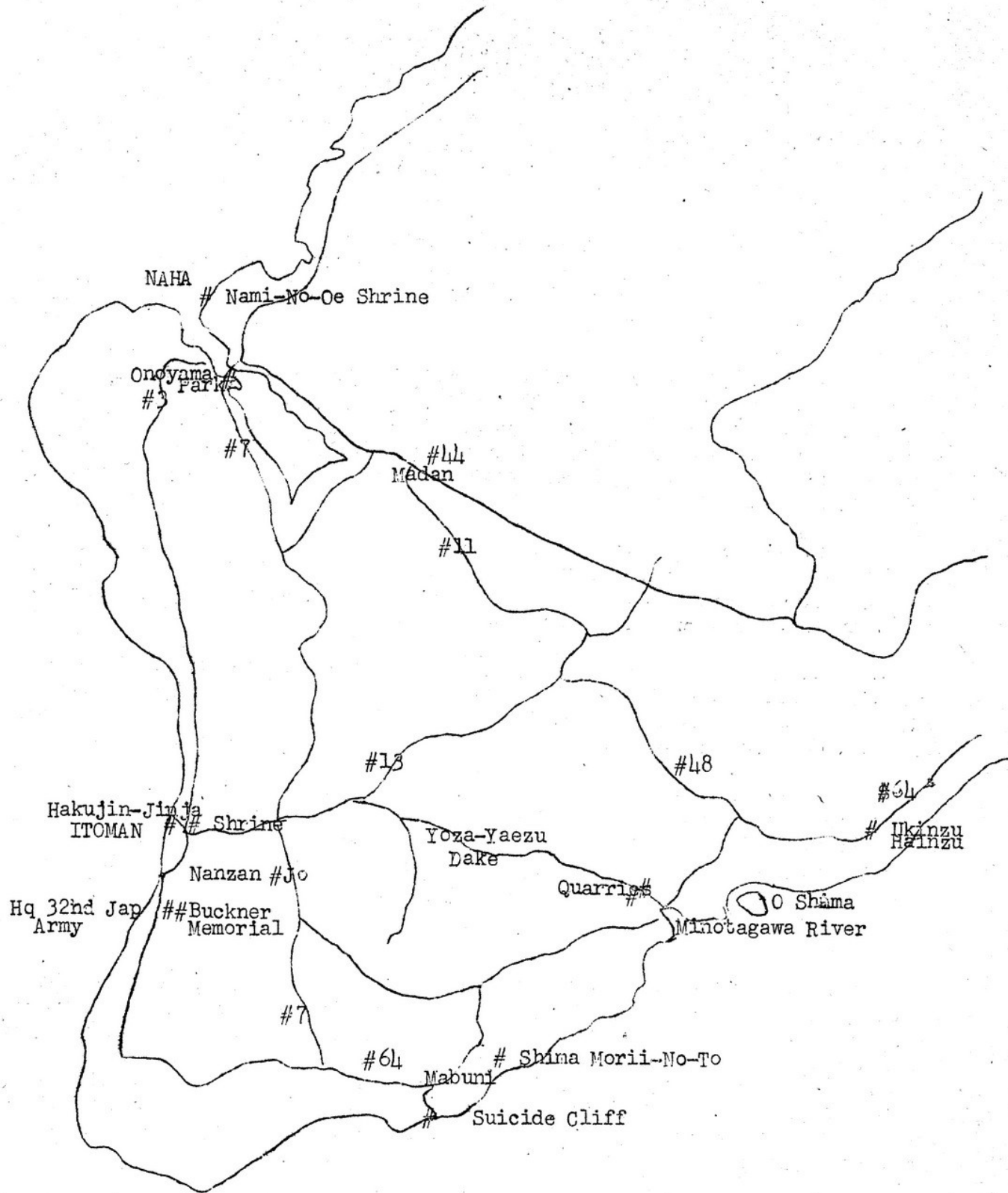
ALTERNATE: On the way to NAHA, continue up the hill to Air Depot (at NAHA on No. 1, which becomes No. 3. Take No. 3 after leaving Air Depot to Itoman Village. This road is in poor condition, but will carry busses. For the Buckner Memorial, continue on No. 3 to No. 64, and turn right on No. 64.

ALTERNATE: To avoid some of the poorer parts of the road, take No. 7 at NAHA to the intersection of No. 13 (above ITOMAN). Turn right on No. 13 to center of village (shrines are located here) and turn left on the main road which is No. 3 to see the BUCKNER MEMORIAL and then continue on No. 64.

POINTS OF INTEREST

NAMI-NO-UE (Over the Waves) SHRINE: This is one of the eight major Shinto Shrines. It is located in NAHA, across from the Civil Administration Building, designated by a large torii and one of the most famous on Okinawa. This shrine was built by King Shokimpuku in 1451 in a promise made to Amatersu, the sun goddess, to assist him in building a road from NAHA to SHURI in one week. It has been used for centuries to celebrate the arrival and departure of travelers. The sacred phosphorescent stone in the shrine was supposedly picked up in a fisherman's net from the floor of the harbor and enshrined here.

Also here was the magnificent Korean bronze bell, of exquisite tone, that was a gift from the Koreans centuries ago. Four Ishitoros stood at the stops (tall stone pillars supporting an elaborate canopy remotely resembling a Japanese house) in which were placed lighted candles during the days of celebration.



NAHA # Nami-No-Oe Shrine

Onoyama Park #3

#7

#14 Madan

#11

#13

#48

Hakujiin-Jinja Shrine #7
ITOMAN #7

Yoza-Yaezu Lake

#64 Ikinzu Hainzu

Nanzan Shrine #10

Quarries #

Hq 32nd Jap Army # Buckner Memorial

Minotagawa River

#7

#64

Shima Morii-No-To

Mabuni

Suicide Cliff

Tour No. 6

INTERNATIONAL CEMETERY: This cemetery is located in the Ryukyus Motor Command area on the Asato-Gawa, and contains graves of members of Commodore Perry's crew. Commodore Perry arrived at NAHA in 1852 on his way to enforce the "open door policy" in Japan. He wintered at NAHA and planned to make Okinawa a coaling station. Here, too, will be found graves of "foreigners," both old and new, and include a few of the children of the present occupation forces.

ONEYAMA PARK (Middle Mountain Park): This was once an island, but is now connected to the mainland. This was one of the favorite picnic and excursion spots in the Ryukyus. Island "Olympics" were also held here. Two major shrines adorn the hilltop.

YOMOCHI JINJA Shrine was built in 1937. Saion, Father of Reforestation, was the reason for this commemoration. He was also one of Okinawa's most honored statesmen; GIMA SHINJO, 1682, who introduced the techniques of sugar processing from China in 1623; and NOGUMI SOKWAN, who introduced sweet potatoes from China in 1605. GOKUKU JINJA Shrine was built in 1940 to honor the Okinawan war dead. This is a nice place for picnics.

NANZAN-JO: In the middle part of the 14th Century when Okinawa was divided into three provinces and governed separately; NANZAN-JO was the main castle of the King of the Southern Province. Ships engaged in trade with China were dispatched from this place. A school is now located on the site, located on right side of Route No. 7 one mile beyond the intersection of 7 and 13.

ITOMAN: This is the outstanding fishing village on the island. The Hariyu Sen are boat races which take place annually here around the early part of May. This community has different customs than elsewhere on the island. Here women have equal rights with men, and in former times polyandry was practiced. Also differentiation is that there are separate tombs for urns, and separate tombs for coffins, with all the families in the community using the tombs as common property. Elsewhere on the island only one family uses one tomb which holds both coffin and urn. ITOMAN is most noted for its three types of worship places - the mountains, the ocean, and the natural caves near the beaches. The "Eganjo" or prayer sites may be seen scattered in "sacred" groves, on mountain peaks, hills or dedicated spots along the roads. All are marked by three sacred stones. It is their belief that these small shrines, built to their guardian spirits, will protect their town from harm.

HAKUJIN JINJA at ITOMAN is on the right of No. 3, just entering the center of the town. This shrine is in fair condition, and was built to the goddesses of the sea and fertility. Upon entering the shrine, small white strips will be noticed on the right face of the shrine. These were placed there for the missing fishermen. It is the prayer place for the fishers missing at sea, who, if lost for a year and not present at the next Boat Races, will be declared dead and funeral services performed. Their wives are then free to marry.

On the left side of the shrine are the chukon-hi at which the young women or brides-to-be come to worship supplicating the goddess of fertility.

Tour No. 6

Another shrine near the HAKUJIN JINJA will be found by turning left at No. 13 at the intersection of ITOMAN. Turn left on the narrow road to the Police Station. Park vehicle in parking area and walk down the hill a short distance to the wide stone steps and climb up to the rounded knoll. At this shrine it is customary for women to say one prayer each at the four corners for their absent husbands, sweethearts, or members of their family asking for a safe return. Offerings of rice and cakes are made once a day.

BUCKNER MEMORIAL: Take the first road south of ITOMAN (left) and drive to its end. The large rock to the left of the Memorial is where Lt. Gen. Simon E. Buckner, Jr. was standing when he was killed in action by a shell fragment on June 18, 1945. From this site, Kunishi Ridge may be seen to the east; to the northeast is Maeju-Dake; and east to the Yoza-Dake escarpments where, between June 10th and June 13th, the remnants of the Japanese forces made their last stand.

VIRGIN'S CAVE: This Okinawan memorial is to the young Okinawan girls who were nurse's aides, or nurses, that were killed enmasse here. The facts indicate that these girls were herded together by the Japanese forces and told that the end was near - and that for their own safety they should remain in this cave. (This cave was maintained as a base hospital). When the American troops came near they sent a Neisi soldier to ask them to surrender. He received no answer, and the American troops used fire-throwers and threw hand grenades into the cave, killing all.

SUICIDE CLIFF: This is the spot that has been much publicized by our newspapers and is where many Japanese and Okinawans jumped to their death when it became evident they would have to surrender to the American troops. The cave below still contains the bleached bones of many who jumped to their death.

MINATO GAWA (Port River): Quarries are located in this area, and years of quarrying in this sector of the island have made scars on the terrain. The newest quarry may be seen from the road.

SHIMA MORII NO-TO: The double shrine half-mile from Suicide Cliff was erected to former governor of Okinawa, Satol Shimada, and Police Commissioner, Taizo Arai, who went with the Japanese army to the south to try and maintain a semblance of island government. When pressed by American troops, they committed suicide.

TOUR NO. 7

OBJECTIVE: Naha Area and Tsuboya

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kuo

VEHICLE: Car, Jeep

ROADS: Good to Fair

TYPE: Four - Five Hours

Take Route No. 1 south to NAHA to intersection of No. 40 (on the Asato Gawa). This route passes directly in front of the Engineer Depot. Turn right on No. 40 and pass the Okinawan Times Building to Main Street of Tsuboya. Drive through the town and turn right at Police Station. Cross the small stream and turn left, and continue to Route No. 1. (For ONOYAMA PARK, cross NAHA Bridge). Turn left at Fire Station and cross bridge on No. 44. To see the MADAN DACHI Bridge, turn right on No. 11 and proceed for a distance of approximately three blocks.

RETURN: Retrace to No. 44 and continue to intersection of No. 5. Turn left on No. 5. Pass SHURI and continue through the former battleground to intersection of No. 30 (at FUTEMA Shrine). Turn left on No. 30 for approximately one mile and then turn right on No. 1 for KUE.

POINTS OF INTEREST

BUZZ BOMB BOWL: This is the rice paddy area directly east of the MACHINATO Inlet, and was the scene of bitter fighting and heavy loss of American troops. It lies between KAKAZU RIDGE to the north (parallel to Camp Boone) and the URASOE MURA Escarpment to the south.

KAKAZU RIDGE is just above Camp Boone, to the left from No. 1. It was mistakenly named KAKAZU RIDGE by the Americans, and its name has been incorporated in the American battle reports. (KAKAZU village is below No. 44, southeast of NAHA.) The caves are easily seen from the highway although many of them were blown up during the war.

ITEM POCKET: This is near GUSUKUMA Village (northeast of MACHINATO Airfield). Dead Horse Gulch led directly into ITEM POCKET. The terrain is low with rolling hills. The Japanese described the action at ITEM POCKET as decisive in their loss of KAKAZU RIDGE. It was the first defensive position taken by the American Forces on Okinawa. The fighting began on 10 April and on 29 April 1945, the Japanese retreated to the south, only to be discovered and annihilated by the 27th Infantry Division.

SUGAR LOAF HILL: Here, east of NAHA and on the right flank of the SHURI LINE, the Marines fought their first major battle of the campaign. Following the capture of SUGAR LOAF HILL, they moved into the heavily mined city of NAHA. From NAHA the first Marines were able to shoot a spearhead into the town of SHURI.

SOGIN JI Shrine; Located on No. 40, approximately 200 yards from the NAHA Library, this shrine was built in 1470 to enshrine Ryukyuan kings from Shunten (1187 AD, who was the first Okinawan king) to Sho-Tai (1848). To exhibit proper reverence for the dead, it was forbidden for anyone to ride past the entrance of the Shrine, and markers were placed approximately 100 yards on either side of the gate. Those on horseback or in carriages were compelled to dismount and walk past the shrine when they approached the markers. The three arches that still remain were the commoners entrance to the temple. The main torii gate was forbidden to be used except by royalty at ceremonial functions.

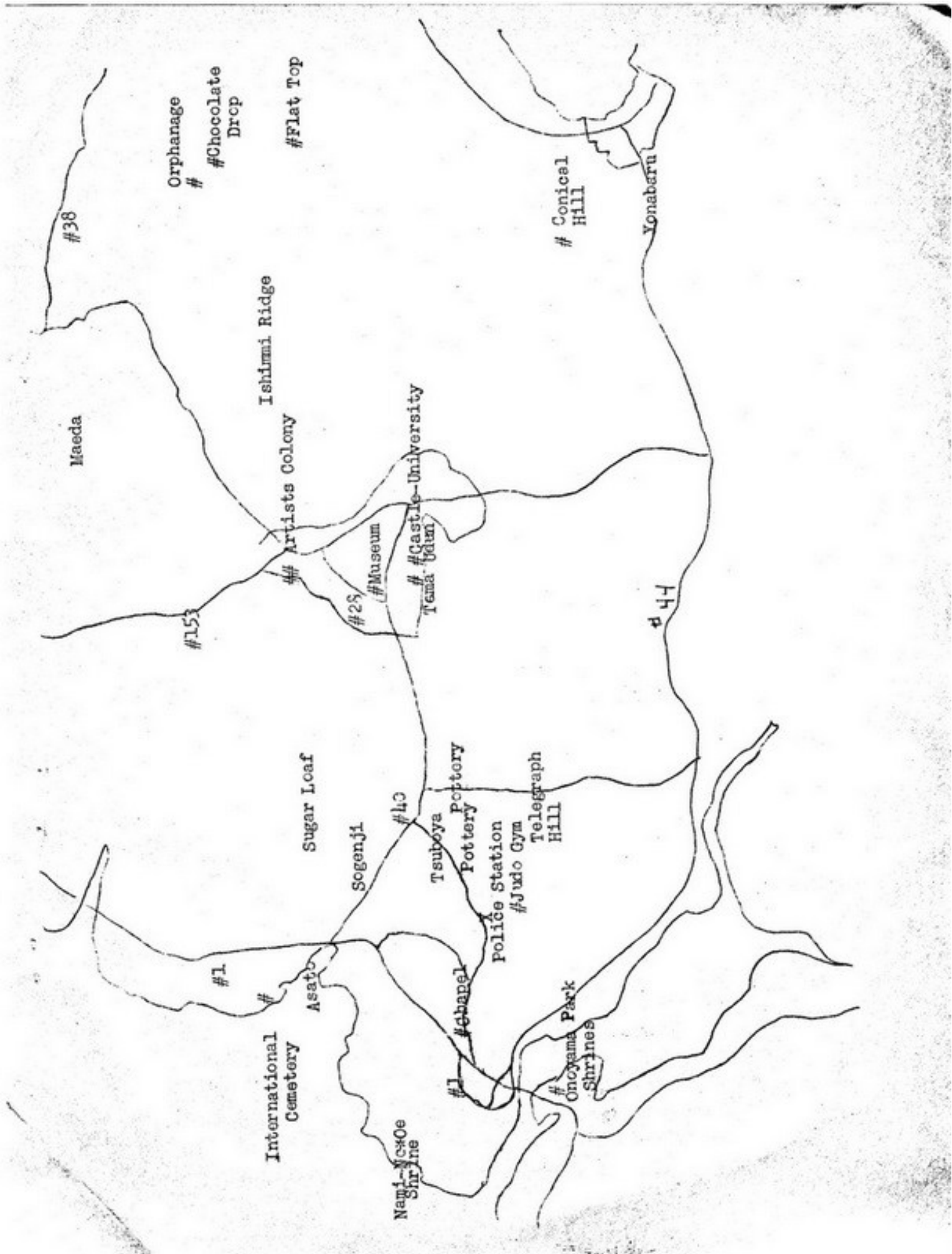
SHURI TEMPLE BELL (Buddhist) was formerly hung in the temple. This bell, cast in bronze, now hangs before the Okinawa Gunto Government building in NAHA, in back of the U-shaped Civil Administration Building. The temple was erected in 1477 by King Sho Shin (the Golden Age) and became a symbol of religious and national unity. Throughout the ages, even with the Japanese invasions, the bell stood for "Okinawa for the Okinawans". After the capture of SHURI on May 31, 1945, the Americans took the bell to the Philippines, however, this bell was returned to Okinawa due to a directive issued by General MacArthur. This bell was brought originally to the island by Chinese students as a gift to the King of that era when exchange of students between Okinawa and China began.

At the top of the bell are 108 Chin-No-Machi, which are knobs representing the 12 months, 24 atmospheres, and 72 climates. A second interpretation relates the knobs are symbolic of the 108 worldly troubles which can be overcome by Buddhism. In former years the bell was tolled by striking it 108 times, morning and evening, with a huge suspended lob, which the priests pushed in unison. Later it was tolled the 108 times to usher in the Okinawan New Year.

NAHA CHAPEL; This was formerly one of the two Christian churches on the island. The Chapel was badly damaged during the war, and was rebuilt by American soldiers. The ruined church directly up the hill was an Episcopalian edifice.

JUDO GYM; This is behind the Police Station. For two centuries the gym was the center of Judo culture. Here bouts were held among the outstanding exponents of judo of the Ryukyu Islands, and here, too, were the skilled instructors. Originally Judo consisted of vicious attacks such as stabbing, choking, slashing, bone-breaking, throwing and kicking, but this form gave way to the gentler, more stylized type of athletic sport known as Judo. Judo, or Jujitsu, is interpreted as "ju" meaning gentle and "jitsu" to give way. The system of grading indicates the rank of skill - namely, a black belt for the first five grades; a striped red and white belt from grades 6 through 9, and a red belt for all above the grade of 9.

Other sports such as Sumo (wrestling), Karate (self-defense) and Kendo (bamboo sword fencing) were also performed here. Karate is now the most popular of the sports. At present, teams are being organized with contestants being sent to Delhi, India, for competition.



Tour No. 7

Places of interest in TSUEOYA can best be visited on foot. It is suggested your making stops at the Benbo Lacquer Factory, the Ernie Pyle Theater, the Tin Market and the Tile and Pottery Factory.

YONABARU - NAHA - KADENA RAILWAY; Thirty miles of 30-inch gauge railway connected ITOMAN, YONABARU, NAHA and KADENA and KIN. Six cars (three passenger and three freight) plus a locomotive, comprised a train. Trains made seven trips daily and did a thriving business. Portions of the track and one of the cars may be seen on No. 44, east of NAHA. Okinawans are utilizing sections of the track for garden fences, and the axles for steps.

KOSHI BYO (Shrine of Confucius) is located in the area now assigned to the 21st Base Post Office (old Red Cross area). This was built in Chinese style as the headquarters of Confucianism in 1672. Elaborate festivals were held here during the spring and fall. On the adjoining land was a dynastic school called MEIRIN DO.

NOTES

TOUR NO. 8

OBJECTIVE: Futema and Shuri

STARTING LOCATION: Camp Kue

VEHICLE: Car, Jeep, 3/4 Ton,
Bus

ROADS: Good to Fair

TYPE: 4 hours. This tour can be divided into two tours, depending upon amount of time spent at various places of interest.

Take Route No. 1 south to No. 130. Turn left on No. 130 and continue to No. 5 (Sukiran football field). Turn right on No. 5. At intersection of No. 5 and No. 30, turn right on No. 30 which leads down the hill passing directly in front of the FUTEMA Shrine. Continue on No. 5 to SHURI.

RETURN: Retrace on No. 5.

ALTERNATE: Continue on No. 5 to No. 44. Turn left on No. 44 to junction of YONABARU. Turn left on No. 13 to No. 38, and left again on No. 38. This returns to No. 5. (No. 38 is in poor condition at present).

POINTS OF INTEREST

FUTEMA SHRINE is located at the junction of Route Nos. 30 and 5. It was built in 1450 for Futema Gonjin, guardian god of the seafaring men. The cave tunnels behind this shrine and has another opening overlooking SUKIRAN. Note of the festooning across the torii at the shrine entrance should be made. This is called the "Shimonawa" or sacred rope (it is frequently seen) and signifies that those passing under are protected from harm and shall enjoy abundant rice crops. The sacred rope consists of two strands of rice-straw braided and hung with the thick end to the left side of the torii. The belief is that evil spirits enter shrines and homes from the left side only. Originally rice beads hung at spaced intervals in the rope, but these were later replaced by small strips of white paper or cloth, representing god's protection of rice fields and homes.

SHURI CASTLE: The Ryukyuan University now stands on a portion of the site of the Throne Room. The castle was built in 1166, during the Shunton Dynasty, later improved by Satto Dynasty in 1350, and still further by King Sho-Shin in 1422 - who made it worthy of a King's palace. This structure burned around 1649 during the reign of King Shohitsu, and was rebuilt. The foundation was approximately 1,200 feet square, and the architecture was primarily Chinese with a Japanese portico. On either side of the entrance corridor was a reception held for the Japanese and Chinese envoys.

The gardens contained two lakes and eight miniature reproductions of the "Famous Views of Okinawa." The courtyards were enclosed by massive walls.

The first gate to the castle was named SHUREI-MO-KIEN and constructed in 1544.

OKINAWA FLOWERS

- ANGELES TRUMPETS; White flowers, resembling trumpets.
- AZALEAS; Bloom January through March. Brilliant red flowers. Can be found in northern section of the island.
- CANNAS; Bloom the year around. Warm; bright colors. Found throughout the island.
- TIGER'S CLAW; Blooms in scarlet splendor during April and May. These flowers are indigenous to Okinawa.
- EASTER LILY; Bloom during March through May throughout the island.
- WILD GARDENIA; Bloom February through May. The white flowers are smaller than the cultivated species.
- MOCK ORANGE; Used extensively as hedges. Blooms seven times a year. They are small white flowers, and their odor is more pungent at night.
- HIBISCUS; Many varieties may be found here, blooming year around. Red, pink and white are the more common colors.
- JAPANESE THORNBERG; Blooms May and June. They are clusters of small white flowers.
- MESTESTOMA CANDIDUM; Blooms during July and August. Has small white and sometimes purple flowers.
- DOWNY MYRTLE; Blooms in June and July - with purple flowering.
- SCHOMA RYUKIUENSIS; Native to the Ryukyus. Blooms during May and June. Has white flowers of four or five petals.
- SHOTY K. SCHUMAN; This is a type of ginger flower that blooms during May and June. The multiple flowers are cup-like with a yellow-red center and pinkish white outer coloring. The plant is like the regular ginger flower.
- TANGERINES; Bloom in February. These fruits are edible during August through October.

Prior to the War, the nursery at Futema contained practically all varieties of flowers and trees grown in temperate climates. The majority of flora and fauna found in other temperate zones may be easily cultivated on this island.

OKINAWA TREES

BANYAN: The tree of a thousand roots.

BISCHOFIA JAVANICUM: An impressive tall hardwood with attractive foliage. These trees, or their remains, appear petrified and may be seen around Shuri. The four-inch long leaves are usually crinkled. The limbs seem to come out of knots, and the whole tree appears to have knots on its surface.

CHINESE BLACK PINE: This tree has the hardest and most beautiful wood on Okinawa, and is always used in the alcoves of the upper-class homes.

CYCAD: Grows bountifully throughout the island. The long pinnate leaves end in a sharp point. The Okinawans eat both tree and seed, and claim it makes fine Sake.

ELLIPTICAS: Grows to about 30 to 40 feet in height, and has small leaves, sprouting in bunches. It is one of the rare trees that changes the color of its leaves during autumn. One can be seen at Futema.

MULBERRY: These bushes have been planted extensively to support "backyard" silk-worms.

PANDANUS: This is a seacoast plant that grows an edible fruit, similar to pineapple in flavor. The thorns and long leaves are used to make handbags and mats.

RYUKYU PINE: This is the picturesque pine that seems to grow everywhere. It is beautiful and finely shaped. Also makes good firewood.

AUSTRALIAN PINE: This has been imported and is similar to the RYUKYU PINE.

NOTES ABOUT THE 1952 RYCOM SPECIAL SERVICES ISLAND TOURS BOOKLET

THE COVER WAS DIGITALLY RESTORED TO WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE IN 1952

EACH PAGE, EXCEPT THE COVER WAS SCANNED IN BLACK AND WHITE TO REMOVE THE DARK BROWN COLOR OF THE PAPER.

THE FORWARD SAYS THERE ARE 8 TOURS IN THE BOOK BUT IT APPEARS THAT PART OF TOUR 8 IS MISSING.

PAGES 24, 25, AND 26 ARE MISSING. IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THERE WERE ANY PAGES AFTER PAGE 28.

PAGE 3 AND 5 ARE ON THE SAME PAPER SO IT APPEARS THEY MIS-NUMBERED THE PAGES AND PAGE 4 DOES NOT EXIST

THERE ARE ALSO ISSUES WITH THE NUMBERING OF PAGES INVOLVING MAPS AND THE NEXT PAGE AFTER THE MAP.