

FY2015 Cabinet Secretariat Commissioned Research Project

Commissioned Research Report on the Senkaku Islands-related Documents

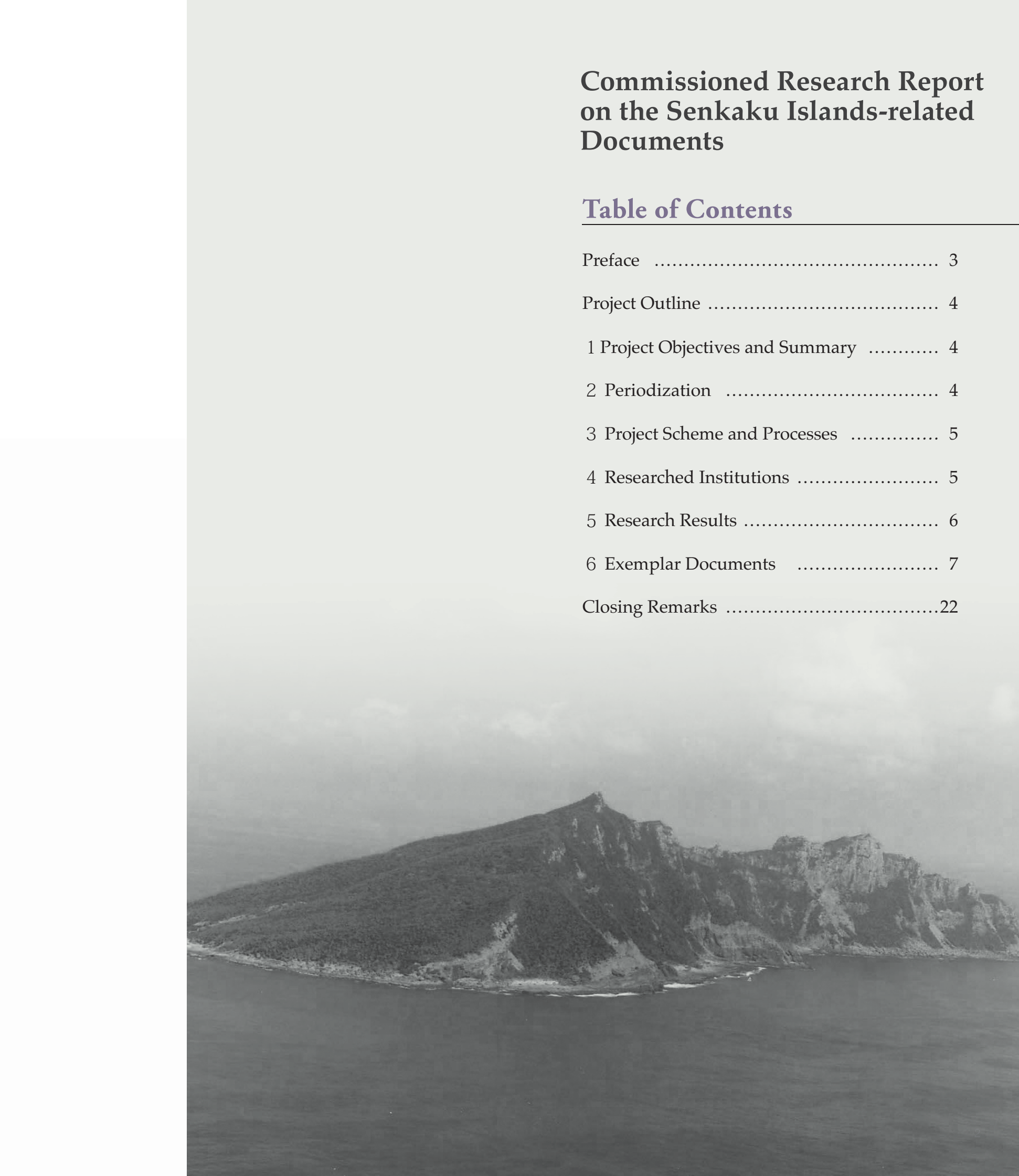


March 2016
Okinawa Peace Assistance Center

Commissioned Research Report on the Senkaku Islands-related Documents

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Preface

The people of the Ryukyus paved the way for active travel across the great ocean (the East China Sea), the waters connecting both ends of the Chinese continent and the islands of Ryukyu, for approximately 500 years of the Ryukyu Kingdom. What they called the sea, unfortunately, never appears in the existing records. Departing Naha, and going through the seas near the Kerama islands or Kume Island, the long voyage to Fujian which lies far across the sea was countlessly repeated; the sea familiar to the people may not have needed a given name, it just existed right there.

The most frequent travelers of the sea were definitely, the people of Ryukyu. Midway through their sailing, “the Senkaku Islands” were lying there, uninhabited and offered no accessible places for ports. The Islands were not ports of call for the sea routes between Ryukyu and Fujian, but guiding posts lying across sea routes.

On those habited islands, the Ryukyu Kingdom established an administrative system called the Magiri or Shima System. In Ancient Ryukyu, the system covered the areas encompassing the islands of Amami Oshima in the north, Hateruma in the south, Okinawa in the east, and Yonaguni in the west; the uninhabited islands of the Daito Islands and the Senkaku Islands were not included. The Kingdom System, centralized in Shuri Castle, ruled these inhabited islands via sea traffic.

Though uninhabited and not placed under the administrative domain, “the Senkaku Islands” played important roles for the people of Ryukyu. They were an indispensable part of geographical knowledge for their safe and regular travel on the sea route between Ryukyu and Fujian. In order to determine which path to take, people must have steered the ship carefully, following those islands.

Undoubtedly, in premodern times, “the Senkaku Islands” did not belong to Ryukyu, or anyone else. No one had reasons or motives to possess the islands. For those who sailed the sea, the islands played the role of guiding posts, and existed just as *terra nullius* (Nobody’s land).

In modern times, who has been involved in “the Senkaku Islands,” and in what way? In a bid to shed light on the truth of history through careful investigations on the warps and woofs, along with a collection of vast documents for substantiation, this report was realized. In other words, this is an attempt for empirical verifications on the realities of the Senkaku Islands in modern and contemporary history.

It is strongly hoped that this report will provide a basis for the fact-oriented history discussions.

Kurayoshi Takara,
Chair of the Research Committee for Research on
the Senkaku Islands-related Documents
March 2016

Project Outline

1. Project Objectives and Summary

In FY 2015, the Okinawa Peace Assistance Center (OPAC) conducted a research project on the Senkaku Islands-related documents, commissioned by the Cabinet Secretariat Office of Policy Planning and Coordination on Territory and Sovereignty.

With the purpose of contributing to further study and deepen understandings on the subject, this project aims to make a reference list and to compile digitized images of the Senkaku Islands-related documents and materials archived in Japan. The time frame of the research is primarily focused on the times before the territorial incorporation of the Senkaku Islands in 1885 and to the reversion of Okinawa in 1972.

In the project, a Research Team was organized locally, and the team conducted the research, collection, confirmation, and digitalization of the documents and materials. In addition, a Research Committee consisting of experts in the relevant fields was established to provide guidance and counsel to the Research Team.

Given that the project was carried out in a limited one year period, its research results should not be regarded as necessarily comprehensive. Under the Research Committee’s guidance, the Research Team collected and selected the documents, and compiled this report; therefore the contents of the report and compilation of the documents represent the views of the Research Team, not those of the Government.

2. Periodization

Considering the characteristics of each era as well as the research efficiency in the limited duration of the project, the Research Team reviewed and compiled the Senkaku Islands-related documents in accordance with the following four chronological frameworks:

- 1. Period prior to the territorial incorporation of the Senkaku Islands in 1895
- 2. The time of the territorial incorporation in 1895
- 3. Period between the territorial incorporation and the end of WWII (1895-1945)
- 4. Period from the end of WWII, on and after the reversion of Okinawa (after 1945)

Based on the timeline below, “the Chronological Developments relating to the Senkaku Islands,” the research first focused on particular years that saw significant events, and expanded its scope accordingly.

Chronological Developments relating to the Senkaku Islands

1879	• Establishment of Okinawa Prefecture (27 March 1879)
1879 -1895	• A petition submitted by Okinawa Prefecture for conducting on-site surveys on the Senkaku Islands and placing the Islands under its jurisdiction (1885) • Seeking instructions on placing the Islands under its jurisdiction by Okinawa Prefecture (1890) • Renewed petition by Okinawa Prefecture for placing the islands under its jurisdiction (1893)
1895 -1945	• Cabinet decision made by the Meiji government of Japan to incorporate the Senkaku Islands into the territory of Japan (14 January 1895) • An application submitted by Tatsushiro Koga for development of the Islands (1895) • Okinawa Prefecture’s approval of Koga’s application for the development of the Islands (1896) • Rescuing a drifting ship of the Republic of China (ROC) on the Islands and letters of appreciation sent by ROC for the rescue efforts (1919, 1920) • Disposition of the Islands by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (1932)
1945 -1972	• The U.S. military government rule began in Okinawa (1945) • Okinawa was placed under the U.S. rule after the San Francisco Peace Treaty came into force (1952) • The U.N. announced a possibility of the existence of oil deposits in the seabed surrounding the Senkaku Islands (1969)
1972	• Reversion of Okinawa (15 May 1972)

Project Outline

3. Project Scheme and Processes

The project established a Research Committee consisting of experts from various fields in Japan such as international law, international politics, and local history. In consultation with the Research Committee, the Research Team led by the chief researcher, Makomo Kuniyoshi, studied and compiled the documents and materials.

Project Scheme

Research	Yuji Uesugi	Professor, Faculty of International Research and Education, Waseda University (Peace building and conflict resolution)
Committee	Fujio Ueda	Professor Emeritus, Okinawa University (Fishery economics, fishery history of Okinawa)
Members	Kurayoshi Takara	Professor Emeritus, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawan history)
	Jun Tsuruta	Associate Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (International Law)
	Fusaaki Maehira	Professor, Faculty of Education, University of the Ryukyus (History of transportation and trades in modern East Asia)
	Chisako Masuo	Associate Professor, Graduate School of Social and Cultural Studies, Kyushu University (Chinese foreign policy, International relation in East Asia)
	Yasuhiro Matsuda	Professor, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo (International Politics, Japan-China and Japan-Taiwan relations)
Research Team	Makomo Kuniyoshi	Chief Researcher
Secretariat	Okinawa Peace Assistance Center (OPAC)	

Project Processes

July-September 2015	Preliminary research was conducted through on-line catalogue databases of relevant institutions and other websites. Research plan and compilation methods were determined. The 1st meeting of the Research Committee was held on 8 July.
October	The 2nd meeting of the Research Committee was held on 19 October. The progress report on the preliminary research was made, and the holding status of relevant documents and materials in Tokyo and Kyushu areas were confirmed. Exemplar documents were presented, and the style of cataloging of documents was verified. Further research and challenges were consulted. Document research was conducted in Ishigaki-city at the end of October.
November-December	Research was conducted in Kyushu and Tokyo based on the discussions at the previous meeting of the Research Committee. Digitized images of the researched documents were compiled and catalogued.
January	The 3rd meeting of the Research Committee was held on 28 January. Research was conducted for Senkaku-related documents and materials in the historical record database of the Japan Center for Asian Historical Records, National Archives of Japan. Digitized images of documents were compiled and catalogued.
February-March	The Final Report and document catalogues were prepared in Japanese and English.

4. Researched Institutions

The scope of the previous research project (FY 2014) was limited within the Okinawa Prefecture. However, Okinawa had lost most of its historical records during the last War, thereby making it difficult to compile a complete chronology of Senkaku-related events based only on the documents and materials existing in Okinawa. Thus, the project for this

year expanded its geographical scope of research to other areas in Japan, with the expectation of revealing a bigger picture of the Senkaku Islands-related documents and materials.

While continuing the research in Okinawa Prefecture, the project studied the holdings of institutions mainly in the Kyushu area and Tokyo. Among the findings, the Senkaku Islands-related documents and materials were selected and compiled.

5. Research Results

- Approximately 300 Senkaku-related documents and materials existing in Japan were located and confirmed.
- Main documents included the following contents:
 - That the Japanese were engaged in economic activities such as fisheries in the Senkaku Islands prior to the territorial incorporation of the Islands, and that Japan conducted field surveys on the Senkaku Islands before making a decision on the territorial incorporation (see Exemplar Documents 1-1~1-8).
 - That there were the aforementioned Japanese economic activities and the Japanese government’s approval of these activities behind the government’s decision on the territorial incorporation of the Islands (see Exemplar Documents 2-1~2-2).
 - That Japan had effective control of the Islands during the period between the territorial incorporation and the end of the War, such as the Imperial Ordinance that specified the areas covered by domestic laws and regulations (see Exemplar Documents 3-1~3-4).
- Documents and materials, issued between the end of the war and the reversion of Okinawa, those of which include maps that show how the Senkaku Islands were recognized, and those that indicate the Government of the Ryukyu Islands (GRI) was exercising the administrative rights over the Senkaku Islands (see Exemplar Documents 4-1~4-5)
- Documents and materials were categorized into three parts: official documents, news articles, and others. The following is a brief outline of each category;

a. Official documents

Many official records including administrative documents are archived in the National Archives of Japan and the Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Documents that reveal the circumstances leading to the territorial incorporation of the Senkaku Islands, issued by the Okinawa Prefecture and the Meiji Government of Japan, were confirmed in the “Installation of National Ground Markers in Kumeakajima, Kuba Island, Uotsuri Island, October 1885,” in the Miscellaneous Issues on the territory of the Japanese Empire, archived in the National Archives of Japan and the Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Together with those from the previous project of FY 2014, the documents presented in this project would help reveal, in more detail, the circumstances leading to the territorial incorporation at that time.

Historical records with regard to the events after the territorial incorporation in 1895 were also confirmed, such as Imperial Ordinances and the diplomatic documents referring to the shipwrecked Chinese fishermen from the Republic of China, which relates to the Letter of Appreciation archived in the Yaeyama Museum (researched in the FY 2014 project). Those documents indicate that the Government of Japan was exercising its administrative rights peacefully and effectively over the Islands.

b. News articles

The FY 2014 project confirmed articles from local newspapers in Okinawa that referred to the Senkaku Islands, but they were limited to the ones issued after the territorial incorporation of the Islands. However, this project confirmed the newspaper articles from other areas of Japan which prove that Japanese citizens from Kumamoto Prefecture had been engaged in private sector activities in the Senkaku Islands prior to 1895. As these articles support and follow up the description in Nanto Tanken [Exploration of the Southern Islands], complementing the research results of the previous project, they would unveil further details about Japanese activities in the Senkaku Islands prior to the territorial incorporation.

c. Others

Approximately 100 other documents and materials were confirmed. Most of these are illustrated historical maps and fisheries related documents such as research reports by fisheries experimental stations. Regarding the maps, there is a room for further research on the classification and the characteristics of the periods when they were created. In particular, the Ryukyu Shina Kairozu [navigational map between Ryukyu and China] in the possession of Toyo Bunko, as confirmed in this project, is extremely similar to the Tobin Koukaizu [navigational map between Naha and Fuzhou] in the possession of Okinawa Prefectural Museum (researched in FY 2014), and there is a need for further research on the possible existence of other similar maps.

6. Exemplar Documents

Some exemplar documents categorized by the four periods are shown below.

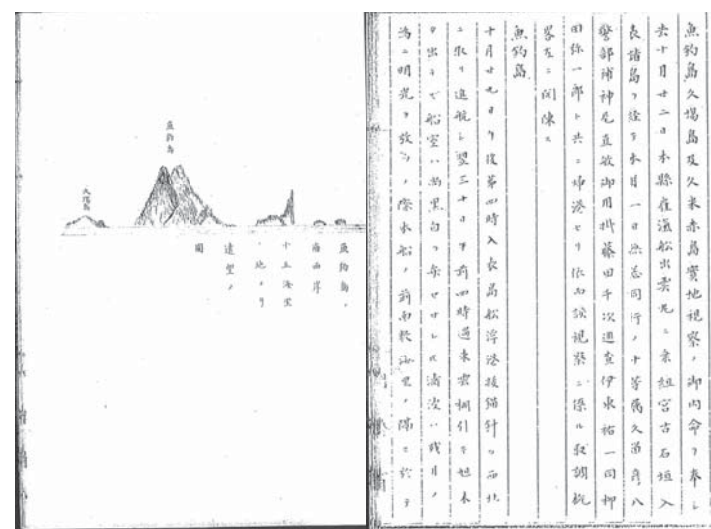
1. Prior to 1895 (Trends of Perception on the Senkaku Islands Prior to the Territorial Incorporation)

「1-1」 "[A Copy] A Report on Taking a Ship to Uotsuri, Kuba and Kumeakajima." by Tsurumatsu Hayashi (Captain of the Izumo-Maru) (2 November 1885) (Possession of National Archives of Japan)

A copy of "A Report on taking a Ship to the Senkaku Islands," a mission report by Tsurumatsu Hayashi, captain of the steam-liner Izumo-Maru owned by Japan Mail Steamship Company and leased to Okinawa Prefecture. It is a report of an on-site survey conducted by Okinawa Prefecture, ten years prior to the incorporation of the Senkaku Islands into Japan's territory in 1895, in which it points to the fact that the Islands had often been observed by foreign ships, and been stated in detail in their sailing-directions. While an introduction on the descriptions of the Senkaku Islands appeared in those directions, the report also records the captain's own finding facts through the on-site survey. Written on lined paper of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

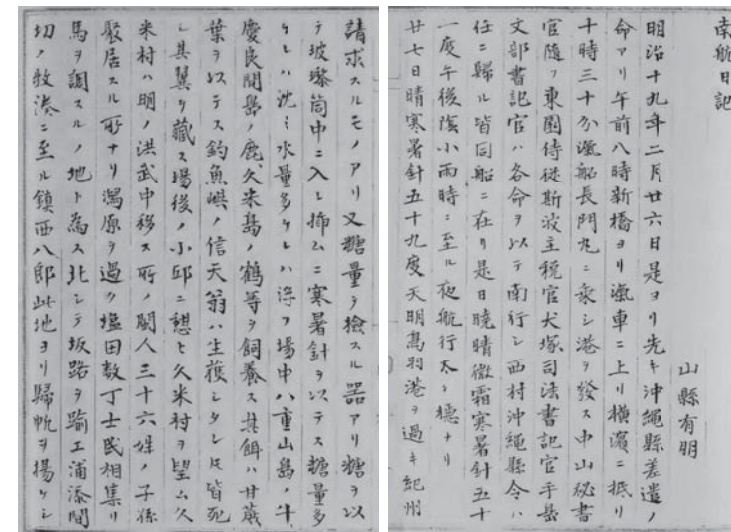


「1-2」 "[A Copy] An Outline of Inspection Tours to Uotsuri Island and Two Other Islands." by Hyogo Ishizawa (5th duty position of Okinawa prefecture) (4 November 1885) (Possession of National Archives of Japan)



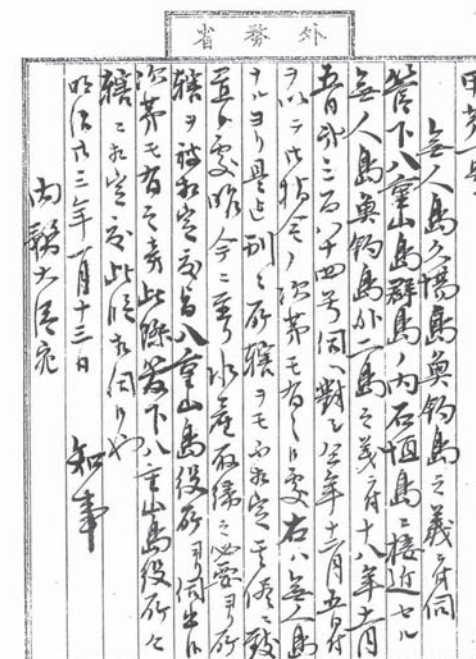
A copy of a mission report of an on-site survey on the Senkaku Islands by Hyogo Ishizawa, an appointee for 5th duty position of Okinawa Prefecture (prefectural officer), regarding a survey conducted by Okinawa Prefecture on the Senkaku Islands in 1885. A study group of six including Ishizawa, landed on Uotsuri Island and made investigations into the topography and feasibility of development (the flora and fauna of the Islands), where they specifically focused and described in detail the geological characteristics and the conditions of albatross rookery. The study group brought several rock samples and dozens of albatrosses (together with some several hundreds of their eggs) back to Okinawa Prefectural Office. The report also adds that a distant view of Kuba Island came into sight on board, after a while they departed from Uotsuri Island, but could not confirm sighting of Taisho Island (Kumeakajima) due to darkness. Written on lined paper of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

「1-3」 "Diary of Sailing South," Aritomo Yamagata, Minister of Home Affairs. (May 1886) (Possession of National Archives of Japan)



This is the diary of Aritomo Yamagata, the Secretary (Minister) of Home Affairs on his inspection tours to Okinawa Islands, Goto-retto, and Tsushima. Under the directive order of the inspection of Okinawa Prefecture, Yamagata departed Shinbashi on 26 February 1886. Returning to Tokyo on 31 March after concluding inspections at various places, he submitted a report for circulation to the Cabinet. Written on lined paper of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

「1-4」 'Ko No.1: Inquiry on the Uninhabited Islands of Kuba Island and Uotsuri Island,' by Kanji Maruoka, Governor of Okinawa Prefecture (13 January 1890) included in "Installation of National Ground Markers in Kumeakajima, Kuba Island, and on Uotsuri Island, October 1885," carried in *Miscellaneous Issues regarding the territory of the Japanese Empire*. (Possession of Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)

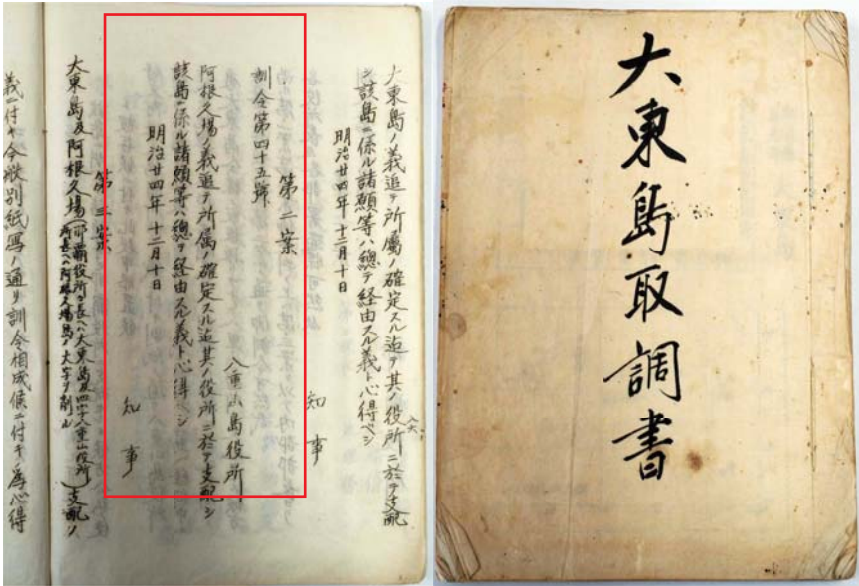


A copy of a letter of inquiry submitted to the Minister of Home Affairs from the governor of Okinawa: the procedure was taken five years later when Okinawa Prefecture conducted the on-site survey on the Senkaku Islands in 1885. The inquiry letter reads as follows: up until now, the jurisdiction over the Senkaku Islands has not been established as they were not inhabited, but a request from Yaeyama Island city office (Ishigaki city) calls for its jurisdiction over the Senkaku Islands to exercise fishery control over emerging fishers there. Taking the expressed concerns into consideration, Okinawa Prefecture would like to submit its letter requesting that the prefecture put the Senkaku Islands under the jurisdiction of Yaeyama Islands. An appendix to the written statement of the governor of Okinawa Prefecture for installation of national ground markers (Ko, No.111). Written on lined paper of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

6. Exemplar Documents

Some exemplar documents categorized by the four periods are shown below.

「1-5」 “On the Control of Daito Islands,” contained in *Inspection Report on Daito Islands*, edited by Okinawa Prefecture (1903)
(Possession of Naha City Museum of History)



A copy of a prefectural document (a draft of order) titled, “On the Control of Daito Islands” prepared by Okinawa Prefecture in December 1891. The drafted order states: It is so understood that the Daito Islands and the Senkaku Islands (Agonkubajima) are under the jurisdiction of the Public Offices of Naha and Yaeyama Islands, respectively.

The appendices to the *Inspection Report on Daito Islands* contain various official documents such as survey reports on Daito Islands.

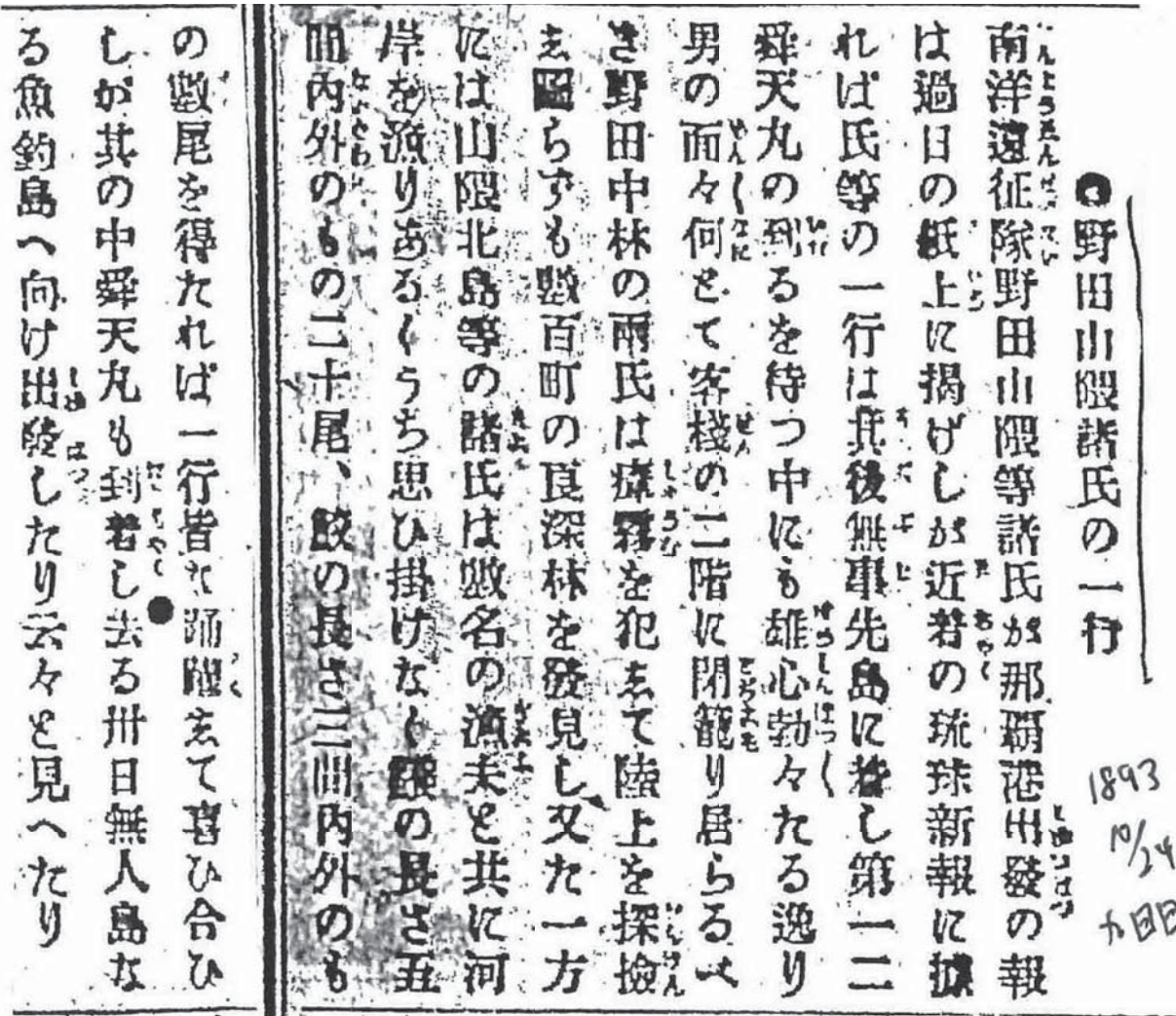
「1-6」 “Castaways Return from Qing,” *Kyushu Nichinichi Shimbun*
(20 September 1893)(Possession of National Diet Library)



An article from the Kyushu Nichinichi Shimbun, a local newspaper of Kumamoto Prefecture, reporting on Yakita Izawa from the prefecture who had been lost at sea and ended up in Qing on his way to the Senkaku Gunto (Islands), Yaeyama Island (Ishigaki City) of Ryukyu (Okinawa Prefecture) to work as a migrant worker, but later returned safely.

Izawa together with Ryouyuke Mitsuishi, Gansuke Ari-kawa, boatmen from Kagoshima, left Ishigaki for the Senkaku Islands, but they encountered a storm and were adrift at sea ending up in Qing (China). Later, they were repatriated to the port of Nagasaki, under the care of Qing local officials. Following the report, the newspaper ran a 5-part series of interviews with Izawa titled “Lost at Sea.”

「1-7」 “Noda, Yamakuma and Their Party,”
Kyushu Nichinichi Shimbun
(24 October 1893)(Possession of National Diet Library)

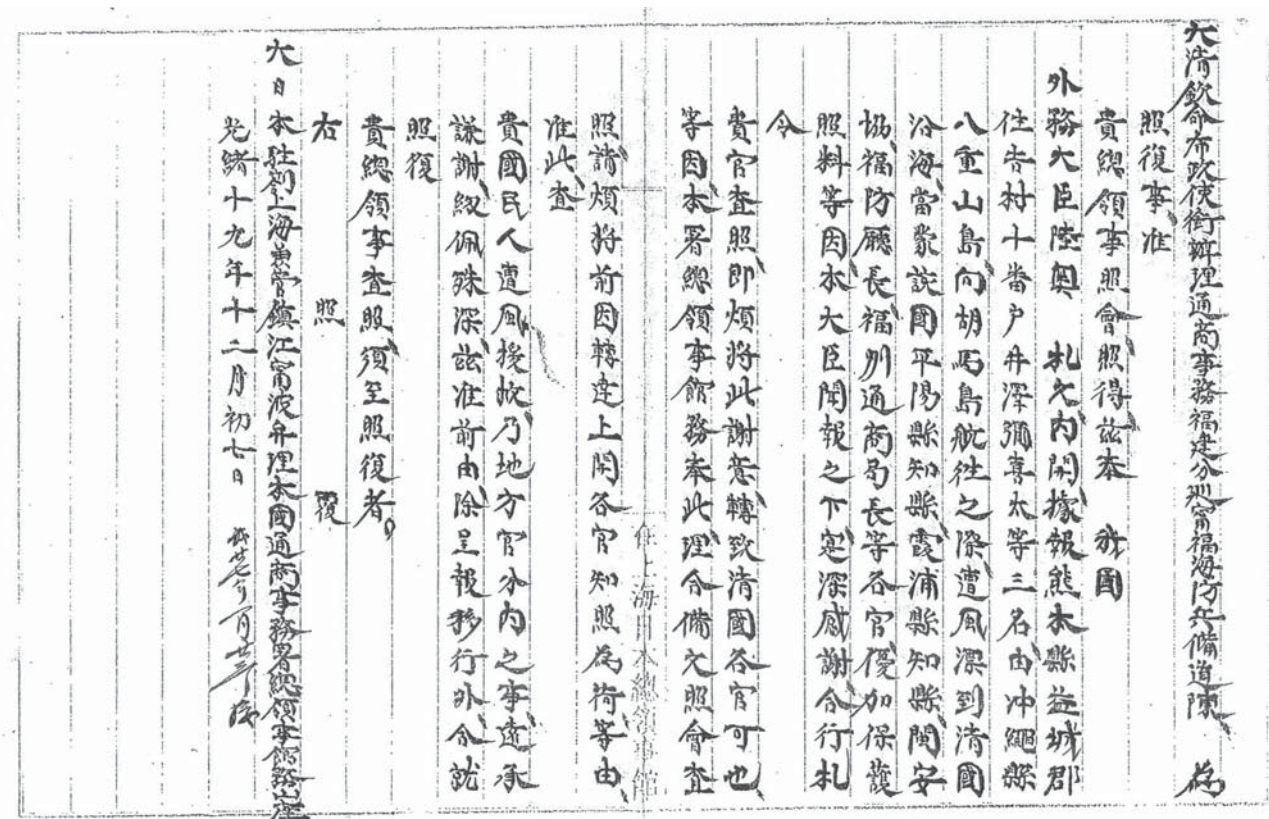


Citing an article from the Ryukyu Shimpo, the Kyushu Nichinichi Shimbun, a local newspaper of Kumamoto Prefecture, reported that Tadashi Noda and his party from the prefecture, who were aiming to find new fishing grounds in the sea near the Senkaku Islands, departed for Uotsuri Island via Ishigaki Island.

The stories behind the report, in brief, are as follows: the colleague of Tadashi Noda and Koreo Yamakuma, both of whom belonged to the Kumamoto National Rights Party, returned to Kumamoto after their exploration of the Okinawa Islands for the periods of June through July 1893. The following month in August, they left Kumamoto again for Okinawa. They arrived at Naha Port and set sail for the Yaeyama Islands in early September, according to *Nanto Tanken* [Exploration of Southern Islands] authored by Gisuke Sasamori. The newspaper report above is a description of what happened after arrival at Ishigaki Island, Yaeyama.

6. Exemplar Documents

Some exemplar documents categorized by the four periods are shown below.



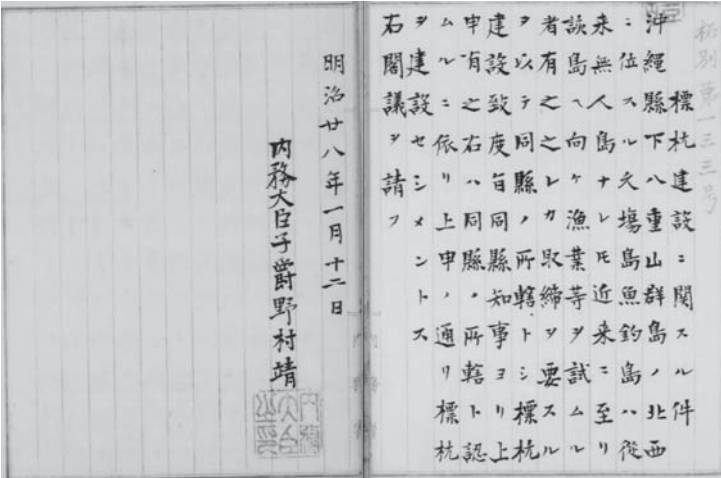
1-8 “Attachment: Reply Letter,” carried in *Message of Appreciation Conveyed to the Local Authority on Saving Yakita Izawa and Two Others from Kumamoto Prefecture Who Were Washed Ashore on the Qing Coast, 1893* by Chen (Superintendent of coastal defense for Funing in Fujian Province, and in charge of Trade and Commerce) (Possession of Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)

As introduced in the aforementioned exemplar ◇1-6 (“Castaways returns from Qing,” Kyushu Nichinichi Shimbun), Yakita Izawa and his colleagues from Kumamoto Prefecture were at first questioned by the local authority, later put under protective custody when they went adrift in Qing; and were safely repatriated to Japan through a diplomatic channel. In accordance with the order from the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Japanese Consulate General in Shanghai took the role of conveying a message of appreciation to all the parties concerned in Qing. This exemplar document records a reply letter, dated 13 January 1894 (7 December in the 19th year of the Guangxu era), from Mr. Chen of the local authority, addressed to Mr. Yamaza of the Japanese Consulate General in Shanghai; it states that he received the letter of appreciation and conveyed Japan’s gratitude to all the parties concerned.

In his reply letter, Mr. Chen borrowed lines of the appreciation letter by stating that Izawa and his colleagues encountered a storm on their way to “Koba Island (the Senkaku Islands) from “Yaeyama Island,” and were washed ashore on the “Qing Coast.” Thus, it is clear that the Qing side accepted the letter of appreciation from Japan and conveyed it to the concerned parties without raising questions on Izawa and his colleagues sailing for “Koba Island.” Written on lined paper of the Japanese Consulate General in Shanghai.

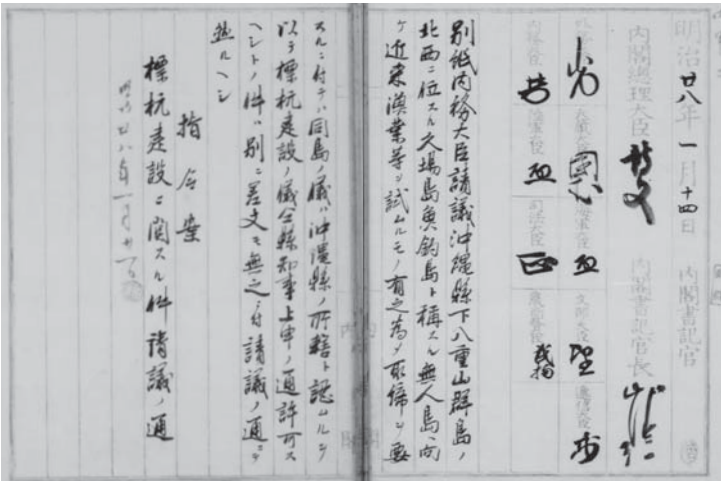
2. Documents of Territorial Incorporation of the Senkaku Islands in 1895

2-1 “Hibetsu No. 133: On Installation of National Ground Markers,” by Viscount Yasushi Nomura, the Home Minister (12 January 1895) contained in *Installing National Ground Markers on Kuba Island and Uotsuri Island located in the Northwest of Yaeyama Islands of Okinawa Prefecture.*(Possession of National Archives of Japan)



A document, dated 12 January 1895, prepared by the Minister of Home Affairs, requesting a consultation at the cabinet, before replying to the written statement addressed to the Minister of Home Affairs from the governor of Okinawa Prefecture, dated 2 November 1895, in which the prefectural government expressed its intention to incorporate the Senkaku Islands into its jurisdiction. This document was submitted by the Minister of Home Affairs, seeking a cabinet consultation to approve the governor’s request to place the Islands under its jurisdiction as in recent years some people began conducting fisheries on the Islands once uninhabited. Written on lined paper of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

2-2 ‘Cabinet Decision, A Draft of Directive, On Installation of National Ground Markers for Cabinet Meeting’ contained in *Installing National Ground Markers on Kuba Island and Uotsuri Island located in the Northwest of Yaeyama Islands of Okinawa Prefecture*, prepared by the Cabinet (14 and 21 January 1895) (Possession of National Archives of Japan)



The contents of the cabinet decision (dated 14 January 1895) on approval of the incorporation of the Senkaku Islands into the jurisdiction of Okinawa Prefecture, and the directive (dated 21 January 1895) to Okinawa Prefecture. “The attachment” that appears on the text refers to the aforementioned exemplar document ◇2-1 “Hibetsu No. 133: On Installation of National Ground Markers.” Written on lined paper of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

6. Exemplar Documents

3. Livings and perception of the people relating to the Senkaku Islands after the incorporation into the national territory in 1895

- 「3-1」 “The local districts to be exempt from application of the Tobacco Monopoly Law,” *The Imperial Ordinance No. 169*, prepared by the Meiji Emperor and Count Masayoshi Matsukata, Minister of Finance (31 May 1897) (Possession of National Archives of Japan)

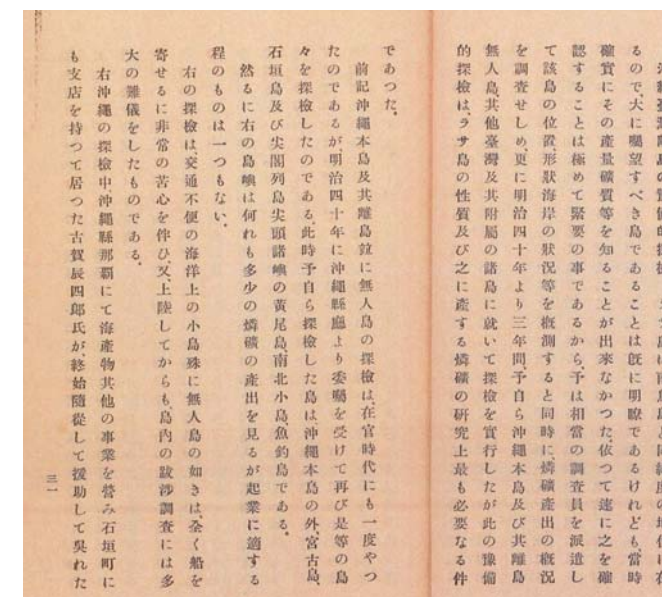


An Imperial Ordinance No. 169 proclaimed after the territorial incorporation of the Senkaku Islands in 1895. The ordinance designates the districts to be exempt from the Tobacco Monopoly Law, and the districts “under the jurisdiction of Okinawa Prefecture” are so designated by specifying many remote islands, including the Uotsuri Island of Okinawa Prefecture. It is conceivable that the above mentioned Imperial Ordinance corroborates that the Senkaku Islands (Uotsuri Island) were included under the jurisdiction of Okinawa as defined by the Imperial Ordinance No. 13, “On structuring the provinces of Okinawa prefecture,” proclaimed in March 1896.

It should be noted that “Kuba Island” which is mentioned as being between “Zamami Island” and “Aguni Island” in the above document is one of the Kerama Islands, and not part of the Senkaku Islands.

Some exemplar documents categorized by the four periods are shown below.

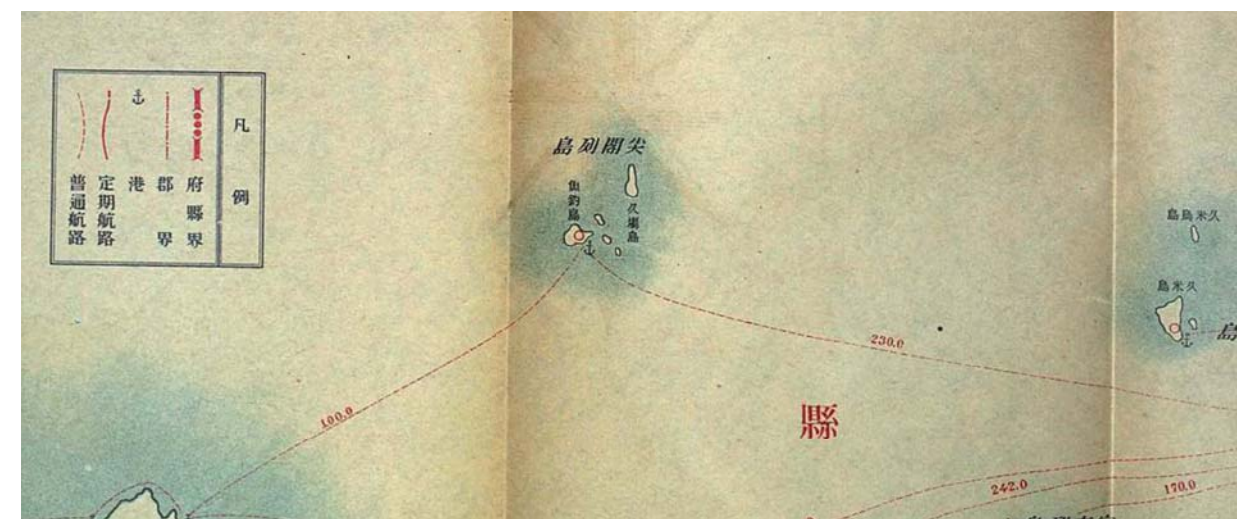
- 「3-2」 *Exploration of Phosphorus Ore and Me*, by Noritaka Tsuneto (1936). (Possession of National Diet Library)



Noritaka Tsuneto, the author of *Exploration of Phosphorus Ore and Me*, was one of the first people to become a Doctor of Agriculture in Japan after the Meiji Restoration. He conducted surveys throughout Japan studying the geographical distributions of phosphate ore, the fertilizer material. In Okinawa, he surveyed some islands such as the Senkaku Islands and Hateruma Island, and the survey results were reported in one of his books, *Minaminihon no Eugen* [Affluent Resources in the Southern of Japan.]

The document is a portion of Tsuneto’s memoir on his phosphorus ore survey. It was when he and his colleagues conducted a phosphorus ore survey, commissioned by Okinawa Prefecture in 1907, on Minamikojima Island of the Senkaku Islands; he recollects that he lost consciousness by accidentally ingesting the water solution of arsenious acid that was used to create stuffed specimens of the seabirds on Minamikojima Island. He also describes the scenes of the families departing to visit loved ones who were working as migrant workers in the Senkaku Islands.

- 「3-3」 *Okinawa Kenchi Yoran* [Handbook of Okinawa Prefectural Administration] edited by Okinawa Prefecture (April 1916) (Possession of Kumamoto Prefectural Library)



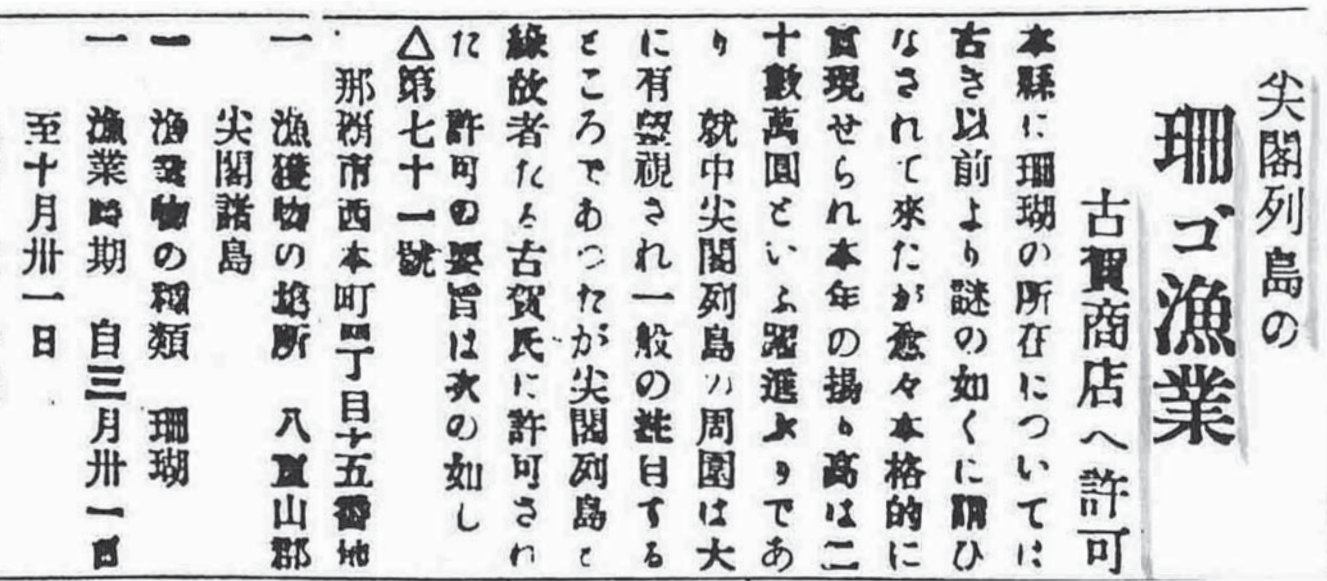
This Handbook of Okinawa Prefectural Administration was compiled in 1916. The jurisdictional map of Okinawa shown above encompasses the Senkaku Islands (Uotsuri Island, Kuba Island, Minamikojima Island and Kitakojima Island), while the sea routes map of Okinawa describes the Naha—Uotsuri Island—Keelung route as one of its regular sea routes.

From the text, it is clear that the Senkaku Islands were recognized as a skipjack tuna fishing ground within Okinawa Prefecture at that time.

6. Exemplar Documents

Some exemplar documents categorized by the four periods are shown below.

「3-4」 “Coral fishing in the Senkaku Islands, Licensed to Koga Inc,” Sakishima Asahi Shimbun (3 July 1935) Page 3. (Possession of Ishigaki City Library)



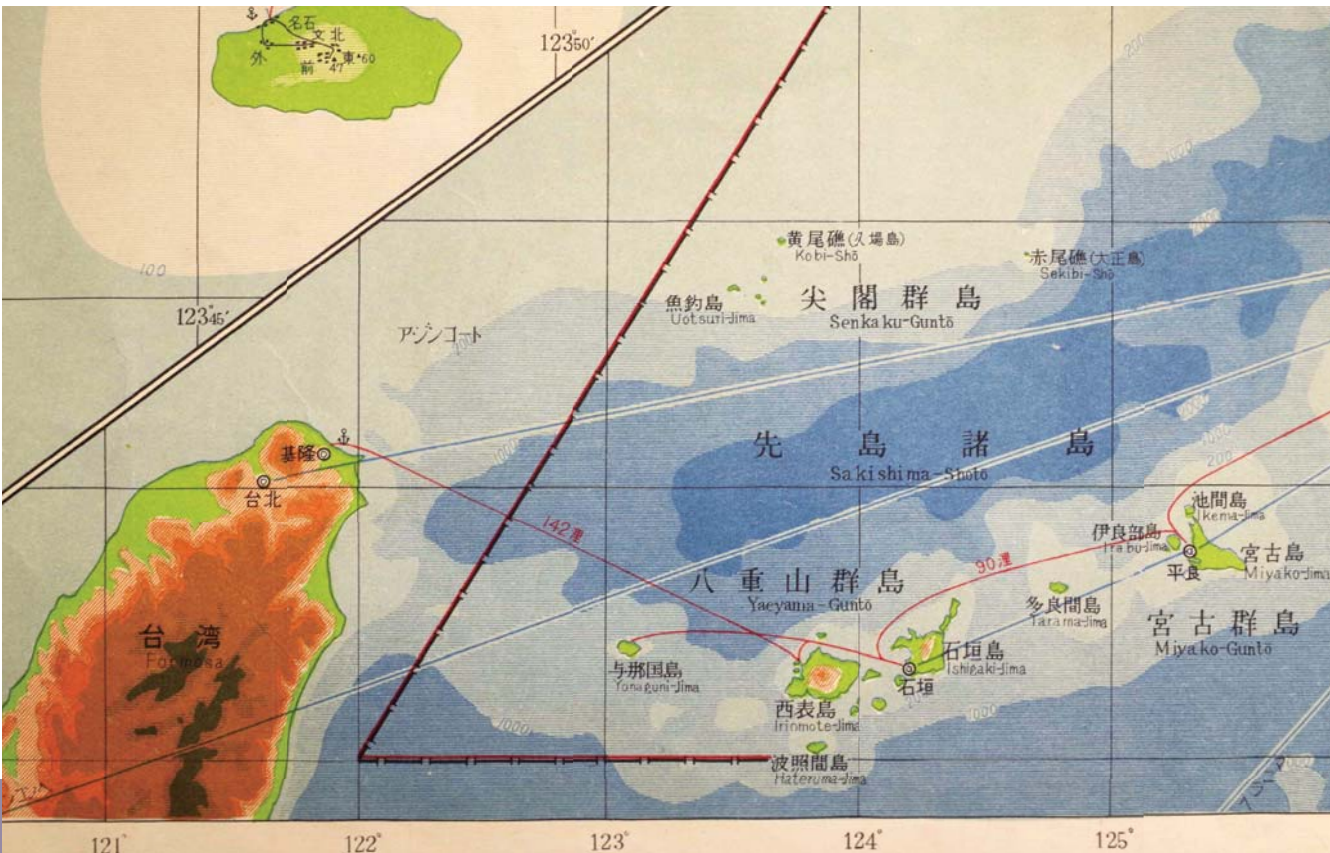
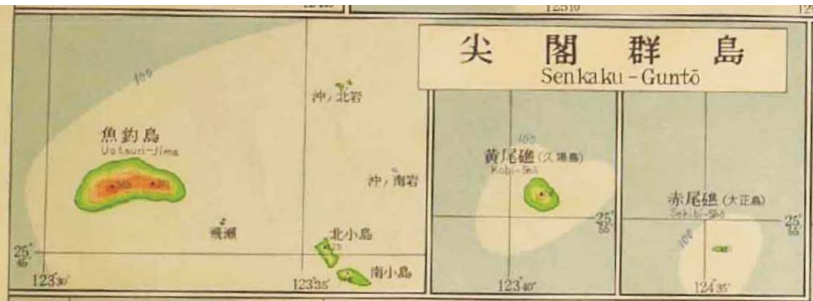
An article from the “Sakishima Asahi Shimbun,” a local newspaper of Yaeyama, reports that a coral fishing license has been granted to Zenji Koga upon the opening coral fishing in Okinawa in 1935 who had an affinity to the Senkaku Islands and Shigeyoshi Suematsu, both of whom used the Senkaku Islands of Yaeyama county as their proposed fishing ground.

4. Post-war activities and perception of the people relating to the Senkaku Islands after 1945

「4-1」 A Complete Map of the Ryukyus edited by Kousei Akamine (April 1958) (Possession of Okinawa Prefectural Library)



A complete map of the Ryukyu Islands (Okinawa Prefecture). Okinawa Island and nearby islands were drawn on the front, and the Sakishima Islands (Miyako Island Group and Yaeyama Island Group) on the back. The Senkaku Islands were included in the Yaeyama Island Group. The map includes Tokara Islands and Amami Islands of Kagoshima Prefecture, Ryukyu Islands, and northern Taiwan, and the geographical boundary of the Ryukyu Islands including the Senkaku Islands was circled with a red line. A scale of 1:150,000.

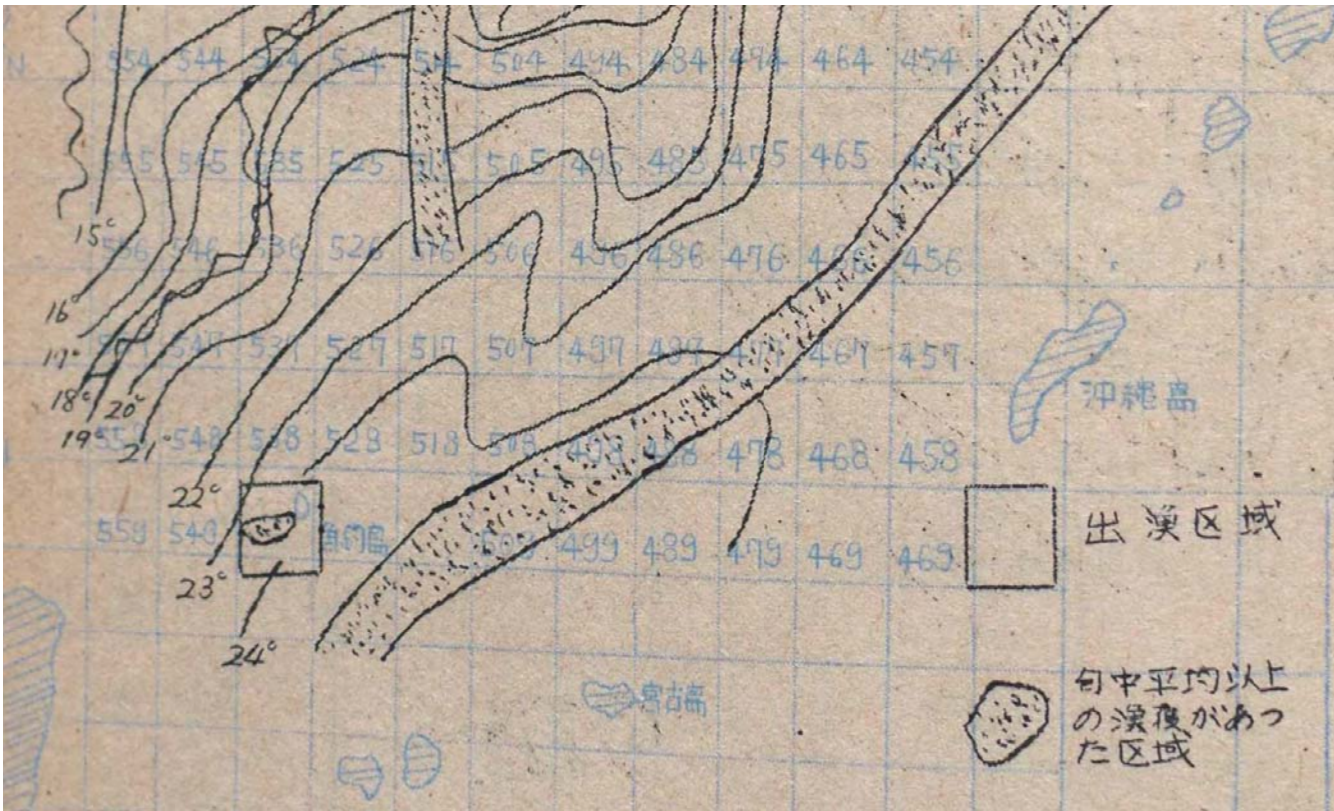
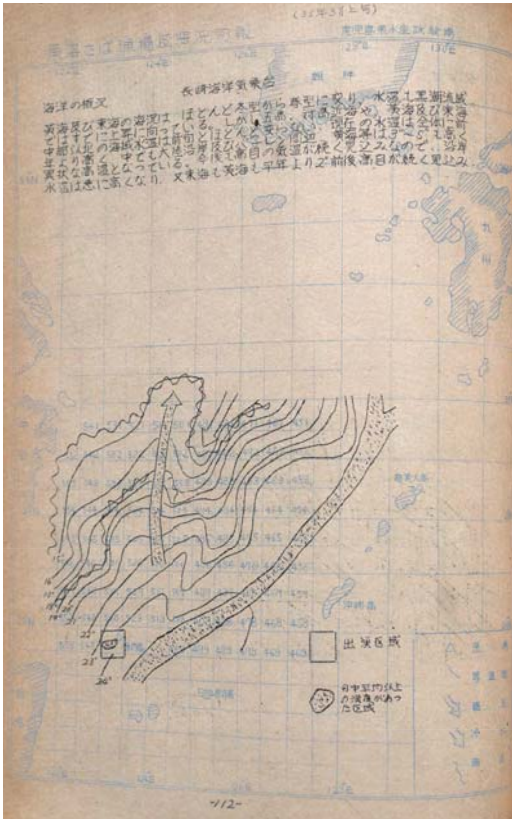


6. Exemplar Documents

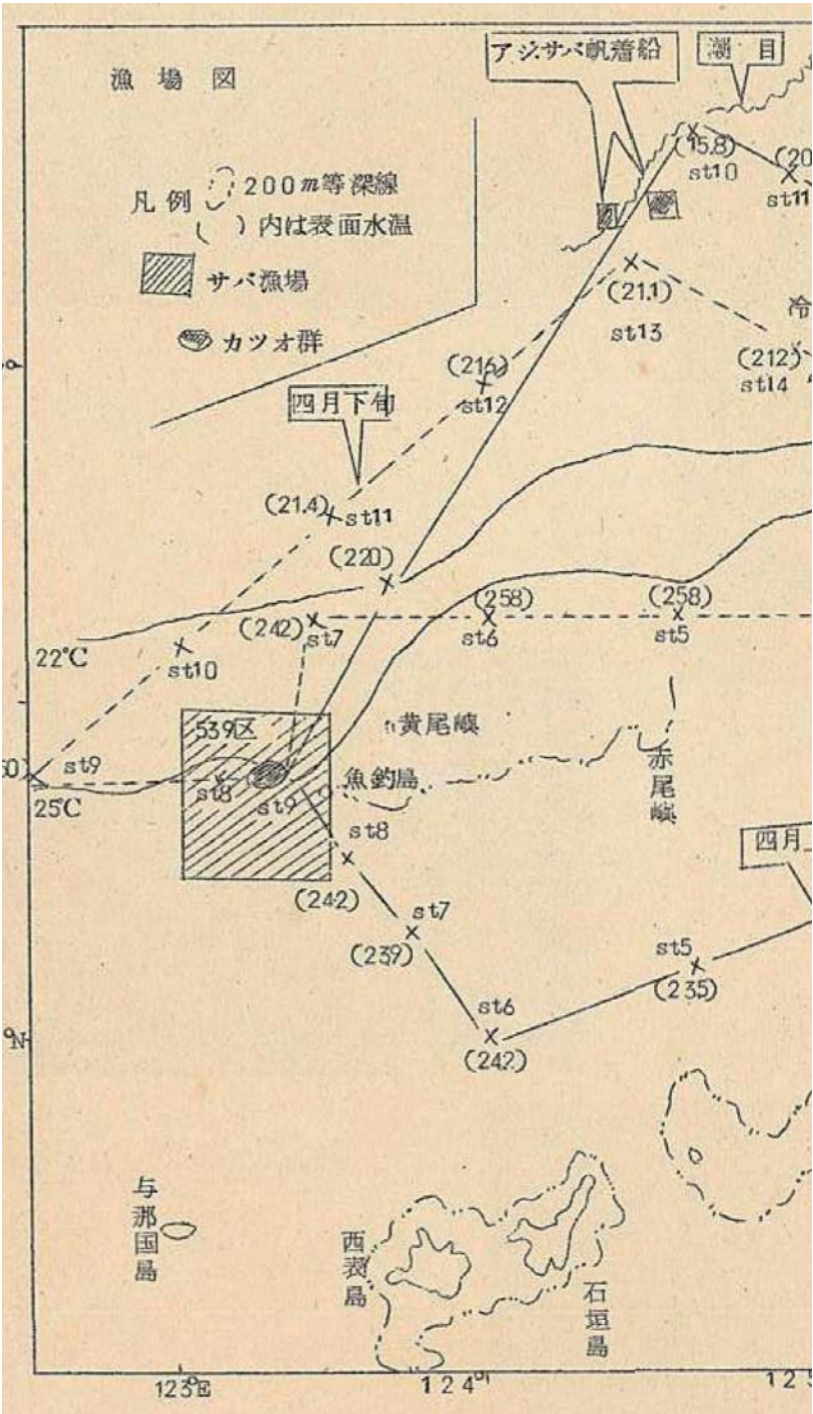
Some exemplar documents categorized by the four periods are shown below.

[4-2] *Kagoshima Prefectural Fisheries Experimental Station Bulletin Volume 2: Status of mackerel pole fishing boat operation in the East China Sea* edited by Kagoshima Prefectural Fisheries Experimental Station (September 1960) (Possession of Fisheries Library, Kagoshima University)

This is a report on the status of mackerel pole fishing boat operations in the East China Sea prepared by the Kagoshima Prefectural Experimental Station. It was reported that the fishing vessels operated in the waters near Uotsuri Island (fishing area number: 529, 539, and 549) as the mackerel migratory activities were concentrated in the area from around February 1960.

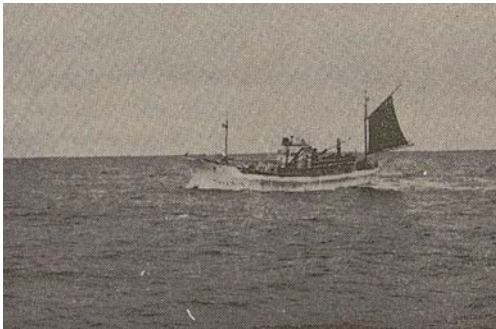


[4-3] *Ryukyu Fisheries Research Laboratory Business Report: FY 1964/1965* edited by Ryukyu Fisheries Research Laboratory (1966) (Possession of Okinawa Prefectural Library) (Photos: possession of the Senkaku Islands Document Material Compilation Association)



This is a business report on fishing ground and an oceanography survey by the Ryukyu Fisheries Research Laboratory (reporting on the status and observation results of the “mackerel pole fishing” conducted in the waters west of the Uotsuri Island, the Senkaku Islands, in April 1964), and on the fishing ground survey for deep sea pole-and-line fishing (reporting on its status on the surveys conducted in the waters west of Kume Island, near Taisho Island /Sekibi-Sho, and near Yonaguni Island in July-August 1963). The purpose of the above surveys, as reported, was to gather information on the fishing grounds and their status in order to draw a future plan although the mackerel fishery had already been discontinued. As for the deep sea pole-and-line fishing, the survey was conducted to develop new fishing grounds.

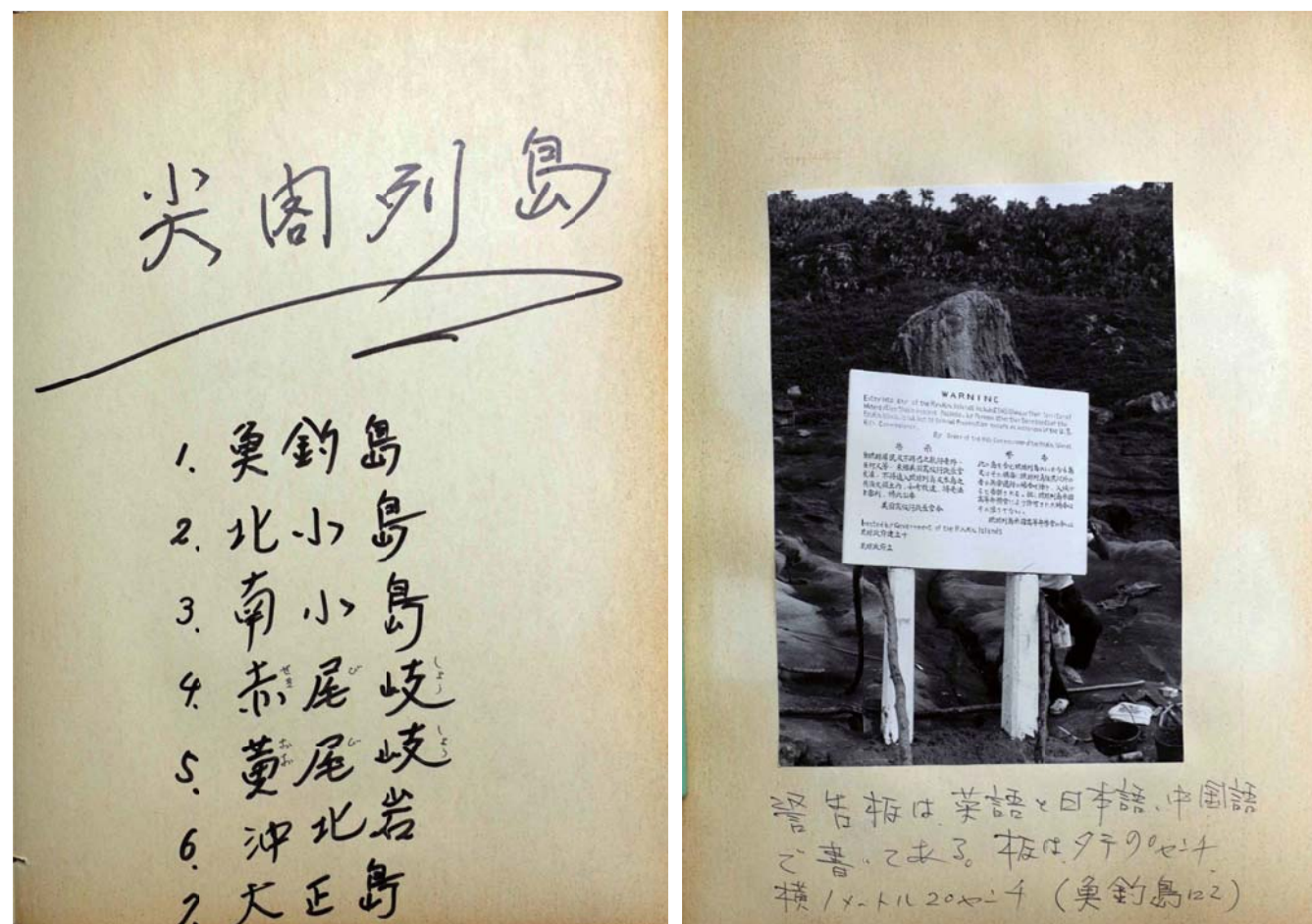
The map on the left shows the fishing ground when the survey was conducted. Three to eleven mackerel fishing boats seemed to have operated each night, and each vessel seemed to have had high volume catches. The photo on the right shows a boat for mackerel stick-held dip-net fishing from the main islands of Japan, searching for fishing ground in the waters near the Senkaku Islands.



6. Exemplar Documents

Some exemplar documents categorized by the four periods are shown below.

- 「4-4」 *Photograph Collection of the Senkaku Retto* photographed by the Immigration Agency of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands archived in the Public Relations Division, Department of General Affairs (July 1970) (Possession of Okinawa Prefectural Library)



These photos were taken by officials of the Immigration Agency of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands (GRI) between 9 and 12 July 1970 when the agency installed warning signs against the illegal entrants to the Senkaku Islands. The collection includes photos of Uotsuri Island, Kitakojima Island, Taisho Island, Kuba Island, Okinokitaiwa Island and images of installing warning signs, illegally entered Taiwanese fishermen engaged in poaching, and the landing, or scrapping of a wrecked ship.

- 「4-5」 *Mission Report* by Kenji Higa (Head of Security Division, Immigration Agency) (24 July 1970) archived in Naha District Immigration Office, Immigration Bureau of Japan

復命書

1970年7月7日 不法入域防止用警告板の設置立会及び不法入域者の取締のため、尖閣列島へ出張はし、その概要を以下のとおり復命します。

1970年7月24日

法務局 出入管理庁警備課 課長 比嘉健次

出入管理庁次長 大城実殿

1. 出張年月日 1970年7月7日 (10日間) , 160時間

2. 出張先 尖閣列島 (①奥釣島, ②北小島, ③南小島, ④黄尾岐, ⑤赤尾岐)

3. 概要

日	時	状	現
7月7日	08:30	同日午後7時尖閣列島向け石垣港へ出港予定の船舶が3隻 (150t)	

△ 不法入域者の取締状況について

(1) 今回の出張目的が主として尖閣列島の各島に不法入域者に対する警告板設置工事の立会であり、徹底した不法入域者の取締はできなかつたが、わずか5日間の短期間で、別紙のとおり直接帰船して船長に対し厳重警告を与えて即時退去し、領海外に退去を命じて台湾漁船6隻、わかれわかれ取締船と見て領海外へ逃走した船舶を確認し、台湾漁船8隻その他遠く洋上に台湾漁船5隻の多数と発見するに至った。これらの漁船は従前のわかれわかれ退去命令にふたつた。

(2) これら台湾漁船の比較的侵入する区域は、北小島と南小島の中間に位置する海峡及び奥釣島の北岸と南岸である。不法入域の主な目的は、飲料水の補給、水浴、海鳥のタマゴ採取、休養等である。また、殆どが台湾省宜蘭県蘇澳港から約一週間の出航計画で出港し、全部冷凍用氷を積みサバ漁を行っている。漁法としては、竹で編んだ罟に1人が乗ってす

Report of installing the warning signs and of the law enforcement of the Taiwanese illegal entrants engaged in illegal fishing, landing, and scrapping of a wrecked ship. This report was submitted after the GRI (Government of the Ryukyu Islands) Immigration Agency installed the signs to warn the illegal entrants to the Senkaku Islands between 9 and 12 July 1970.

Visited Institutions holding documents and materials

- Okinawa Prefectural Archive
- Okinawa Prefectural Library
- Naha City Museum of History
- University of the Ryukyus Library
- Ishigaki City Library
- Ishigaki City Board of Education
- Nonto Folklore Museum
- Forestry Agency Kyushu Regional Forest Office
- Naha District Immigration Office, Immigration Bureau of Japan
- Fukuoka Prefectural Library
- Fukuoka City Museum
- Fukuoka City Public Library
- Kumamoto Prefectural Library
- Shimbun Museum, Kumamoto Nichinichi Shimbun
- Kagoshima City Library
- Kagoshima University Library
- Fisheries Library, Kagoshima University
- Faculty of Fisheries Reading Room, Kagoshima University
- National Diet Library
- Japan Center for Asian Historical Records, National Archives of Japan
- Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
- Library and Fisheries Museum, National Research Institute of Fisheries Science, Fisheries Research Agency
- Tokyo Metropolitan Archives
- Library of the Historiographical Institute, the University of Tokyo
- Earth and Planetary Science Library, Graduate School of Science/Faculty of Science, the University of Tokyo
- Biological Sciences Library, Graduate School of Science/Faculty of Science, the University of Tokyo
- Komaba Library Ichiko-Bunko, the University of Tokyo
- University Library for Agricultural and Life Sciences, the University of Tokyo
- Institute of Social Science Library, the University of Tokyo
- The Library of Economics, the University of Tokyo
- Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology Library
- Toyo Bunko (the Oriental Library)
- Documents and materials privately owned

Closing Remarks

This project titled “A Research on the Senkaku Islands-related Documents in Japan,” a consecutive of the FY 2014 project, was conducted by OPAC as a FY 2015 research project. The geographical scope of investigations on the relevant historical materials on the Senkaku Islands for this year was expanded to all over Japan inclusive of Okinawa. Following confirmation of the location of the relevant historical materials, similar work efforts to the FY 2014 were made, i.e., inspections and acquisitions of digital images of original materials. Our thanks go out to every single institution in Tokyo, Kyushu (Fukuoka, Kumamoto, and Kagoshima) and Okinawa, for the help and consideration given during our visits and investigations into relevant materials.

Digitalized or databased historical records enabled us to overview the contents at the stage of preliminary survey. Especially in Tokyo, a large amount of historical materials are digitalized in the National Diet Library Digital Collection and Japan Center for Asian Historical Records, National Archives of Japan. Thanks to such environments, the survey was conducted fairly efficiently, despite the time constraint.

In Okinawa, the Library of the University of the Ryukyus compiled its Miyara-dunchi Collection and the Hawley Collection of University of Hawaii into a database. Whereas we had to use microfilmed documents and materials that are in the possession of Okinawa Prefectural Library in our previous survey, their contents are now available in high resolutions.

We would like to express our thanks to the Research Committee members for their invaluable advice and guidance given to our Research Team based on their individual expertise.

In the previous survey report, we mentioned that the documents and materials that reside in Okinawa are largely the ones that have survived disasters of the War. Under the said condition, the significance of the current research project conducted by expanding its geographical scope to all over Japan, would be that we could supplement, not all but to a certain extent, what was lost in the Battle of Okinawa. It is hoped that the materials available both in Okinawa and other areas in Japan will be complementary to each other, and help to project concrete and spatial imagery on the history of the Senkaku Islands, thus deepening the interest in the Islands.

There are many issues for the future that we recognized through this project, but due to limited space, we would like to refer only to the following point; through reviewing the records at the National Archives of Japan and Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, it became conceivable that there would have been a fair amount of documents relating to the Senkaku Islands in the past, at least Okinawa prefectural documents. To discover these unknown historical records will require efforts that should be called healthy imagination.

Makomo Kuniyoshi,
Chief Researcher