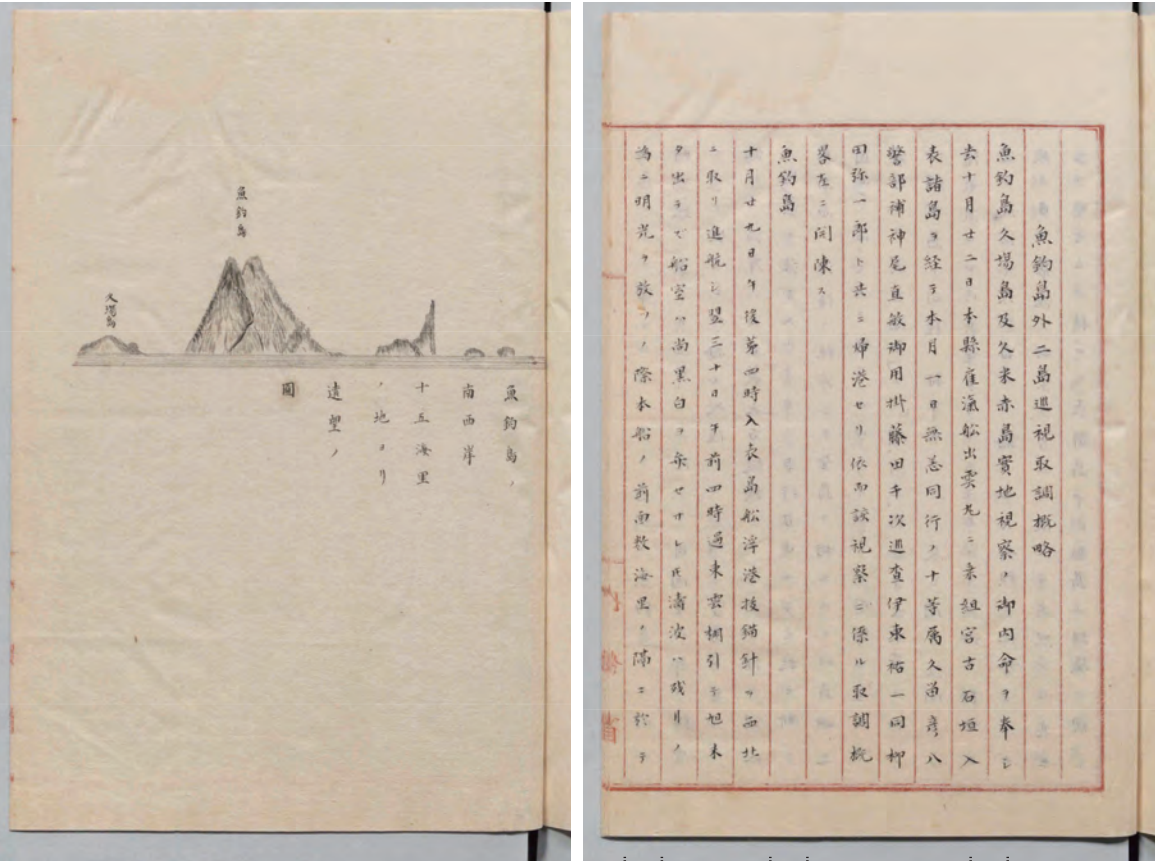


Period II (1) – i. Report of the investigation on the Senkaku Islands conducted by Okinawa Prefecture in 1885

A report by an official of Okinawa Prefecture who conducted an on-site investigation of the Senkaku Islands

No.5 “[A Copy] An Overview of the Investigation and Survey of Uotsuri Island and Two Other Islands” November 4, 1885



Repository: National Archives of Japan

Overview

A copy of a mission report of an on-site investigation of the Senkaku Islands by Hyogo Ishizawa, a 5th Grade Officer of Okinawa Prefecture. The investigation was conducted by Okinawa Prefecture on the islands in 1885. A mission of six people including Ishizawa landed on Uotsuri Island and made investigations into the topography and feasibility of development in light of the flora and fauna of the island. In particular, they described in detail the geological characteristics and the conditions of albatross colonies in the report. The mission brought several rock samples and dozens of albatrosses (together with some several hundred eggs) back to the Okinawa Prefectural Government Office. The report also adds that, shortly after they departed from Uotsuri Island, Kuba Island came into view in the distance, but sighting of Taisho Island (Kumeaka Island) could not be confirmed due to darkness. Written on the lined paper of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Excerpt [English translation]

In accordance with your order to conduct a field inspection of Uotsuri, Kuba and Kumeaka Islands, on October 22nd, I boarded the steamship *Izumo Maru* hired by this Prefecture.

Uotsuri Island

(Text omitted) At a distance of several nautical miles ahead of the ship was something towering high like a mountain, and this was Uotsuri Island.

Date Created	November 4, 1885
Author(s) & Editor(s)	Hyogo ISHIZAWA [the 5th Grade Officer of Okinawa Prefecture]
Publisher	-
Name of Publication	“On the matter of erecting territorial markers on uninhabited islands scattered between Okinawa Prefecture and Fuzhou in the Qing Dynasty,” <i>Kobun Betsuroku</i> (*), Ministry of Home Affairs, 1882 – 1885, Vol.4, 1885 (*) The <i>Kobun Betsuroku</i> is a compilation of administrative documents. The documents are classified on a Ministry or incident basis.
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