

# The Senkaku Islands under the US Administration

## After WWII: Okinawa including the Senkaku Islands was Placed under US Administration

With the entry into force of the San Francisco Peace Treaty in 1952, the Ryukyu Islands were officially placed under US administration as the “Nansei Shoto (Islands) south of 29 degrees north latitude.” The US Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands (USCAR), which was established in December 1950 (see Fig. 8), clearly stipulated the range of the Ryukyu Islands under its administration by latitude and longitude in such documents as Civil Administration Ordinance No. 68 (Fig. 9) and Civil Administration Proclamation No. 27 (Fig. 10), and the Senkaku Islands have consistently been included within that range. The Senkaku Islands had been openly administered by the United States as part of the Ryukyu Islands.

To begin with, the United States recognized the Senkaku Islands as part of Okinawa even before the San Francisco Peace Treaty entered into force. For example, in January 1948, the U.S. military designated Kuba Island as

a permanent danger zone for bombing practice. The US military not only notified Okinawan fishing-related organizations when it designated Kuba Island as a bombing range, but also when it used it for training (Fig. 11), and Kuba Island was openly used by the US military, but there is no evidence that China or Taiwan raised any objections at the time. Taisho Island was also designated as a bombing range in 1956.

In 1971, the Agreement between Japam and the United States of America concerning the Ryukyu Islands and the Daito Islands was signed between Japan and the United States, and administration over Okinawa was returned to Japan. The Agreed Minutes of the agreement provided that the geographic scope of the return was the area specified by USCAR Proclamation No. 27 (December 25, 1953), which included the Senkaku Islands.

Figure 8 Chart: Governance system under administration by the US

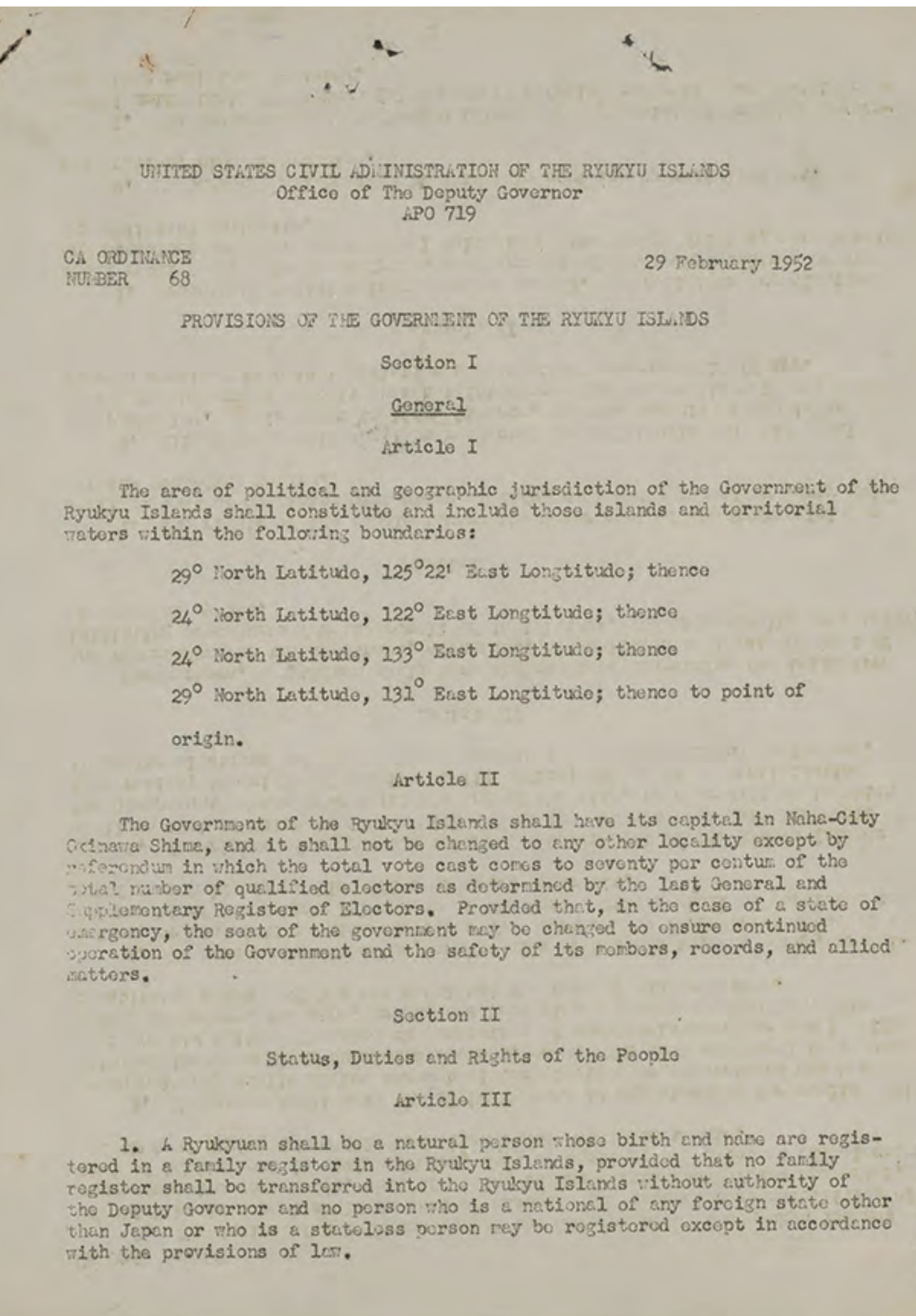
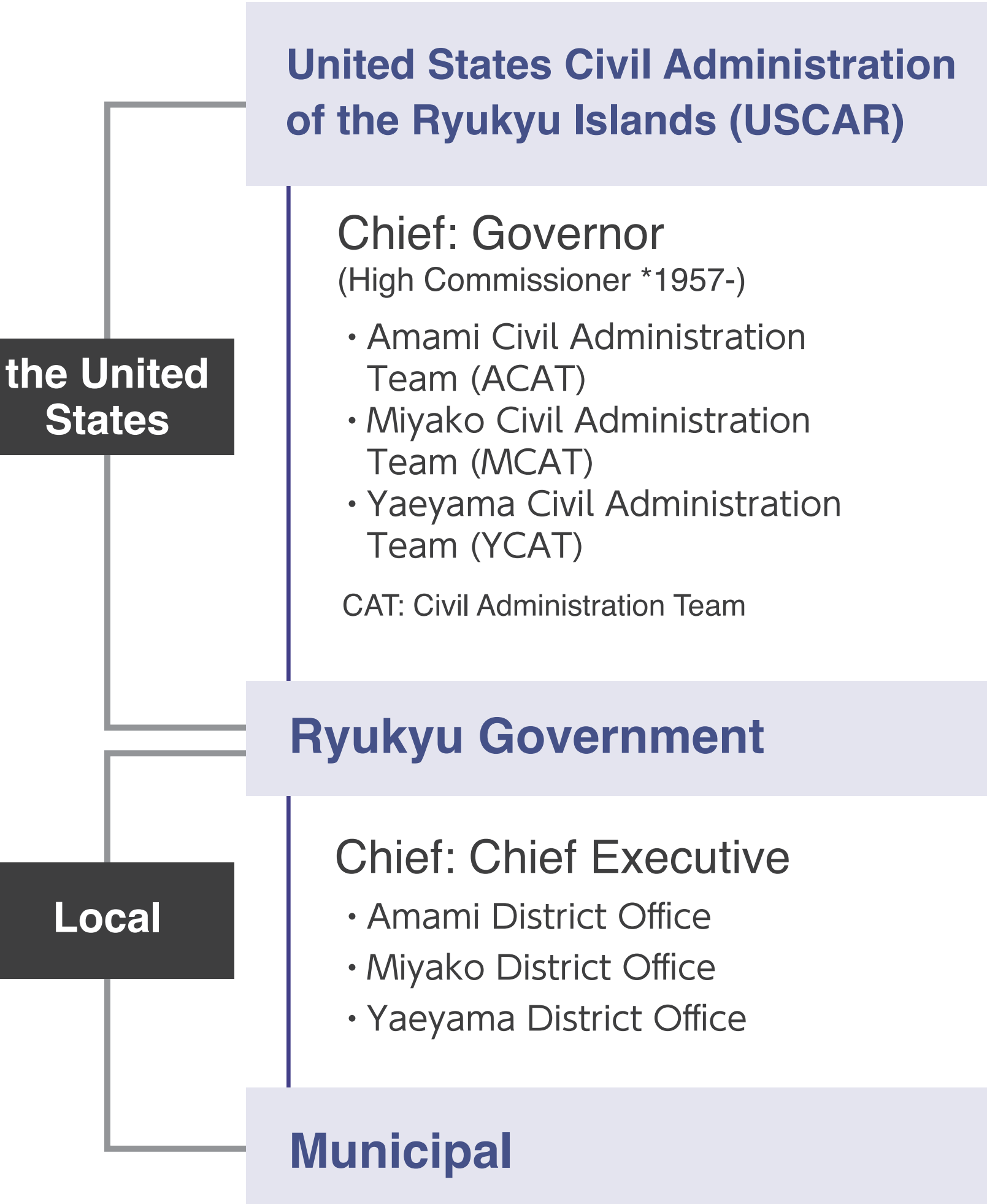


Figure 9 USCAR Ordinance No. 68 (Provisions of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands) Article 1 defines the geographic limitation of Ryukyu by latitude and longitude.

USCAR Office of the Deputy Governor  
February 29, 1952 (Showa 27)  
Repository: Okinawa Prefectural Archives

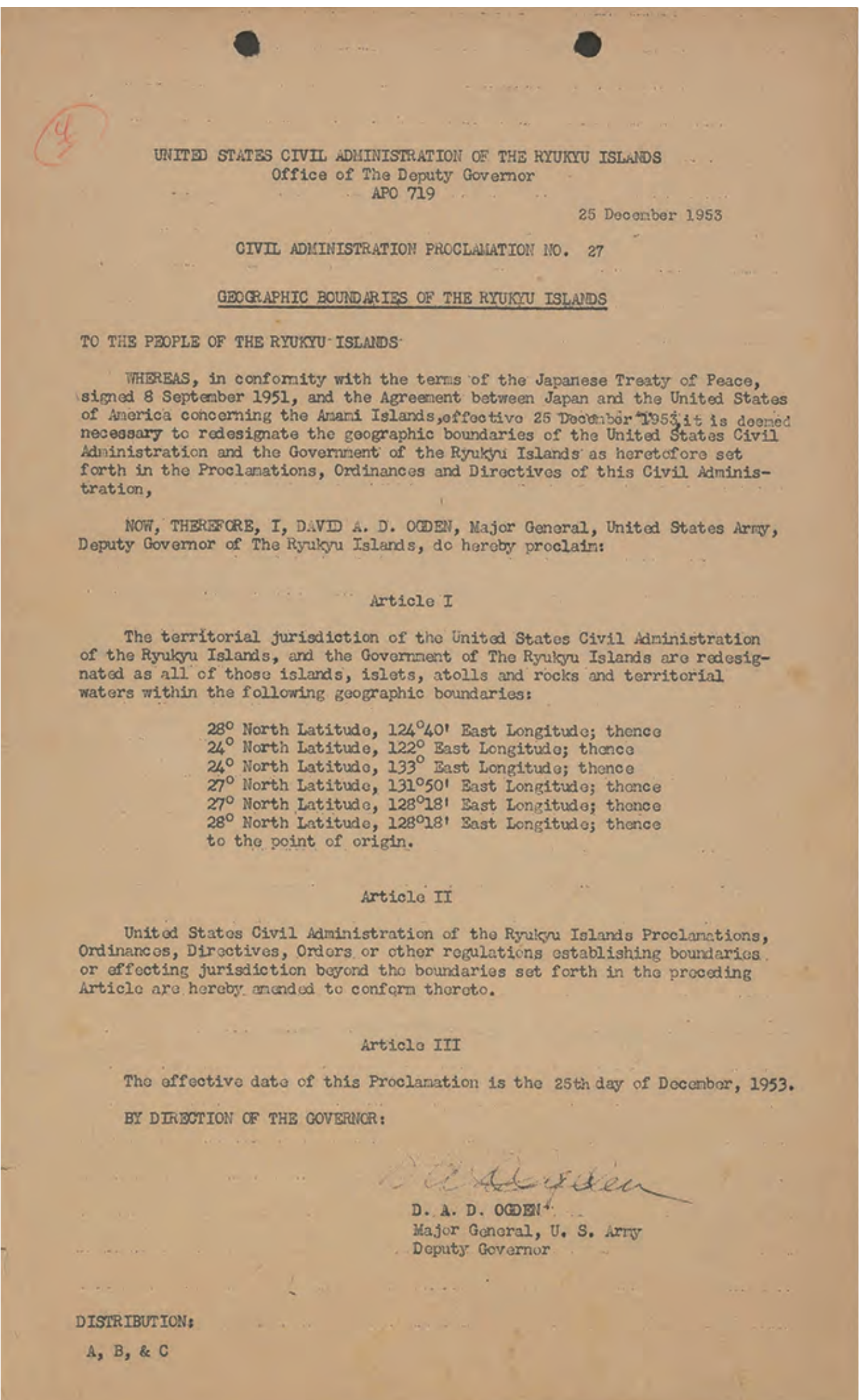
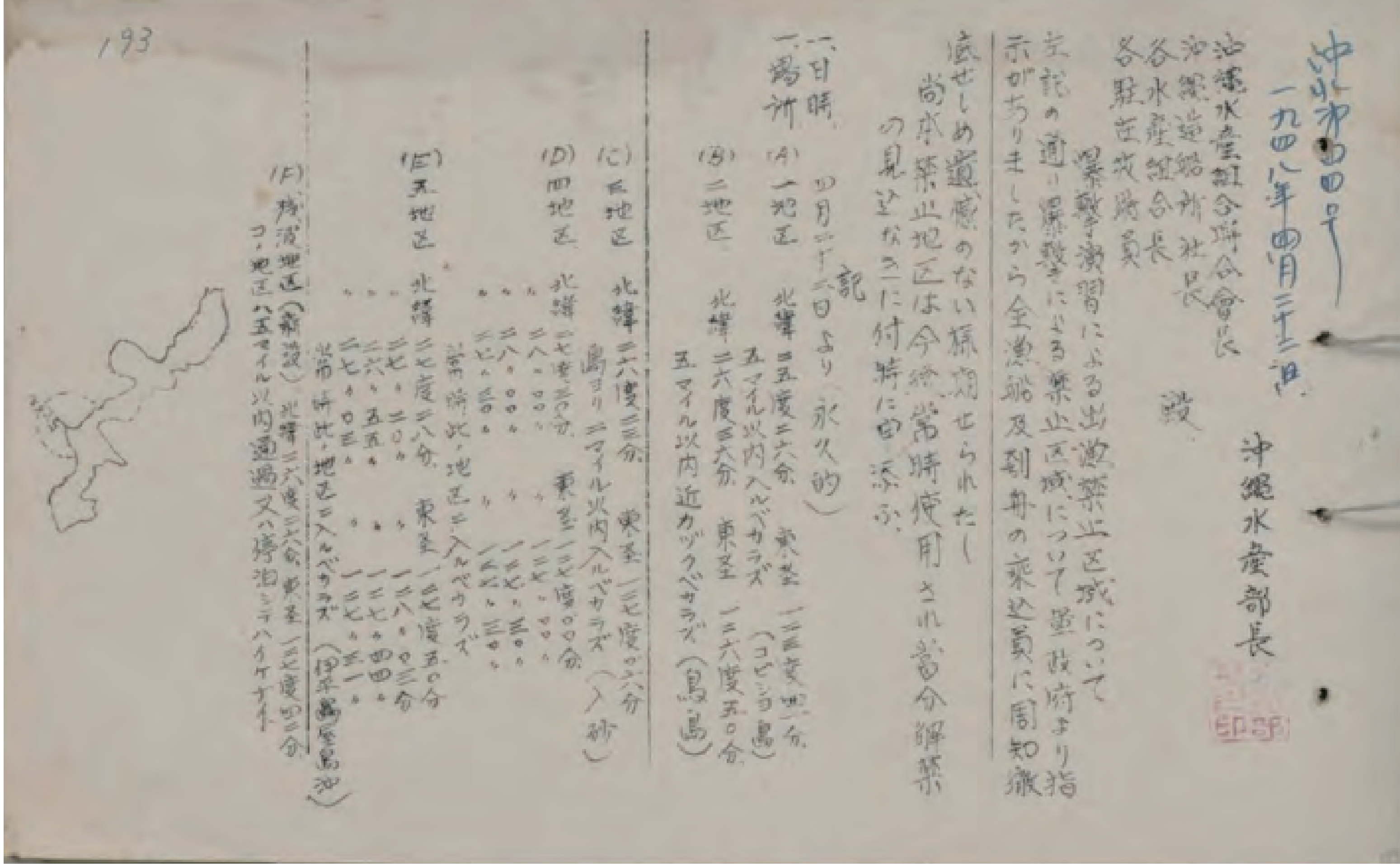


Figure 10 USCAR Proclamation No. 27 (Geographical limit of the Ryukyu Islands) Article 1 defines the geographic limitation of Ryukyu by latitude and longitude.

USCAR Office of the Deputy Governor  
December 25, 1953 (Showa 28)  
[Repository] Okinawa Prefectural Archives

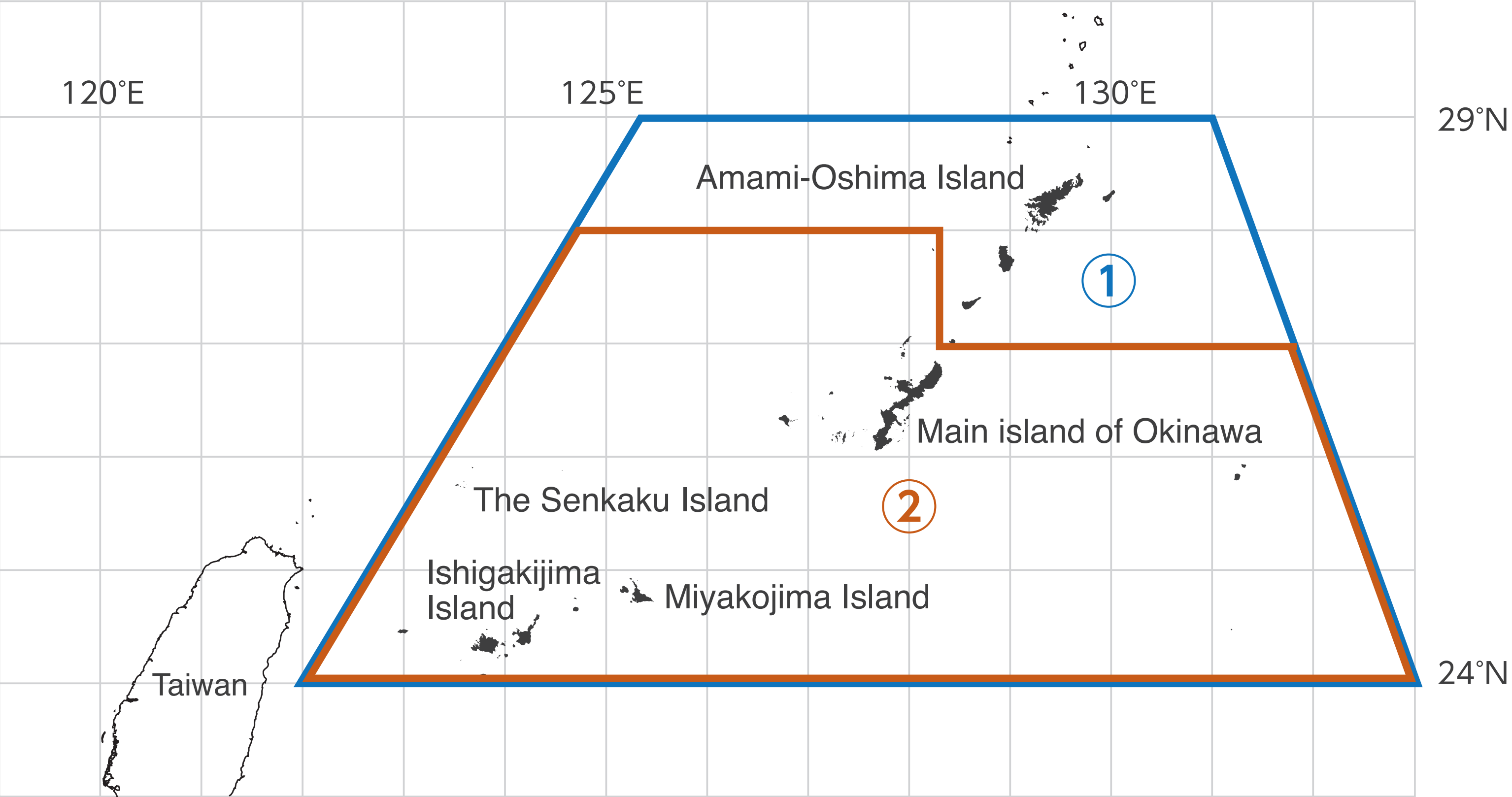
Figure 11 Oki Sui No. 44 (Concerning no-fishing zones due to bombing practice)

This document is a notice dated April 22, 1948 (Showa 23) from the Okinawa Civilian Administration to the Chairman of the Okinawa Fisheries Association and other fishery-related personnel regarding the fishing ban zones ordered by the US Military Government in conjunction with the implementation of bombing practice by the US military. The areas designated as no-fishing zones were those that the US military had designated as permanent danger zones for their bombing and live-fire training grounds, including (A) the area around Kobisho (Kuba Island) within a 5-mile radius. Despite such notifications, there is no evidence that China or Taiwan raised any objections at the time.



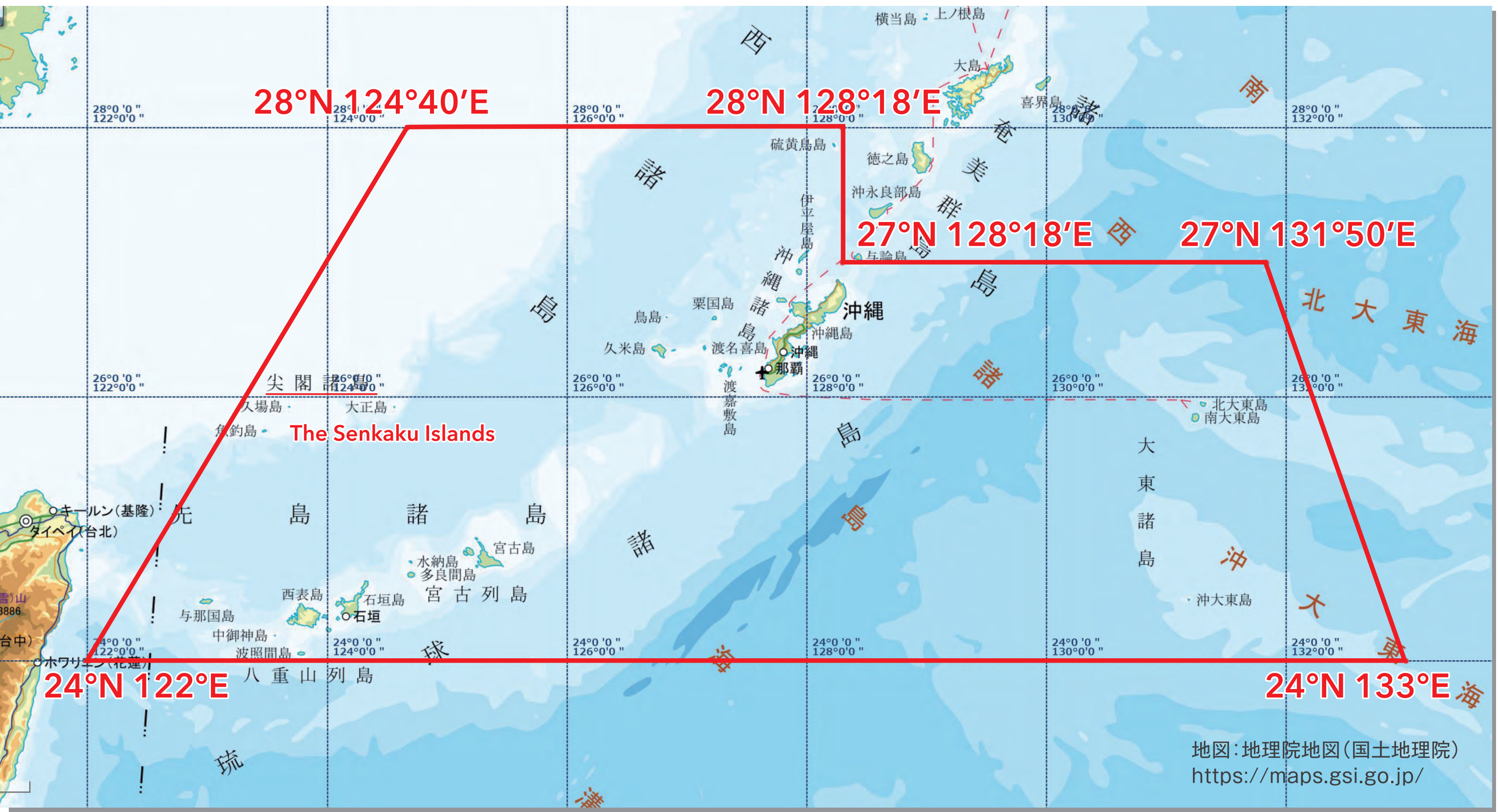
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Figure: The limit of the area of the Ryukyu Islands shown by USCAR's proclamation etc.



- ① Area of the Ryukyu Islands shown by Civil Administration Ordinance No. 68 (Provisions of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands) (February 29, 1952)
- ② Area of the Ryukyu Islands shown by Civil Administration of Proclamation No. 27 (Geographic Boundary of the Ryukyu Islands) (December 25, 1953)

Figure 12 The area of return under the Okinawa Reversion Agreement



After WWII, the US openly administered the Senkaku Islands as part of the Nansei Islands, but neither China nor Taiwan expressed objection! This means that neither China nor Taiwan considered the Senkaku Islands as part of Taiwan.

