



**COAST GUARD**

# Loran Station **GESASHI**



## General Information Book

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## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL

1. GEOGRAPHY: Okinawa is an island in the North Pacific Ocean, 250 miles south of Kyushu, the southernmost island of Japan. Okinawa is the largest island in the Ryukyu Island chain and had been under U. S. control from the end of World War II until 15 May 1972, at which time civil administration reverted to Japan. Naha (est. population 1960, 220,000) is the islands largest city and is the main port. The island consists of a sloping bed of volcanic ash over older rocks. The flatter area being to the south and surrounded by coral reefs and the northern three quarters of the island being rugged and mountainous. The higher elevation on Okinawa is about 1650 feet. The island covers 454 square miles in total area, 75 miles in length and varying from 2 to 10 miles in width.

LORAN STATION GESASHI is located at 26-36N 128-09E. The station grounds include 180 acres. The station is situated in hilly terrain and extends Northwestward and up to the transmitting antenna which is located approximately 120 feet above sea level.

2. CLIMATE: The climate is similar to that of the Gulf Coast States. The annual temperature is 72°F but the thermometer may dip to the low 40's in the winter and rise above 90° in the summer. Average annual rainfall is 82 inches. Humidity averages 76 percent.



## CHAPTER II

### STATION ORGANIZATION AND PLAN

1. ORGANIZATION: The Commanding Officer and the CWO (ELC) are assisted in the administrative and supervisory functions by such CPO's as may be assigned as department heads. The primary responsibility of this unit is maintaining Loran-C operations on Okinawa.

2. STATION PERSONNEL ALLOWANCE:

- a. Officers: 1 LTJG - CO  
1 CWO - EMO

- b. Enlisted: 1 BMC - XPO  
1 ETC  
1 MK1 - EO  
1 ET1  
1 SS1  
1 ET2  
1 SK2  
1 HM2  
1 DC2  
2 ET3  
1 MK3  
2 FN/FA  
6 SN/SA

- c. Civilian Employees: 1 Assistant Cook/Interpreter  
1 Electronics Technician  
1 Weekend Galley Helper

3. BUILDINGS, ASSOCIATED DEPARTMENTS, AND THEIR FUNCTIONS:

The main complex is centered around a concrete recreation area with the barracks located to the east, the signal-power building to the west and the fuel/water storage tanks to the south. The transmitter building, storage building, and helo pad are removed from the central complex. There are two fuel tanks and three water tanks of 30,000 gallon capacity in use. The pump house and sewage treatment plant are near the fuel tanks. There is an additional water storage area under the pump house.

- a. Barracks Building: The building is "H" shaped. One leg of the "H" contains the mess deck, galley, CPO quarters, recreation deck, Officer's quarters, and sick bay. The other leg contains crews' berthing and head areas. Each member of the crew is assigned an individual room with a bed, bureau, writing desk, and chair. Galley spaces contain four walk-in type reefers, two are for frozen foods and two are chill boxes. In addition, there is a large dry stores area. There is a reach-in reefer, deep fat fryer, and electric range at the cook's disposal. Meals are prepared cafeteria style. A projection booth is located at the rear of the mess deck and movies are shown nightly. The CPO quarters consist of four bedrooms, a lounge area, and head. Each room is furnished the same as the crews' berthing. The Officer's quarters contain three large bedrooms, a central lounge, and a head. In one corner is a kitchenette with a combination electric range, refrigerator, and sink. A photo lab is located in the barracks building and is equipped with all the items needed to develop and enlarge black and white film. Station laundry facilities are in the barracks building and consist of three washers and three automatic dryers.
- b. Signal/Power Building: This building contains the Loran-C Timer Room, weight room, radio room, garage, electronics and engineering storerooms, engineering office, station office, paint locker, DC shop, engineroom, and boatswain's hole. The Loran-C timer room contains cesium time standards, pulse generators, timers, receivers, and strip chart recorders for dual rate operation. One timer for each rate is in operate status and the other is in immediate standby status. The strip chart recorders provide a continual visual record of the operation of both timers, cesium, and frequency standards. The station is dual rated, providing a navigation signal for two separate chains--Northwest Pacific and Commando Lion. The radio room contains a console, two 750 watt HF transmitters, two teletypes, and a bank of UHF radiotelephone equipment. Communications with the Monitor Station and other Loran Stations in the chains is accomplished with the teletypes or radiotelephones. The DC shop is outfitted with a table saw, band saw, joiner, and many other wood and metal working tools. The engineroom contains four Caterpillar U-379-A diesel engines which provide emergency power for the station. The station



is normally supplied by Okinawa Power Company with electricity. Also located in the engineroom is the main switchboard for the generators, and battery charging facilities for the generator starting batteries. The garage contains all the necessary equipment in which to maintain the station vehicles and other assorted power equipment.

- c. Transmitter Building: This building is located approximately 800 feet from the signal/power building and houses two 1.2 megawatt Loran-C transmitters. Also located in this building is the antenna coupler, various transformers, transmitter parts storage area, ET workbench, and a small office area. Next to this building is the storage building, which is used to store large pieces of gear and parts. Directly outside both of these buildings is the 625 foot transmitting antenna.
- d. Pump House: This building contains the chlorinating equipment, pressure tank, and pumping equipment for the station's fresh water system.
- e. Sewage System: This system employs a septic tank with leech bed, providing adequate sewage disposal for the station.

### CHAPTER III

#### COMMAND FUNCTION AND OPERATION

##### OPERATIONAL CONTROL:

1. The Commanding Officer of LORSTA GESASHI is directly responsible to Commander, Coast Guard Section Far East located at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

##### CHAIN:

2. LORSTA GESASHI transmits signals as secondary-Y within the Northwest Pacific Loran-C chain, and as secondary-Z within the Commando Lion chain. Other units within the chains include:

a. NWPAC

LORSTA IWO JIMA	MASTER
LORSTA MARCUS ISLAND	Secondary-W
LORSTA YAP	Secondary-Z
LORSTA HOKKAIDO	Secondary-X

b. COMMANDO LION

AIR FORCE LORSTA POHANG	MASTER
AIR FORCE LORSTA HAMPYONG	Secondary-X
LORSTA HOKKAIDO	Secondary-W

3. The Systems Area Monitor (SAM) for both chains is LORMONSTA YOKOTA, located at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

## CHAPTER IV

### LOGISTICS

1. GENERAL: Supplies are normally delivered to the Port of Naha or to the Naval Air Facility, Kadena AB to be picked up by the station logistics runs. Air shipments are normally delivered to Naha Airport through Flying Tigers Airlines. The distance between Gesashi and Naha takes about 2 1/2 hours to travel.
2. SUPPLY SOURCES:
  - a. General Stores and Housekeeping Supplies are ordered through the Federal Stock System and GSA Catalogs. Some supplies may also be procured locally at the various military bases or through Serv-Mart.
  - b. Fuel (gasoline and diesel) is procured through the Army Logistics Command and delivered by contract with an Okinawan company.
  - c. Commissary supplies are procured from the Air Force through Makiminato Supply Center or at the Commissary at Kadena AB.
  - d. Electronic parts are ordered from Coast Guard Base Honolulu or Supply Center Brooklyn, New York.
3. MAIL: Mail is delivered through the Navy Post Office, FPO Seattle, and is picked up by the station's logistics run.
4. TRANSPORTATION: There are two station vehicles, a 9 passenger Carryall and a 170 kg pick-up truck. Both are Japanese vehicles.
5. MEDICAL: A Coast Guard corpsman is assigned to the station and has a well equipped sickbay at his disposal. If a situation arises which is beyond his capabilities, complete hospital facilities are available 30 minutes away by Medevac helicopter.
6. PAY AND PERSONAL MATTERS: Personnel are paid by check twice a month. There are quite a few Base Exchanges where personal items may be picked up when on a logistics run.



## CHAPTER V

### LOCAL AREA INFORMATION

1. The Ryukyuans are a mixture of several races, probably including Malay, Mongul, and Ainu. The Ainu, a primitive people whose modern descendants live in Japan, are of Caucasian stock with light colored skin. The first settlers in the Ryukyus probably came from the Pacific Islands to the south, and eventually many others from China and mainland Japan. Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy. Sugar cane and pineapple fields can be seen all over the island. Commercial fisheries have been developed since the war, and there is an increasing supply and variety of fish. Approximately 40,000 Ryukyuans are employed by the U. S. Armed Forces in a variety of jobs.
2. The local culture and customs are unlike anything encountered in the States. The Okinawans are uniquely Oriental, but there is a large influence of the Western culture. The customs and people are similar to, but noticeably different from, those encountered on mainland Japan. To make life more enjoyable while stationed at this unit, it is recommended that some attempt to learn the cultures and customs of the Japanese people be made.
3. Nago is the closest large town, approximately one hour's drive from Gesashi, located at the neck of the Motobu Peninsula. Nago is the scene of the annual Cherry Blossom Festival, held each year at the foot of Nago Mountain in January. There are parades, native dances, and outdoor carnival attractions. The night is usually capped off with a fireworks display.
4. Though all personnel attached to LORSTA GESASHI are required to maintain a full seabag, civilian dress is recommended while on liberty. Civilian dress must conform to the highest standards.

## CHAPTER VI

### RECREATION

#### RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

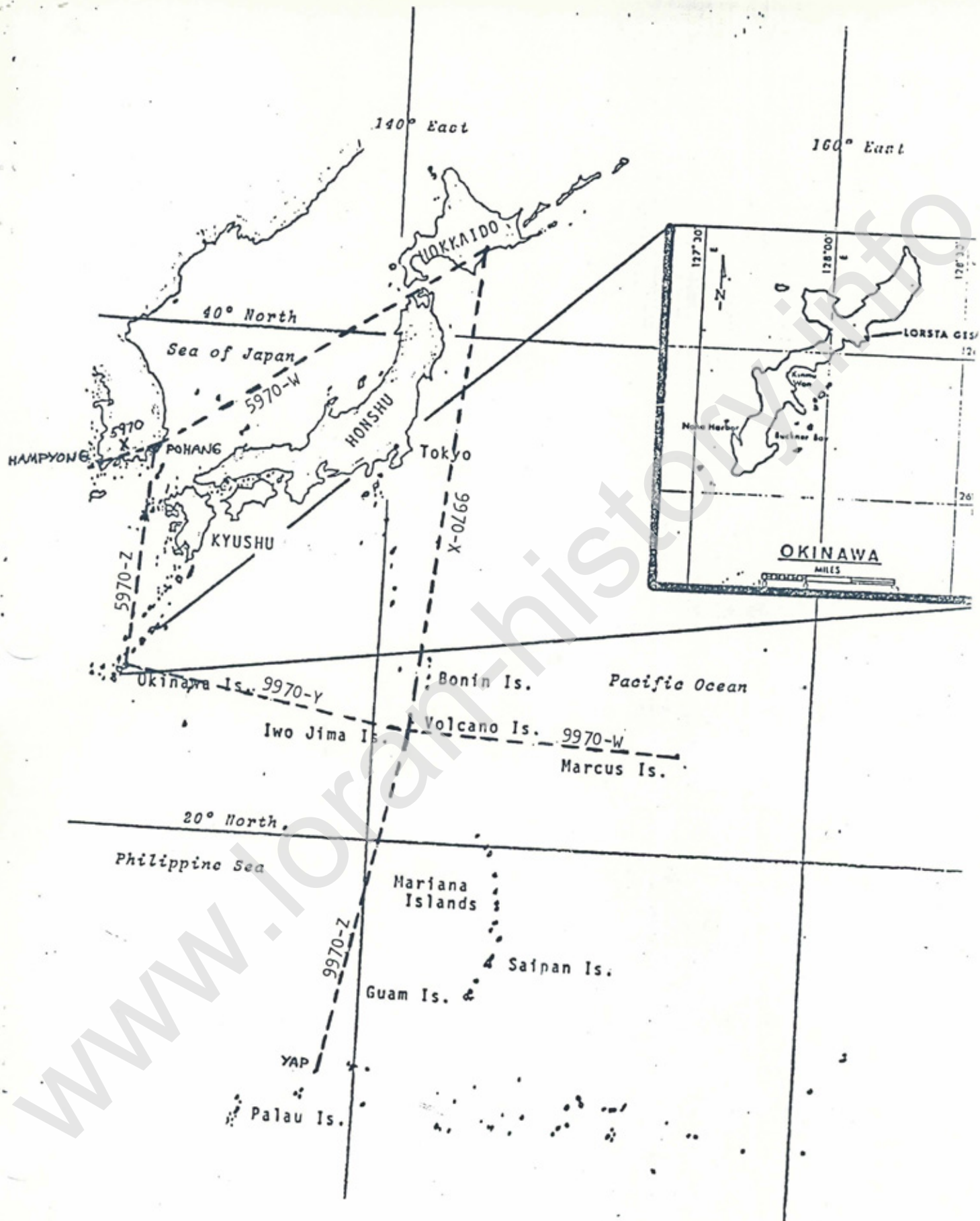
1. Recreational facilities at LORSTA GESASHI are many and varied. The most popular activities being basketball, tennis, softball, swimming, and volleyball. An excellent beach with a barrier reef and smaller reefs inside provide excellent snorkling. Pool, ping pong and pin-ball, plus a ham radio and photographic lab offer many hours of relaxation.
2. Liberty is granted on weekends to commence Friday after 1200 and it is possible to get overnight liberty in a limited amount. Liberty facilities are unlimited, there are many service clubs at various bases and plenty of civilian clubs.
3. One 48-hour and one 24-hour liberty per month is authorized. These are taken during free weekends.



## CHAPTER VII

### MISCELLANEOUS

1. Duty at this unit is considered overseas, restricted duty, thereby allowing married personnel to draw Family Separation Allowance (FSA), and enlisted members to draw Foreign Duty Pay. All personnel accumulate compensatory absence in the same manner regular leave is accumulated. Fourteen days of CA may be taken between the sixth and ninth months. Otherwise, all of the CA earned must be taken upon transfer or be lost.
2. Being at an overseas unit, all personnel are entitled to utilize the AAFES mail order catalog system.
3. Education opportunities include CG correspondence courses, Dantes correspondence courses, and testing facilities at Kadena AB for GED, ACT, SAT, ETC. Coast Guard tuition assistance is available for Dantes correspondence courses.
4. Whether on a military facility or not, Japanese law has precedence over military law. Customs and Japanese law are normally explained upon arrival. If a question about customs should arise, contact the nearest Customs Office before taking any action. The Status of Forces Agreement is explained by the Navy Staff Advocate General twice a year.





# OKINAWA REFERENCE MAP

- 1....OKUMA
- 2....MOTOBU
- 3....NAGO
- 4....BOLO POINT
- 5....CAMP SHIELDS
- 6....TORII STATION
- 7....SOBE
- 8....KADENA AIR BASE
- 9....PLAZA HSG AREA
- 10....CAMP KUWAE
- 11....CHATAN
- 12....ZUKERAN
- 13....FUTENMA HSG AREA
- 14....MERCY
- 15....OJANA
- 16....MAKIMINATO SERVICE AREA
- 17....AMERICAN CONSULATE OFFICE
- 18....MAKIMINATO/NAHA HSG AREA
- 19....INTERNATIONAL CEMETERY
- 20....NAMINOUE SHRINE
- 21....NAHA CITY
- 22....NAHA PORT
- 23....NAHA AIR BASE
- 24....ITOMAN

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- 25...HENOKO
- 26...CAMP SCHWAB
- 27...YAKA BEACH
- 28...CAMP COURTNEY
- 29...TENGAN
- 30...CAMP MCTUREOUS
- 31...CHIBANA
- 32...WHITE BEACH
- 33...OKINAWA CITY
- 34...SHIMABUKURO
- 35...PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER
- 36...KISHABA HSG AREA
- 37...MCB HEADQUARTERS
- 38...FUTENMA
- 39...MCAS
- 40...MAEHARA
- 41...SHURI
- 42...YONABARU
- 43...BUCKNERVILLE
- 44...SUICIDE CLIFF
- 45...CAMP HANSEN