

5054/52

McPaul
CONFIDENTIAL
Vol. 1, No. 52
9 JULY 1945

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AND PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS



WEEKLY
INTELLIGENCE



Any material appearing in Weekly Intelligence may be reproduced with or without credit, provided proper classification is observed. Weekly Intelligence receives wide distribution among Fleet units and key Navy, Marine and Army Commands. Any requests for additional distribution may be addressed to Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific Ocean Areas.

CONTENTS

The Admiral's Cave On Okinawa	Page 1 - 3
Tombs In Defense Role	4 - 5
The 88 mm Type 99 AA Gun	6 - 7
Parachute Signal Ball	7
Two New Weapons	8
From An Observer On Okinawa	9 - 10
Counterintelligence Regulations	11
Self-Propelled Guns	12 - 13
Kanoya Airfield	14 - 17
Characteristics Of New Aircraft Engines	18 - 19
Enemy Tactics Against B-29s	20
BETTY 24	21
JILL 12	22
Digest Of Tokyo Broadcasts	23
Special Assault Boat Training	24 - 25
Sea Truck In Island Cove	25
Torpedo Assembly Plant	26 - 27
New Features Of Type 93 Torpedo	28
New Aircraft Code Name	28
Japanese Naval Strategy - II	29 - 40
Railroads Of Korea	41 - 44
Weekly Photo Coverage	45 - 47
Illuminated Aiming Stake	47
Tunnels Between Kyushu And Honshu	48 - 49
Lifeguard Submarine	50

Cover Page: Although Okinawa has been declared secure the task of flushing individual Japs and small groups from caves and underbrush remains. In this photo Marines are shown accepting a surrender from one Jap, dressed as a civilian, who chose to "come with us" rather than to join his ancestors. (Marine Corps photo)

Enclosures: Revisions to Japanese Operational Aircraft.
Mosaic of Kanoya Airfield.

THE ADMIRAL'S CAVE ON OKINAWA

A detailed description of the elaborate cave installation used by Admiral Minoru Ota, CinC of the Okinawa Area Naval Base Force, as his headquarters on Okinawa is afforded by a report of Tenth Army Headquarters.

The cave was found on 14 June by an investigating party from the Sixth Marine Division near the town of Tomigusau in southern Okinawa. The search was conducted on the basis of a tip from a captured warrant officer and two naval enlisted men who had surrendered. The cave has been sealed to prevent any further use by Japanese still hiding on the island but can be reopened if there is any evidence that it will yield secret documents or other intelligence matter. Preliminary search uncovered no such data. In this connection it has been suggested that in the future all such caves be carefully marked and identified by the discoverers so that further examination can be made by qualified personnel if considered advisable.

As a headquarters, Admiral Ota's cave was by far the best and most elaborate yet encountered. Its entrance and passageways were about seven feet high and six feet wide. Ventilation was good. A large electrical system had been installed so that many of the offices (see accompanying sketch) had fans and electric clocks. The office rooms were re-inforced with concrete doorways and walls. The code room had sound-proof walls in addition. Some of the offices were connected by tele-phones. The entire cave and its corridors covered an area estimated at about 200 square yards. The main passageway was at least 150 yards long.

The warrant officer POW told interrogators he had been ordered out of the cave by a staff officer when Admiral Ota, realizing the hopelessness of his situation, decided to commit suicide. All able-bodied men supposedly had been sent out for a final attack on U.S. forces.

A POW guided the investigating party to the main entrance. The other entrances had been sealed by demolition charges. The prisoner agreed to enter the cave and proceed to the Admiral's room and then return to report what he had found there. However, he turned back after going only about 50 yards inside. He explained that he could not get through because of the many badly wounded Japanese troops lying in the passageways. A Marine language officer entered the cave and called to some of the wounded, asking them to surrender. One Korean laborer responded by coming out but the others declared they wished to be left alone to commit suicide.

Several Marines then entered the cave hoping to reach the room described by the POWs as the Admiral's chamber or Flag Officers' room. However, just short of the turn off the passageway into the room they sighted the moving figures of several Japanese soldiers about 30 yards farther down the corridor. They shot at the Japanese but it was then decided not to proceed farther without more coverage and better lights. The next day it was decided to clean out the entire cave and a larger patrol undertook the mission.

The first 50 yards inside the main passageway were traversed comparatively

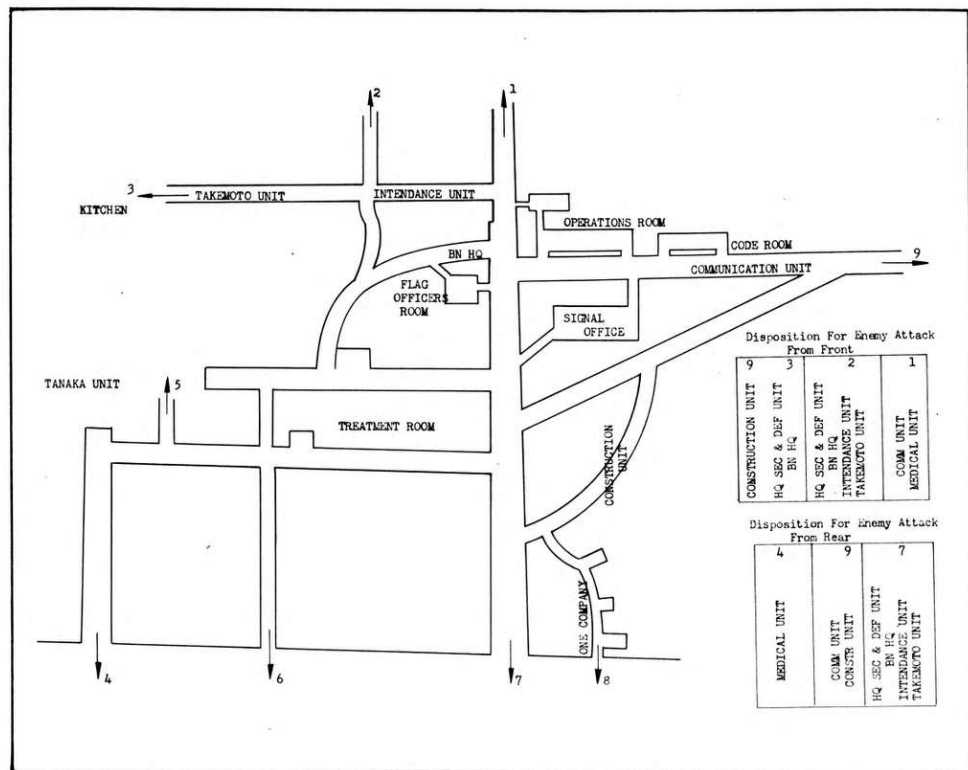


Diagram of Admiral Minoru Ota's headquarters cave on Okinawa. This sketch was prepared by G-2, Tenth Army Headquarters. The cave's entrance and passages were 7 1/2 feet high. It covered an area of about 200 yards.

easily. A few dead bodies were inside the entrance, but no mines or booby-traps. The first series of passageways off to the sides had double-tiered bunks stretching for perhaps a hundred feet. Each bunk contained the body of a Japanese and it was necessary to check each of these to eliminate any chance that its occupant might still be alive. The majority of the bodies showed signs of having been killed only recently, and many others had wounds that had been treated.

Still more passages off to the right and to the left had single rows of bunks containing bodies which had been dead about a week. A small entrance to the left

off the main corridor was discovered which led to the Flag Officers' room. The room itself was no more spectacular than any of the other offices found later, but the scene encountered was perhaps one of the more gruesome examples of Japanese fanaticism to date.

On a raised mattress-covered platform were six bodies stretched out on their backs, side by side, each with his throat cut. They had been dead three to four days. The bodies were not clothed in any special ceremonial uniforms, but were in clean, olive-green pants and jackets. No insignia indicative of rank or any identification was found on the bodies, but the search of the room yielded sets of shoulder boards bearing three white chrysanthemums on two wide gold stripes. A box of calling cards with Rear Admiral Ota's name on them was also recovered.

The man at the head of the line was judged to have been the Admiral since the shoulder boards and cards were among some personal belongings in a suitcase at the foot of his section of the platform. New dress uniforms of an Admiral were found neatly pressed and folded in small trunks and boxes underneath this same part of the platform. A photograph of the Admiral was not of positive assistance due to decomposition, though the size and height and general appearance appeared to correspond. Few other personal weapons and belongings were uncovered. The suicide weapon also was missing.

In view of the careful position of the bodies, the neat appearance and order of the room, all indications were that some attendant or aide was entrusted with the task of arranging the bodies and straightening out the room. The order of their deaths is still undetermined.

Further confirmation of the identity of the Admiral's body was produced subsequently when a newly captured POW was taken into the cave and his independent identification agreed with the previous tentative identification. The POW also identified three of the other bodies as those of Navy Captain Maekawa, Navy Captain Tanamachi and Navy Captain Haneda (?). The other two he did not know.

Next to the suicides of the Admiral and his staff, the most important feature was the virtually complete absence of all secret documents and papers. The documents recovered with the exception of a few communication instructions and some hydrographic charts were of limited tactical intelligence value. The POWs, when questioned on this matter later, said that they heard of an order issued by the Admiral calling in all secret publications and papers for burning and disposal. One of the prisoners was certain that all cryptographic publications and files of orders had been burned two weeks prior to the date of his capture, but claimed no knowledge where this was done. No traces or indications of the mass of papers an organization of this size must have had were found. There were no signs that anything had been destroyed by burning. Large quantities of radio equipment were found in good condition, as well as accessories and spare parts.

An estimated 175 Japanese troops were found dead in the cave, about five of whom were killed by the patrol during its search. The majority were naval ground troops and the rest Home Guard personnel and laborers.

TOMBS IN DEFENSE ROLE

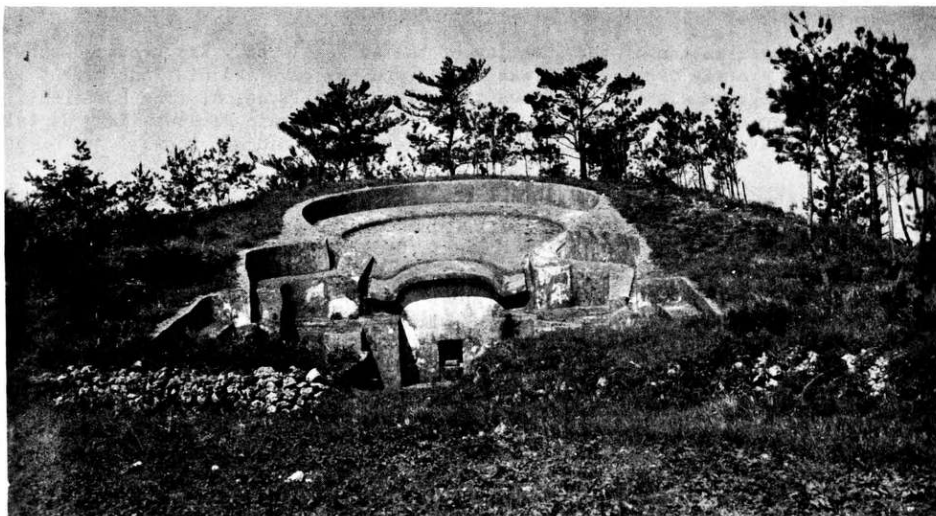
As had been forecast, the Japanese with customary aptness in exploiting existing terrain features, made extensive use of the numerous tombs on Okinawa. These tombs are distinctive of the island where Chinese ancestor worship still has a strong influence on the natives who build conspicuous limestone burial vaults. (See Weekly Intelligence, Vol. 1, No. 39.)

A captured document reported by the Tenth Army on 5 May 1945 shows relative location of several tombs which were to be used as infiltration points (see accompanying Sketch 1).

The raiding party apparently planned to approach Tomb (D) near the flank of the target selected for attack. A diversionary attack upon the U.S. machine gun position was to be made, permitting the main strength of the raiding party to gain access to the system of underground passages. Upon emerging from Tomb (A) the raiding party would launch simultaneous attacks upon U.S. command posts against the rear of our mortar position, and upon the artillery gun emplacement.

Exit from the underground network could be effected from any of the tombs but it would not be necessary to emerge until the most favorable position for launching the attack had been reached.

Sketch 2 gives a general perspective of a tomb and indicates modification of existing entrances and the addition of a door where practical.



Typical Okinawan Tomb. Note construction, dimensions, and locations. Tomb located behind GREEN Beach 2.

EXAMPLE OF INFILTRATION POINTS UTILIZING TOMBS

