







15 Oct 47

Auth: ATRC Reg 9-1

GENERAL ORDERS

1. To take charge of this post and all Government property in view.
2. To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.
3. To report all violations of orders I am instructed to enforce.
4. To repeat all calls from post more distant from the guardhouse than my own.
5. To quit my post only when properly relieved.
6. To receive, obey, and pass on to the sentinel who relieves me all orders from the commanding officer, officer of the day, and officers, and non-commissioned officers of the guard only.
7. To talk to no one except in line of duty.
8. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.
9. To call the corporal of the guard in any case not covered by instructions.
10. To salute all officers and all colors and standards not cased.
11. To be especially watchful at night and, during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near my post, and to allow no one to pass without proper authority.

CARRY THESE ORDERS WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES.

S9-1596TC—Scott AFB, Ill.—28 Oct 49—15M

15 Oct 47

Auth: ATRC Reg 9-1

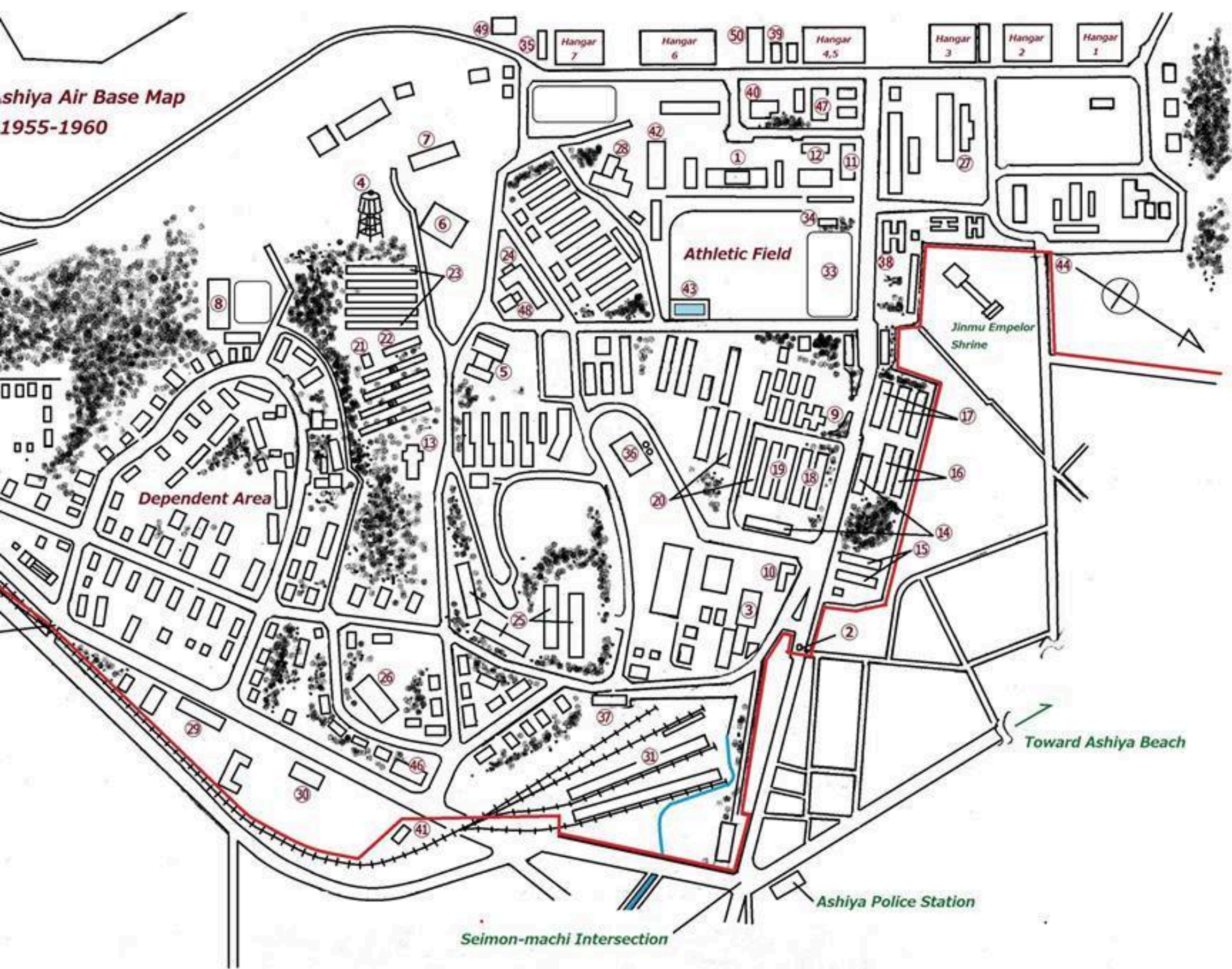
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S9-1596TC—Scott AFB, Ill.—28 Oct 49—15M

Ashiya Air Base Map
1955-1960







PROTESTANT

THUR. BIBLE CLASS 1930

SCHOOL 0930

WORSHIP SERVICES 1100

VESPER SERVICE 1900

CATHOLIC

SAT. MASS 0900

SUN. MASS 0800 ; 0930

SAT. CONF. 071700







Domain of the Golden Dragon

To all Sailors and Mariners

Wherever Ye May Be, and to all mermaids, flying dragons, spirits of the deep, devil chasers, and all other living creatures of the yellow seas:

GREETINGS!

KNOW YE that on this 2 day of September 1957 there appeared within the limits of my Royal, Majestic and Mystic domain the good ship

U.S.S. Breckenridge U.S. Navy

HEARKEN YE: that the said vessel, officers, and crew have been examined, inspected and passed by my august body and staff

AND KNOW YE: Ye that are chit signers, squaw men, smokers, ice men, Sad Sacks, Foam Blowers, Gold Bricks and all-around Landlubbers that

Sep U.S. Army

M A A G
T A I W A N

UNIT OR ORGANIZATION

having been found sane and worthy to be numbered a voyager in the Far East, has been gathered in my fold and duly initiated into the

Mystic Order of the Golden Dragon

Be It Further Remembered: that by virtue of the power invested in me I do hereby command all my subjects to show due honor and respect to him whenever he may enter my Realm. Disobey this command under penalty of my august displeasure.

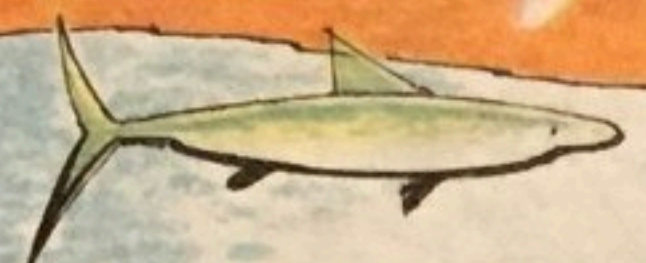
GOLDEN DRAGON
Ruler of the 180th Meridian

By

Donald W. Todd

TITLE

Ruler of the 180th Meridian



DOMAIN OF THE GOLDEN DRAGON

Ruler of the 180th Meridian

KNOW ALL YE GOLDEN DRAGONS THAT ON THIS

DAY OF _____ 19____

IN LATITUDE _____ LONGITUDE 180° 00'

THERE APPEARED WITHIN MY DOMAIN THE

AND KNOW ALL YE THAT

WAS DULY INITIATED INTO THE ROYAL DOMAIN
OF THE GOLDEN DRAGON.

Golden Dragon

RULER OF THE 180TH MERIDIAN

Rasey Jones
HIS MAJESTY'S SCRIBE

COMMANDING



消火器









第70回日本耳鼻咽喉科学会総会会場





Kushida Shrine:

The God enshrined in this Shrine is worshipped by Fu kuoka people as guardian God indigenous to the City. It was built in 757. Every year beginning July 1 through 15 a period named "Gion Festival" is celebrated when local people make and display traditional and gorgeously decorated "Floats" named "Yamagasa". Century-old ginkgo trees growing in the compound are designated by the prefecture as one of its natural keepsakes.



スホツ用品

三井物産
柔道衣

40

風中運動

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東亜航空

CLUB | las vegas



いよたん横丁

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ルビー

長

伊藤酒本店

Bar じやるむ

美容

少年

いのん





横丁

Asahi Beer

西日本自動車
東中洲営業



Bar

町

寺

十番

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幕路

BAR

とみ

料理

ASAHI BEER

日活ホテル
KOKUSAI HOTEL

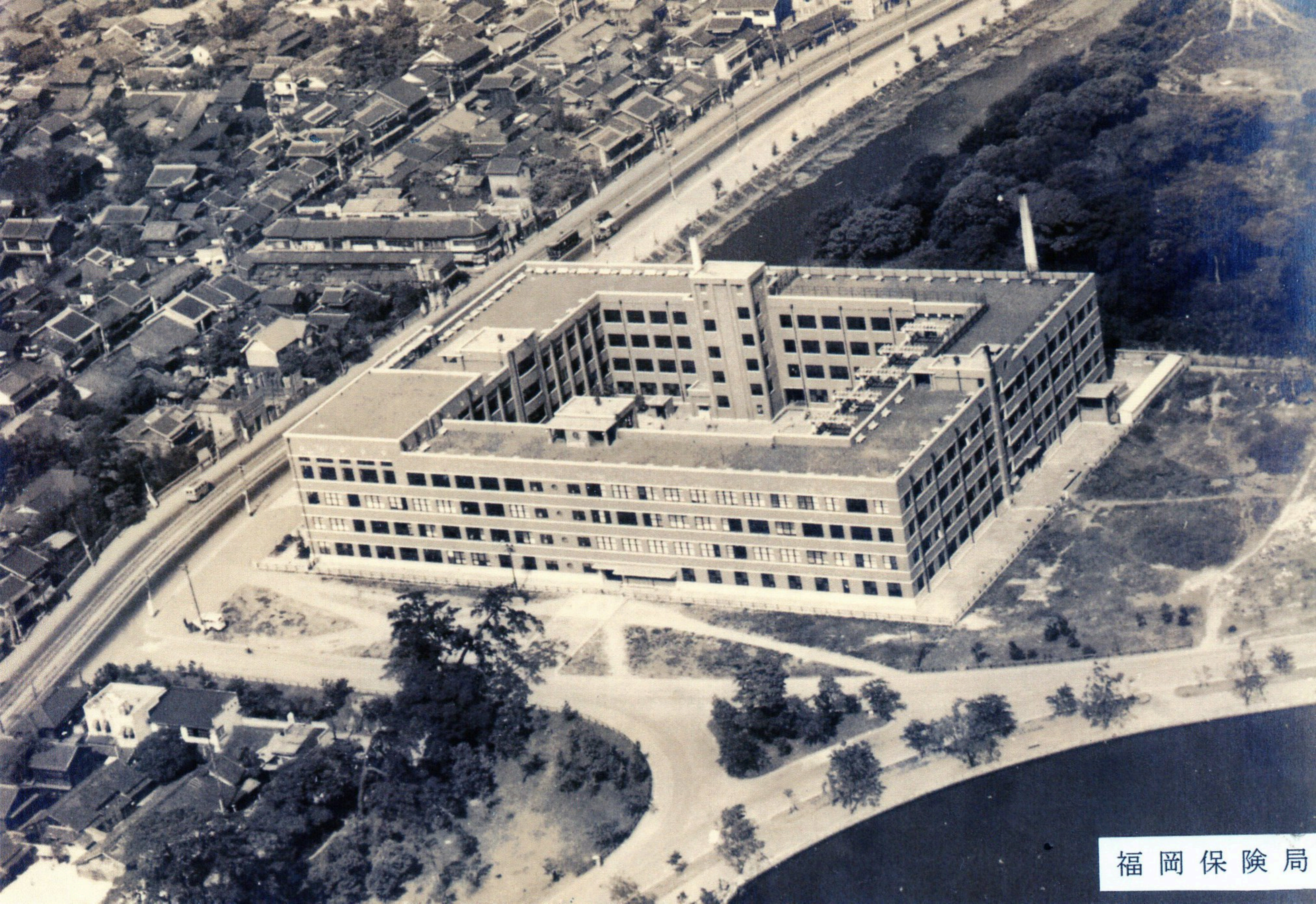
Nikkatsu Theatre



日活ホテル

ASAHI BEER





福岡保険局



銀行





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中央音

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ツーマン連接車

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三本后油

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安田信託銀行

高屋・丹十

天香堂

天香堂

コカ・コーラ

Coca-Cola

GS



西新町 100

1009

ツーマン連接車

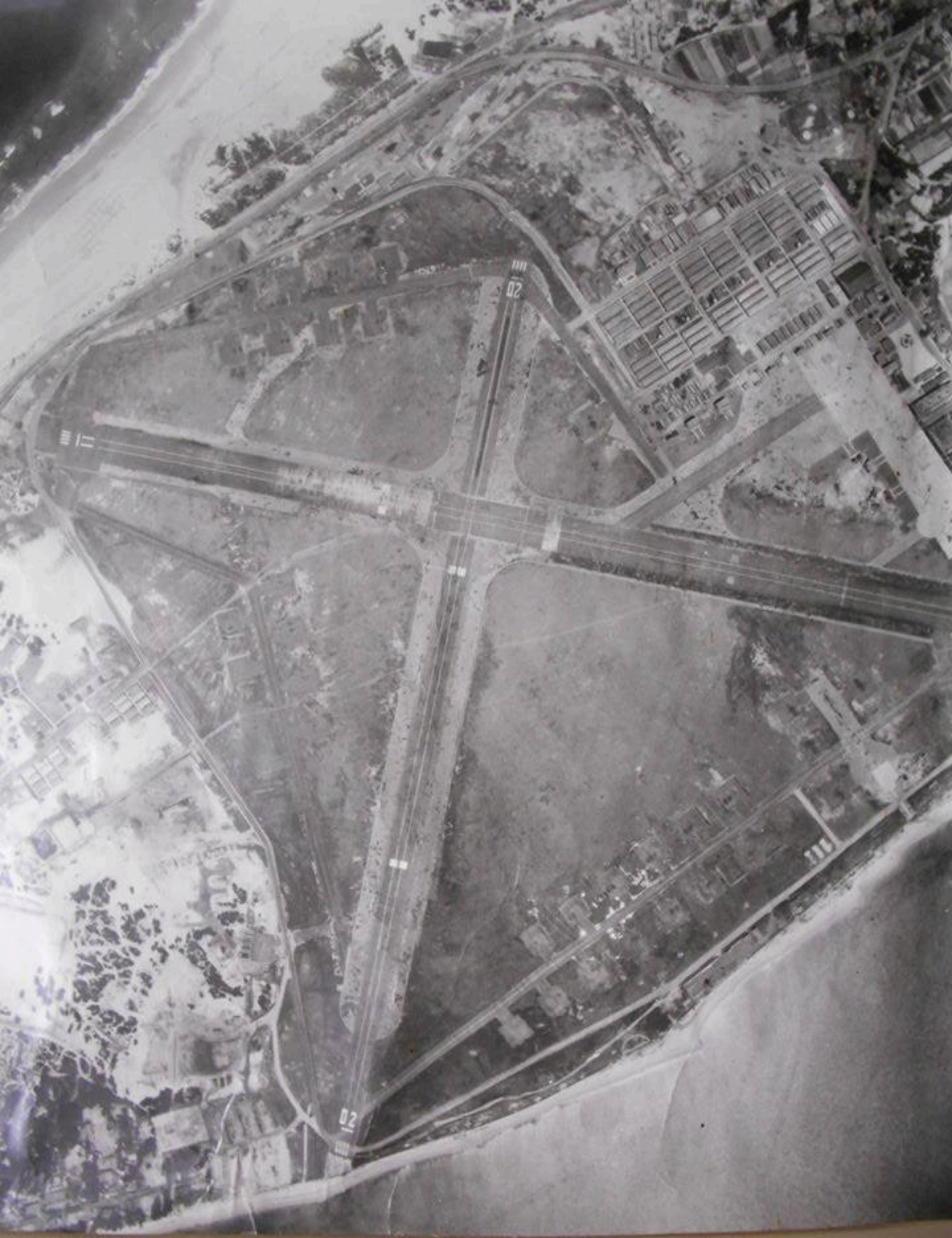
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95-61













SPECIAL ISSUE

Itazuke BULLETIN



No. 1 POST A COPY ON ALL BULLETIN BOARDS Friday 14 February 1969

Headquarters, 348th Combat Support Group Commander Life Scout (Colonel) Harold H. Zaina

DATE	STAFF DUTY OFFICER	QTRS PHONE	DATE	STAFF DUTY OFFICER	QTRS PHONE
14 Feb	Life Scout (Capt) Richard D. Elliott	65082	14 Feb	Star Scout (Maj) Keith T. Hopkins	65535

STAFF DUTY CHAPLAIN on call after duty hours for 14 Feb is Life Scout (Maj) McDonald. During normal duty hours call 65052, after duty hours call Security Police Desk, 65227.

1. MAIL SERVICE: Effective 14 February mail service will be under the control of the Pony Express. This allows the mail to be posted by the end of the working year. We hope all personnel are satisfied by the change making Air Mail .03¢ a letter. (BDM/2224)

2. CHOW HOUNDS: Free French Fries at the Green Wave!!! In effect as of 14 Feb during the hours of 0300 - 0400. (BC/2112)

3. VANDALISM: A short note on dependent behavior. There have recently been too little acts of vandalism and this I can not nor will not condone. Remember, do your part to live up to today's teen image. Life can be pretty miserable if you are not with the "in-crowd". (BCH/65219)

4. ATTENTION COMMISSARY PATRONS: Due to the numerous complaints about bakery service, we have looked into the problem and come up with a solution. As of 17 Feb, our bakery will be operated in such a manner that no products will be touched by human hands. Laborers will be recruited from the New York City Zoo. (EVC/2112)

5. ATTENTION STUDENTS: New school hours in affect as of 17 Feb will be as follows: 0900 - 1100 with 15 minutes between classes. Breakfast will be served at 0915 - 1045. Classes will be dismissed at 1100. (BDPS/65878)

6. ATTENTION STUDENTS AND PARENTS: School will not be held this Saturday and Sunday. By Order of the Boy Scouts of America. (ESG/65672)

7. ALL PARENTS: Plans for a new school building are now being laid. If you are interested, please mail your check for \$7,000,000.00 to Quarters 1512-A as soon as possible. (EVC/2112)

8. DON'T YOU AGREE? A Bad Conduct Discharge, six months confinement at easy labor, increase of two thirds pay per month for six months and promotion to a General could be the price one pays for stealing a piece of bubble gum. Isn't it a bargain? (BDM/2224)

9. TELEPHONE SERVICE. Telephones will be "Off Limits" to parents between the hours of 1800 - 2100 hours daily. (1955 TC-T/65112)

FOR THE COMMANDER

Richard L. Gilbert
RICHARD L. GILBERT, LIFE SCOUT (LTCOL)
Vice Commander

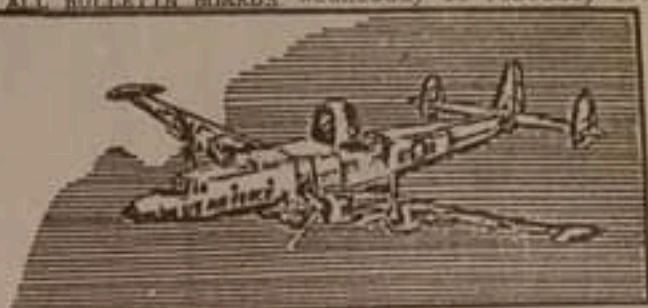
This Daily Bulletin has been published by courtesy of the Boy Scout Troop 73. Please disregard all announcements contained above.

SPECIAL EDITION

No. Special Order 3 POST A COPY ON ALL BULLETIN BOARDS Wednesday 11 February 1970

BULLETIN

ITAZUKE AIR BASE



Headquarters, 348th Combat Support Group Commander

THE OFFICIAL SECTION OF THIS BULLETIN EFFECTIVE FOR 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF PUBLICATION. ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION MUST BE AT 348th BCA NLT 1200 HRS THE DAY BEFORE DATE OF DESIRED PUBLICATION. PREPARED ON 8 X 10 1/2 PAPER, TYPED OR PRINTED WITH INDIVIDUAL'S SIGNATURE AND TELEPHONE NUMBER. ITEMS WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR 1 DAY ONLY. ITEMS FOR UNOFFICIAL SECTION WILL BE PUBLISHED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS.

DATE	STAFF DUTY OFFICER	DATE	STAFF DUTY OFFICER
11 Feb	Explorer (ZLT) Garry Boykin	12 Feb	Second Class (Capt) Steve Curry

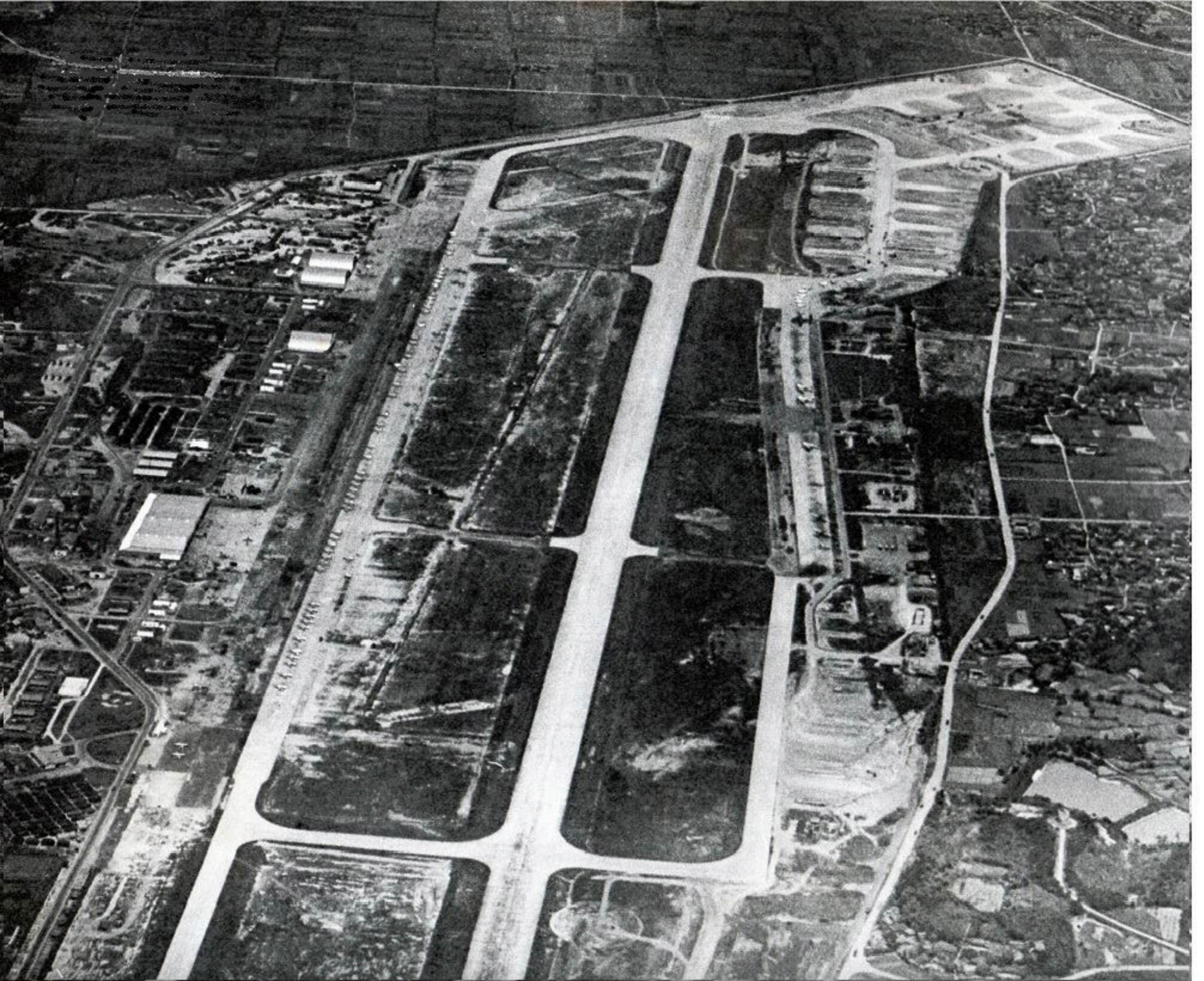
STAFF DUTY CHAPLAIN on call after duty hours for the period 9 - 15 Feb is First Class (Maj) Clinton Knapp.

RED CROSS WORKER on call after duty hours and on holidays is Second Class (Mr.) Kenneth Hands.

- CHANGE IN CURFEW HOURS. Effective immediately, all personnel over the age of 18 or out of high school, will be in their assigned quarters from 2100-0600. Any exceptions will be made by the Chief, Security Police. (Explorer (Capt) John Curry, FEN)
- NEW SPEED LIMIT. In place of the present speed limit of 15-25 mph, there will be a new speed limit of 1-5 mph. This change will be enforced by the Security Police. (Star (Capt) Dale Donovan, BSF)
- EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. There will be a new buddy system which applies to all pedestrians. All pedestrians, no matter what age, will be accompanied by a second person whenever walking anywhere outside of assigned quarters. This is a safety precaution taken by the Chief, Security Police. (Second Class (Mr.) Wendell Wilcox, BSA)
- ANYONE wanting a second hand school contact Mr. Chicarell immediately. (Life (Lt Col) Harold Zaina, BVC)
- EDUCATION ASSISTANCE. Let your children drop out with an interest bearing loan now. (Second Class (Capt) Troy Secord, BDPSE)
- ATTENTION DEPENDENTS. Visit your local stag bar immediately. (Second Class (Lt Col) Tim Ferryman, BDM)
- NCO CLUB. In case you didn't notice, it was free - all food, drinks, etc. - on 10 Feb. Too bad if you missed it. (Life (Col) Lamont Wilcox, BC)
- ALL FOOD AT THE GREEN WAVE is free provided you use proper utensils: Plate 50c, Fork 25c, Knife 15c, Spoon 15c, Cup 35c, Glass 40c, Napkins 10c, Salt and Pepper 1c per grain. (Explorer (Capt) Richard Hands, BDS)
- MARRIAGE COUNSELING SERVICE. Contact the following individuals for help in resolving your marital problems. Explorer (Capt) Tim Riley, BCE; Explorer (Capt) Rod Kern, SDMT; Explorer (Maj) John Secord, BDO; and 2nd Class (Capt) Keith Seat, BDO.

Harold Zaina
Harold Zaina, Lt Colonel
Vice Commander

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

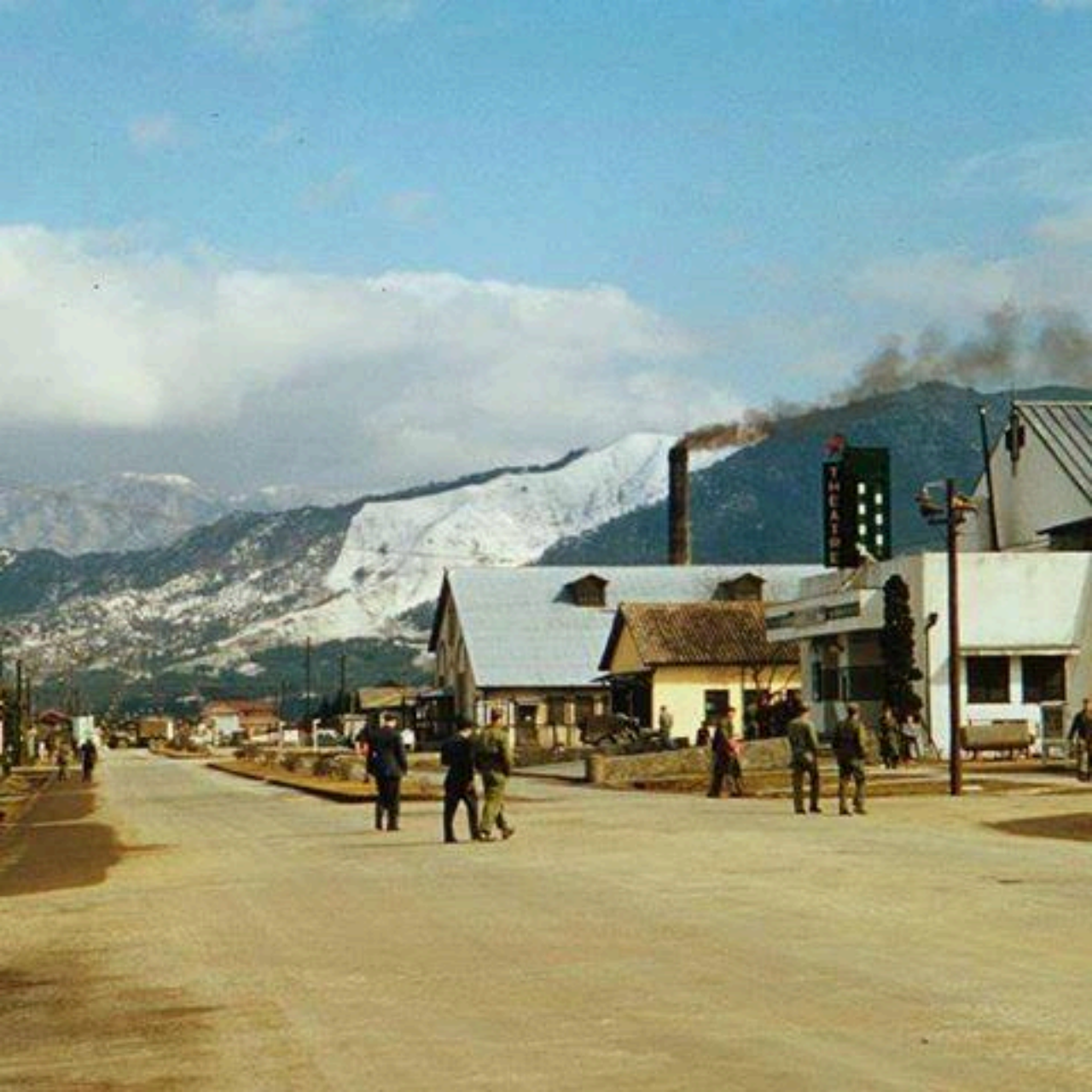






346G6I430PSI5MAY603E0870VSHAI534VR6SU7425





PACIFIC AIR FORCES
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

ITAZUKE AIRBASE

(ADMINISTRATION ANNEX)





ITAZUKE
A.F. STATION
ELEVATION 25 FT.

WELCOME TO THE AIR FORCE



AIRMEN'S

**TRANSIENT
BARRACKS**

ITAZUKE AIR BASE

APD 929 JAPAN





346G6I430PSI5MAY603E0870VSHA1534VR6SU7425

Itazuke Colonel Kills Himself

TOKYO (FEAF)—Col. A. J. Bird Jr., 45, 8th Air Base Gp. Commander at Itazuke Air Base, died of a self-inflicted gun-shot wound Thursday morning, FEAF Hq. announced.

He was found in his quarters about 8 a.m. and pronounced dead on arrival at Itazuke Base Hosp.

Bird leaves his wife, two sons and a daughter at Itazuke. His parents live in Metter, Ga.

He attended flight school at San Antonio, Tex., graduating in October, 1932. During World War II Bird was with the Fifteenth Air Force in Europe and flew 12 combat missions over Germany and Austria.

Bird attended the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Ala., in 1947-1948 and was base commander at the Air Missile Test Center at Patrick AFB, Fla. before assignment to the Far East in February, 1953.

He commanded the 6160st Air Base Wg. (JADF) before assuming command of the 8th Air Base Gp.



**HEADQUARTERS
160TH AIR BASE WING
APO 929**

Welcome to Itazuke Air Force Base.

I take this opportunity to extend a sincere welcome to all newly arriving personnel at Itazuke Air Force Base.

We are proud of Itazuke and all organizations assigned. At the outbreak of the Korean conflict, aircraft from this base flew direct striking missions from the air strip. We fully expect that all will live up to the honor brought to this base by those before us.

This booklet has been prepared to help you become acquainted with one of the finest Air Bases in Japan. It is my fond hope that your tour of duty here will be one of the most pleasant in your Air Force career.

A. J. BIRD, JR.
Colonel, USAF
Commanding

Itazuke--Crossroads of the Far East

ITAZUKE AB, Japan—Itazuke, home of the 348th Combat Support Gp, and its subordinate elements, is at the crossroads of the Far East. It is near Hakata Bay and Fukuoka City in the northern part of the island of Kyushu, southernmost of Japan's four main islands. Itazuke is closer to Shanghai, China, than Tokyo, and 114 miles from Pusan, Korea.

The base is actually a complex of four main installations—Itazuke AB, or the "Strip"; Itazuke Administration Annex, six miles south of the base; Hakata Administration Annex, 25 miles north across Hakata Bay on a peninsula; and Yamada Ammunition Storage Annex, near Kokura, 60 miles northeast.

The mission of the 348th CSG is to operate and maintain the units located at Itazuke and other assigned facilities in accordance with the Forward Operating Base con-

cept and other directives or agreements.

In 1964 Itazuke changed from one of the busiest air bases in the Pacific to the readiness condition of an FOB. The 348th CSG is the housekeeping unit for the base and supports the many tenant units stationed here. The base stands constantly ready to receive rotational units and typhoon evacuation units on short notice and to give them full support, logistically, while they are here.

Construction of the Itazuke air strip began late in 1943 by the Japanese Imperial Army Air Forces and was complete in 1944. The runways were first used by trainer type aircraft.

Later the 6th Fighter Wg. of the Japanese Imperial Army Air Force was based on the Strip to defend Southern Japan from air attacks. During April 1945 the air strip at Kurume, about 20 miles south of Itazuke, was struck by

B-29 bombers, and it became necessary to move the Japanese bombers from Kurume to Itazuke AB. These bombers used Itazuke as their base of operations until the very last days of World War II, when Itazuke was destroyed by B-29s. U.S. forces took over in October 1945.

The only portion of the Itazuke Administration Annex in existence during World War II is the present civil engineering, base supply and motor pool areas. The rest of the area was farm land.

The first dependent travel to Itazuke was authorized in August 1946, but there were no houses on the base, all service families lived in Japanese houses, either in Fukuoka City or in the villages surrounding the base.

Today, there are some 580 housing units at Itazuke Annex and approximately 300 at Hakata Annex. Yamada Annex has four housing units.

Normal occupation duties were interrupted on 26 June 1950 when the North Korean Army crossed into South Korea. This was the signal for Itazuke to become one of the prime operational bases in Japan. Itazuke's 68th Fighter-Interceptor Sq. was assigned the mission of maintaining aerial cover for the evacuation of U.S. civilian personnel from Korea.

Many combat missions were flown out of Itazuke, utilizing many different aircraft, but primarily the F-80 jets.

From the end of the Korean conflict until Forward Operating Bases status in 1964, Itazuke was the home of the 8th Tactical Fighter Wg. and the 6143rd Air Base Gp.

Following the Pueblo Crisis in Korea in January 1968, Itazuke again became an active AF base. The 15th Tactical Reconnaissance Sq., equipped with RF-4Cs, and Detachment 001, of the 363d Tactical Reconnaissance

Wg., later redesignated 19th Tactical Electronics Warfare Sq., with EB-66s, left Itazuke in May 1969.

Itazuke also serves as the commercial air terminal for Fukuoka and northern Kyushu, and it is often called Fukuoka International Airport. The base is used by seven commercial air lines, the most important of which is Japan Air Lines, with hourly Boeing 727 services to Tokyo and Convair 880 international flights to Taiwan and Hong Kong. Over 90 percent of Itazuke's traffic is flown by commercial air lines.

Thai Airmen Get On-Job Training

TAKHLI RTAFB, Thailand — Eight members of Thailand's military forces are receiving on-the-job training here in skills they will use when they return to their

TSgt Roy M. Price, unit OJT supervisor, the Thai airmen are being taught modern methods of munitions handling and storage during their stay with the U.S. Air Force wing.

PACIFIC CLASSIFIED

AGENTS WANTED

ENLISTED MEN on duty in Vietnam: Earn \$9 hour sparetime. No experience—no investment—easy—legit: Eljay Service, Box 43, Chardon, Ohio 44024.

CAMERAS

ALL THE TOP BRANDS. Postpaid, duty & tax free to APO's. Nikon Photomic FTN F1.4 \$230. Nikkormat FTN F1.4 \$165. Pentax F1.4 \$137. Topcon Super F1.4 \$192.90. Miranda Sensorex F1.4 \$144. Minolta SRT 101 F1.4 \$158.50. Topcon Uni F2.0 \$79.80. Mamiya-Sekor DTL 1000 F1.4 \$146.80. Miranda Sensomat F1.4 \$119. Mamiya C-330 F2.8 \$194.50. Bronica S-2 F2.8 \$259.90. Kowa Six F2.8 \$195. Mamiya Press Universal F3.5 \$183. Mamiya C-220 F2.8 \$123.60. Bolex Super Macrozoom \$199.50. Nikon 8x Super Zoom \$209.50. Toyo View 4x5 \$198.50. Plaubel View 4x5 \$395.50. Mamiya TL 528 \$62. 35mm SLR Analysis Bulletin 1970 enlarged edition \$1.00 (Credited against Order). Write today to the dependable money-back-if-not-satisfied American firm, INTERNATIONAL CAMERA, Basel 23, Switzerland

HOTELS

HAWAIIAN HORIZON HOTEL. TLA approved. On the shoreline of Pearl Harbor. Two swimming pools. Deluxe studios, 1 & 2 bedrooms. Furnished. Cooking facilities. Maid service and telephone. Close to most bases. Free brochure write: 98-135 Lipoa Place, Aiea, Oahu, Hawaii. Phone 467-441.

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ROTATING TO FACE COAST





THE F-105 THUNDERCHIEF IN JAPAN

Lt. Col. Max T. Beall, commander, 35th Tactical Fighter Squadron, eased his F-105 Thunderchief on to the runway at Itazuke Air Base at 10:52 a.m. on Sunday, May 12.

The sleek, all weather, tactical fighter rolled to a stop. Beall silenced the powerful engine and the Thunderchief's proud, pointed nose stood erect, facing Itazuke

Tower. Colonel William E. Buck, Jr., commander, 8th Tactical Fighter Wing, welcomed Colonel Beall as he stepped from the cockpit to the concrete.

A new chapter in the defense of Japan and the Free World had been written. The Thunderchief has arrived. And the pilots of Itazuke are better equipped than ever to defend the free skies over Japan.





FOLLOW ME

SEASON'S
GREETINGS



ITAZUKE AIR BASE JAPAN



FUKUOKA

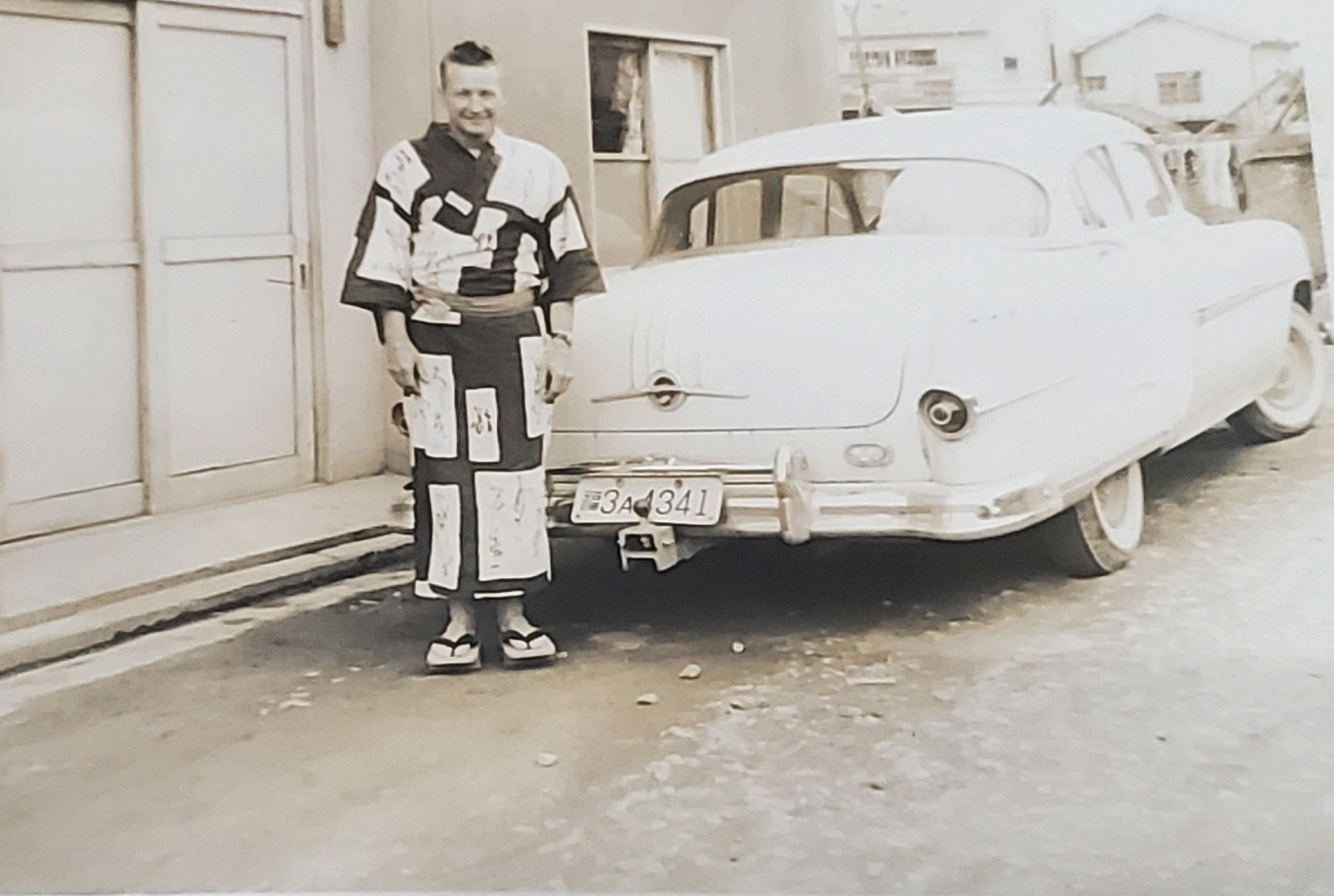
TOKYO



ITAZUKE AIR BASE

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN





JAHAN

1955

POST EXCHANGE
BOWLING ALLEYS
TRADING AIR FORCE WING BASE









ITAZUMI SONIC

Miss Olympic Champions

Sports

Officials List Waiting Periods For Reconstructed Base Housing

Hazukeytes' Conks In On Suggestion Plan

Alumnus Honored

Education Center C Term II Registration

Accredited Rating Told

SCHUNK



MERRY CHRISTMAS from the..... Sonicle Staff



AIC SCHAINCK
EDITOR...

CAPT M.D. SECORD
INFO OFF.

MR. G. TOWATA
ADVISOR

MRS. S. SAKAI
SECRETARY

ABC BROWN
STAFF WRITER

SGT
R. L. FORD
NGCIC

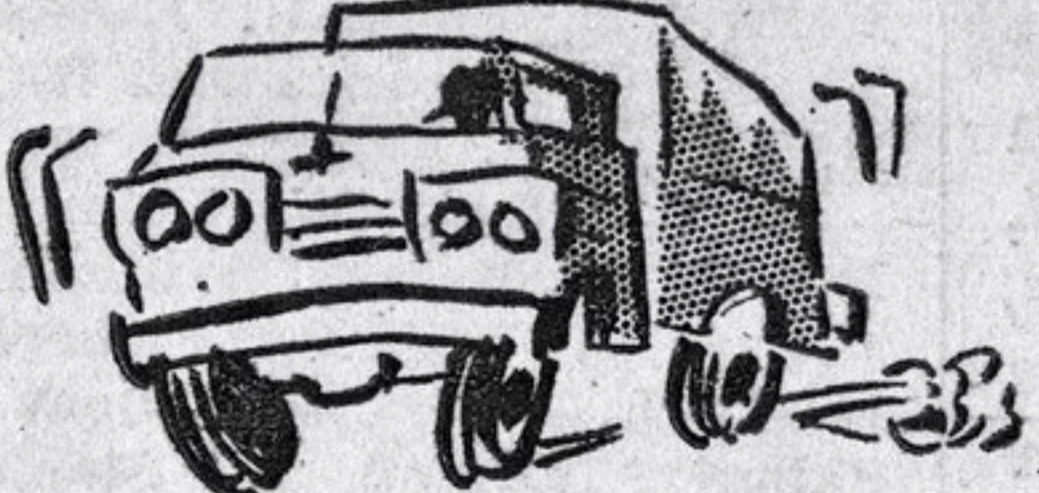
LT. M. R. BOLDRICK
ASST INFO OFF.

AIC AIRLAND
CLERK...

AIC BALON
PHOTOGRAPHER

our Thanks to...

and especially



BASE MOTOR POOL



DET 6,
7TH AERIAL PORT



ABG GRAPHIC
SECTION

YOU
our reader







ITAZUKE AIR BASE

BASE OPERATIONS
CROSSING THE FAR EAST



FIELD ELEVATION
30 FEET

ITAZUKE TOWER

30' CHST 19T 62



BASE OPERATIONS

FIELD ELEVATION
30 FEET

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ITAZONO AIR BASE



60193

U.S. AIR FORCE

FIELD ELEVATION
20 FEET

NAZAR TOWER



FIELD ELEVATION
30 FEET

TAZUKE TOWER

5
MARINES
RM
156985





ITAZUKU TOWER

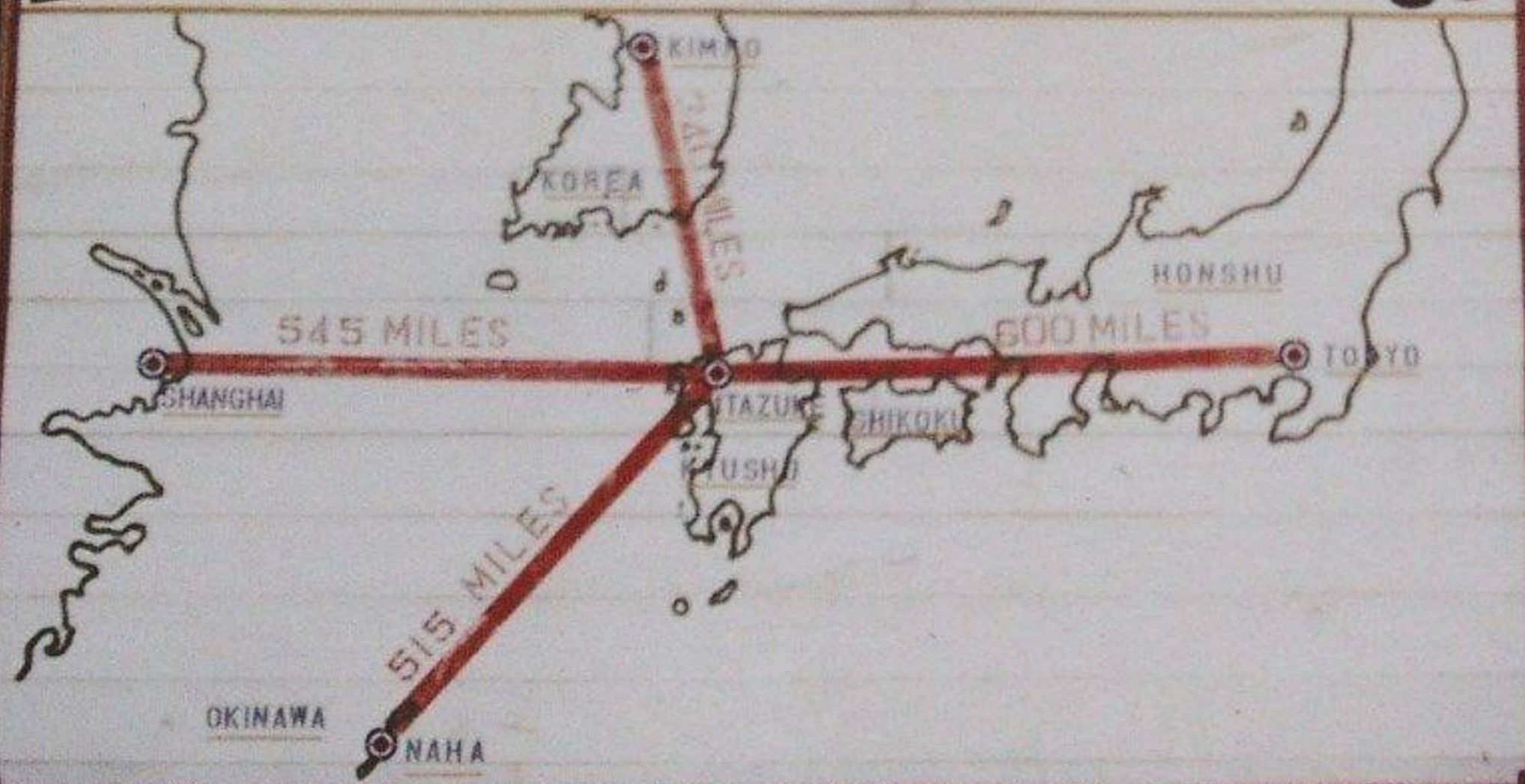


Walter D. Reed



Itazuka Tower

WELCOME TO ITAZUKE AIR CROSSROADS OF THE FAR EAST





Star Journal スター・ジャーナル

バスト102センチのグラマー

ジェーン・マンズフィールドの来日



Jayne
Mansfield
in Japan



切や 帰ってきたのね

クリスマス・ツリーの前で1ヵ月ぶりに帰ってきた愛児を抱きしめる母——古いメロドラマのラスト・シーンみたいけど、ワイオンに平手打ちを食らって、十数日も生きるか死ぬかの危篤状態だった大六歳のゾルタン君の帰宅を喜ばれば、ジェーン・マンズフィールドでなくても、こんなように母性愛におかれるのは当たり前でしょう。

「野獣ども地獄へ行け」をんていうコワい題名の映画が最近公開されましたが、女優としてよりも、いろいろな噂が豊富にある種の「名士」として有名な彼女の来日はまた派手な話題につつまれていました。1月28日の午後5時に着きそのまま東京・赤坂のナイト・クラブ「ニュー・フテン・クォーター」のショーに出演、ごらんのようないでたちで歌って観る男性をノーマツしました。

To Jayne Mansfield
Love
Art





BRADY ACCIDENTS THIS MONTH

MOTOR VEHICLE

DISABLING INJURIES

PROPERTY DAMAGE

PREVENTING ACCIDENTS

LETTERING FOR MARIANNE'S LIVING IS PROHIBITED IN THIS AREA

NO PARKING
駐車禁

MONEY CONVERSION CHART

(EXCHANGE AS OF JULY 1, 1968—SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

U.S.A. Dollars	Hongkong Dollar	Japan Yen	Korea Won	Philippines Peso	Taiwan Dollar	Thailand Baht	Vietnam Piastre
.25	1.50	85	.68	.98	10	5.25	29.50
.50	3.00	180	1.35	1.95	20	10.50	59.00
.75	4.50	265	2.03	2.93	30	15.75	88.50
1.00	6.00	360	2.70	3.90	40	21.00	118.00
2.00	12.00	720	5.40	7.80	80	42.00	236.00
3.00	18.00	1080	8.10	11.70	120	63.00	354.00
4.00	24.00	1440	10.80	15.60	160	84.00	472.00
5.00	30.00	1800	13.50	19.50	200	105.00	590.00





PACIFIC

S
U
N
D

A
Y



Itazuke Lives!

But with just 3 GIs

By HAL DRAKE
S&S Staff Writer

ITAZUKE AB, Japan — Late one recent night Air Force Sgt. David E. Olson strolled out of Hakata Railway Station and hailed a cab.

"Itazuke base," he sleepily told the driver.

The cabbie spun around in his seat and earnestly tried to talk himself out of a fare.

"No more Itazuka. Itazuke arimasen. GI all go home."

Olson insisted, and there was a brisk argument. Finally with exclamations of wonderment and disbelief, the driver decided to give his obstinate passenger an expensive lesson and show him the hard way that the American presence at Itazuke, once the largest air base on Kyushu, had ended long before. He drove the long distance between the city and the base, pulling up outside West Gate, a fence before a miniature forest of weeds and an abandoned hospital. The gate was padlocked.

"See?" the driver said triumphantly. "No Itazuke base."

Yawning, Olson paid the driver, got out of the cab and unlocked the gate, strolling through as the cabbie stared in astonishment. To him, Olson could have been a ghost from the distant past.

Yes, there are still Americans at Itazuke, but only a flicker of blue uniforms on a base that once bustled with thousands. Jet thunder still echoes over

barracks rooftops, as it did on a day in 1950 when the first jet strikes were launched across the Sea of Japan at Communist troops invading South Korea. Now the empty barracks are engulfed by weeds and the roar comes from jetliners that fly in and out of nearby Fukuoka International Airport.

There are still jet interceptors parked in some corners of the base as there were in the days of the Pueblo crisis, when Itazuke was a mace cocked at the heads of disturbers of the peace. But the antique T33 and F86 aircraft belong to the Japan Air Self-Defense Force and not to the few Americans—the very few.

Olson is one of three Americans who keep a low profile foothold presence on Itazuke.

What is there to do? Olson, of Rolling Heights, Calif., tells it in a couple of sentences.

Det B. of the 610th Military Airlift Sq. — he and T.Sgt. Fraglar Lewis, who is non commis-
(Continued on Page 12)



—Top photo: The unused Itazuke base exchange settles into decay, as gracefully swaying weeds grow tall to screen it from passing eyes.

—At left: Sgt. David E. Olson, NCOIC of Passenger Services, mans his post in the passenger terminal. Normally there are no passengers until Thursday; the rest of the time the lounge is deserted and only half lighted.

S&S photos
By Tim Wehr



—Top left: Rusty
—Above: Once-
disturb the base's s
—Below, left: P
chute drying tower.
—Below: Once-

At Forlorn Itazuke

(Continued From Page 11)

...sated officer in charge — process a weekly flight that comes in every Thursday from distant Yokota, bound for Okinawa and the Philippines. They also get registered mail and shipments of spare parts for Sasebo NB, which is "six hours down the road."

T. Sgt. Charles E. Clemons, St. Louis, Mo., runs a tiny complex of communications equipment for the 1956th Comm. Gp., overseeing five Japanese — a handful from a work force that once numbered thousands.

That's it — no club, no exchange, no commissary. The three sergeants do not even live on the base, but in offbase houses and apartments they found with suddenly-discovered expertise as house hunters and negotiators. This, says Olson, is not as tough as it used to be.

"With a little looking around,

you can find pretty nice places now," he says. "You don't have to go outside and light up a pile of wood to take a bath anymore."

Just outside the gate, there is Kasugabaru, once a roaring GI bar strip for bachelors and bachelors at heart. It's all Japanese now, and a few Americans are quietly accepted — not given the frantic welcome that greeted flush GIs during the boom times that ended Oct. 31, 1972, when the last large bunch of Americans left. The only places Olson, Clemons and Lewis patronize now are markets and vegetable stores. Olson has fair fluency in Japanese, a language he was force-fed and compelled to learn.

And, he says, this is the reason he has extended twice past his 12-month "hardship" tour and will stay as long as the Air Force lets him.

"I like the area. It's a lot dif-

ferent that being stationed at a great big place with six or seven thousand other guys. There, Japanese are used to GIs and defer to them, if you even get off the base to see Japanese. You never learn anything about the people, the country or the culture because you go from your office to the club to the barracks.

"I learned Japanese out of fear," Olson adds. "Unless you're going to draw pictures and look like a fool for a year, you listen for words and meanings, study a little and learn. You're totally submerged, and you swim or you drown."

Once, he says, the base was kind of a ghetto that had every kind of convenience, allowing Americans to land in Japan but never leave home.

He shows visitors a spacious quonset hut that was the NCO Club. In the kitchen, there are

only the twisted iron roots of the fixtures. A sign over a long bar lists obsolete prices with whiskey only 35 cents a shot and the most expensive drink an exotic, one-to-a-customer zombie costing 90 cents.

Over the hut, to proclaim it the "Zebra Club," is a winged Zebra that looks like a rusted, Wagnerian horse.

Not far away is the long-abandoned base operations building with its flaky, peeling sign that calls Itazuke "Crossroads of the Far East."

And in a barrack, a sign warns, "This telephone is not secure," with a cartoon of a talkative airman being monitored by a spy in a trashcan. The line couldn't be more secure now — the telephone is long gone and there is only the loose wire. The long barrack echoes with emptiness and outside, a small basketball court is overgrown with weeds.

There is a cloudbank of shrubbery around an abandoned messhall and inside, wadded and forgotten on the floor, a dust-streaked poster that tells of accounting, English composition and Japanese courses given by the University of Maryland and USAFI. Just outside the back door, almost buried by tall weeds, is a red, white and blue mailbox.

Lewis, a stocky, 39-year-old Texan, was here when the base swarmed with Americans and everyone was on edge because of a crisis now relegated to history books. He got married here and hung on as the ranks thinned out, the barracks emptied and 18 buildings, with only three in use now, were left to the Americans.

"I love it," Lewis says, "even if I feel strange and lonely sometimes, thinking of the old



club and when all the streets outside were full of people. But now, you do your job, nobody harasses you and you've got a beautiful piece of Japan all to yourselves."

But Maya Hata, a Japanese who has worked here 19 years, would rather be busier, on a base full of life and noise, as it was when she was a stenographer at the base hospital that is now padlocked and boarded up.

"Now," she says wistfully, "I answer the phone and if people get off here, I get them plane and train tickets and take care of hotel reservations. And some

things still have to be processed."

In her large amount of time, she says, she grows vegetables in a small garden near the terminal. But most totally divorced from anything American, says that way — to walk and be immersed in the Festival or a colorful marking some other

"You even forget the holidays down here," she says. "Once, the one who cleans up didn't and I wondered why. It was Columbus Day and one was supposed to





PACIFIC AIR FORCE
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ITAZUKE AIR ADMINISTRATION
EX

40















21st Troop Carrier Squadron Kyushu Gypsies patch.jpg
35th Fighter Squadron patch.jpg
2703rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Sqdn patch Ashiya Brady Itazuke.jpg
Air Force General Orders 1949-10-28.jpg
Air Force General Orders 1960.jpg
Ashiya AB map 1955-1960.jpg
Brady AB Camp Hakata 1958 - Jahnke.jpg
Brady Base 1959 maybe - Ben Phillips.jpg
Brady Base Chapel 1957 - Jahnke.jpg
Brady US Navy Security Group Hakata patch.jpg
Dazaifu kids at playground 1965 - Reeves.jpg
Domain of the Golden Dragon certificate 1957-09-02.jpg
Domain of the Golden Dragon certificate.jpg
Fukuoka airport terminal - Lambert.jpg
Fukuoka alley 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Boat Races 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Convention Hall 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Downtown 1956 - Reeves.jpg
Fukuoka harbor - Lambert.jpg
Fukuoka Kushida shrine - Lambert.jpg
Fukuoka looking toward Hakata port and Hakata Tower 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Nakasu 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Nakasu area 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Nakasu entertainment district 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Nakasu pub alley 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Nikkatsu 1956 maybe - Reeves.jpg
Fukuoka Ohori 118th Station Hospital later PO ins bldg 1936.jpg
Fukuoka overlooking 1955 - Reeves.jpg
Fukuoka sakaya 1968.jpg
Fukuoka street cars 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Tenjin 1953 - Asahi News.jpg
Fukuoka Tenjin area Nishitetsu station 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Tenjin station area 1968.jpg
Fukuoka Top of Iwataya or Tamaya 1955 - Reeves.jpg
Gannosu airfield - Kawabe.jpg
Gay Little Hearts Band 61-63 airman's club - Sebahar.jpg
Gay Little Hearts Band 1960s - Wyman.jpg
Hakata Station before move 1959.jpg
Hakata Tower 1968.jpg
Itazuke 100 Mission Kasugabaru patch.jpg
Itazuke 348th Combat Support Bulletin 1969-02-14.jpg
Itazuke 348th Combat Support Bulletin 1970-02-11.jpg
Itazuke AB aerial - Ishibashi maybe Asahi.jpg
Itazuke AB aerial - Reeves.jpg
Itazuke AB Chrysler with J-plates 1960-05-15 - Hake.jpg
Itazuke AB front gate to tower - Reid.jpg
Itazuke AB main street - Jahnke.jpg
Itazuke Admin Annex main gate.jpg
Itazuke AF Station pre-1955 - Jahnke.jpg
Itazuke Airmens Transient Barracks tents 1960 - Jahnke.jpg
Itazuke alert pad 1954 68th FIS F-86D and 36th FBS F-86F - Reeves.jpg
Itazuke area Old 3-wheel J-vehicles 1960-05-15 - Hake.jpg
Itazuke Col Bird suicide article 1954-10.jpg

Itazuke Crossroads of Pacific article 1970-04-01.jpg
Itazuke F-105 Thuds - Carson.jpg
Itazuke F-105D Thunderchief arrival leaflet - Cavrak.jpg
Itazuke Follow Me truck.jpg
Itazuke Gone But Not Forgotten patch.jpg
Itazuke Japanese workers.jpg
Itazuke old car - Gibson.jpg
Itazuke PX Bowling Alleys - Hoffman.jpg
Itazuke RF-101 1968.jpg
Itazuke Row of F-100 Super Sabres - Carson.jpg
Itazuke Sonicle and Johnny Cash 1962 - Wyman.jpg
Itazuke Sonicle staff Merry Christmas 1962-12-24.jpg
Itazuke strip 1969-1970 - Loope.jpg
Itazuke TA parking RF-4C SGT Fryman.jpg
Itazuke Tower - Kawabe.jpg
Itazuke Tower 1969 - Gaylord.jpg
Itazuke Tower and Base Ops - Miller.jpg
Itazuke Tower and C-141A.jpg
Itazuke Tower and jet taking off - Miller.jpg
Itazuke Tower at time of song - Reeves.jpg
Itazuke Tower interior - Carson.jpg
Itazuke Tower sign at museum.jpg
Itazuke Welcome to Itazuke AB - Jahnke.jpg
Jayne Mansfield and Bob Hope in Japan 1957 - Jahnke.jpg
Jayne Mansfield in Japan article - Jahnke.jpg
Marilyn Monroe and Joe DiMaggio at Itazuke 1952 - Jahnke.jpg
Marilyn Monroe visits Brady AB on honeymoon 1954 - Jahnke.jpg
money conversion chart 1968-07-01.jpg
Naka River and entertainment area Fukuoka 1968.jpg
On Honda Dream - Lambert.jpg
Pacific SUNDAY article on Itazuke 1 - after base closure.jpg
Pacific SUNDAY article on Itazuke 2 - after base closure.jpg
Papa Nevada outside K-bar gate taking video 1968 or so.jpg
Pops Yoshimura motorcycles Itazuke.jpg
Riding the Nishitetsu Line.jpg
Shirakibaru - Lambert.jpg
Shirakibaru main gate 1968-01 - Lambert.jpg
Zasshonokuma girl 2 1955 - Reeves.jpg
Zasshonokuma girl 1955 - Reeves.jpg
Zasshonokuma girls 1955 - Reeves.jpg