

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received SEP 16 1980  
date entered APR 16 1981

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Nanyo Kohatsu Kabushiki Kaisha Administration Building

and/or common NKK Administrative Office

**2. Location**

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district \_\_\_\_\_  
state Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is. code \_\_\_\_\_ county Tinian TINIAN code \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: abandoned

**4. Owner of Property**

name Government of the Northern Mariana Islands

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Saipan \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is.

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Department of Land Management

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Saipan \_\_\_\_\_ state Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is.

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N.A. has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local \_\_\_\_\_

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Administration building is a one story rectangular concrete frame structure 9.8m by 14.3m by 4.5 m high.

The floor is a concrete slab-on-grade. The original wood framed roof has been destroyed.

The structure has its main entrance to the east; the walls are perforated with large openings. There are concrete ledges below the openings on the south elevation. These ledges are similar to the administrative structure on Saipan and a structure on Rota. These were built at similar times under the Japanese administration and are related to the sugar cane industry.

The structure has a large amount of spalling on the beams and columns. It was originally unpainted and remains in that condition.

The main entry canopy has a fascia detail not found on other Japanese structures in the region.

The facility is currently used as an exterior storage area.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** circa 1930

**Builder/Architect**

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The NKK Administrative Building is significant because there are a limited number and type of structures remaining from the Japanese era. It is further significant as a major structure on Tinian related to the sugar cane industry. The structure is more open than any other Japanese structure recorded in the region. Some of the details such as the entrance canopy are unique while others such as the ledges tie in with other structures in Saipan and Rota. If the spalling can be stopped in time, the structure has good potential for adaptive reuse due to its relatively large open area.

The dominant economic force in the Marianas was the large Japanese corporation Nanyo Kohatsu Kaishiki Kaisha (N.K.K. or N.K.K.K.), South Seas Development Company. The firm's main development was the sugar cane industry including a mill on Tinian. This building was their administrative headquarters in Tinian.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Paul B. Souder, Island of Rota; late 1940's; Micronesian Area Research Center. Album of the South Sea Islands; the South Sea Islands Assn; Japan, circa 1940; Photographic Essay.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED  
UTM NOT VERIFIED

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

### UMT References

A 

5	5	3	5	1	4	9	0	1	6	5	5	7	3	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification From the road on the north to 10m beyond structure on east and south. West boundary is the laboratory structure.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
Commonwealth of the			
state Northern Mariana Islands.	code	county	code Tinian

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jack B. Jones, Project Evaluator

organization J.B. Jones, Architect, AIA date April 1980

street & number P.O. Box 6277 telephone 646-1101

city or town Tamuning, state Guam 96911

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

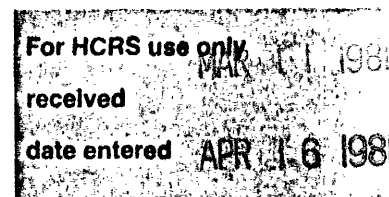
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Jesus B. Pangelinan

title Chief, Division of Historic Preservation date 9/12/80

For HCERS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Bruce Neumann</u>	date <u>4/14/81</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Vatrick Andrews</u>	date <u>4/16/81</u>
Chief of Registration	

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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

## 8. Significance:

1. Japan seized the Marianas, except for Guam, along with the other German South Sea Islands in October, 1915 and retained them under the Mandates commission of the League of Nations following the Versailles Peace Treaty. During the period from 1922 to 1943 the Japanese South Seas Government maintained a Branch Government in Saipan. In the mid to late 1920's the NKK became very active in Saipan, with some of the major construction in Chalan Kanoa dating from 1928. Major settlements in Rota dated from 1930. Tinian construction was similar to Saipan and Rota.
2. The economic organization in the Marianas as in all of the Japanese Mandates were dominated by three large civilian Japanese Corporations: Nanyo Bocki Kaisha, South Seas Trading Company; Nanyo Takushoku Kabushiki Kaisha and Nanyo Kohatsu Kabushiki Kaisha, NKK.
3. The NKK was the largest and most influential corporation in the Marianas because it was the most important economic organization in the islands. It operated a system of tenant farming on sugar plantations covering 28, 687 acres. Part of the land was owned by the NKK and part was leased from the native Chamorros. The NKK owned and operated 2 sugar mills on Saipan, 1 mill on Tinian and 2 on Rota. The Chalan Kanoa area of Saipan was the support base for the major mill on Saipan. Singsong village was the support base for the major mill on Rota. Tinian Village was the support base for the mill on Tinian. The mill capacity for just the two Rota mills was 1,000 tons of sugar cane per day.
4. The vast majority of the NKK physical plant was destroyed during World War II. Only some of the residential and administrative structures are in use today and these are not being used in support of sugar cane or other original NKK enterprises.

The remaining buildings have all suffered some war damage resulting from the Invasion of U.S. Forces in spring of 1944.

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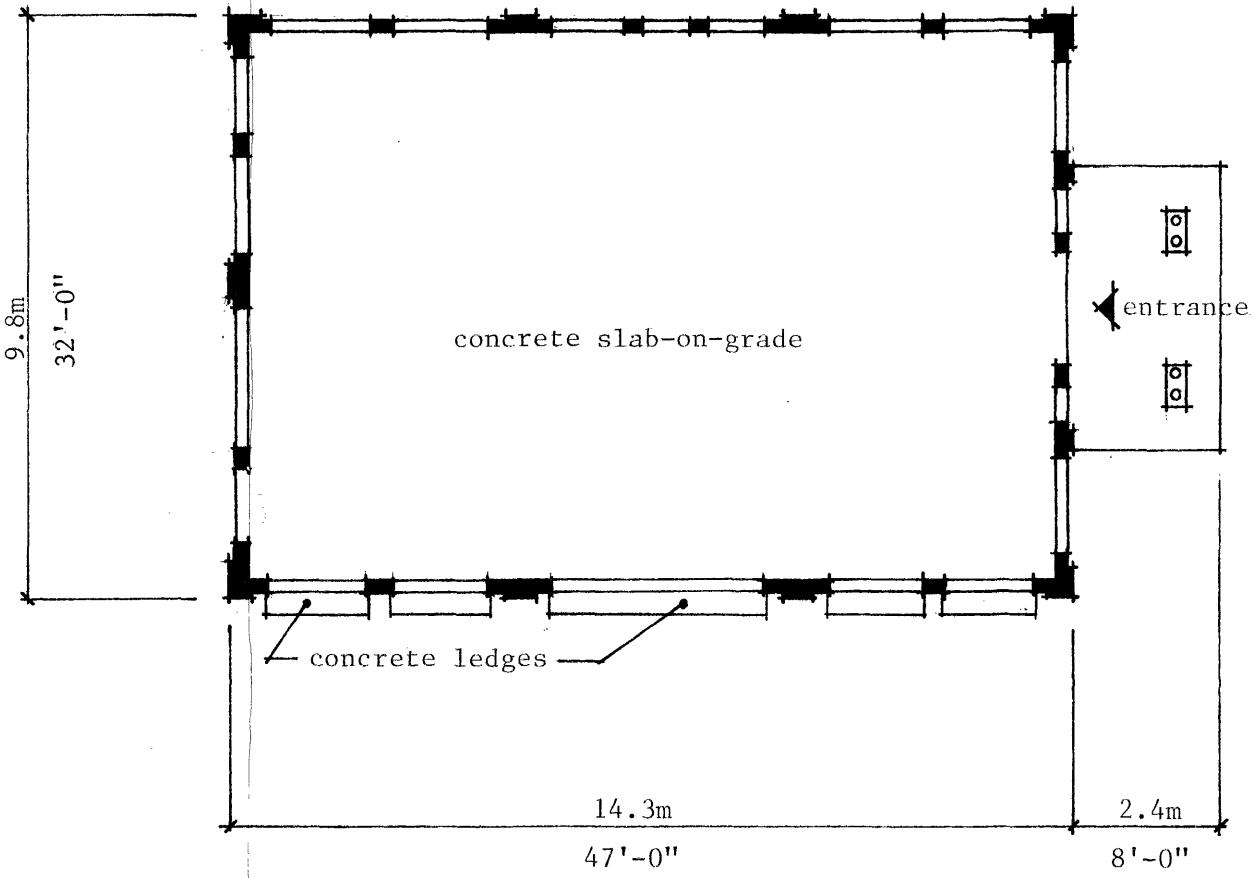
For HCRS use **MAR 11 1981**  
received  
date entered **APR 16 1981**

Continuation sheet NKK Administration Building Item number

Page

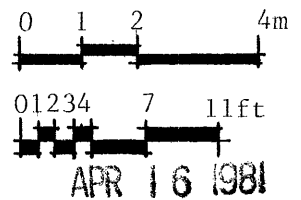
8. Significance:

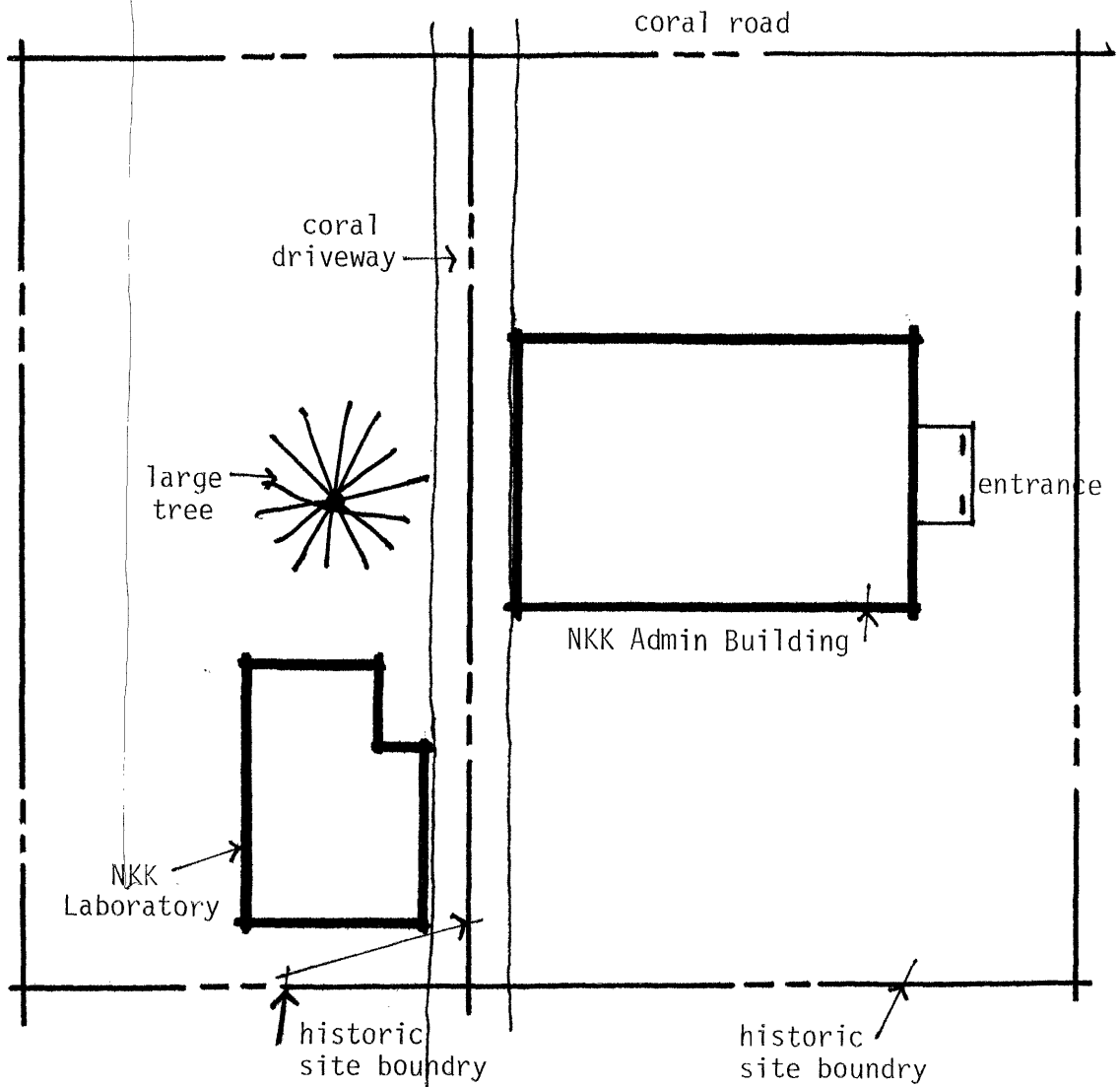
There were major administrative offices of the NKK in each island; the ones in Tinian and Saipan survived much of the war damage inflicted when U.S. forces invaded the islands during World War II.



floor plan  
map no. 3.

n.k.k.k. administrative office





Site Plan

Map No. 4.

NKK Administrative Office/Laboratory (separate nominations)

0 2 4 m



0 4 8 12 ft



APR 16 1981



Map No. 1.

1861 9 1 144

ST EDITION - AMS (FEC) NKK ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

# TACHUNGNYA

UTM REFERENCE  
55/351490/1655730



349

350

36°30"

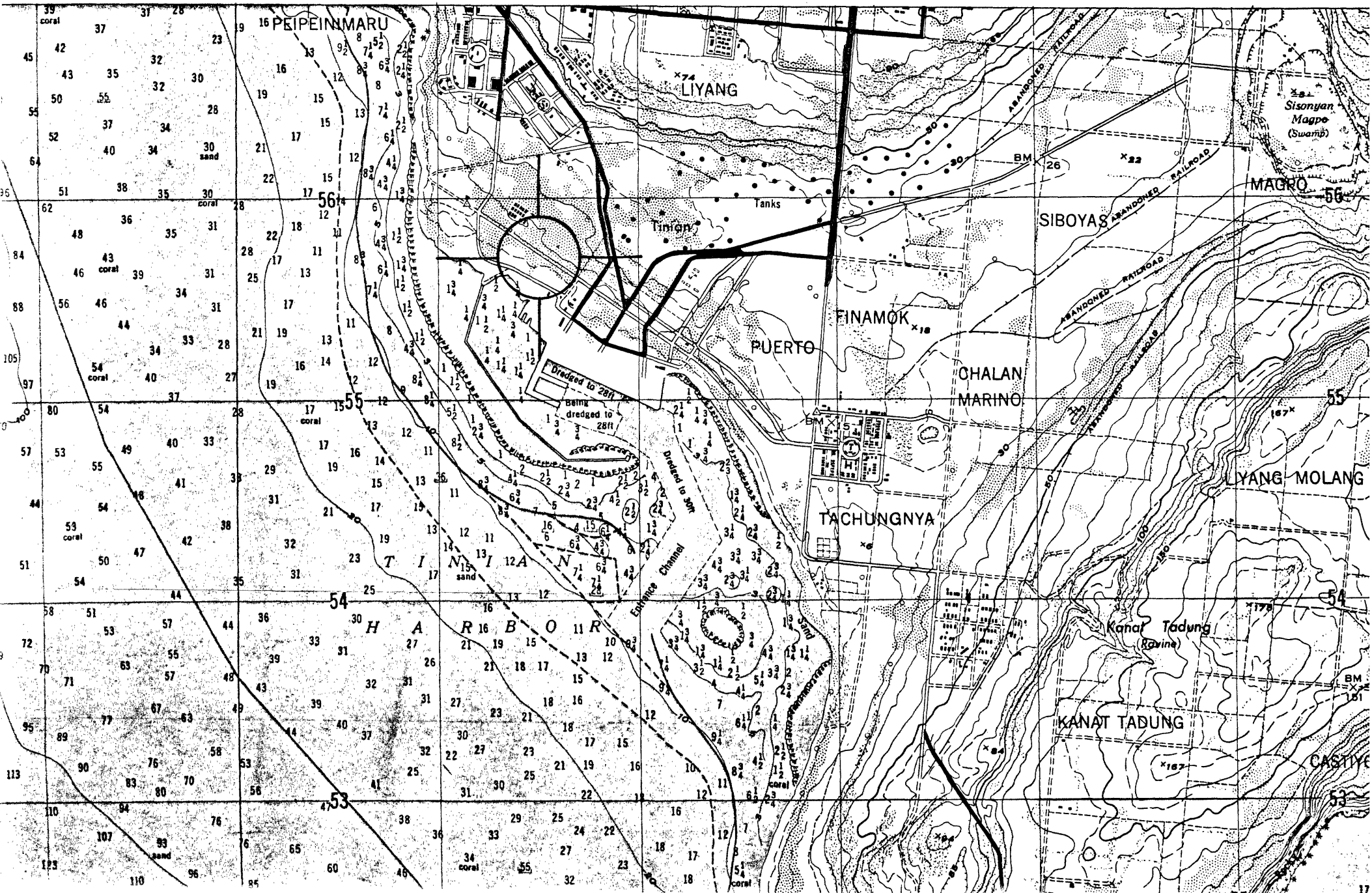
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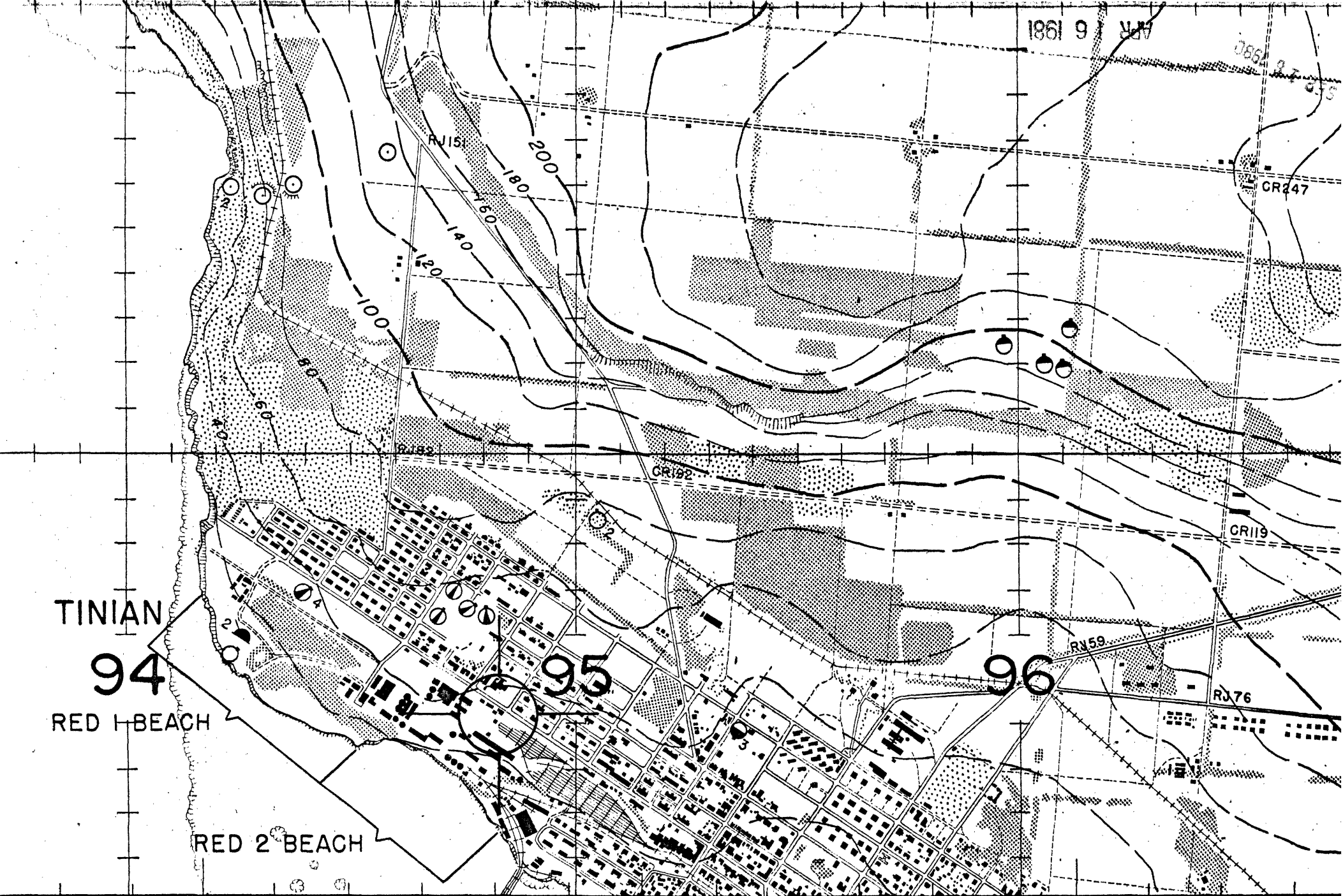
352

353

354

39°00' 355





TINIAN

94

RED 1 BEACH

RED 2 BEACH

95

96

145° 37' 00"

37' 30"

145° 38' 00"



Map No. 2.  
NKK ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
PREWAR TINIAN

SCALE 1:10000

500

0

1000

2000