

JAPANESE PACIFIC ISLANDS

PESCADORES ISLANDS No.91.7

ISSUED FEBRUARY 15, 1943

AIR OBJECTIVE FOLDER No. 91.7

Pescadores Islands Area

JAPANESE PACIFIC ISLANDS

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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AIR OBJECTIVE FOLDER No. 91.7 JAPANESE PACIFIC ISLANDS PESCADORES ISLANDS AREA

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Map of Hoko Island locating ALL targets with insets showing Bako Harbor and Keimo-U Airdrome......FRONT General topographic map of China and Vicinity......FRONT

EXPLANATION OF FOLDER

This folder is primarily for the use of group and squadron commanders and intelligence officers in the planning of operations and the briefing of crews. Neither the folder nor any part of it may be taken into the air on offensive missions.

Targets and objective areas are numbered from one to infinity within each country. These numbers are combined into a code showing the country, objective area, and target. For example, 91.7-145 indicates Japanese Pacific Islands (91), Pescadores (7), and TARGET 145 in the Japanese Pacific Islands series.

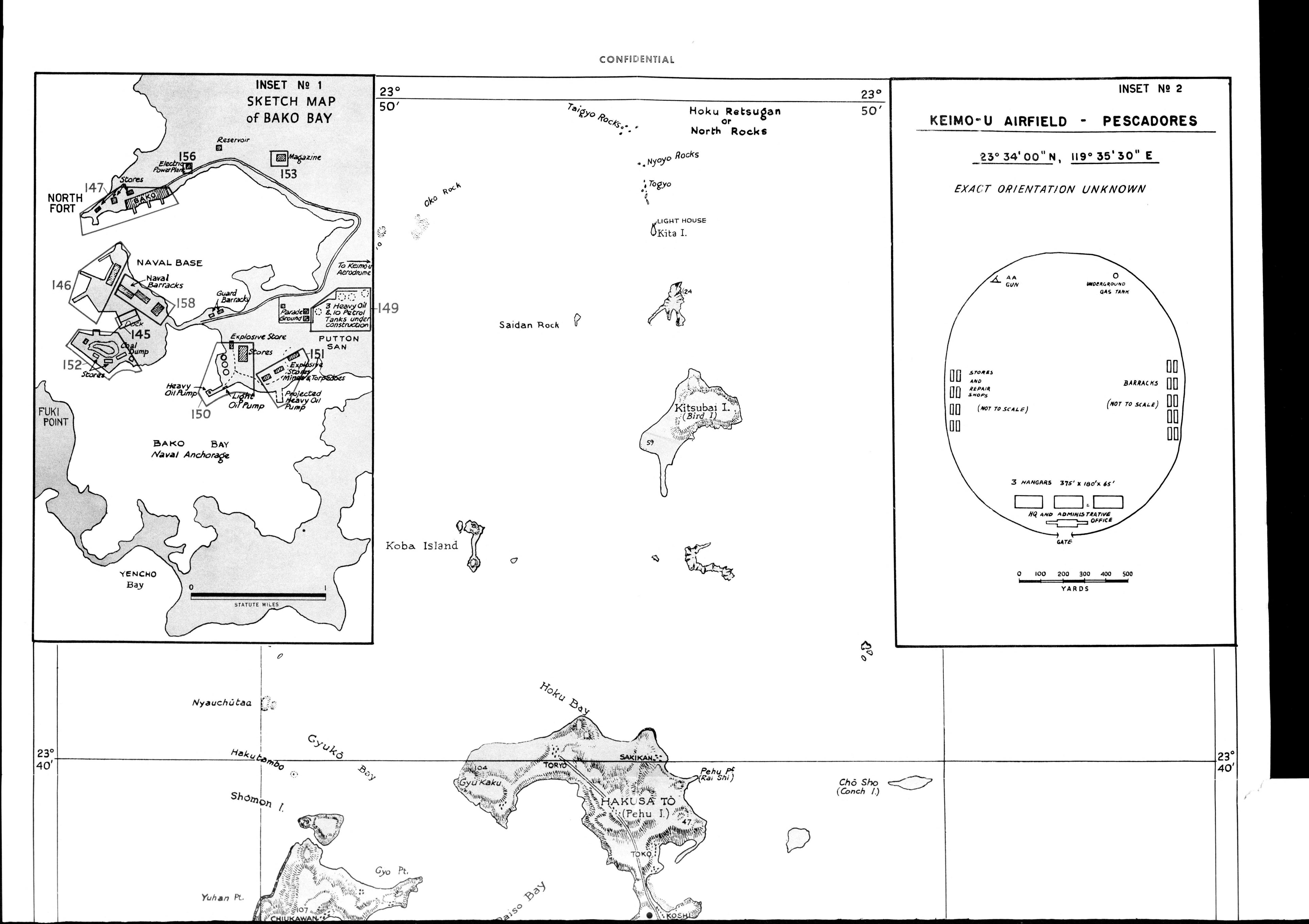
Supplementing the objective folder, target charts are provided separately for the use of air crews. Each chart is centered on a target; it spots other targets lying within a four-mile radius; and it identifies landmarks within a twenty-mile radius. The charts are numbered according to the targets on which they are centered.

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SUMMARY AND EVALUATION OF PESCADORES ISLANDS

NOTE: This folder is the result of an effort to obtain the best information thus far available in the U. S. A. Every effort should be made in the field to correct by photo reconnaissance the data given herein.

DESCRIPTION AND IMPORTANCE: The Pescadores are a group of small barren islands about 30 nautical miles west of Taiwan and about 320 nautical miles NE of Hong Kong on the China coast, extending from approximately 23° 11′ to 23° 54′ N latitude. They are covered with low hills, the highest known being less than 200 feet. All food has to be obtained from Taiwan or China.

These islands are important only as a naval and air base. The harbor at Bako (Makyu) south of the chief island Hoko is the only good natural harbor in the Taiwan-Pescadores area. It is large and affords anchorage for ships of all sizes. There is a minor naval base called the Ansan base on Observatory Island, just west of Hoko, connected with it by a concrete or stone bridge. This base includes a small dry dock (400 ft by 70 ft), shops capable of making minor repairs, a wireless station, mine and torpedo storage, oil and coal storage, and fueling facilities. A larger dock capable of taking a 10,000-ton cruiser is reported but not confirmed. The harbor facilities are located at the Ansan naval base and at the town of Bako.

An important cruiser, submarine, and motor torpedo boat base is located in a narrow inlet NE of the Ansan base near Kotei on the west side of Hoko Island. The supplies for this base are reported to be stored underground.

A third anchorage is reported north of the island of Daishoto, one of the southerly islands of the group. Nothing is known about the installations on this island.

Two usable air fields are reported on the main island of Hoko. The Keimo-U airdrome with a number of hangars and underground gasoline storage is located NE of the Ansan base. The second is at Risei-Kaku on the SE point of Hoko. This airdrome is reported to have underground hangars and storage. In the past seaplanes have been based at Bako harbor. Installations are camouflaged.

The only targets not mentioned above are the storehouses, barracks, etc., connected with the naval bases and their defenses. Oil storage of about 40,000 tons and gasoline storage of 440,000 gallons are reported on Hoko Island. The total may be much larger.

DEFENSES AND VULNERABILITY: The Pescadores lie in the narrow strait between Taiwan and China, making approach without detection difficult. The main and outlying islands are strongly protected against attack by either sea or air. There are twenty or more airdromes on nearby Taiwan, from which the Pescadores can be defended from air or sea attack.

The only known means of land transportation between the defense positions is by road. A number of bridges or causeways connect Hoko with the outer islands.

Telegraph and telephone lines connect the defense installations, and the Ansan naval base is connected by cable with Gyoo Island and Taiwan.

TABULATION OF TARGET INFORMATION

TARGET NO.		PROXIMATE	DESCRIPTION AND SIGNIFICANCE	TARGET CHART NO.
		ARSENALS A	ND MILITARY STORES	
149	Parade Ground Oil Stores	23° 33′ N 119° 35′ E	Heavy oil and gasoline stores E of parade ground SE of Bako Harbor. Three fuel oil tanks of unknown cap and 10 gasoline tanks with cap of 440,000 gals reported.	148
150	Naval Base Oil Stores	23° 33′ N 119° 34′ E	SE of causeway connecting Ansan naval base with Hoko are 3 fuel oil tanks with cap of 3000 tons each and one with cap of 18,000 tons. An oiling jetty is S of these tanks and a magazine N of them.	148
151	Torpedo and Mine Depot	23° 33′ N 119° 34′ E	Storehouses and facilities for testing and repairing mines and torpedoes S of parade ground. Oiling jetty reported under construction in 1941 S of these installations.	148

TABULATION OF TARGET INFORMATION

TARGET NO.		APPROXIMATE	DESCRIPTION AND SIGNIFICANCE	TARGET CHART NO.
	Arsenals and Military Stor	es continued		
152	Naval Base Stores and Water Supply	23° 33′ N 119° 34′ E	Storehouses, wharf, magazine, coal dump (10,000 tons estimated), water distillation plant (cap—300 tons per day) reservoir and cistern located on and around low hill on S hook of Observatory Island.	148
153	North Fort Magazine	23° 34′ N	Five concrete magazines protected by earth works with only roofs and lightning rods visible, in valley about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles NE of Bako. 18-inch gauge RR connects these magazines with North Fort, principal land batteries protecting mouth of Bako Harbor.	148
		D	EFENSES	
154	Keimo-U Airdrome	23° 34′ N 119° 36′ E	E of Bako. 3 camouflaged hangars (6 additional reported without confirmation, May, 1942), 8 stone shops and other bldgs and barracks. Underground gasoline storage at E end of adrm. No runways reported.	148
155	Risei-Kaku Airdrome	23° 33′ N 119° 41′ E	Adrm with underground hangars reported on SE point of Hoko. No details on installations.	148
		ELEC	TRIC POWER	
156	Bako Power Plant	23° 34′ N 119° 34′ E	Located E of Bako. No further information.	148
1 <i>57</i>	Risei-Kaku Power Plant	23° 33′ N 119° 40′ E	Located W of Risei-Kaku Adrm. No further information.	
		HARBOR FACILI	TIES AND WAREHOUSES	
146	Ansan Naval Base Wharves	23° 33′ N 119° 34′ E	Four wharves (size and construction un- known) located along W edge of Observa- tory Island.	148
147	Bako Harbor and Stores	23° 34′ N 119° 33′ E	Three wharves, one each for civil, military, and naval use at Bako on N shore of Bako Harbor. Storehouses NE of wharves. Harbor to S large; affords excellent anchorage for vessels of all sizes. Used as fleet anchorage and seaplane base.	148
148	Kotei Anchorage	23° 35′ N 119° 38′ E	Narrow inlet running into center of Hoko Island is base for cruisers, submarines, and motor torpedo boats. Fuel and other stores for this base thought to be underground in hills W of inlet.	148
		NAVAL BA	SES AND SHIPYARDS	
145	Ansan Naval Base Dry Dock	23° 33′ N 119° 34′ E	Small dock (400 ft by 70 ft) and shops capable of handling minor repairs at end of inlet on W side of Observatory Island. Larger dock reported under construction here in 1941—unconfirmed.	148
		MIS	SCELLANEOUS	
158	Ansan Naval Base Barracks	23° 34′ N 119° 33′ E	Barracks for base personnel on N side of Observatory Island.	148

TARGET CHART: All targets in this area are shown on a single target chart centered on Target 148 and numbered 148, February 1943 edition.

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