

**Appendix 1: Summary of Findings from U.S. Government Aeronautical Charts
Published in 1953 and 1954 Indicating that Takeshima is a Japanese Territory**

1. Outline of the Charts

Chart 1: USAF JET NAVIGATION CHART, JN-25, YELLOW SEA

— Published by: USAF AERONAUTICAL CHART AND INFORMATION CENTER (ACIC), AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC AND CHARTING SERVICE (APCS)

— Date Published: September 1954 and its aviation information revised in September 1954

— Scale of the Map : 1:2,000,000

— [A collection of the National Archives of the United States](#)

Chart 2: USAF PILOTAGE CHART, 379DG, TO DONG, JAPAN-KOREA

— Published by USAF AERONAUTICAL CHART AND INFORMATION CENTER (ACIC)

— Date Published: August 1953 and its aviation information revised in December 1953

— Scale of the Map: 1:500,000

— [A collection of the National Archives of the United States](#)

2. Significance of the Newly Discovered Aeronautical Charts

— The aeronautical charts published by the United States government thoroughly cover almost the entire world in charts scaled at 1:2,000,000, 1:1,000,000, and 1:500,000. Being the world's most comprehensive and precise charts, both in quantity and quality, they

have been used for both civilian and military purposes. Some say they are Gulliver-like giants in the world of aeronautical chart. They have been used not only for flight navigation but also in a wide range of purposes including military strategy, exploration, and media reporting as topographic maps.

— The San Francisco Peace Treaty (Treaty of Peace with Japan) defined the territory of Japan after the Second World War. Signed in September 1951, the treaty came into effect in April 1952. When a peace treaty is signed, it is generally accompanied by an annexed map. In the case of the San Francisco Peace Treaty, which enumerated the territories that Japan had to abandon, no map accompanied it. Under international law, a map drawn by a third country does not in principle form the basis for territorial claims of a country. As the United States was the drafter of the San Francisco Peace Treaty, however, it can be argued that it would be important for any study on the Takeshima issue to analyze the geographical perception of the U.S. government in those days on the basis of official maps drawn by the U.S. government.

3. Content of the Two Aeronautical Charts

Chart 1: USAF JET NAVIGATION CHART, JN-25, YELLOW SEA (see Appendix 2)

— A 1:2,000,000-scale chart showing the western portion of the Japanese archipelago, the Korean Peninsula, the Far Eastern part of Russia, and Mongolia.

— In the Sea of Japan, Ulleungdo (ULLÛNG-DO) and Takeshima (Liancourt Rock) are written between the Korean Peninsula and the Oki Islands (OKI-RETTÔ) (see Appendix 3).

— Ulleungdo is referred to “ULLÛNG-DO”(the Korean name for the island). The “3232”

notation on the island refers to 3,232 feet, or approximately 985 meters, which signifies the altitude of the highest peak of the island, i.e. Seonginbong mountain (984 meters).

— Takeshima is written on the chart as “Liancourt Rock”(the French name of the island).

— The “D” to the northeast of Takeshima stands for “Danger, Restricted or Warning Area,” which appears to indicate a military exercise area of the U.S. Forces.

—“KOREA ADIZ” and “JAPAN ADIZ” are indicated between Takeshima (Liancourt Rock) and Oki Islands (OKI-RETTÔ). ADIZ stands for air defense identification zone.

Generally, an air defense identification zone is designated by a country as a domestic measure for aerial defense purposes. It is not considered as defining the limit or range of territorial air or land space.

—A dotted line appears between Ulleungdo (ULLÛNG-DO) and Takeshima (Liancourt Rock). The area to the northwest of the line is labeled “KOREA,” while the area southeast of the line is labeled “JAPAN.” According to the chart’s legend, this dotted line represents “Division of Insular Sovereignty (land areas only)” (see Appendix 4). Thus, this dotted line only signifies territorial sovereignty regarding those islands; it does not represent any territorial water boundary. Therefore, this aeronautical chart shows that Ulleungdo is in the Korean territory, while Takeshima is in the Japanese territory.

Chart 2 USAF PILOTAGE CHART, 379DG, TO DONG, JAPAN-KOREA (see Appendix 5)

— A 1:500,000-scale chart showing ULLÛNG-DO (UTSURYÔ-TÔ), Takeshima (LIANCOURT ROCKS), and Oki Islands (OKI-RETTÔ) located in the southwest portion of the Sea of Japan.

— “To Dong” in the title of the chart represents the busiest part of Ulleungdo (ULLÛNG-

DO (UTSURYÔ-TÔ)), namely, the southeast of the island where a port for inbound and outbound traffic is located. Because the chart also shows Oki Islands (OKI-RETTÔ) and its title includes “JAPAN-KOREA,” the title “TO DONG,” which is part of Ulleungdo of Korea, does not indicate that the entire area covered by the chart is in the Korean territory. Moreover, because the chart shows Oki Islands (OKI-RETTÔ), aside from Takeshima, one cannot jump to a conclusion that Takeshima is an attached island of Ulleungdo.

— Ulleungdo is written in its Korean name as “ULLÛNG-DO (UTSURYÔ-TÔ) KOREA,” and the chart indicates it is in the Korean territory. The “3228” notation on the chart refers to 3,228 feet, or approximately 984 meters, which is the altitude of Seonginbong mountain, the highest peak of the island.

— Takeshima is written as “LIANCOURT ROCKS”(the French name of the island) on this chart. The figure “515” refers to 515 feet, or approximately 157 meters, and signifies the altitude at the highest point among Takeshima (Ojima (Nishijima)), which is actually 168 meters high.

— The “DANGER AREA” in the northeast of Takeshima (LIANCOURT ROCKS) can be conjectured to be a military exercise area of the United States forces.

—“KOREA ADIZ” and “JAPAN ADIZ” are indicated between Takeshima (LIANCOURT ROCKS) and Oki Islands (OKI-RETTÔ). ADIZ stands for air defense identification zone.

—A dotted line appears between Ulleungdo (ULLÛNG-DO (UTSURYÔ-TÔ)) and Takeshima (LIANCOURT ROCKS). The area to the northwest of the line is labeled “KOREA,” while southeast of the line is labeled “JAPAN.” According to “TOPOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS (CULTURAL and MISCELLANEOUS [FEATURES])” on the flipside of the chart, this dotted line represents International Boundaries. Therefore,

this aeronautical chart indicates that Ulleungdo is in the Korean territory, while Takeshima is in the Japanese territory.

— Two alphabetical letters on the chart are components of the Military Grid Reference System used by the U.S. and NATO forces to specify a location on the earth's surface with a code made of a combination of two alphabetical letters and a figure. Each grid specified by two alphabetical letters refers to a square with a side length of 100 km.

4. Items of Note

(1) Because these two aeronautical charts were drawn by the U.S. Air Force, they are official maps published by the United States government. Therefore, the geographical perception of the U.S. government in those days can be discerned from these two charts.

(2) On these two charts, the Korean ADIZ (air defense identification zone) and the Japanese ADIZ are placed between Takeshima and Oki Islands. Some in the Korean government and some Korean scholars insist that because Takeshima is included in the Korean ADIZ on the map, Takeshima has been approved to be in the Korean territory. It should be pointed out, however, that an ADIZ is generally designated by each country as a domestic measure for aerial defense purposes and that it is not considered to define the limit or range of a country's territorial air or land space. A similar national boundary is also drawn in the western channel of Tsushima Strait between Tsushima and Busan as well as between the Gotō Islands and Jeju Island, aside from the above ADIZ. Therefore, the inclusion of Takeshima in the Korean ADIZ does not provide grounds for Korea's territorial claim on Takeshima.

(3) The national boundary between Japan and Korea which is drawn between Ulleungdo

(ULLÛNG-DO) and Takeshima (Liancourt Rock) respectively on these two aeronautical charts confirms that Takeshima is described as a part of the Japanese territory. In other words, it can be confirmed from these two charts that the U.S. government in those days recognized Takeshima to be in the Japanese territory. These charts were published in 1953 and 1954, respectively, after the San Francisco Peace Treaty became effective. Therefore, it is considered that what appears in these two charts reflects the content of the San Francisco Peace Treaty.

(4) From here I would like to compare these two aeronautical charts with their respective earlier versions. The earlier version of Chart 1 is U.S. ARMY AIR FORCE LONG RANGE AIR NAVIGATION CHART, LR-17, YELLOW SEA, 10-50, 7st EDITION¹, even though the latter's scale is 1:3,000,000 instead of 1:500,000 (see Appendix 6). Takeshima is indicated as "LIANCOURT ROCKS" (the French name of the island), accompanied by the "515" notation to indicate its highest peak as well as the notation "Danger Area," which is considered to indicate that it was a military exercise area of the U.S. Forces² (see Appendix 7). This earlier chart did not show the Japan-Korea national boundary between the islands.

The earlier version of chart 2 is AAF AERONAUTICAL CHART, 379DG, TO DONG, CENTRAL JAPAN, 3-51, 1st EDITION, which shares the same scale of

¹ Although the version immediately preceding the chart 1 was U.S. ARMY AIR FORCE LONG RANGE AIR NAVIGATION CHART, LR-17, YELLOW SEA, 3-53, 8st EDITION Revised, which was published immediately after the San Francisco Peace Treaty entered into force, it did not show Takeshima nor the national boundary between islands.

² Takeshima was designated as a bombing range for the U.S. forces by SCAPIN1778 on September 16, 1947, when Japan was still under the occupation forces. The earlier aeronautical charts prior to charts 1 and 2 reflect this situation.

1:500,000 (see Appendix 8). Takeshima is indicated on this chart as “LIANCOURT ROCKS” (the French name of the island), accompanied by the “515” notation to indicate its highest peak as well as the notation of “Danger Area,” which is considered to indicate that it was a military exercise area of the U.S. Forces. And this earlier version did not show a national boundary between the islands. These earlier aeronautical charts were both published immediately before the signing of the San Francisco Peace Treaty, and they do not show the Japan-Korea national boundary between the islands. We believe this is because it was before the signing of the peace treaty and Japan’s territory was still not legally confirmed. Therefore, it can be perceived that the aeronautical charts 1 and 2 represent the geographical perception of the U.S. government immediately after the signing of the San Francisco Peace Treaty and reflect the content of the treaty.

(5) Section (a) of Article 2 of the San Francisco Peace Treaty³ did not include Takeshima as the territory to be renounced by Japan. Furthermore, in the letter of Dean Rusk, United States Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, dated August 10, 1951, which was an official reply of the U.S. government to the Korean government’s request on the draft of the San Francisco Peace Treaty, the U.S. government turned down the request of the Korean government to include Takeshima in the territories to be renounced by Japan. In light of these facts, it is self-evident that Japan retains Takeshima as its territory under the San Francisco Peace Treaty. Nevertheless, the Korean government challenged this conclusion through various measures, including, its counter-statement on September 25, 1954, refuting the Japanese government’s view on “Korea’s territorial right over Dokdo (Takeshima.)” In this counter-statement, the Korean

³ (a) Japan, recognizing the independence of Korea, renounces all right, title and claim to Korea, including the islands of Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet.

government argued that the San Francisco Peace Treaty did not include a clause contradicting “Korea’s legitimate territorial claim on Dokdo.” The counter-statement insisted that the Treaty’s Chapter 1 Article 2-A can be interpreted as “endorsing Korea’s territorial claim on Dokdo as an island attached to Dagelet (ULLŪNG DO or UTSURYŌ-TŌ),” which itself was recognized to be in the Korean territory under the Treaty.

More recently, the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea added a section to “Dokdo, Beautiful Island of Korea.” The section, titled “Conclusion of the Treaty of Peace with Japan,” refers to the San Francisco Peace Treaty as one of the grounds in the argument on “Why Dokdo Is Korean Territory. The section says:

The Treaty of Peace with Japan is a treaty which the Allied Powers concluded with Japan at the close of World War II. Article 2(a) provides that “Japan recognizing the independence of Korea, renounces all right title and claim to Korea, including the islands of Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet.” Among Korea’s approximately 3,000 islands, these three islands have been referred to as examples, and therefore, the mere fact that Dokdo is not named in the said article, does not suggest that Dokdo is not included among those territories of Korea that have been separated from Japan.

(6) Thus, the Korean government has continued to insist that the San Francisco Peace Treaty recognized Takeshima to be in the Korean territory as an island attached to Ulleungdo (Dagelet) . It has also argued that Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet, which were specified in Article 2(a) of the Treaty as islands that Japan had to renounce its claim on, were mere examples of Korea’s approximately 3,000 islands and, therefore, that Takeshima was included in the territory that Japan agreed to renounce. It should be pointed out, however, that the U.S. government, the drafter of the Treaty of San Francisco, itself drew a Japan-Korea national boundary between Ulleungdo and Takeshima on the

aeronautical charts it published immediately after the San Francisco Peace Treaty became effective and confirmed that the Ulleungdo was in the Korean territory while Takeshima belonged to Japan. Therefore, it can be said that those Korean government's arguments were found groundless and thus rejected by the United States government.

(7) Furthermore, the Report of the Van Fleet Mission to the Far East, a secret report drafted in August 1954 by James Van Fleet, a U.S. special mission ambassador, says as follows:

When the Treaty of Peace with Japan was being drafted, the Republic of Korea asserted its claims to Dokto, but the United States concluded that they remained under Japanese sovereignty and the Island was not included among the Islands that Japan released from its ownership under the Peace Treaty. The Republic of Korea has been confidentially informed of the United States position regarding the islands but our position has not been made public. Though the United States considers that the islands are Japanese territory, we have declined to interfere in the dispute. Our position has been that the dispute might properly be referred to the International Court of Justice and this suggestion has been informally conveyed to the Republic of Korea.

It can be confirmed from this secret report that the U.S. government's perception that Takeshima is in the Japanese territory did not change between the time of the signing and entry into force of the San Francisco Peace Treaty and the publication of these two aeronautical charts.

(8) These two aeronautical charts (Charts 1 and 2) are significant because they are considered to reflect the geographical perception of the U.S. government immediately

after the San Francisco Peace Treaty entered into force. In other words, it can be said that these charts reflect both the San Francisco Peace Treaty as well as the Rusk document, the official diplomatic correspondence sent by Dean Rusk, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, to Yang You-chan, the South Korean Ambassador to the United States, on August 10, 1951, which reinforced the Treaty's point. These two are the first discovery charts published by the U.S. government immediately after the entry into force of the San Francisco Peace Treaty that described Takeshima to be in the Japanese territory. Thus, the arguments of the Korean government that islands specified in the San Francisco Peace Treaty are mere examples of territories to be renounced by Japan and that Takeshima is an island attached to Ulleungdo, which is regarded to be in the Korean territory, were rendered null by these aeronautical charts found in the National Archives of the United States. Therefore, it is once again confirmed that, according to international law, Takeshima cannot be regarded to be in the Korean territory and that Korea has illegally occupied it. These two aeronautical charts are important documents that reinforce Japan's argument that Takeshima has been retained as Japan's own territory after the Second World War. It is our intention to continue our explorations for other relevant documents in archives, libraries, and other institutions abroad, including those in the United States.

5. Additional Information

Duplicates of the above two aeronautical charts, which were discovered in the National Archives of the United States, will be on display at the Takeshima Archives in Shimane prefecture from October 23, 2020.

References

(1) Treaty of Peace with Japan (with two declarations). Signed in San Francisco, on 8 September 1951 which became effective in April 1952

CHAPTER II

TERRITORY

Article 2

(a) Japan, recognizing the independence of Korea, renounces all right, title and claim to Korea, including the islands of Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet.

(b) Japan renounces all right, title and claim to Formosa and the Pescadores.

(c) Japan renounces all right, title and claim to the Kurile Islands, and to that portion of Sakhalin and the islands adjacent to it over which Japan acquired sovereignty as a consequence of the Treaty of Portsmouth of September 5, 1905.

(d) Japan renounces all right, title and claim in connection with the League of Nations Mandate System, and accepts the action of the United Nations Security Council of April 2, 1947, extending the trusteeship system to the Pacific Islands formerly under mandate to Japan.

(e) Japan renounces all claim to any right or title to or interest in connection with any part of the Antarctic area, whether deriving from the activities of Japanese nationals or otherwise.

(f) Japan renounces all right, title and claim to the Spratly Islands and to the Paracel Islands.

Article 3

Japan will concur in any proposal of the United States to the United Nations to place under its trusteeship system, with the United States as the sole administering authority, Nansei Shoto south of 29° north latitude (including the Ryukyu Islands and the Daito Islands), Nanpo Shoto south of Sofu Gan (including the Bonin Islands, Rosario Island and the Volcano Islands) and Parece Vela and Marcus Island. Pending the making of such a proposal and affirmative action thereon, the United States will have the right to exercise all and any powers of administration, legislation and jurisdiction over the territory and inhabitants of these islands, including their territorial waters.

(2) The Rusk document, the official diplomatic correspondence sent by Dean Rusk, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, to Yang You-chan, the South Korean Ambassador to the U.S, dated August 10, 1951.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your notes of July 19 and August 2, 1951 presenting certain requests for the consideration of the Government of the United States with regard to the draft treaty of peace with Japan.

With respect to the request of the Korean Government that Article 2(a) of the draft be revised to provide that Japan "confirms that it renounced on August 9, 1945, all right, title and claim to Korea and the islands which were part of Korea prior to its annexation by Japan, including the islands Quelpart, Port Hamilton, Dagelet, Dokdo and Parangdo," the United States Government regrets that it is unable to concur in this proposed amendment. The United States Government does not feel that the

Treaty should adopt the theory that Japan's acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration on August 9, 1945 constituted a formal or final renunciation of sovereignty by Japan over the areas dealt with in the Declaration. As regards the island of Dokdo, otherwise known as Takeshima or Liancourt Rocks, this normally uninhabited rock formation was according to our information never treated as part of Korea and, since about 1905, has been under the jurisdiction of the Oki Islands Branch Office of Shimane Prefecture of Japan. The island does not appear ever before to have been claimed by Korea. It is understood that the Korean Government's request that "Parangdo" be included among the islands named in the treaty as having been renounced by Japan has been withdrawn.

(3) The gist of letter of Yang You-chan, the South Korean Ambassador to the U.S., sent to the United States government on July 19, 1951 (request of the Korean government on the draft of the San Francisco Peace Treaty)

I have the honor to present to Your Excellency, at the instruction of my Government, the following requests for the consideration of the Department of State with regard to the recent revised draft of the Japanese Peace Treaty.

1. My Government requests that the word "renounces" in Paragraph a, Article Number 2, should be replaced by "confirms that it renounced on August 9, 1945, all right, title and claim to Korea and the islands which were part of Korea prior to its annexation by Japan, including the islands Quelpart, Port Hamilton, Dagelet, Dokdo and Parangdo."