

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

EIGHTEENTH AAF PHOTO INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT
HEADQUARTERS, FOURTEENTH U. S. AIR FORCE
A.P.O. #627, NEW YORK, N. Y.
15 December 1943

THIRD PHASE REPORT NUMBER 22E 35

LOCALITY : KATO SEAPLANE BASE, FORMOSA (22° 27' N, 120° 33'
MISSION NO. : 11/6C.
DATE : 7 November 1943.
SQUADRON : 21st Photo Recon. Sq.
TIME : 1200.
ALTITUDE : 32,600.
FOCAL LENGTH : 24" and 6".
CONTACT SCALES : 1:16,300 and 1:65,200.
REFERENCE : International Map of the World, 1:1,000,000.
ENCLOSURE : Annotate prints: LV88 and TV24-M11/6-21st P.S.

GENERAL : This report covers the seaplane base at Kato, Formosa. The 24" photographs are of good quality and fair coverage. The 6" photographs are of good quality and excellent coverage.

SUMMARY : Kato (sometimes referred to as Katosho) seaplane base is a first class base consisting of two (2) large hangars, five (5) small hangars, concrete service apron, shops, radio facilities, bomb and fuel storage areas, anti-aircraft and searchlight installations, large barracks area, and warehouse areas. The seaplane base is apparently new, modern, and in operation. Construction work is taking place in various parts of the base area.

The Kato seaplane base is located about seven miles SE of Toko Road, and about two miles SE of Kato. The base is rectangular in shape, measuring approximately 3,000' x 1,900'.

DETAILED INTERPRETATION

1. Landing Area.

1A. The seaplane base is situated on the edge of a lagoon. The lagoon measures approximately 11,000' x 5,000' with the long dimension running NW and SE. There are no obstructions at either end of the long dimension of the lagoon.

1B. A channel, 260' wide, is located at the NW end of the lagoon and opens into the South China Sea. There are two retaining walls on either side of the channel, one measuring 700' long and one measuring 500' long. The channel is visible on the 6" print only.

2. Hangars, Service Aprons, and other Handling Facilities.

2A. A large concrete service apron, 1300' x 460', is located on the S. end of the base. Two (2) ramps, 115' square, are located on the S. edge of the service apron and extends 90' into the lagoon.

2B. Two (2) large hangars, 520' x 200', are located at the S. end of the base adjacent to the large service apron (2A).

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2C. Five (5) hangars are located on the W. edge of the base adjacent to the smaller service apron (2D).

Three (3) hangars, 180' square.

One (1) hangar, 115' x 130'. In this same area there are two (2) small unidentified buildings averaging 60' x 40'.

One (1) hangar, 230' square.

2D. A smaller concrete service apron, 2, 250' x 80', running N. and S. is located along the W. edge of the base. One ramp, 260' square, extends 90' into the lagoon.

2E. A large travelling crane, with a 115' counter balanced arm, is visible on the W. edge of the base.

3. Shop Facilities and Warehouses.

3A. A shop and warehouse area is located just N. of the large hangars (2b). The area consists of the following:

One (1) probable shop, 245' x 80'.

One (1) probable shop, 200' x 80'.

One (1) probable shop, 100' x 65'.

One (1) warehouse, 230' x 30'.

One (1) warehouse, 145' x 30'.

One (1) unidentified building, 80' x 70'.

One (1) unidentified building, 50' square.

3B. Two (2) buildings, one a possible engine test house, 130' x 30', with a walled revetment on three sides, and one probable shop building, 130' x 30', are located just E. of the large hangar (2B).

3C. Two large repair hangars, 200' x 130', are located at the N. end of the base.

3D. Two buildings, 130' x 65' and 115' x 35', probably shops, are located at the NW corner of the base.

3E. A warehouse area, 400' x 250', is located approximately 1,500' N. of the N. end of the base. The area consists of the following:

Four (4) warehouses, 130' x 30'.

Two (2) warehouses, 65' x 230'.

3F. A warehouse area, 500' square, is located about 1,900' N. of the base. The area consists of the following:

Three (3) warehouses, 180' x 30'.

One (1) warehouse, 280' x 30'.

Two (2) warehouses, 130' x 30'.

One (1) probable administration building, 115' x 40'.

One (1) probable administration building, 65' x 35'.

One (1) probable shop, 145' x 50', is located near the small hangar (2c).

4. Fuel and Munition Storage.

4A. One (1) probable fuel storage building, 100' x 30', is located at the E. end of the large service apron (2A).

4B. A fuel and munition storage installation is located along a small roadway leading from the E. end of the large service apron (2A). The area consists of the following:

-One (1) empty square revetment, 70' x 70', is a probable fuel storage revetment.

Three (3) probable buried fuel tanks, approximately 75' in diameter.

One (1) large empty revetment, 160' square.

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Two (2) bomb or fuel storage buildings, 65' x 35', are located at the E. end of the road.

4C. Two (2) empty square revetments, 70' x 70', are located in a large filled area, 580' x 420', apparently under construction. They also contain three (3) small unidentified buildings.

4D. A revetted area, 115' x 230', probably a fuel or munition storage installation is located about 900' N. of the N. end of the base. The area contains six (6) small buildings averaging 30' x 20'.

5. Barracks, Administration, and Other Buildings.

5A. A group of buildings, probably administration or dormitory buildings, are located on the E. edge of the base. The area consists of the following:

Two (2) buildings, administration or dormitories, 260' x 65', are connected by a covered walkway. A probable latrine and shower building, 130' x 70', is located between the two larger buildings. A swimming pool is situated just W. of these buildings.

A small "T" shaped building, 160' x 50', probably an administration building, is located just N. of the above buildings.

Three (3) unidentified buildings, averaging 130' x 40', are located in the same area.

5B. Twelve (12) buildings, various types, are located in the N. half of the base. The area consists of the following:

Two (2) administrative buildings, one measuring 285' x 65', and one measuring 240' x 60'. Two buildings, probably latrines, one measuring 65' x 35', and one measuring 115' x 40', are connected to the administration buildings by a covered walkway.

Three (3) unidentified buildings, 100' x 50'.

One (1) probable quarters, 145' x 75'.

One (1) unidentified building, 160' x 50'.

One (1) probable quarters, 115' x 50'.

One (1) unidentified building, 80' x 30'.

One (1) probable garage, 165' x 30'.

5C. A probable mess hall is located on the E. edge of the base. The hall consists of three (3) buildings connected by a covered walkway.

One (1) building, 195' x 55'.

One (1) building, 65' x 30'.

One (1) building, 130' x 30'.

5D. A small group of six (6) unidentified buildings, averaging 65' x 30', are located at the NW corner of the base.

5E. A possible water purification plant is located in the NW corner of the base. The area consists of the following:

One (1) building, 80' x 65'.

One (1) building, 35' x 20'.

One (1) possible small water tower.

One (1) small water tank, 40' x 20'.

5F. A barracks area, 550' square is located about 1,900' N. of the N. edge of the base. There are twenty-six (26) buildings measuring 65' x 30', a total of approximately 51,000 sq. ft.

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5G. A possible water purification plant is located 2½ miles E. of the base. The area includes one tall possible water tower, a small building 20' square, and a water tank 100' x 45'. This installation appears only on the 6" print.

5H. A large labor camp, of about seventy (70) buildings, is located on the edge of the town of Kato about two (2) miles WNW of the base. This installation is visible only on the 6" print.

6. Power.

6A. A power plant is located on the E. edge of the base. The building measures 65' x 55'. A tall stack is visible at the side of the building.

7. Defenses.

7A. A heavy A/A installation, overall area 1,100' square, is located one mile E. of the base. The area consists of the following:

- Three (3) occupied heavy A/A gun emplacements and a command post are located in the E. corner of the area.
- Two (2) ammunition storage buildings, 35' x 20', one of which is located at the S. corner of the area, and one located at the W. corner of the area. Both storage buildings are within circular revetments.
- Two (2) gun crews quarters, connected by a covered walkway is located in the N. end of the area. The buildings measure 100' x 35', and 65' x 30'.
- Three (3) small unidentified buildings averaging 25' x 15', are located in the N. corner of the area.

7B. A probable searchlight installation, 450' x 650', is located two miles E. of the base. The area consists of the following:

- Two (2) searchlights, one within a circular revetment.
- One (1) auxiliary generator.
- Two (2) crews quarters, 50' x 30'.

7C. A probable searchlight installation, 570' x 730', is located two miles ESE of the base. The area consists of the following:

- Two (2) searchlights, one within a circular revetment.
- One (1) auxiliary generator.
- Two (2) crews quarters, 50' x 30'. The searchlight positions (7B and 7C) is visible only on the 6" print.

8. Communications.

8A. Three (3) large radio masts, 290' apart, set in a triangle are located in the center of the base area. A probable communications building, 195' x 65', is located in the center of the triangle. Two (2) possible small radio masts are located in the filled area (4C).

9. Transportation.

9A. A paved, probably concrete, raised highway, 20' wide, runs past the N. end of the base into the town of Kato.

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9B. A single track railroad leads out from a four or five track R/R yard (9C - 6" print only) located two miles E. of the base. The track leads past the N. end of the base to another four or five track R/R yard (9D - 6" print only) two miles WNW of the base and near the town of Kato. A third R/R yard (9E - 6" print only) is located 2½ miles SE of the base.

9F. A short R/R spur leads from the R/R track (9B) into the W. edge of the base area.

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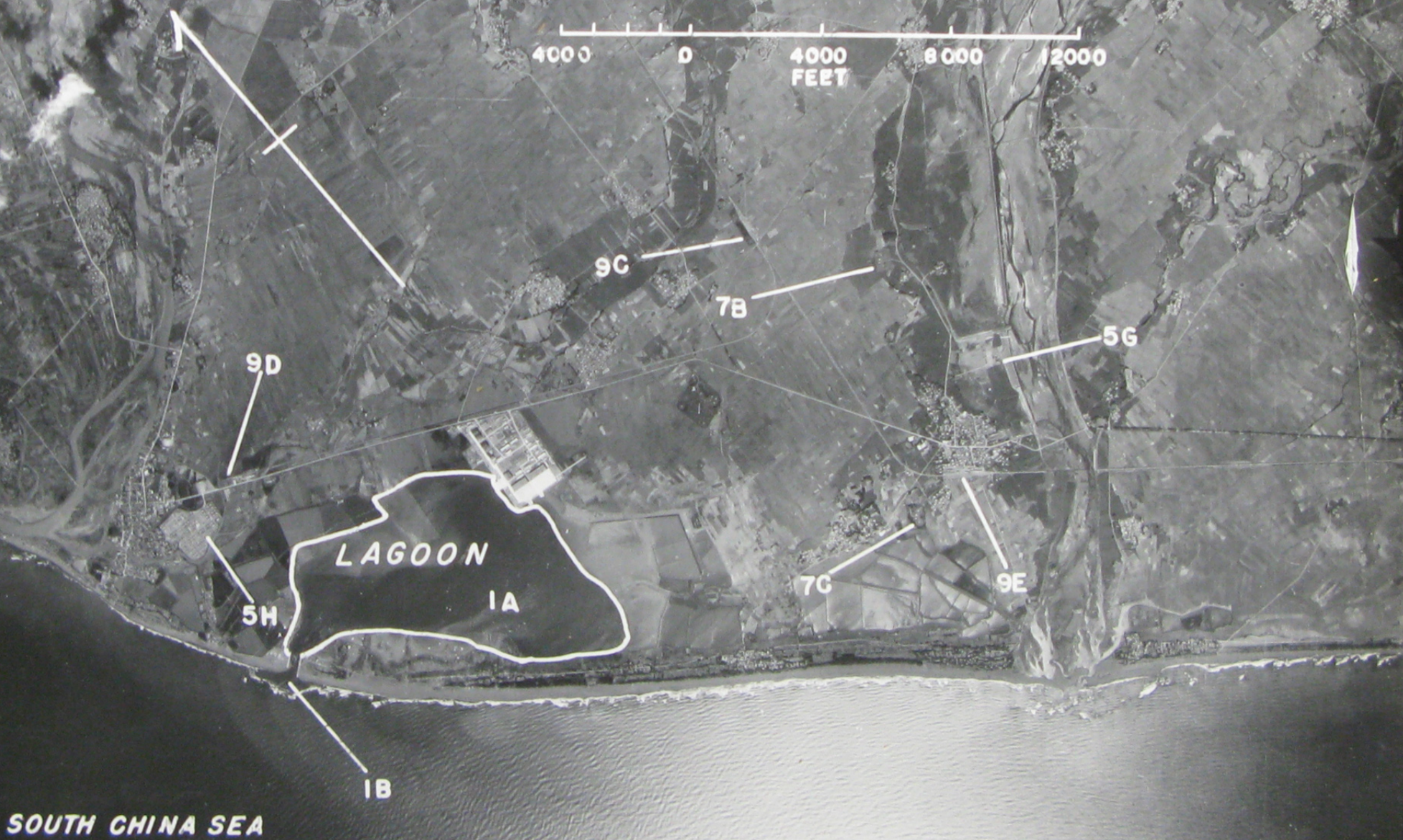
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A 42-45003

N(TV24-M11/6-21P5-C)

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KATO SEA PLANE BASE, FORMOSA
22° 27' N — 120° 33' E
18TH A.A.F. PI. DET.
U.S.N. PHOTO INTERP. FIELD UNIT NO. 1
HQ. 14TH U.S.A.A.F.
REPORT NO. 22E
NOV. 7, 1943
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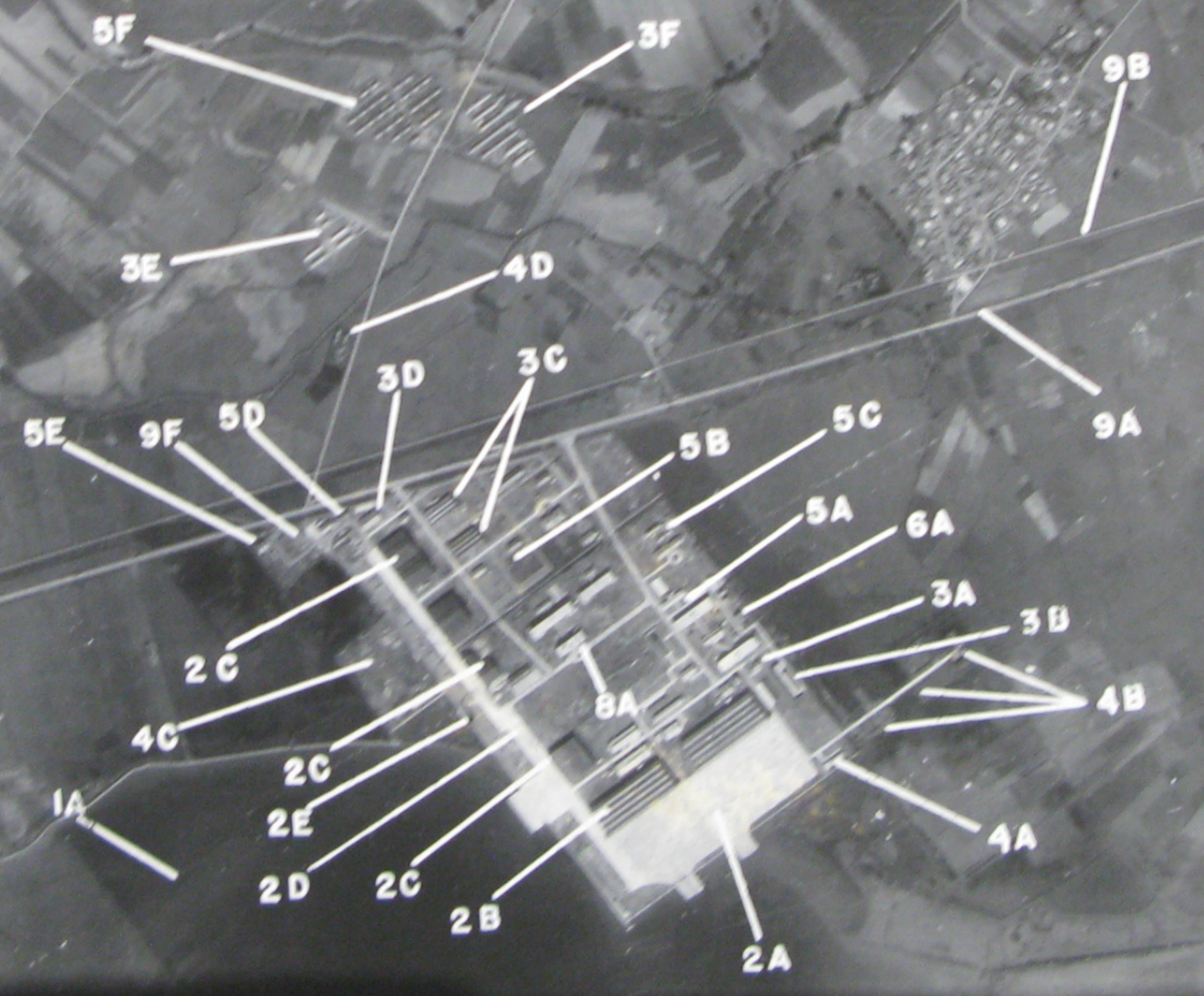
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N(LV 88-M11/6-21P5-C)(7-NOV-43-1200) (326007A-SL-ME)(2227N-12033E) KATO

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KATO SEA PLANE BASE, FORMOSA
22° 27' N 120° 33' E
18TH A.A.F. P.I. DET.
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