

Atik Lane

Preliminary Report on
Population
Marianas District

A detailed study on the characteristics of the present population with a general history of population growth and projections for 20 years of future growth.

Prepared by the Office of the
Marianas District Planner
June 24, 1974

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INTRODUCTION

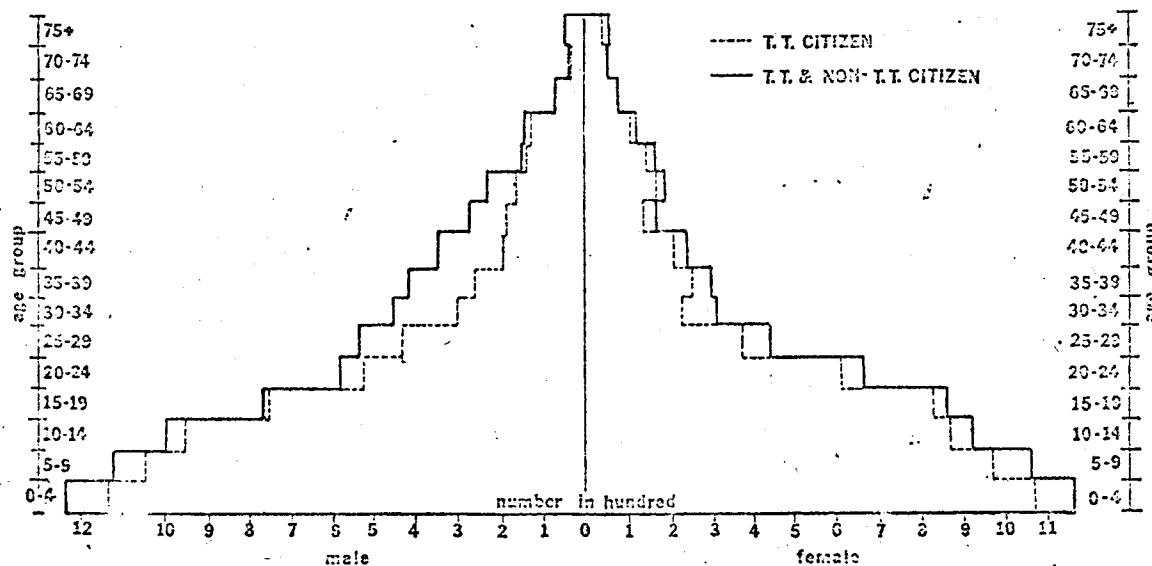
Source material on the present population is the Trust Territory Census Office and the 1973 Census. It should be noted that this data has not been checked by the demographer and therefore, may contain certain slight errors in the grouping of population. The whole numbers or figures on the total projection are considered accurate. Projections which were made by the Department of Health Services are not official government projections at this time but the figures are generally the same as the Planning Office arrived at through entirely different projection methods.

Historic material was taken from the Saipan Master Plan, as developed in 1968 by Hawaii Architects and Engineers; and Problems of Resettlement on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, by Neal M. Bowers.

Present Population Characteristics

The population of the Marianas consist of a majority of Micronesian (Chamorro, Kanaki, and other districts Micronesian), and a minority of alien (American, Philippines, Japanese, European, etc.). In fact the vast mixture of racial stocks is one of its most obvious trates. The is incredibly young with the medium age at 15.9 and 72% of the popula-tion below the age of 30.

The graph below illustrates the difference between sexes age groups and nationality of the present population. The concentration of alien males between the age of 20 and 69 are obviously people working here but the graph also indicates that their dependents are represented in nearly all age groups and both sexes.



comparative census population 1973

prepared by: district planning office

June 1974

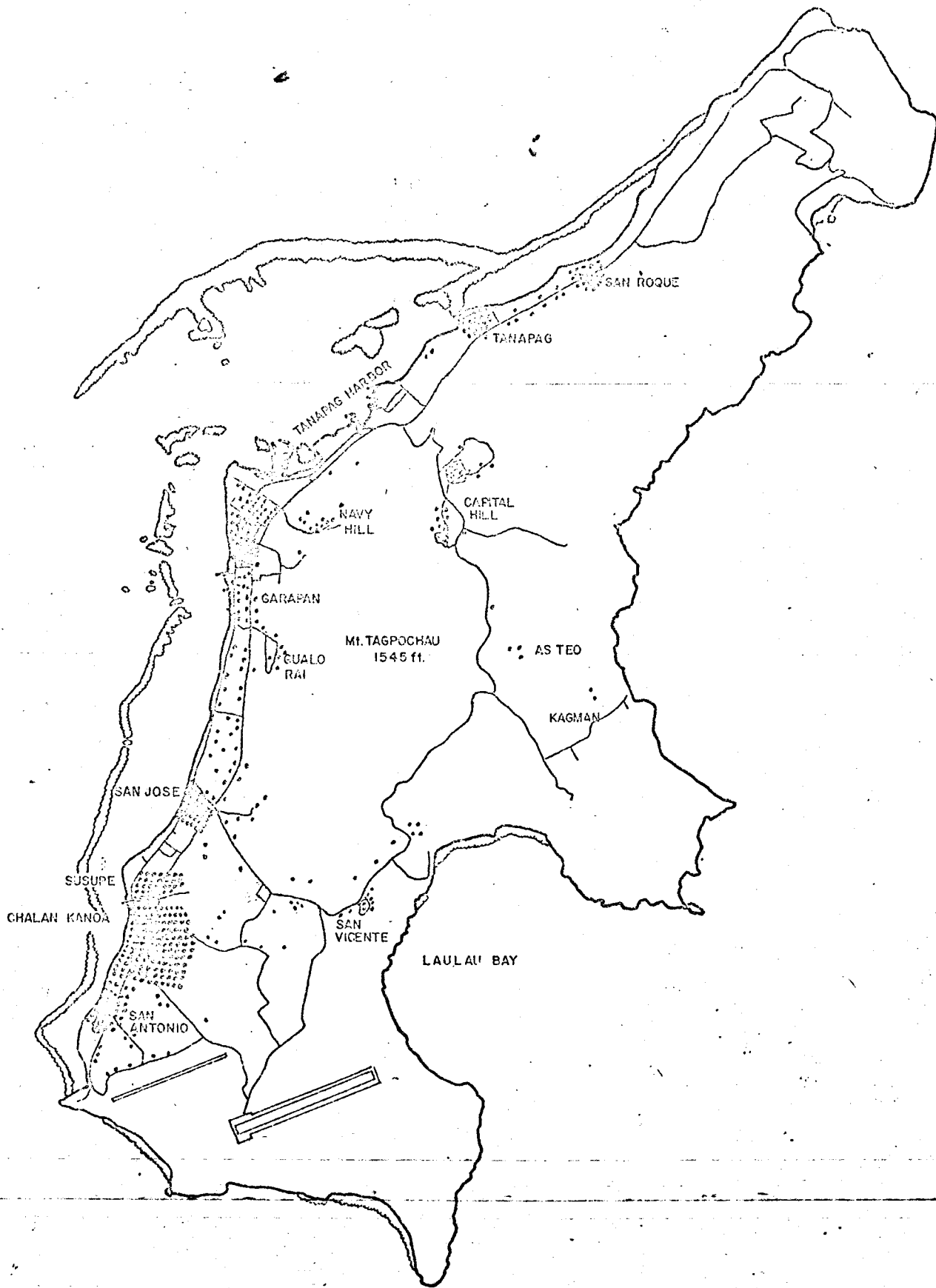
The indigenous population is also exceptionally youthful with medium age at 14.68 and 76.3% of the population twenty-nine (29) years old or younger. The sex ratios (all person) is 109 males per 100 females on a district wide basis. The indigenous population represent 98.7% of the total population.

The total population is distributed over six islands in the following proportions:

<u>Island</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Percent of total population</u>
Rota	1,104	7.7%
Tinian	714	4.9%
Saipan	12,394	86.4%
Agrihan	48	.33%
Pagan	57	.35%
Alamagan	25	.17%

All other islands are uninhabited. Typically the population concentrate near the Leeward shore line. In Saipan there is a slowly growing trend to disperse more widely as shown by the map on the next page. Further descriptions of population concentration and movement will be given latter.

The present population can best be described as a people in the middle of change. A large number of young people and an increase in the variety of nationalities are all placing pressure on the more traditional middle and upper aged segments of the population.



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POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS

one dot equals 25 persons

SOURCE: T.T. population

census 1973

Population - 12,284

Historical Change and Movement

Growth and Change:

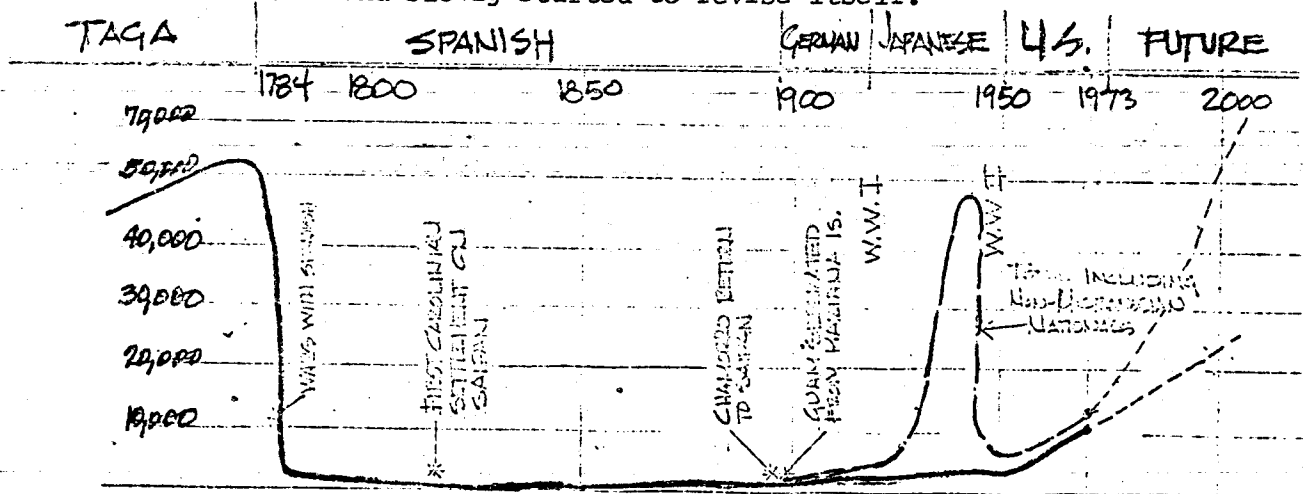
While Census were taken as far back as the Spanish period, there are few reliable, readily available records of population growth in the Marianas. A general is somewhat unreliable picture of population change has been placed together from various historic records.

The original chamorro population was estimated by the Spanish at between 40,000 and 73,000 but by 1784 only 3,169 were counted and this number decreased to 1,639 in 1790 and further to 600 in 1925. By the beginning of the German Period in 1898, Saipan had been repopulated by 1,631 people of whom 621 were the Carolians decedent from the group which settled Saipan in 1815. A 1937 Japanese census reports a population of 45,709 of which 4,145 were "native". In 1945 the U.S. Navy counted 2,966 Chamorro and 1,025 Carolian along with 13,954 Japanese and 1,411 Koreans. The 1949 total population was recorded at 6,255 and the T. T. annual reports show the following population growth since that time.

1954	-	7,380
1958	-	8,220
1962	-	9,586
1966	-	10,743

The recent 1973 Census recorded a total population of 14,333 of which 12,581 are Micronesian. The map on the next page illustrates a part of this population change and the general distribution of the population throughout the District.

The population growth pattern is a dynamic one which has been radically effected by two dramatic events the first contact with the west and World War II. In both cases the population has taken a sudden dive and slowly started to revise itself.

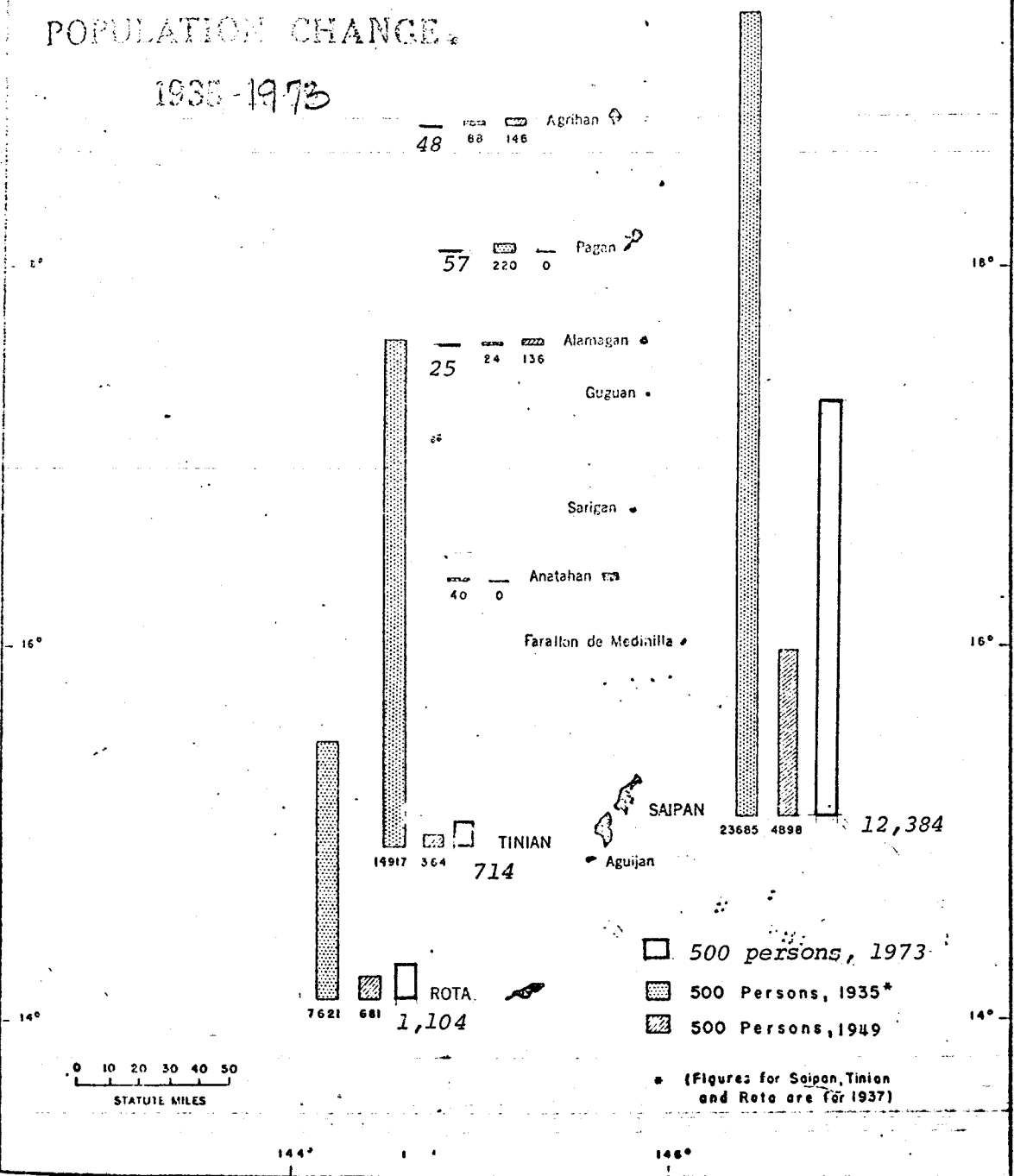


Distribution and Movement:

After war and disease had taken its toll in the 1780's what remained of the Chamorro population was moved to Guam. A small group did manage to escape and remain on Rota but the bulk of the Marianas population was concentrated on Guam between 1790 and 1890. Spanish control and influence during this period was considerable and far reaching. By 1898 the Marianas had been divided into the Trust Territory of Guam and what is now the Mariana Islands District. The population of the District remained concentrated on Saipan in Garapan and Tanapag.

Little effort was made by the German to colonize the other island by the Japanese had colonies on the Northern Islands from 1890 to 1907 when the Germans took over the business ventures and employed the Japanese. By 1944 considerable population were located on seven (7) of the islands.

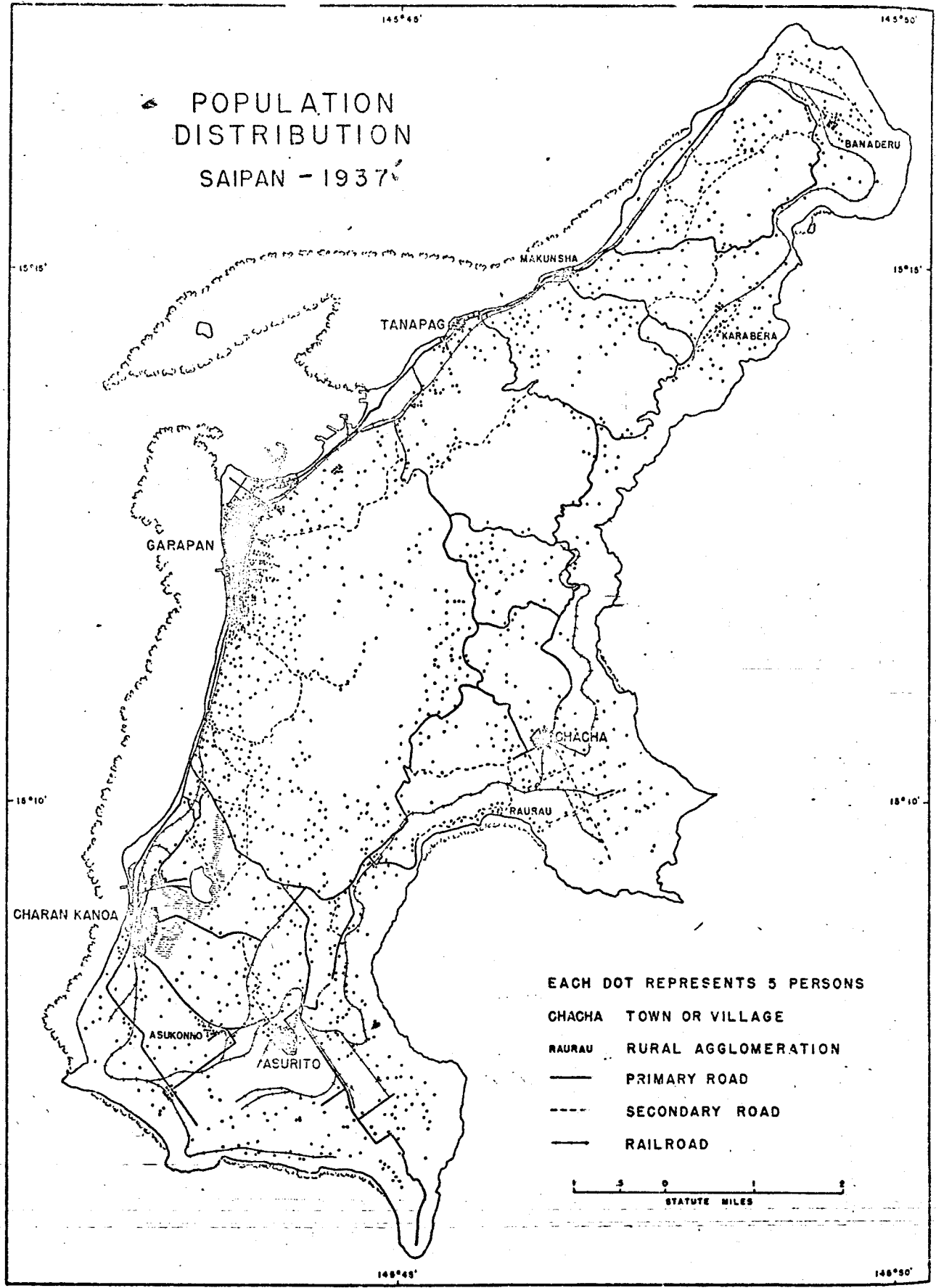
MARIANA ISLANDS
POPULATION CHANGE
1935-1973



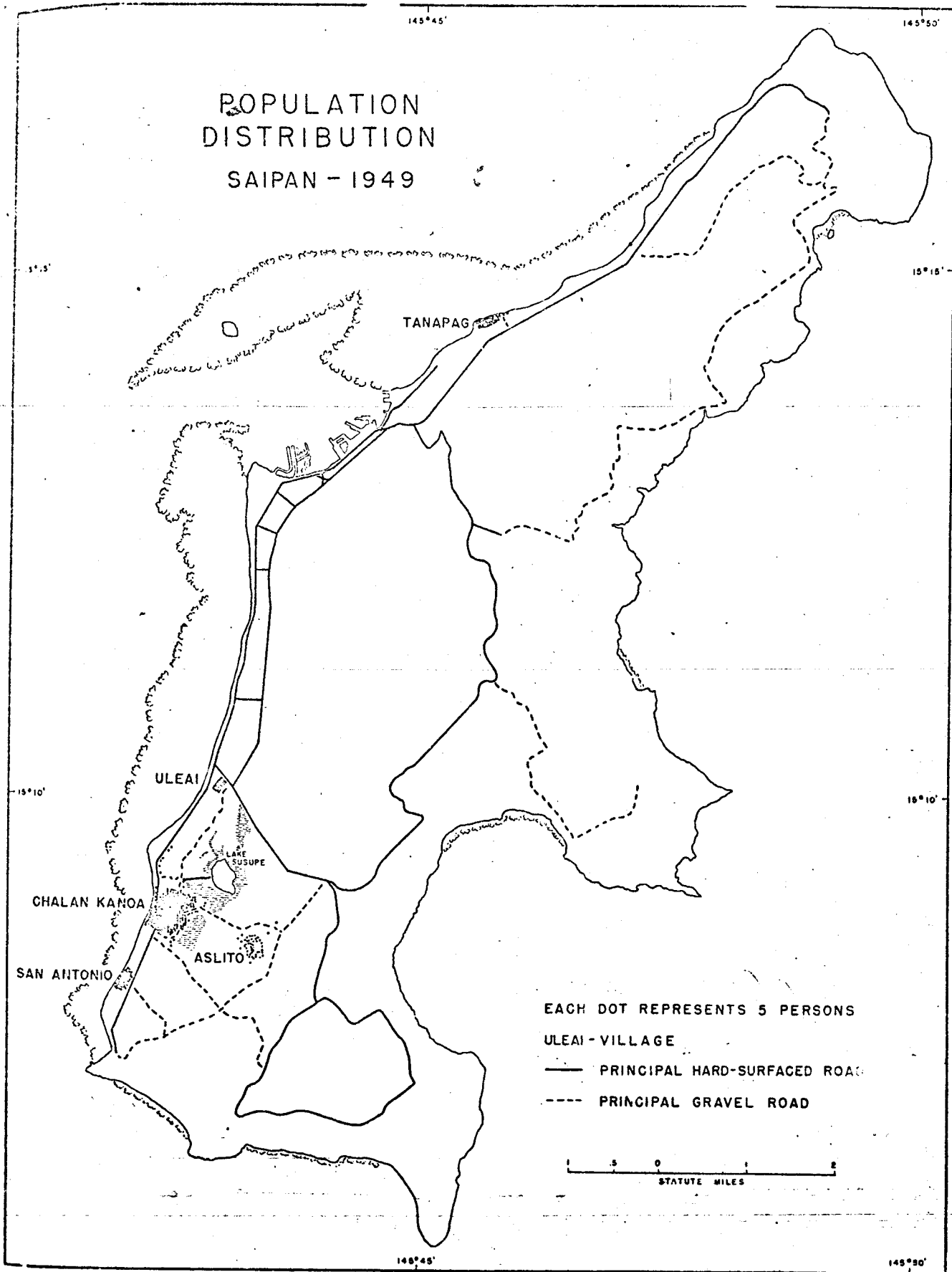
Fairly good records are available on the population distribution on Saipan and the next four maps illustrate this distributions. In the first two maps one dot represents five people while in the last of two one dot represents 25 people. This tends to make it appear that there was a greater difference in population than actually existed. The primary purpose of these maps is to illustrate areas of population concentration rather than actual numbers.

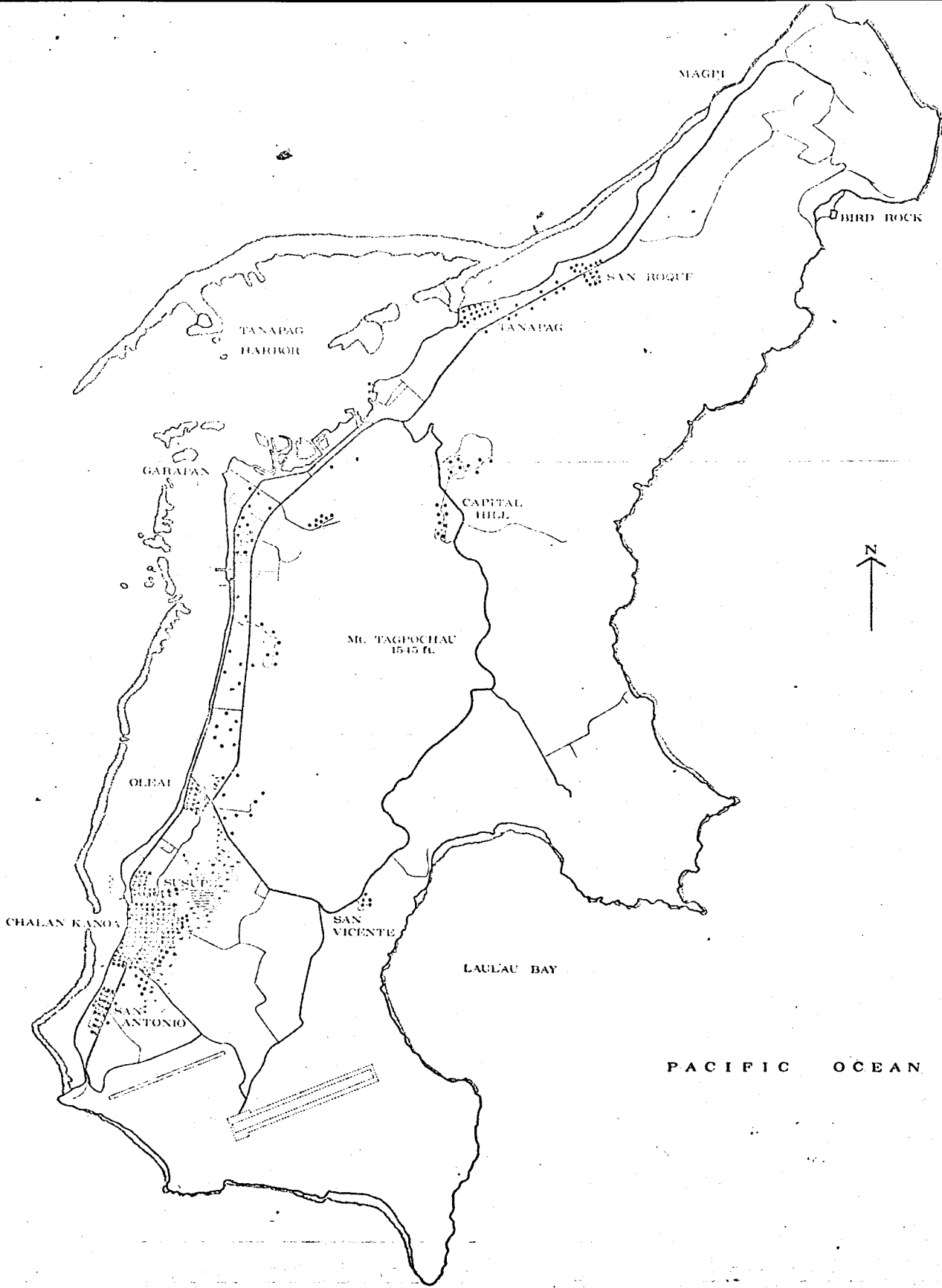
It can be seen that up to recent times population has been concentrated in Garapan and generally heaviest along the west coast. The distribution of population during the Japanese period was characterized by a large city at Garapan and several small villages scattered throughout the island along the rail road routes. In addition to these concentrations there were scattered families living on or close to their farms.

POPULATION
DISTRIBUTION
SAIPAN - 1937



POPULATION
DISTRIBUTION
SAIPAN - 1949





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TRUST TERRITORY PHYSICAL PLANNING PROGRAM
SAIPAN MARIANA DISTRICT
 population distribution

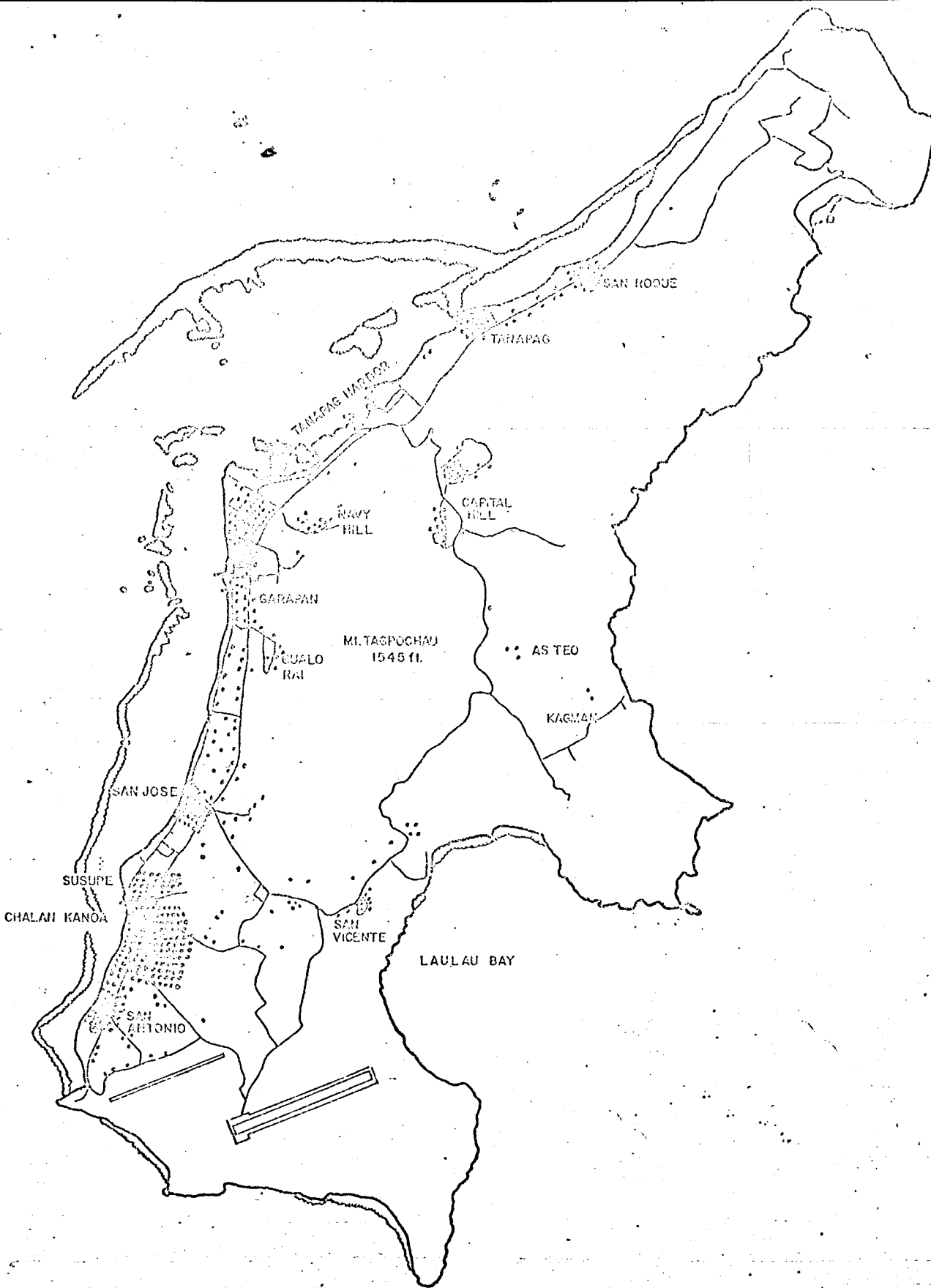
Final Submission October 1, 1968



HAWAII ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS, INC.

one dot equals 25 persons

SOURCE: PEACE CORPS POPULATION
 CENSUS 1967
 POPULATION - 9,015



**POPULATION DISTRIBUTION
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS**

one dot equals 25 persons

SOURCE: T.T. population
census 1973

Population - 12,384

Prepared By: DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE
JUNE 1974