

### Tour #3



Bustling with activity and a touch of cultural mystery, the old "BC Street" has been transformed into a very classy, pleasant and international shopping area known now as Chuo Park Avenue. A person could sit and people-watch for hours without a lick of boredom. As long as there's a vendor nearby to sell cold drinks on a hot day it is a very nice place to hang out.



▶ BC Street / Chuo Park Avenue (6:51)

Eisa Festivals were always fun. Okinawa City (known as Koza in the *old days*) put on one heck of a good show! The Eisa dancers and musicians walked through sweltering heat, through the side streets of town and onto Miromi. Follow the action as they march and sing their way to the Koza Stadium.

Once again, I was amazed at how well the locals handle the heat! I guess being born and raised there makes it a

lot easier. I know what some of you are thinking - it's just like Florida, right? Well, yes, it is but I don't want to live there either. Anyway, back to the show....



It never bothered me to stick my camera right where the action was happening! Result? Excellent in your face video!

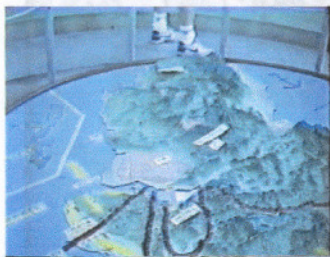
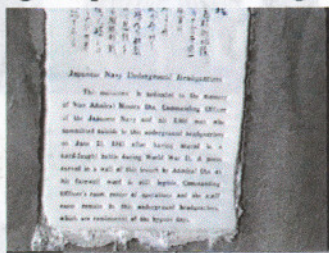
▶ Eisa in Okinawa City (31:05)





...and as you all know if you've been to Okinawa, the all-time best thing to do is to get a *bento-no hako* full of yakisoba prepared right there before your eyes! The sizzle... the aroma... the great taste! I really enjoyed mine with a *hiyaku-yen* can of ice cold Seven Mountain ice coffee. What a treat!

The Schilling Recreation Center on Kadena Air Base always had loads of tours to go on. Unfortunately, I didn't go on many of those - my loss. I have a tour condensed to 20 minutes that takes us to some of the wartime scenes. One of the main stops along this tour is the Japanese Naval Headquarters. It was entirely underground. Believe me, if you didn't know how to get there, even today, you'd never get to it! Quite a remarkable piece of engineering this place is. Amazing!

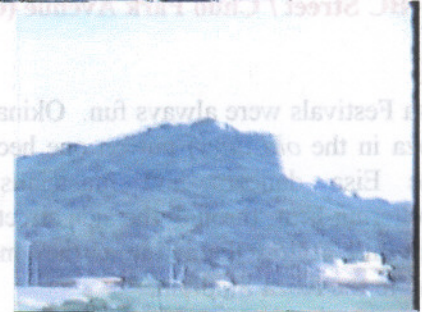


Although dark, you will be able to see some of the underground facility. I was accompanied on this tour by a friend, Dr. Bill Keiffer. We had a great time!

▶ Japanese Naval Underground HQ (19:53)



▶ **Cave of the Virgins** was another stop along the tour and then we ended up out on Mabuni Hill. A very sad piece of real estate - beautiful, esthetically speaking but such a sad end of life.



▶ Mabuni / Okinawa Peace Park Area (19:41)