



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
**News Release**

---

*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

**PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO**  
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

---

**For Immediate Release-July 20, 2011**

For further information, contact:  
Perry John P. Tenorio, Managing Director  
Marianas Visitors Authority  
Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237  
[mva@my Marianas.com](mailto:mva@my Marianas.com)  
[www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com)

**JAPAN'S NHK TV TO FEATURE TINIAN'S WWII HISTORY**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – Japan's largest broadcast company, NHK, recently traveled to the small island of Tinian in the Northern Mariana Islands for a story about the deployment of two atomic bombs from the island during World War II.

The NHK special will be aired in early August and will feature a behind-the-scenes look at the information war that went on between the U.S. Army Airforces' 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group stationed on Tinian at the time, and the Japanese Army and Navy. While on Tinian, the three-member shooting crew filmed aerial and land footage of North Field, where the bombs were loaded aboard waiting B-29s, the 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group Camp and bomb assembly areas. The crew also interviewed 509<sup>th</sup> veteran Russel Gaachenbach.

The Marianas Visitors Authority assisted the team with securing film permits and helping clear access to the jungle-covered shooting sites.

Both atomic bombs, ultimately dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the war, were constructed and loaded on Tinian. North Field, the atomic bomb storage pits, invasion beaches, and numerous other World War II sites and artifacts on Tinian are still readily accessible to visitors today.



Japanese broadcast company NHK interviews 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Group veteran Russel Gaachenbach during their filming in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands earlier this month. The company is preparing a World War II feature scheduled to air in August 2011. The film crew was assisted by the Marianas Visitors Authority and others during their visit.



Cameraman Dai Sasakura of Japan broadcast company NHK films at North Field, Tinian on July 10, 2011, as part of an upcoming World War II feature scheduled to be aired in August 2011. The film crew was assisted by the Marianas Visitors Authority and others during their visit.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka in Japan by Delta and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. For more information visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).