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Contents

1	256	1
1.1	256.guide	1
1.2	256.guide/Wake Island	1
1.3	256.guide/Header (Wake Island)	2
1.4	256.guide/Geography (Wake Island)	2
1.5	256.guide/People (Wake Island)	3
1.6	256.guide/Government (Wake Island)	3
1.7	256.guide/Economy (Wake Island)	4
1.8	256.guide/Communications (Wake Island)	4
1.9	256.guide/Defense Forces (Wake Island)	5

Chapter 1

256

1.1 256.guide

Texified version of data for Wake Island.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock
Neuhäuselerstr. 12
D-66459 Kirkel
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Project Gutenberg

P. O. Box 2782

Champaign, IL 61825

When all other email fails try our Michael S. Hart, Executive Director:

hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu (internet) hart@uiucvmd (bitnet)

We would prefer to send you this information by email (Internet, Bitnet, Compuserve, ATTMAIL or MCImail).

Wake Island

1.2 256.guide/Wake Island

Wake Island

Header (Wake Island)
Geography (Wake Island)
People (Wake Island)
Government (Wake Island)
Economy (Wake Island)
Communications (Wake Island)
Defense Forces (Wake Island)

1.3 256.guide/Header (Wake Island)

Header (Wake Island)
=====

Affiliation:
 (territory of the US)

1.4 256.guide/Geography (Wake Island)

Geography (Wake Island)
=====

Location:
 in the North Pacific Ocean, 3,700 km west of Honolulu, about two-thirds of
 the way between Hawaii and the Northern Mariana Islands
Map references:
 Oceania
Area:
 total area:
 6.5 km2
 land area:
 6.5 km2 comparative area:
 about 11 times the size of The Mall in Washington, DC
Land boundaries:
 0 km
Coastline:
 19.3 km
Maritime claims:
 contiguous zone:
 24 nm
 continental shelf:
 200 m or depth of exploitation
 exclusive economic zone:
 200 nm
 territorial sea:
 12 nm
International disputes:

claimed by the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Climate:
tropical

Terrain:
atoll of three coral islands built up on an underwater volcano; central lagoon is former crater, islands are part of the rim; average elevation less than 4 meters ↵

Natural resources:
none

Land use:
arable land:
0%
permanent crops:
0%
meadows and pastures:
0%
forest and woodland:
0%
other:
100%

Irrigated land:
0 km2

Environment:
subject to occasional typhoons

Note:
strategic location in the North Pacific Ocean; emergency landing location for transpacific flights

1.5 256.guide/People (Wake Island)

People (Wake Island)
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Population:
no indigenous inhabitants; note - there are 302 US Air Force personnel, civilian weather service personnel, and US and Thai contractors; population peaked about 1970 with over 1,600 persons during the Vietnam conflict

1.6 256.guide/Government (Wake Island)

Government (Wake Island)
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Names:
conventional long form:
none
conventional short form:

Wake Island
 Digraph:
 WQ
 Type:
 unincorporated territory of the US administered by the US Air Force (under
 an agreement with the US Department of Interior) since 24 June 1972
 Capital:
 none; administered from Washington, DC
 Independence:
 none (territory of the US)
 Flag:
 the US flag is used

1.7 256.guide/Economy (Wake Island)

Economy (Wake Island)

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Overview:
 Economic activity is limited to providing services to US military personnel
 and contractors located on the island. All food and manufactured goods must
 be imported.
 Electricity:
 supplied by US military

1.8 256.guide/Communications (Wake Island)

Communications (Wake Island)

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Ports:
 none; because of the reefs, there are only two offshore anchorages for ↔
 large
 ships
 Airports:
 total:
 1
 usable:
 1
 with permanent-surface runways:
 1
 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 1
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 0
 Telecommunications:

underwater cables to Guam and through Midway to Honolulu; 1 Autovon circuit off the Overseas Telephone System (OTS); Armed Forces Radio/Television Service (AFRTS) radio and television service provided by satellite; broadcast stations - 1 AM, no FM, no TV

Note:

formerly an important commercial aviation base, now used only by US ←
military
and some commercial cargo planes

1.9 256.guide/Defense Forces (Wake Island)

Defense Forces (Wake Island)

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defense is the responsibility of the US