Operations in the Pacific, December 1941 – September 1945

Manila American Cemetery and Memorial
This cemetery site is the largest administered by the American Battle Monuments Commission in the number of graves and of those missing whose names are recorded on the walls of the memorial. The government of the Philippines granted its free use as a permanent burial ground in perpetuity without charge or taxation.

American Battle Monuments Commission
This agency of the United States government operates and maintains 25 American cemeteries and 26 memorials, monuments and markers in 16 countries. The Commission works to fulfill the vision of its first chairman, General of the Armies John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, who promised that “time will not dim the glory of their deeds.”

Manila American Cemetery & Memorial
McKinley Road
Global City, Taguig
Republic of Philippines

tel 011-632-844-0212
tel 011-632-813-2521
fax 011-632-812-4717
GPS N14 32.483  E121 03.008

For more information on this site and other ABMC commemorative sites, please visit
www.abmc.gov

Cabanatuan Prisoner of War Camp Memorial
A marker at this site marks the site of the Japanese Cabanatuan Prisoner of War Camp. Approximately 20,000 American servicemen and civilians were imprisoned there from 1942 to 1945.

Guadalcanal American Memorial
It honors those American and Allied servicemen who lost their lives during the Guadalcanal Campaign of World War II (Aug. 7, 1942 to Feb. 9, 1943). Four radiating directional walls point toward major battle sites.
Throughout the year, many hard-fought campaigns along the north coast of New Guinea and up the Northern Solomons flank resulted in major advances toward Japan.

November 1943: Landing by U.S. Marines on Tarawa began the U.S. Central Pacific thrust.

1944 Southwest Pacific forces under General MacArthur reached the western end of New Guinea by the end of August. Central Pacific forces under Admiral Nimitz fought through the fortified atolls of the Marshall, Marianas, and Palau Islands. The campaigns positioned U.S. forces to invade the Philippines.

October 1944: U.S. forces returned to the Philippines, landing on Leyte.

October 20: The Battle of Leyte Gulf marked the end of Japanese naval power in the Pacific.

October 23-26: U.S. Marines landing on Guadalcanal began the U.S. offensive operations in the Pacific.

1945 January 9: U.S. Sixth Army landings at Lingayen Gulf began the Luzon campaign.

February 19 and April 1: amphi-borne troops recaptured Corregidor Island on Feb. 16. Filipino civilians were killed during the battle. Airborne and amphibious troops reoccupied Corregidor Island on Feb. 16.

February 19 also saw: A battle of two Irons and Okinawa began.

February 20 – April 4: Starting at Palawan, through the Visayan Islands to Mindanao, Eighth Army landed the remaining islands of the Philippines.

April 4: Liberation of Philippines declared. More than 85,000 Americans were killed in ground combat leading to liberation.

August 6 and 9: U.S. bombers dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

November 1945: General Douglas MacArthur returns to the Philippines – Leyte, October 1944. Photo: The National Archives

Headstone Location

Entrance to the Cemetery is from the north. Proceeding south is a plaza area with a four-meter centered on the mausoleum, from which the majority of the white marble headstones were quarried and fabricated in Italy and small quantities from Romblon, Philippines.

Useful Information

Wall of Missing

Eleven burial plots horse 96,188 Missing in action who gave their lives in the service of their country, including 1 Medal of Honor recipients.

The Memorial

The Memorial consists of the tower containing the small devotional chapel, and the hexagonal in front which embrace the Memorial Court. The structures are faced with travertine limestone.

The Chapel

The Chapel is a national memorial to memory the American warriors fighting to enemy the dragon. Above them are the statue of eagle has fought Liberty, Justice, Country and Country with shield symbolizing the future.

The Altar

The Altar is inlaid with mosaic on a predominantly blue background. A tall, graceful fountain has waterlilies. Natural light streams through stone grilleworks. The Altar is dedicated to the memory of service of their country, including 21 Medal of Honor recipients, 36,286 Missing in action, 164 Sets of brothers: 20 Medal of Honor recipients. 29 Dedicated: December 8, 1960

The 25 Maps

The 25 high-moss maps of varying widths are displayed inside four rooms bordering the hexagonal walk. The maps portray important campaigns during World War II in the Pacific.

Visitors Building

Is located inside the main gate at the right of the place you can meet our staff and get your transportation arrangements, sign the guest register, and visit and refresh yourself.

Layout

Dimensions: 152 acres
Headsstones: 17,097
Latin crosses: 36,913
Stars of David: 164
Unknowns: 3,740
Memorial in action: 16,286
Sets of brothers: 20
Medals of honor recipients: 29
Dedicated: December 8, 1960

Information

Access to all grave areas.

The guest register, and rest your questions answered, sign at the right of the plaza; you can meet our staff and get your transportation arrangements, sign the guest register, and visit and refresh yourself.

The Graves

The 11 burial plots are arranged in concentric rings around the Memorial and Mall. The majority of the white marble headstones were quarried and fabricated in Italy and small quantities from Romblon, Philippines.

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