Honolulu Memorial
National Memorial Cemetery
of the Pacific
Honolulu, Hawaii

West Coast Memorial - East Coast Memorial

American Battle Monuments Commission

Honolulu Memorial

The American Battle Monuments Commission erected the Honolulu Memorial at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii in 1964. It was dedicated on 1 May 1966. The Veterans' Administration, Washington, D.C. 20420 administers the cemetery, and the American Battle Monuments Commission, Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 500, 2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201 administers the Memorial.

LOCATION

The Honolulu Memorial and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific are co-located at 2177 Puowaina Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. The telephone number at the cemetery is 808-546-3190. These shrines are easily accessible from the city of Honolulu via bus No. 15, taxi or private or rental car. As the local bus stops outside of the cemetery gate, anyone who has difficulty in walking distances should travel by automobile.

HOURS

The memorial and cemetery are open daily to the public as show below:

SUMMER: 2 March – 29 September
8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
WINTER: 30 September – 1 March
8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

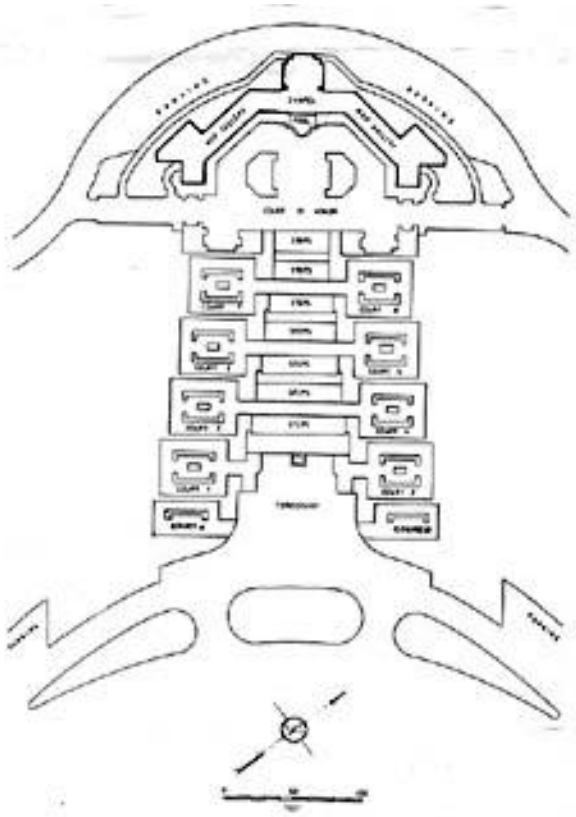
Interior of Chapel

Office hours for the cemetery are from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The office is closed on weekends and holidays. Personnel on duty in the office are available to answer questions concerning the cemetery and the memorial.

SITE

The memorial and cemetery, 112.5 acres in extent, are located in Puowaina Crater, an extinct volcano referred to locally as the Punchbowl because of its shape. Roughly translated, Puowaina means "Consecrated Hill" or "Hill of Sacrifice." The Punchbowl was the site of many secret Alii (Royal) burials. It was also the place where offenders of certain kapas (taboos) were sacrificed. In the early 1800's, the crater was an important stronghold for Oahu natives who tried in vain to resist the invading Army of Kamehameha when he unified the Hawaiian Islands in 1810. The kingdom established by Kamehameha existed until Queen Lilioukalani was deposed in 1893.

Puowaina Crater was selected as a permanent cemetery site when major objections were made to the temporary World War II cemetery sites in the central and south Pacific areas. It is one of two hallowed resting places in the vast Pacific for the recovered remains of World War II Dead whose next of kin did not request return of the remains to the continental United States. Nearly 13,000 World War II Dead from the Pacific are buried here. They came from such battle sites as Guadalcanal, China, Burma, Saipan, Guam and Iwo Jima and from the prisoner of war camps in Japan. Also interred in the cemetery are the unidentified remains of 800 U.S. servicemen who died fighting in Korea and the Dead of World War II and the Korea and Vietnam Wars whose next of kin requested that they be buried here.



Location of Memorial Features

The other hallowed resting-place in the Pacific for World War II Dead is the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, Fort Bonifacio, Manila, Republic of the Philippines, which is administered by the American Battle Monuments Commission.

ARCHITECTS

Architects for the memorial were Weihe, Frick and Kruse of San Francisco, assisted locally by Theodore A. Vierra, Architects of Honolulu. The landscape architects were Thompson and Thompson of Honolulu.

THE MEMORIAL

The Honolulu Memorial was erected to honor the sacrifices and achievements of American Armed Forces in the Pacific during World War II and in the Korean War. In 1980, it was enlarged to encompass the Missing of the Vietnam War. Commemorated individually by name on Tablets of the Missing at the memorial are the Missing in Action or lost of buried at sea in the Pacific during World War II, other than the southwest Pacific, and those who were Missing in Action or lost or buried at sea during the Korean War and the Vietnam War. This impressive memorial sits high on the wall of Puowaina Crater overlooking the graves area of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. It consists of a nonsectarian chapel, two map galleries – one extending literally from each

side of the chapel and two flag poles in a Court of Honor; a monumental stairway leading from the crater floor to the Court of Honor; ten courts of the Missing, five flanking each side of the stairway and a Dedicatory Stone centered at the base of the stairway.

Dedicatory Stone

Engraved upon the Dedicatory Stone is this inscription:

IN THESE GARDENS ARE RECORDED
THE NAMES OF AMERICANS
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY
AND WHOSE EARTHLY RESTING PLACE IS
KNOWN ONLY TO GOD

THE COURTS OF THE MISSING

On the tablets of the Courts of the Missing (eight full courts and two half courts) are engraved the names of 28,778 American heroes. Each of them was Missing in Action (MIA) or lost or buried at sea in the Pacific during World War II (but not the southwest Pacific – its Missing in Action are commemorated by name at the Manila American

Cemetery and Memorial, Republic of the Philippines), in the Korean War of in the Vietnam War. Unlike the MIA's of World War II, the names of all of the Missing in Action or lost or buried at sea of the Korean and Vietnam Wars are recorded here in one place. These MIA's came from every State of the Union and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Panama Canal Zone, Guam, the Philippines, Mexico, Canada and Samoa. It is noted that the names of those identified servicemen and women whose remains are buried in the cemetery do not appear on the Courts of the Missing.

Courts of the Missing

The names of the Missing are arranged in alphabetical order by military service as follows (Courts are number 1 through 8 and A and B as shown on the plan of the memorial):

World War II	*Courts*	*Names*
United States Army and Air Forces*	7, 5	3,947
United States Navy	5, 3, 1, 2	11,743
United States Marine Corps	2, 4	2,370
United States Coast Guard	4	34
Total		18,094

* During World War II, the Air Forces still formed part of the U.S. Army

Korea	*Courts*	*Names*
United States Army	4, 6, 8	6,324
United States Navy	8	289
United States Marine Corps	8	663
United States Airforce	8	919
Total		8,195

Vietnam	*Courts*	*Names*
United States Army	B	706
United States Navy	B	516
United States Marine Corps	A	295
United States Air Force	A	971
United States Coast Guard	B	1
Total		2,489

Half Court "B", Vietnam War

The Trani stone tablets of the eight full Courts where the names of the Missing appear were quarried in southeastern Italy. In the center of each Court is a frangipani tree *(Plumeria acuminata)* surrounded by low *Ficus ramentacey*. On the stairway side of the Courts are allspice *(Pimenta acres)* trees surrounded by allamanda *(Allamanda*

Interior of Court of Missing

cathartica); on the outer sides of the Courts is a hedge of orange jessimine *(Murraya exotica)* and rainbow shower *(Cassia fistula* and *javanica)* and Chinese banyan *(Ficus retusa)* trees. At the top of the slope are beds of cup of gold *(Solandra guttata)* and star jasmine *(Jasminum pubescens).* Flanking the open area at the base of the stairway below the full Courts of the Missing are two half Courts on which are engraved the names of the MIA's of the Vietnam War. Centered on the wall of the half Court on the right facing the graves area (B Court) is the following inscription:

IN PROUD MEMORY

OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HER SONS
AND IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THEIR SACRIFICES
THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ERECTED
BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

* * * *

THESE MEN WERE PART OF THE PRICE
THAT FREE MEN HAVE BEEN FORCED TO PAY
TO DEFEND HUMAN LIBERTY AND RIGHTS
TO THESE MEN WE OWE A DEBT
TO BE PAID WITH GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
OF THEIR HEROISM

On the wall above the inscription are two sculpture angels holding a laurel wreath in the center of which is a replica of the Great Seal of the United States.

To the left of the central inscription on B Court appear these words:

1950 * 1953

DURING THE KOREAN CONFLICT
36,923 AMERICANS GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY FOR OTHER PEOPLE.
GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD ETERNAL REST
WHO SLEEP IN UNKNOWN GRAVES
OUR RELIANCE IS IN THE LOVE OF LIBERTY
WHICH GOD HAS PLANTED IN US

To the right of the central inscription on B Court appears these words:

1961 * 1973

IN THE LONGEST CONFLICT IN AMERICAN HISTORY
57,704 PAID THE LAST SACRIFICE
SERVING THEIR COUNTRY IN VIETNAM
IN THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM

*

THIS MEMORIAL IS A SACRED RENDEZVOUS
OF A GRATEFUL PEOPLE WITH ITS IMMORTAL DEAD

*

TIME SHALL NOT DIM THE GLORY OF THEIR DEEDS

Chapel Tower

Centered on the wall of the half Court facing the graves area on the left (A Court) is the following inscription:

THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ERECTED BY
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IN PROUD AMD GRATEFUL MEMORY
OF HER SOLDIERS SAILORS MARINES AND AIRMEN
WHO LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES IN ALL QUARTERS OF THE EARTH
THAT OTHER PEOPLES MIGHT BE FREED FROM OPPRESSION

To the left of the central inscription on A Court appear these words:

* IN 1923 *
THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES CREATED
THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION
TO WORTHILY HONOR HER SONS
WHO PAID THE LAST SACRIFICE
IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY ON FOREIGN SOIL

*

LET US HERE HIGHLY RESOLVE

THAT THESE HONORED DEAD
SHALL NOT HAVE DIED IN VAIN

To the right of the central inscription on A Court appear these words:

1941 * 1945
IN WORLD WAR II 360,845 AMERICANS
GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

*

THEY FACED THE FOE AS THEY DREW NEAR HIM
IN THE STRENGTH OF THEIR MANHOOD AND
WHEN THE SHOCK OF BATTLE CAME
THEY IN A MOMENT OF TIME
AT THE CLIMAX OF THEIR LIVES
WERE RAPT AWAY FROM A WORLD FILLED
FOR THEIR DYING EYES
NOT WITH TERROR BUT WITH GLORY

COURT OF HONOR

The Court of Honor contains the chapel; two map galleries, one extending laterally from each side of the central tower housing the chapel; two flagpoles; two planting pockets in the center of the forecourt containing *Filicium decepiens* trees and *Allamanda* ground cover; a small pool with water jets at the foot of the tower housing the chapel; and two planting pockets flanking the pool. The floor of the court is paved with porphyry stone.

On the front of the tower housing the chapel is a 30-foot female figure standing on the symbolized prow of a U.S. Navy carrier with a laurel branch in her left hand. Engraved below the figure is the poignant sympathy expressed by President Lincoln to Mrs. Bixby, mother of five sons who had died in battle;... "THE SOLEMN PRIDE THAT MUST BE YOURS TO HAVE LAID SO COSTLY A SACRIFICE UPON THE ALTAR OF FREEDOM." The female figure was designed by Bruce Moore of Washington, D.C. as were the eagles over the entrances to the structure. Fillippo Cecchettio of Tivoli and Ugo Quaglieri of Rome, Italy carved the sculpture under the direction of Mr. Moore.

MAP GALLERIES

The map galleries extend from the right and left sides of the tower. Inscribed upon the frieze of the galleries are the names of places which attained notable significance in the proud record of our Armed Forces: PEARL HARBOR * WAKE * CORAL SEA* MIDWAY * ATTU * SOLOMONS * GILBERTS * MARSHALLS * MARIANAS * LEYTE * IWO JIMA * OKINAWA * TOKYO * KOREA.

The original maps in the galleries, each ten feet high, were designed by Richard and Carlotta (Gonzales) Lahey of Vienna, Virginia from data prepared for that purpose by the

Map Gallery

American Battle Monuments Commission. They were of scagliola, i.e. paintings on a special composition applied to Carrara marble surface and glazed. Although scagliola had been used for centuries as one of the decorative fine arts in Italy, it did not withstand the humid climate in Hawaii and the maps were replaced during the period 1968-1972. The new maps of precast tinted mosaic concrete and colored glass aggregate were designed by Mrs. Mary Morse Hamilton Jacobs of Glenelg, Maryland. Early Studios of Manassas, Virginia fabricated the maps under Mrs. Jacobs' supervision. The titles of the maps and their amplifying inscriptions are as follows:

OPERATIONS IN THE PACIFIC
1942-1945

EXPLOITING THEIR SUCCESSFUL ATTACK UPON PEARL HARBOR ON 7 DECEMBER 1941, THE JAPANESE STRUCK AT AMERICAN, BRITISH, CHINESE AND DUTCH TERRITORIES. THE UNITED STATES, FORCED INITIALLY UPON THE DEFENSIVE, NEVERTHELESS DETERMINED TO HOLD OPEN THE LINE OF COMMUNICATIONS TO AUSTRALIA, TO AID IN ITS DEFENSE, AND TO

REGAIN HER STATUS IN THE PHILIPPINES. IN MAY AND JUNE 1942 THE ENEMY WAS CHECKED AT THE BATTLES OF THE CORAL SEA AND MIDWAY AND THE BALANCE OF SEA POWER IN THE PACIFIC WAS RESTORED.

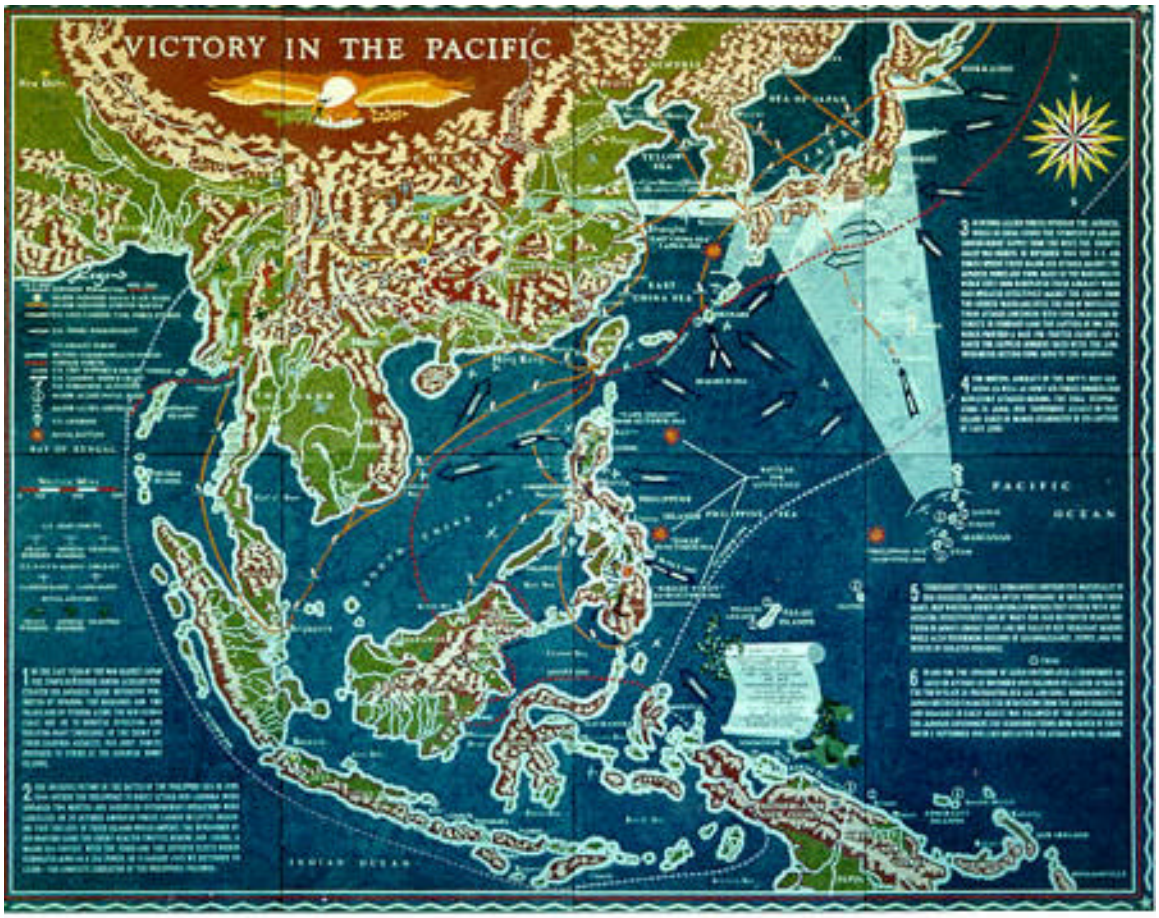
TO HALT THE JAPANESE ADVANCE IN THE SOLOMONS, U.S. FORCES TOOK THE OFFENSIVE, LANDING ON GUADALCANAL ON 7 AUGUST 1942. THE SUCCESSION OF HARD-FOUGHT NAVAL BATTLES AND GRIM STRUGGLES ON LAND AND IN THE AIR WHICH FOLLOWED MARKED THE TURNING POINT OF THE PACIFIC WAR. IN SOUTHEASTERN NEW GUINEA, U.S. AND AUSTRALIAN FORCES REPULSED THE JAPANESE AND STARTED ON THE LONG ROAD BACK TO THE PHILIPPINES. SUPPLIES FLOWN FROM INDIA OVER THE HIMALAYAS AIDED THE CHINESE EFFORT AGAINST THE INVADERS.

SUBMARINES PERSISTENTLY ATTACKED JAPANESE SHIPS CARRYING OIL, RUBBER AND OTHER MATERIALS ESSENTIAL TO THE ENEMY'S INDUSTRY. RELENTLESS ASSAULT AGAINST HIS COMBAT AND MERCHANT SHIPS, FROM THE SEA AND FROM THE AIR, CONTINUED WITH EVER-INCREASING ATTRITION THROUGHOUT THE WAR.

TO PENETRATE THE ENEMY'S DEFENSES AND GAIN BASES FROM WHICH AIRCRAFT COULD STRIKE AT THE JAPANESE HOME ISLANDS, THE UNITED STATES IN 1943 COMMITTED ITS FORCES IN A SUCCESSION OF TRIPHIBIOUS ASSAULTS ALONG TWO MAIN AXES OF ADVANCE. ONE THRUST CONTINUED THE ATTACKS NORTHWESTWARD SIMULTANEOUSLY THROUGH THE SOLOMONS AND ALONG THE COAST OF NEW GUINEA; THE OTHER CROSSED THE VAST REACHES OF THE CENTRAL PACIFIC VIA THE GILBERT AND MARSHALL ISLANDS, THEN THE MARIANAS (BRINGING ON THE BATTLE OF THE PHILIPPINE SEA) AND THE PALAUS. FAR TO THE NORTH OTHER AMERICAN FORCES EXPELLED THE ENEMY FROM THE ALEUTIANS. IN BURMA ALLIED FORCES FOUGHT TO REOPEN THE OVERLAND SUPPLY ROUTE TO CHINA AND STIMULATE HER EFFORTS TO EJECT THE JAPANESE.

AFTER THE CAPTURE OF THE MARIANAS, BOMBERS FROM THESE ISLANDS JOINED THE ASSAULT ON JAPAN, ALREADY STARTED FROM AIRFIELDS IN CHINA, WHICH DEVELOPED INTO CONTINUAL AND VIOLENT BOMBARDMENT AIMED AT THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENEMY'S MILITARY AND INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS.

THE LANDING AT LEYTE IN OCTOBER 1944 LED TO THE DECISIVE NAVAL VICTORIES AT LEYTE GULF. LANDINGS ON LUZON, IWO JIMA AND OKINAWA FOLLOWED IN RAPID SUCCESSION CARRYING AMERICAN FORCES TO THE ENEMY'S THRESHOLD. FAST CARRIER TASK FORCES COMING FROM THE CENTRAL PACIFIC JOINED IN THE BOMBARDMENT OF JAPAN WHILE WARSHIP SHELLED HER COASTAL STATIONS. FOLLOWING THE DEVASTATION FROM THE AIR OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SUED FOR PEACE; THE SURRENDER TERMS WERE SIGNED IN TOKYO BAY ON 2 SEPTEMBER 1945.



Operations Map

BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA
4-8 MAY 1942

BY MID-APRIL 1942, THE JAPANESE HAD ESTABLISHED BASES IN THE NEW GUINEA-SOLOMON ISLANDS AREA, THUS MENACING AUSTRALIA ITSELF. ON 3 MAY THEY OCCUPIED TULAGI, IN THE SOLOMONS. AIRCRAFT FROM THE U.S. CARRIER YORKTOWN ATTACKED TULAGI THE NEXT DAY SINKING AN ENEMY DESTROYER, SEVERAL MINESWEEPERS, SMALLER CRAFT AND SEAPLANES. THE YORKTOWN TASK FORCE THEN TURNED SOUTH TO RENDEZVOUS WITH U.S.S. LEXINGTON. ON 5 MAY THE ALLIED TASK FORCE MOVED NORTHWEST TO INTERCEPT THE JAPANESE PORT MORESBY INVASION GROUP WHICH WAS COVERED BY A POWERFUL AIRCRAFT CARRIER STRIKING FORCE.

ON 7 MAY, LEXINGTON AND YORKTOWN AIRCRAFT SANK THE ENEMY CARRIER SHOHO; THE JAPANESE THEN WITHDREW THEIR AMPHIBIOUS INVASION FORCE. THAT SAME MORNING JAPANESE CARRIER AIRCRAFT SANK DESTROYER SIMS AND DAMAGED OILER NEOSHO SO BADLY THAT SHE HAD TO BE SCUTTLED. THE CLIMACTIC CARRIER

BATTLE OCCURRED ON 8 MAY. AMERICAN CARRIER AIRCRAFT, HAVING LOCATED TWO LARGE JAPANESE CARRIERS, SHOKAKU AND ZUIKAKU, PROTECTED BY FOUR HEAVY CRUISERS, SEVERELY DAMAGED THE SHOKAKU, THE ENEMY IN TURN DAMAGED YORKTOWN AND LEXINGTON, THE LATTER BEING ABANDONED AND SUNK.

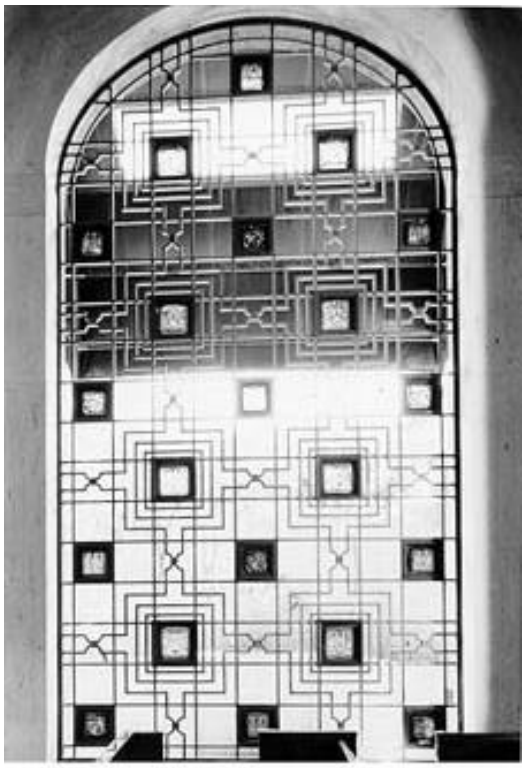
THE BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA, THE FIRST MAJOR NAVAL BATTLE IN WHICH ALL LOSSES WERE INFLICTED BY CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT WAS A STRATEGIC VICTORY OF THE FIRST MAGNITUDE FOR THE U.S. NAVY. WHEN THE PORT MORESBY INVASION WAS THWARTED THE JAPANES PUSH SOUTHWARDS WAS HALTED FOR THE FIRST TIME. OCCURRING IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SURRENDER OF CORREGIDOR, THE MORAL VALUE OF THE VICTORY WAS IMMEASURABLE. + FURTHERMORE, DAMAGE TO SHOKAKU AND LARGE LOSS OF AIRCRAFT BY ZUIKAKU PREVENTED THESE POWERFUL JAPANESE CARRIERS FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE CRUCIAL BATTLE OF MIDWAY.

BATTLE OF MIDWAY * 3-7 JUNE 1942

WHEN THEIR ADVANCE TOWARD AUSTRALIA WAS CHECKED AT THE BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA, THE JAPANESE SHIFTED THE DIRECTION OF THEIR MAIN OFFENSIVE. ENEMY OCCUPATION FORCES, SUPPORTED BY THE JAPANESE COMBINED FLEET, MOVED AGAINST MIDWAY ISLAND, AND KISKA AND ATTU IN THE WESTERN ALEUTIANS. ON 4 JUNE AIRCRAFT FROM FOUR JAPANESE FLEET CARRIERS ATTACKED MIDWAY. IN ITS DEFENSE U.S. MARINE CORPS ANTIARCRAFT BATTERIES, AND LANDBASED AIRCRAFT MANNED BY MARINE, NAVY AND ARMY AIR FORCE PILOTS, DESTROYED MORE THAN 40 JAPANESE AIRPLANES. THEREUPON NAVAL AIRCRAFT FROM U.S. CARRIERS ENTERPRISE, YORKTOWN AND HORNET ATTACKED THE JAPANES CARRIERS AND SANK FOUR OF THEM. ENEMY CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT AND A SUBMARINE IN TURN ATTACKED OUR CARRIERS AND SANK YORKTOWN AND DESTROYER HAMMANN. THE AGGRESSIVE AMERICAN AIR RESISTANCE CAUSE THE JAPANESE MIDWAY OCCUPATION FORCE TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO LAND, LOSING A CRUISER IN THE OPERATION.

FAR TO THE NORTH, JAPANESE AIRPLANES FROM TWO OTHER CARRIERS BOMBED DUTCH HARBOR ON 3 AND 4 JUNE, MEETING RESISTANCE FROM U.S. NAVAL AND ARMY AIR FORCES AIRCRAFT. UNDER COVER OF THIS DIVERSION THE JAPANESE, WITHOUT OPPOSITION, OCCUPIED THE ISLANDS OF ATTU AND KISKA ON 7 JUNE.

THE JAPANESE LOSS OF FOUR LARGE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS AND THEIR COMPLEMENT OF 250 AIRCARFT WITH MANY FIRST-LINE PILOTS REVERSED THE STRATEGIC SITUATION IN THE PACIFIC. THIS WAS THE ENEMY'S LAST GREAT OFFENSIVE AGAINST AMERICAN TERRITORY. THEREAFTER THE UNITED STATES TOOK THE OFFENSIVE AND STARTED THE LONG ADVANCE TOWARD THE JAPANESE HOMELAND AND FINAL VICTORY.



Chapel Window Grill with Cabochons

NEW GUINEA AND THE SOLOMONS
4 MAY 1942-30 SEPTEMBER 1944

REACTING TO THEIR DEFEATS AT THE BATTLES OF THE CORAL SEA AND MIDWAY IN MAY AND JUNE 1942 WHICH RESTORED THE BALANCE OF SEA POWER IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN, THE JAPANESE AIMED AT NEW GIUNEA AND THE SOLOMONS AS THEIR NEW OBJECTIVES. ON 21 JULY, THEY SEIZED BUNA AND GONA IN EASTERN NEW GUINEA, THEN CROSSED THE OWEN STANLEY RANGE TO WITHIN 30 MILES OF PORT MORESBY. THE JAPANESE ALSO STARTED TO BUILD AN AIRFIELD ON GUADALCANAL.

TO BLOCK THE ADVANCE IN THE SOLOMONS WHICH THREATENED OUR VITAL SUPPLY LINE TO AUSTRALIA, U.S. FORCES TOOK THE OFFENSIVE, LANDING ON GUADALCANAL AND TULAGI ON 7 AUGUST 1942. THE ENEMY RESPONSE WAS PROMPT AND VIGOROUS. THE SERIES OF HARD-FOUGHT NAVAL BATTLES AND GRIM STRUGGLES ON LAND AND IN THE AIR WHICH FOLLOWED MARKED THE EBBING OF THE JAPANESE ONSLAUGHT, ALTHOUGH THEIR TENACIOUS OPPOSITION FORCED US TO REINFORCE OUR LAND, SEA, AND AIR FORCES HEAVILY. SIX LONG MONTHS PASSED BEFORE AMERICAN TROOPS OVERRAN THE LAST JAPANESE POSITIONS ON GUADALCANAL.

SIMULTANEOUSLY, IN NEW GUINEA, THE AUSTRALIANS DROVE THE ENEMY BACK TO HIS BUNA-GONA BEACHEAD AND DEFEATED ANOTHER JAPANESE FORCE AT MILNE BAY. AUSTRALIAN AND AMERICAN TROOPS THEN EXPELLED THE JAPANESE FROM THEIR BEACHHEAD, AIDED BY THE ALLIED AIR FORCES WHICH BOTH TRANSPORTED TROOPS AND SUPPLIES AND ALSO CONSTANTLY BOMBARDED THE ENEMY.

DURING THE LAST WEEK OF JANUARY 1943, AIR-TRANSPORTED AUSTRALIAN TROOPS REPULSED A THRUST AT WAU. IN MARCH, IN THE BATTLE OF THE BISMARCK SEA, U.S. AND AUSTRALIAN AIRCRAFT EXECUTED AN ANNIHILATING ATTACK ON A JAPANESE CONVOY ATTEMPING TO REINFORCE THEIR NEW GUINEA GARRISONS. IN JUNE, THE ALLIES LAUNCHED HEAVY AIR ASSAULTS AGAINST THE STRONGHOLDS OF RABAUL AND KAVIENG; AFTER OCCUPYING WOODLARK AND KIRIWINA ISLANDS THEY OPENED SIMULTANEOUS AMPHIBIOUS OFFENSIVES IN THE SOLOMONS AND NEW GUINEA. SEIZING RENDOVA, U.S. FORCES ASSAULTED NEW GEORGIA AND, AFTER A SEVERE STRUGGLE,

CAPTURED THE ENEMY AIRFIELD AT MUNDA, THEN MOVED ON VELLA LAVELLA. IN NEW GUINEA AUSTRALIAN AND U.S. FORCES CAPTURED SALAMAUA, LAE, AND FINSCHHAFEN. PRECEDED BY DIVERSIONARY ATTACKS ON CHOISEUL AND THE TREASURY ISLANDS, AMERICAN FORCES NEXT LANDED ON BOUGAINVILLE; LANDINGS ON NEW BRITAIN AND AT SAIDOR, NEW GUINEA FOLLOWED. THE ENCIRCLEMENT OF RABAUL WAS COMPLETED WHEN OUR TROOPS SEIZED THE ADMIRALTIES IN FEBRUARY AND OCCUPIED EMIRAU IN MARCH 1944. MEANWHILE A MAJOR COUNTEROFFENSIVE AGAINST OUR BOUGAINVILLE BEACHHEAD WAS REPULSED.

IN ORDER TO SPEED THE WESTWARD ADVANCE IN NEW GUINEA IT WAS NOW DECIDED TO BYPASS THE STRONG JAPANESE BASE AT WEWAK BY LEAPFROGGING SOME 350 MILES TO HOLLANDIA, WITH A SECONDARY LANDING AT AITAPE TO THE EAST; HERE A SEVERE STRUGGLE ENSUED. THEN, WHILE AUSTRALIAN TROOPS CONTINUED THE ADVANCE ON LAND, U.S. ARMY TROOPS, IN CLOSE TEAMWORK WITH U.S. NAVAL AND AIR FORCES, SEIZED WAKDE, BIAK, NOEMFOOR, SANSAPOR, AND MOROTAI IN RAPID SUCCESSION. BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER 1944, OUR FORCES WERE POISED FOR THE RETURN TO THE PHILIPPINES.

ATTU * 11-30 MAY 1943

DURING THE BATTLE OF MIDWAY IN JUNE 1942 JAPANESE AIRCRAFT ATTACKED DUTCH HARBOR; THE ENEMY THEN OCCUPED ATTU AND KISKA TO BLOCK A POSSIBLE AMERICAN ADVANCE. IN AUGUST AMERICAN FORCES STARTED WESTWARD ALONG THE ALEUTIAN CHAIN, CONSTRUCTING AIRFIELDS AND NAVAL BASES. DESPITE PERSISTENTLY HAZARDOUS WEATHER U.S. NAVAL FORCES, THE ELEVENTH AIR FORCE, AND CANADIAN AIRCRAFT ATTACKED THE ENEMY AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY. JAPANESE EFFORTS TO SEND REINFORCEMENTS WERE HALTED AT THE NAVAL BATTLE OF THE KOMANDORSKI ISLANDS, WEST OF ATTU, ON 26 MARCH 1943.

BYPASSING KISKA, THE U.S. NAVY NORTH PACIFIC FORCE SAILED FOR ATTU, A MOUNTAINOUS ISLAND 40 MILES LONG BY 15 MILES WIDE. ON 11 MAY THE REINFORCED 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION LANDED NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE JAPANESE, WHO HELD ONLY THE EAST END OF THE ISLAND. THE TROOPS MADE GOOD PROGRESS ASHORE IN SPITE OF FOG, TREACHEROUS TUNDRA, AND PRECIPITOUS SNOW COVERED MOUNTAINS, UNTIL THEY ENCOUNTERED STIFF RESISTANCE ON BOTH FRONTS. ALTHOUGH SUPPORTED BY NAVAL GUNFIRE, AND BY ARMY AND NAVY AIRCRAFT WHENEVER THE WEATHER PERMITTED, THE ADVANCE WAS COSTLY AND DIFFICULT.

FINALLY ON 16 MAY THE NORTHERN FORCE BROKE THROUGH THE SKILLFUL, DETERMINED DEFENSE. THEREUPON OUR INFANTRY CAPTURED PRENDERGAST AND GILBERT RIDGES, THEN SEIZED POSITIONS

ON FISHHOOK RIDGE ON THE NIGHT OF 28-29 MAY, THE ENEMY PUSHED A SUICIDAL COUNTERATTACK 3 ½ MILES THROUGH A GAP IN THE LINES UNTIL HALTED BY U.S. ARMY ENGINEERS AND ARTILLERYMEN; ORGANIZED RESISTANCE ENDED ON 30 MAY.

THE STRATEGIC SOUNDNESS OF BYPASSING KISKA WAS THEN DEMONSTRATED. WHEN AMERICANS AND CANADIANS LANDED ON THAT ISLAND ON 15 AUGUST, THE JAPANESS HAD ALREADY DEPARTED.

BATTLE FOR TARAWA ATOLL
20-23 NOVEMBER 1943

TOWARD THE END OF 1943 THE UNITED STATES COMMITTED ITS FORCES IN AN ADVANCE ACROSS THE CENTRAL PACIFIC TO CONVERGE WITH ITS THRUSTS THROUGH NEW GUINEA AND THE SOLOMONS. THE INITIAL EFFORT WAS AGAINST MAKIN AND TARAWA IN THE GILBERT ISLANDS, TO GAIN BASES FOR AN ATTACK ON THE MARSHALLS. FAST CARRIER STRIKES BY THE FIFTH FLEET AND BOMBING ATTACKS BY THE SEVENTH AIR FORCE, WHICH HAD BEEN STARTED DURING THE SUMMER, WERE INTENSIFIED IN PREPARATION FOR THE ASSAULT. ON 20 NOVEMBER, USING ITS FIRE SUPPORT, THE NORTHERN ATTACK FORCE LANDED THE 165TH AND ELEMENTS OF THE 105TH INFANTRY REGIMENTS OF THE ARMY'S 27TH DIVISION ON MAKIN. OVERCOMING STUBBORN DEFENSE THE TROOPS SECURED THE ATOLL.

SIMULTANEOUSLY THE SOUTHERN ATTACK FORCE, LIKEWISE COVERED BY NAVAL AND AERIAL BOMBARDMENT, LANDED FIVE BATTALIONS OF THE 2ND AND 8TH REGIMENTS OF THE 2ND MARINE DIVISION ON BETIO, THE STRONGHOLD OF TARAWA ATOLL. THE CHAIN OF PILLBOXES, GUN EMPLACEMENTS AND RIFLE PITS HAD NOT BEEN DESTROYED BY THE BOMBARDMENT AND THE DEFENDERS TOOK A HEAVY TOLL OF ALL WHO APPROACHED THE ISLAND. BY NIGHTFALL TWO SMALL BEACHHEADS HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED ON THE NORTH SHORE.

REINFORCED ON 21 NOVEMBER, THE MARINES FOUGHT THEIR WAY ACROSS THE ISLAND. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY THE 6TH MARINES, FROM THEIR WESTERN LANDING BEACH, ADVANCED ALONG THE SOUTH SHORE TO LINK UP WITH THE 2ND, AND THEN IN COOPERATION WITH THE 8TH, TO EXTEND THE FRONTLINE TO THE EASTERN EDGE OF THE AIRFIELD. ON 23 NOVEMBER, THE 2ND DIVISION CLEARED THE REMAINDER OF THE ISLAND.

ROI-NAMUR * 1-2 FEBRUARY 1944

EVEN BEFORE THE AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULTS UPON THE GILBERT ISLANDS WERE LAUNCHED, THE NEXT STEP IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC ADVANCE, THE AIR ATTACK UPON THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, WAS INITIATED. AS EARLY AS NOVEMBER 1943 AIRCRAFT OF THE SEVENTH AIR

FORCE AND CARRIERBASED AIRPLANES OF THE FIFTH FLEET STARTED THE PRELIMINARY BOMBARDMENT OF THE MARSHALLS; IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY THE ATTACKS WERE PROGRESSIVELY INTENSIFIED.

ON 29 JANUARY 1944 FIRE SUPPORT UNITS OF THE FIFTH FLEET JOINED IN THE BOMBARDMENT OF ROI AND NAMUR, THE TWIN NORTHERNMOST ISLANDS OF KWAJALEIN ATOLL. THEN ON 31 JANUARY THE SIX ISLETS TO THE SOUTH OF, AND CLOSEST TO ROI AND NAMUR, WERE SEIZED BY THE 25TH MARINES OF THE 4TH MARINE DIVISION WHICH EMPLACED ARTILLERY TO FIRE IN SUPPORT OF THE MAIN ATTACK.

ON 1 FEBRUARY, THE 23RD MARINES LANDED ON ROI WHILE THE 24TH MARINES LANDED ON NAMUR. OVERCOMING THE JAPANESE GARRISON THE 23RD MARINES PUSHED FORWARD AND CAPTURED ROI BEFORE NIGHTFALL. THE 24TH MARINES ENCOUNTERED MUCH STRONGER RESISTANCE ON NAMUR AND THEIR ADVANCE WAS STOPPED AFTER THEY HAD ESTABLISHED A BEACHHEAD 500 YARDS DEEP. ON 2 FEBRUARY, THEY RESUMED THE ATTACK WITH RENEWED AGGRESSIVENESS AND EARLY IN THE AFTERNOON NAMUR WAS DECLARED SECURE.

KWAJALEIN ISLAND
1-4 FEBRUARY 1944

ON THE SOUTH, ARMY AND NAVAL AIRCRAFT COOPERATED IN THE PRELIMINARY BOMBARDMENT OF KWAJALEIN, THE LARGEST ISLAND IN THE ATOLL, AS THEY HAD AGAINST ROI AND NAMUR IN THE NORTH. HERE, TOO, THE SHIPS OF THE FIFTH FLEET TOOK THE ISLAND UNDER HEAVY FIRE COMMENCING ON 30 JANUARY 1944. THE NEXT DAY THE 17TH INFANTRY OF THE 7TH DIVISION SEIZED FOUR ISLETS TO THE NORTH OF KWAJALEIN, AND ARTILLERY WAS EMPLACED.

ON 1 FEBRUARY, COVERED BY ARMY AND NAVAL AIR SUPPORT, GUNFIRE OF THE SHIPS, AND BY ITS OWN ARTILLERY, THE 7TH DIVISION LANDED ITS 32ND AND 184TH INFANTRY REGIMENTS ON THE NARROW WESTERN END OF KWAJALEIN. THE TWO REGIMENTS ADVANCED STEADILY AND BY NIGHTFALL HAD ESTABLISHED A BEACHHEAD ALMOST A MILE DEEP. THE ATTACK CONTINUED ON THE TWO SUCCEEDING DAYS AGAINST INCREASING RESISTANCE, WHICH WAS FINALLY BEATEN DOWN; CAPTURE OF THE ISLAND WAS COMPLETED ON THE AFTERNOON OF 4 FEBRUARY. THE RAMAINING ISLETS COMPRISING KWAJALEIN ATOLL WERE TAKEN BY 5 FEBRUARY. IN THE MEANTIME OUR FORCES LANDED ON MAJURO ATOLL IN THE SOUTHEASTERN PART OF THE GROUP.

IN THE WESTERN MARSHALLS, BETWEEN 17 AND 22 FEBRUARY, THE 22ND MARINES WITH THE 106TH INFANTRY OF THE 27TH DIVISION TOOK ENIWETOK ATOLL, BRING OUR FORCES CLOSER TO THE NEXT OBJECTIVE, THE MARIANAS. THE JALUIT, MILLE, MALOELAP, AND WOTJE ATOLLS OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS WERE BYPASSED AND REMAINED IN JAPANESE HANDS UNTIL THE END OF THE WAR.

THE MARIANAS
15 JUNE-10 AUGUST 1944

TO PENETRATE THE ENEMY'S DEFENSES AND GAIN BASES FROM WHICH AIRCRAFT COULD STRIKE AT THE JAPANESE HOME ISLANDS, THE UNITED STATES UNDERTOOK TO SEIZE THE MARIANA ISLANDS IN THE SUMMER OF 1944. FOR SEVERAL MONTHS PRIOR TO THE LANDINGS, FAST CARRIER TASK FORCES AND AIRCRAFT OF THE SEVENTH AIR FORCE CONDUCTED PRELIMINARY BOMBARDMENTS OF THE TARGET AREA.

ON 15 JUNE 1944, UNDER COVER OF AIR AND NAVAL BOMBARDMENT BY THE FIFTH FLEET, THE 2ND AND 4TH MARINE DIVISION OF THE V AMPHIBIOUS CORPS LANDED ON SAIPAN. THE JAPANESE REACTION WAS IMMEDIATE AND VIGOROUS; THEIR CARRIER TASK FORCE STEAMED TOWARD THE MARIANAS TO MEET THE AMERICAN AMPHIBIOUS EFFORT. IN THE ACTION THAT FOLLOWED, THE BATTLE OF THE PHILIPPINE SEA ON 19-20 JUNE, JAPANESE CARRIER AVIATION WAS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPAIRED AS A MAJOR FORCE IN THE WAR.

MEANWHILE THE MARINES AND THE ARMY'S 27TH INFANTRY DIVISION FOUGHT THEIR WAY ACROSS THE ISLAND AGAINST DETERMINED RESISTANCE THEY THEN TURNED NORTHWARD AND SEIZED THE DOMINATING HEIGHTS OF MT. TAPOTCHAU ON 25 AND 26 JUNE. ON THE LATTER NIGHT AN ENEMY ATTEMPT TO BREAK OUT OF HIS ISOLATED POSITION ON NAFUTAN POINT WAS DECISIVELY DEFEATED. AMERICAN FORCES CONTINUED TO PRESS THE ATTACK AGAINST THE MASS OF THE ENEMY, SLOWLY FORCING HIM NORTHWARD. FINALLY, ON THE NIGHT OF 6-7 JULY, THE JAPANESE MADE A DESPERATE LAST EFFORT; THEIR FURIOUS ASSAULT WAS REPULSED AND TWO DAYS LATER THE ISLAND WAS DECLARED SECURE.

ON 24 JULY, AFTER A LENGTHY PREPARATORY BOMBARDMENT BY U.S. SHIPS, AIRCRAFT, AND ARTILLERY FIRING FROM SAIPAN, THE 4TH MARINE DIVISION FOLLOWED BY THE 2ND MARINE DIVISION LANDED ON NORTHERN TINIAN. AFTER NINE DAYS OF SEVERE FIGHTING, WITH CONTINUOUS SUPPORT BY SEVENTH AIR FORCE AND CARRIER AIRCRAFT AND BY NAVAL GUNFIRE, THE MARINES SECURED THE ISLAND.

PRECEDED BY ONE OF THE HEAVIEST SUSTAINED NAVAL AND AIR BOMBARDMENTS CONDUCTED IN THE PACIFIC, THE 3RD MARINE DIVISION AND THE 1ST MARINE BRIGADE OF THE III AMPHIBIOUS CORPS MADE TWO SEPARATE LANDINGS ON THE WESTERN SHORES OF GUAM ON 21 JULY. ON 24 JULY THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSUMED CONTROL OF THE SOUTHERN BEACHHEAD. THE NEXT DAY, WHILE THE 3RD MARINE DIVISION CONTINUED ITS ASSAULT TO GAIN THE HIGH GROUND TO ITS FRONT, THE 1ST MARINE BRIGADE BEGAN TO CLEAR THE OROTE PENINSULA. THAT NIGHT THE CRISIS CAME ON BOTH FRONTS WHEN THE JAPANESE LAUNCHED SPIRITED BUT UNSUCCESSFUL COUNTERATTACKS AGAINST BOTH UNITS.

THE INDIVIDUAL BEACHHEADS WERE THEN LINKED TOGETHER AND AMERICAN LINES CONSOLIDATED. SUPPORTED BY ARMY, NAVY, AND MARINE CORPS AIRCRAFT, THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION AND THE 3RD MARINE DIVISION LAUNCHED A COORDINATED ATTACK TOWARD THE NORTH END OF THE ISLAND WHERE THE JAPANESE HAD CONCENTRATED THEIR FORCES. BY 10 AUGUST ORGANIZED RESISTANCE HAD CEASED.

VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC

IN THE LAST YEAR OF THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN THE TEMPO QUICKENED. HAVING ALREADY PENETRATED THE JAPANESE BASIC DEFENSIVE PERIMETER BY INVADING THE MARIANAS AND THE PALAUS AND BY PUSHING ALONG THE NEW GUINEA COAST AND ON TO MOROTAI, BYPASSING AND ISOLATING MANY THOUSANDS OF THE ENEMY BY THEIR LEAPFROG ASSAULTS, OUR JOINT FORCES PREPARED TO STRIKE AT THE JAPANESE HOME ISLANDS.

THE DECISIVE VICTORY IN THE BATTLE OF THE PHILIPPINES SEA IN JUNE 1944 OPENED THE PHILIPPINES TO DIRECT ATTACK; OUR LANDINGS WERE ADVANCED TWO MONTHS AND SCHEDULED INTERMEDIATE OPERATIONS WERE CANCELLED. ON 20 OCTOBER AMERICAN FORCES LANDED ON LEYTE. REALIZING THAT THE LOSS OF THESE ISLANDS WOULD IMPERIL THE REMAINDER OF HIS WARTIME GAINS THE ENEMY REACTED SWIFTLY, RISKING, AND LOSING, A MAJOR SEA CONTEST WITH THE THIRD AND SEVENTH FLEETS WHICH ELIMINATED JAPAN AS A SEAPOWER. ON 9 JANUARY 1945 WE RETURNED TO LUZON—THE COMPLETE LIBERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES FOLLOWED.

IN BURMA, ALIED FORCES OVERRAN THE JAPANESE. WHILE IN CHINA, UNDER THE STIMULUS OF AIR- AND GROUND-BORNE SUPPLY FROM THE WEST, THE ENEMY'S GRASP WAS BROKEN. IN NOVEMBER 1944 THE U.S. AIR FORCES OPENED THEIR MAJOR AIR ATTACKS AGAINST THE JAPANESE HOMELAND FROM BASES IN THE MARIANAS, TO WHICH THEY SOON REDEPLOYED THEIR AIRCRAFT WHICH HAD OPERATED EFFECTIVELY AGAINST THE ENEMY FROM THE CHINESE MAINLAND. UNTIL THE END OF HOSTILITIES THESE ATTACKS CONTINUED WITH EVER INCREASING INTENSITY. IN FEBRUARY CAME THE CAPTURE OF IWO JIMA WHICH PROVIDED A BASE FOR FIGHTER ESCORTS AND A HAVEN FOR CRIPPLED BOMBERS FACED WITH THE LONG OVERWATER RETURN FROM JAPAN TO THE MARIANAS.

FOR MONTHS, AIRCRAFT OF THE NAVY'S FAST CARRIERS AS WELL AS ARMY AIR FORCE BOMBERS HAD REPEATEDLY ATTACKED OKINAWA, THE FINAL STEPPING STONE TO JAPAN; OUR TRIPHIBIOUS ASSAULT ON THAT ISLAND EARLY IN MARCH CULMINATED IN ITS CAPTURE BY LATE JUNE.

THROUGHOUT THE WAR U.S. SUBMARINES CONTRIBUTED MATERIALLY TO OUR SUCCESS. OPERATING OFTEN THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM THEIR BASES, DEEP WITHIN ENEMY CONTROLLED WATERS,

THEY STRUCK WITH DEVASTING EFFECTIVENESS AND, BY WAR'S END, HAD DESTROYED NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF JAPAN'S COMBAT SHIPS AND ONE-HALF OF HER MERCHANT MARINE, WHILE ALSO PERFORMING MISSIONS OF RECONNAISANCE, SUPPLY, AND THE RESCUE OF ISOLATED PERSONNEL.

PLANS FOR THE INVASION OF JAPAN CONTEMPLATED A TRIPHIBIOUS ASSAULT OF KYUSHU IN NOVEMBER 1945, FOLLOWED BY A LATER ATTACK ON THE TOKYO PLAIN. IN PREPARATION, OUR AIR AND NAVAL BOMBARDMENTS OF JAPAN CONTINUED UNABATED. THE DEVASTATION FROM THE AIR OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI IN EARLY AUGUST WAS FOLLOWED BY THE CAPTULATION OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, THE SURRENDER TERMS BEING SIGNED IN TOKYO BAY ON 2 SEPTEMBER 1945, 1,365 DAYS AFTER THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR.

LIBERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
OCTOBER 1944-15 AUGUST 1945

FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF THE LONG ENEMY OCCUPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, UNITED STATES FORCES PERSISTENTLY FOUGHT THEIR WAY BACK. EVENTUALLY, ON 20 OCTOBER 1944, UNDER COVER OF NAVAL GUNFIRE AND AIR BOMBARDMENT OF THE SEVENTH FLEET. WITH LONG RANGE SUPPORT BY AIRCRAFT OF THE THIRD FLEET, THE SIXTH ARMY LANDED ON THE EASTERN SHORES OF LEYTE.

THEREUPON THE JAPANESE DECIDED TO RISK A MAJOR SEA BATTLE IN A DETERMINED EFFORT TO DESTROY THE AMERICAN FORCES; THREE FLEETS MOVED TOWARD THE PHILIPPINES. ON 23 OCTOBER AMERICAN SUBMARINES ATTACKED THE CENTER FORCE IN PALAWAN PASSAGE. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY AIRCRAFT FROM THE THIRD FLEET INFLICTED HEAVY LOSSES ON THIS FORCE IN THE SIBUYAN SEA WHILE JAPANESE AIRCRAFT FROM LUZON DESTROYED A U.S. CARRIER.

DURING THE NIGHT OF 24-25 OCTOBER THE ENEMY'S SOUTHERN FORCE STEAMED INTO SURIGAO STRAIT DIRECTLY TOWARD THE WAITING SEVENTH FLEET AND WAS DECISIVELY DEFEATED BY TORPEDO ATTACKS AND GUNFIRE. MEANWHILE THE THIRD FLEET MOVED TO INTERCEPT THE NORTHERN FORCE AND ON 25-26 OCTOBER WON A MAJOR VICTORY OFF CAPE ENGANO.

ON THE MORNING OF 25 OCTOBER THE CENTER FORCE PUSHED THROUGH SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT AND ATTACKED THE ESCORT CARRIERS OF THE SEVENTH FLEET OFF SAMAR. ALTHOUGH OUTNUMBERED AND OUTGUNNED, THE ESCORT CARRIERS AND THEIR SCREEN OF DESTROYERS FORCED THE ENEMY TO WITHDRAW. RELIEVING OUR GROUND FORCES FROM THE MENACE OF ISOLATION, THE DECISIVE DEFEAT OF THE JAPANESE FLEET AT THESE BATTLES FOR LEYTE GULF ALSO RENDERED IT POWERLESS TO PREVENT FUTURE AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS.

TWO MONTH OF HARD FIGHTING FREED MOST OF LEYTE, ALTHOUGH MANY JAPANESE ESCAPING TO THE NORTH AND WEST RESISTED THE PURSUING EIGHTH ARMY, NOW IN CONTROL ON THE ISLAND. IN DECEMBER THE SIXTH ARMY SEIZED MINDORO; MEANWHILE THE JAPANESE MASSED A QUARTER OF A MILLION MEN TO DEFEND LUZON.

ON 9 JANUARY 1945, THE SEVENTH FLEET LANDED THE SIXTH ARMY AT LINGAYEN GULF. SUPPORTED BY THE FIFTH AIR FORCE AND BY MARINE CORPS AND NAVAL AIRCRAFT, THE TROOPS PUSHED INLAND. INITIALLY, RESISTANCE WAS ENCOUNTERED ALONG THE LEFT FLANK; ON THE RIGHT AMERICAN FORCES ADVANCED DOWN THE CENTRAL PLAINS TOWARD MANILA. AFTER FIERCE FIGHTING MANILA, BATAAN, AND CORREGIDOR WERE CLEARED OF THE ENEMY. U.S. TROOPS AND PHILIPPIES GUERRILLA FORCES, CONTINUOUSLY SUPPORTED BY AERIAL BOMBARDMENT, THEN FORCED THE ENEMY DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAINS. ON 1 JULY, THE EIGHTH ARMY ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR LAND OPERATIONS; THE SIXTH ARMY REGROUPED IN PREPARATION FOR AN INVASION OF JAPAN.

WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE SEVENTH AND THIRTEENTH AIR FORCES THE EIGHTH ARMY AND THE SEVENTH FLEET HAD ALREADY EMBARKED ON A SERIES OF AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULTS TO FREE THE OTHER ISLANDS. DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH THEY SECURED AIRFIELDS IN PALAWAN AND ZAMBOANGA AND OVERPOWERED THE ENEMY IN THE VISAYAN SEA AREA. IN APRIL THEY LANDED UNITS ON THE SOUTHERN COAST OF MINDANAO AND ADVANCED TOWARD DAVAO GULF; OTHERS FOLLOWED AND FOUGHT THEIR WAY NORTHWARD TO MEET ADDITIONAL FORCES WHICH LANDED IN MAY. BY THE END OF JUNE, AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND FILIPINO GUERRILLAS HAD COMPRESSED THE ENEMY INTO ISOLATED MOUNTAIN AREAS. THERE HE WAS SUBJECTED TO INTENSIVE AERIAL BOMBARDMENT AND TO CONSTANT PRESSURE UNTIL 15 AUGUST 1945 WHEN HOSTILITIES CEASED.

IWO JIMA

16 FEBRUARY-16 MARCH 1945

BEFORE THE CAPTURE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS HAD BEEN COMPLETED IN AUGUST 1944, AIRFIELDS WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. FROM THESE, IN NOVEMBER, THE U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES BEGAN MASSIVE AIR ASSAULTS AGAINST THE JAPANESE HOMELAND. THE PROMPT SEIZURE OF THE ISLAND OF IWO JIMA BECAME OF VITAL IMPORTANCE BECAUSE IT COULD PROVIDE THE ONLY EMERGENCY LANDING FIELD FOR RETURNING AIRCRAFT IN DISTRESS AS WELL AS A BASE FOR FIGHTER ESCORTS.

SENSING THE PERIL TO THEIR EMPIRE THE JAPANESE CONCENTRATED THEIR EFFORTS ON MAKING IWO JIMA IMPREGNABLE, GARRISONING THIS FORTIFIED ISLAND OF ABOUT SEVEN SQUARE MILES

WITH MORE THAN 20,000 TROOPS IN CAREFULLY PREPARED DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. AGAINST THESE, FOR SEVEN MONTHS PRIOR TO THE AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT, THE U.S. SEVENTH AIR FORCE AS WELL AS FAST CARRIER AIRCRAFT SQUADRONS AND NAVAL SURFACE SHIPS DIRECTED BOMBARDMENTS OF INCREASING FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY.

ON 16 FEBRUARY 1945, UNITS OF THE FIFTH FLEET BEGAN A CONCENTRATED GUNFIRE AND AERIAL BOMBARDMENT OF IWO JIMA WHILE THE FAST CARRIERS, IN A COVERING ACTION, STRUCK AT TARGETS IN JAPAN, THEN RETURNED THREE DAYS LATER TO JOIN IN THE ATTACK. ON THE MORNING OF 19 FEBRUARY, UNDER COVER OF A HEAVY BOMBARDMENT, THE FIFTH FLEET LANDED THE 4TH AND 5TH MARINE DIVISIONS ON THE SOUTHEAST COAST OF THE ISLAND. THE ENEMY REACTED VIOLENTLY, POURING CONCENTRATED FIRE FROM PREVIOUSLY UNDETECTED POSITIONS. AS THE MARINES ADVANCED ACROSS OPEN GROUND THEY WERE RAKED BY HEAVY FIRE FROM THE HIGH GROUND ON THE FLANKS. THE 4TH MARINE DIVISION ON THE RIGHT SUFFERED SEVERE CASUALTIES AND THE ESCORT CARRIER BISMARCK SEA WAS SUNK OFFSHORE BY ENEMY AIR ATTACK.

BY THE END OF THE DAY THE MARINES HAD FOUGHT THEIR WAY ACROSS THE ISLAND AND HAD ISOLATED THE JAPANESE ON MOUNT SURIBACHI FROM THE MAIN FORCES IN THE NORTH. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY OUR TROOPS CAPTURED AIRFIELD NO. 1. THE 3RD MARINE DIVISION LANDED ON THE THIRD DAY.

AIRFIELD NO. 2 WAS REACHED ON 23 FEBRUARY. SIMULTANEOUSLY THE 5TH DIVISION STORMED THE STEEP SLOPES OF MOUNT SURIBACHI, CAPTURING THE SUMMIT. AN ASSAULT UP TO THE MOTOYAMA PLATEAU BROUGHT THE MARINES DIRECTLY INTO THE FACE OF THE HEAVIEST ENEMY DEFENSES. THEN AS THE 4TH DIVISION ATTACKED ON THE RIGHT AND THE 5TH DIVISION ON THE LEFT, THE 3RD DIVISION IN THE CENTER CRACKED THE MAIN LINE OF JAPANESE RESISTANCE.

FOR NEARLY TWO WEEKS MORE, WITH CONTINUOUS SUPPORT BY SEVENTH AIR FORCE AND CARRIER AIRCRAFT AND NAVAL GUNFIRE, THE MARINES PRESSED FORWARD AGAINST A DETERMINE RESISTANCE CONDUCTED BY A WELL-TRAINED, WELL-EQUIPPED ENEMY, FIGHTING FROM THOUSANDS OF DEFENSIVE INSTALLATIONS AND DEEP CAVES. DESPITE HEAVY AND CONTINUOUS LOSSES THE MARINES MAINTAINED THEIR DRIVE UNTIL FINALLY, AFTER 26 DAYS OF BITTER ASSAULT, THE ISLAND WAS SECURED.

THE SEIZURE OF IWO JIMA ENTAILED HEAVY AMERICAN CASUALTIES BUT, EVEN BEFORE THE CAPTURE OF THE ISLAND HAD BEEN COMPLETED, ITS GREAT IMPORTANCE AS AN AIR BASE WAS DEMONSTRATED. THE BOMBARDMENT OF JAPAN WAS INTENSIFIED, COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS WAS INCREASED; UNDOUBTEDLY THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS WHOSE LIVES WERE SAVED BY THE OPERATIONS OF THIS AIR BASE EXCEEDED THE NUMBER LOST IN ITS CAPTURE.

OKINAWA
26 MARCH-22 JUNE 1945

EARLY IN 1945 THE GREAT CONCENTRATION OF U.S. SEA, LAND, AND AIR POWER IN THE PACIFIC ENABLED OUR FORCES TO CHALLENGE JAPAN IN HER OWN WATERS. FOR MONTHS AIRCRAFT FROM THE NAVY'S FAST CARRIERS, AND ARMY AIR FORCE BOMBERS FROM THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA AND THE MARIANAS, HAD BOMBED THE IMPORTANT BASES IN THE RYUKYUS. OTHERS IN JAPAN AND FORMOSA WERE ALSO ATTACKED PRIOR TO THE INVASION. THE AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT WAS INITIATED WHEN A DIVISION OF THE TENTH ARMY LANDED ON KERAMA RETTO ON 26 MARCH. FIVE DAYS LATER TROOPS LANDED ON THE KEISE ISLETS AND EMPLACED ARTILLERY TO COVER THE LANDING ON THE MAIN ISLAND.

ON 1 APRIL, UNDER COVER OF AN INTENSIVE NAVAL AND AIR BOMBARDMENT BY THE U.S. FIFTH FLEET, TWO DIVISIONS OF THE U.S. ARMY XXIV CORPS AND TWO DIVISIONS OF THE MARINE III AMPHIBIOUS CORPS LANDED ON OKINAWA ITSELF. THE TWO CORPS, ATTACKING ABREAST, PUSHED RAPIDLY ACROSS THE ISLAND, THUS SPLITTING THE JAPANESE FORCES. THE III AMPHIBIOUS CORPS THEN TURNED NORTH, WHILE THE XXIV CORPS TURNED SOUTH TO ATTACK THE JAPANESE MAIN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. THERE FOLLOWED A DESPERATE THREE MONTHS STRUGGLE ON LAND, ON SEA, AND IN THE AIR.

TO INSURE EARLY WARNING OF THE EXPECTED AIR REACTION FROM ENEMY BASES IN JAPAN, CHINA AND FORMOSA, THE FIFTH FLEET ESTABLISHED A RING OF RADAR PICKET DESTROYERS AND ESCORT VESSELS AROUND OKINAWA. ALTHOUGH SUSTAINING HEAVY LOSSES, THE PICKET SHIPS AND OTHER FIRE-SUPPORT SHIPS FOUGHT OFF INCESSANT AND DESPERATE ATTACKS BY JAPANESE LAND-BASED KAMIKAZE AIRPLANES. MEANWHILE, AIRCRAFT FROM THE U.S. FAST CARRIERS AND ARMY AIR FORCE BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS FROM THE MARIANAS AND THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC STRUCK HEAVY BLOWS AT ENEMY AIRFIELDS. ON THE NIGHT OF 6-7 APRIL, THE ENEMY SURFACE FLEET MADE ITS LAST SORTIE FROM ITS HOME WATERS. U.S. CARRIER AIRCRAFT ATTACKED THIS FORCE SINKING A BATTLESHIP, A CRUISER AND FOUR DESTROYERS. COMMENCING ON 9 APRIL LAND-BASED AIRCRAFT OF THE U.S. MARINES AND THE ARMY AIR FORCES AUGMENTED THE CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT, AND TOGETHER WITH SHIP ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE, ULTIMATELY CHECKED THE KAMIKAZES. THE SEIZURE OF IE SHIMA AFTER FOUR DAYS OF BITTER FIGHTING PROVIDED THE SITE FOR AN EXELLENT AIR BASE WHICH FURTHER STRENGTHENED OUR AIR DEFENSE.

THE MARINE DIVISIONS, WHICH HAD CLEARED THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE ISLAND, JOINED IN THE BATTLE TO THE SOUTH. NAVAL GUNFIRE, MASSED ARTILLERY AND MORTAR FIRE, AND CONTINOUS STRIKES BY TACTICAL AIRCRAFT SUPPORTED THE ADVANCE OF THESE AND THE

ARMY DIVISIONS AS THEY PUSHED SOUTHWARD AGAINST FANATICAL RESISTANCE AND FURIOUS COUNTERATTACKS. THE HIGH GROUND HELD BY THE JAPANESE IN SOUTHERN OKINAWA WAS IDEAL FOR A PROLONGED DEFENSE. THE LIMESTONE HILLS, HONEYCOMBED WITH NATURAL CAVES, AFFORDED EVERY ADVANTAGE OF TERRAIN. EACH SUCCESSIVE ENEMY STRONGPOINT WAS CLEARED ONLY BY PERSISTENT AND HEROIC EFFORT. BY THE MIDDLE OF JUNE OUR GROUND FORCES HAD BATTERED THEIR WAY THROUGH THE FORTIFIED NAHA-SHURI LINE. BY 22 JUNE 1945, THE LAST ORGANIZED UNIT OF THE JAPANESE GARRISON HAD BEEN DESTROYED. OKINAWA THEN BECAME THE FIRST AMERICAN STRATEGIC BASE WITHIN EASY AIR RANGE OF THE JAPANESE HOMELAND.

OPERATIONS AGAINST THE NORTH KOREANS

25 JUNE-23 NOVEMBER 1950

ON 25 JUNE 1950 THE NORTH KOREAN ARMY INVADED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THE UNITED NATIONS DEMAND FOR THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES BEING IGNORED, UNITED STATES AIR AND SEA FORCES WERE SENT TO GIVE THE SOUTH KOREAN ARMY COVER AND SUPPORT AND TO PROVIDE AERIAL AND SEA EVACUATION. ON 30 JUNE, THE PRESIDENT AUTHORIZED THE USE OF AMERICAN GROUND TROOPS.

THE FAR EAST AIR FORCES PROMPTLY NULLIFIED AIR OPPOSITION WHILE NAVAL FORCES NEUTRALIZED THE NORTH KOREAN NAVY, MET THE SERIOUS ENEMY MINE THREAT AND ESTABLISHED A BLOCKADE OF THE PENINSULA. NEVERTHELESS, NORTH KOREAN GROUND TROOPS, WHICH HEAVILY OUTNUMBERED AND OUTGUNNED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FORCES, CAPTURED THE CAPITAL CITY OF SEOUL AND ADVANCED RAPIDLY SOUTHWARD.

ON 5 JULY ADVANCE ELEMENTS OF THE U.S. 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION FROM THE EIGHTH ARMY IN JAPAN MET THE ENEMY NEAR OSAN; THEN BEGAN A SERIES OF COSTLY DELAYING ACTIONS. THE U.S. 25TH INFANTRY AND 1ST CAVALRY DIVISIONS ARRIVED AND WERE PROMPTLY COMMITTED.

BY 5 AUGUST THE DEFENDERS WERE COMPRESSED INTO A SMALL BEACHHEAD AROUND PUSAN ALTHOUGH THE U.S. FIFTH AIR FORCE AND THE FAR EAST AIR FORCES HAD GREATLY ASSISTED IN SLOWING THE ENEMY'S ADVANCE BY CONTINUOUSLY BOMBING INDUSTRIAL TARGETS AND SUPPLY LINES, AND BY PROVIDING CLOSE SUPPORT. CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT AND NAVAL GUNFIRE WERE RENDERING EFFECTIVE INTERDICTION AS WELL AS GROUND SUPPORT. COMMAND OF THE SEAS MADE POSSIBLE A RAPID BUILDUP OF SUPPLIES AND REINFORCEMENTS.

THE U.S. 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION AND 1ST MARINE BRIGADE LANDED ON AUGUST 1 AND 2, FOLLOWED BY SEVERAL UNITS FROM OTHER NATIONS. ON 7 AUGUST SOLDIERS AND MARINES LAUNCHED THE FIRST SUSTAINED U.N. COUNTERATTACK IN SOUTHEAST KOREA, STOPPING THE

ENEMY DRIVE TOWARD PUSAN. FURTHER COUNTERATTACKS, SUPPORTED BY AIR FORCE, MARINE CORPS AND NAVAL AIRCRAFT, AND AIDED BY NAVAL GUNFIRE, ESTABLISHED A FIRM PERMETER.

ON 15 SEPTEMBER THE INITIATIVE CHANGED HANDS. PRECEDED BY AIR AND NAVAL BOMBARDMENT, THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION WAS LANDED AT INCHON IN A DARING FLANKING OPERATION. THE 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION FOLLOWED AND TOGETHER THEY PRESSED FORWARD TOWARD SEOUL. ON 16 SEPTEMBER THE EIGHTH ARMY BEGAN ITS OFFENSIVE TO BREAK OUT OF THE PUSAN PERIMETER. OPPOSITION WAS STRONG AND THE FIGHTING SEVERE UNTIL THE ENEMY LINE WAS BROKE AND RESISTANCE COLLAPSED. ON 26 SEPTEMBER ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION MET TROOPS OF THE 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION NEAR OSAN. ON THE SAME DAY THE LIBERATION OF SEOUL WAS ANNOUNCED.

PRECEDED BY AIRCRAFT WHOSE ATTACKS HASTENED THE DISORGANIZATION OF THE ENEMY, UNITED NATIONS FORCES CROSSED THE 38TH PARRALLEL, THE BOUNDARY OF NORTH KOREA, WHOSE CAPITAL, PYONGYANG, THEY OCCUPIED ON 21 OCTOBER. AFTER THEIR DEFEATS THE NORTH KOREANS SHOWED LITTLE AGGRESSIVENESS AS U.N. TROOPS ADVANCED TOWARD THE YALU RIVER.

AT THIS MOMENT LARGE CHINESE UNITS ATTACKED UNITED NATIONS FORCES. IN THE WESTERN SECTOR THE EIGHTH ARMY WITHDREW TO A SHORTER LINE AND PREPARED FOR FURTHER OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS. IN THE EASTERN SECTOR U.N. FORCES CONTINUED FORWARD, REACHING A LINE WHICH EXTENDED FROM THE CHOSIN RESERVOIR TO THE CHINESE BORDER AND CHONGJIN.

OPERATIONS AGAINST THE CHINESE INVADERS

24 NOVEMBER 1950-27 JULY 1953

ON 24 NOVEMBER 1950 THE U.S. EIGHTH ARMY LAUNCHED AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE NORTH KOREANS BUT WAS ABRUPTLY THROWN BACK BY A MASSIVE ATTACK BY CHINESE COMMUNIST FORCES WHICH HAD SECRETLY CROSSED THE YALU RIVER BORDER. THE X CORPS ADVANCE MET A SIMILAR FATE WHEN THE CHINESE CUT OFF MOST OF THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION AND FOUR ARMY BATTALIONS NEAR HAGARU AND KOTO. SURMOUNTING HEAVY ODDS, BITTERLY COLD WEATHER, AND RUGGED TERRAIN, THE MARINES AND SOLDIERS FOUGHT THEIR WAY TO HUNGNAM WHERE, TOGETHER WITH OTHER TROOPS IN NORTHEAST KOREA, THEY WERE EVACUATED BY SEA AND AIR TO SOUTH KOREA. LAND- AND CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT AND SUPPORTING NAVAL GROUPS PROVED INVALUABLE IN THE REDEPLOYMENT.

MEANWHILE THE EIGHTH ARMY WITHDREW SOUTH OF PYONGANG, THEN TO A STRONGER DEFENSIVE POSITION STILL FURTHER SOUTH. ON THE LAST DAY OF DECEMBER 1950 THE ENEMY LAUNCHED A VIGOROUS ATTACK ACROSS THE 38TH PARALLEL INTO SOUTH KOREA, RECAPTURING

SEOUL ON 4 JANUARY 1951. THREE WEEKS LATER THE INVADERS WERE HALTED, EXCEPT FOR ONE DIVISION WHICH INFILTRATED ALMOST TO UISONG BEFORE BEING DRIVEN BACK. THIS MARKED THE HIGH TIDE OF THE SECOND INVASION OF SOUTH KOREA.

THE EIGHTH ARMY THEN BEGAN A SERIES OF LIMITED-OBJECTIVE ATTACKS; OPPOSITION WAS PARTICULARLY INTENSE SOUTH OF SEOUL AND IN THE CENTER OF THE PENINSULA. IN MARCH U.S. TROOPS CROSSED THE HAN RIVER EAST OF SEOUL, AND, OUTFLANKING THE CITY, FORCED ITS EVACUATION. IN THESE ATTACKS THE TROOPS WERE CONTINUOUSLY ASSISTED BY AIR AND NAVAL FORCES WHICH NOT ONLY PROVIDED CLOSE SUPPORT AND INTERDICTION, BUT ALSO PERFORMED MANY MISSIONS OF AIR SUPPLY AND EVACUATION. SUPPLIES POURED INTO KOREA BY SEA.

ON 22 APRIL 1951, THE ENEMY AGAIN ATTACKED IN FORCE BUT WAS HALTED SHORT OF SEOUL AND HONGCHON. IN MID-MAY HE STRUCK ONCE MORE BUT BY THE 22ND EXHAUSTION, SUPPLY DIFFICULTIES, AND CASUALTIES FORCED HIM TO ACCEPT FAILURE.

ON THE NEXT DAY U.N. TROOPS BEGAN A STEADY DRIVE NORTHWARD. SO HARD HIT WAS THE ENEMY BY EARLY JUNE THAT 10,000 CHINESE SURRENDERED IN A WEEK. ARMISTICE REPRESENTATIVES MET IN JULY BUT CONFERENCES WERE SUSPENDED IN LATE AUGUST, WHEREUPON U.N. FORCES RESUMED THE OFFENSIVE AND GAINED COMMANDING GROUND ALONG THE WHOLE FRONT. THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE RESUMED LATE IN OCTOBER 1951.

FIGHTING CONTINUED BUT THE FRONT LINES REMAINED SUBSTANTIALLY UNCHANGED. THE AIR WAR INTENSIFIED DURING THE SUMMER OF 1952 AS U.N. AIRCRAFT STRUCK AT SUPPLY CENTERS, TROOP CONCENTRATIONS AND INDUSTRIAL TARGETS WITHIN NORTH KOREA. GROUND FIGHTING WAS PARTICULARLY HEAVY IN OCTOBER AND AGAIN IN THE SPRING OF 1953. AN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WAS FINALLY SIGNED ON 27 JULY 1953, THUS BRINGING TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION THE UNITED NATIONS DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AGAINST THE COMMUNIST INVADERS.

The following quotations by General MacArthur and Admiral Nimiz appear on scrolls on the maps "Operations in the Pacific" and "Victory in the Pacific," respectively:

THE PROBLEM BASICALLY IS THEOLOGICAL
AND INVOLVES A SPIRTUAL RECRUDESCENCE
AND IMPROVEMENT OF HUMAN CHARACTER

**

NAMES THAT ARE A CROSS-SECTION OF DEMOCRACY
THEY FOUGHT TOGETHER AS BROTHERS-IN-ARMS
THEY DIED TOGETHER AND NOW

THEY SLEEP SIDE-BY-SIDE
TO THEM WE HAVE A SOLEMN OBLIGATION
TO ENSURE THAT THEIR SACRIFICE
WILL HELP TO MAKE A
BETTER AND SAFER WORLD IN WHICH TO LIVE

In the spaces between the extremities of the map galleries and the adjacent entrances are two sets of "key" maps, "The War Against Germany" and "The War Against Japan." The sets consist of three maps on enameled metal, each map covering about one-third of our participation in World War II. By these key maps, each major battle may be related to the others in time and space.

THE CHAPEL

The chapel is located behind the tower between the two map galleries. The two doors leading from the galleries into the chapel, the chapel windows and the altar rail are of bronze grille-work. Inset in the grilles are colored glass cabochons designed by Bruce Moore. The cabochons contain seven different symbols, two of which are repeated three times each.

DOORS	
Liberty	gold, blue
The Hero	gold, blue
WINDOWS	
The Hand of God	blue
Liberty	gold
The Hero	gold
The Holy Dove	gold
ALTAR RAIL	
Liberty	gold
The Lamb	red
The Shofar	blue
The Hero	gold

The four cabochons in the bronze grille of the altar rail are illuminated electrically. The United States national flag stands in each corner of the vestibule and at each side of the altar. Inscribed upon the southeast wall of the vestibule is the following dedicatory inscriptions:

IN PROUD REMEMBRANCE
OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HER SONS
AND IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THEIR SACRIFICES
THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ERECTED BY

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**

1941 – 1945

**

1950 - 1953

**

1964 – 1973

The altar, chapel steps and floor are of Verde (green) Antico marble; the wall behind the altar is of Rojo (red) Alicante marble. On the wall behind the altar is a lighted Latin cross. It is flanked by a large gold leafed Star of David engraved in the wall to the left and a Buddhist Wheel of Righteousness engraved in the wall to the right.

WEST COAST MEMORIAL

West Coast Memorial

The West Coast Memorial is situated in the Fort Scott area of the Presidio of San Francisco, California. It stands near the junctions of Washington, Harrison and Lincoln Boulevards on a promontory overlooking the entrance to the Golden Gate, and is accessible by automobile.

THE SITE

Use of the 1 ½-acre site was granted to the American Battle Monuments Commission by the Department of Defense. It is reached by passing through the Presidio, thence via Park Boulevard and Kobbe Avenue, which leads into Harrison Avenue and the intersection of the latter with Washington Boulevard.

ARCHITECTS

Architects for the memorial were Clark and Beuttler of San Francisco. The landscape architect was Lawrence Halprint, also of San Francisco.

GENERAL LAYOUT

From the parking area at the intersection of Harrison Avenue and Washington Boulevard a path leads southwest to the memorial.

The memorial consists essentially of a curved California Raymond, light gray, granite wall. On the seaward face of this wall are engraved the names, rank, organization and state of 413 men of our Amed Services who lost their lives in the eastern waters of the Pacific Ocean during World War II:

U.S. Army and Air Forces *	157
U.S. Navy	238
U.S. Marine Corps	7
U.S. Coast Guard	11

* It will be recalled that during World War II, the Air Forces still formed part of the U.S. Army.

The men gave their lives in the service of their Country, but their remains have not been recovered and identified. The list includes men from every state in the Union except Nevada, Wyoming, Alaska and Hawaii; the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are also represented.

At the north end of the memorial, surmounted by a relief sculpture panel depicting Pegasus soaring to the heavens from the sea, is the inscription:

1941-1945
*
ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IN PROUD AND GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
OF HER SONS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN HER SERVICE
AND WHO SLEEP IN THE AMERICAN COASTAL WATERS
OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN
*
INTO THY HANDS O LORD.

Standing on a pedestal in front of the pylon terminating the south end of the memorial is a Mount Airy, light gray, granite figure of Columbia mourning the Dead; approximately 8 feet high. The works of sculpture were designed by Jean Demarco of New York City.

To blend into the natural growth of the area, the memorial is planted with Mesembryanthemum, Ceanothus, Thunberg and Monterey Pines, Monterey Cypress and other plants. In the bed at the base of the memorial are Juniperus sabina.

The memorial was completed in 1960.

EAST COAST MEMORIAL

East Coast Memorial

LOCATION

The East Coast Memorial is situated in Battery Park near the southern tip of Manhattan Island, New York City. Automobiles may approach to a distance of about 200 yards from the south side of the memorial. The South Ferry subway station some 300 yards distant

THE SITE

The site covers three-quarters of an acre at the south (New York Bay) edge of Battery Park, between the circular stone structure of Fort Clinton and the United Satees Coast Guard Headquarters at the tip of the island.

Use of the site was granted to the American Battle Monuments Commission by the New York City Department of Parks.

ARCHITECTS

Architects for the memorial were Gehron and Seltzer of New York.

American Eagle Placing a Wreath

GENERAL LAYOUT

The memorial may be reached either by one of the paths running generally parallel with the river, or by following the promenade along the water's edge. The longitudinal axis of the memorial passes through the Statue of Liberty about two miles distant in the upper Bay.

On each side of the Court of Honor are four granite stelae, 19 feet high, of Chelmsford (Massachusetts) gray granite. On these eight slabs are engraved the names, rank, organization and state of 4,596 men of our Armed Services who lost their lives in the western waters of the Atlantic Ocean during World War II:

United States Army and Army Air Forces	1,262
United States Navy	2,985
United States Marine Corps	7
United States Coast Guard	342

These men gave their lives in the service of their Country, but their remains have not been recovered and identified. Among them are at least four pairs of brothers. The lists include men from every state in the Union except Alaska and Hawaii; the District of Columbia, the Canal Zone, Guam, the Virgin Islands and Canada are also represented.

Near the landward end of the Court of Honor is a bronze eagle 18 ½ feet high symbolically placing a wreath upon the waters. This eagle which weighs about 5 tons was designed by Albino Manca of New York. The Massachusetts Peerless polished black granite base beneath it bears this inscription:

1941-1945
*
ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IN PROUD AND GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
OF HER SONS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN HER SERVICE
AND WHO SLEEP IN THE AMERICAN COASTAL WATERS
OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN
*
INTO THY HANDS O LORD.

The memorial is enframed by formal planting of London Plane *(Platanus acerifolia)* trees and Euonymus patens hedges; the area is bounded on three sides by Battery Park. A broad flight of steps leads from the Court of Honor to the seawall promenade.

The memorial was completed in 1963 and was dedicated by President John F. Kennedy on 23 May of that year.