The Papua Marker is a bronze tablet displayed in the lobby of the U.S. Embassy in Papua New Guinea located on Douglas Street in downtown Port Moresby.
The Papua and New Guinea Campaigns

The Papua Marker inscription reads:

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HONORS THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICE OF THE AMERICAN FIGHTING UNITS WHO WITH OUR AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ALLIES JOINED IN COMBAT AGAINST A DETERMINED FOE IN THIS LAND HALF A CENTURY AGO.

PAPUAN AND NEW GUINEAN SERVICE UNITS, THE ROYAL PAPUAN CONSTABULARY, SCOUTS, AND WAR-CARRIERS STOOD BRAVELY WITH THE ALLIES TO STEM THE TIDE OF MILITARISM IN THE PACIFIC. THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP FORGED HERE DURING WORLD WAR II ENDURE TO THIS DAY.

THIS MONUMENT IS DEDICATED IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THE LEGACY OF FREEDOM SECURED FOR GENERATIONS YET TO COME BY THOSE WHO Fought FOR THE ALLIED CAUSE.

DEDICATED ON NOVEMBER 6, 1992

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR’S SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA COMMAND IN PORT MORESBY.

The Papua and New Guinea Campaigns, 1942-1944

The Japanese, after defeats at the naval battles of the Coral Sea and Midway in early 1942, built up forces in northeastern New Guinea. The aim was to threaten Australia by marching south over the Owen Stanley Mountains to capture Port Moresby.

General Douglas MacArthur, commanding the Southwest Pacific Area (SWPA) force, began reinforcing Australian units around Port Moresby.


JANUARY 23, 1943: The Papua Campaign ended. Both sides suffered heavy casualties from combat and tropical diseases.

JANUARY 24: The New Guinea Campaign began. For almost two years, Allied ground, air, and naval forces advanced along the northern coast and nearby islands.