



## Guadalcanal American Memorial

GPS S9 26.554 E159 57.441



*The Guadalcanal American Memorial stands on Skyline Ridge overlooking the town of Honiara and the Matanikau River.*

## American Battle Monuments Commission

This agency of the United States government operates and maintains 26 American cemeteries and 29 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. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, promised that "time will not dim the glory of their deeds."

### American Battle Monuments Commission

2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 500  
Arlington, VA 22201 USA

### Manila American Cemetery

McKinley Road  
Global City, Taguig  
Republic of Philippines  
tel 011-632-844-0212  
email manila@abmc.gov  
gps N14 32.483 E121 03.008

### Guadalcanal American Memorial

Skyline Ridge  
P.O. Box 1194  
Honiara, Solomon Islands  
tel 011-677-23426

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American Battle Monuments Commission



For more information on this site and other ABMC commemorative sites, please visit:

[www.abmc.gov](http://www.abmc.gov)

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Photo: ABMC

The Guadalcanal American Memorial honors those American and Allied servicemen who lost their lives during the Guadalcanal campaign of World War II. The memorial consists of an inscribed central pylon four feet square rising 24 feet above

its base. Four radiating directional walls point toward major battle sites. Descriptions of the battles are inscribed on the walls. The inscription on its central pylon reads:

**THIS MEMORIAL WAS CONSTRUCTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICANS AND THEIR ALLIES WHO LOST THEIR LIVES DURING THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN**

**7 AUGUST 1942 – 9 FEBRUARY 1943**

The Japanese defeats in the battles of the Coral Sea and Midway caused them to expand their presence toward New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. That threatened the American lifeline to Australia and New Zealand. It led to the decision to assault Guadalcanal and nearby islands.

**AUGUST 7, 1942:** The 1st Marine Division and the 2d Marine Regiment made an amphibious landing on the north coast of Guadalcanal. Initial Japanese resistance was light.

*Marine artillerymen operate from a Japanese field gun emplacement captured early in the Guadalcanal campaign.*



Photo: The National Archives

**AUGUST 8:** Marine units occupied the Japanese airdrome at Lunga. It was later named Henderson Field.

**AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER:** Japanese air attacks and reinforcements slowed the advances by Marine units.

**OCTOBER 13:** The Army's 164th Infantry Regiment, part of the Americal Division, landed to join the fight.

**OCTOBER 23:** The Japanese attacked near Henderson Field and the mouth of the Matanikau River. They were repulsed after heavy fighting.

**NOVEMBER 12-15:** American ships and aircraft turned back a major Japanese naval offensive.

**JANUARY 2, 1943:** More Marine and Army units had arrived throughout December. XIV Corps was activated, with the 2d Marine Division and the Army's Americal and 25th Infantry Divisions.

**JANUARY 10:** The XIV Corps offensive began.

**FEBRUARY 9:** Organized Japanese resistance ended.

The interservice cooperation that worked well on Guadalcanal continued throughout the war in the Pacific.



*A 25th Infantry Division soldier holds a telephone struck by fragments from a Japanese mortar. He was unhurt, and the phone worked. Guadalcanal, January 10, 1943.*

Photo: The National Archives



Photo: The National Archives

*Amphibious tractors unloaded from Navy transports head to the beach at Guadalcanal, August 1942.*