General Information

1. The cemetery is open to visitors during the following hours:
   
   8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
   (Daily - September 30 through March 1)
   
   8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
   (Daily - March 2 through September 29)
   
   7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
   (Memorial Day)

2. Visitors are requested to conduct themselves in keeping with the dignity and sacredness of the cemetery. Visitors are requested not to litter the grounds; cut, break, or injure trees, shrubs or plants; or use the cemetery as a picnic area.

3. The Avenue of Flags is displayed on Memorial Day and on other special occasions. All graves are decorated on Memorial Day by cemetery personnel with small United States flags.

4. Cut flowers may be placed on graves at any time. Metal temporary flower containers are permitted. Floral items will be removed from graves by cemetery personnel as soon as they become faded or unsightly.

5. Artificial flowers may be placed on graves during the period specified on the Floral Regulation sign. Plantings, statues, vigil lights, breakable objects of any nature and any other types of commemorative items are not permitted on the graves.

6. Complaints may be brought to the attention of the Cemetery Director.

7. Cemetery personnel may not be on duty on weekends even though the cemetery is open to visitors. If information or assistance is needed, the cemetery office should be contacted during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
2177 Puowaina Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Name: PALANAPA, GEORGE
Wall: B17SF
Row: A4
Section: W06
Court: 14
Grave/Niche: 5D
The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific and the Honolulu Memorial, covering 116 acres, are located in Puowaina Crater, an extinct volcano referred to in Hawaii at "Punchbowl" because of its shape. Roughly translated, "Puowaina" means "Consecrated Hill" or "Hill of Sacrifice." The Punchbowl was the site of many secret "ali'i" (royal) burials. It was also the place where offenders of certain "kapus" (taboos) were sacrificed.

THE CEMETERY

By the end of World War II, several hundred temporary cemeteries had been established by the American Graves Registration Service of the U. S. Army. Puowaina Crater was selected as a permanent cemetery site when major objections were made to the temporary cemeteries in the central and south Pacific areas. Construction began in August 1948 and the first remains were interred on January 4, 1949. Seven hundred seventy-six (776) casualties from the December 7, 1941, attack were among the first to be interred here. The cemetery was opened to burials on July 19, 1949, the date on which Ernie Pyle was interred; and it was dedicated on September 2, 1949, the fourth anniversary of V-J Day.

This cemetery 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 or requested that they be buried here. Original burials included 11,597 identified and 2,079 unidentified World War II dead from the Pacific. They came from such battle sites as Guadalcanal, China, Burma, Saipan, Guam, and Iwo Jima and from prisoner of war camps in Japan. One hundred seventy-eight (178) Wake Island dead were interred in a mass burial on July 10, 1953. Also interred in the cemetery are the unidentified remains of 848 U. S. servicemen who died fighting in Korea. The other hallowed resting place in the Pacific for the 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.
Punchbowl is now filled to capacity with 33,143 gravesites. Since August 1, 1991, burials have been at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe. This cemetery also has available urn niches in the Columbarium for cremated remains.

**THE MEMORIAL**

The Honolulu Memorial was erected by the American Battle Monuments Commission in 1964 and was dedicated on May 1, 1966. It was erected to honor the sacrifices and achievements of American Armed Forces in the Pacific during World War II and the Korean Conflict. In 1980, it was enlarged to include the missing of the Vietnam Conflict.

This impressive memorial sits high on the wall of Puowaina Crater overlooking the graves area of the cemetery. It consists of a non-sectarian chapel, two map galleries, a monumental staircase leading from the crater floor to the Court of Honor, ten Courts of the Missing, and a Dedicatory Stone centered at the base of the stairway on which is inscribed, "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."

In the ten Courts of the Missing which flank the monumental staircase are recorded the names of 18,094 World War II heroes missing in action (MIA) or lost or buried at sea in the Pacific (excluding the Southwest Pacific and the Palau Islands - the MIAs from these areas are memorialized at the Manila American Cemetery), 8,195 in the Korean Conflict, and 2,489 in the Vietnam Conflict, a total of 28,778 names.

On the front of the tower which houses the chapel is a 30-foot female figure, known as "Columbia", 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 died in battle, "... THE SOLEMN PRIDE THAT MUST BE YOURS TO HAVE LAID SO COSTLY A SACRIFICE UPON THE ALTAR OF FREEDOM."

The map galleries extend from the right and left sides of the tower and they contain maps and texts recording the achievements of the American Armed Forces in the central and south Pacific regions and in Korea.

(This information sheet was prepared by the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club, whose members man the information center as a community service. If you need more information regarding the cemetery, please call (808) 566-1430 on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.)