

43rd Division casualties in WW II.

The number of casualties differs among the several sources.

Zimmer book Hist of 43rd Div., p. 85 (late 1940s)

	KIA	WIA
Guad/Russels:	0	10
N. Solomons	581	2059
Aitape	28	59
PI	952	3921
Totals	1561	6049

Note: these numbers are on the plaque of the 43rd Div. at the Middletown CT State Veterans Cemetery.

43rd Div. Historical Report, Luzon Campaign, p. 54 (1945)

Beachhead	593	1644
Stotsenburg	70	193
Shimbu	130	443
Ipo Dam	172	708
Totals	965	2988

Barker p. 112: (1961)

New Georgia: 581 2059

Also for New Georgia:

War Neuroses 1552

Malaria 1171

Other causes 597

Grand total all casualties, including killed: 5960.

Barker p. 228 (1961)

Luzon 965 2988

Encyclopedic Reference to US Army Ground Forces from Battalion through Division 1939-1946 by Stanton Revised edition put out in 2006.

Entire war: 1128 4887

CONCLUSIONS:

Barker and Zimmer agree on SI numbers but not on Luzon numbers

Barker's Luzon nos. agree with those of the 43rd Historical Report and he published well after Zimmer (1961 vs late 1940s), so I trust his over Zimmer's. Barker surely knew Zimmer's Luzon numbers and chose to ignore them.

I do not understand the Encyclopedia numbers. They are about right for WIA (to my thinking, see below) but grossly undervalue the KIA. Both Zimmer and Barker were high-level officers of the 43rd during the war and were writing serious histories. Hence

they would surely have searched out reliable numbers and would have known where to find them. So I question the Ency nos.

Of necessity, having no other source, I adopt Zimmer's numbers for Guad/Russell and Aitape — both are small numbers. In addition I adopt the Barker/Zimmer numbers for Northern Solomons, and the Barker/HistRpt numbers for Luzon. Thus I get:

43rd Division Casualties (per HB)

	KIA	WIA
Guad/Russ	0	10
N. Solomons	581	2059
Aitape	28	59
Luzon PI	965	2988
Total	1574	5116

As noted, the WIA total matches approximately the Ency. nos., but the KIA are well in excess of the Ency number.

I use these numbers (1574 and 5116) on the 43rd memorial at the National Museum of the Pacific War.

One could probably find the sources of these various numbers with a bit (or a lot) of effort, e.g. at the National Archives, that I have not chosen to invest.

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