

# “MILK RUN”

Oregon Chapter 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society News  
Update  
January 2011



Chapter meeting is on **February 12, 2011**. 10 AM till  
2 PM

## History News

*Readers, where's your story? See the last page on how to share history with others.*

## Dantes Daughter

Martin Swift's grandfather Thomas Raeburn (WO) flew in Avro Lancasters during WW II and he is trying to locate the artwork that adorned his grandfathers' a/c "Dantes Daughter". Thomas was a tail gunner and survived the war earning a DFO from Bomber Command.

The tail gunner was often the person who determined if the bomber would survive a Luftwaffe night fighter attack – if a tail gunner saw the German fighter they often survived.

If you have a photo, or know how to obtain a photo contact Martin Swift at [martincswift@yahoo.com](mailto:martincswift@yahoo.com) .

## **Saturday, Jan. 8, 2 p.m., Allen Theater Seattle Museum of Flight** **Documentary: "Battle of Brecourt Manor"**

Join filmmaker Vance Day and "Band of Brothers" veterans 1st. Lt. Lynn "Buck" Compton and Tech. Sgt. Donald Malarkey for the Seattle premiere of Day's film about the Brecourt Manor Assault on June 6, 1944. Compton and Malarkey will answer questions and sign autographs after the film.

## **Hitler and the Germans – At the Berlin Museum a Big Hit**

Through February 6, 2011 at the Berlin Historical Museum an exhibit about Hitler and his relationship with the German people is on display. In the one month it has been out over 100,000 have paid to view it.

[http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/europe/news/article\\_1601813.php/Hitler-exhibition-big-hit-in-Berlin-over-100-000-visitors](http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/europe/news/article_1601813.php/Hitler-exhibition-big-hit-in-Berlin-over-100-000-visitors)

Deutsches Historisches Museum <http://www.dhm.de>

## **“Red Tail” Star Has Oregon Roots**

Over in England there is star of the upcoming movie “Red Tail” which is about the Tuskegee Airmen. The star is a P-40M painted up as USAAF 42-10855 – which when initially build was used by RCAF during WW II under lend lease in 1943; then used at

Oregon State University as a training tool for aircraft repair; and then left at the Troutdale airport for extended storage and then “discovered” as to the most intact 1943 P-40M in the world.



The Tuskegee Airmen were flying P-40s in Italy in 1944 as ground support squadron.

The P-40M Kittyhawk III (depending on model they are also called Warhawk, Tomahawk – all names created by the British) is now owned by Peter Teichman as part of the *Hanger 11 Collection* at North Weald, Essex, England.

Photo by the [American Air Museum](#)

## Five Veteran Stories of Combat in Europe – Air and Ground

One served late in the war as a replacement infantry after the Battle of The Bulge, one served from the beginning, and the others from the mid-point.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10315/1102135-55.stm>

## Never Before Seen photos of Adolph Hitler

Stored in a closet for the past 70+ years these photos go to auction January 18<sup>th</sup> in England.

Some 900 negatives and 600 slides taken by Heinrich Hoffmann, the personal photographer of Hitler, from 1934 onwards, are to be sold at [JP Humbert Auctioneers](#) in Towcester, Northamptonshire.

## Who Saved Moscow in 1941? – Even the Soviets Don’t Agree



History books often state that the Siberian divisions are what saved the capital of Moscow from being captured. The Soviets launched the winter offensive that pushed the Wehrmacht forces back, who had gotten within 12 miles of outskirts of Moscow in November of 1941, is now being debated in Russia. The Siberian troops were brought in after USSR learned from their spy in Japan that Japan was going south when they start their war so the troops could be moved to the west; or was it local troops raised in the USSR and sent into battle (mainly untrained); or that the Germans units who were just plain worn out. The men and their equipment had fought for five months and no unit had not received enough replacements to bring them back up to full strength; or maybe the supplies from Britain and the USA under lend lease tipped the balance – or some combination.

[http://english.pravda.ru/history/06-12-2010/116065-Moscow\\_hitler\\_1941-0/](http://english.pravda.ru/history/06-12-2010/116065-Moscow_hitler_1941-0/)

## Jews in the Red Army

The USSR was big. It stretched over 8 time zones and had the largest population of people besides from China and India. As a result, even when 120 divisions had been destroyed in the first 5 months of the war it could build 200 new divisions to replace them by 1942. That men, and women, who increased the size of the Red army included lots of Jews. Some 1.5 million served in the forces of the U.S.S.R during World War II – known in east as “The Great Patriotic War”.

<http://www.jpost.com/JewishWorld/JewishFeatures/Article.aspx?id=195920>

## A Book of Deadly Statistics of World War II in Eastern Europe - Bloodlands

"Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin" by Timothy Snyder, is a book about the intentional mass murder of over 14 million people between 1930 and 1947 in a general area that encompasses what is now Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Belarus, Ukraine, and western Russia." The breakup of the Soviet Empire and the re-creation of independent nations has allowed files in hundreds of archives to actually be looked at now. This has resulted in lots of additional information being added to previous works, or assumptions that had been made before proven true – or flat out wrong.

Amazon link: [Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin](#)

Book review and article:

<http://www.newstatesman.com/blogs/cultural-capital/2010/12/soviet-snyder-history-europe>

## Blown Off a PT Boat in the Mediterranean

PT are often overlooked at being in Mediterranean and are often thought of just in the Pacific. Frank J. Dublikar Jr. was in the Med on his PT working with another PT boat off the coast of North Africa when the one in front blew up. Going to the rescue one of the sailors his boat blew up – and he lived due to being on the bow rescuing that other sailor.

<http://www.cantonrep.com/ww2thenandnow/x1817613840/WW-II-Then-and-Now-Always-on-patrol>

## What do you do in Scotland as a POW?

Well if you are a bunch of Italian POWs on an island off of Scotland you build something like home – and to get out of the rain.

This is what a lot of Italian POWs did on the island of Holm in Orkney, Scotland. A novel has been written around this WW II fact. “The Chapel at the Edge of the World”.

<http://www.thehindu.com/arts/books/article929540.ece>



## The Guns of San Francisco

Around many coastal cities in the US there were forts built to protect them. CNET did a photo spread of the forts built around SFO. Included is a intact 6” disappearing coastal defense gun – that still goes up and down.

I visited Fort DeSoto in Florida this past July which was built to protect Tampa.

[http://news.cnet.com/2300-11386\\_3-10005717.html?tag=topTechContentWrap;photos](http://news.cnet.com/2300-11386_3-10005717.html?tag=topTechContentWrap;photos)

## **The “Flak Vest” Gets an Update**

Ceramic, re-active armor, fibers – all get updated to protect soldiers and vehicles from Honeywell.

<http://www51.honeywell.com/sm/afc/news-events-sub/press-release-details/10.25.2010BallisticMaterialsForHardArmorApplications.html?c=42>

## **Preserving Crystal City Internment Camp in Texas**

Historians are working to preserve the best of the 7 camps that were known to be located in Texas for German, Italian and Japanese civilians held under guard in the USA during the war years.

This one even had a swimming pool in it.

[http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-us-texas-internment-camps\\_0,2531054.story](http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-us-texas-internment-camps_0,2531054.story)

Texas Historical Commission at <http://www.thc.state.tx.us>

## **Shoah – a movie but not? 9 ½ hours long and not sure what it is**

Created in 1985 by Claude Lanzmann, who was a French Resistance fighter during the war, it is being released in the USA again. It has something do about the campaign to kill all the Jews of Europe but cannot tell at all from the article what the movie is about.

One interesting observation in the article:

“Mr. Spielberg’s underwriting of 105,000 hours of videotaped testimonies from concentration camp survivors and others in 56 countries, asking, “Who will see this?” (The testimonials are currently not widely available to the public, but are in the process of being digitized, with index, and being made accessible as a study collection.)”

The quote above is why our local 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS chapter started digitizing and putting onto our chapter’s website all the stories, photographs and other material we had. Stored in a museum that no on has access to makes them just as useful as being in a landfill – which where many stories and documents end up.

## **Memorial Coliseum Veterans Wall in Portland Oregon Inspires a Story**

Steve Duin, a local newspaper columnist with the Oregonian, wrote an article and this got our local RCAF Nightfighter pilot who flew out of England in 1942 then later as a USAAF B-24 “Snooper” night radar bomber pilot in the Pacific, Roland Fisher, to write him back and Steve Duin published Roland’s tribute online about a name etched on the wall at Memorial Coliseum.

[http://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/steve\\_duin/index.ssf/2010/12/honoring\\_johnny\\_and\\_roland.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/steve_duin/index.ssf/2010/12/honoring_johnny_and_roland.html)

## **A Doughboy Comes Home**

French explorers found Army Private Henry A. Weikel grave in 2006 and notified JPAC – the military unit that goes around the world to identify remains of soldiers still shown as MIA. The difference was that he was killed in WW I during an artillery barrage at

Bois de Bonvaux and buried, then his grave location was not accurately recorded and thus lost. He was buried back in Pennsylvania in December of 2010.

Last issue a request from [JPAC](#) was published to help identify some aircraft parts in Poland which would help identify the aircraft and remains just found there. If anyone has a parts manual / NSN references for B-17s and B-24s that would help.

<http://www.examiner.com/history-in-harrisburg/world-war-i-remembered-the-commonwealth>

## Forced Down Four Times - Alvin "Buddy" Rothstein

Flying as part of the 487<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group (H), and he actually ended up flying both B-17s and B-24s – B-24s in training and B-17s in combat! He was shot down over the North Sea, Poland (luckily in the part Russian had already liberated).

There is a painting of his crew in a single life raft being tossed about in the North Sea.

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/lifestyles-people/alvin-buddy-rothstein-s-b-17-bomber-forced-from-the-skies-four-times-during-world-war-ii-1.1064542#axzz17T133SEp>

## Siegfried Line, Battle of the Bulge and Into Germany – on Foot

A “replacement” infantry man in Patton’s Third Army in Company L, 11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the Fifth Infantry Division – right after the Battle of the Bulge.



Most shocking to him – training and reality of combat had no comparison.

“Another surprise occurred that night. After darkness set in and there was no moon, The night sky was lit by a search light beaming light off the clouds about a mile away gave illumination for us to operate with. It was called artificial moonlight. I tell you these things to illustrate how green I was (we were) and how poor

our basic training was in preparing us for combat.”

A quick summary of how the 5<sup>th</sup> was organized:

“The 5th Infantry Division had three regiments. In turn each regiment had three battalions and each battalion had three Rifle Companies. Each rifle company had three platoons and each platoon had three squads. Each of these units could be augmented with specialized units depending upon the mission such as artillery weapons, truck companies, engineer bridge companies etc. When so augmented the regiment was referred to as a RCT, Regimental Combat Team.”

He talks about the river crossings under fire, combat tactics used, how things were organized, the food they ate, and the people they met from Belgium to Czechoslovakia where they were when the war ended.

<http://www.starvalleyindependent.com/2010/11/star-valley-resident-describes-wwii-from-the-front-lines-in-germany/>

## “Top Shot” in America – Lives in Sherwood Oregon

Iain Harrison grew up in Britain, went through the British Army, but left the UK for the USA and moved to Sherwood Oregon. A self-



taught shooter he was one of 50 people selected to compete in the TV show and then won the title "America's Top Shot" against the other 49 other contestants. Most appropriate that this person lives in "Sherwood" .

{Editor's commentary: A show like this could never be filmed in the UK or Australia since no one is allowed to own and experience a variety of weapons – and thus learn any firearms. Same is true in most other nations of the world. Many nations only the military or police are allowed to have any firearms or they are so heavily restricted as to be effectively outlawed. One of the most popular destinations of Australians in Las Vegas is "The Gun Store" since there you can rent a firearm, some fully automatic, and actually fire it, which is impossible to do unless you are in the military – and then they do not have any historical guns they let you fire.}

<http://www.history.com/shows/top-shot/>

## **From a Lake to a Museum – A B-25C Finds a Home**

"I was flying it until the instructor pilot decided to demonstrate what low-level flying was going to be like once we got into combat. That's how we wound up at about 4:30 in the afternoon coming down Lake Greenwood. It's hard to gauge your altitude over water. We were too low."

Daniel Rossman ended up flying combat in the Pacific and retired as a Lt Col. South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation will pay Celebrate Freedom Foundation \$15,000 for the B-25C Mitchell bomber.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6B66ME20101207>

## **WW II Sea Mine found at Nigata**

Found in August at a planned housing area, the mine had been there since WW II when US planes were going to every port and dropping sea mines to block the ports from being used and to ensure that Japanese shipping would be destroyed.

<http://www.japantoday.com/category/national/view/1000-people-evacuated-for-gsdf-disposal-of-wwii-mine-in-niigata>

## **Prisoner of the Japanese for 1,219 Days**

Captured on Corregidor on May 6, 1942 Bill Colls endured three plus years under Japanese military POW camps before being liberated on 4 September, 1945.

"After the surrender, Colls and others spent weeks disposing of the bodies of fallen soldiers. At Japanese direction, they burned them in barrels, on a spit of land called Monkey Point, Colls said."

"Every time the Japanese suffered a defeat, they cut our rations."

<http://www.roanoke.com/columnists/casey/wb/267008>

## **Government's Lake City Ammo Plant Still turning out Ammo**

Like the three other plants built near Kansas City for WW II, of which two are still in use, the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant runs 24/6 to create 5.56 MM, .5 Cal and .30 Cal ammo for the military.

**1. Lake City Army Ammunition Plant:** Began operations in late 1941; peak wartime employment, 21,000; still in use.

**2. North American Aviation Fairfax B-25 bomber plant (later General Motors auto plant):** Began operations in late 1941; peak wartime employment, 23,500; closed in 1986.

**3. Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant:** Began operations in early 1943; peak employment, 12,000; closed in 1992.

**4. Pratt & Whitney airplane engine factory (now Honeywell):** Began operations in late 1943; peak wartime employment, 22,000; still in use.

<http://www.kansascity.com/2010/11/29/2482742/defense-plants-still-rev-up-areas.html>

## Things You Take To War

There are things all soldiers seem to do when in combat. You repeat habits that you know will keep you safe and of course carry with you items that have meaning to you. They still do that today.

<http://www.army.mil/-news/2010/12/01/48785-things-they-take-to-war/>

## “Warriors and Wizards” – Book on the Remote Controlled Bombs of The Third Reich

From the naval Institute Press comes a book on the development by the Germans and eventual neutralization by the Allies of the German made radio controlled bombs that sank Allied shipping in the Atlantic and Mediterranean oceans during WW II. (A recent past Milk Run had a story from a survivor of one ship sunk off of Africa, the transport Rhona).

Amazon Link: [Warriors and Wizards: The Development and Defeat of Radio-Controlled Glide Bombs of the Third Reich](#)

Article:

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/dec/10/book-review-warriors-and-wizards/>

## A Book on the Luftwaffe Order of Battle

Written by Chris McNabb [Order of Battle: German Luftwaffe in WWII](#) is a handy reference as to what units where and when during World War II. There was already a book out on the Wehrmacht Order of Battle.

## Camp Rupert of Idaho – Ex POW Looking for Photos

Werner Schulz was part of the Herman Goering Division and was a tanker captured in Tunisia by the British. After a year in French POW camp he was sent to the USA and ended up at Camp Rupert in Idaho – along with some 15,000 other German and Italian POWS.

The POWs were being harshly by the guards and some went on strike protesting the very harsh (even by US standards) working conditions and beatings they were being given – after the War in Europe was over.

Werner ended up in England in a British POW camp for another three years and ended up staying in the UK marrying a local woman. He, along with Telford historian Phil Fairclough, are now looking for others who were there and records. 2 Arrow Road, Shawbirch, Telford TF5 0LF, United Kingdom.

[http://www.magicvalley.com/news/local/article\\_5733ddc5-2f0e-5130-a531-c43d71708ac4.html](http://www.magicvalley.com/news/local/article_5733ddc5-2f0e-5130-a531-c43d71708ac4.html)

## **Widow of Polish General Wladyslaw Anders Dies at Age of 90**

An actress she married the general after the war and they stayed in England, him refusing to return to Poland since it was now a communist country (and would likely have been imprisoned or executed like other famous Polish officers.) The General formed the unit after being released by the Soviets in 1941 and the unit fought under British control in the Med.

[http://www.thenews.pl/international/artykul145059\\_irena-anders-symbol-of-polish-emigration-laid-to-rest.html](http://www.thenews.pl/international/artykul145059_irena-anders-symbol-of-polish-emigration-laid-to-rest.html)

## **90 years Old and Still Flying**

Wilton Little started flying at 15 years of age and since then he has never stopped. Too tall for a fighter pilot during World War II he shuttled B-24s around the USA before being assigned to fly "The Hump" into China – somewhat more dangerous than flying combat since over 500 aircraft were lost flying supplies into China.

<http://www.roanoke.com/269850>

## **Choctaw Indians – Code Talkers of World War I**

The WW II movie about the Code Talkers of World War II (a completely made up story) made more people aware of the Native Americans contribution to fighting in the Pacific, but the Choctaws were recruited during World War I as code talkers since they could speak over phone lines and transmit Morse Code without having to encrypt it first without worrying about the Germans ever understanding them.

<http://www.redding.com/news/2010/nov/29/honor-code/>

## **“Rose of York” B-17 Christened by then Princess Elizabeth**

Flying in the 306<sup>th</sup> BG Sgt Watson Vaughn was a tail turret gunner in B-17s during 1944. The Princess had come to the base for a visit and it was suggested that their plane be renamed from "Princess Elizabeth" to "Rose of York" after King George VI suggested it.

<http://www.mydesert.com/article/20101210/NEWS13/12100338/Tail-gunner-s-airplane-christened-by-queen>

## **Richard “Dick” Gaffaney – Diary of a Bombardier**

After both him and his wife had died, the kids were going through their things and found the diary he had kept while flying out of England with the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force in B-24s. \ "June 18 – Stadt, Germany. I flew tail turret and do not recall ever being so cold (minus 34 degrees C.)"

"July 19 – Our 35th and last combat mission. Our target was near Munich, four hours over enemy territory. It was a comparably warm day (minus 15 C.) Our formation was excellent at 18,000 feet and we had a very good bomb pattern. (The only flak encountered was) an hour from the coast."

<http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/300759/group/Life/>

## **Estel James – Aircraft Technician – Enola Gay**

Taking out equipment to lighten up the B-29 – due to the weight of the atomic bomb – was one of this man's jobs during the war.

<http://www.kfvs12.com/Global/story.asp?S=13633924>



## History Detectives Going to Boeing

A future episode about leaflet droppings on Japan by B-29 Superfortresses takes them to visit the restored B-29 that Boeing has.

Our local 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS chapter helped in research in a previous History Detective story about a drawing made in Stalag 17B. They donated two books used in the research to the chapter.

<http://blog.seattlepi.com/aerospace/archives/231113.asp>

## A log book goes to Hendon

Richard Larcombe was a pilot from 1940 thru 1948 and his whole log book – over an inch thick – was donated to the Hendon museum in England there when he died and left no known heirs.

He was a fighter pilot during the Battle of Britain and flew mainly in the Middle East during the war.

As to if the museum will scan it and post it online for others to access, or only allow certain people to look at only in person, is not known.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/eastern-courier/4440228/War-book-surfaces>

## Book “The Retreat” about the 1<sup>st</sup> Big German Defeat in USSR

[The Retreat: Hitler's First Defeat](#)

by Michael Jones is a book about the USSR counterattack and subsequent retreat of the German forces outside of Moscow in the winter of 1941/42. Thomas Dunne Books/St. Martin's Press, \$27.99. Lots of research and detail of units in combat during that winter in Russia.

And to locate units in a war you can look at the Order of Battle

[German Infantry in World War II \(Order of Battle\)](#)

[World War II Order of Battle: An Encyclopedic Reference to U.S. Army Ground Forces from Battalion through Division, 1939-1946 \(REVISED EDITION\) \(Stackpole Military Classics\)](#)

## “Peace” – A novel of WW II Set in Italy

A completely different view of war exists in this novel written by Richard Bausch about US soldiers trapped behind the lines in Italy and makes them question what is right and what is wrong.

## Lithuania – Ally and Enemy at the same time to all sides in WW II

The Baltic states have a unique problem with the Second World War. They were given to the USSR, who effectively annexed them into the USSR, without any outcry at all in the west in 1940, “liberated” by the Germans in 1941 and who integrated their forces into the German military (some of them get pensions from Germany now), and some of them fought against Germany, some fought for Germany, and then fought against USSR in the 1940s and 1950s.

Erecting a monument to honor any group in Lithuania is going to cause problems.

[http://english.pravda.ru/opinion/columnists/18-12-2010/116266-baltic\\_lithuanian\\_state\\_stepping\\_into\\_hell-0/](http://english.pravda.ru/opinion/columnists/18-12-2010/116266-baltic_lithuanian_state_stepping_into_hell-0/)

Add to this the problems they faced when under Soviet Control the USSR also killed people on a mass scale in the Baltic states as well as in all other parts of the USSR (estimated 20 to 25 million from 1920s thru 1950s). Now with archives being open people are starting to rewrite – and sometimes actually correct – the history books – but not always the way others want them to be written concerning the “double genocide” that occurred before and during the Second World War.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2010/dec/21/double-genocide-baltic-us-europe>

## **The Soviet Union at War 1941-1945**

David Stone is a Professor at Kansas State University and published a new book [“The Soviet Union At War: 1941-1945”](#) about the USSR in WW II. Unlike other books, this deals more with the economy and production efforts – some truly astounding efforts – that the USSR achieved in 1941–1945 to produce war goods that overwhelmed the German Army in the East.

Also new is [Deathride: Hitler vs. Stalin - The Eastern Front, 1941-1945](#) with also an eye of learning more of how the war was fought. “the evidence suggests not only that Hitler came much closer to an outright victory than is often supposed, but that much of what we think is true about this conflict is, if not completely false, very nearly so.” It has 85 pages of sources and endnotes.

There are many accounts (like one in the book [“EASTERN INFERNO: The Journals of a German Panzerjager on the Eastern Front, 1941-43”](#)) where 90 tanks attacked the German lines, 77 were destroyed, and the next day an equal number of tanks attacked the same position (with the same result).

There are

## **New WW II Memorial Unveiled in Moscow**

The memorial, based on the movie reel photo showing Georgian soldier Meliton Kantaria and Russian Mikhail Yegorov raising the USSR Flag over the Reichstag in Berlin in April 1945 was unveiled by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. The newsreels that have been seen for decades showing this event was actually a restaged scripted scene a few days after the actual event occurred. There were no camera personnel with the unit when the Reichstag was initially captured. The event was simply recreated – but from a very photographic point of view using the two original people who raised the USSR flag over it.

There was a memorial already of this same scene in Georgia but it was demolished to make way for a new Parliament building there so this one replaces that one – but in Moscow.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFTRE6BK5SN20101221>

## **Anne Frank's Diary Savior**

Miep Gies died at the age of 100 on January 11, 2010. This is the person, a Dutch office secretary, who risked her life - and those of her family - to hide Anne Frank and her family for two years – and is the person who found and saved the teenager's diary.

## **A Football Player Becomes a B-17**

The football lineman who made the 75 yard kickoff return was compared to a Boeing B-17 by this writer.

"It kind of makes sense. Why use the fastest guy on the team who can outrun all of his blocks? Why not use the fast guys to block for the slower guy that can defend himself?" That's when it hit me that Dan Connolly was a B-17, and our special teams players were P-51s clearing the way for the guy that's carrying the payload."

<http://www.patspulpit.com/2010/12/20/1888348/dan-connolly-is-the-b-17-of-football>

## **Chelsea Pensioner Make Album and Sing for Renovations**

What is smaller than a standard modern bathroom but without any features of it? The rooms that the Chelsea Pensioners live in at the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

"On the corridor there are 36 other old soldiers in "berths" that haven't changed since they were built by Sir Christopher Wren in 1692. There are just four toilets on the floor and two bathrooms."

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/top-stories/2010/12/10/chelsea-pensioners-form-world-s-oldest-boyband-to-raise-money-for-renovations-115875-22773058/>

"He Who Writes History Controls The Present"

An article about how schoolbooks being written and what they put in, leave out, and how they present facts can alter the future.

One interesting item I saw was that in 2002 *Latter-Day History of Our Fatherland* was published which provided statistics naming every recipient of the *Order of Lenin* during WW II and specifying the recipient's ethnic origin.

<http://www.day.kiev.ua/316603>

## **Arizona & USS Juneau Sinking Changed Policies**

"The U.S.S. Arizona carried 36 sets of brothers (33 pairs and three sets of three) and one father-son pair. When she was bombed on December 7, 1941, 24 of those sets and the father-son pair died."

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0106/feature5/index.html>

## **The Name is Commando, 30 Commando**

The British unit changes its name from a rather long winded "United Kingdom Landing Force Command Support Group" to a more appropriately named 30 Commando IX Group at Stonehouse Barracks in Plymouth, England.

The original 30 Commando Assault Unit was created by Ian Fleming of James Bond fame.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-11980837>

## **From Anzio to the Wolf's Lair**

Thomas J Hurley joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division in the Anzio beachhead in 1943 and fought till they had captured the "Wolf's Lair" at Berchtesgaden in Bavaria in 1945.

"Guys were going through everything. One had the silverware with Hitler's name on it. He offered me some but I knew it would be taken away when we went home, so I never took any."

<http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2010/dec/11/veterans-spotlight-world-war-ii-vet-helped-lair/>

## **South Louisiana POW Chapter Disbands**

The dwindling number of ex-POWs has forced the closure of the chapter. At its peak it has 125 members – it was down to 4. The chapter started in 1982 – at the same time when most WW II veterans started to retire.

Quick stats of POWS: 3,973 World War I; 143,374 in WW II, 4,714 Korea (reported, but only 4,439 confirmed), 591 Vietnam, and 23 Iraq (Desert Storm) and 8 (1 still POW) since 2001.

Less than 30,000 POWs are still living.

[http://www.nola.com/military/index.ssf/2010/12/amid\\_buffet\\_bingo\\_and\\_declinin.html](http://www.nola.com/military/index.ssf/2010/12/amid_buffet_bingo_and_declinin.html)

## **Ohio Honor Flight Gets an Airbus 320**

Honor Flight is an organization that funds the visit of WW II veterans to see the WW II Memorial in Washington DC. Before only 25 veterans from Ohio could go at a time, with the new aircraft which seats 160 people it will now allow 60 veterans and their attendants to go for only \$15,000 more per charter flight than the old aircraft operating cost so the cost per person goes down from \$1,400 a veteran to \$833 each.

<http://toledoblade.com/article/20101207/NEWS16/12070304/-1/NEWS01>

Field Marshal Albert Kesselring's Baton

Just this week (December 2010) his Baton was auctioned off for \$762,000 dollars. Originally the auctioneer thought that the most it would go for was \$10-15,000.

It does pay to be a German Field Marshal – or a WW II soldier who found it. FM Albert Kesselring died in 1960 on July 20<sup>th</sup> at the age of 74.

[http://www.upi.com/Odd\\_News/2010/12/13/Nazi-baton-sells-for-731600/UPI-28091292264226/](http://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2010/12/13/Nazi-baton-sells-for-731600/UPI-28091292264226/)

## **Local Oregon 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS Chapter News**

### ***8<sup>th</sup> AFHS Oregon Archive Update***

Creating new web pages and updating the menus on the web site so that 10 sets of archives can be posted onto it by the February meeting.

## **Send Stories and documents to be Borrowed / Archived**

If you have items that you wish to share with others, they can be loaned to the Oregon Chapter, scanned and catalogued and then returned to you. You can always donate them permanently to the chapter if you wish. Contact Tom Philo to make arrangements for the documents.

Items in the archive are usually be posted onto the web site (see release form on web site) so that everyone can learn from what others have experienced.

## **Contact Information E-mail and Postal**

### **NY Chapter Contact info**

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NY SW Chapter 8th AFHS President  
Chapters/Units/Groups Liaison &  
Board Member for the 8th AFHS  
[fxe84@optonline.net](mailto:fxe84@optonline.net)

### ***National Web site***

[www.8thafhs.org](http://www.8thafhs.org)

### ***NY Chapter BLOG***

<http://blogs.ny8thswcafhs.org>

### ***Oregon Chapter 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS***

If you wish to be removed from the e-mail list please let us know.

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