

Oregon Chapter 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society  
*History News for September 2017*



**History News → Readers, where's your story?**

*Oregon 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS Chapter News and how to share YOUR history with others through our 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS Chapter is on the last page.*

## **Changes in the Wild Blue Yonder**

The USA relies on the US Air Force for over 80% of all political and military objectives. Technology changes are coming that alters the planes in the air strategy that the US has centrally relied upon since 1953.

[http://www.timesenterprise.com/opinion/columns/the-wild-blue-yonder-ain-t-what-it-used-to/article\\_c6659295-c4bd-5379-b18f-b120cc4b39c3.html](http://www.timesenterprise.com/opinion/columns/the-wild-blue-yonder-ain-t-what-it-used-to/article_c6659295-c4bd-5379-b18f-b120cc4b39c3.html)

## **The 1941 Tank Battle Most Never Heard About**

June / July of 1941 was filled with tank battles in the USSR – but the battle in the Ukraine was a two week long battle that is often overlooked due to the length and the type of tanks involved.

“The actual pre-war strength of the five Soviet mechanized corps consisted of roughly 3,140 tanks. Even allowing for a large percentage of non-combat losses during the approach to battle, these numbers still dwarfed the approximately 618 tanks that were available to the German commander.”

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/1941-russia-nazi-germany-proved-how-horrific-the-eastern-21771>

## **The Rainbow Division of WW I**

Just like in the Spanish American War there were only enough regular Army troops to create a single field division, which in WW I was around 16,000 total troops. So the US picked enough National Guard units from every state in the Union to create a full Army Division. National Guard Units were transformed from a State Militia controlled force as a result of the Spanish American War. Thus an Army Division, the 42<sup>nd</sup> “Rainbow” Division was created.

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/story/news/local/dispatch/2017/08/06/honoring-world-war-is-finest-rainbow-division/469270001/>

## **Aircraft Dispatcher Elaine Ooley**

Women were encouraged to join during WW II in order to free up men for combat – and stateside technical administrative duties is where lots of women ended up.

[http://www.daily-journal.com/news/local/year-old-recalls-her-part-in-world-war-ii/article\\_93245aa1-9edc-5779-97f7-00db16e67955.html](http://www.daily-journal.com/news/local/year-old-recalls-her-part-in-world-war-ii/article_93245aa1-9edc-5779-97f7-00db16e67955.html)

## **Visiting Kennedy Island in the Solomons**

Not its real name, but that is how everyone knows it who lives nearby now.

<http://www.dailynews.com/article/LA/20170807/NEWS/170809572>

Original actor Haruo Nakajima who played Godzilla Dead at 88 but - Godzilla Lives on "Nakajima played Godzilla in the 1954 original and 11 subsequent films, donning the suit that he said weighed about 220 pounds and wreaking havoc on model cities and rival monsters."

He got his break by playing a pilot jumping out of a burning WW II action movie.

<http://www.npr.org/2017/08/08/542198902/haruo-nakajima-the-original-godzilla-actor-dies>

## **WW I in the Middle East – 1916 – 1918**

Lawrence of Arabia is the most remembered – but his forces were really about removing Ottoman Rule and becoming self-governing than actually helping the Allies.

<http://www.forces.net/news/army/lawrence-arabia-dangers-war-and-desert>

## **Four years in Combat – A Soviet Army Officer's Memoir**

At 16 Boris Bogachev wanted to join the USSR Army as soon as war began on June 22, 1941; but he had to wait till he turned 17 in December before he could join. He fought on the front lines throughout the whole war.

<http://www.mydaytondailynews.com/entertainment/books--literature/was-miracle-that-this-soldier-survived-wwii/9B1ZxIU9EId79FM2nl9LpO/>

## **Hunting for Missing B-17 Crewmen - 80 Plus Years Later**

Bailing out over Germany on April 10, 1945 4 crewmen were captured and liberated the next day – 4 were never found. Enrico Schwartz heard about it and started to investigate why they were never found.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/08/16/search-missing-world-war-ii-soldier-died-his-mom-now-theres-new-clue-and-hope/548579001/>

## **Why knowing how to Swim in a Training Mission over Land Can Save your Life**

There were over aircraft 12,000 training accidents in the USA during WW II – this is just one of them with a good outcome.

<http://www.aerotechnews.com/blog/2017/08/18/high-desert-hangar-stories-with-bob-alvis-36/>

## **The Spy Who Delivered Peenemunde to the Allies**

Jeannie Rousseau de Clarens was working in Paris as a translator for businesses that had contracts with German companies doing work in WW II France – but she was really a spy for the French who passed her information onto England.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/29/world/europe/jeannie-rousseau-de-clarens-dead-french-spy-in-world-war-ii.html>

## **1200 Re-Create the Battle of Borodino**

Though Russian lost the battle, it so delayed Napoleon that he was forced to change his goals – thus left Moscow instead of wintering there.

<https://www.rt.com/in-motion/401991-borodino-battle-anniversary-event/>

## **The 5 Month War of 1898**

Not many statues commemorate the Spanish-American War

<http://www.toledoblade.com/memories/2017/08/28/Monday-Memories-Recognition-of-service-in-Spanish-American-War.html>

## **Soldier Gets a Headstone after 55 years**

Some things you never think about and Boer war, WW I soldier Sharrad Gilbert was one of those. The citizens of Burbage corrected that.

<http://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/local-news/historians-discover-tale-forgotten-soldier-424284>

## **A P-47 Dottie-Mae Takes to the air – Again**

Recovered from an Austrian lake – it is again flight worthy.

[http://www.idahopress.com/news/local/ww-ii-aircraft-restored-in-caldwell/article\\_d308c596-06c7-5c0d-8a86-a603f686f6fe.html](http://www.idahopress.com/news/local/ww-ii-aircraft-restored-in-caldwell/article_d308c596-06c7-5c0d-8a86-a603f686f6fe.html)

## **Complete set of Mosquito Drawings Discovered**

They were found just before the building was to be demolished – all 20,000 drawings.

<http://www.history.com/news/newly-discovered-blueprints-may-allow-legendary-wwii-plane-to-fly-again>

## **August 1942 – First Ground Offensive against the Japanese: Guadalcanal**

It took 6 months before the battle was won.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/retropolis/wp/2017/08/07/the-savage-fight-for-guadalcanal-jungle-crocodiles-and-snipers-during-world-war-ii/?utm\\_term=.0658bf064d05](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/retropolis/wp/2017/08/07/the-savage-fight-for-guadalcanal-jungle-crocodiles-and-snipers-during-world-war-ii/?utm_term=.0658bf064d05)

## **How do Auto-Pilots work?**

The first practical use was in the B-17 – it only held the wings level, the pilot had to control yaw and altitude.

<https://www.cntraveler.com/story/how-autopilot-on-planes-works>

## **George Spencer “Spanky” Roberts Inducted to Aviation Hall of Fame**

During World War II, Roberts led both the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Group in over than 100 combat missions against Italy , Germany, Hungary, Bulgaria fighter planes.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/news-kanawha-county/20170810/ww-tuskegee-airmen-leader-inducted-into-state-aviation-hall-of-fame>

## **338,000 Got away but 40,000 never left Dunkirk**

"Dear Sir or Madam 4616484 (PSM) Douglas Arnold Harpin (Duke of Wellington's Regiment) was posted as 'missing' " – but really was a POW.

<http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/huddersfield-soldier-who-experienced-aftermath-13424895>

## **The USS Hornet Gets a New Aircraft**

The F4F wildcat gets back on Board in Alameda.

<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/08/23/restored-world-war-ii-fighter-plane-unveiled-at-uss-hornet/>

## **Next General Membership Meeting for Oregon 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS is November 4, 2017**

*Remaining Meeting Dates in 2017 is November 4<sup>h</sup>*

**PROGRAM: TBA**

## ***Food for the Meeting YOU MUST CALL IN***

The food menu is a hot type meal will be available at the Beaverton Elks lodge. ***YOU MUST CALL*** in by ***November 1*** if you are planning to eat - contact Tom Philo via email at [secretary@8thafhsoregon.com](mailto:secretary@8thafhsoregon.com) or phone him at 503-591-3227 – again ***ONLY*** if you are planning to purchase a meal.

3464 SW 106th Ave  
Beaverton, OR 97005

<http://beavertonelks.org/>

*There is no cost to attend the meeting and it is open to the public*

## ***Oregon Chapter Executive Board Meetings***

All members can attend any Executive board meeting. The Board meets at the Elks Lodge three Saturdays before the regular membership meeting. If you can spare up to 2 hours between 10 AM and Noon you can also join the board and help make our chapter a continuing success.

## ***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.

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

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

Secretary 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS of Oregon

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