

"Oregon Chapter 8th Air Force Historical Society *History News for July 2020*



History News → Readers, where's your story?
Oregon 8th AFHS Chapter News and how to share YOUR history with others through our 8th AFHS Chapter is on the last page.

This "Milk Run" is way late since I spent most of the year moving from Oregon to Florida. However, now that I am here, 2030 miles from Beaverton Oregon in St Cloud Florida, I am going though and creating all the missing Milk Runs. I never stopped collecting articles. So, until I catch up, every few weeks another issue will come to your email box till I publish the in same month. Tom Philo your editor.

WTO Taxes Americans to Protect Europe

WTO has authorized the European Union to impose up to \$3.99b in annual tariffs on goods being imported from US, including BOEING aircraft. This penalty is due to the Obama Administration not taking action during the 8 years they were in office.

https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news20_e/353arb_e.htm?NL=SPD-01&Issue=SPD-01_20201019_SPD-01_492&sfvc4enews=42&cl=article_1

Modern USAAF Pilots Flying The P-51

To give them a real feel of combat flying – not a push-button electronic display at 50 miles - new USAAF pilots get to fly in the CAF North American P-51 Mustang.

<https://commemorativeairforce.org/news/caf-p-51-mustang-at-eglin-afb-working-with-the-united-states-air-force-test-pilot-school>

PW Prince Harry Bows to His Wife

After marrying a WOKE Megan Markle she has now pressured Harry to stop using guns and the British Royal Pastime of nearly 1300 years of hunting is gone for him. Harry is a member of the military, he served in Afghanistan, and part of hunting is knowing the animal being hunted and how to preserve and protect them from being OVER hunted. She dislikes guns – except those weapons her security detail carries to protect her.

<https://www.thetruthaboutguns.com/prince-harry-to-stop-hunting-shooting-to-please-his-sjw-wife/>

The British 6 Pounder AT Gun

Designed to replace the 2 Pounder – 40mm diameter bore – which they discovered that the new tanks being built were almost immune from it – had to be replaced. Lead time from design to fielding was between 3 to 5 years for a new weapon in the 1930s. The new AT gun was a 43-caliber eapon, meaning the bore's length was 43 times its diameter of 57mm. The weapon could traverse 45 degrees to either side and elevate from minus five to plus 15 degrees.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/dead-panzer-why-six-pounder-was-such-good-anti-tank-artillery-piece-147156>

The Doolittle Raid – Spying, Deceptions and No Questions Asked

Most people know of the actual raid and the results and aftermath of the crews – but the facts before the raid, the plane that landed in the USSR – and other seldom heard – or researched – are now coming to light - maybe.

<https://warfarehistorynetwork.com/2018/12/28/4-unsolved-mysteries-of-jimmy-doolittle-raid-on-tokyo/>

Black Soldiers in the Civil War – For the Confederates

There have been a few movies about the Blacks Soldiers of the North who fought in separate regiments – under white officers but you do not hear about the blacks who fought for the Confederacy. They certainly did not fight to keep slavery.

“ The number varies according to which historians you read, but either 43 or 45 slaves joined [General Naathan]Forrest. About 25 served as teamsters and tended to the horses, but 20 reportedly took up arms and fought alongside Forrest in battle, including at the infamous Battle at Fort Pillow. With the exception of one deserter, all the blacks who joined Forrest stayed with him throughout the war.”

“When Nelson died in 1934, he had a military procession and his coffin was draped with a Confederate flag.”

https://www.timesnews.net/living/features/were-black-confederate-soldiers-real-or-postwar-propaganda/article_cbcfbcc-cc19-5f3b-b8b7-8d62f4883e59.html

Re-Enacting the Boer War – In America

Re-Enactors of famous battles have been around since Roman times. Modern re-enactors have been around since the early 1900s. In the US some of the real participants of the war re-enacted the battles in the USA.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/war-minus-the-killing-usually-frank-mcnally-on-the-strange-world-of-military-re-enactments-now-also-on-ceasefire-1.4235347>

Michigan Soldiers in the Spanish-American War

Militia were real before the Spanish-American War. The states owned them, people joined, then they transferred to the US Federal Government, and got shipped off.

“Michigan's 31st-35th regiments during the war -- some of whom never left the U.S. -- suffered 182 casualties due to sickness. Just two were killed in action, one later died of his wounds and one drowned.”

<https://www.detroitnews.com/picture-gallery/news/local/michigan-history/2020/04/19/michigan-troops-and-spanish-american-war/4797319002/>

The WW II XP-55 Fighter

A flying wing before its time. With a jet Engine and computer controls it would have worked.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/xp-55-ascender-was-one-weird-looking-world-war-ii-plane-150436>

A Republic P-47 Rosie

Starting in 1942 women started showing up in all sorts of manufacturing jobs. The most visible were the women working on aircraft. Three sisters worked at Republic Aviation plant on Long Island.

<https://www.newsday.com/news/health/coronavirus/obituaries/josephine-rachiele-obituary-1.44281545>

How 2 Commanders and their Attitudes Toward Tactics Can Cost Those Fighting Dearly

Every commander can affect the outcome by what they were taught and what their orders to their soldiers were before any engagement. This is true from arrow and spear throwing days to modern combat. How the 8th AF Fighter and Bomber Commands lost crews and airplanes was a results of these facts.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/bad-theories-bad-results-how-two-men-cost-many-air-force-pilots-their-lives-over-nazi>

Getting a VC 79 years after the Action

Like the us MOH, most are awarded after the person was killed in action. Also like what happens with the US MOH, people have to witness it, survive, and write up a report and submit it for approval. If none of that happens then no award. A Tasmanian Sailor never got written up for his. A Defence Honours and Awards Tribunal held hearings in Hobart in March last year [2019] to reconsider whether Sheean should be awarded Australia's top wartime honour.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-05-02/federal-government-told-to-release-war-hero-teddy-sheean-report/12206232>

Flamethrowers of the Wehrmacht

Invented before WW I by a German scientist and first used in 1915. WW II saw widespread use of them. German use was mainly on the Eastern Front and the US in the Pacific – though the US did use them everywhere priority went to the Pacific.

<https://warfarehistorynetwork.com/2018/12/17/wwii-weapons-flamethrowers-of-the-wehrmacht/>

Panzer Lehr and General Bayerlein

Adolf Hitter liked forming new units instead of having personnel fill out existing formations. Thus it would take often a year for a new unit to be ready to be fully trained to fight whereas if those personnel has been sent as replacements to existing units they would, after a few weeks of inhouse training, be fully operational and useful in their new unit. Panzer Lehr Division was one such unit created from scratch then sent into combat.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/not-even-elite-panzer-lehr-division-could-save-nazi-germanys-final-stand-europe-148281>

Economics of WW II

A free new eBook [PDF] you can read and learn about how the war was financed and paid for.

“ This eBook brings together recent research on a range of aspects of the war including the extensive war preparations of the great powers; the conduct of the war (including the management of economic mobilization, economic warfare, economic exploitation, and the role of economists); and the war’s consequences ”

<https://voxeu.org/content/new-ebook-economics-second-world-war-seventy-five-years>

U-853 The Last U-Boat Sunk

Sunk on May 5, 1945 after sinking two US ships, it is not known if the CO of the ship heard the recall order on May 4th to stop all combat.

<https://www.providencejournal.com/news/20200430/world-war-ii-was-almost-over-but-off-ri-german-submarine-commander-continued-to-prowl-result-75-years-ago-was-battle-of-point-judith>

COVID-19 Gives Opportunities to Tyrants

Not just in the USA, now Canada tyrants are using the fear and panic to trample on rights. By using the created panic to push laws which people cannot even assemble to protest against.

<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/487593-trudeau-canada-weapons-ban-1776/>

Knocked Down But Not Out

Unlike some memorials being purposely destroyed or knocked over, in the US and now also in the UK, this Boer War Memorial was damaged due to truck driver who had too many beers at work back in the 50s. Now It was moved to where no wayward trucks can get to it.

<https://the-riotact.com/its-been-knocked-down-but-boer-war-memorial-stands-test-of-time/373222>

The UK Takes Graffiti against Monuments Seriously

A person got a year in jail for defacing a monument in Leicester, England. In Portland Oregon, you do that you get a new case of spray paint and a commendation letter from the District Attorney saying that he is proud of you and that you will never be charged.

<https://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/leicester-news/man-daubs-offensive-graffiti-across-4105108>

Some Plans Never Pan Out Years Later

Building a ship is a long-term planning practice. You see what is current, see what the other navies are doing – or think what they are doing – then build a ship and 4 or 5 years later you get to use it. Only then do you know if your planning was right or not. Two British cruisers fell into this trap.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/these-british-cruisers-were-built-counter-russian-sailboat-heres-why-151091>

The US White House and the Leinster House in Ireland

Both designed by the same person, Hoban. The US White house though has been rebuilt and changed over the last 200 years.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/letters/the-white-house-and-leinster-house-1.4249689>

COVID-19 China Flu Benefit – Finding Things in your Attic

Forced to stay at home people have gotten to those projects that have been on the “back burner” for years. This man went and organized his attic – and found WW I Posters he never knew were there.

<https://highlandscurrent.org/2020/05/09/attic-yields-world-war-i-treasures/>

Scars of Battle in Modern Berlin

The 60 days battle to take Berlin by the Russians, let alone the firebombing of the city by the British for two years, destroyed over 1/3 of the buildings in the city and left almost all the rest with scars.

Like going to Pearl Harbor and going through the hanger museum if you look at the doors you can see the 20mm and 7.7 mm holes left in them from December 7, 1941.

<https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/politics/75-years-since-the-end-of-the-war-memorial-sites-in-berlin-second-world-war>

China’s New “Boxers”

The 1900 China Boxer Rebellion was an attempt, encouraged by the Emperor, to kick out all the foreigners in China. Modern day China has much more control and ability to create a Boxer like environment against foreigners.

<https://www.city-journal.org/coronavirus-chinese-communist-party-xenophobia>

70 Years of CCP China

The USA helped China against the Japanese during WW II. During this time the Communists fled to inland isolation and waited till the war was over before attacking the KMT government of Chiang Kai-Shek who had demobilized most of the Army in 1945. After 8 years of warfare, most of the troops were tired and were not enthused to fight other Chinese based on vague warnings about what Communism really meant.

<http://hnn.us/article/175392>

Solving A Photo Mystery

Sometimes it takes years to figure out when a photo was taken and for what reason.

<https://www.galesburg.com/news/20200506/jeff-rankin-mystery-solved-two-early-photos-taken-during-1908-home-coming>

National WW I Museum in Kansas City

At most people alive know that we fought in WW I, and even with Veterans Day holiday most people do not know why it is even on the day it is – real history is not taught in schools anymore. But the US does have a National Museum for it. People have been transcribing letters to show what it was really like.

https://independenttribune.com/news/at-world-war-i-museum-a-mission-to-preserve-troops-stories/article_9c710d73-acc5-5c7f-876c-3d7f45f15efd.html

WW II Museum in New Orleans

Uniforms have been worn to help identify who is who and until the First World War most did not think about, or was a need, to hide from the enemy. Ships also had to hide from the eyes of the enemy and paint patterns were used to fool the eyes. "Haze Grey and Underway". 1 hour video of how the US painted their ships in WW II. <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/about-us/notes-museum/deceptively-colorful-us-navy-camouflage-during-world-war-ii>

American Air Museum at Duxford England

Based at the RAF/American WW I / WW II base in England, it is dedicated to the US military aircraft. I've been a member of it since before it opened in 1997. As a member there is no entrance fee. You can always email them at members@aamb.us www.americanairmuseum.com

D-Day P-47 Pilot Confirmed Dead and Returned

The POW/MIA branch through DNA confirmed his remains from where he was shot down on D-Day behind Omaha Beach. In 2018, the U.S. military partnered with forensic archaeology students from Nova Scotia to excavate the site in Normandy. <https://www.startribune.com/mia-minnesota-war-hero-accounted-for-75-years-after-d-day/570667112/>

In 1900 President McKinley Gave a Speech

He went to the Antietam Battlefield and gave a short 358-word speech. The battlefield is less than 30 miles from DC but he had been there before – in 1862 as a Sergeant in the battle. <https://www.tribtoday.com/news/local-news/2020/05/president-mckinley-gives-the-antietam-address-in-1900/>

Top Turret Gunner Jack Flynn – Miracle Escape from His B-17

There are a few crew members in a B-17 that do not wear parachutes during combat: Top Turret Gunner, Ball Turret Gunner, and the Tail Gunner. All others can have their attached to them all the time. This means once the Bail-Out Alarm is done each of those crew members have to find their chute, attach it, then get to an escape hatch or the bomb-bay to get out. <https://www.worldwars.com/amazing-story-american-top-turret-gunner-b-17-bomber/>

Wreck of a Beaufighter On a British Beach

Ditching after a dual engine failure after takeoff it was just left on the beach and covered by sand since 1944. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/29/europe/aircraft-beach-england-world-war-scli-intl-gbr/index.html>

Aviation Art of Robert Taylor

Capturing all aspects of an airplane on the ground, air or in combat, historically accurate, is very hard. Artist Robert Taylor has done it all. I have a half dozen of his prints. <https://metroairportnews.com/aviation-art-the-prodigious-art-of-robert-taylor/>

One of the Few – A Japanese American Flying Combat in the USAAF

Ben Kuroki was the only American Nisei who got to fly combat in the ETO and in the PTO.

“When you live with men under combat conditions for 15 months, you begin to understand what brotherhood is all about, what equality and tolerance really mean,” he said.

https://lexch.com/news/gothenburg-native-survived-30-bombing-missions-overcame-war-department-rules-to-fly-in-b-29/article_6353ac10-a1c2-11ea-84ed-2f122efd04bc.html

Long Haul Flight of a B-1B Over the Pacific

Alaska was invaded by the Japanese during WW II and as a result a large network of airbases, roads (The AlCan), and ports were constructed. They are still there. Two of the largest was Elmendorf, Eilsen, and Wainwright. They are still there hosting both Army, and USAF units.

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/33637/b-1b-bomber-made-bold-flight-into-the-sea-of-okhotsk-that-is-surrounded-by-russian-territory>

Reporting War

News of battles has always been of important. A Marathon is done because of a battle. The printing press allowed news reporting but the real modern style of reporting started in the Russo-Japanese war with the advent of easy photograh, modern radio and telegraph communications.

<https://www.popmatters.com/journalism-and-the-russo-japanese-war-2645964720.html?rebellitem=4#rebellitem4>

A Casualty of the Little Known Abyssinian Campaign in WW II

When people hear about WW II battle in Africa they think of just the North Afrika battles – but there were other battlefields than Libya.

<https://northernnatalnews.co.za/196499/buried-side-by-side-up-on-a-mountain>

1st Printing Newspaper Copy of the Star Spangled Banner on Auction Block

Published in The Baltimore Patriot & Evening Advertiser on September 20, 1814 it one of only 2 copies of that is known to exist.

<https://www.wbur.org/artery/2020/06/02/first-printing-of-the-star-spangled-banner-goes-to-auction-at-a-fraught-time>

Digitizing WW I Burial Records

A research project about his relative turns into project to make it easier for others.

<https://triblive.com/news/world/north-huntingdon-historian-seeks-volunteers-to-help-digitize-world-war-i-burial-records/>

8th AFHS National Online Virtual Presentations / Programs

Varies as to what day and time, multiple VPs per month.

Next VM: October 22 subject:

Target for Today

Thursday, October 22 at 2pm ET

on Facebook LIVE or ZOOM Webinar

You DO NOT need a Facebook account to watch!

Please click on the link button below or go to

<https://www.facebook.com/mighty8thmuseum/>

at 2pm ET on Thursday, October 22.

Oregon Chapter 8th AFHS;

Next Chapter Meeting: **UNKNOWN**

Doors open at 10 AM at the

Beaverton Elks Lodge

3464 SW 106th Ave

Beaverton, Oregon 97005-1941

<http://www.beavertonelks.org/>

Take Highway 8 - aka Canyon Road, to get to 106th Avenue. 106th is on the north side of Canyon road. The entrance to the club is ¼ mile down the road on the right – a very small sign points to the entrance.

Archivist 8th AFHS of Oregon

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The Oregon Chapter is a registered Non-Profit 503(c) with the IRS and within the State of Oregon.

The Oregon 8thAFHS maintains a person on the club roster for up to one year even if they had not renewed, or if the original member is deceased their next of kin will continue to receive all club mailings, before they are removed them from the club roster.

If a person wishes to receive the club mailed newsletter and meeting notice they need to submit the membership form along with the yearly \$15.00 dues (pro-rated if necessary) to become a member of the chapter.

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