

Oregon Chapter 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society  
*History News for August 2014*



**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.*

## **Lindberg's Cockpit**

The San Diego museum in Balboa Park has a replica of the "Spirit of St. Louis" and next to it a full size copy of just the cockpit.

And 9 minute video of the flight

<http://www.airportappraisals.com/contact/>

Click on "CONTACT" in the left menu, select Video #1, through #4 (each time going back to "contact" and selecting the next one).

## **Want to see Aviation News from 1942 And Other Years?**

Flight Global have their Magazines Online.

<http://www.flightglobal.com/pdfarchive/view/1942/1942%20-%200046.html>

## **WW I started on 28 July 1914**

Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria-Hungary authorizes war on Serbia after delivering an ultimatum to the Serbian foreign ministry on July 23. This was prompted by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria the month before in Sarajevo. The ultimatum wanted Serbia to agree to:

- Accept an Austro-Hungarian inquiry into the assassination
- Suppress all anti-Austrian propaganda
- Eliminate terrorist (i.e: anti Austro-Hungarian) organizations within its borders

<http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/austria-hungary-issues-ultimatum-to-serbia>

## **All Quiet on the French Front**

Sylvie Kauffmann had relatives who died very early in the war and this column reflects how the attitude of the French, overall, have changed since the end of WWI.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/30/opinion/sylvie-kauffmann-france-remembers-world-war-1.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/30/opinion/sylvie-kauffmann-france-remembers-world-war-1.html?_r=0)

## Museum of the Great Patriotic War Opens

Located in Minsk, this new museum opened on July 3, 2014. Admittance: 40,000 rubles.

<http://www.tvr.by/eng/news.asp?id=23259&cid=16>

## A Short History of the T-34 Tank

The Russian designed T-34 tank of WW II fame is arguably the best and most influential tank of WW II. Based on when it was designed, entered combat, and how long it was in front line service, it still performed well even in the 1950s, earns it that distinction.

“The tank evolved from the light Soviet BT (bystrokhodny tank/high-speed tank) of the 1930s, which had been derived from the American M1931 Christie tank. First brought to the Soviet Union as a turret-less example under the designation of “farm tractor”, the Christie and subsequent Spanish variants provided a basis for Soviet designer Mikhail Koshkin.”

“The T-34 reportedly saw action in 2014 too, when pro-Russia fighters in eastern Ukraine removed at least one display example from its pedestal, and after a quick overhaul took it into combat once more.”

[http://in.rbth.com/economics/2014/07/09/at\\_80\\_t-34\\_remains\\_formidable\\_tank\\_36551.html](http://in.rbth.com/economics/2014/07/09/at_80_t-34_remains_formidable_tank_36551.html)

## PTSD In Russia – 1500 Through Modern Times

A very long article concerning Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) on a *society* as a whole but concerning soldiers and PTSD - AKA Shell Shock, Combat Fatigue - are these paragraphs concerning the Russian Army of WW II is this:

“During the World War Two the Russian Psychologist Alexander Romanovich Luria intensively studied the impacts of traumatic brain injuries. Between 1939-1945, Luria was in charge of a base neurosurgical hospital in the village of Kisegach in the South Urals, which enabled him to obtain an enormous collection of data that was later used in the development of the theory and practice of Russian neuropsychology (Kostyanaya, 2013). Indisputably Alexander Luria may have seen some of the PTSD reactions (known as the Combat Fatigue during the WW2 in the Western medical literature) of the Red Army soldiers. According to the Red Army WW2 records a large number of soldiers with combat stress reactions were punished for cowardice. A significant number of Russian soldiers faced death squads or sent to Shtrafnoi (penalty) Battalion units where they had to fight without ranks under the NKVD guards. Most of the combatants of the Shtrafnoi Battalions never returned home.

Bolshevik ideology was going to affect the entire Soviet society including military psychiatry, which started to use its jargon. The words of the psychiatrist Osipov in 1934 are quoted by Wanke: “Above all, the mental faculties of the soldier of the Red Army, his political consciousness of a sustainable class will allow him to triumph over

psychotic reactions". Even though in 1941 psychiatric departments appeared in hospitals, Stalin's purges restricted the organisational development of the psychiatric system in Russia. It is in this context that the topic of individual trauma disappeared from public debate in the Soviet Union. Although the 1930s saw famine, purges, followed by the Great Patriotic War, during which the "panekers" or broadcasters of panic were shot, pain and emotions had no place in this new model of society; the return of the war left no room for anything else but the heroism of tales of war and patriotic songs the only authorized events. Personal weakness was banished. No opportunity whatsoever to complain about individual suffering, no victimization was possible (Kozlowski, 2013).

From the WW1 to the Soviet Afghan War (1979- 1989) the Soviet Officials never published data about traumatic combat reactions that were experienced by the Soviet soldiers. Equally the officials did not provide any data related to the psychological casualties of the Stalinist repression. As indicated by Healey (2014) in Russia, physicians specializing in medicine of the mind had to cope with rapid and radical changes of legal and institutional forms, and sometimes, of the state itself. The abuses of Soviet psychiatry under Stalin and more intensively after his death in the 1960s–80s remain under-researched and key archives are still classified (Healey, 2014)."

<http://www.lankaweb.com/news/items/2014/08/03/ptsd-in-the-soviet-union/>

## **10 facts about WW I's Eastern Front**

In the West the front remained static for almost 4 years, but the battles in the East were ones of massive land capture and re-taking over the whole 4 years of war.

<http://www.historyextra.com/feature/first-world-war/10-things-you-probably-didnt-know-about-bloody-eastern-front-1914>

## **"Marching Into Darkness: The Wehrmacht and the Holocaust in Belarus"**

A new book history professor Waitman Wade Beorn of the University of Nebraska takes a close look at the first year of war in Belarus and how the German military, at the lowest levels of command, did or did participate in the roundup of Jews living in that country, were often the result of the company commander of combat unit.

[http://www.omaha.com/living/book-review-marching-into-darkness-a-uno-professor-s-book/article\\_6d9530e5-573c-51d7-adfc-96db808887ce.html](http://www.omaha.com/living/book-review-marching-into-darkness-a-uno-professor-s-book/article_6d9530e5-573c-51d7-adfc-96db808887ce.html)

## **Rommel In America – or Not**

Long rumored, but never verified, is that Field Marshall Rommel came to the USA and toured the Civil War Battlefields – of cavalry actions of Confederate General Bedford Forrest.

<http://hottytoddy.com/2014/07/21/second-guessing-the-past-the-desert-fox-and-mississippi/>

## **442 RCT – Capturing a Sub**

The most decorated unit of all time, in total numbers of awards presented to a unit compared to the number of people assigned to it, the Nisei unit participated in 8 campaigns during WW II. A WW II US regiment usually consisted of 3 Battalions of 600 men. The 442 RCT had only 2 battalions but were awarded 9,486 Purple Hearts. 21 Nisei were awarded the Medal of Honor.

“Journey of Heroes: the Story of the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team” by Stacey T. Hayashito.

[http://www.newsminer.com/news/local\\_news/fairbanks-history-buff-shines-a-light-on-wwii-japanese-american/article\\_e333b5c8-1c54-11e4-91ae-0017a43b2370.html](http://www.newsminer.com/news/local_news/fairbanks-history-buff-shines-a-light-on-wwii-japanese-american/article_e333b5c8-1c54-11e4-91ae-0017a43b2370.html)

## **Under the Doodlebug**

How from the WW I Zeppelin raids, the Gotha Bombers, and then Spanish civil war influenced and created the event where a child who survived a V1 (Fi-103) in a backyard London shelter affects people for a long time.

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/08/03/children-under-fire-will-never-forget-or-forgive.html>

## **A Screaming Eagle Then a POW**

An account of his military career in the 101<sup>st</sup> written by Robert D Reeves. Of interest is one paragraph where he recounts how to recover a glider out of a field by a cargo / bomber snagging it and returning it to England. “The system worked in theory better than practice however. I witnessed a large British bomber attempt to snatch an English Horsa glider from the ground, but when the Horsa proved to be too heavy, the bomber belly flopped and crashed.”

<http://www.lp-net.com/pow/default2.htm>

## **WW I Purposely Forgotten During the Soviet Era**

A war that is lost is often not honored by those who lost it – and the Soviet Union purposefully did not create monuments to a war it had not participated in and pay homage to a past government which people would then remember - fondly.

An article by Professor Sergey Mironenko, a Chair of Russia's history of XIX - early XX century from Lomonosov Moscow State University.

“The Bolshevik coup was the direct result of the change and hardship wrought by WWI. If war had not broken out, world history would have followed a completely different course. But history does not have subjunctive mood.”

[http://en.ria.ru/forgotten\\_war\\_opinion/20140813/191981226/World-War-I-Eradicated-From-Public-Memory-by-Bolshevik.html](http://en.ria.ru/forgotten_war_opinion/20140813/191981226/World-War-I-Eradicated-From-Public-Memory-by-Bolshevik.html)

## **American WW I Commissioned Artists – May see Light of Day**

Over 700 pieces of art were created for the US Government during World War I in France, but most have never been seen by anyone other than the person who put them away in 1929.

The collection has been digitized – it is still locked away – but now can be viewed and downloaded online.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/remembering-americas-official-artists-war-180952321/?no-ist>

## **Germany in Palestine During WW I**

People forget that there were German military units in the Middle East and Africa during WW I. They also forget that many people in most of the countries that now exist in the region, were deported from one area to another over the 4 year conflict with tens of thousands of them dying of disease and starvation due to the war – including one half of the Jewish population in Palestine. They were saved from being all killed by Germany.

<http://forward.com/articles/203403/did-germany-help-save-palestine-s-jews-during-wo/?p=all>

## **Museum to Honor 60 Plane Russian P-39 Ace Grigori Rechkalov**

Plans are to build a museum dedicated to his exploits during the war.

<http://yekaterinburgnews.com/daily-news/museum-dedicated-to-soviet-pilot-grigori-rechkalov-to-open-in-zaikova/10156/>

## Letters from WW I Russian Soldiers

Stopped from being delivered due to military censorship, they are preserved in the Russian State Military Historical Archive.

[http://rbth.com/arts/2014/08/10/the\\_forgotten\\_war\\_100\\_years\\_on\\_wwi\\_in\\_the\\_letters\\_of\\_russian\\_soldiers\\_38779.html](http://rbth.com/arts/2014/08/10/the_forgotten_war_100_years_on_wwi_in_the_letters_of_russian_soldiers_38779.html)

## Myths about Myths of WW I

John T. Kuehn dispels some of the myths of WW I often repeated by really bad armchair historians.

<http://warontherocks.com/2014/08/the-great-war-myths-about-myths/>

## Hooves On The Ground

Q: I have heard the position of a horse's legs in an equestrian statue of a fallen soldier tells how he died. Is there any truth to this? — C.G., Bethesda, Maryland

A: The quick answer is no. According to the urban legend, if the horse is rearing, the rider died in battle; one leg up means the rider was wounded in battle or died of battle wounds; and if all four hooves are on the ground, the rider died outside battle. I'm told this was created to be the guide for monuments at Gettysburg National Military Park, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, but there are several exceptions to the rule.

## Riding the B-24J *Gallop* Ghost to Regensburg, Germany – One Way

Paul R. Drury was a waist gunner on this B-24 out of Mandurin Italy before he was shot down on February 22, 1944.

[http://www.publicopiniononline.com/veterans/ci\\_26315751/wwii-veteran-wrote-experiences-before-he-died](http://www.publicopiniononline.com/veterans/ci_26315751/wwii-veteran-wrote-experiences-before-he-died)

## How B-17s Were Purchased and Brought to Israel in 1947

The US was not always an ally of Israel. During their 1947, 1956 wars no US military aid was delivered – and all military aid was actively blocked – by the USA. 1962 was the first year Israel was allowed to buy US military equipment.

Three B-17s however, did avoid the military embargo of the US and make it to Israel and bombed Cairo in 1948 escorted by Czech Built BF 109s.

<http://theaviationist.com/2014/07/22/how-israel-got-the-b-17/>

## **1st Lts. William Bernier and Bryant Poulsen Identified through DNA**

Shot down by anti-aircraft fire over Madang, Papua New Guinea, their B-24 bomber "Hot Garters" was discovered a few years ago and their remains positively identified.

<http://www.usnews.com/news/us/articles/2014/08/07/remains-of-airmen-missing-since-wwii-accounted-for>

## **SOS John Kerry in Guadalcanal**

On August 7, 1942 the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division invaded Guadalcanal – three days later the Navy left, with only half the ships unloaded, and for the next three months a bitter battle was fought between the Springfield 1903 bolt action equipped Marines against the bolt action equipped Japanese army. The edge for the Marines were the effective use of machine guns, 105 mm artillery batteries, better training in combined arms, and the Coast Watchers who warned them of the Japanese naval and aircraft operations coming down the slot.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2014/08/230571.htm>

## **Forgetting you “Lid” And shooting down a Plane**

The military trains people in tasks that seem in no relation for your job or other often obscure reasons – like never forgetting to put on your hat (helmet). Carl Clifford Wilson was often forgetting to grab his hat and this time when he went back to get it he spotted and shot down a Japanese plane about to bomb his destroyer the USS Conyngham.

[http://mdjonline.com/view/full\\_story/25493385/article-Augusta-sailor-s-actions-in-World-War-II-recalled-?instance=secondary\\_story\\_bullets\\_left\\_column](http://mdjonline.com/view/full_story/25493385/article-Augusta-sailor-s-actions-in-World-War-II-recalled-?instance=secondary_story_bullets_left_column)

## **“The Flying Horsemen” back for One Last Reunion**

The 449<sup>th</sup> BG (H) met at the Air Force Museum maybe for the last time this year – all 25 of them. The B-24 unit was part of the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force based out of Grottaglie, Italy.

[http://www.fox45now.com/shared/news/top-stories/stories/wrgt\\_vid\\_21637.shtml](http://www.fox45now.com/shared/news/top-stories/stories/wrgt_vid_21637.shtml)

## **You’re In The Calvary Now – Winter 1943**

The US used horses and mules during WW II – Especially in Italy and in the CBI. The 1<sup>st</sup> Calvary Division went to the South Pacific.

<http://www.cheyennestar.org/2014/07/16/corporal-jack-t-drake-world-war-ii-south-pacific-theater/>

## **Fighting on the Somme – Digitally**

The BBC is putting each viewer on active duty for the 1 July 1916 offensive – the first day of the Somme Offensive in WW I – as to what they would do as they fight against the Germans to stay alive and perform their duties.

The British offensive was mis-managed by the personalities of the main Generals planning the offensive and going against known tactical doctrine of rushing the enemy at dawn – they marched in long lines across 300 to 800 yards of open terrain in the mid-morning daylight 10 minutes after the artillery stopped shelling the front lines. Over 25,000 were killed and another 26,000 plus were wounded on the first day.

A great book describing this battle is Martin Middlebrooks “First Day on the Somme”.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-28793435>

## **Local Oregon-Washington News & 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS Meeting**

### **A 3<sup>rd</sup> Runway at Hillsboro Airport**

The Port Of Portland, which owns Hillsboro, & PDX, has started building a 3<sup>rd</sup> runway at Hillsboro.

<http://pamplinmedia.com/ht/117-hillsboro-tribune-news/224969-85899-construction-of-new-runway-to-start-soon>

### ***Next General Membership Meeting for Oregon 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS is November 1, 2014***

A hot type meal, for \$13, will be available at the Beaverton Elks lodge. ONLY 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.

## **Prior Programs**

- Dick Foy and Air Tanker Operations w/ WWII Aircraft
- Beauty and Brains – Women in the Military
- Converting Military a/c to Firefighting Program: Previous PROGRAMs in 2013:
- Ben “Flaps” Berry – Tuskegee Airman
- Jack Kline and the Vanport Flood
- B-29 Navigator of “Going Jesse”
- Bob Schuberg and revisiting the airfields of the 8th

All programs are videotaped and transcribed and put into our archive. You can purchase each DVD of each presentation for \$10.00.

***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.

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