

Oregon Chapter 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Historical Society  
*History News for January 2018*



**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.*

**Destruction of Monuments World Wide – Not just in the**

**USA**

Destroying or putting into permanent storage public monuments of just Southern US Civil War (1861-1865) personnel, and in some cases monuments people who once owned slaves, is not a local issue. Poland is facing critics when they remove monuments to their "Liberation" from NAZI which were created and constructed by the USSR after WW II. The USSR, however, never built monuments to honor the 150,000 known (upward to 800,00 total actual counting all variations) or so Polish citizens they killed between 1939 and 1945 – and the number killed when they "owned" Poland between 1945 and 1989.

<https://codastory.com/disinformation-crisis/rewriting-history/why-russia-is-accusing-poland-of-monumental-ingratitude>

**How Cities can Avoid the Spirit Of the Law**

And this is how in the USA cities can get around those nagging equal protection laws, like public comment and other protections to prevent dictatorship style mandates, just sell the land for a pittance to a private party who can then destroy what they now own without question.

"The city of Memphis sold two public parks containing Confederate monuments to a nonprofit Wednesday in a massive, months-in-the-planning operation to take the statues down overnight. The City Council unanimously approved the sale of Health Science Park, home of Confederate Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, and its easement on Fourth Bluff Park, home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, for \$1,000 each to Memphis Greenspace Inc. Fourth Bluff, or Memphis Park, is owned by a group called The Overton Heirs."

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/story/news/government/city/2017/12/20/memphis-council-votes-immediately-remove-confederate-statues/960707001/>

List of statues / plaques removed without public comment or approval:

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/12/21/which-confederate-statues-were-removed-running-list.html>

**Australia's WW I Submarine Finally Found**

Lost in the Pacific in September of 1914 – after 103 years of off and on searches the wreck was finally found.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/australasia/australia-submarine-first-world-war-found-vanished-missing-hmas-ae1-duke-of-york-islands-papua-new-a8122136.html>

## England Signs Defense Treaty with Poland

No this is not a news announcement of the 1939 version, but a 2017 version to protect Poland from the EU.

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/news/world/britain-poland-sign-defence-treaty-ahead-of-brexite/article/510588>

## Lieutenant Colonel Karl Garlock – PWW II -38 Pilot

There was only a single P-38 Group in the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, the 55<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, and he was assigned to that unit when he was shot down on 21 May 44 in P-38 #4267771.

<http://www.krem.com/news/local/spokane-county/spokane-world-war-ii-fighter-pilot-remembered-as-hero/501180809>

<http://www.americanairmuseum.com/person/138105>

## Entire German U-Boat Fleet in for Repairs

Well, there are only six U-Boats in the 2017 Naval Fleet of Germany, but none are working now. At one point in time during WW II, Germany had over 200 active U-Boats in service.

“To save money, the service stopped stockpiling spares for the complex systems of its subs, relying instead on either purchasing parts on demand or cannibalizing subs that were out of service—much like the US Navy has had to do as a result of budget sequestration over the past four years.”

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2017/12/das-boot-ist-kaputt-german-navy-has-zero-working-subs/>

## When L-4 Grasshoppers Ruled the Battlefield

Who “owns the Air “ was a constant administrative battle in the US Military between 1918 and 1943. The debate was settled in 1943 when it was decided that the battalion / divisional Artillery battery owned the air.

The same argument is happening again.

<https://warontherocks.com/2017/12/when-the-piper-cub-roamed-the-battlefield/>

## USS S-28 Found in Hawaiian Waters

The S-28 was lost while on a training mission. The old style pre-war sub was withdrawn from operations in 1943 after 7 war patrols – all in the Aleutians of Alaska where she sunk 1 Japanese gunboat Katsura Maru Number Two. It was then sent to Hawaii for overhaul and back again as a training vessel for new submariners which it had been assigned throughout her career since 1919 when it was launched.

<https://www.wearethemighty.com/news/a-submarine-missing-since-world-war-ii-was-just-found-off-hawaii>

## Equine Heroes of the Battlefield

WW I was a trench warfare battle in most areas – but behind the trenches there were millions of horses, mules and burros hauling military gear and personnel all over the world.

<https://www.tapinto.net/sections/horses/thinking-outside-of-the-ring/articles/learn-about-equines-that-served-in-world-war-i-on>

## **Learning From Mistakes – Naval Loss Reviews**

The US Navy does a review when a naval ship is lost as to determine if procedures or practices should be changed. One such review was done after the loss of CA-39, USS Quincy, during the Battle of Salvo Sound, and the changes were quickly implemented throughout the Navy in WW II. Another such review was done after the loss of PT-109, how engine procedures were done while on patrol and they were changed immediately after they talked to the crew.

<http://lexington.wickedlocal.com/news/20180102/lexington-presentation-planned-on-navy-cruiser-lost-in-world-war-ii>

## **Turning Helicopter Carriers into Aircraft Carriers**

One of the signature signs of an aircraft carrier are catapult launches and a very long flight deck for recovery. Modern development of STOL –Short take-off Or Landing – Aircraft like the Osprey, means that any large surfaced ship can become an aircraft carrier – like the converted ships for the British Harriers in the Falklands war. Doing so is relatively simple, but nations like Japan has laws that currently prevent that.

[http://defense-update.com/20171231\\_lhd\\_with\\_f35.html](http://defense-update.com/20171231_lhd_with_f35.html)

## **Yes, there are Hills in England**

Everything is relative. If you expect the land to be 300 feet ASL and there is a hill at 350 feet, you will hit it at night. The Cheviot Hills in the North of England peak at 2500 feet ASL (Above Sea Level). Most 8<sup>th</sup> AF bases were in East Anglia and were around 300 feet ASL. When moving around you get complacent and forget there are hills around. Mt Snowden in wales is around 3,500 feet – and there were multiple crashes on it also since crews forgot that it is really a mountain. There is a book about all WW II crashes on Mt. Snowdon.

<https://www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk/news/wooler-councillors-likely-to-back-memorial-project-1-8936044>

## **The Korean War – 67 years Long**

When North Korea invaded South Korea in June of 1950, it was not a “declared” war by any side according as modern history defines a war. And it never had a formal end of the conflict with a peace treaty either.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/01/world/asia/korean-war-history.html>

## **Book Review: Black Earth: The Holocaust as History and Warning**

An in-depth scholarly analysis of how a single driven individual, Adolf Hitler, took over a civilized nation and changed what was acceptable practices due to shrewd politics and subterfuge.

<https://www.vaildaily.com/entertainment/book-review-black-earth-the-holocaust-as-history-and-warning/>

## **The 1918-19 Influenza Pandemic**

Modern uses of the word pandemic sometimes mean as few as 100 people in the USA. The 1918-1919 “Spanish Flu” infected 25.8 MILLION people.

[http://www.washtimesherald.com/community/harold\\_allison/the---influenza-pandemic/article\\_596be421-56f7-5011-b7f4-f297b3ca4bbf.html](http://www.washtimesherald.com/community/harold_allison/the---influenza-pandemic/article_596be421-56f7-5011-b7f4-f297b3ca4bbf.html)

## **Zero Killer: Grumman F6F Hellcat**

The Mitsubishi A6M2 "Zero" was a fast, long range, highly maneuverable fighter plane from Japan at the start of WW II. Flown with highly trained pilots it could outfly any aircraft from 1940 through 1942. The agility came with some "nice to have" features removed: armor plating, self-sealing gas tanks, and sometimes even radios. With an average pilot it would just be a target shot down. The USA designed the F6F to specifically outdo the ZERO.

<http://www.wearethemighty.com/gear-tech/how-the-f6f-hellcat-became-americas-answer-to-the-japanese-zero>

## **Next General Membership Meeting for Oregon 8<sup>th</sup> AFHS is February 3, 2018**

**Annual Dues are due - \$15 can be paid at the meeting or mailed to the secretary.**

*There is no cost to attend meetings 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  
Tom Philo  
17502 SW Kimmel Ct  
Beaverton, Oregon 97007-6877  
[secretary@8thafhsoregon.com](mailto:secretary@8thafhsoregon.com)  
<http://www.8thafhsoregon.com>

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 two years 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.