



OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM
15300 SE INDUSTRIAL WAY
CAMP WITHYCOMBE
CLACKAMAS, OREGON 97015
Phone (503) 683-5359 ~ Fax (503) 683-4913

FRONT LINES

The Oregon Military Museum Monthly Report

November 4 – December 5, 2011

COMPLETED:

- We wish you and your families warm and happy holidays!
- Our new website and the general public email address are up and running – let us know what you think! In the first month, there were 726 hits. You can also find back issues of the “Curator’s Report” on the website. www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org and email: museuminfo@oregonmilitarymuseum.org.
- We are experiencing phone challenges, and we apologize for any inconvenience in contacting us within the last couple of weeks. Please email us to reach us for a prompt reply!
- There was an interesting and relevant story in the November issue of the *National Guard* magazine about the importance of National Guard museums on a national scale: <http://www.nationalguardmagazine.com/publication/?i=86368&p=36>
- We have moved the German Lange 21 centimeter (210mm) Mörser (also known as a short howitzer) to the Historical Area. It was captured in France by the American Expeditionary Force, and brought to the U.S. from Europe as a trophy of World War I. It is the largest of the World War I trophies awarded by Congress to the State of Oregon. Manufactured by the Frederick Krupp Works in Essen, Germany, it could fire a 250 pound high explosive shell to a maximum range of 12,140 yards (almost seven miles). This rifled, breech-loading mortar also fired a poison gas shell containing phosgene or yperite mustard gas. A special concrete piercing shell was used against fortifications. Many of these guns were captured during the Meuse-Argonne Battle of October 1918. Our example does show some battle damage, though we don’t know where it was captured.
- Three large stone memorials that used to be at the old Museum have also been placed and now compliment the 1911 Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn.



- We are sad to report the passing of 41st Infantry Division veteran Sidney “Si” Gorton. Si and his 41st stories will be sorely missed at the monthly 41st Band luncheons. (We are grateful to Mr. Gorton’s family for choosing the Museum as a recipient for memorial gifts.)



- A Type 41 Japanese 75mm mountain gun has been transferred to the Idaho Military History Museum. It was our third example! It came to us as a 2008 gift from Polk County, and had lived in their Parks and Rec compound for many years, so it is in sad shape. We used it for parts for the restoration of the other two, which are now completed and on display in the Museum's 1911 Battery A Field Artillery Horse Barn and in the 41st ID AFRC. The Idaho folks seem very pleased to get it and plan on restoring it.
- Hundreds of Museum artifacts have been packed and put away, and furniture was moved out of several rooms in preparation for the HVAC renovation.
- We are very glad to report there is now no metal or highly acidic wood in direct contact with any uniforms! We have completed our project to remove all uniforms that were hanging on thin, non-supporting metal wire hangers and on acidic wooden hangers. These have been replaced with padded, archival hangers. At some point, the hundreds of plastic hangers that remain will need to be tested to see if they are inert, or if they need to be changed out too. →
- We have applied for an Oregon Heritage Grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission for new exhibit cases. Grant recipients will be notified in December.
- The Museum participated again this year at the Albany Veteran's Day parade with two Vietnam era vehicles, the M151A2 Jeep and the M37 ¾ ton truck.



We were joined by multi-war veteran COL (ORSDF) Ralph Mesick, and about ten Vietnam era reenactors, who brought with them an M274 mule. Thanks to LTC Karl Pond, we were able to find a last-minute, second Government-vehicle driver, to haul one of the two vehicles. And, finally, our thanks to volunteer Mark Stevens for enduring very cold hands because he had to hold down our hauling tractor's canvas roof when it ripped en route to the parade on Interstate 5.

- We've won the battle with the Drill Floor heaters, for now. **Our sincere thanks to State Shop personnel**, for returning us to moderate temperatures following 60 days of issues. This 9,000 square foot space currently stores the contents of the library and archives, and some artifacts!

- Ms. Daly attended a customer meeting with Oregon Sustained Maintenance Site (OSMS) staff on HAZMAT and Compound space issues.

- Ms. Thoennes completed 14 hours of on-line training requirements to become a Contracting Officer Representative and to comply with annual Department of Defense Information Assurance Awareness.

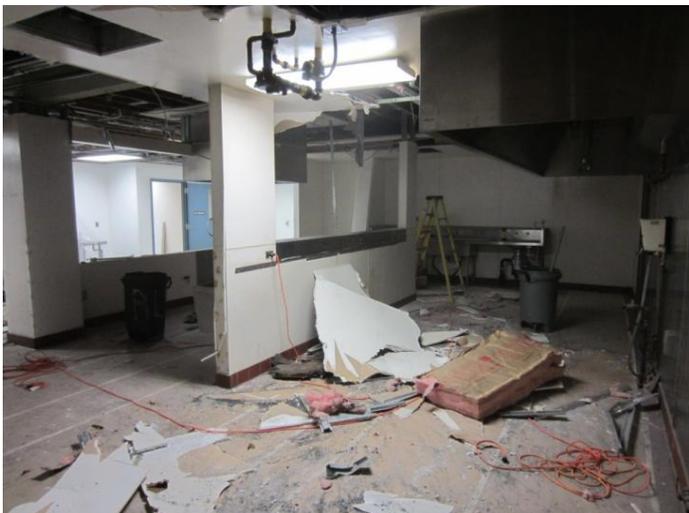
- Ms. Thoennes conducted a half hour briefing for the Salem Kiwanis Club.

PENDING:

- On November 14th, the Museum’s HVAC project to create nine climate zones began. It is expected to continue through April, 2012. Thus far, we emptied the future library to make way for demolition of the ceilings and insulation in that space, and demo began in the future vault space. These are areas that had gotten wet through numerous previous roof leaks, and the old water damage is now visible.

The black stuff on the floor is tar particulate matter that came from the removal of four layers of old roofing during the re-roofing process 16 months ago. This stuff makes a very nasty mess!

Our goal is to have exposed ductwork and open ceilings in order to catch any future leaks immediately and to gain vertical storage space.



- The processing of 2011 backlog artifact donations is making headway and we are down to just a few.
- Loan renewals continue to come in. Of the 23 military units who have Museum objects on loan, 9 have completed their renewals 100%.

JUST BY THE NUMBERS:

Total donations since Jan. 1, 2011:	62 artifact donations, 7 library and archives, 1 education collection
Processed donations this year:	59 donations / 477 new artifacts catalogued / 99 library books
Donations still to be processed:	3 donations, one of which is very large
Research Requests this period:	8 requests, including working with author Roy Stevenson for an upcoming article for a British military vehicle periodical
Tours given of the AFRC exhibits:	1 this month

CALENDAR / IMPORTANT DATES:

- Dec. 7 The Historical Outreach Foundation will have a table at the Clackamas County Historical Society’s Pearl Harbor Day event.
- Dec. 14 Museum will participate at the ORNG Association and Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition’s briefing and holiday gathering.

NEW DONATION HIGHLIGHTS

(with our deep gratitude):

- We have officially acquired the Oregon Army National Guard Bell UH-1H helicopter serial number 74-22539. It has been catalogued in the Museum's in-house database, PastPerfect, and in the Army's federal database, AHCAS. It is now awaiting further processing by the Center of Military History.
- Autographed copy of Ian Skennerton's booklet *9MM Sten Machine Carbine Marks V, VI & II(S): Small Arms identification Series No. 24*. Mr. Skennerton, an Australian, conducted some of his research here a couple of years ago. The book includes images of the Museum's MK II(S) submachine gun and cutaway silencer.
- Donation that included World War II Japanese coveralls, overalls, and an identification tag (dog tag), from Museum volunteer Arthur G. May, Jr.
- Handwritten copy by author MAJ (Ret.) Robert Lenneville of his 1960 original score "Sunset Division March." Bob is a 1940 Hill Military Academy graduate and a World War II combat veteran from Company B, 186th Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Division.
- 1926 "Individual Match" marksmanship medal, for the Oregon National Guard's 162nd Service Company.



DATA LOGGERS:

PERIOD: October 31, 2011 – November 30, 2011

Museum Standards:

- Stable temperature and relative humidity are needed to preserve historic artifacts, photos & documents.
- The goal is to maintain 68° F and 50% relative humidity (RH), except vaults' RH should be at 40%. Temperature and/or RH should not swing more than +/-5 within a 24 hour period, since these swings are what cause major deterioration.
- Green highlights indicate when and where **standards were met**. Yellow highlights indicate **violations** of standards during the time period listed, by being off goal (too hot or cold, too high or low RH).
- Outside Temperature – High 60, Low 29

Quick Look:

Fluctuations of more than 5° or 5% occurred within a 24 hour period this many times:

Collections:	2 of 30 days	Uncatalogued:	5 of 30 days	Vault 6101-2:	1 of 30 days
Art Storage:	7 of 30 days	Drill Floor Stage:	24 of 30 days	Vault 6410:	0 of 30 days
Garment Storage:	8 of 30 days	Vault 6101-1:	0 of 30 days		

October 31, 2011 – November 30, 2011							
LOGGER NO.	LOGGER LOC.	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	AV TEMP	HIGH RH	LOW RH	AV RH
2307219	Collections	73.58	59.00	65.93	53.38	34.24	42.90
2307220	Art Storage	70.84	61.74	66.10	52.71	35.31	42.66
2307221	Garment Storage	73.93	58.13	63.02	56.45	33.34	47.57
2307222	Uncatalogued	74.10	61.91	67.92	47.46	33.16	40.74
2307223	Drill Floor Stage	66.02	51.70	57.10	72.08	48.08	57.39
2307224	Vault 6101-1	65.20	59.85	61.93	46.53	41.98	44.31
2307225	Vault 6101-2	70.14	61.05	65.88	47.55	36.75	41.52
2307226	Vault 6410	71.34	60.02	64.16	47.54	44.09	46.85