



OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM
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CAMP WITHYCOMBE, CLACKAMAS, OREGON 97015
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www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org

FRONT LINES

The Oregon Military Museum Monthly Report

February 1 – 29, 2012

SAVE THE DATES



MAY 18, 2012

ALL STAR SALUTE TO OREGON'S MILITARY

Dinner and auction fundraiser to benefit the Oregon Military Museum
at the Oregon Golf Club, West Linn, Oregon.

Sponsored by the Historical Outreach Foundation.



MAY 19, 2012



16TH ANNUAL LIVING HISTORY DAY AT CAMP WITHYCOMBE

America's military history comes alive! Honoring all U.S. Veterans on Armed Forces Day.

Sponsored by the Military Vehicle Collectors Club of Oregon & Oregon Military Museum.

This is a FREE public event, hours are 9am to 5pm.

We are very pleased to announce that another large donation was received by the Historical Outreach Foundation! To learn more about the campaign or to schedule a behind the scenes visit, please contact the Museum directly, or the Historical Outreach Foundation:

Alisha Hamel, Executive Director, 503-705-5965

Email: HistoricOutreach@aol.com website: www.historicaloutreach.com/

COMPLETED:

- A hardy welcome to Liza Rosier, our new Portland State University intern. Ms. Rosier is a history major and previously worked as a volunteer intern at the Washington County Museum, helping set up a new collections storage room, rehousing artifacts, and preparing their current exhibit *Snapshots!*
- Thanks to DCSIM, voicemail is now active for the main Museum phone line.
- Quarterly weapons inventory completed.
- Fire Marshal visit and inspection completed. Only one action item found, which is now remedied. Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) binders were updated, and materials inventories were submitted to CSMS for a Fire Marshal report.
- National Guard Bureau requested we send them the original, commissioned painting *Jungleers on Biak* by Keith Rocco. The painting is from the National Guard's Heritage Series and depicts the 41st Infantry Division on Schouten Islands, Dutch New Guinea, June 16, 1944. The painting was crated and shipped, with our thanks to OSMS for helping. The painting will be conserved if deemed necessary, and is to be reframed. Prints from the heritage series paintings are available. To learn more about the series and see the painting, visit: http://www.ng.mil/resources/photo_gallery/index.html?lib=heritage/index.htm.

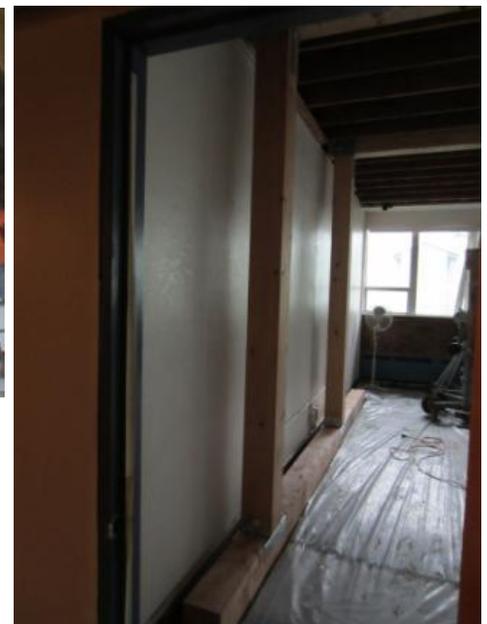
- Kathleen Daly received training from AIC Brian Zimmerman in order to make simple updates to the Museum's new website.

PENDING:

- Big progress on the HVAC remodel! While the HVAC install continues, so does the moving of furniture, objects, and pallets to make way for workers and equipment, and to limit potential damage. Sincere thanks to volunteers Mark Stevens and Mike Guarino for all the help!
- Structural challenges for supporting weights of roof-top heating/air conditioning units are being resolved. For the future classroom, this entails building a new wall to hide massive beams and posts that will support the largest of the roof top units. The only way to get the beams into the building was through a window.



- ↑ Above, the classroom before, during cleanout, then emptied with the carpet covered in plastic. Below, the ceiling is demolished, debris removed, beams hefted inside, notches created, and new support beams installed.



- ← At left, a strange accumulation of water under the flooring plastic was discovered all along the outside wall, under the windows. This is an unresolved mystery.

- ↓ Below at left, a restroom ceiling is torn down in order to frame in support for a roof top unit and to install ductwork.



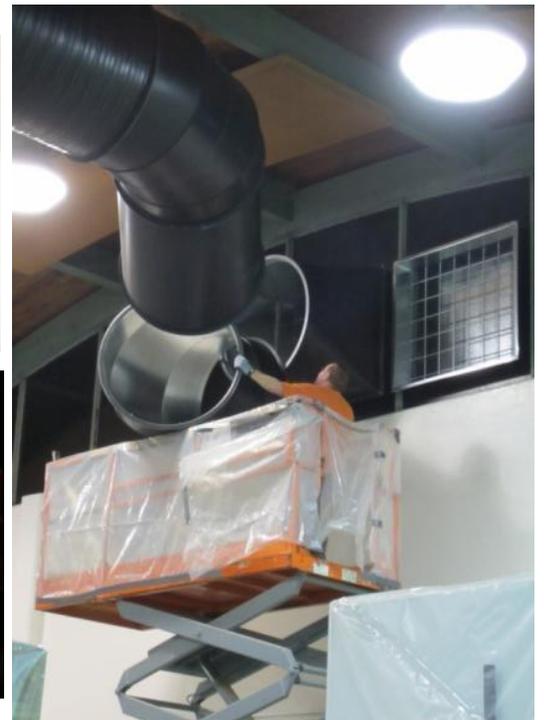
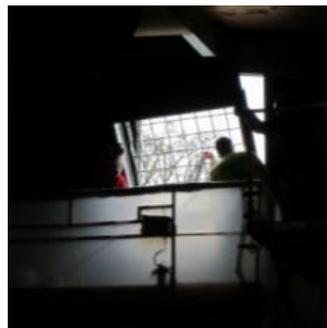
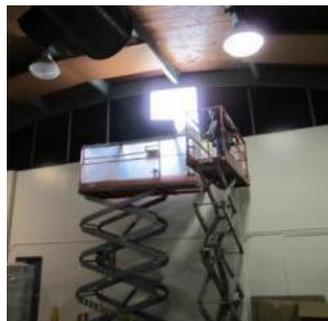
- ↓ Below, the curbing for several of the new rooftop units was lifted by crane and is being installed between rainstorms.



- ↓ Below, the south wing hallway before and after ceiling and lighting removal. New framing has been added, and ductwork and a new ceiling will be installed soon.



- ↓ Below, the ductwork on the drill floor is nearly complete. Two large panes of glass from the windows near the barrel vault ceiling were removed to become entry points for new ductwork. Final placement of the last piece of ductwork proved a little tricky.



- An inventory of the Shop is underway.
- Updates to our website are in progress. A wish list of items has already been added for a conference table for ten, eight to ten matching conference room chairs, a podium, portable exhibit walls, a color copier, carpentry services (for making exhibit cases), and gift shop merchandise display racks.
- Macroartifacts have been identified for the soft opening main gallery exhibits, which is tentatively scheduled for December 2012. We are developing draft text for signage for the artifacts.
- Ms. Daly continues processing incoming archives materials. The new intern, Ms. Rosier, will soon be trained to maintain the OMM's archives.
- Museum staff is currently working on an SOP for collecting, cataloguing and maintaining the large amounts of digital materials recently acquired.
- This year's loan renewal process is almost complete. The only outstanding loans that remain are five units, and one museum. We have followed up with several outstanding (yet to be signed) Deeds of Gifts as well.
- Shop volunteers are restoring our Japanese Type 91 105mm howitzer. It has been determined that its original color is a mustard yellow, not the typical dark taupe found on many Japanese artillery pieces.

JUST BY THE NUMBERS:

- Total artifact donations since January 1, 2012: 7
- Number of objects processed so far in these donations: 15
- Library and Archives donations this period: 2
- Research Requests this period: 8
- Our thanks to John Mull and Warren Aney for helping with this research request, correctly identifying a Company C, Oregon Agricultural College insignia. →



2012 CALENDAR / UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Mar 5 41st Infantry Division veterans' luncheon
- Mar 21 Historical Outreach Foundation board meeting
- March 22 Tenant's meeting
- Apr 16-20 EPAS (External environmental review at Camp Withycombe and all tenants)
- Apr 26-28 Oregon Heritage Conference, Ms. Daly is presenting at a collections management workshop
- May 10 Oregon State Parks' 4th Annual Historic Preservation Month Fair, State Capitol, request for a table display
- Mid-May 19 new collections storage cabinets slated to arrive
- May 17 ORNG Armed Forces Day at State Capitol
- May 18 All Star Salute to Oregon's Military - Historical Outreach Foundation fundraiser event
- May 19 16th Annual Living History Day at Camp Withycombe
- Aug 20-24 NG Museum Training, Rapid City, SD, Mrs. Thoennes presenting



NEW DONATION HIGHLIGHTS

(with our deep gratitude):

- A large collection from a retired Oregon National Guardsman was donated, with many objects from his most recent deployment to Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Meetings are underway to compile his service history, as well as document the historical significance and provenance for each object.
- Owens Summers, great grandson of Oregon National Guard founder Brigadier General Owen Summers, has sent us the General's scrapbook / photo album. More will follow next month on this outstanding collection.
- Rare World War I M1918 sight for a .30 cal machine gun, with leather case, and a German World War II zinc dog tag was donated by volunteer Mark Stevens.

- World War II 41st Infantry Division veteran Leland “Bud” Lewis donated his personal papers and photographs. The collection included information about an interesting stateside mission at the beginning of the war. Historian Warren Aney was able to add more details from several 41st veterans’ oral histories:



- The Matson line freighter SS Mauna Ala was loaded with supplies and Christmas goodies (including some 60,000 Christmas trees, 10,000 turkeys, and 3,000 chickens) when it ran aground and broke apart off the coast near Seaside, Camp Clatsop, and Fort Stevens in December 10, 1941. It had been diverted from Honolulu because of the December 7th Pearl Harbor bombing and submarine scares. The captain did not know that a blackout of the Columbia River’s navigational aids was in place. The ship was also under radio silence for fear of giving an enemy vessel a bearing on it. Thankfully, all hands were saved.

- From an oral history given by Roy Brasfield: "When war was declared [7 December 1941] training was interrupted; that night the unit headed for the Longview Bridge on the Columbia River. They were there for a few days when they received a panic message from Seaside - a ship was unloading men on the beach. The "men" unloading were actually Christmas trees...."

- From Carl Kostol’s interview: "On 10 December 1941 they heard of an emergency at Camp Clatsop. An officers' meeting was called by the Regimental CO for E and F Companies. Kostol was Weapons Platoon Sergeant (not officer) so he went as the Provost Sgt/Platoon Leader. The Regimental CO told them a convoy was coming down from the Gulf of Alaska - a suspected invasion. Clatsop Beach was the most likely site for this. So they all went out carrying a full load of ammunition. They were on post all night but there was not invasion. A ship ran aground, a

Christmas ship headed for Hawaii that had to turn back. Its cargo of Christmas trees started rolling in and some got shot at. It was a total blackout so the ship ran aground [couldn't see navigation lights at mouth of Columbia]. A case of steaks also washed ashore, as well as a case of Almond Roca candy. The unit kitchen would prepare food from this ship. The unit was there for quite a while patrolling beaches from Astoria to Seaside."

- From William Wendt’s interview: "...Next day, we were told, ‘Japanese invasion, paratroopers in blue uniforms’ and we headed for Camp Clatsop/Seaside. Arrived after dark with Lt. Grissom. Started dropping off two-man patrols. Signal Corps strung wire with field telephones every 2 miles. Christmas trees were washing up on beach, also turkey carcasses, Almond Roca candy* - from a Christmas ship that was heading for Hawaii but turned back."

- Donor Leland “Bud” Lewis stated when the ship's contents were declared "open salvage," he gathered and sent his mother 10 pounds of butter, plus chickens, salt and other stuff.

- An article from the Honolulu, Hawaii bulletin of Alexander & Baldwin states:

“The crew escaped with the help of Coast Guard craft from the nearby Point Adams station, but the Mauna Ala broke up on the beach with the entire cargo strewn for miles across the ocean. The next morning, thousands of beachcombers appeared on the shore, excited to find the turkeys, chickens, and Christmas trees...Some Army communications soldiers were observed frying sections of chicken with their mess gear on the beach.”



* Almond Roca candy was packed in airtight tins that kept it fresh for very long periods of time. During World War II, it was shipped to troops all over the world. According to its manufacturer’s website, Almond Roca became so popular that an entire chapter was dedicated to the crunchy confection in the *Official History of World War II*.

DATA LOGGERS:

Ceiling removal has had an impact on several areas. Data from the past two months is shown.

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).

PERIOD: January 3, 2012 – February 6, 2012

- Outside Temperature – High 56, Low 26

Quick Look:

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

Collections:	1 of 34 days	Uncatalogued:	8 of 34 days	Vault 6101-2:	1 of 34 days
Art Storage:	13 of 34 days	Drill Floor Stage:	9 of 34 days	Vault 6410:	1 of 34 days
Garment Storage:	12 of 34 days	Vault 6101-1:	0 of 34 days		

January 3, 2012 – February 6, 2012							
LOGGER NO.	LOGGER LOC.	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	AV TEMP	HIGH RH	LOW RH	AV RH
2307219	Collections	73.75	68.76	70.70	38.96	20.61	32.94
2307220	Art Storage	70.31	66.71	68.75	46.67	22.77	36.36
2307221	Garment Storage	66.71	60.02	63.63	52.40	30.42	43.14
2307222	Uncatalogued**	75.66	72.72	74.12	37.71	15.00	30.06
2307223	Drill Floor Stage	70.31	63.28	67.03	47.99	15.00	35.11
2307224	Vault 6101-1	69.79	63.63	66.58	45.08	39.88	43.10
2307225	Vault 6101-2	69.12	67.05	68.11	44.21	29.22	37.56
2307226	Vault 6410	65.68	63.28	64.42	46.80	45.36	46.09

PERIOD: February 6, 2012 – February 29, 2012

- Outside Temperature – High 57, Low 31

Quick Look:

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

Collections:	1 of 24 days	Uncatalogued:	5 of 24 days	Vault 6101-2:	1 of 24 days
Art Storage:	21 of 24 days	Drill Floor Stage:	14 of 24 days	Vault 6410:	0 of 24 days
Garment Storage:	17 of 24 days	Vault 6101-1:	0 of 24 days		

February 6, 2012 – February 29, 2012							
LOGGER NO.	LOGGER LOC.	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	AV TEMP	HIGH RH	LOW RH	AV RH
2307219	Collections	73.41	69.45	71.00	40.86	30.34	36.94
2307220	Art Storage	70.82	68.10	69.60	49.01	33.33	41.16
2307221	Garment Storage	67.39	61.91	64.77	55.74	40.64	48.17
2307222	Uncatalogued	75.14	72.55	73.83	40.27	28.25	34.66
2307223	Drill Floor Stage	70.65	66.64	68.01	47.75	25.04	37.34
2307224	Vault 6101-1	70.31	67.91	69.54	47.63	43.40	45.23
2307225	Vault 6101-2	68.01	66.71	67.50	46.93	37.45	42.32
2307226	Vault 6410	65.00	63.11	64.10	47.23	44.76	46.02