



OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM
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FRONT LINES

The Oregon Military Museum Monthly Report

October 4 – November 3, 2011

COMPLETED:

- We thank you for your continued support and interest in the Museum!
- We have applied for an Oregon Heritage Grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission for new exhibit cases. It requires an equal match, so we have earmarked the Historical Outreach Foundation museum funds received from the 9-11 First Responders fund raising event held in September. Grant recipients will be notified in December.
- We were honored to host the interview of veteran Andrew McDermaid of Battery B, 218th Field Artillery, 41st Infantry Division, and enjoyed a follow up lunch for the group of attendees. You can learn more about his war-time experiences in the “Donation Highlights” area on page 3.
- Kathleen Daly’s status has changed to Temporary Technician. She attended several training sessions this month, such as the Oregon Museums Association Annual Meeting in Philomath, where she was elected to their Board of Directors as a Member-at-large for a two-year term. She was also awarded a competitive stipend to attend free of charge the Balboa Arts Conservation Center’s Workshop *Creating and Maintaining Digital Collections* at the University of Oregon’s Schnitzer Art Museum. Please join me in congratulating her for these accomplishments!
- Museum staff and several volunteers attended the one-day Military Heritage Conference held by the Oregon Heritage Commission. Curator Thoennes gave her “Bang! Poof!” talk to the group on various curatorial concerns, including collections risk assessment, from ordnance and radiological concerns to some of the dangers of keeping really old medical supplies, food stuffs and liquids.



During our 2008 project to clean out unstable food stuffs and medical supplies, these very live looking Russian 88mm fuzes were found inside a box of Arabic-labeled water bottles that came back from the Persian Gulf War. Their safety wires were intact, but they turned out to be inert.



Milled uranium spud stolen by a Manhattan Project worker and donated to the Museum in the early years. It was returned to the Los Alamos Labs in 2005.



The ONLY rations that had not decomposed or corroded their containers was peanut butter. Here a Veal and Pork Loaf K ration was near exploding.

- The annual fire extinguisher inspection was completed, no issues found. We also replaced batteries in all of our smoke detectors. (Don't forget to check yours at home on a regular basis!)
- Quarterly weapons inventory of 868 weapons was completed. All inventory dates were updated in each record in our PastPerfect database and in the federally-owned AHCAS database.
- Outgoing loan paperwork renewal period has begun. A total of 31 loan renewals were sent out this month, to 20 National Guard installations and 11 other organizations. More than 300 artifacts are out on loan, from tanks to insignia.
- We learned how to upload photographs into the Center of Military History (CMH) AHCAS database, to assist CMH with our duplicate records issue. Several outstanding issues and discrepancies have been resolved this month.
- Attended the Clackamas County Commissioners' declaration signing for October 1-8 as "Days of Culture."
- Our thanks to all those who helped with a research request to identify these circa 1937 General Officers, especially COL (Ret.) Rick Patterson of the Washington National Guard.



Seated, Left to Right:
 Brigadier General Maurice Thompson, The Adjutant General, Washington State.
 Major General George A. White, Commander 41st and The Adjutant General, Oregon National Guard.
Standing, Left to Right:
 Brigadier General Thomas E. Rilea, 41st Infantry Division.
 BG Carlos A. Pennington, 81 Inf Bde Washington NG.
 BG Albert H. Beebe, 66th FA Bde Washington NG.
 General George C. Marshall.
 Brigadier General Smith, Commander of Fort Lewis.
 General Merrill, 3rd FA Brigade (presume Fort Lewis).

PENDING:

- The HVAC project for the Museum building is expected to begin in early December.
- The processing of a large backlog of artifact donations continues to be the top priority. In an effort to expedite the process, photographing each object has been temporarily suspended until all objects are minimally processed and safely housed before the HVAC demolitions begin. Hundreds of objects have been put away into new storage cabinets and their new location data entered.
- We are also placing a temporary moratorium on new donations during this renovation period.
- The www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org website is nearly complete. It will have two new, public-use email addresses: museuminfo@oregonmilitarymuseum.org and info@oregonmilitarymuseum.org.



Errata for the September 2011 Report: the M41A3 light tank "Walker Bulldog" was erroneously labeled as an M42 on the front page. Please accept our apologies.

- A major effort to clean out the Museum's Compound space is ongoing.
- The M42 Duster's new paint job is almost complete. Other restoration projects currently underway include the World War II Weasel (Carrier, US, Cargo, M29C) and the 105mm Japanese Type 91 howitzer.
- Our Portland State University intern Jason Ross is half way through scanning and typing up all our old exhibit text panels, so they can be more easily edited and used to make new signage for reopening. He also manages our weekly pest monitoring, and our monthly fire extinguisher and smoke detector inspections.
- The battle continues with the Drill Floor heater. The pump went out shortly after the boiler was turned on for the Fall, and a new one is on order.
- New Museum storage cabinets bid has been awarded. These cabinet will take several months to manufacture, and will be used to archivally store the majority of the collection.

JUST BY THE NUMBERS:

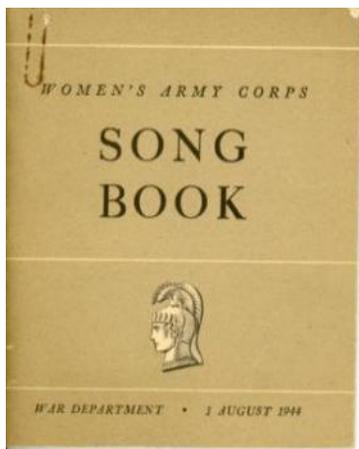
Total donations since Jan. 1, 2011: 59 artifact donations, 5 library and archives, 1 education collection
 Processed donations this year: 47 donations / 421 new artifacts catalogued / 96 library books
 Donations still to be processed: 9 donations
 Research Requests this period: 9 requests
 Tours given of the AFRC exhibits: 2 this month

CALENDAR / IMPORTANT DATES:

- Nov 8 Curator to speak to Salem Kiwanis group.
- Nov 11 Albany Veteran's Day parade – two Museum Vietnam era vehicles will participate.
- 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):

- From the notes taken during a two-hour interview with veteran Andrew McDermaid of Battery B, 218th Field Artillery, 41st Infantry Division: He joined the Oregon National Guard in 1939, and told some great stories, from fishing with a hand grenade to making a homemade still with a case of dried apricots. After seeing the Museum's Sherman Tank "Sad Sack" in the front of the 41st Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center, he remembered for the first time in many years that he, too, had painted Sad Sack on his .50 cal. machine gun. He shared a story was about one of his New Guinea landings. They mounted a machine gun on a tree stump, and dug a deep pit, even putting in bunks and night-lights. He explained that the machine gun grease they were issued would gum up so he made up his own recipe. One day after just finishing cleaning the gun and greasing it with his own special recipe of "double-ought graphite with Vaseline grease," Capt. John Biedler* came by and said, "What is that on your gun – clean it off." But then two Japanese Mitsubishis came over, just 200 feet off the beach, and he stated, "I started shooting and couldn't miss." One hit airplane turned into the ocean and went down. He had a 250 round magazine, and the barrel got so hot that when he took it off with the asbestos gloves and laid it on a sandbag, the sandbag burst. They never used that barrel again. Afterwards, the Captain came by and said to grease every gun with graphite. *Spelling unconfirmed.
- For your enjoyment: a few lyrics from the World War II *Women's Army Corps Song Book*, a recent donation. →



THE K. P.'s ARE SCRUBBING AWAY
(WAC Version)
(Tune: The Caissons Go Rolling Along)
 Over sinks, over pails,
 With the Sergeant on our tails
 All the K.P.'s are scrubbing away.
 Shining pots, shining pans,
 Cleaning out the garbage cans
 All the K.P.'s are scrubbing away.

Chorus
 Oh it's Hi! Hi! Hee! In the kitchen scullery
 Sixteen long hours of the day
 And where-e'er we go,
 By the smell you'll know
 That the K.P.'s are scrubbing away.
 (Keep 'em scrubbing!)
 That the K.P.'s are scrubbing away.

YES, BY CRACKY

Yes, By Cracky, I'm a little WAC-y
 I'm a little soldier girl,
 I live in barracks, best you've ever seen,
 March to mess, and always keep my shoes clean.
 Yes, By Cracky, I'm a little WAC-y
 I'm a little soldier girl.
 I fall in! I fall out!
 I fall asleep in class, no doubt—but
 Yes, By Cracky, I'm a little WAC-y,
 I'm a little soldier girl.

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THE FLAG OF FREEDOM

The Flag of Freedom goes before us,
 Forward, march, into the fight we go!
 We'll fight for peace and home and country,
 We'll defend the way of life we know.
 We can't lead the Armies or man the guns,
 We can do the task we've begun!
 We'll keep faith with the men who march before us,
 Carry on, till the Vict'ry's won!

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OH ME! OH MY! THAT AIN'T G. I.

Once her Mommie made her bed,
 Cleaned her clothes and buttered her bread,
 And her fav'rite dress was red
 Oh me! Oh my! That ain't G.I.

Then she came to camp one day
 Quickly learned the WAC-y way,
 Underwear cafe au lait,
 Oh me! Oh my! Strictly G.I.

Said the WAC to the new recruit,
 "Hi-ya kid, you're sure a beaut! (Spoken)
 Short hair won't make you so cute."
 Oh me! Oh my! Gotta be G.I.

In the mess hall she now stands
 Buried 'neath the pots and pans,
 Getting pretty dishpan hands,
 K.P. Oh my! Gotta Be G.I.

Hats and shoes and shirts don't fit
 Girdle bunches when you sit,
 Come on, rookie, you can't quit,
 Just heave a sigh, and be G.I.

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Typhoid shots may knock you out,
 All day long you'll hear "Fall Out!"
 Give with a grin and loudly shout,
 "Oh me! Oh my! Gotta be G.I."

Winter, summer, spring or fall,
 Should you try to end it all
 You can't die until Sick Call.
 You see, if you die, gotta die G.I.

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WAC'S PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

We pledge allegiance to the land we love,
 And all we hold most dear.
 Bequeathed to us by glories past
 To cherish and revere.
 We guard our precious heritage
 With pride and valor true.
 America, beloved land,
 We pledge our faith anew.

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DATA LOGGERS:

PERIOD: September 29, 2011 – October 31, 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 74, Low 36

Quick Look:

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

Collections:	0 of 33 days	Uncatalogued:	4 of 33 days
Art Storage:	3 of 33 days	Drill Floor Stage:	30 of 33 days
Garment Storage:	4 of 33 days	Vault 6101-1:	1 of 33 days

Vault 6101-2:	2 of 33 days
Vault 6410:	0 of 33 days



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September 29, 2011 – October 31, 2011

LOGGER NO.	LOGGER LOC.	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	AV TEMP	HIGH RH	LOW RH	AV RH
2307219	Collections	76.01	65.17	72.53	50.34	36.01	44.02
2307220	Art Storage	75.14	66.90	72.65	57.07	34.49	44.20
2307221	Garment Storage	74.62	63.97	70.52	58.12	39.57	47.49
2307222	Uncatalogued	75.00	68.42	72.53	49.08	36.82	45.58
2307223	Drill Floor Stage	76.88	57.44	64.00	72.74	32.80	57.17
2307224	Vault 6101-1	70.14	62.94	66.10	49.89	40.22	42.64
2307225	Vault 6101-2	70.45	65.68	69.04	51.63	37.35	43.04
2307226	Vault 6410	72.20	66.54	69.00	50.72	46.37	47.34