

In and Around Naples
**A Series of Presentations
 for the Collier County Library
 by Paul Pacter**

**Naples Museum of
 Military History**

Copyright © Paul Pacter
 All Rights Reserved

www.paulvisits.com

Naples Museum of Military History
Website:
<https://naplesmuseummilitaryhistory.org/>
Where: At Naples Airport, 500 Terminal Drive, Naples 34104
Get There: Airport-Pulling Road between Golden Gate Pkwy and Davis Blvd. West on North Road. Turn on Terminal Drive.
Museum is two separate rooms in the main airport terminal building.

When: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm.
 Sunday Noon-3pm.
Admission: Free. *Donations accepted.*
What: Stories of veterans through military artifacts from the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Gulf wars.
More than 10,000 historical artifacts such as printed materials, weapons, uniforms, medals, ribbons, and models.

Museum is usually staffed by one or more veterans who are happy to explain exhibits and share interesting personal stories.
 The Naples Airport is a fitting space for the museum since it was built by the Army Corps of Engineers during WWII to train pilots for the Pacific theater conflict.
At the peak of the war, the airport was home to more than 75 fighter and bomber aircraft as well as the pilots and aerial gunners who trained at the base.

Naples Airport History

- Built in 1942 as Naples Army Airfield by US Army Air Forces.
- Provided basic flight training on Fairchild PT-19s.
- In addition to flight training, Naples Army Airfield was a sub-base to Buckingham Army Airfield (Fort Myers) for gunnery training.
- Deactivated on November 1, 1945. Turned over to Naples city government as a public airport.
- Buckingham Army Airfield was sold to a developer and is now Lehigh Acres section of Fort Myers.



Fairchild PT-19



Naples Museum of Military History
 This room has mostly WW2 memorabilia.



**Smoky - Veteran and Docent (Sun-Mon-Tues. AM)
He's 89 (March 2020)
Happy to explain exhibits and experiences**



**Naples Museum of Military History
In main terminal building, Naples Airport.**



Naples Museum of Military History



**Naples Museum of Military History
Japanese WW2 memorabilia.**



**Naples Museum of Military History
Japanese WW2 memorabilia.**



**Naples Museum of Military History
Nazi WW2 memorabilia.**



**Naples Museum of Military History
Nazi WW2 memorabilia.**



**Naples Museum of Military History
Nazi WW2 memorabilia.**



Smoky (Docent) and British Lady Who Was in the British Army in 1960s



**Naples Museum of Military History
This room has memorabilia from other wars including Revolutionary, 1812, Civil, Spanish-American, WW1, Korea, Gulf, Iraq**



Naples Museum of Military History



**Naples Museum of Military History
Civil War**



**Naples Museum of Military History
US Civil War**



**Naples Museum of Military History
Civil War**



**Naples Museum of Military History
US Civil War**



**Naples Museum of Military History
US Civil War**



Naples Museum of Military History
US Civil War



Naples Museum of Military History
WWI 1914-1918



Naples Museum of Military History
Spanish-American War - 1898



Naples Museum of Military History
Buttons: War of 1812, Civil War, WW1



Naples Museum of Military History
Downed Pilot's "Blood Chit"

I am an American. My plane is destroyed. I cannot speak your language. I am an enemy of the Japanese. Please give me food and take me to the nearest Allied military base. You will be rewarded.



Naples Museum of Military History
WW2 Harley-Davidson Bicycle - Homing Pigeons



Naples Museum of Military History
WW2 Soviet Union Army Memorabilia



The M1919 Browning .30 caliber machine gun used during WW2, Korean War, Vietnam War.

M1919 BROWNING .30 CALIBER MEDIUM MACHINE GUN (NON-GUN), AIR-COOLED, MADE BY PETE MILO.
Weight 31 Lbs.
Barrel Length 24 in.
Caliber .30 Springfield, Linked
Mfg. No. 148250-1
Photo: MILO by Pete Milo.
Model Tripart, Machine Gun, M722 U.S. No. 148250-1
Photo: MILO, 1975
MILO No. 148250-1



Naples Museum of Military History
Many personal stories.



Naples Museum of Military History
Many personal stories.



Naples Museum of Military History
Iraq War

Iraq, Most Wanted Playing Cards
Donated by Robert D. & Helen A. McDonald, No. 130816-1

Patriotic Tribute Military Playing Cards
Donated by Robert D. & Helen A. McDonald, No. 130816-1

US American Legion Post 397, Hodges University 1990.
Donated by Robert D. & Helen A. McDonald, No. 140118-1

Challenge Coin Operation Iraq Freedom 2, 1st Battalion (Attack) 25th Aviation Regiment, Lighting Attack.
Donated by Robert D. & Helen A. McDonald, No. 130105-2



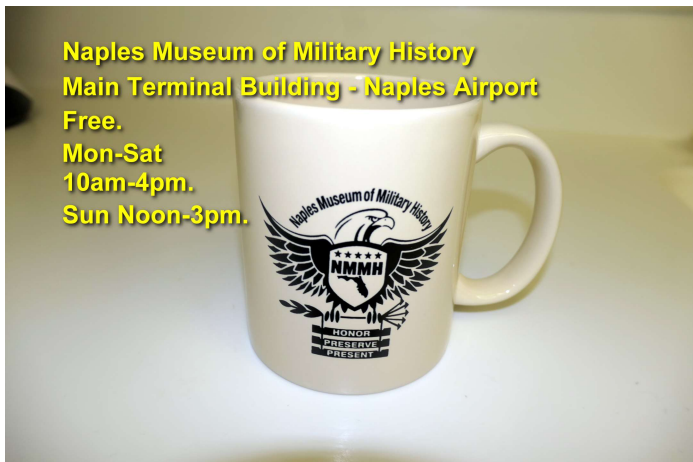
Naples Museum of Military History
Instrument Panel from Vietnam War
HUEY Helicopter - 1968



Naples Museum of Military History
Vietnam War



Naples Museum of Military History
Vietnam War



Naples Museum of Military History
Main Terminal Building - Naples Airport
Free.
Mon-Sat
10am-4pm.
Sun Noon-3pm.