

**NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2022
VOLUME 11 - NO. 8**

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Patton Battalion - USABOT is a chapter of the US Army Brotherhood of Tankers and is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit.

Patton Battalion - USABOT covers Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky & Tennessee.

The Blood and Guts Newsletter covers events and activities within our area and USABOT National.

EIN:
And registered with the state of Kentucky

Patton Battalion - USABOT

Total: 93 paid members

24 Lifetime Members

53 Annual Members

2 Associate Member

438 on Battalion Facebook Page

PATTON BATTALION - USABOT ILLINOIS - INDIANA - KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

It is August and the school bells are ringing again!

There was a anniversary of the unveiling of the Royal Tank Corps Memorial at Pozieres, France. I know that some of you may wonder why I would share information on this but as you read the items you will see that the 301st Tank Battalion of the US Tank Corps is mentioned.

I was also fascinated by the design and layout of the memorial. As we look at the monument we are trying to create for the US Tank Corps it is something I wish I had looked at more before starting our process. Not that I would change anything but just to lend more ideas to our deign.

I just finished up the book *Rangers Lead the Way WWII Army Rangers in their Own Words* by Chris Ketcherside & George Despotis.

Registration for HOMECOMING is now OPEN!!! Take a minute to get registered for the weekend, and then get your hotel reservations made under the USABOT block of rooms at either Quality Inn or Best Western, both located across the street from each other on Steinwehr Ave. Don't delay!!! Rooms are going quickly!!!

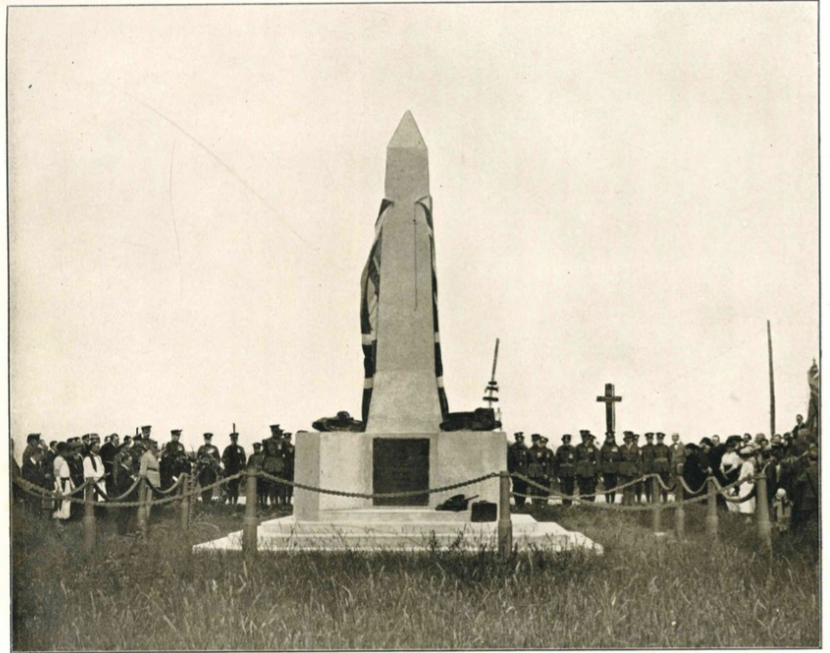
KP Morris
Patton 6

[HTTPS://DOUGHBOY.ORG](https://doughboy.org)
[WWW.USABOT.ORG](http://www.usabot.org)
[HTTPS://19SERIESCLOTHING.COM](https://19seriesclothing.com)

The West Point Museum recently posted a photo from an event there and I found it interesting that they have a FT-17 Renault at the museum! This will definitely put the museum on my list of places to see.



The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI.



UNVEILING OF THE TANK CORPS WAR MEMORIAL, 22nd JULY, 1922

"Tell England, ye who pass this monument.
We died for her . . ."

The Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge was unveiled 100 years ago today on 22 July 1922. (In 2022 it was now 106 years ago)

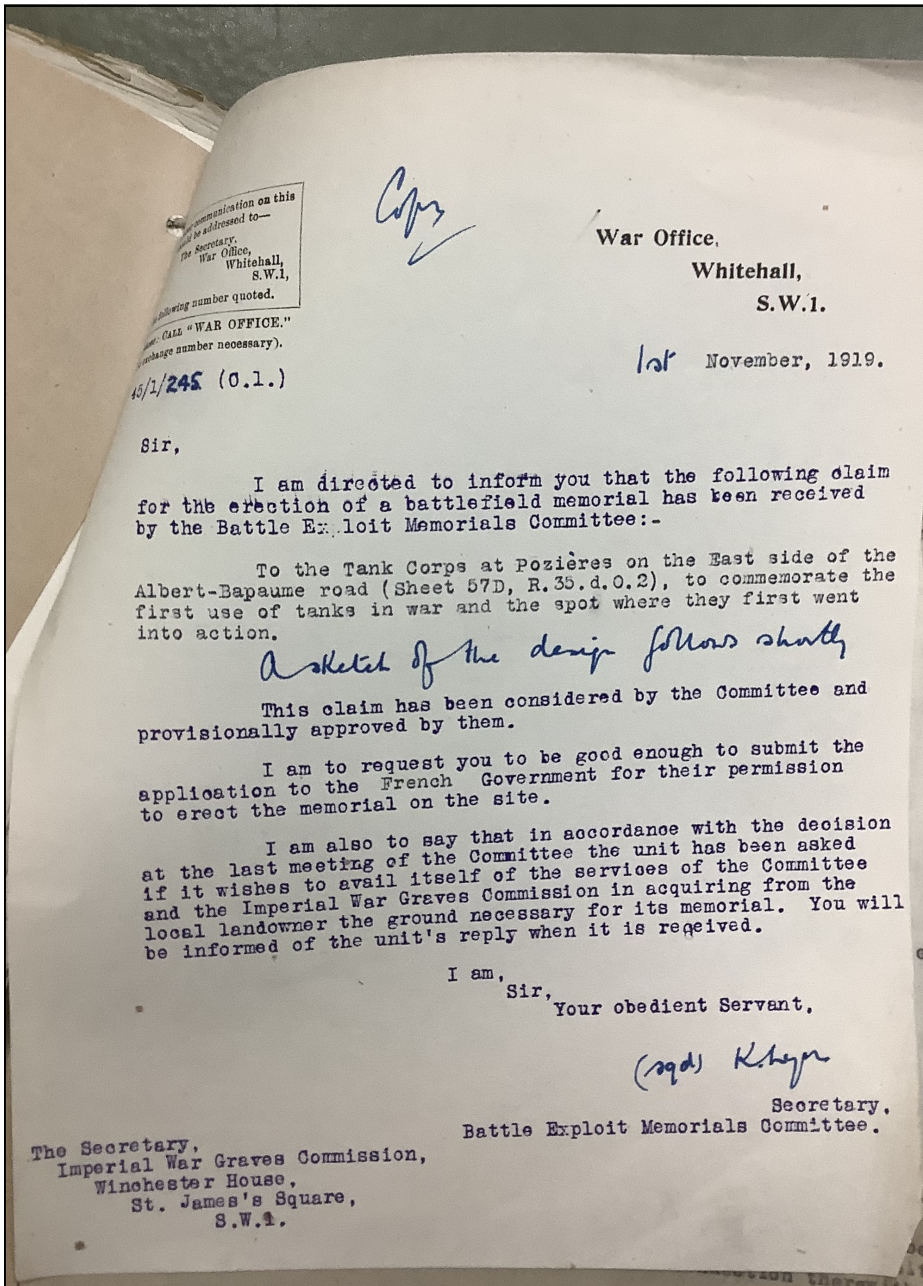
Photos from @thebattleguide (Twitter), John Harris, Military history. Battlefield guide. Accredited Member, Guild of Battlefield Guides. BA (Hons) War Studies. CWGC volunteer. IC member.

Story from @bermicourt (Twitter), Gareth Davies, Tank geek, Military Historian, GBG accredited Battlefield Guide, Warfare Analyst, CBRN nerd, Commentator on Palestine & Israel.

Soon after the Armistice the Tank Corps sent a proposal to the Battle Exploit Memorials Committee for a memorial on Pozieres Ridge, the centre line of the attacks on 15 September 1916 when C & D Coys Heavy Section Machine Gun Corps went into action for the first time.



The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI - Cont.



Work on the memorial began in 1919 & most of it was carried out by Tank Corps men.

The model tanks were cast in the workshops in France, the 6 pounder barrels & the Coventry drive chain that form the fence came from their too.

Note that the original plans showed spiked chains. (below left)

An Article from The Times, 21 November 1919.

TANK CORPS' CAMBRAI CELEBRATION

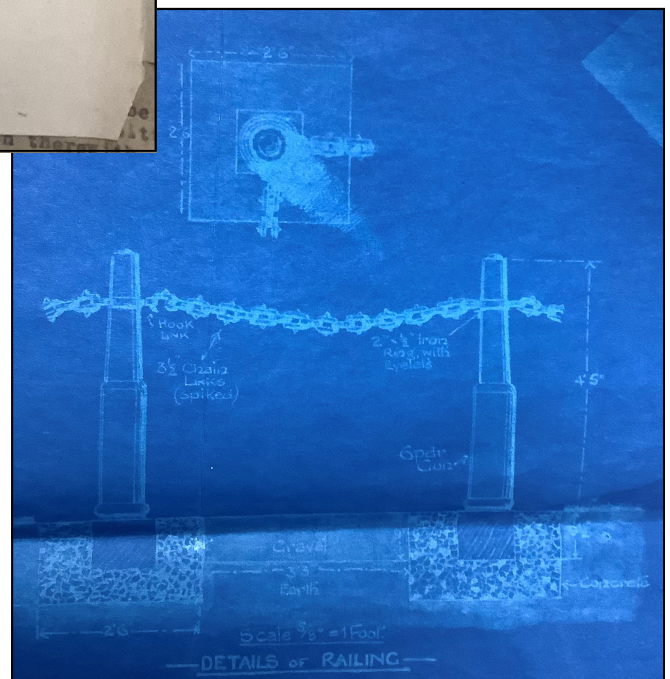
Memorial to be erected at Pozieres.

The following message from the King, their colonel-in-chief, was received by officers, past and present, of the Tank Corps, who were dining together at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, last night, on the anniversary of the battle of Cambrai, and had sent a message of greeting - "I sincerely thank the officers of the Tank Corps for their loyal greeting on this great anniversary in the history of the corps."

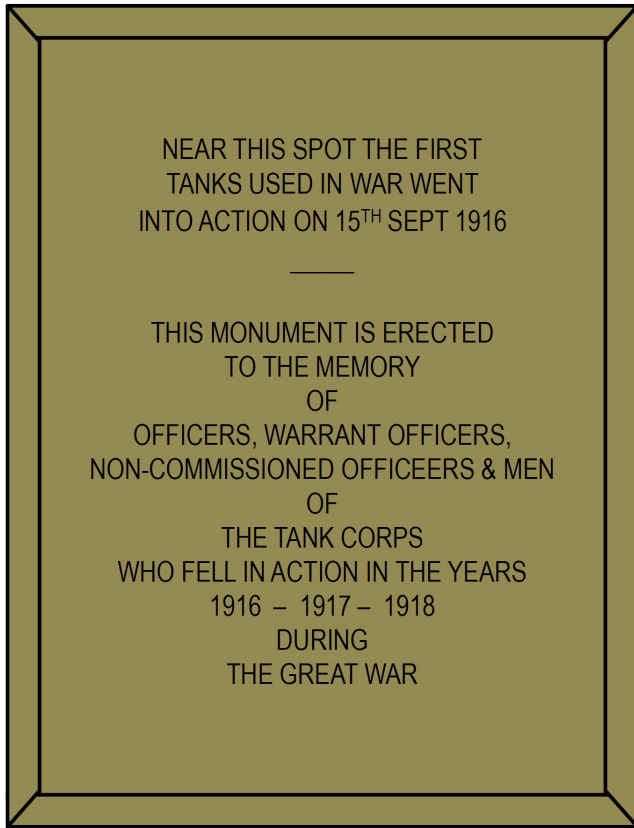
On the occasion of the battle of Cambrai Tanks were used for the first time in the war as a distinct unit of the attacking force. Their success was instantaneous, and the corps have since regarded November 20 as "their own day." Brigadier General Sir H. J. Elles, D.S.O., presided at the dinner.

Telegrams were exchanged between officers dining together in London and similar gatherings at Cologne, in France, and at Dublin, Edinburgh, Portsmouth, Catterick, Liverpool, Rugeley, Bovington, and Remenham Hill.

General Elles announced that a scheme had been approved for creating at Poxieres a memorial to members of the corps who fell in the war. The memorial would take the form of an obelisk, at the four corners of which would be representations of the four types of tanks employed.



The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI - Cont.



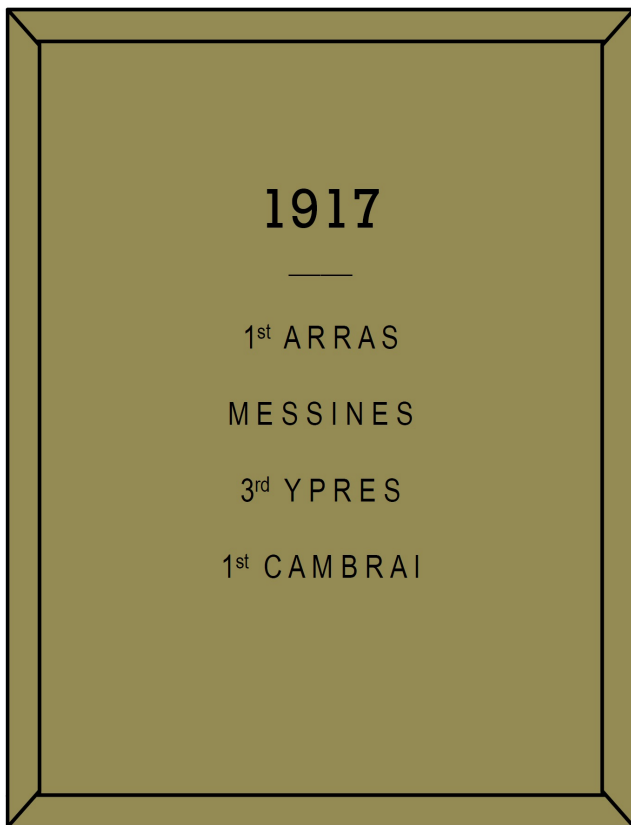
Front (North) Face

South Face



East Face

West Face



The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI - Cont.

HM The King's representative was Lt Gen Sir Thomas Morland & the Tank Corps was represented by 11 Officers & 45 ORs.

Also present were Maj Gen Swinton, Sir Albert Stern, Sir Hugh Elles, Col J. F. C. Fuller, & Lt Col Woods DSO. A small act of worship was held before the unveiling.

After the act of worship Gen Morland gave a short address and the memorial was unveiled.

THE UNVEILING CEREMONY

Order of Service

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

O God, the Protector of all that trust in Thee, without Whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us Thy mercy; that, Thou being our Ruler and Guide, we may pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal; Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord. Amen.

O Almighty God, Who has last knit together Thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of Thy Son Christ our Lord; Grant us grace so to follow Thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which Thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lesson – Eccles. Xliv., 1-14.

Let us now praise famous men, and our fathers that begat us.

The Lord hath wrought great glory by them through his great power from the beginning.

Such as did bear rule in their kingdoms, men renowned for their power, giving counsel by their understanding, and declaring prophecies:

Leaders of the people by their counsels, and by their knowledge of learning meet for the people, wise and eloquent in their instructions:

Such as found out musical tunes, and recited verses in writing:

Rich men furnished with ability, living peaceably in their habitations:

All of these were honoured in their generations, and were the glory of their times.

There be of them, that have left a name behind them, that their praises might be reported.

And some there be, which have no memorial; who are perished, as though they have never been; and are become as though they had never been born; and their children after them.

But these were the merciful men, whose righteousness hath not been forgotten.

With their seed shall continually remain a good inheritance, and their children are within the covenant.

Their seed standeth fast, and their children for their sakes.

Their seed shall remain for ever, and their glory shall not be blotted out.

Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore.

Prayer was offered by
The Rev. C. B. Deane. M.C.

Let us now unite in revered praise and thanksgiving for our brothers, the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Tank Corps, who in the Great War laid down their lives for their King and their country.

They were the men who endured hardships with patience, and faced dangers with cheerfulness. They fought right valiantly and well. They gave themselves; they gave their all, the promise of their manhood, the flower of their strength. Through them has been won the great victory: through them we stand in the gateway of Peace; through them has been obtained the assurance of Freedom.

Theirs has been the great sacrifice; and we thank God it has not been made in vein.



[Langflier.]
LIEUT.-GEN. SIR T. MORLAND, D.S.O.
Commanding the Tenth Army Corps of the
Fourth British Army on the Somme.

The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI - Cont.

From thanksgiving for their splendid offering we turn ourselves solemnized, yet, as we pray, inspired by high responsibility of our simple daily duty: May God so purify our desires and purge us from selfishness of indolence and pride, that in our country's cause we may show ourselves not unworthy of our dear brothers departed, and with sure hope look forward to our joyful reunion with them hereafter in the higher service of our Risen Lord and Saviour.

Silence was then kept for a space.

Then was sung by all:

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, Angelic host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Memorial was then Unveiled

By

Lt. General Sir T. L. N. Moreland, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.,
D.S.O., A.D.C.

representing His Majesty the King, Colonel –in-Chief, after which he delivered the following address:--

“I have been deputed to unveil this Memorial on behalf of His Majesty The King.

“This Memorial is erected to the glorious memory of 212 officers and 1,107 other ranks of the Tank Corps, including 301st American Tank Battalion, who laid down their lives for King and Country in the Great War. It is situated on or near the spot from which the first tank went into action.

“The Tank Corps came into existence during the war. The object which the pioneers of the Tank Corps had in view was to produce something to fight wire and machine-guns, and thus to save casualties to the infantry. It was first formed in 1916 as the Heavy Section, M.G. Corps, at a strength of six companies, of which two first fought in the Somme battle on 15th September, 1916, the first occasion in which tanks were used.

“Tanks were subsequently employed in ever increasing numbers in all the great battle of the war – on the Acre, at Arras, Ypres, Cambrai – where they gained a glorious success.

“The Corps did splendid work and suffered severely in the retirement of the spring of 1918, losing two-thirds of their tanks in action on all parts of the front, their crews, where they survived, continuing the fight on foot.

“In the great allied offensive of 1918, reorganized and rearmed and now at a strength of six brigades, the Corps covered itself with glory.

“On August 8th they attained their greatest measure of success and took a predominant part in the battle. This great success would not have been obtained without the splendid co-operation of the men in the factories at home.

“From then on during the 100 days they fought in 11 great battles and 26 lesser engagements, their fighting strength at the Armistice being reduced to one weak brigade.

“Their casualties during the period amounted to 550 officers and 2,557 other ranks.

“During the war the number of immediate rewards granted to the Corps were fours V.C.’s (Victoria Cross), 73 D.S.O.’s (Distinguished Service Order) with nine bars, 446 M.C.’s (Military Cross) with 42 bars, 144 D.C.M.’s (Distinguished Conduct Medal) with one bar, 604 M.M.’s (Military Medal) with 23 bars.

“In the final advance into Germany the 17th Armoured Car Battalion had the honour of entering Cologne and of crossing the Rhine at the head of the British Army – an honour well deserved.

“This is a great record, of which the Tank Corps and the Empire has every reason to be proud.

“For centuries the soil of Artois, of Picardy, and of Flanders, has been watered with the blood of fighting men of British race, from the archers, knights and men-at-arms of Crecy and of Agincourt, to the fighting men of the present day – riflemen, gunners, cavalrymen and airmen, and last of them all, the men of the Tank Corps, the armoured knights of to-day, the youngest Corps in the British Army. The men of the Corps have proved themselves worthy of their ancestors, worthy to hold pride of place in the halls of Valhalla among that great company who, throughout the centuries, have died for England.

“Those, to whose memory this monument has been erected, have not died in vein. They have established for their Corps a fine tradition. They have set an example to their comrades for ever of duty nobly done, and of that spirit of self sacrifice, at once the highest of Christian ideals and the greatest of military virtues. They died to save others.

“The memory of their deeds, the record of their sacrifice, will never die. It is for you their comrades and successors to profit by their example, and in your future careers ever to stand fast to uphold those ideals of right, of justice, and of liberty, for which they died.”

The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI - Cont.



UNVEILING OF THE TANK CORPS WAR MEMORIAL, 22nd JULY, 1922

"... there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England"



The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI - Cont.

The memorial carries a few scars, some from the Second World War and some due to ageing. (Photo on previous page, lower left.)

Discussions regarding repair and refurbishment are ongoing.

The Memorial sits on the edge of the road D929 as you leave Pozieres heading East towards Bapaume. Across the road is the Windmill, which I am not sure of the significance of. And then the WWI Animal War Memorial.

On the previous page you will see the photo, bottom right, beyond the Animal Memorial in the field is the words Pozieres Lest We Forget. Large enough you can see it on Google map!

Below you see a photo of the detail of the chain link acting as the fence around the memorial. And the cannon barrels as the fence posts.

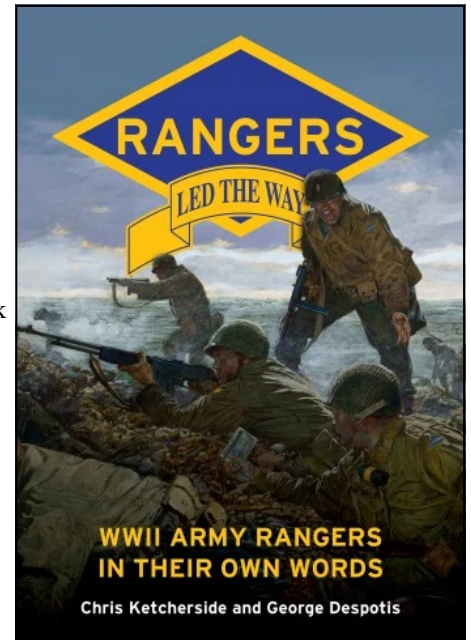
There are four different tanks on the pedestals. Representing each of the tanks used by the Tank Corps.

All in all a very well thought out memorial for the Royal Tank Corps.



Rangers Led The Way by Chris Ketcherside & George Despotis

Rangers Lead the Way WWII Army Rangers in their Own Words
 by Chris Ketcherside & George Despotis
 180 b/w images
 Binding: Hard Cover
 ISBN: 9780764360367
 Schiffer Publishing



Description

Rangers Led the Way is a collection of interviews from 20 Rangers who fought in Europe during WWII, including the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Ranger Battalions. The book also includes historical context so the actions described in the interviews can be understood as part of the larger war. Within a year after the fateful attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the US military understood the need for Special Forces and began training with the British Commandos to create the force that would become the famous US Rangers. Although US Ranger history emanates from before the Revolutionary War, Ranger training and missions substantially changed greatly during WWII, leading to a new generation of Rangers. Many never-before-seen maps and photographs are also included.

Authors

Chris Ketcherside is a college professor of American history, and a retired US Marine.

George Despotis, MD, is an associate professor of pathology, immunology and anesthesiology at Washington University School of Medicine, with a great interest in WWII history.

https://schifferbooks.com/products/rangers-led-the-way?_pos=1&_sid=39dd92edf&_ss=r

My Review

This book is a collection of interviews from Rangers in various units during WWII. They conducted very good interviews as they asked about where they were on December 7, 1941. They ask what their plans were before December 7th. And then what led them to join the Rangers.

There were stories about each of the battalions. So they tell a little about the battalion history and then have interviews from the Rangers.

There are a many photos in the book. There are photos of the graves of those killed buried in cemeteries overseas. Photos from the men interviewed of the training, post battle, and all things Ranger.

I would not recommend this as a first book to read on the Rangers in World War II. This is a book that will help tell the story once you have studied the battles and have a little more insight as to each of their battles. These interviews put you in the throws of the action with little details of the complete operation.

Some of the interviews bounce around in the action and the interview will go back and forth with different days or battles. Sometimes it is hard to keep up. There were a few times that I would have to stop and re-read the interview to get a hand on what I was reading. Having been watching interviews on the West Point Oral History page it is a real challenge to keep the interview in the current frame and focus on each action. As an interviewer you must have well thought out direction for the interview but allow for stories that add to the flow.

If you are familiar with Ranger operations in WWII then this is a great add to the Ranger history and story.

Patton Monument Report for 2021

As of August 25, 2022, the Monument fund has \$26,357.00.

Total in Monument Account: \$26,357.00.

The Bourg Tee Shirts we have on hand. **(UPDATED)**

Large: Yellow - 2, **2XL:** Yellow - 2, Tan - 2, OD - 3, **3XL:** Yellow - 2, Tan - 2, OD - 1, **4XL:** Yellow - 1.

M4 Tee Shirt

Large: Tan - 1.

2XL: Tan - 1

New Mugs!!!

We now have the 15oz Red Ball Express mug and the new 15oz Treat'em Rough Mug!

Lapel Pins

We are looking at \$12 each for these.



Patton Battalion Funds / Memberships / Dues

The Patton Battalion, as of August 25, has 438 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$0.26 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$417.21 in the Patton Operating account. Battalions funds are \$417.21. There are no Monument funds in the Battalion account as of this time.

In order to be a paid member of the battalion you must be a paid member of USABOT National. Again, a paid first year membership of \$15.00 which gets you a free battalion patch. Since we now have the battalion patch in the larger size both in color and subdued you have a choice as to which one you want free with your paid membership.

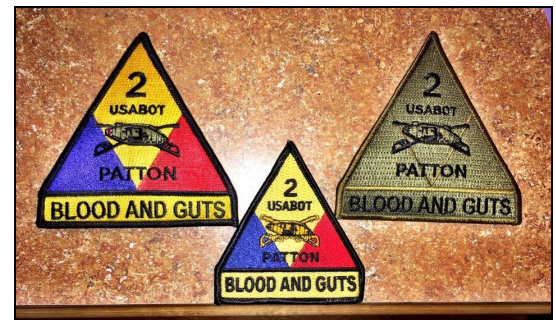
Both patches are also available for \$5 EA.

Your annual membership renewal will be \$10.00 every year after that. **Annual dues for the battalion are now due in June of each year!**

You can pay for your battalion membership through Paypal at: **pattonbattalion@outlook.com** or **patton.battalion@usabot.org**.

If you don't have a Paypal account you can send a check or Money Order to:

Patton Battalion - USABOT
1432 Flood Road
Shelbyville, KY 40065



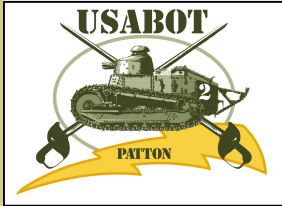
ATTENTION

USABOT Memberships can be renewed and purchased By mail at

USABOT
68 West Marion ST
Doylestown, OH 44230

Make checks payable to USABOT
If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online and register there so that the G4 can track.

WWW.USABOT.ORG



Patton Battalion - USABOT

Board of Directors

- Matthias Martinez
- Karlen P Morris
- Nathan Snyder
- William Starks
- Dion Walker, Sr.
- Phillip Wilburn



Be sure to check us out on Twitter @pattonbattalion



HQ Multinational Corps Northeast

New week – Stronger Together on NATO's eastern flank. We are determined to ensure peace in the region against any threat.

Abrams M1A2 tank fires during “SUMMER SHIELD 2021” exercise final phase in Latvia.

Photo by Gatis Indrēvics, Sergeant First Class from the Ministry of Defence of Latvia Combat Camera Team

Coming up in the October Issue - Homecoming at Gettysburg!

Upcoming Events

US Cavalry & Armor Association Chapter Fort Knox - Stable Call monthly meeting, 3rd Thursday of every month, Location TBD - Fort Knox, KY.

Indiana Military Museum Schedule 2021

Vietnam Appreciation Day - October 15.

Tenth Annual Tanker Homecoming - Gettysburg, PA. - October 13-16, 2022.

Registration is open now! Take a minute to get registered for the weekend, and then get your hotel reservations made under the USABOT block of rooms at either Quality Inn or Best Western, both located across the street from each other on Steinwehr Ave. Don't delay!!! Rooms are going quickly!!!

Gainey Cup - Plans for the Gainey Cup to return around the same time in 2023.

Operation Anvil - Battle for Southern France 1944- Phil Moore Park, Bowling Green, KY, October 1, 2022.

Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument - Fort Knox - *TBD*

