



**NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2020
VOLUME 8 - NO. 1**

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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

453 on Battalion Facebook Page

PATTON BATTALION - USABOT ILLINOIS - INDIANA - KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

January of 2020!!! Can you believe it? It is hard to imagine that it was January of 2017 that we officially started the Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument project. We are making ground and about to surpass the \$16,000.00 mark!

In this months issue I have a book review for a book I heard about on the International Spy Museum Podcast, *SPYCAST*. I found out about it from a post on Twitter and went to check it out. The book is "Patton's Way: A Radical Theory of War" by James Kelly Morningstar. One of the first things I learned about the author was he was former Armor officer. Plus the host of the Podcast was a former Armor officer. So the podcast was great and really made me want to get this book.

One of the things I liked about the book was the confirmation of the mentorship I had received from Gen Irzyk about his thoughts on Patton and war fighting. As I read through the book I kept saying to myself "that's what I learned from Gen Irzyk." I really enjoyed the book and found it a great read. I will say that the first two chapters seemed to take you from WWI to WWII but the author was trying to paint a picture about Gen Patton. If you are looking for a book to add to your Patton collection this is one to add.

Another book I had been following was "Why We Write" by many authors. This is a book of short stories from those who have served in the defense of the United States and other Allies of the U.S. It is compiled by the Military Writers Guild, militarywritersguild.org. I have been following them on Facebook and Twitter for a while now. There is a growing trend of getting military veterans to write, write about their story, write about their service, write about their life after their service. The key is to write. So this book is a collection of stories about why these authors, some famous, some not so much, started writing and why they feel that writing is important or helped them.

What I like about the book is seeing that most of us are all the same, we don't feel that we can write or write very well. As it turns out it doesn't really matter. Again the key is writing. Doesn't mater if you write it with a pen, write on a computer, use a typewriter, use a computer, or use crayons! I hope that others will take a chance and read the book. I found some things that may be useful in future copies of the newsletter. And that I need to improve on my writing as well. (My copies of these books are available to borrow when others are finished)

There is another group called the Last 100 Yards which is a group seeking NCO's to write. I have sent them a few things I have written and they are going t post them on their website, companyleader.themilitaryleader.com/thelast100/. There are some NCO stories already posted on there. The Military Leader website also has one I think some of you old 11th Cav folks will enjoy, companyleader.themilitaryleader.com/lessons-from-atropia/. Lessons from Atropia is a page dedicated to stories about the NTC. Be sure to check these out and follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

The reviews for both of these books was shared from the pages of their publishers.

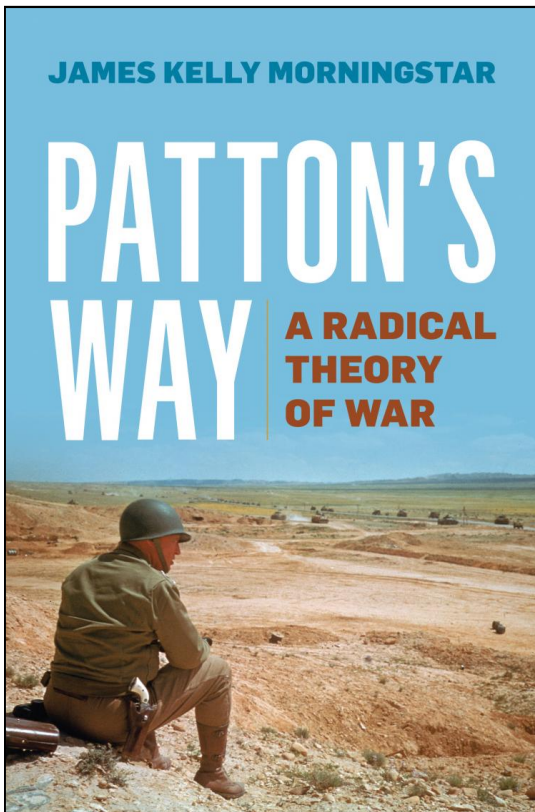
We received our second run of Treat'em Rough mugs this month. We now have more of the black mugs and about 20 of the new White/Gloss mugs. Photos and information on them is on page 8 in this newsletter.

I am also asking for tanker stories. These will appear in next months issue of the newsletter. So if you have a story send it to me. Get it to me! I have some real good ones so far.

KP Morris
Patton 6

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Patton's Way: A Radical Theory of War by James Kelly Morningstar



Patton's Way: A Radical Theory of War

By James Kelly Morningstar

Subject: General Military & Naval History | World War II | Strategy and Weapons

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 404 pages

Published: June 15, 2017

ISBN-10: 1612519792

ISBN-13: 9781612519791

Product Dimensions: 9.25 × 6.125 × 1 in

Product Weight: 22 oz

Overview

Patton's Way is a unique approach to the legend of General George S. Patton Jr. and his development and application of modern warfare. Rather than a biography, Patton's Way argues that popular representations of Patton are built on misconceptions and incomplete understandings about his approach to battle.

Morningstar addresses the contradiction between the historiographical criticism of Patton's methods and popular appreciation for his successes. The author identifies several schools of thought offering explanations yet, he notes, they all fail to fully comprehend the real Patton.

The secret to Patton's success was a radical and purposely-crafted doctrine developed over several decades. The author identifies four core principles in Patton's

creed: targeting the enemy's morale through shock; utilizing highly practiced combined arms mechanized columns; relying on mission tactics and flexible command and control; and employing multi-layered and synthesized intelligence systems to identify enemy capabilities and weak spots. These precepts directly contradicted official U.S. Army doctrine and created misunderstandings that led commanders to truncate Patton's operations in Tunisia, Sicily, and France.

Morningstar details how Patton developed and applied each principle and uses the breakout from Normandy as a case study to illustrate Patton's Way in application. This book discusses the "death and resurrection" of Patton's ideas in the U.S. Army directly following World War II to the present and comments on the status of Patton's ideas in the Army today.

Editorial Reviews

"Morningstar brilliantly puts Patton back in thought in the evolution of American strategic and tactical concepts. He is full of reflections on the war.... This book is to advise all those who are interested in strategy and tactics." —*Politique étrangère*

"James Morningstar's book brilliantly replaces Patton's thinking in the evolution of American strategic and tactical concepts. It is full of particularly relevant reflections on war and maneuver, as Western armies seek to reinvent their modes of action for conventional, high-intensity combat. This book is for anyone interested in strategy and tactics." —*Foreign Policy*

"Patton's Way is a compelling and thought-provoking study of Patton's leadership and his revolutionary methods of planning and preparing for war and how, since his untimely death in 1945, his ideas and principles have continued to have an influential impact on the Army's postwar leaders." —*Carlo D'Este, author of Patton: A Genius for War*

"Morningstar makes a comprehensive and persuasive case for Patton's development of an approach to war-making based on 'shock and awe' intelligence that focuses on weaknesses; planning that targets morale; execution that emphasizes initiative. . . . Anomalous in a World War II Army based on management, inapplicable to a current emphasis on counterinsurgency, Patton's Way is no panacea. It remains, however, a powerful instrument of conventional land war—which remains a factor in the new century." —*Dennis Showalter, retired professor of history and past president of the Society for Military History, and author of Patton and Rommel: Men of War in the Twentieth Century*

"Morningstar has crafted a volume that is clearly a fresh and intriguing look at Patton...an extremely focused volume that is true scholarship on the man. Patton's Way is unquestionably a welcome addition to the ever-increasing collection of books written on Patton." —*Military Review*

Patton's Way - cont.

"[Morningstar] reminds us that command is a hands-on exercise, best conducted by well trained, free thinking professionals, whilst cautioning against thinking, as did one recently popular amateur historian, that Patton and the Third Army could settle the Middle East in a trice." —*StrategyPage*

"Morningstar offers a decidedly admiring examination of Patton's generalship that will be of interest to many students of the history of the U.S. Army in the twentieth century . . . and World War II in particular." —*Journal of Military History*

"To most historians, George Patton's legacy died with him at the end of World War II. Thankfully, James Kelly Morningstar has resurrected and extended Patton into the modern era. I've always suspected that Patton's long shadow is with us still. Morningstar proves it with brilliant scholarship and an amazingly contemporaneous thesis that makes Patton's genius relevant to today's generation of soldiers." —Maj. Gen. Robert Scales, USA (Ret.), author of *Scales on War: The Future of America's Military at Risk*

"Patton's Way is a must read for any U.S. or allied course that deals with leader development! West Pointer, combat veteran, and teacher, James Kelly Morningstar has done superb primary research to make this a must-have addition for any officer or leader development program, as well as for any scholar of warfare. . . . Patton had it right; if the U.S. Army had listened to him, the war in North Africa, Sicily, and Europe might had been won faster and at less cost. This book is so well written and researched that I am going to read it again!" —Maj. Donald E. Vandergriff, USA (Ret.), author of *The Path to Victory: America's Army and the Revolution in Human Affairs*

"This book is one that every serious specialist of World War II should read. More importantly, it is an account that any individual involved in developing doctrine in any professional army—be it the U.S., British, or South Korean—should read, study, and consider carefully." —Naval War College Review

About the Author

James Kelly Morningstar is a twenty-year Army veteran who served in the Gulf War and in a wide range of assignments including tours in Germany, Bosnia, Washington, D.C., and at the National Training Center. He is a West Point graduate and now teaches military history at the University of Maryland. This is his first book.

From the Book Review in *Military Review*, August 2017.

"We all know there are few certainties in life, and most that do exist are not very pleasant to think about. One thing that has almost entered the realm of certainty (and may or may not be pleasant to think about) is that another book focused on George Patton, Douglas MacArthur, or Dwight Eisenhower will inevitably be written in the near future. Like most of you, I wonder if there is anything left to be addressed on these men. However, I believe author James Kelly Morningstar may have found a niche on Patton that has not been significantly pursued in his excellent book, Patton's Way: A Radical Theory of War.

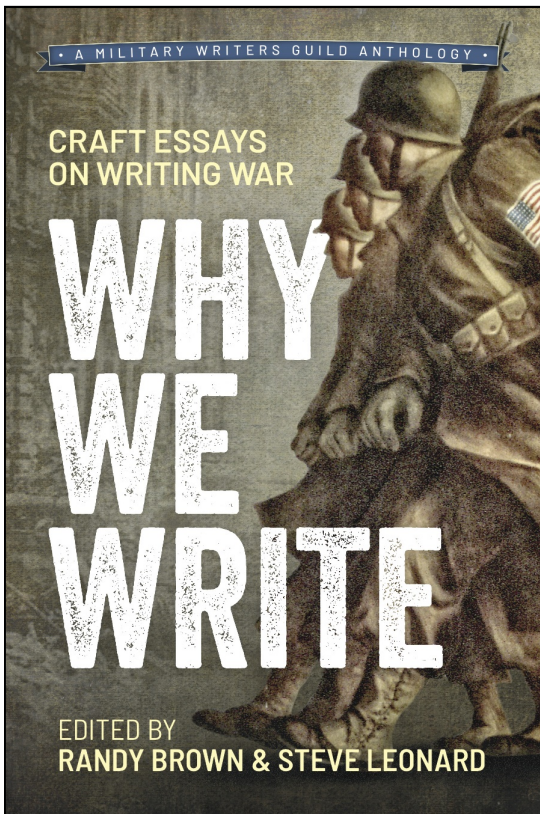
Morningstar has not attempted to place an additional standard Patton biography on the market. This in itself is important, since the world clearly does not need another Patton biography. Instead, he has narrowed his focus on Patton to two specific aspects. First, Morningstar keys on the warfighting philosophy of Patton and how he executed this philosophy during World War II. Second, the author takes that philosophy and examines its impact on the U.S. Army since the end of the war to present.

In the book's final two chapters, "Death and Resurrection" and "The Limits of Legacy," Morningstar analyzes the influence of Patton on Army doctrine and warfighting since the end of World War II. He discusses conflicts, wars, and time periods where Patton's ideas had a huge impact. In particular, he singles out the development of AirLand Battle doctrine in the 1980s and its subsequent employment during the first Gulf War. He opines that in the Vietnam War and the recent wars of Iraq and Afghanistan, Patton's influence was negligible. As he states, "But Patton is not alive today. Neither is an understanding of his methods."

In summary, Morningstar has crafted a volume that is clearly a fresh and intriguing look at Patton. This is not one of numerous Patton biographies on the market that simply highlight incidents in his life and take a positive or negative stance on Patton; instead, it is an extremely focused volume that is true scholarship on the man. Patton's Way is unquestionably a welcome addition to the ever-increasing collection of books written on Patton."

The book review was written by Frederick A. Baillergeon, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Why We Write - Crafting Essays on Writing War



Mil-Writers Anthology Launches Today!

Featuring more than 60 leading and emerging writers of military- and war-themed fiction, non-fiction, journalism, poetry, and more, the anthology "Why We Write: Craft Essays on Writing War" launches TODAY, Dec. 10, 2019 in both print and Kindle e-book formats! The Middle West Press LLC project is in partnership with the Military Writers Guild. Contributors include service members past and present, as well as scholars, historians, journalists, and civilians with experiences in international relations and national security.

With a title that echoes Frank Capra's patriotic "Why We Fight" films of World War II, the cover by illustrator Paul Hewitt of Battlefield Design reinterprets propaganda poster images from the same era.

Response to the anthology from other war writers has been overwhelming and positive: "Page by page, line by line, these men and women—veterans and civilians of various eras and nations—speak the truth about what it is like not just to fight, but to write," notes U.S. Army veteran Doug Bradley, author of "Who'll Stop the Rain: Respect, Remembrance, and Reconciliation in Post-Vietnam America" as well as other non-fiction and fiction about that war. "The power of a good story is as important as the sharpest policy paper," writes one Vietnam-veteran senator's son. As a U.S. Navy chopper pilot who himself flew in Afghanistan, he couldn't be more accurate. Read this book and discover what he means!"

U.S. Marine veteran and literary agent Tracy Crow says: "A notable first, 'Why We Write' delivers immeasurable, experiential wisdom from an impressive range of military voices regarding the power and impact of writing—on the self, on the truth, and ultimately on the world. [...] The courageous contributors within 'Why

We Write' are filling a disturbing void for humanity by expressing a sense of urgency and historical reflection about the complexities of war—whether writing and reflecting on the insanely humorous, or the insanely atrocious."

Crow also serves as president of the national non-profit MilSpeak Foundation, Inc., and is the author of six military-themed fiction and non-fiction titles, including "On Point: A Guide to Writing the Military Story."

The "Why We Write" anthology comprises four sections, each loosely organized around a theme:

Calls to Action, Calls to Arms: Stories of how-to and inspiration toward engaging the public and/or the military profession through writing!

War Stories: Stories of writing success and lessons-learned!

Building Bridges & Platforms: Stories of how-to and inspiration toward building connections, communities, organizations, author platforms, etc.!

The Arts of War & Writing: Essays about writing literary fiction, genre fiction, poetry, history, and more!

Women make up approximately one-third of the anthology's contributors. Approximately two-thirds of the contributors are past or present members of their respective countries' armed forces, with the remaining one-third being "civilians"—journalists, scholars, historians, and more. Military Writers Guild members comprise approximately one-fifth of contributors.

Anthology co-editor Randy Brown is an award-winning war poet (Welcome to FOB Haiku: War Poems from Inside the Wire) and U.S. Army veteran who embedded as civilian media in Afghanistan in 2011. A former newspaper and magazine journalist, he previously edited the book Reporting for Duty: U.S. Citizen-Soldier Journalism from the Afghan Surge, 2010-2011.

Widely published in literary journals and anthologies, Brown has also written the Red Bull Rising military blog since December 2009. He writes about military-themed writing techniques and markets at The Aiming Circle blog. He is a member of the Military Writers Guild. On Twitter, follow him at: @FOB_Haiku

Steve Leonard is a retired U.S. Army strategist, a program director in organizational leadership at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, and the creative force behind the web comic Doctrine Man!! He is published widely, including in the anthologies Strategy Strikes Back: How Star Wars Explains Modern Military Conflict, and Winning Westeros: How Game of Thrones Explains Modern Military Conflict. He is a member of the Military Writers Guild. On Twitter, follow him at: @Doctrine_Man

Why We Write / Last 100 Yards

Established in 2017 for the purpose of promoting professional collaboration in the practice of writing, the national non-profit Military Writers Guild (www.MilitaryWritersGuild.org) has grown to comprise more than 150 past and present service members, as well as civilians with experiences in international relations, national security, journalism, and intelligence.

“To some, the term ‘military writing’ evokes images of orders, annexes, and stacks of memorandums feeding the bureaucratic machine,” notes Christopher G. Ingram, the current president of the organization. “However, our members are intellectually curious, professionally engaged, and widely published across a range of creative and professional writing.”

“Most importantly, we’re always motivated to exchange lessons and insights with others,” Ingram says. “Partnering with best-selling authors and Middle West Press has been an ideal force-multiplier, in our organization’s inaugural publishing project.”

Middle West Press LLC is a Johnston, Iowa-based editor and publisher of non-fiction, fiction, journalism, and poetry. As an independent micro-press, it publishes one to four titles annually. “Why We Write” is the first of its projects conducted in partnership with an association, and the fifth of its titles involving war and military themes.

<http://www.middlewestpress.com/2019/12/mil-writers-anthology-launches-today.html#more>

www.middlewestpress.com

<http://companyleader.themilitaryleader.com/>

<http://companyleader.themilitaryleader.com/thelast100/>

The Last 100 Yards

The NCO owns the last 100 yards; a phrase that transcends the battlefield and applies to every facet of a Non-Commissioned Officers duties. This page, and community, are dedicated to empowering, projecting, and growing the influence and voices of the military’s NCOs.

This is a page where we specifically highlight the voices and stories of our NCOs. We welcome the NCO Perspective and Voice, and encourage NCOs to put their experience and insight to work outside of the local unit level. As we continue to publish more pieces, this page will evolve. So what are you waiting for?

The first series, and one that will be enduring, is “Why We Write”; much like the original “Why We Fight”, which aimed to motivate and explain to Service Members our involvement in World War 2, the “Why We Write” series aims to motivate and explain to the NCO Corps why their voices are important. Please consider contributing to this series!

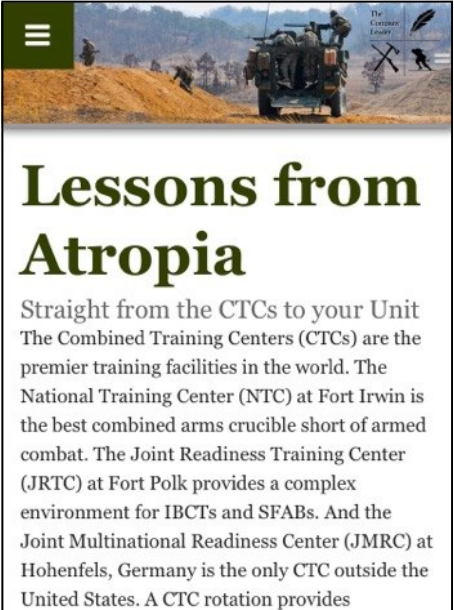
They also have:

Lessons from Atropia

Straight from the CTCs to your Unit

The Combined Training Centers (CTCs) are the premier training facilities in the world. The National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin is the best combined arms crucible short of armed combat. The Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Fort Polk provides a complex environment for IBCTs and SFABs. And the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) at Hohenfels, Germany is the only CTC outside the United States. A CTC rotation provides countless lessons learned. But why wait for your unit to go through a CTC to benefit from these lessons?

This page is the direct source of CTC lessons learned straight from the Observe Coach/ Trainers and Rotational Units. We will regularly consolidate and publish documents like the NTC Update and other lessons from the front right here on this page. Subscribe now to have all new posts delivered directly to you inbox.



Lessons from Atropia

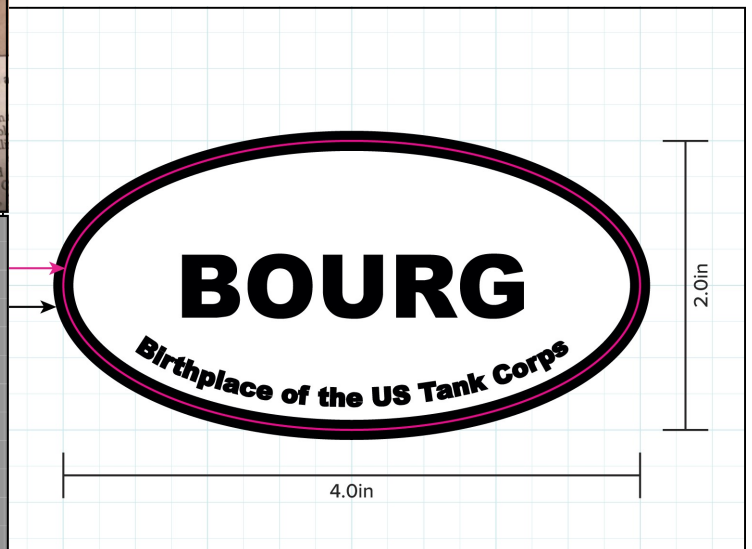
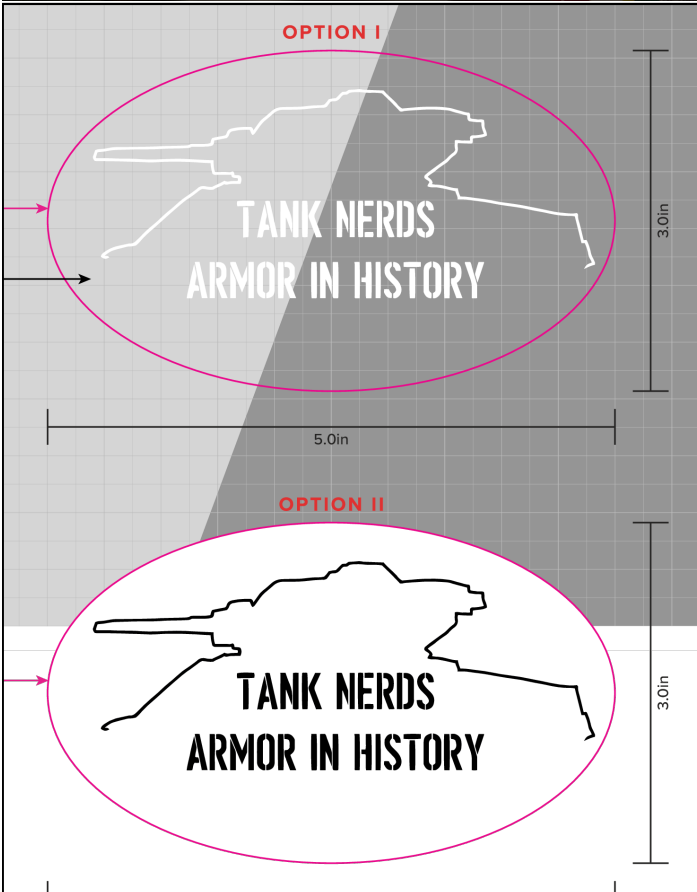
Straight from the CTCs to your Unit

The Combined Training Centers (CTCs) are the premier training facilities in the world. The National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin is the best combined arms crucible short of armed combat. The Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Fort Polk provides a complex environment for IBCTs and SFABs. And the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) at Hohenfels, Germany is the only CTC outside the United States. A CTC rotation provides

New Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument Items

So we have some new items on top of the tees and the mugs. I have decals/stickers that we have had made. The first is the Bourg oval decal/sticker. These are just like the Treat'em Rough decals. They are made for indoor and outdoor use. These are small but I wanted to see how these would do before diving head first. These are 2" tall and 4" long. I have 25 of these on hand.

The other item is the Tank Nerds Armor in History decal/sticker. These are slightly larger than the Bourg decal. These are 3" tall and 5" long. It is a clear decal with the image on it. I made the mistake of selecting Option II, black ink, for the first set. We can always get white ink but I will have order those. I have 25 on these on hand.



New Tank Corps Monument Item

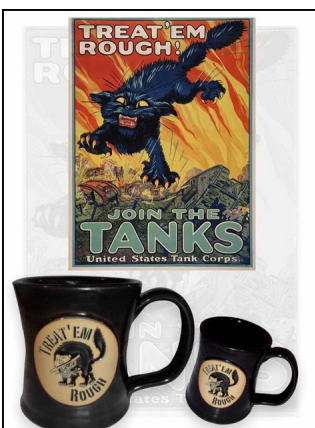


The 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Bulge tee shirt. These are on a run like the shirts we did before. Colors are White, Grey, and OD Green. Sizes will run from Small through 3XL. These shirts are athletic cut and do run small in size. These are \$30 each, 3XL shirts are \$35 each. Shipping can be included. These shirts are printed as ordered.

On Hand - 1 - Grey - XL

Patton Battalion has a new item for the Patton US Tank Corps Monument Project.

Its an 11oz Diner Mug made here in the USA by Deneen Pottery. These are available for \$25 each and shipping if needed is between \$8 and \$10 depending on quantity and distance.



We now have Gloss/White (20) and Black (29) on hand. So they are going quick. Contact me or look for them on the 19Series Website. <https://19seriesclothing.com/>



Patton Monument Report for 2020

As of January 27, 2020, the Monument fund has \$15,093.40. After paying for the second run of mugs and moving funds over to cover shipping costs.

Total in Monument Account: \$15,093.40.

The Bourg Tee Shirts we have on hand.

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

M4 Tee Shirt

Large: Tan - 1, OD -1.

2XL: Tan - 1

Lapel Pins

We are looking at \$12 each for these.



I have over 40 of the Treat'em Rough stickers again! We are asking \$5 each, which includes shipping. If you want some please contact me!

Patton Battalion Funds / Memberships / Dues

The Patton Battalion, as of January 27, has 451 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$183.20 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$449.58 in the Patton Operating account. Battalions funds are \$313.22.

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.

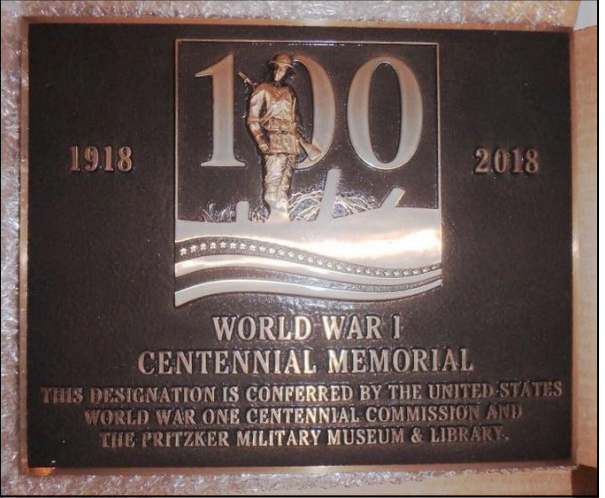
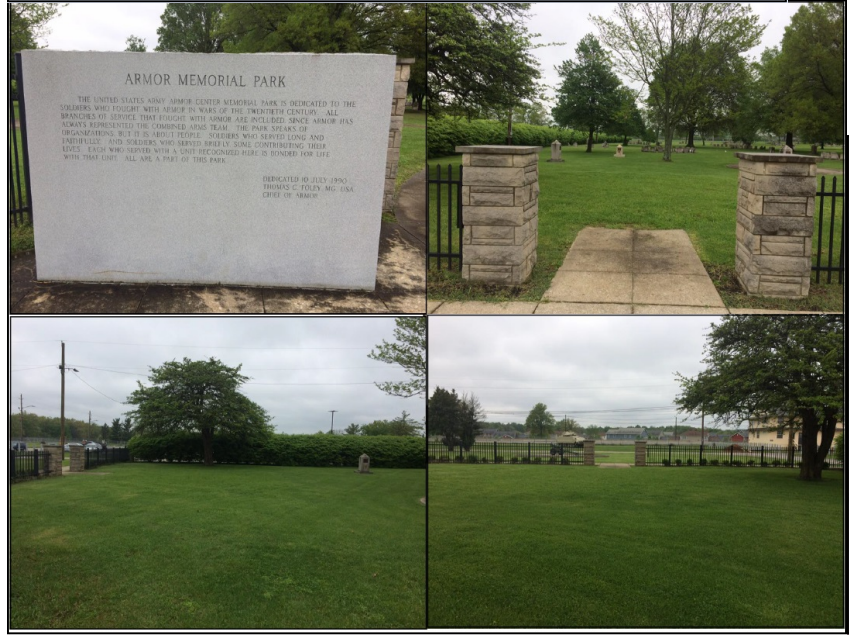
WWW.USABOT.ORG

Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument



The US Tank Corps shirts we still have few tees left!

<https://19seriesclothing.com/>



Patton Monument Layout

Proposed wording for back of monument - Left Side

Captain George S. Patton, Jr., during WWI, while assigned as the first officer to the U.S. Army Tank Corps, 10 November 1917, built the U.S. Army Light Tank School at Bourg, France, developed training, tactics, techniques and procedures for light tanks and help develop the first U.S. built tank, the M1917.

Letter from Captain Patton to Commander-in-Chief A.E.F, Subject: Command in the Tank Service. October 3, 1917.

1. I understand that there is to be a new service of "Tanks" organized and request that my name be considered for a command in that service.
2. I think myself qualified for this service for the following reasons.
 - A. The duty of "Tanks" and more especially of "Light Tanks" is analogous to the duty performed by cavalry in normal wars. I am a cavalryman.
 - B. I have commanded a Machine Gun Troop and know something of the mechanism of Machine Guns. I have always had a Troop which shot well so think that I am a good instructor in fire. It is stated that accurate fire is very necessary to good use of tanks.
 - C. I have run Gas Engines since 1917 and have used and repaired Gas Automobiles since 1905.
 - D. I speak and read French better than 95% of American Officers so could get information from the French Direct. I have also been to school in France and have always gotten on well with Frenchmen.
 - E. I believe that I have quick judgment and that I am willing to take chances. Also I have always believed in getting close to the enemy and have taught this for two years at the Mounted Services School where I had success in arousing the aggressive spirit in the students.
 - F. I believe that I am the only American who has ever made an attack in a motor vehicle.
3. This request is not made because I dislike my present duty or am desirous of evading it but because I believe that when we get "Tanks" I would be able to do good service in them.

November 10, 1917: Order for tanks approved by GHQ AEF General Order 153, Paragraph 37.

On November 16, 1917, Captain Patton and 2nd Lieutenant Elgin Braine, the second person assigned to the US Tank Corps, were sent to the French Tank School at Champlieu, France and began learning about French Light Tanks.

"Light Tanks" was the first paper submitted by Captain Patton. The double-spaced, fifty-eight-page report was submitted on 12 December 1917 to the new Chief of Tanks, B.G. Samuel D. Rockenbach. It served as the foundation for subsequent tank developments in the AEF. The report, divided into four sections, including a detailed mechanical description of the Renault light tank, recommendations for the organization of tank units, a discussion of tank tactics and doctrinal theory, and proposed methods for the conduct of drill and instruction.

Patton described the light tank as a self-propelled armored vehicle capable of delivering predetermined firepower on the battlefield whenever needed. It had to be able to overcome all terrain obstacles in its path, provide maximum protection to both crew and engine, and be armed in order to accomplish this mission. He further specified that the vehicle must be easily manufactured in large numbers, have a power-to-weight ratio proportionate to the potential of its engine and traction, and be transportable to training or battle areas by either rail or truck. In later years when Patton was arranging his files, he wrote in pencil across the top, "This paper was and is the Basis of the U. S. Tank Corps. I think it is the best Technical Paper I ever wrote. GSP, Jr."

On December 17, 1917 Patton and Braine went to Langres, France where they reported to the Commandant of the Army Schools for the purpose of establishing a Tank School.

In late December Patton and Braine reconnoitered land that would be suitable for the tank School. They found and looked over ground near Bourg and decided that it was exactly what was needed for a school, tank park and maneuver ground. At Bourg, five miles south of Langres on the road to Dijon, the land was in the Bois d'Amour, a rising piece of ground crowned by a wood and flanked by two good roads and a railroad. Bourg, with nearby villages of St. Geosmes and Brennes, as well as Langres, were conveniently located for billets.

Promoted to Major, Temporary, January 26, 1918.

Assigned formally as the Commandant of the 1st Light Tank School, February 14, 1918.

Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, Temporary, April 3, 1918.

Organized 1st Light Tank Battalion with himself commanding, April 28, 1918.

Organized 2nd Light Tank Battalion, with himself in command of the Regiment, June 6, 1918.

Captain Patton, after seeing division patches on units arriving in France, said "I want you officers to devote one evening to something constructive. I want a shoulder insignia. We claim to have the firepower of artillery, the mobility of cavalry and the ability to hold ground of the infantry so whatever you come up with it must have red, yellow and blue [the traditional colors of artillery, cavalry and infantry] in it". The winning design was a triangular patch with equal parts of the three colors. The winning designer was awarded a \$100 dollar bill. Patton wanted to make the Tank Corps stand out from everyone else. That triangle [shoulder patch] was the first step.

Student, General Staff College, Langres, France, August 20, 1918.

Organized and assigned himself Brigade commander 304th Tank Brigade, August 24, 1918.

On 12 September 1918, Colonel Patton led the 304th Tank Brigade, consisting of the 326th and 327th tank battalions, that he trained, into combat during the Battle of St. Mihiel.

Led the 304th Tank Brigade during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. The Distinguished Service Cross Citation reads: for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with the Tank Corps, A.E.F., near Cheppy, France, 26 September 1918. Colonel Patton displayed conspicuous courage, coolness, energy, and intelligence in directing the advance of his brigade down the valley of the Aire. Later he rallied a force of disorganized infantry and led it forward, behind the tanks, under heavy machine-gun and artillery fire until he was wounded. Unable to advance further, Colonel Patton continued to direct the operations of his units until all arrangements for turning over the command were complete. General Order No. 113 (1918)

Promoted to Colonel Temporary, October 18, 1918.

His leadership, esprit de corps, élan, fundamentals and the combat aggressiveness that he instilled into the U.S. Tank Corps, continued into World War II through Korea, the Cold War, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and continues on to this very day...."Treat'em Rough!"

Patton Monument Layout

Proposed wording for backside of Monument (Right Side Rear)

TANK BATTALIONS THAT SERVED IN COMBAT

**301st Heavy Tank Battalion
306th Tank Brigade
331st Tank Battalion**

**304th Tank Brigade
344th Tank Battalion & 345th Tank Battalion**

ST. MIHIEL

● ESSAY ● NONSARD ● JONVILLE ● PANNES ● ST. MAURICE ● WOEL ● BENEY ●

MEUSE-ARGONNE

● VARNNES ● MONTBLAINVILLE ● EXERMONT ● CHEPPY ● CHARPENTRY ● CHAPAL CHEHERY ●
● BAULNY ● VERY ● SOMMERANCE ● MONTREBEAU WOODS ● KANDRES-ET-ST. GROERGES ●

WITH BRITISH FORCES

● BRANCOURT ● FRESNOY ● LA-HAIE MENNERESSE ● ST. SOUPLET ●
● CATILLON-ET-GIMBRAMONT FARM ● LE-CATELET BONY ●

MEDAL OF HONOR

2

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

50



WORLD WARS TANK CORPS ASSOCIATION

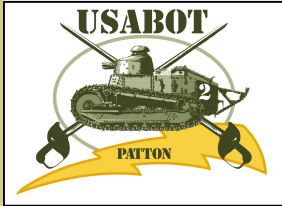
In 1919 the movement began to create Tank Corps Posts as a part of the newly formed American Legion. The purpose of the organization was to promote and maintain public interest in tanks as an arm of the service and to form a bond between its members by means of social and fraternal activities. These tankers created Tank Corps Posts formed in Chicago, New York, St Louis, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. just to name a few. The group was fond of the two men who made great impressions on them during World War 1, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and General George S. Patton, Jr.

The WWTCA lobbied the Post Master General in 1953 to create a General George S Patton, Jr. stamp. The stamp was unveiled on November 10, 1953 on General Patton's birthday.

The official combat badge of the American fighting tankmen was approved and released by the World Wars Tank Corps Association in April, 1957. Centered on the badge is a replica of the British Mark V tank running over the flaming sword symbolic of battle and in particular of Chateau Thierry. The background is blue and the inscription "World Wars Tank Corps." All armored combat men of both World Wars were eligible for the badge which was issued only through the World Wars Tank Corps Association. President Eisenhower received the first combat badge on July 7, 1958, at the White House.

The WWTCA lobbied the War Department to create a Combat Armor Badge after the success of Armor in World War II and the Korean War. In 1950's the WWTCA began to sponsor a measure before Congress to establish a Combat Armor Badge and Expert Tanker's Badge. The discussion would continue throughout the 1960's and 1970's during the Vietnam War and again in 1991 after Operation Desert Storm.

One of the last contributions made by this group was the Armored Force Monument located in Arlington National Cemetery.



Patton Battalion - USABOT

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- Dion Walker, Sr.
- Phillip Wilburn



Be sure to check us out on Twitter @pattonbattalion



One of the Best Army photos for 2019

Coming up in the February Issue - *Maneuvers and the Umpire System*, LTC John S Wood, *Cavalry Journal*. Possible changes to the Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument.

Upcoming Events

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

World War I Event - Indiana Military Museum, Vincennes, IN, March 21-22, 2020.

Sullivan Cup - Best Tank Crew Competition - Fort Benning, GA, 4-8 May 2020.

Ninth Annual Tanker Homecoming - Fort Carson, CO - September 23-26, 2020.

World War II Event - Indiana Military Museum, Vincennes, IN, 2020.

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

From the US Army Armor School

Are you ready for Sullivan Cup 2020!?

The events will be held 4-8 May 2020 here at Fort Benning!

Official invites and further details to follow, but let's start getting excited about seeing who the best tank crew of 2020 will be!!!

