

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022

VOLUME 11 - NO. 7

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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

For some three years now I have thought about an update to a poem I came across in Cavalry Journal from 1925. I have felt that it is time to revise this or update it. We are nearly 100 years from when it was printed in the journal.

I have attempted to revise this but I would like to see some input as to what needs to be added. Take a look at what I have and let me know. Kenneth Markham and I have talked about this many times.

The City of Radcliff orchestrated a project to get the M-103 tank in town and right off of 31W repainted. This was a project that was delayed due to COVID-19 but this past May it was completed.

The Patton Battalion also spearheaded a project to repaint the M-41 tank at the American Legion Post 87 at Hodgenville, KY.

I took a few months a collected a new stack of books to dive into. It is a wider variety this time. Some are books on a research project I am working on. Others have been insured by some recent events. And one is a book that I have watched develop from a news story and something I am very interested in learning more about.

The first book out of the stack is not tank related. James Earl Rudder was the commander of the 2nd Ranger Battalion that scaled the cliffs if Pointe du Hoc on D-Day. He was with the 110th Infantry Regiment in the Battle of the Bulge. Post war he was the President of Texas A&M University.

KP Morris
Patton 6

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WWW.USABOT.ORG
[HTTPS://19SERIESCLOTHING.COM](https://19SERIESCLOTHING.COM)

Fiddler's Green in Prose - Updated

Fiddler's Green in Prose

***** So when the cavalymen die, their souls ride away with full pack and arms down the long dusty road to the Next World. But two miles before the fork where the road turns north to Heaven and south to Hell, they ride off the road and dismount. They lead off to the right and past them march the infantry and the artillery men drive their guns and caissons past, marching on to the fork in the road to the Next World.

But the dead troopers lead away from the road to the green fields with trees and streams where by the river are pitched row on row of tents. Up on the hill is Headquarters and there are the marquees of the dead old cavalry officers – they too halted here, for they stayed with their own rather than swagger about Heaven or sweat through Hell. They ride with staff and orderlies, flags and escort, Murat, and Seidlitz, Zeithen, *Patton, Abrams, Moore*, and many more, or sit about the tables in the shade, over maps and glasses, as they did in the years when they fought and rode in this world.

Along the picket line under the trees, the dead troopers feed and groom, each man his own horse that he loved and rode in life. Now "Recall" blows, and "Mess Call": mess is served by celestial and for KP and stable police the angels do miracles. The darkening sky shows its jewelry of stars and troopers rest about the fires, lying on warm grass, with pipe and mug for every man. All together, men-at-arms and squire, cuirassier, lancer, hussar, and draagoon; Briton and Frank, Cossack, Roman, Greek, Yank and Reb – all races and every uniform, at peace by the white and brown tents, the horses resting at the lines, the sergeants cease from troubling, the officers too are at rest: cavalymen all, dreaming out eternity in the Last Camp.

Amongst the horses now sit the steel steeds, tanks, of all the variations. There are also Huey helicopters to represent the Air Mobile from Vietnam. A replication of the last cavalry charge by Ramsey and his men of the 26th Cavalry always stirs up the troops.

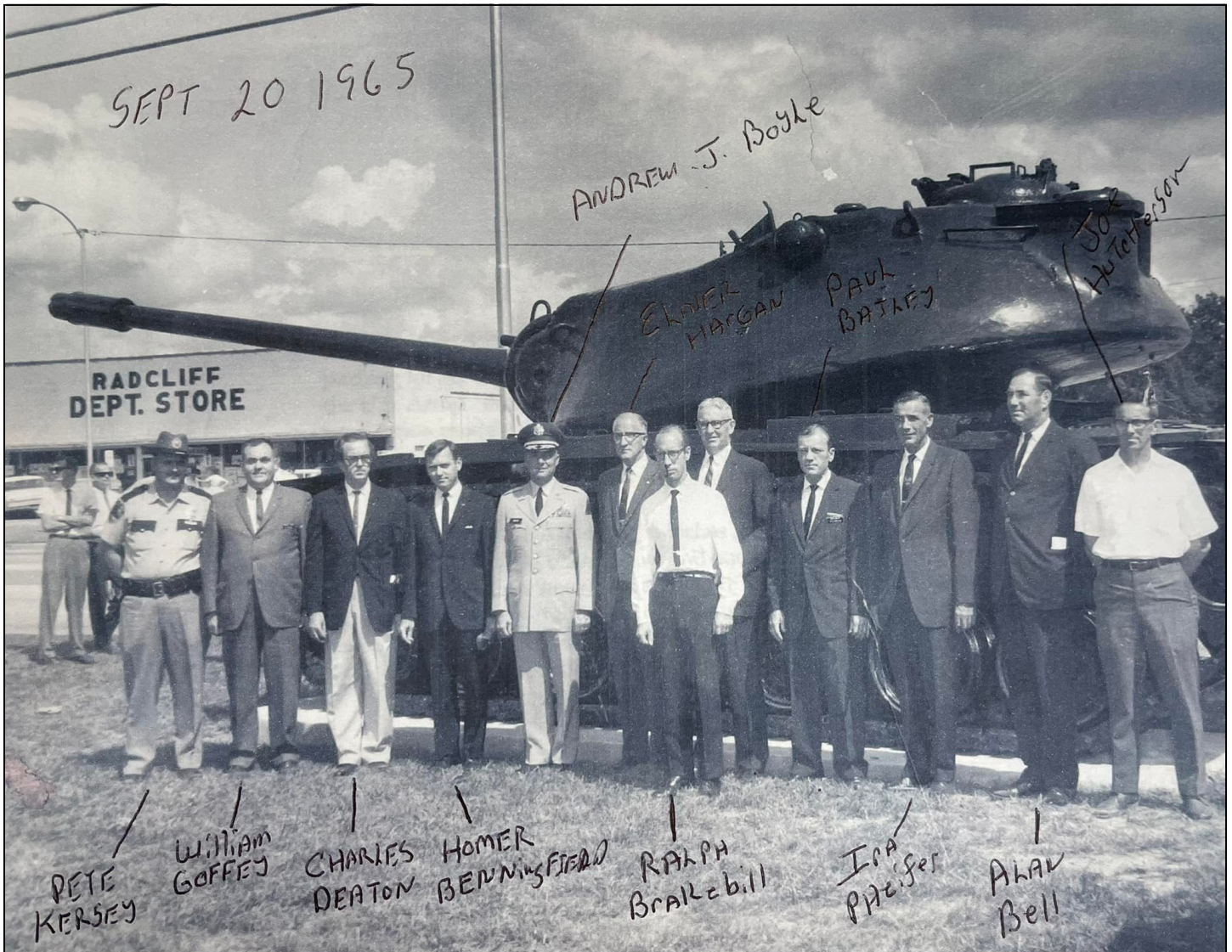
And afar through the day and night, from the distant road to the Next World, comes a muffled tramp of the infantry, *and the* rumbling of the guns *can be heard as the lanyard is pulled again and from overhead the hum of air-planes as the pilots and crews have all found an airfield to gather too*, marching on to the south fork of the road to the New World.

C.S.C

The Cavalry Journal
Volume XXXIV – Number 138
January 1925
Page 46

Let me know what you think of the revised version. Let me know what you think should be added or improved upon.

Radcliff M-103 Tank Cleanup



City of Radcliff Government Facebook Post from May 12, 2022.

September 20th 1965 leaders from Radcliff and Ft. Knox gather for the dedication of the M-103 tank. This was a symbol of the strength and partnership between the two communities.

The city of Radcliff and the General Patton Museum were working together to get the M-103 repainted. I was contacted by Patton Museum to see if we could help. I told them that we had some folks that had done this in the past and that when they were ready I would share the information. I think this got mixed up that we were running the lead on this. That was not the case.

On Saturday May 14th the city had the volunteers come out and paint the tank. The following photos are from the City of Radcliff Government Facebook page. Several people turned out and when members of the battalion arrived they already had plenty of people on hand to get the job done.

I think the plan for this originated before the outbreak of Covid-19 and that slowed the plan down. I think I was asked about it back when the Patton Museum was closed and some new employees were joining the museum.

M-103 at Radcliff



American Legion Post 87 Tank Cleanup



American Legion Post 87, Hodgenville, Kentucky



American Legion Post 87 Tank Cleanup - Cont



The tank was pressure washed, primed and then painted. There was a lapse between time to be painted. Weather hampered the painting and it was delayed a week. Patton Bn made contact with American Legion (AL) Post 87, Hodgenville KY in May 2022 about restoring the M41 Walker Bulldog in their care.

After coordinating manpower and materials, members of Post 87 Chris Griggers, Ryan Luttringer and Russell Chapman, with the assistance of Patton Bn members Tom Salo and Gregory Smith, invested a couple of long Saturdays to restore the 70 year warrior, finishing final paint 16 July. Some touch up and stenciling will follow. It was a real pleasure working with AL Post 87; a great group of patriots and firm believers in the preservation of Armor history.

Chris has the goatee, Ryan is the tall dude and Russell is the guy in shorts; a tanker that earned a Silver Star in Iraq on 8 Oct 06.



American Legion Post 87 Tank Cleanup - Cont



American Legion Post 87 Tank Cleanup



From Left to Right, Gregory Smith, Ryan Luttringer, Tom Salo, Russel Chapman, Chris Griggers





Since I wrapped my last stack of books I took some time to try and find some new reading material.

So here is what is in my pile.

Cloak & Dagger The Secret Story of OSS by LTC Corey Ford & MAJ Alastir MacBain

216 pages

New York : Random House, c1946

Mission France by Kate Vigurs

Imprint: Yale University Press

336 Pages, 5.00 x 7.75 in, 22 b-w illus. + 1 map

Paperback – 9780300264814

Our Mothers' War: American Women at Home and at the Front During World War II

by Emily Yellin

Paperback, 464 pages

ISBN0743245164 (ISBN13: 9780743245166)

The Army Officer's Guide to Mentoring by

Raymond Kimball

Center for Junior Officers (CARDOL)

Print length: 184 pages

Language: English

Publication date: September 19, 2015

ISBN-10: 0996821007

No Moon As Witness by James Stejskal

Date Published : June 2021

Publisher : Casemate

Illustration : 25-30

Binding. : Hardback

ISBN : 9781612009520

Pages : 208

The Sleep Fix by Diane Macedo

ISBN: 9780063040021

ISBN 10: 0063040026

Imprint: William Morrow

Publication: December 14, 2021

Pages: 384 pages

Rudder: From Leader to Legend by Thomas M. Hatfield

978-1-62349-244-1 Paperback

528 pp. 68 b&w photos. 8 maps. Bib. In

Pub Date: 09/16/2014

Texas A&M Press

Adaptation under Fire; How Militaries Change in Wartime

Lt. General David Barno and Nora Bensahel

Print publication date: 2020

Print ISBN-13: 9780190672058

440 pages

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

Rudder Leader to Legend by Thomas M. Hatfield

Rudder: From Leader to Legend by Thomas M. Hatfield
 978-1-62349-244-1 Paperback
 6 x 9 x 0 in, 528 pp. 68 b&w photos. 8 maps. Bib. In
 Pub Date: 09/16/2014
 Texas A&M Press

Description

In times of war . . . in times of peace . . . in times of sweeping social change . . . a leader for all seasons . . .

Whether scaling the seemingly insurmountable cliffs of Pointe du Hoc with his advance assault troops during the Normandy invasion, restoring integrity to the Texas Land Office, or overseeing transitions in an academic institution with hallowed traditions during a time of contentious cultural change, James Earl Rudder (1910–1970) forged a legacy of wartime gallantry and peacetime leadership that commands continuing respect. *Rudder: From Leader to Legend* pays tribute to a man who exemplified leadership, vision, and courage.

In this first comprehensive biography of James Earl Rudder, Thomas M. Hatfield has gone far beyond the usual focus on Rudder's heroism in World War II to recreate with rich detail exciting events on battlefields and in boardrooms. He has painted a full portrait that permits a wider appreciation for every phase of Rudder's early life, from childhood, to his storied military exploits, to his remarkable postwar achievements and far-reaching public service. Utilizing access to previously unavailable family papers, memoirs, and interviews, Hatfield has crafted an insightful and unsparing view of the man that applauds his accomplishments and reveals his foibles. Readers who know Rudder primarily through his association with Texas A&M University will be fascinated by his courageous battlefield leadership; those who previously knew only of his military reputation will enjoy learning about his distinguished record of public service. *Rudder: From Leader to Legend* will captivate a broad general readership, bringing to the fore a well-rounded view of this extraordinary man.

Author

THOMAS M. HATFIELD is the director of the Military History Institute in the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin, where he lectures on World War II and is Dean Emeritus of Continuing Education. The former president of two colleges, he was a military intelligence officer and is an internationally recognized scholar on World War II.

<https://www.tamupress.com/book/9781623492441/rudder/>

This is a book that has impacted me as much as *"He Rode Up Front for Patton."* I don't remember what lead me to his Find-A-Grave page but after reading the story on there I was touched. I could not put a finger on what moved me about it, but I was moved. I also don't know what lead me to the book "Rudder." It was an immediate purchase and one that will be handy as I may have to read it again and again.

Before I started the book something struck me as I had found the *Cliff Hanger* print by James Dietz. As I have collected interviews, books, and gathered information on great leaders I wondered how I would use this stuff. How do I use this information to share with my daughters and teach them lessons from these leaders.

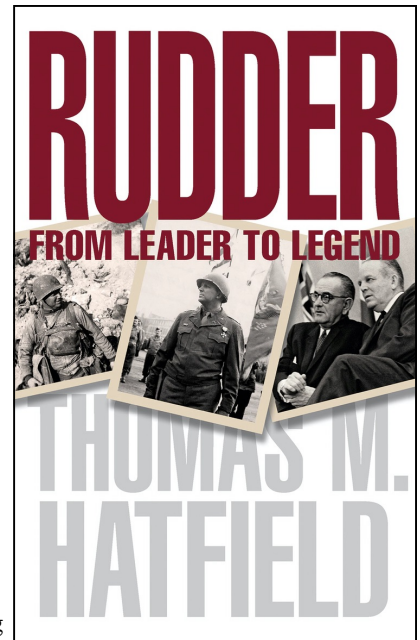
I am now convinced that women, had they been given the same training and education, could do the same thing. We are seeing today that women can and are meeting the standard in combat arms. I served with women who showed more metal than many tankers I served with early in my career. And the women of the Greatest Generation were as tough as the men. So I am now gathering more books on women that served during this period. I have two daughters that need to know that they can do anything.

To quote the Preface of the Rudder book "because his accomplishments are proof that in a free society where education is accessible to all greatness can come from anywhere."

From chapter 1 through 3 it is apparent that Rudder, like Gen Irzyk and many others, was poor. Sports got him to college and made them great leaders. The Great Depression impacted the people in that generation tremendously. It impacted them in ways that lasted their entire life. But it is also the thing that made them great people. Rudder worked on a road crew on the end of a shovel. He worked in college to pay off his tuition. He bused tables in the cafeteria, mowed grass and did other janitorial duties to pay his way. They paid their way through manual labor.

They could connect with people. It's the value of getting to know people and to learn their story. ROTC was another key to their success. West Point creates a unique leader but there is much for an ROTC cadet to take away from men like Irzyk & Rudder.

I didn't make many notes while reading the book but there were some ones I want to mention first.



Rudder Leader to Legend by Thomas M. Hatfield - Cont

There is a story in the book about Max Schneider a fellow Ranger who post war struggled with his mental health. Much like another Ranger Charles Shunstrom. His story was talked about on page 172. "The military culture wasn't tolerant of psychological troubles." In 1959 while enroute to his next duty station he was found wandering the streets, he was not sent to hospital but on to his next duty station. He took his life two months later. This is a culture that is still in need of being reduced.

Rudder did not only have a role in one of the biggest operations in WWII as a Ranger on D-Day but he was also in the middle of another major battle the Battle of the Bulge. He was in the Bulge with the 28th Infantry Division. One of a few units to be at the front edge of the German spearhead. And their battles during the Bulge need to be looked at more and read about.

I have read about the 112th Infantry Regiment as it relates to Combat Command R of the 9th Armored Division and their valiant effort to keep Bastogne from being taken. Rudder and the 110th Infantry Regiment did the very same thing in their sector.

It was in this section that I found an interesting quote about orders from General Middleton the VIII Corps Commander. Orders from higher headquarters were to "hold at all costs." Middleton had counseled Rudder, whom he had worked with in the invasion plan for Normandy, to fall back if forced to the west. But there was another message from Middleton, "Use your own judgement as you are on the ground." It is noted that this was "Middleton's philosophy if he had confidence in his subordinate."

Could this be the orders or counsel that LTC Harper received at TF Harper and TF Rose? This explains a lot.

Rudder post war came home and began working as a rancher. But his was using his wartime and college connections to do more. That lead him to being elected to the Texas Land Office Commissioner from 1955-1958. Here he turned a corrupt government office into a functioning government office. He also remained in the Army Reserves.

From this job he was selected to work for the Texas A&M University from 1958-1970. Here he would become the president of the university and would lead this university into the future. Here he pushed the university to invest into the science and technology field, Marine Biology, and coeducation, allowing women to attend Texas A&M.

In the book you see that post war his connections with people were what helped him and how he helped others. The value of sitting down and talking through tough issues always seemed to resolve the issues. They value of getting to know people. Something he learned early in life. I was also fascinated to read about so many veterans who after WWII went into public service. This is something that is needed today. We need more veteran leaders to get into public service. During Rudder's post war there would be President's who all had served in the military. Plus there were other presidents of other universities that had served in WWII.

At the memorial service, in a crowd auditorium, Ranger William Henderson said "We know of no man who has worn the mantles of leadership and humility so well at the same time."



LTC Rudder on Pointe du Hoc on D-Day.

Statute of Rudder on the campus of Texas A&M University.

Like the founder of the Rangers Gen Darby, there is a James Earl Rudder High School home of the Rangers! Rudder has a statue at Texas A&M and at Tarleton State University.



Patton Monument Report for 2021

As of July 26, 2022, the Monument fund has \$26,289.00.

Total in Monument Account: \$26,289.00.

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 July 26, has 438 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$69.32 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$388.96 in the Patton Operating account. Battalions funds are \$388.96. 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.

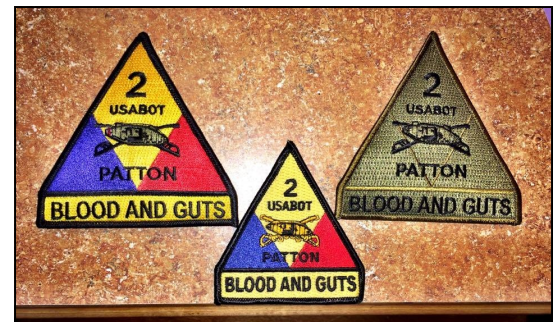
Both patches are also available for \$5 EA.

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

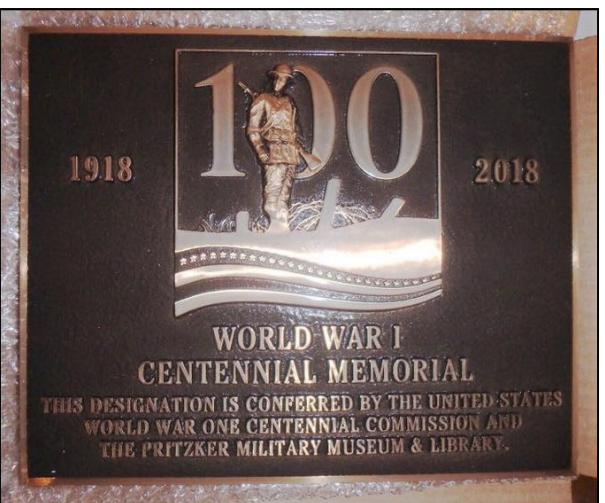
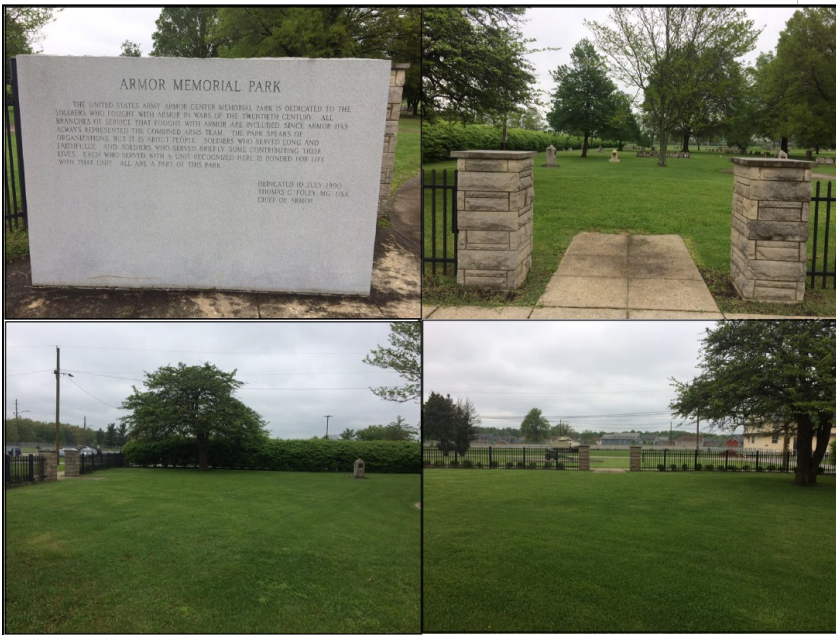
Make checks payable to USABOT
If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online and register there so that the G4 can track.

WWW.USABOT.ORG

Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument

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

<https://19seriesclothing.com/>





Patton Battalion - USABOT

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Be sure to check us out on
Twitter @pattonbattalion



You may leave the Army but the wash rack will always find you!

Coming up in the August Issue - The Royal Tank Corps War Memorial on Pozieres Ridge for WWI.

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

WWII Salute to Veterans - September 2 & 3.
Vietnam Appreciation Day - October 15.

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

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*

