

**NEWSLETTER**  
**JUNE 2023**  
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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

This year is half over already! Lots of little things this month.

The M-10 Book is the newest vehicle in the fleet. Get yourself familiar with the story of the naming of the vehicle and what its plans for use are.

While doing some digging through stuff on the US Army Education and Heritage website I came across an article that peaked my interest. What if your tank platoon included a Warrant Officer? I could not find a date for the article but it appears to be sometime after the Master Gunner program and before MIAs.

The US Army Armor & Cavalry Collection is having more Open Houses scheduled for 2023.

Lee Robertson of Bowling Green, KY and our WWII tanker from the 44th Tank Battalion celebrated his 101st Birthday.

Book Reviews - I finished two good books this month. *Patton's War Vol II* and *Grateful American*.

June is PTSD Awareness month and I want to share more about this and your mental health. This past month I listened to a podcast with three retired Command Sergeants Major as they discussed their mental health and the stigma around mental health. These three CSM's had all served 15 plus years in the Ranger Regiment during the last 20 years. This was about as real a conversation about mental health as I have seen ever. Their discussion was a real in the face discussion about what you need to do for you as I have seen anywhere. I feel that it was the type of discussion that needs to happen more and it needs to be talked about more.

All three were very open about how the events over the past twenty years had affected them. Things they had seen and been involved in. The conversation was "after you have been through that much trauma why would you think for one second that you wouldn't need professional help?" They talked about the fact that it is not fair to the people you serve with to dump your shit on them when they may be struggling also. So the one CSM said that his therapist gets a pretty full dose. That is when all three mentioned that they all had a therapist. The one said "Oh, you don't have a therapist? WHY?" That was the statement that really caught my attention, WHY NOT?

One of the CSMs mentioned that if it had not been for his therapist he would probably have already committed suicide. It was a thought that he had had. It was also the reason that he had wanted for them to have this discussion.

They also discussed the fact that veterans do not reach out when they need help during those times. They talked about being a member of a team, that when you joined the Army that time before you raised your hand was the only time you were an individual. After you raised your right hand you were and are part of the TEAM. They talked about Soldier for Life and how that gets lost once a service member leaves the service. IT NEVER GOES AWAY! YOU ARE ALWAYS PART OF THE TEAM!

I think that there is a need for training for all veterans to learn how to be a better TEAMMATE. What I mean is when someone reaches out for help do you know how to help them? I want to share some things that will help. In order to help you need to take some time and do the work to learn. I want to point out the Dept of Defense Military Health System (MHS) website, <https://www.health.mil/>.

I suggest you go look it up and just go through all the little links as you will definitely find something you didn't know. In the following issues we will have more to learn on your health and being part of the TEAM!

Lets talk about your TEAM at home also. Be sure to pass this information along to who ever is part of your TEAM at home. The wife, husband, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, or grandparents. Put the numbers by the phone. Share the links and apps on your phone that can help in an emergency. Know how to help when or if it is needed.

KP Morris  
 Patton 6

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

## M-10 Booker

Army unveils the M10 Booker, its first new combat vehicle in two decades

By COREY DICKSTEIN

STARS AND STRIPES • June 10, 2023

The Army's first new major combat vehicle in two decades will be known as the M10 Booker Combat Vehicle, honoring fallen soldiers killed in the Iraq War and World War II, service officials said.

Top Army leaders on Saturday afternoon during an Army birthday celebration at Fort Belvoir, Va., were set to unveil the official name for the vehicle — a light tank-like assault weapon — that had been previously known as the Mobile Protected Firepower Ground Combat Vehicle. The name honors Staff Sgt. Stevon A. Booker, who received the Distinguished Service Cross posthumously for life-saving valor in the 2003 Iraq invasion, and Pvt. Robert D. Booker, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroic actions in Tunisia in 1943 that cost his life, Army officials said Thursday.

Staff Sgt. Booker was an armor crew member with the 3rd Infantry Division, and Pvt. Booker was an infantryman with the 34th Infantry Division. Doug Bush, the Army's assistant secretary for acquisition, logistics and technology, said their differing jobs highlighted what the M10 is meant to do — bring new firepower and frontal-assault capabilities to light infantry formations. The armored vehicles will be operated by tankers but fight alongside and ahead of light infantry forces.

“The stories of these two hero-soldiers articulate the exact needs for the M10 Booker Combat Vehicle,” Bush said. “Soldiers will now have an infantry assault vehicle that brings a new level of lethality to our ground forces and allows our men and women in uniform an advanced level of protection.”

The first M10 Bookers are expected to arrive to the Army in November, said Maj. Gen. Glenn Dean, the Army's program executive officer in charge of ground combat systems. The Army expects to stand up its first M10 battalion to conduct initial operations testing in late 2024 or early 2025, Dean said. He declined to say where the first M10 battalion would be located.

Eventually, the Army intends to build M10 battalions into its light infantry brigade combat teams, including its airborne units. While the vehicle cannot be air dropped, it can be transported by air — two can fit inside a C-17 transport jet, Dean said.

Though the M10 looks much like an M1 Abrams main battle tank, the Army has decided against classifying it as a tank. Dean would not say precisely why that decision was made, noting it was a doctrinal decision and not the responsibility of his unit, which is focused on development and acquisition.

He joked the Booker “sort of looks like, smells like, feels like” a tank. In fact, the weapon, built by General Dynamics, shares many aspects of the Abrams. It will be manned by four tankers in a cockpit nearly identical to an Abrams and sports a heavy, 105mm direct fire cannon, like older models of Abrams.

But the Booker is much lighter than the newest versions of the Abrams tanks, which have 120mm main guns. The Army's M1A2 SEPv3 Abrams tank weighs nearly 74 tons and the M10 will weigh about 42 tons, the service said. The M10 also will be significantly less expensive. The latest Abrams costs about \$24 million per tank, but the Bookers are expected to cost about \$12.9 million per vehicle, which includes spare parts and the costs to field and train for the new weapons, Dean said.

The program, which began in 2015, has thus far been on time and on budget, he said.

Bush said choosing the name amounted to a major milestone for the program, which signaled the Army's confidence in the new product.

“It's really cool to get to name something after two amazing soldiers,” he said. “The armor community, the infantry community worked really hard on that, and came up with I think a really good solution. So, it's exciting to get out of the acronym business [calling it the MPF] and into actually calling it something it's for real going to be called.”

Sergeant Major of the Army Michael Grinston unveils the name on the new M-10 at the ceremony.



Photos courtesy of the @USARMY twitter





## M-10 Booker - Cont.

**Staff Sgt. Stevon A. Booker**

Staff Sgt. Booker's Distinguished Service Cross, the second-highest Army medal for battlefield heroics, was awarded April 5, 2019, exactly 16 years after he was killed. Booker's death came as he protected his flank while helping lead the 3rd ID's assault into Baghdad, known as the Thunder Runs, which toppled Saddam Hussein's regime at the opening of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

When his tank unit came under fire during the raid into Iraq's capital, Booker "immediately reacted," according to the award citation. As he communicated the situation with his commanders, he returned fire on the machine gun mounted on his Abrams tank and "reassured his crew that they would make it to their objective."

"When both his and his crew's machine guns malfunctioned, Booker, with total disregard for his personal safety, exposed himself by lying in a prone position on top of the tank's turret and accurately engaged the enemy forces with his personal weapon," according to the award citation. "While exposed, he effectively protected his platoon's flank and delivered accurate information to his command during a critical and vulnerable point of the battle."

From that exposed position, he destroyed an enemy vehicle before the troops inside could attack his platoon, and he continued to fire on enemy forces while the tank rolled through the fight for nearly 5 miles "until he was mortally wounded," according to citation.

**Pvt. Robert D. Booker**

Pvt. Booker was awarded the nation's highest military honor about a year after his April 9, 1943, death while engaged with enemy forces near Fondouk, Tunisia.

Under heavy machine gun and mortar fire, Booker carried a light machine gun and a box of ammunition "over 200 yards of open ground" to set up a fighting position, according to his medal citation.

"He continued to advance despite the fact that two enemy machine guns and several mortars were using him as an individual target," the citation reads.

As he neared his chosen fighting position, enemy artillery fire began to fall near him, but he "immediately commenced firing" on two enemy machine gun positions.

He was wounded, but he continued to fight, destroyed one machine gun position before he was struck again, suffering the wound that would kill him.

"With his last remaining strength, he encouraged the members of his squad and directed their fire," according to his Medal of Honor citation. "Pvt. Booker acted without regard for his own safety. His initiative and courage against insurmountable odds are an example of the highest standard of self-sacrifice and fidelity to duty."

<https://www.stripes.com/branches/army/2023-06-10/army-combat-vehicle-m10-booker-10387122.html>



The M10 Booker formerly known as the Mobile Protective Firepower (MPF) is a new tracked combat vehicle of the U.S. Army which was designed and developed by the American company GDLS (General Dynamics Land Systems) to enhance the combat capabilities of the U.S. Army Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT). The IBCT is one of the main types of brigade-sized units, designed to be highly mobile and flexible, and it's the basic deployable unit of maneuver in the U.S. Army. In 2016, it was reported by defense news outlets that the Army was keen on creating a light ground combat vehicle to maintain the relevance of Infantry Brigade Combat Teams (IBCTs) during extensive combat operations against a comparable adversary. Initially dubbed a "Light Tank", U.S. Army representatives christened the novel concept as the Mobile Protected Firepower (MPF) to discourage troops from treating it like a traditional tank and using it in a similar fashion to the M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank (MBT). The MPF's evolution presents a chance to fill a capabilities void left by the retirement of the M551 Sheridan Armored

Reconnaissance/Airborne Assault Vehicle (AR/AAV). Despite its technical flaws, the M551 was greatly appreciated for its robust operational abilities. In June 2023, the U.S. Army announced the award of a \$1.14 billion contract to GDLS for the production and fielding of up to 96 MPF vehicles. The U.S. Army Acquisition Objective (AAO) for MPF is 504 vehicles, with 14 MPFs per IBCT. The targeted fielding for the First Unit Equipped (FUE) is Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

#### Armament

The main armament of the M10 Booker MPF consists of one 105mm cannon based on the American M35 and a 7.62mm machine gun mounted coaxially. The 105mm cannon can fire APDS (Armour-Piercing Discarding Sabot) and HE (High Explosive) rounds with a maximum firing range of 1.8 km for APDS and 4 km for HE. The APDS is a type of spin-stabilized kinetic energy projectile for anti-armor warfare. The main gun is loaded manually. One 12.7mm heavy machine gun is mounted on the commander hatch. Two banks of four smoke grenade launchers are mounted on each side at the front of the turret.

#### Design and protection

The design of the M10 Booker MPF light tank is conventional with the driver and engine at the front and the turret located at the rear of the hull. The turret accommodates a crew of three including a commander, gunner, and loader. The turret architecture is based on the M1 Abrams tank using the M1A2 Sep V3 fire control system and CITV (Commander's Independent Thermal Viewer). The vehicle incorporates components and systems from the ASCOD armored tracked vehicle platform fully designed and developed by GDELS (General Dynamics European Land Systems). The M10 Booker vehicle is fitted with additional armor panels and under-vehicle protection against improvised explosive devices (IEDs). For the safety of the crew, it also incorporates a tested compartmentalization system for ammunition storage.

#### Mobility

The M10 Booker MPF is powered by a state-of-the-art MTU diesel engine developing 800 hp and Allison transmission system, offering a superb power-to-weight ratio and hydro-pneumatic suspension. This grants soldiers exceptional speed and adaptability in cross-country navigation. It can run at a maximum road speed of 65 km/h and has a maximum road range of 305 km (190 miles) and can operate for 24 hours off the ramp or on arrival at the drop zone. It can move over steep hills, valleys, cities, and rivers. The vehicle is fitted with the Allison 3040 MX™ cross-drive transmission system, specifically engineered to facilitate propulsion, steering, and braking in medium-tracked combat vehicles. The M10 Booker is equipped with a hydro-pneumatic suspension developed by the company Horstman Group that uses high-pressure nitrogen gas and an integral oil damper that are all contained within the road arm. The suspension consists on each side of six road wheels, a drive sprocket at the front, and the idler at the rear.

#### Combat Equipment

The M10 Booker MPF is equipped with the Safran Optics 1's PASEO Commander's Independent Tactical Viewer (CITV) long-range panoramic targeting sight. It increases the situational awareness capabilities of armored and surveillance vehicles in all combat scenarios (stationary and on-the-move) even at high speeds. It is an advanced panoramic sight to improve the survivability and fighting capabilities of IFV (Infantry Fighting Vehicles) and MBT (Main Battle Tanks).

[https://www.armyrecognition.com/united\\_states\\_us\\_army\\_list\\_modern\\_mbts\\_main\\_battle\\_tanks/m10\\_booker\\_mobile\\_protective\\_firepower\\_mpf\\_light\\_tank\\_data.html](https://www.armyrecognition.com/united_states_us_army_list_modern_mbts_main_battle_tanks/m10_booker_mobile_protective_firepower_mpf_light_tank_data.html)

## MPF System Overview

### General

- Weight: approx 42T
- Significant Commonality w/ Abrams
- Two on a C-17
- Day/Night drivers vision enhancing system
- Lithium Ion 6T Batteries



### Lethality

- 105mm
- 7.62mm Coax
- 0.50 M2 Commanders Weapon
- Abrams SEPv3 Fire Control System
- Commanders Independent Tactical Viewer (day/thermal vision & laser ranging and pointing)

### Mobility

- Max Speed: 40mph
- Engine: MTU 800 hp diesel
- Transmission: Allison
- Suspension: Hydro-pneumatic Suspension Units
- Track: EFV Lightweight T-161 Track

### Survivability

- Direct Fire; Overhead
- Underbody; Side

## Concept Paper: Rethinking the Tank Platoon Leadership Structure

Delta Force – Concept Paper

Understanding that we work through people, how can our army improve its ability to plan, equip, man, run, train and fight, now and in the future?

Concept Paper Title: Rethinking the Tank Platoon Leadership Structure.

Concept: Machines are growing in complexity and cost. Tankers used to have to improvise and improve their tank (such as the M4A3E8) to bring it up to crew capability. Now, tankers have a tough time training up to the inherent capacity of their tank (M60A3) and may have even greater difficulty keeping all systems operational. In sum, the ratio of crew maturity and competence to machine sophistication has been steadily decreasing. We need to bring the leadership and technical maturity at platoon level up closer to the needs of the equipment. Better operational effectiveness and maintenance efficiencies should result.

Author: Major General W. F. Ulmer, Jr.

Introduction: Machines are growing in complexity and cost. Tankers used to have to improvise and improve their tank (such as the M4A3E8) to bring it up to crew capability. Now, tankers have a tough time training up to the inherent capacity of their tank (M60A3) and may have even greater difficulty keeping all systems operational. In sum, the ratio of crew maturity and competence to machine sophistication has been steadily decreasing. We need to bring the leadership and technical maturity at platoon level up closer to the needs of the equipment. Better operational effectiveness and maintenance efficiencies should result.

Larger Frame of the Problem: Unless dramatic (although possible) changes come about in the Army's assignment system, combined with highly successful retention programs, the four-tank platoons of the near future will see one or two of the M-1 vehicles commanded sometimes by soldiers in the pay grades of E-4 or E-5. (Nowhere else in the DOD structure that I am aware of is a \$2 million battle machine and a crew of three routinely placed in the hands of so junior a leader.)

Training and maintenance requirements of the M60A3 and M-1 Tanks, as well as the high cost and battlefield effectiveness of each of these weapon systems, dictate unprecedented crew competence if the inherent potential of these vehicles is to be exploited. In order to attain this, a new grade structure is required at platoon level.

Specific Proposal:

In the revised platoon structure the platoon leader would remain a lieutenant, and the platoon sergeant would remain a sergeant first class. Also, the commander of the number four tank would remain a staff sergeant. However, the number two tank (assuming the PLT SGT commands the second section – tanks 3 and 4 – tactically) would be commanded by a warrant officer who is a master gunner and a tank fire control systems expert.

Outcome

This warrant officer (Who must be carefully selected and trained as tactician and leader as well as technician) would be also the platoon turret technician. His expertise should enhance gunnery training as well as reducing higher level maintenance requirements. Our sluggish Class IX supply system would be aided by some real expertise at the lowest, critical level. The platoon technician's presence should reduce high priority requisitions by 10-20% and reduce DS maintenance job orders by 25%! (Either one of these savings would pay off for the warrant officer's annual salary in about a week!)

The warrant officer's career pattern – perhaps allowing up to grade CW3 in the tank platoon positions – should be a stabilizing factor within tank companies. His presence would add to the overall leadership and maturity and would assist in redressing the balance between crew technical competence and inherent weapon system capability within the tank company. A warrant officer's rigid assignment restrictions would aid the local personnel managers in providing continuity and expertise at the level that today needs it the most. We need to multiply combat poer by applying carefully selected human resources at critical points within our organizations.

**Major general W. F. Ulmer, Jr.**

General Ulmer was commissioned in 1952 from the US Military Academy. He is a graduate of the Army War College and holds a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University.

He assumed command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Division on 3 October 1979 (making him by a few days the longest serving commanding general in the Division's history). His previous commands include 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 17<sup>th</sup> Cavalry and the 194<sup>th</sup> Armored Brigade (Sep 1973 – Jun 1974). He was also Deputy Commanding General of the US Army Armor Center ( Jun 1974 – Mar 1975), Commandant of Cadets at the US Military Academy (Apr 1975 – Jan 1977), and Assistant Division Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division (Jan 1977 – Aug 1978).

General Ulmer has served on the faculties of the US Military Academy and the Army War College, and prior to his assignment in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Division was a Director in the office of the Army DCSPER in Washington.

On 26 February 1982, General Ulmer will assume command of III Corps at Fort Hood, Texas (Feb 1982 – Jun 1985).

*(From the Program of the Change of Command for General Ulmer and MG Thurman E. Anderson.)*





# 2023 OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

- 15 JULY
- 9 SEPTEMBER  
WITH TANK LIVE FIRE DEMO
- 21 OCTOBER  
WITH ARMOR SCALE MODEL SHOW

THE UNITED STATES ARMY  
ARMOR & CAVALRY  
COLLECTION

Access to Fort Moore requires a valid U.S. Department of Defense ID or a Fort Moore visitors pass. For more information on access requirements and visitors' pass information, please go to <https://moore.army.mil/GateInfo/>



## Lee Robertson Celebrates 101st Birthday!!!

'Mr. Western' celebrates turning 101

By IZZY LANUZA [izzy.lanuza@bgdailynews.com](mailto:izzy.lanuza@bgdailynews.com) Jun 16, 2023

Lee Robertson, a World War II veteran who has been dubbed “Mr. Western” for his allegiance to Western Kentucky University, celebrated his 101st birthday surrounded by friends and family at Mission BBQ Thursday afternoon.

“We just feel so overwhelmingly blessed. We don’t take that longevity for granted,” said Steven Robertson about his father’s age. Despite that age, Lee Robertson is still sprightly. He greeted everyone at the birthday party with a handshake, a smile and the occasional joke.

Lee Robertson believes he made it this far in life due to living in moderation, exercise, a proper diet, his positive attitude and compassion for others.

“It’s just another day,” Lee Robertson said when asked how he felt about turning 101.

On any given day one can still find Lee Robertson at the WKU campus.

He earned his masters in Educational Administration in 1957. Later he became WKU Director of Alumni Affairs, director of WKU’s Glasgow campus and he served as the golf coach for six years.

He still goes up to the Hill multiple times a week to help at the College Heights Foundation.

“They love to have him there because he knows so many people across the state, across the country,” Steven Robertson said.

This love for his alma mater is what led to him receiving the Spirit of Western Award and being inducted into the school’s hall of fame.

Before he was a student at WKU, Robertson served in World War II in the U.S. Army’s 44th tank battalion from 1942-45.

He also spent 18 months in the South Pacific and was awarded five Bronze Arrow Heads for beachhead landings in New Guinea and the Philippine Islands.

When Steven Robertson was asked if the family thought his father would make it to this age he said, “Oh, yeah. We never gave it any thought ... . We’re appreciative every day.



WWII U.S. Army veteran Lee Robertson celebrates his 101st birthday with friends and family at Mission BBQ on Scottsville Road in Bowling Green on Thursday.

Photos by Grace Ramey/[grace.ramey@bgdailynews.com](mailto:grace.ramey@bgdailynews.com)



## Military Health System Confronts Stigma Surrounding Mental Health Care

Military Health System Confronts Stigma Surrounding Mental Health Care

By: Robert Hammer, MHS Communications

Stigma can be a barrier to a service member seeking support for their mental health. Recognizing mental health as part of overall health and changing attitudes are keys to addressing it.

“A significant challenge to seeking help for mental health is stigma,” said Dr. Nancy Skopp, research and clinical psychologist with the Defense Health Agency’s Psychological Health Center of Excellence.

Cultural biases, a lack of trust with the system, and even feeling shame and embarrassment are some of the reasons many do not seek out mental health care services, according to Skopp.

Skopp acknowledged that within the military, some service members view seeking help as a sign of “weakness, social inferiority, and/or a lack of resourcefulness. These feelings may be attributable to the culture within individual military units.”

“For example, warrior ethos emphasizes discipline, mental toughness, and self-sufficiency, and foremost attention to successful mission execution,” she added.

Skopp emphasized the importance of normalizing conversations around mental health, which makes it easier to take the first step to reach out and seek help.

### How Stigma is Evolving

The office of the Deputy Secretary of Defense recently issued a document recommending the Department of Defense begin a review of policies to eliminate stigmatizing language related to mental health.

“I think the military, in regard to mental health, has done a great job to address some of the concerns of stigma,” said U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Nick Guzman, mental health department head, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth.

“Military service members are subjected to all sorts of stressors unique to the traditional U.S. population such as having to relocate every two to three years, possibly overseas, adjust to a new assignment and uproot family that can bring upon career and financial challenges. These factors give rise to stress and anxiety in effort to quickly adapt to new sense of normalcy,” said Guzman.

Guzman explained many younger service members are more open to seeking help and talking about mental health. Mental health is now a large part of military entry programs and talked about more openly.

He mentioned the services now introduce mental health education and resilience training in their introductory programs. The U.S. Navy, for example, has employed a human performance curriculum during bootcamp training designed to strengthen a sailor’s mental, physical, and spiritual capacity to strive towards optimal performance.

Older generations of service members are less likely to talk about or seek help for mental health conditions, he added.

“If they believe it could potentially have a negative impact on their career, or affect their security clearance, or put them out of commission for a bit, they are more hesitant,” said Guzman.

According to the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, out of more than 2.3 million security clearance reviews between 2012-2018, only 12 individuals (0.005% of all cases) had their clearance denied or revoked due to psychological health concerns.

Guzman also noted that service members with specialty duties or assignments may be more hesitant to seek help.

“They may see it as a negative reflection on themselves, like a deficiency or character default or defect, or a fear that others may judge them for seeking help,” Guzman said. “A bit of that does exist, but I do see stigma on the decline.”

He noted the recent COVID-19 pandemic helped lessen stigma as there was an increase in service members and their families seeking mental health assistance, taking into consideration the degree of isolation and unpredictability created by the pandemic.

“Mental health in general is not viewed as negatively as it once was, in part due to the perceived benefits from those that sought help proactively and who remain mission ready,” said Guzman.

Skopp said changing this stigma begins at the top with leadership.

“It will take time and sustained effort at all military levels,” said Skopp. “Leaders are uniquely positioned to influence desired cultural changes. It is critical for military leaders to fight aspects of military culture that promote negative beliefs about seeking care and continue efforts to reduce stigma.”

### Changing the Language Used to Discuss Mental Health

Changing language used when working with a service member seeking help, or in promotional materials, is one effort the Military Health System is using to reduce stigma.



## Military Health System Confronts Stigma Surrounding Mental Health Care - Cont.

“Avoiding negative language is important,” said Skopp. “Language can open discussion of mental health issues and stigma. Mental health providers can use language in useful ways to start talking about stigma with their patients.”

The Psychological Health Center of Excellence has suggestions for how alternative language can be used when discussing mental health.

Alternatives to stigmatizing language can include:

- Avoiding language that defines someone by their condition or assumes that condition can't be managed or overcome
- Avoiding language that makes judgments or assumes intention
- Describing without downplaying or becoming overly graphic
- Using updated, accurate terminology
- Testimonials are another tool to help normalize talking about mental health care, especially from senior leaders, suggested Guzman.

“I think putting stories out there from leaders who are open about seeking help is beneficial,” said Guzman. “If someone was willing to put themselves out there to share their story—this is good.”

Guzman believes the military needs to rethink what mental health is, and “think about it in a different capacity.”

“Mental health is important to stay healthy, because it includes various levels of functioning, or various aspects of our normal daily functioning,” said Guzman. “It's linked to our physical health, and our social, interpersonal health, our emotional well-being, as well as our ability to perform complicated tasks and under stress.”

The MHS offers many resources and information regarding mental health, including the *Real Warriors* campaign.

<https://www.health.mil/News/Dvids-Articles/2023/06/06/news446351>

If you are not familiar with the Health.Mil website I am going to try and lead you to the Real Warrior page. From Health.Mil there are *About the MHS* then *Military Health Topics*, click on that. Under the topic *Centers of Excellence* find *Psychological Health Center of Excellence*, click on it. On this page you will find much more help, Confidential Military Crisis Support, 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, Real Warriors and inTransition Connecting-Coaching-Empowering.



## 11th Annual Tanker Homecoming Information

2023 Annual USABOT Homecoming 11, in Tucson, AZ

The booking link for the hotel in Tucson is active now. The rate is \$89 per night. More information will be coming, but the hotel is convenient to lots of restaurants and other amenities. The location offers easy routing to the other locations we will be using, too. The hotel folks are looking forward to having us. We have blocked 35 rooms, but we can add more if we need to.

If you book by phone, these are the codes: CGABO, #205-000027

(There is no shuttle. Uber from/to the airport will run around \$40-45. There is a Stagecoach service available from/to Phoenix Airport, not sure of the cost. For those driving in, we'll provide driving directions for those who need them, before November.) We have a great event bring planned, and we hope to see you there!

La Quinta Inn by Wyndham Tucson East  
6404 East Broadway, Tucson, Arizona 85710



## Patton's War Vol II by Kevin Hymel

Patton's War  
 An American General's Combat Leadership, Volume 2: August–December 1944  
 Kevin M. Hymel  
 490 pages  
 Published by University of Missouri Press: May 2023  
 47 b&w illus., 11 maps  
 ISBN: 9780826222787

### Description

This second of three volumes of *Patton's War* picks up where the first one left off, examining General George S. Patton's leadership of the U.S. Third Army. The book follows Patton's contributions to both the Normandy and Brittany campaigns—the closing of the Falaise Pocket in Normandy, and racing to the port cities in Brittany. It ends with Patton and his corps rescuing the besieged town of Bastogne in the Battle of the Bulge.

As he did in the preceding volume, Hymel relies not only on Patton's diaries and letters, but countless veteran interviews, surveys, and memoirs. He also provides a unique insight missed by previous Patton scholars. Instead of using Patton's transcribed diaries, which were heavily edited and embellished, he consults Patton's original, hand-written diaries to uncover previously un-known information about the general.

This second volume of Hymel's groundbreaking work shows Patton at the height of his generalship, successfully leading his army without the mistakes and caustic behavior that almost got him sent home earlier—even if we also see a Patton still guided at times by racism and antisemitism.

<https://upress.missouri.edu/9780826222787/pattons-war/>

### Author

Kevin M. Hymel (pronounced Heemel) is a contract historian at Arlington National Cemetery and a Historian/Tour Guide of Ambrose Historical Tours, leading the "In Patton's Footsteps" tour. For fifteen years he was the research director of and regular contributor to *WWII History* and *WWII Quarterly*. He is the author of four books, including *Patton's Photographs: War as He Saw It*. His article "Fighting a Two-Front War," in *WWII History* is being made into the Netflix movie "6888," written and directed by Tyler Perry. Mr. Hymel served as a technical advisor to the film.

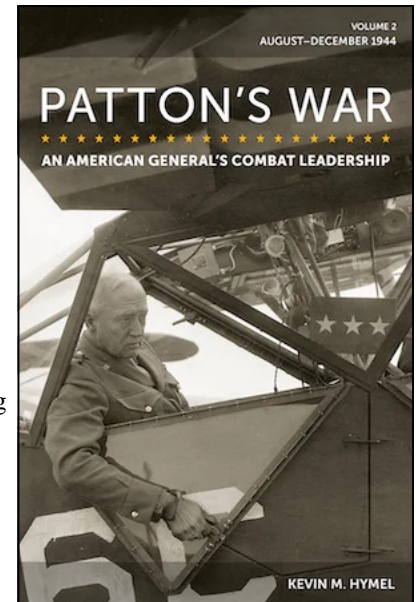
### My Review

This is turning out to be probably my favorite books on Gen Patton in WWII. As you begin Vol II you are going to see that the author, Kevin Hymel, has drifted from previous authors on Patton. Kevin has followed what I call Gen Irzyk's guidance on writing, do your own research. And this has lead him down paths that previous authors chose not to go.

In my opinion I believe that General Irzyk would have really appreciated these books on Gen Patton. Now he would have probably felt that some of the information in the book should have been left out as he would have felt it unnecessary. But it is still part of the story and should be left up to the reader.

In Vol I, I said that I could use the character that George C Scott portrayed as visual aid for what Patton was like. But you can see that the movie just didn't go as the actual events. Things said may have been said but not in the sequences as in the movie.

One of the things that I really like about the book is there is much more detail about the commanders in and around the Third Army. The interaction between Patton and his commanders. Who is it that he is keeping tabs on more so than others. This was something that I had not seen before in other books on Patton.





## Grateful American by Gary Sinise & Marcus Brotherton

Grateful American: A Journey from Self to Service  
By: Gary Sinise, Marcus Brotherton

ISBN-13: 9781400214747

Publisher: Nelson, Thomas, Inc.

Publication date: 08/31/2021

Pages: 272

Product dimensions: 8.30(w) x 5.20(h) x 0.80(d)

Discover the moving, entertaining, never-before-told story of how one man found his calling: to see that those who defend this country and its freedoms are never forgotten.

As a kid in suburban Chicago, Gary Sinise was more interested in sports and rock 'n' roll than reading or schoolwork. But when he impulsively auditioned for a school production of West Side Story, he found his true purpose--or so it seemed.

Within a few years, Gary and a handful of friends created what became one of the most exciting and important new theater companies in America. From its humble beginnings in a suburban Chicago church basement and eventual move into the city, the Steppenwolf Theatre Company launched a series of groundbreaking productions, igniting Gary's career along with those of John Malkovich, Joan Allen, Gary Cole, Laurie Metcalf, Jeff Perry, John Mahoney, and countless others.

Television and film came calling soon after, and Gary starred in *Of Mice and Men* (which he also directed) and *The Stand* before taking the role that would change his life in unforeseeable ways: Lieutenant Dan in the Academy Award-winning *Forrest Gump*.

The military community's embrace of the character of the disabled veteran was matched only by the depth of Gary's realization that America's defenders had not received all the honor, respect, and gratitude their sacrifices deserve. In the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, this became Gary's new calling.

*Grateful American*, now a New York Times bestseller, documents Gary's dedication to working tirelessly on behalf of those who serve this country, sharing stories about how he has:

Entertained more than a half million troops around the world playing bass guitar with his Lt. Dan Band

Raised funds on behalf of veterans

Founded the Gary Sinise Foundation with a mission to serve and honor America's defenders, veterans, first responders, their families, and those in need

*Grateful American* is the moving, entertaining, profoundly gripping story of how one man found his life's work: to see that those who defend this country and its freedoms are never forgotten.

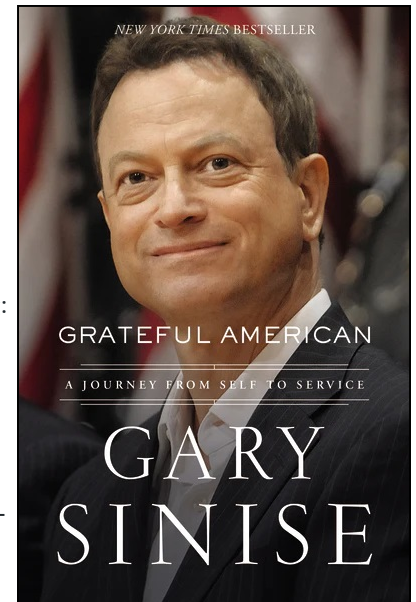
### Authors

Gary Sinise is an Oscar-nominated actor and winner of an Emmy, a Golden Globe, and two Screen Actors Guild awards, and has been honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, all while advocating for America's veterans for nearly forty years. For his service work, Gary has been presented with numerous humanitarian awards including the Bob Hope Award for Excellence in Entertainment from the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, the George Catlett Marshall Medal from the Association of the US Army, and the Spirit of Hope Award by the Department of Defense. He was named an honorary Chief Petty Officer by the United States Navy, was pinned as an honorary Marine, and received the Sylvanus Thayer Award at West Point, given to a civilian "whose character, service, and achievements reflect the ideals prized by the U.S. Military Academy." He's also the recipient of the Presidential Citizens Medal, the second-highest civilian honor awarded by the President of the United States to citizens for "exemplary deeds performed in service of the nation."

Marcus Brotherton is a New York Times bestselling author and coauthor. His books include *Grateful American* with Gary Sinise, *Tough As They Come* with SSG Travis Mills, and *We Who Are Alive & Remain*, with twenty of the elite paratroopers from World War II known as the Band of Brothers. He is the recipient of the Christopher Award for literature that "affirms the highest values of the human spirit."

### Review

What it means to be a great American! Plain and simple.



### Patton Monument Report for 2023

As of June 23, 2023, the Monument fund has \$26,893.00.

Total in Monument Account: \$26,893.00.

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

**Large:** Yellow - 2, **2XL:** Yellow - 2, Tan - 2, OD - 1, **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 June 23, has 438 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$0.74 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$474.56 in the Patton Operating account. Battalions funds are \$474.56. 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.

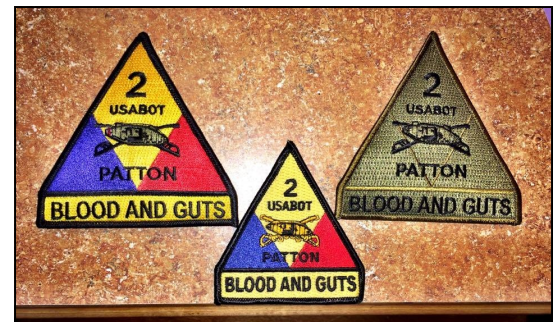
Both patches are also available for \$5 EA.

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.**

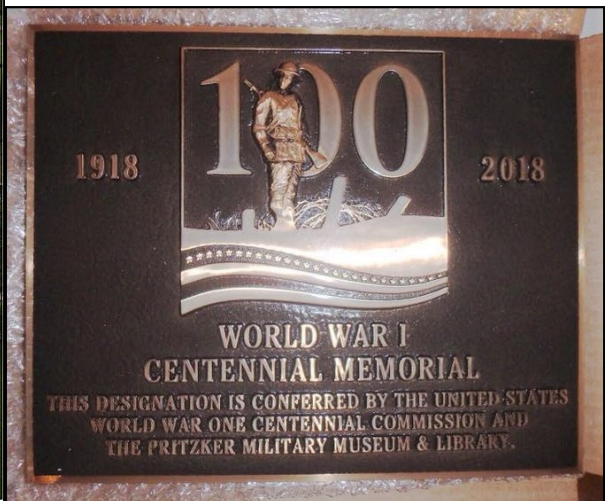
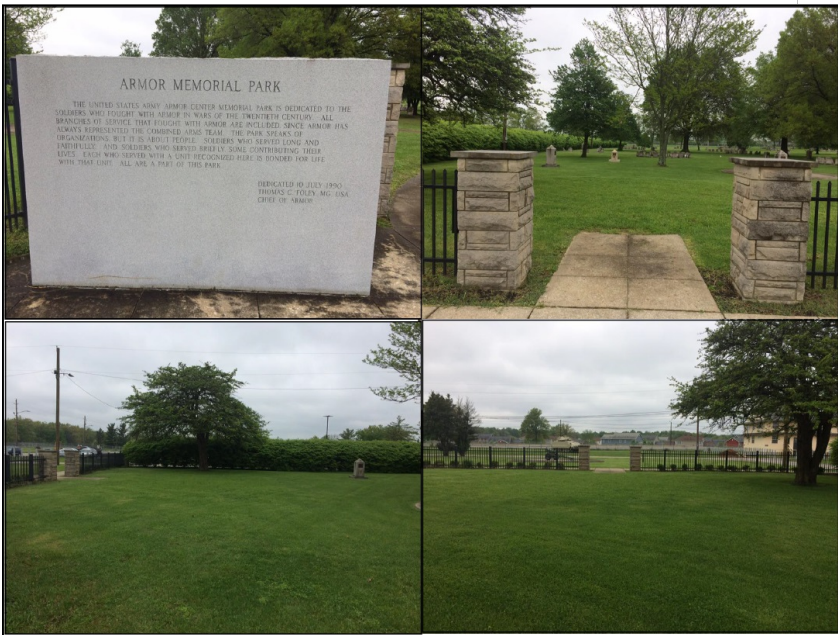
**WWW.USABOT.ORG**



# Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument

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

<https://19seriesclothing.com/>







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Be sure to check us out on  
Twitter @pattonbattalion



**VETERANS ARE TOO VALUABLE TO LOSE  
REACH OUT - SEEK HELP**

Coming up in the July Issue - More on breaking the Stigma of Mental Health and Veterans!!!

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 2023**  
WWII Event Fall - September 2 & 3, 2023  
Vietnam War Event - TBD

**Eleventh Annual Tanker Homecoming** - Tucson, AZ. November 9-12, 2023.

**Sullivan Cup** - May 2024.

**Operation Anvil - Battle for Southern France 1944-** Phil Moore Park, Bowling Green, KY. Saturday October 7, 2023

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



**REACHING OUT IS A  
SIGN OF STRENGTH**

REAL WARRIORS + REAL BATTLES  
**REAL STRENGTH**

realwarriors.net