



**NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2019
VOLUME 7 - NO. 3**

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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

451 on Battalion Facebook Page

**PATTON BATTALION - USABOT
ILLINOIS - INDIANA - KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE**

It is the end of March and 2019 is three months in! Many things are in the works and lots to do. I want to update everyone on some items. First, on page 10 of the newsletter you will see some red added to the wording for the Patton Monument wording. I felt that we had left this off so I had to add this to the information.

Second, we are in the process of settling in some members of the battalion Board of Directors. Tom Salo, Nathan Snyder and William Starks volunteered and have been added. We are in the process of establishing some duties and responsibilities for the members of the board and things we can do to make things easier. Things we are working on are recruiting, retention, and the Patton Monument Project. So before we could get this newsletter out Tom Salo has been selected to take a position at the National level of USABOT! So we are now searching for another Board member for the battalion board.

Inside the newsletter you learn about the U.S. Army Center for Military History being placed un TRADOC. This is a big move and there is a reason behind it. They also have updated their website so you so go and check it out. <https://history.army.mil/index.html>

Due to some recent activity I have added in this newsletter this month information on the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion and a list of Veteran Service Organizations. I hope that our members never need to use these great organizations but I wanted everyone to see a list of these in our areas. If you know of more please send me the information so that I can add them. I also wanted to spread the word about an organization that I didn't know that much about and that is AMVETS. I hope you find the information on this group informative.

On the last page of the newsletter you will see some upcoming events. The end of April first of May is the Gainey Cup at Fort Benning, GA. Always a good time to come out and support the Scout community. We have the dates for the USABOT 8th Annual Tanker Homecoming at Fort Bliss, TX. That is sure to be a great time.

Our Bourg tee shirts arrived and have all been shipped out. We are working to close up the M4-M60-M1 run of shirts and get them in process. I know everyone is anxious to get those.

I almost forgot, members of the Patton Battalion gathered at the American Legion Post 113 in Elizabethtown, KY on Saturday March 9 to eat breakfast. Becky Manning Woods Johnson & family, along with Stan Maddox, Greg Smith, James Journey and David & Sandy Skaggs. Sandy brought some of her uncles items from the 5th Armored Division in for me to look at. It was unbelievable! She had 5 different "Battle Maps" of the division in WWII along with division newspapers from 1943-1945. She had 2 books on the 5th Armored Division in WWII along with several clippings from Stars and Stripes. Then she pulled out a ring that he had. One of two that she has of his belongings. Stan is going to come and make digital copies for her and when he does I am hoping I can add them to the newsletter down the road.

We also gathered for lunch at Colton's Steak House. Those present were Laymon Wilder, Kenneth Markham, Greg Smith, David Skaggs, Stan Maddox, Richard LaLoge, James Journey, Richard Fullen, Tom Currie, Corey Miller, and Don Moriarty. Steve Solomon showed up as we were departing. A good time was had by all.

KP Morris
Patton 6

WWW.WORLDWAR1CENTENNIAL.ORG

WWW.USABOT.ORG

TRADOC to take responsibility for Army Center for Military History

By Sean Kimmons | Army News Service | March 4, 2019

FORT MEADE, Md. — The U.S. Army Center of Military History will realign under U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command April 1 to better promote history at schoolhouses across the force, officials announced Thursday. The center's mission will remain the same and its activities will continue at Fort Belvoir, Va.; and Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

Under TRADOC, a four-star command, the center will have further access to inspire and educate Soldiers from trainees in basic combat training to officers at staff colleges. "It allows us to much more effectively do what we do on behalf of the Army," said Charles Bowery Jr., the center's director. There are currently no plans to physically relocate or eliminate the center's 250 employees due to the realignment, he added.

The Institute of Heraldry, a CMH directorate for the past three years, however, will remain at the Department of the Army headquarters level under the Office of the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army. Other key changes will mainly occur behind the scenes, such as new procedures for reporting and administrative support, funding and lines of accounting, and new rating officials for GS-15 and above employees.

The center's move is part of reforms being made by the secretary of the Army to ensure the headquarters level is focused on policy and oversight, and commanders at lower levels are properly equipped to carry out their functions. "We're kind of the standard bearer of reform for the Army in realigning to TRADOC," Bowery said.

The modern organization of Army historical efforts dates back to World War II as the service sought to record the official history of the war, according to the center's website. Over the decades, the center expanded that role into military history education, introduced automated data-retrieval systems, and currently manages the Army's museum system.

The museum system includes 47 Army museums and 176 other holdings, which have around 500,000 artifacts and over 15,000 works of military art. The center is also behind the National Museum of the U.S. Army at Fort Belvoir, which is projected to open in the spring of 2020.

With over 700,000 visitors expected to visit each year, the museum will serve as a "launch point" for TRADOC to engage the public about the Army. "We look at the national museum as a premiere platform to advertise the Army to the nation and the world," Bowery said. Other Army museums may also see changes as the center plans to look at some management reforms to ensure they run more efficiently.

"It's all about funding the secretary of the Army's priorities," Bowery said, "and we want to make sure we're good stewards of the money we receive to run the museums."

In the publishing realm, he added, the center will also embark on a new series telling the histories of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The books, which will be called the "Tan Books" after the center's "Green Books" series on World War II, will eventually be available online and in print when finished.

U.S. Army Recruiting Command, which is part of TRADOC, has also expressed interest in having the center help tailor historical content for young trainees in basic combat training. "We've already taken some baby steps toward doing that," he said. "We're talking about things like developing apps and publications that are accessible to different audiences and are inspiring." Historical content is often made for a variety of audiences. Officer trainees or officers attending staff colleges, for instance, may receive more specific details on previous battles, campaigns, and strategic, operational and tactical decisions. "You want them to learn from those past decisions, so that their critical thinking is sharpened and that they make better decisions in the future," he said.

Noncommissioned officers, he noted, may also receive that sort of information as well as history that serves to inspire.

Being a part of TRADOC, the center will be able to expand its reach to those audiences.

"It's really a golden opportunity for us to influence the Army in a much deeper way," Bowery said.

Veteran Service Organizations

These Service organizations are broke down by state for each organization, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky & Tennessee. These are organizations that are better equipped to assist veterans than the Patton Battalion can. We are an Education organization not a service organization.

American Legion

<https://www.illegion.org/>
<https://www.indianalegion.org/>
<http://www.kylegion.org/>
<http://www.tennesseelegion.org/>

Department of Veteran Affairs

<https://www2.illinois.gov/veterans/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://www.in.gov/dva/>
<https://veterans.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://www.tn.gov/veteran.html>

AMVETS

<http://www.ilamvets.org/>
<http://www.amvetsin.org/>
<http://amvetsofky.org/>
<http://www.amvetstennessee.org/>

Veterans of Foreign Wars

<http://www.vfwil.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp>
<http://vfw.in.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp>
<http://vfwky.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp>
<http://myvfw.org/tennessee/>

USA Cares

<https://usacares.org/>

Chapter in Indiana - on Facebook

Chapter in Missouri/Southern Illinois - on Facebook

2 Chapters in Kentucky

Bluegrass

Kentucky

Combat Veteran Motorcycle Association

<https://www.combatvet.us/>
Chapters in almost every state.

Disabled American Veterans

<https://www.dav.org/>

Paralyzed Veterans of America

<https://www.pva.org/>

If you know of another service organization for veterans please let me know so that can add them to the list.

American Legion Celebrates 100 Years

It all began in Paris a century ago

By Jeff Stoffer - Mar 14, 2019

The American Legion is 100 years old.

The organization's 55 departments and nearly 12,500 posts across the country and around the world are celebrating a century of service to community, state and nation that began in Paris March 15-17, 1919, when war-weary members of the American Expeditionary Forces gathered for a "morale conference" that led to the creation of what would become The American Legion. Only 300 troops were expected to attend. Officially, 463 registered. Some have estimated that more than 1,000 came and went, with or without orders, during the weekend that launched a century of accomplishments unforeseeable, if not unimaginable, at the time.

Lt. Col. Eric Fisher Wood, a leader in the prewar Preparedness Movement who was wounded fighting with the British before U.S. entry in the Great War and was later gassed during the Meuse-Argonne offensive while with the U.S. Army's 88th Infantry Division, served as secretary of the Paris Caucus' first session and called it to order nearly five hours after it was scheduled to start.

Fisher Wood, who originally wanted the new association to be named the Liberty League and later designed the emblem of The American Legion, was joined at the Paris Caucus by Col. William Donovan, who would go on to become the father of U.S. intelligence; future Secretary of the Treasury Capt. Ogden Mills; and fellow founder Lt. Col. George A. White, a former editor of the Portland Oregonian. But this caucus was not going to be about officers.

In a telegram to Lt. Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., a week before the gathering, Fisher Wood stated simply: "Am inviting enlisted men."

Pvt. George Munroe, who participated in the caucus, recalled in Thomas A. Rumer's "The American Legion: An Official History, 1919-1989," that he "saw no evidence of registration at the caucus. As far as I could see, anybody who happened to wander in could sit down and take part. It was somewhat of a madhouse. When I reported to the Cirque de Paris, I presented my travel orders to the soldier on duty at the door, and he looked me over, handed them back, and directed me to the section reserved for the 1st Division. After that, I came and went as I pleased."

Amid the chaos, The American Legion formed its first four committees: Convention, Permanent Organization, Constitution and Name. Following the March 15 opening, the 15-member committees worked on their specific topics before reconvening March 17 before the entire group.

Lt. Col. Lemuel Bolles, who would later become the first American Legion national adjutant, reported from the Constitution Committee the following intention: "We, the members of the military and naval services of the United States of America in the great war desiring to perpetuate the principles of justice, freedom and democracy for which we have fought, to inculcate the duty and obligation of the citizen to the state; to preserve the history and incidents of our participation in the war; and to cement the ties of comradeship formed in service, do propose to found and establish an association for the furtherance of the foregoing purposes."



American Legion Celebrates 100 Years

Language from his report would inspire the Preamble to The American Legion Constitution, which would be written and adopted in St. Louis two months later.

The committee tasked with naming the new organization reported 12 nominations:

- Comrades of the Great War
- Veterans of the Great War
- Liberty League
- Army of the Great War
- Legion of the Great War
- Great War Legion
- The Legion
- The American Legion
- American Comrades of the Great War
- Society of the Great War
- The Great Legion
- American Comrades

On the final day of the caucus, Lt. Col. Thomas W. Miller of Delaware, a former member of Congress who enlisted as an infantryman in the Army after an unsuccessful re-election campaign, gavelled the March 17 meeting to order with an 1873 silver dollar, which he always carried with him.

The organization's name, membership eligibility criteria, establishment of an executive committee and the preliminary drafting of a preamble to The American Legion Constitution were all on the agenda. Miller, who would later serve as a national American Legion Legislative Committee co-chairman and co-author of the organization's federal charter, presided when "American Legion" was chosen after much debate, but only as a temporary name. The motion and adoption, according to most accounts, were accelerated by hunger, just before lunchtime.

In the Paris Caucus' final hours, a U.S. Navy sailor dropped in to see what was going on. In his 1923 history of the Legion, Marquis James wrote that prior to his appearance "...there was present no delegate direct from the Navy. On the afternoon of the third day, a lone sailor wandered into the Cirque de Paris where the later sessions were held. He was immediately surrounded and asked whom he represented. 'Nobody,' stammered the embarrassed gob. 'I thought there was a show going on in here.'"

On the evening after the final session of the caucus, the first American Legion Executive Committee gathered, chaired by Milton J. Foreman of Chicago, with White as secretary.

In his 1946 "A History of The American Legion," author Richard Seelye Jones put their challenge this way: "They were to promote an organization which would not take form until the following November. They had no funds whatever, no offices, no staff, no literature. They had been named the temporary executives of a great idea."

White, who would serve in uniform the rest of his life, rising to the rank of major general before he died two weeks before the Pearl Harbor attack of 1941, recounted the aftermath of the Paris Caucus this way: "As near as we could calculate tangible assets, we possessed a pile of resolutions, the tentative name 'American Legion,' and a responsibility to do something along lines which we must determine ... and promulgate."

Over the next eight months, the early American Legion's promulgations would attract some 685,000 members. Community posts sprang up across the country and around the world; some 5,400 that opened in 1919 continue to operate today. And The American Legion would take shape as a non-partisan association of wartime veterans dedicated to building a stronger nation through community service, veterans assistance, support for a strong national defense, patriotism and mentorship of youth.

The American Legion centennial period, which officially began Aug. 30, 2018, continues in earnest through Nov. 11, 2019, the 100th anniversary of the first national convention. The 101st National Convention, which is themed around the organization's second century vision, will be in Indianapolis Aug. 23-29. Learn more about the convention at www.legion.org/convention/resources.

To learn more about The American Legion's centennial and history, visit www.legion.org/centennial.

AMVETS

I wanted to share information on AMVETS as many may not know about them

History

Our commitment to service traces its roots back to 1944 when veteran volunteers first began helping veterans of World War II obtain the benefits promised them by the federal government. As the number of returning veterans swelled into the millions, it was evident that some sort of nationally organized assistance for them would be needed. The older established national groups wouldn't do; the leaders of this new generation of veterans wanted their own organization.

With that in mind, eighteen of them, representing nine veterans clubs, met in Kansas City, Missouri and founded The American Veterans of World War II on Dec. 10, 1944. Less than three years later, on July 23, 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed Public Law 216, making AMVETS the first World War II organization to be chartered by Congress.

Since then, the original charter has been amended several times to admit as members those who served in different eras. Today, membership in AMVETS is open to anyone who is currently serving, or who has honorably served, in the U.S. Armed Forces from World War II to the present, to include the National Guard and Reserves.

As a volunteer-led organization, we annually elect and/or appoint officers at the national, district, department and post levels. Each August, representatives from these levels attend the AMVETS national convention to make decisions on issues affecting veterans and the organization.

The AMVETS organization has grown and evolved over the years to best serve each new generation of veterans and their families. Explore this website to appreciate the services, programs and public policy impact we drive every day across the United States.

As the organization moves further into the 21st century, it does so with the conviction that its focus on preserving freedom, supporting America's defenders and serving her communities remains a clear blueprint for continued service to God and country.

About Us

AMVETS (American Veterans) is the nation's most inclusive Congressionally-chartered veterans service organization, representing the interests of 20 million veterans. AMVETS is open to and fighting for all who honorably served in the United States military, including the Reserve and Guard. With more than 250,000 members nationwide, we are veterans serving veterans.

AMVETS Mission Statement: To enhance and safeguard the entitlements for all American Veterans who have served honorably and to improve the quality of life for them, their families, and the communities where they live through leadership, advocacy and services.

AMVETS Charities participates in the Combined Federal Campaign through the Military, Veterans and Patriotic Services Organizations of America federation. Our Combined Federal Campaign number is **10519**.

As one of America's leading veterans service organizations for more than 75 years, AMVETS has a proud history of assisting veterans and sponsoring numerous programs that serve our country and its citizens. Membership in AMVETS is open to anyone who honorably served, or currently serving, in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves.

The helping hand that AMVETS extends takes many forms:

Veteran Services

One of the most visible is our network of trained national service officers (NSOs) accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Funded by the AMVETS National Service Foundation, these dedicated men and women can be found in close to 50 states, providing sound advice and prompt action on compensation claims at no charge to the veteran. In one recent year alone, AMVETS national service officers processed more than 74,000 claims,

Our Programs – AMVETS in Action

Our programs, from the local to national levels, deliver our promise of preserving freedoms secured by America's armed forces. This culminates in exciting and effective programs serving veterans and our Nation's citizens, enhancing their quality of life.

At the national level, AMVETS annually awards Scholarships to deserving high school seniors, J/ROTC students, veterans, and service members pursuing a higher education. Scholarships are also offered at many of the AMVETS' Posts and Departments.

We honor our veterans while they are with us through the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS), the largest volunteer organization in the federal government, and after they have passed on, through Military Funeral Honors.

When it comes to helping our veterans, our AMVETS' members really step up to the plate. Each Post has their own personality and it shows in their veterans' outreach efforts.

Through the White Clover Program, our members can connect with their local communities, collecting donations to support and assist local veterans in need.

AMVETS - Cont..

At all levels, AMVETS has dedicated itself to shining a light on those veterans and service members who are at risk of ending their own lives. Together, our members form a passionate group to fight against and prevent veteran suicide through the Veterans' Suicide Awareness Program.

To talk to someone NOW: Veterans Crisis Line, 1-800-273-8255 (press 1).

Check with a local Post for information on Post and Department activities.

Your Voice in DC

Over the years, AMVETS has been at the forefront of public policy related to national defense, services for homeless veterans, adequate funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs, concurrent receipt of retirement pay and disability compensation by disabled military retirees, veterans employment and training, POW/MIA accountability and flag protection.

Apart from these initiatives, the organization has monetarily supported national monuments such as the USS Arizona, the Statue of Liberty and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It also sponsors its own carillon program to honor America's deceased servicemen and women. Since 1949, when President Truman dedicated the first carillon at Arlington National Cemetery, this program has grown to encompass more than 60 sites in the United States and overseas.

Another tribute unique to AMVETS is the Silver Helmet Award, often referred to as the Veterans Oscar. A replica of the World War II GI helmet, this prestigious award is presented annually to recognize excellence and achievement in Americanism, defense, rehabilitation, congressional service and other fields.

AMVETS National Headquarters – Family

AMVETS National Headquarters is located in Lanham, Md., a suburb of Washington, D.C. AMVETS' operations worldwide are administered through the Office of the National Commander and six departments: administrative, finance, human resources, legislative, membership, programs, communications and service. The bulk of the organization's work with veterans and communities is focused in three of these—legislative, programs and service. We also have our posts and departments organized by state with websites and e-mail addresses listed for those that have them. Finally, listed below are our affiliate organizations. Not all of them have websites, but those that do, we invite you to visit.

AMVETS National Service Foundation

The National Service Foundation (oftentimes referred to as simply "the Foundation") is the fund-raising arm of AMVETS. A corporate subsidiary of the parent organization, it funds a variety of programs benefiting America's veterans and their communities.

Among them is the National Service Officer Program, the Memorial Carillon Program, the Americanism Program, AMVETS scholarships, youth programs and hospital projects. www.amvetsnsf.org

AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary is a subordinate national organization of AMVETS whose members (female veterans or relatives of AMVETS) provide a range of services and support to veterans, communities and other nonprofit organizations such as Paws With a Cause, the John Tracy Clinic and Freedoms Foundation. www.amvetsaux.org

Sons of AMVETS

The Sons of AMVETS, as its name implies, is a nationwide organization comprised of the sons of American veterans who are members of AMVETS. The Sons play an active role in promoting AMVETS' legislative agenda, providing services to hospitalized veterans and supporting charitable initiatives. www.sonsofamvets.org

AMVETS Riders

The AMVETS RIDERS are a dedicated and patriotic group of motorcycle riders who hold true to an unwavering respect for our Nation, our Flag, and our Military... past, present and future. The Riders are committed to the freedom of this Nation, to provide community service and fellowship, and to preserve and support the aims and goals of the AMVETS National Organization.

www.amvetsridersnational.org

Junior AMVETS

Junior AMVETS are the sons and daughters (under age 18) of AMVETS members. As a nationwide organization, "the Juniors" (as they are sometimes called) undertake projects—such as visiting a homeless shelter—that benefit veterans and communities alike.

Sad Sacks

A fun-making and honor organization comprised of AMVETS members, the Sad Sacks (who derive their name from the famous cartoon character of World War II) provide, as their chief community service project, scholarships for nurses.

Sackettes

The Ladies Auxiliary counterpart to the Sad Sacks, the Sackettes also raise funds for nurses' scholarships.

Patton Monument Report for 2019

As of March 27, 2019, the Monument fund has \$15,018.00. On March 22, I moved \$500 from the PayPal account to the Monument fund. I took \$100.00 from the monument fund to cover shipping for monument items.

Total in Monument Account: \$15,018.00.

The Bourg Tee Shirts arrived on 3-18 2019. All orders were shipped out on 3-19-2019. Here is what we have on hand.

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

Lapel Pins

We are looking at \$12 each for these.



I have over 50 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 March 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 \$922.22 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$442.64 in the Patton Operating account. With \$349.27 as Patton Funds and with \$93.37 for shipping.

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

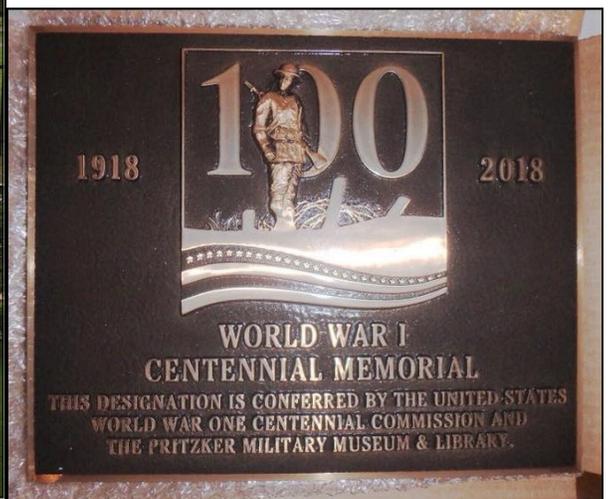
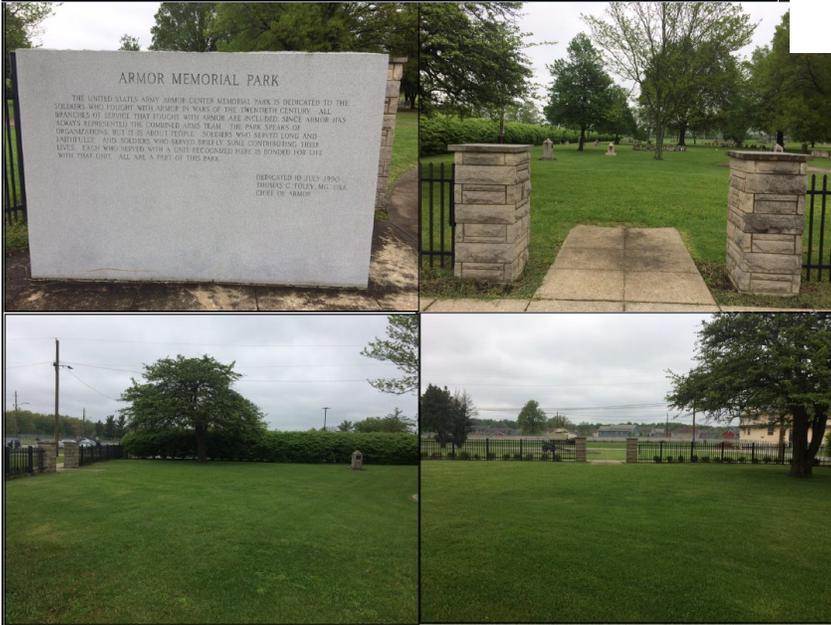
Make checks payable to USABOT
If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online and register there so that the G4 can track.

WWW.USABOT.ORG

Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument

The Bourg Tee shirts arrived 3-18-19. The M4-M60-M1 shirts are still available in Tan, OD, & Yellow. Please go to the 19 Series website to order. Or call me.

<https://19seriesclothing.com/>



Patton Monument Report for 2017

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 Report for 2017

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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THE RARE FINDS

REFORGER 82

An M1 Abrams Tank Company from 3rd Battalion 64th Armor Regiment and an M60A1 RISE Passive Tank Company from 4th Battalion 64th Armor Regiment prepare assist 2nd Battalion 30th Infantry Regiment (Task Force 2-30)



Coming up in the April Issue - A Resume of Tank Development in the U.S. Army, January 1928. The World Wars Tank Corps Association.

Upcoming Events

The Gainey Cup - Best Scout Squad Competition - Fort Benning, GA - 22 April-May 22, 2019,
<https://www.benning.army.mil/armor/gaineycup/>

The 22 Challenge 10K Ruck March - Jeffersonville, IN - May 18, 2019

Eighth Annual Tanker Homecoming - Fort Bliss, TX - October 17-19, 2019

Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument - Fort Knox - *Fall 2018 (If we reach the \$30,000)*

EIGHTH ANNUAL TANKER HOMECOMING

17-19 October 2019

Fort Bliss, Texas

