



**NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2020
VOLUME 9 - 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

453 on Battalion Facebook Page

PATTON BATTALION - USABOT

ILLINOIS - INDIANA - KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

September has almost passed us by and Fall has arrived! COVID-19 is still dragging around. I wasn't ready to wrap up the newsletter as I thought I still had time but looking at the calendar I was wrong! The newsletter this month is not filled with much but there are some very important items in here.

September 15, 1916 is the first use of tanks in WWI by the British. So in honor of that I thought I would share something that came up on Twitter. Connie Ruzich shared a post from her blog, Behind Their Lines, a poem titled "The Hill."

As veterans we all understand the issue of suicide. This has been plaguing veterans for several years now. There is a push lately to get away from the "22" in referring to suicide. That the numbers vary and 22 may or may not be accurate. 1 is 1 too many! So the Army has adopted some new programs to combat this. The first is the "Be There" & "Reach One" programs. The Reach One is a website with links and numbers to help you reach the best source to help.

The second program is the "WE CARE" app. These are downloadable from where ever you get your apps from. These apps are specific for each US Army installation across the U.S. I would suggest downloading the app for the nearest military installation to you. Each one has numbers for local contacts that can help. I suggest that if you have ever worn the uniform, if you know someone who has served, if you're a wife, spouse, relative, friend or neighbor, **DOWNLOAD THE APP!!!**

The newsletter is short this month as work and golf with my daughter has been primary focus. We have been busy with practice and tournaments. I have also been working on some side projects, writing some stories, doing some research, trying to find things that we can talk about here.

I did an interview on the Veterans Radio Show on WLMR-DB out of Atlanta. Thomas Lucken and Harold Mason talked to me about my time in the KY National Guard as a tanker. I only got to talk about USABOT and the Patton Battalion for a short time. So hopefully I can get invited back and talk about the monument project. You can find the audio on YouTube under 2020-September 1st - Veteran's Show-Karlen Morris

Be Safe! Reach Out!

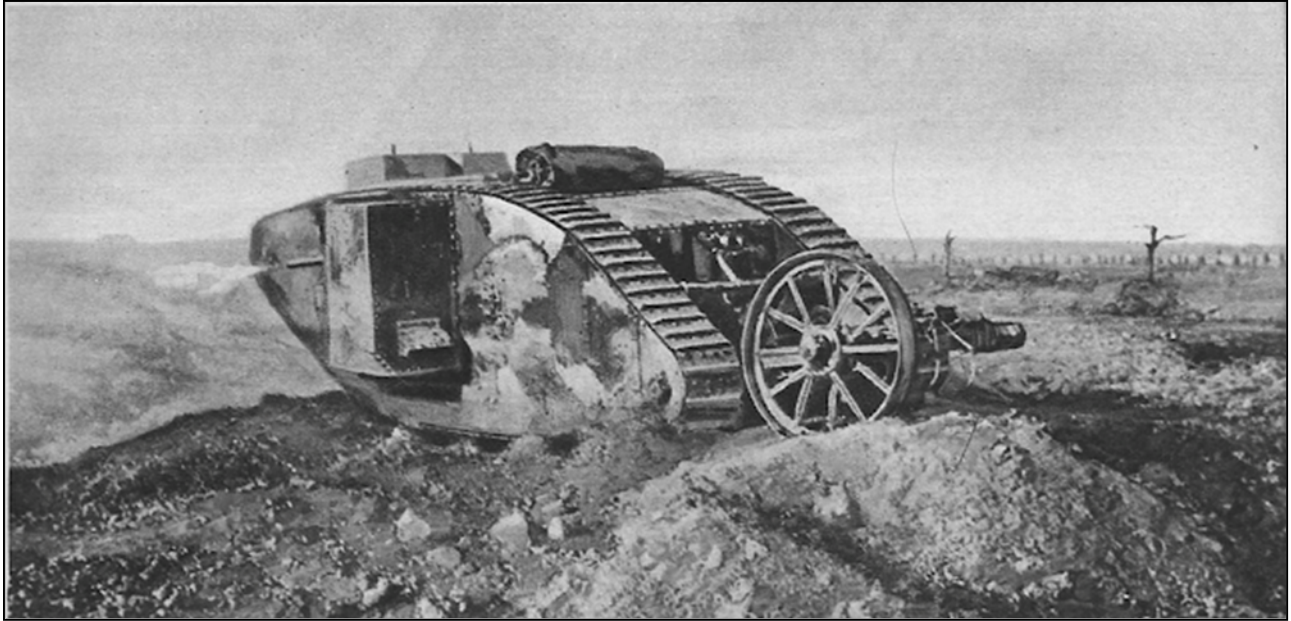
KP Morris
Patton 6

WWW.WORLDWARICENTENNIAL.ORG
WWW.USABOT.ORG
HTTPS://19SERIESCLOTHING.COM

First Tanks Used in WWI - September 15, 1916

Monday, September 12, 2016

Tanks: a regiment of monsters



“Never since the dawn of time had there been such a perversion of knowledge to criminal purposes; never had science contributed such a deadly toll to the fanatic and criminal intentions of a war-crazed class.”

—Francis March, *History of the World War*, 1919

On September 15, 1916, the British Army recorded the first use in battle of a newly developed weapon: the tank. Originally known as a land battleship, the term *tank* was adopted to preserve secrecy during the development of the armored vehicles (factory workers had noted their resemblance to steel water tanks).

Writing shortly after the war’s end in 1919, American historian Francis March explained, *“Originally this was a caterpillar tractor invented in America and adopted in England. At first these were of two varieties, the male, carrying heavy guns only, and the females, equipped with machine guns.... All the tanks were heavily armored and had as their motto the significant words ‘Treat ‘Em Rough’”* (217).

With the introduction of poison gas, gas masks, and heavy artillery shells that obliterated forests and churned the earth, the Western Front had already assumed the appearance of a nightmare. Tanks added another surreal beast to the landscape. While serving with the French army at the Somme, Anglo-American nurse Mary Borden described the new “regiment of monsters.”

The Hill

From the top of the hill I looked down on the beautiful, the gorgeous, the super-human and monstrous landscape of the superb exulting war.

There were no trees anywhere, nor any grasses or green thickets, nor any birds singing, nor any whisper or flutter of any little busy creatures.

There was no shelter for field mice or rabbits, squirrels or men.

The earth was naked and on its naked body crawled things of iron.

It was evening. The long valley was bathed in blue shadow and through the shadow, as if swimming, I saw the iron armies moving. And iron rivers poured through the wilderness that was peopled with a phantom iron host.

Lights gleamed down there, a thousand machine eyes winked.

The sun was setting, gilding the smooth crests of the surging hills. The red tents clustering on their naked yellow sides were like scarlet flowers burning in a shining desert of hills.

Against the sunset, along the sharp edge of a hill, a strange regiment was moving in single file, a regiment of monsters.

They moved slowly along on their stomachs,

Dragging themselves forward by their ears.

Their great encircling ears moved round and round like wheels.

They were big and very heavy and heavily armoured.

First Tanks Used in WWI - cont.

Obscene crabs, armoured toads, big as houses,
 They moved slowly forward, crushing under their bellies whatever stood in their way.
 A flock of aeroplanes was flying home, a flight of wild ducks with iron wings.
 They passed over the monstrous regiment with a roar and disappeared.
 I looked down, searching for a familiar thing, a leaf, a tuft of grass, a caterpillar; but the ground dropped away in darkness before my feet, that were planted on a heap of stones.
 A path, the old deserted way of cattle, showed below beyond the gaping caverns of abandoned dug-outs, where men had once lived underground. And along the path a German prisoner was stumbling, driven by a black man on a horse.
 The black man wore a turban, and he drove the prisoner before him as one drives an animal to market.
 These three—the prisoner, the black man and the horse—seemed to have wandered into the landscape by mistake. They were the only creatures of their kind anywhere.
 Where had they come from and where were they going in that wilderness of iron with night falling?
 The German stumbled on heavily beneath the nose of his captor's horse. I could see the pallid disc of his face thrust forward, and the exhausted lurching of his clumsy body.
 He did not look to the right or left, but watching him I saw him trip over a battered iron helmet and an old boot that lay in his way.
 Two wooden crosses showed just ahead of him, sticking out of the rough ground.
 The three passed in silence.
 They passed like ghosts into the deepening shadow of the valley, where the panorama of invisible phantom armies moved, as if swimming.
 And as I watched I heard the faint music of bagpipes, and thought that I heard the sound of invisible men marching.
 The crests of the naked hills were still touched with gold.
 Above the winking eyes of the prodigious war the fragile crescent of the moon floated serene in the perfect sky.
 --Mary Borden

The scene Borden describes resembles one of the terrifying medieval visions painted by Hieronymus Bosch. In Borden's poem, across the naked body of the earth crawl "things of iron." The armored tanks are unnatural creatures that lurch forward like "obscene crabs" or "armoured toads, big as houses," and they mercilessly crush "under their bellies" whatever stands in their path.

The machines appear more alive than the three living creatures, "the prisoner, the black man, and the horse," who seem to have unwittingly stumbled into this unimaginable landscape of war. This solitary group passes "like ghosts" into the darkening twilight and joins the "invisible phantom armies," the hosts of men who are marching forward to face death or who are returning from the front-line trenches numb and exhausted by the horrors they have witnessed.

Men are reduced to phantoms and natural life has disappeared: not a leaf, tuft of grass, or caterpillar remains on the battlefield, only heaps of stones and wooden crosses that mark the graves of the dead.

The industrialized war has taken on a mechanized life of its own, its terrors worse than anything science fiction could imagine. It is a "superb, exulting war" in which airplanes soar like "wild ducks with iron wings," and "a thousand machine eyes" wink as the tanks blankly rumble forward, emotionless and cruel.

Mary Borden's poem "The Hill" appeared in her book of sketches and poems *The Forbidden Zone*. In the preface to the book Borden wrote, "*The sketches and poems were written between 1914 and 1918, during four years of hospital work with the French Army....I have dared to dedicate these pages to the Poilus who passed through our hands during the war, because I believe they would recognize the dimmed reality reflected in these pictures. But the book is not meant for them. They know, not only everything that is contained in it, but all the rest that can never be written.*"

Posted by Connie Ruzich.
 Labels: American, Borden, women

<https://behindtheirlines.blogspot.com/2016/09/tanks-regiment-of-monsters.html>



SEPTEMBER SUICIDE AWARENESS MONTH

<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/military-crisis-line>



I still don't understand how after all the training we did as a team or crew and how teamwork was so much a part of our training and life and fellow veterans don't think they can reach out to one another.

I want to see you at our next get together and I hope that you will Reach Out!

SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH




1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1



Be there
for someone in your life.

Connect fellow Veterans and Servicemembers in crisis with support.

VeteransCrisisLine.net

Preventing Suicide: A simple download could Save a Life

The Army WeCare Mobile App provides both Local and National Suicide Prevention contacts and resources 24/7


The WeCare App is cyber safe and U.S. Army approved, unlike third party Apps available online. The WeCare app is available for download at Apple, Google Play, or directly through The TRADOC Application Gateway (TAG). To download the app, go to any of the aforementioned App Store sites and search for the WeCare App for your location. The app is also available linked on Army communities and Joint DoD Bases websites worldwide. Simply follow the upload procedures and upload for your cellular device.





If you or someone you know is in crisis, contact the Crisis Line for immediate assistance

 **Veterans Crisis Line** |  **Military Crisis Line** **1-800-273-8255**
PRESS 1

**Calling from overseas? In Europe: Call 00800 1273 8255 or DSN 118
In Korea: Call 0808 555 118 or DSN 118 / In Afghanistan: 00 1 800 273 8255 or DSN 111**



DOWNLOAD A WECARE APP TODAY

WE CARE APP

TRADOC put out a We Care App for your phone for veterans. I am going to suggest that if you have worn the uniform download the App! Have your wife, girlfriend, sister, brother, father, mother, uncle or aunt **DOWNLOAD** the APP! I Googled TRADOC Apps and found the TRADOC APP GATEWAY. <https://public.tag.army.mil/catalog/tag/home> Each US Army Instillation should have its own app with local contacts. I suggest looking for you closest military base and download their app.

9/16/2020

TRADOC App Gateway



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Apps

e2Books & Progressive Web Apps

Organizations
(Proponents/Knowledge Centers)

My Training Tab (MT2)

(<https://atiam.train.army.mil/mthp>)

Central Army Registry (CAR)

(/catalog)



WeCare, Ft Leavenworth & CAC

iOS



WeCare, Fort Bliss

iOS



WeCare, Fort Bliss

Android



WeCare, Fort Benning

Android



WeCare, Fort Benning

iOS



WeCare Fort Campbell

iOS



WeCare Fort Huachuca

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WeCare, Fort Jackson

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WeCare, Fort Jackson

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WeCare, Fort Leonard Wood

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WeCare, Fort Leonard Wood

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WeCare, Fort McCoy

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WeCare Fort Meade

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WeCare, Fort McCoy

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WeCare, Fort Sill

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WeCare, USAREC



WeCare, USAREC



WeCare, Defense Language Insti...



WeCare JBM-HH

RELENTLESS PURSUIT



A DETERMINED NATION

NATIONAL ★ POW/MIA ★ RECOGNITION DAY

September 18, 2020

WWW.DPAA.MIL



New Tank Corps Monument Item

NEW ITEM!!!!!!

They have finally arrived! These are the Tank Destroyer Mugs to go with the TD Stickers we have now. I ordered these back in January. Of course, as soon as they were to hit production the COVID-19 strikes. At first when other orders were put aside do to production costs I was notified that our order was being pushed to the front. Soon after there was the Stay at Home orders issued and the plant had to close.

These are the same 11oz Diner mug. Cost will be the same as the Treat'em Rough mug, \$25.

I originally ordered the minimum of these as we were not sure of how well these will go over. So I had 47 of these to start with but I am down to 41 as of this time.

So I have **28** of these mugs on hand and ready to ship.

I will be boxing these up while masked, wearing gloves and do all that I can do to be safe for me and you.



Patton Battalion has restocked the favorite Treat'em Rough mugs!!!.

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



We now have Gloss/White (16) and Black (40) on hand. So they are going quick. Contact me or look for them on the 19Series Website.



Patton Monument Report for 2020

As of September 25, 2020, the Monument fund has \$14,816.00. After paying for another run of lapel pins, new item for December and moving funds over to cover shipping costs.

Total in Monument Account: \$14,816.00.

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

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

M4 Tee Shirt

Large: Tan - 1, OD -1.

2XL: Tan - 1

Lapel Pins

We are looking at \$12 each for these.



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

Patton Battalion Funds / Memberships / Dues

The Patton Battalion, as of September 25, has 451 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$.83 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$607.82 in the Patton Operating account. Battalions funds are \$607.82. 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

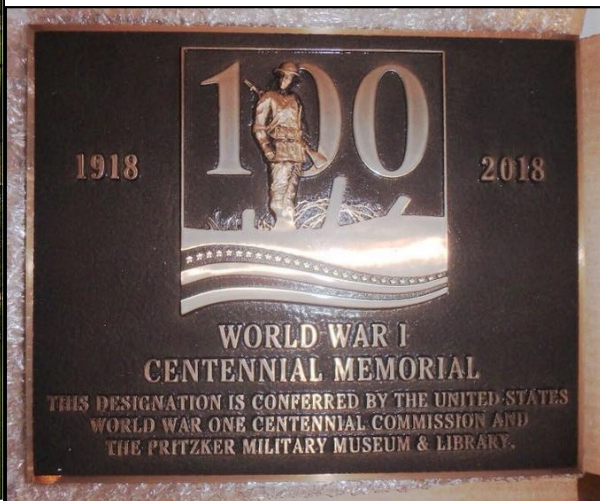
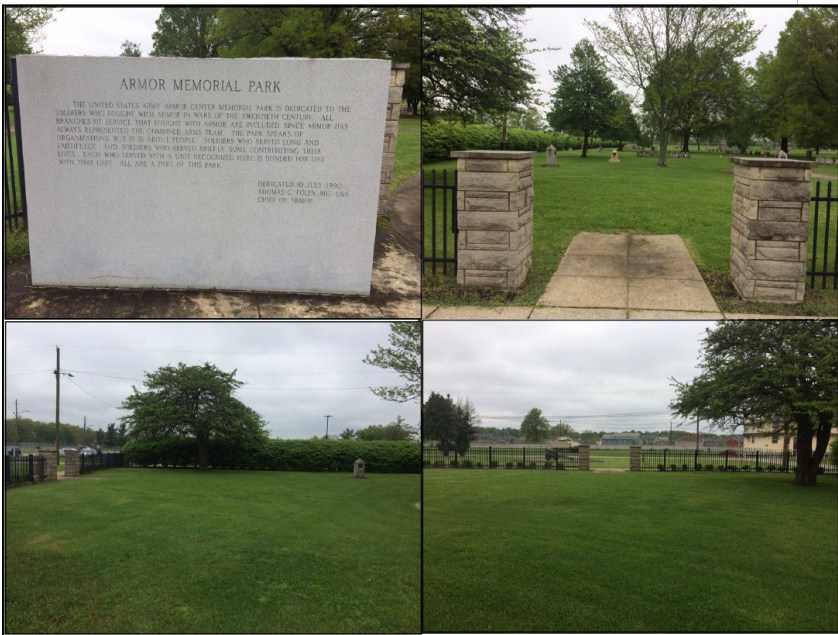
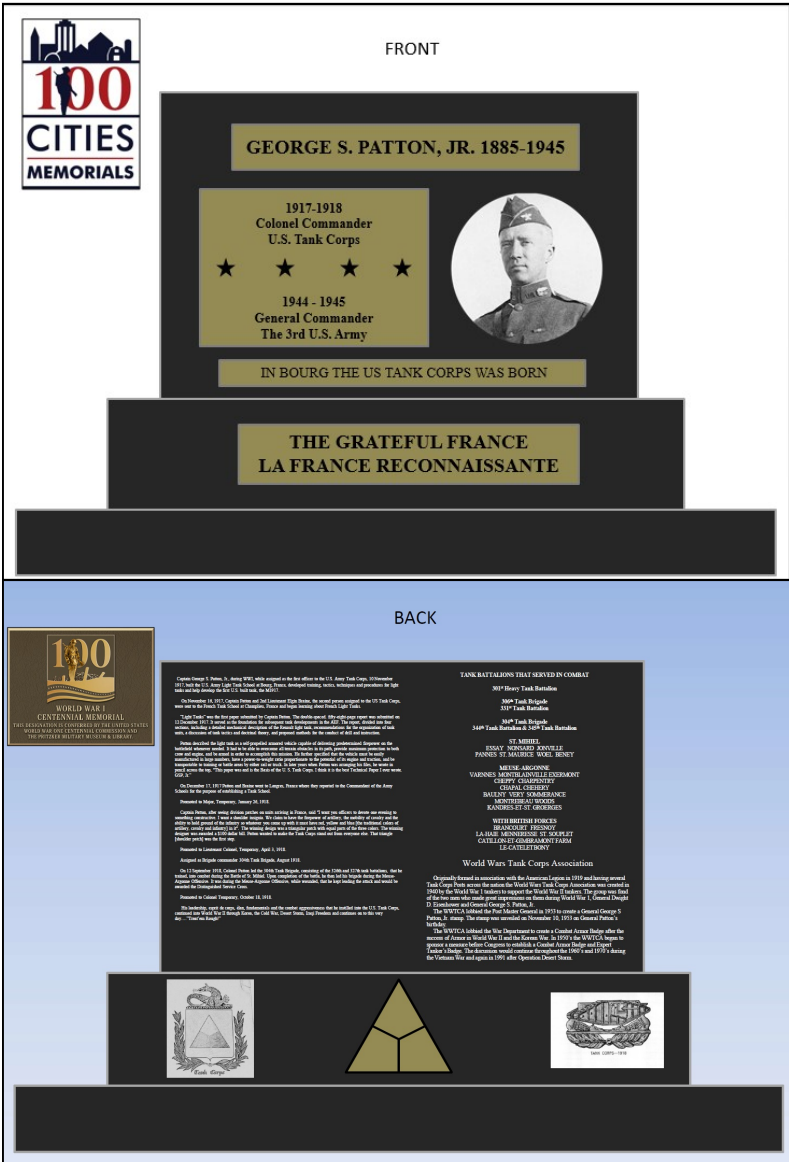
Make checks payable to USABOT
If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online
and register there so that the G4 can track.

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

Board of Directors

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



Be sure to check us out on
Twitter @pattonbattalion



Coming up in the October Issue - Lieutenant Ramsey's War

Upcoming Events

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

Ninth Annual Tanker Homecoming - Fort Carson, CO - September 23-26, 2020. **(CANCELLED)**

Gainey Cup - Fort Benning, GA - February 22-26, 2021.

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

