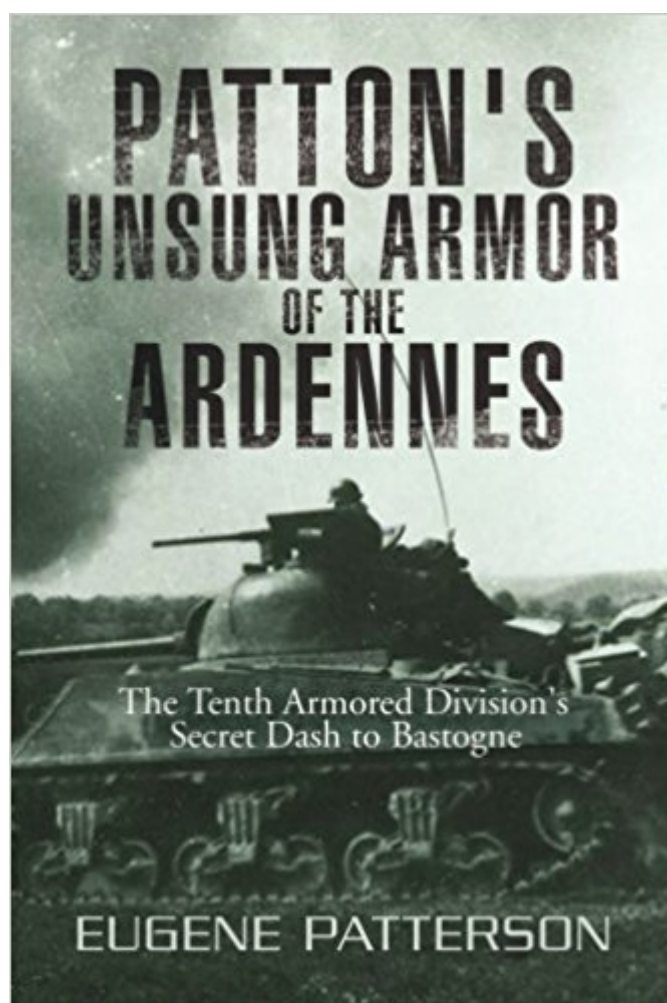


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Patton's Unsung Armor Of The Ardennes: The Tenth Armored Division's Secret Dash To Bastogne



Synopsis

When Hitler's huge counterattack was overwhelming First U.S. Army's thin line in the Ardennes Forest in December 1944, the 10th Armored Division of Patton's Third Army secretly roared 75 miles north overnight, flung its tanks in front of the German panzers at Bastogne--and held. This book, rich with new accounts of the men who fought there, is written by one of them. It will help history catch up to the too-long-secret dimension of one division's stand which its corps commander said he doubted any armored unit in the U.S. Army could parallel.

Book Information

Paperback: 106 pages

Publisher: Xlibris (August 8, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1436338069

ISBN-13: 978-1436338066

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.3 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,003,756 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in Books > History > Military > Weapons & Warfare > Conventional > Armored Vehicles #228 in Books > History > Military > Regiments #11192 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Spiritual Growth

Customer Reviews

Pulitzer Prize winner Eugene Patterson is the former editor of the Atlanta Constitution and managing editor of the Washington Post. For the seventeen years before he retired, he served as editor, chairman, and CEO of the St. Petersburg Times. He won the 1967 Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing at the Atlanta Constitution for his columns and editorials supporting civil rights for black Americans. He won the Silver Star and the Bronze Star with oak-leaf cluster during World War II combat in Europe with the Tenth Armored Division of Patton's Third Army. He holds honorary degrees from fifteen institutions including Harvard, Duke, Emory, and Indiana universities.

The famous defense of Bastogne by the 101st Airborne Division has become a deeply held legend in the US military. The holding of the critical road junction frustrated the German battle plan for exploiting the rupture of the American defense lines in the Ardennes region. What many people do

not appreciate is that the 101st Airborne would have found Bastogne already in German hands if not for the desperate defense by the 28th Infantry Division on the front lines, by the sacrifice of part of the 9th Armored Division to slow the Germans and by part of the 10th Armored Division that held the roads in front of Bastogne long enough for the paratroopers to move in and set up an organized defense. These elements of the 10th Armored pulled back into the Bastogne perimeter and became a mobile reserve force. The balance of the 10th Armored joined Patton's fierce counterattack to relieve Bastogne and their trapped comrades. Mr. Patterson gives a basic overall view of the battlefield and adds his personal experiences as a member of the 10th Armored. Very readable and quite an enjoyable book. Recommended for those who are WW2 buffs or enjoy reading beyond the legends.

I have an abiding interest in the Battle of the Bulge not just because of my life long interest in military history, but particularly because my father was in Bastogne with CCB of the Tenth Armored division. This account is detail-rich and authoritative, recounting the story of the critical role of elements of the 10th Armored division in Bastogne before the 101st airborne arrived, as well as through the rest of the battle. I was extremely pleased to find this nice little book. It's not particularly easy reading, because of the sheer amount of detail that needed to be included, but overall I consider it a gem.

I was excited when I found this book. I'm always looking for new information regarding Armored units in WWII. This is a great memoir, but only a good history if you're looking for something new. The publishers reviews make this sound like it's a detailed academic look at the Tenth Armored Division. It's not. It is a very easy to read, accurate memoir which adds some of the author's experiences to the details that are already there. At 106 pages, it's not much longer than the Osprey books. I recommend this for someone who is already aware of the role that Armored units played in stopping and reversing Hitler's Ardennes assault and the holding of Bastogne, especially if you believe the version told by the "Airborne Mafia" that it was purely by the tenacity of the Screaming Eagles! By itself, it will leave you wanting more. I absolutely am glad I got the book, but the publishers promised more than it delivers.

Overall, an informative, quick read on the 10th Armored in the Battle of the Bulge and on General George Patton. The only "new" information were the individual stories of some of the tankers and infantry, of which I never can get enough. I am surprised that the author felt that the "Tigers" had not

received their due from the history books, because I became very aware of the 10th Armored desperate fights in such books as "The Bitter Woods", "Seven Roads to Hell", "Hitler's Last Offensive The Surprise German Assault The Triggered The Battle Of The Bulge", etc. Also, I was disappointed that the author focused so much on Patton's affair than on his strengths as a leader.

It details events told to me by my father. He was with team O'Hara at Marvie and lived. It is nice to read a chronicle where they get overdue credit. The author puts in place their contribution to the defence of Bastogne. Dec 16 is coming up, it has been 67 years since the battle began. Not many survivors are here to remember.

The book detailed a lot of information that was very interesting and would recommend it anyone interested in the battle at Ardennes or George Patton. I would recommend this book

Totally satisfied with order in every way.

VERY GOOD

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