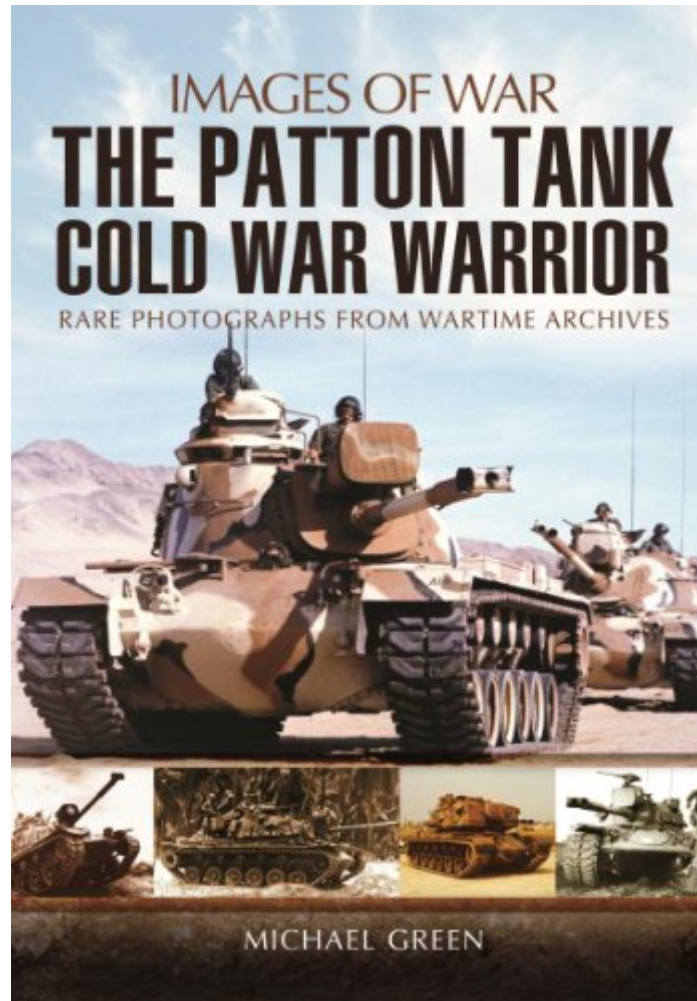




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Patton Tanks (Images Of War)



Synopsis

The end of WW2 and the early Cold War years saw the need for a more powerful tank than the Sherman and Pershing tanks. The first Patton tanks (M46) were converted Pershings which saw service in Korea. As the Cold War intensified, the M47 with a more effective 90mm gun and turret went into mass production (9000 built) and countered the Soviet build up. The M48 entered service in 1953 and the M47s were sold off to allies whose armies were being rebuilt. The original M48 had serious deficiencies. Nevertheless over 12000 of numerous variants (M48A1/A2/A2C) came into service. These were followed by the M48A3 which the Marines took to Vietnam. In the late 1950s the Americans overcame their aversion to diesel power and the M60 with its British designed 105mm gun came into service. By 1982 over 15000 units had been built in four basic models. Simultaneously 200 of the M48A5 with the 105mm gun went into service with the Army Reserve and National Guard and friendly foreign armies. To complicate matters, countries such as Israel made their own modifications to M48s which remained in service until the late 1990s. As this fascinating book reveals Pattons were made into specialist role vehicles, be they anti-aircraft, flame throwers, recovery, combat engineer.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The first thing that needs to be said about this book is clarification of the title. "Patton Tank" refers to the M-48 series of vehicles. The M-60 series never officially had a name, but is often lumped into that name. I got caught by that, I should have known better. The M-48 series of tank was a logical evolution from the M-26 tank and served/still serves well to this day in some places or versions. Solid, reliable, it had a very good balance of protection, firepower and mobility. One of the many great features of this tank was the ability to upgrade & update the series through the present. Over 12,000 were made and served for forty years. This is a paperback book, all photos B&W, all of which are clear & crisp. Most are of tanks in action or combat. There are a few ghost diagrams showing ammo storage, a few images from the TM's (Technical Manuals). There are only a few shots of the interior of this tank. The first three chapters review the development & deployment of the M-48 tracing its origins to the M-26 Pershing tank. These are very well written and clearly explain the modifications made. Ch 5 - Patton tank in combat in Vietnam Ch 6 covers M-48 Israeli Yom Kippur war Ch 7 shows M-48s in Foreign Service Ch 8 has 27 pages cover the variants such as M-48, AVLB, M-55, Sgt York and a few others. This is a very good, accessible book on the M-48 series. It's not a photo essay, provides nice details for modelers, but modelers are not the intended audience. Those who have served on the Patton Tank are the primary audience and will probably like this book very much. Much of this has been covered by R.P. Hunnicutt (RIP) book *Patton: A History of the American Main Battle Tank* (pub 1984) and indeed, the author dedicates this book to him, a fitting tribute. Author Green is able to expand where Hunnicutt left off and focus solely on this tank. Recommended reading for armor buffs, I gave it four stars for the lack of interior shots and the lack of color.

If you read most history's on tanks it seemed the USA went from the M4 to the M1. This helps fill in the gaps on the Cold War tanks.

A concise history of the evolution of the so-called Patton tanks from the M-4 thru the M-60. Profusely illustrated with diagrams and photos. More encyclopedic in format than I expected.

Interesting insight of the history of patton tanks. Starting with the Pershing tank in ww2. Then korea, vietnam an israel egypt conflict. Look forward in reading more on armor from the author.

A nicely detailed history of the M 46,47, and 48 series Patton tanks .written well and nicely illustrated, recommend reading.

Lots of good pictures both of tanks in action and "hanger queens". The Captions sometimes assume that you know more than you do, thoughb I .

Good review, nice pix.

I love this book. All I need for the story of my cold war armour. Good arm chair history buff.

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