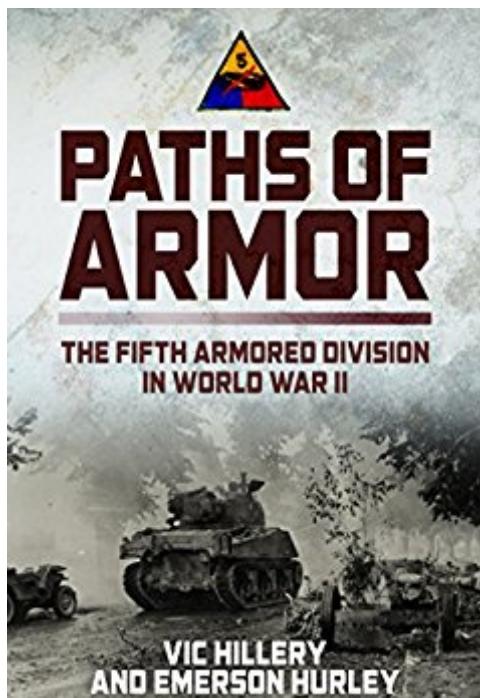


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Paths Of Armor: The Fifth Armored Division In World War II



Synopsis

The Fifth Armored Division's record of achievement in World War Two is unsurpassed by that of any other division. It led the Normandy breakthrough; it sprang the Falaise trap which meant the death of the Seventh German Army and the Field Marshal who commanded it; it was the first division to reach the Eure River, the Seine, and the Our; it cut off near Mons thousands of Germans; it was the first to enter Germany and at the end of the war it was nearer to Berlin than any combat group in the American Army. This is the history of that division and the men and tanks that fought in it. Vic Hillery and Major Emerson Hurley, two veterans of the division, have provided a thorough account of this fascinating division in World War Two, from its inception in 1941 through to the end of the war. Hillery and Hurley fully explain how the Fifth Division, under the tactically brilliant leadership of Jack E. Heard, Sereno E. Brett and Lunsford E. Oliver, were able to revolutionise armored warfare. With detailed analysis the authors reconstruct the battles of the division and explain how they were able to carve a path through Normandy, Northern France, the Ardennes, Alsace, the Rhineland and Central Europe. Paths of Armor is essential reading for anyone interested in the Western Front of World War Two and the development of tank warfare that occurred through that war.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Interesting, comprehensive history of the subject armored group. Maybe too comprehensive. As a history for academia this book is outstanding. For the casual reader like me, there is too much detail. Generally well written and interesting.

This book is mostly a litany of names and places. It's OK but boring at times and the combat descriptions are flat. I was hoping for more on the equipment, the battles, and the tactics.

I found this book to be an interesting read, while sometimes a bit dry it is still a great read. It is the factual story of American men as they fight and die in France in WWII. The story takes the reader with the Fifth Armored Division as they race across France. The divisions fighting was a tremendous accomplishment. The Officers and men were in a battle that started on D day and finished with the total defeat of Germany. While a only a part of the overall allied war effort their lighting quick drive against a dug in and tenacious German army was a remarkable feat. The brave American men are relentless as they defeat everyone in their path. If you are a history buff and like military reading then this book is a must read.

Simply a chronological series of locations and encounters, nothing about war itself. If you want a good WW2 book look up god isn't here. That is my favorite WW2 book. A good second is The last panzer by Wolfgang Faust.

This is a good but very general history It is a straight chronological report of the division, recounting every village and town the division captured or overran. Not a lot of first person accounts. Well written if a little dry. Not much context of what the surrounding units were doing or if they even existed. OK for the price and if you have a connection to the division it is very well worth it but nothing new to the more knowledgeable student of WW II

The author wrote this book just at the end of WW2, and it was common for such books to name just about everyone who was in the units; at least the officers. A good book from the period. These books were written for veterans of the units and their families, so they do not tend to be a detailed

technical history. Not a bad book though.

Overall a good read. Often self-serving, as many of these types of books are, but nevertheless fills a gap that reminds readers there were other divisions in the fight besides the better known 1st, 2d, 3d, & 4th Armored Divisions. It is also educational to read the German accounts of some of the battles described in the book.

Great description of the fighting and battles of WWII at the unit level. To follow completely, one either needs a strong knowledge of European geography, down to the village level or keep a map alongside. The appendix has a good summary of the units and leaders, which would help to have bookmarked.

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