



THE DISPATCH

102nd Cavalry Regiment Association - The Essex Troop



21 July 2025

M60A3 Tank at West Orange

From Spring through early Summer 2025, the M60A3 MBT on the front lawn of the West Orange Armory got a face lift. Thanks to Eagle Scout Chris Ferrell, he was authorized to complete the face lift as his Eagle Scout Project.



(above) this is the before look of the M60A3, it has the cold war camouflage paint scheme and no bumper numbers.

Chris and his fellow Scouts work many hours prepping the tanks, priming the rust spots, removing the worn-out mantel cover from the front and sealing the periscope ports against the weather.



The result was Chris, and company finished the project leaving the 60 with a fresh coat of OD Green and placed a landscape wall around the existing Armory sign board. Thanks to Chris the Armory presents a better appearance to the general public.



1315 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

Mailing address: P.O. Box 997, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076-0997

Office phone: 973-736-0952

Email: essex.troop@yahoo.com

Website: 102cavalry.org

The tank remained for several months with no bumper numbers or a name.

The Story Behind the Numbering and Naming the Armory M60A3 Tank Display

The M60A3 Tank displayed on the West Orange Armory front lawn was cleaned and repainted during 2025 as part of an Eagle Scout Project. The Scout also landscaped, installed landscape blocks and solar lights around the area of the 102d Cavalry front lawn sign.

During the July 2025 Regimental Heritage Initiative workday, the Committee painted the bumper markings and the National Stars on the Tank.

Unit bumper markings 50 2-102: This tank was assigned to the 50 Armored Division, 2d Bn 102d Armor during the late 1980s and early 1900s. When the M60A3 was replaced by the M-1 Tank.

B: Company B- 2-102 Armor was the Unit assigned to The West Orange Armory after the downsizing of the old 2d Tank Battalion during the 1990s.

34: During 1978 a new 1LT Kieslor was assigned to the third platoon. At that time, the MTOE only authorized four tanks in the third platoon, not the usual five tanks per platoon.

The Name “Bad Betty”: In keeping with the Army tradition, tanks were named with the first letter of the Company to which it was assigned. During the 1970s the Armory staff were assigned a housekeeper, Betty Elge. Therefore, the name of the tank, to honor Betty for dedication to assist in always maintaining the Armory in pristine condition.



REMEMBER THE DATES (CORRECTION NOTICE)

2 AUGUST	RHI	0830-1300
6 SEP	RHI	0830-1300
4 OCT	RHI	0830-1300
18 OCT	Annual Muster of the Regiment	
		1400 hours WOA
1 NOV	RHI	0830-1300
7 DEC	Annual Christmas Social	
		Christmas Hawaiian Style



The 2 August RHI is canceled, August is a big vacation month and the turn out for July demonstrated that to cancel August.

We will pick up in September with many new projects for the Armory and the Association.

As always, we are in the Armory every Wednesday morning, we do a few tasks, Frank is always interested in a helping hand down in the Dungeon (The Archive Room) and we always have something on the back burner to be completed. Join us for bagels and coffee and projects here and there.

This year's Christmas party will have Hawaiian theme to it. We are hoping everyone will look forward to the idea, it's just something to give us a new look at our gathering as we go light hearted into the New Year.

There is a site that allows each member to customize a Hawaiian shirt. This is just another way to have fun. I will be suggesting to the officers that we award for the best-looking shirt and the most unusual-looking Hawaiian shirt. You can order your personalized shirt or blouse at:

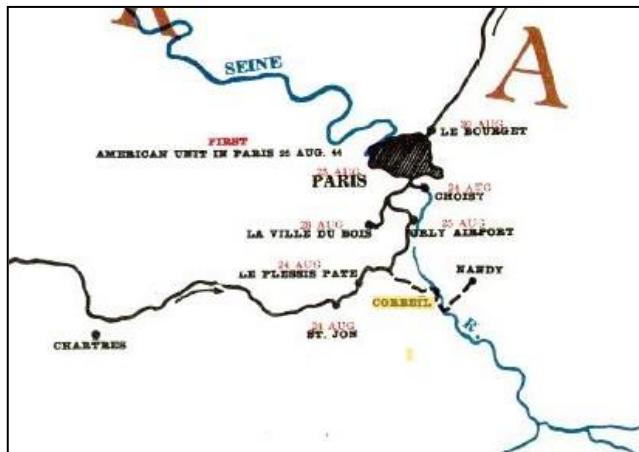
Pawfecthouse.com

It's an easy site to work thought, at the menu drop down there is an "Appeal" click on it and look through the choices.

We will also accept any "Ugly Sweaters" participates at the party.

Liberation Celebration in France

In August Paris and the surrounding communities will celebrate the Liberation from Nazi control in August 1944. One of those communities is Corbeil, France. Today it is known as Corbeil-Essone. After the war and through the decades many of the smaller French communities reorganized into one larger community, most likely for financial reasons. If you travel through France, through the local roadways, you will experience small townships, all with their own church and separated by only a few hundred yards. As found in the U.S., over the years small boroughs joined together to become townships.



As the 102nd CRS screened the 4th Infantry Division into Paris, Troop C, commanded by CPT Milton J. Hull from Maplewood, NJ, entered Corbeil on 25 August 1944 and immediately came under fire by well entrenched German forces. After a short period both sides experienced numerous casualties. The 32-man, 2nd Platoon suffered five KIA's and 18 WIA's within the first hour of the fight. Troop C ended up defeating the German forces by capturing 31 prisoners and killing 100 Germans. Captain William T. Haley Jr, the medical officer assigned to the 102nd CRS, gallantly rushed out during the heavy fighting and rescued several soldiers from both sides, earning him the Distinguished Service Cross and a Purple Heart for wound received during his gallant efforts. The battle lasted five-hours, CPT Hull offered to the German an opportunity to surrender, but they refused and suffered the consequence with 100 casualties. The 3rd Platoon, commanded by SSG William J. Glynn, from Woodridge, NJ move into position to quickly cut off any retreat for the Germans.

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