



For Want of A Gun: The Sherman Tank Scandal of WWII

By Christian Mark DeJohn

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This remarkable story exposes the Sherman tank scandal of World War II, involving some of the biggest American names and stretching from the White House and Pentagon to factories and battlefronts. Outgunned by more powerful German opponents, the inferiority of American tanks led to some of the worst setbacks of the war, prolonging it in Europe. US tankers ultimately prevailed, but over 60,000 armored division soldiers were killed and wounded; their preventable sacrifice inspired the Hollywood movie *Fury*. Included are striking images of the Sherman's adversaries (photographed exclusively at the National Museum of Cavalry and Armor), along with original equipment, documents, period propaganda, and vintage photos of Sherman tanks in action. As a German officer noted, "I was on this hill with six 88mm antitank guns...Every time they sent a tank, we knocked it out. Finally we ran out of ammunition, and the Americans didn't run out of tanks."

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Editorial Review

Review

From the book's Forward by COL David Johnson, AUS (Ret.):

"This is an angry book, and rightly so, based on the evidence author DeJohn has uncovered in his exhaustive research."

"DeJohn brings the voice of the American enlisted soldier into the discussion about the failure of one of the key US fighting vehicles of WWII- the M4 Sherman tank."

"DeJohn brings the pragmatic views of the Cavalry Sergeant to the Sherman tank controversy."

"As DeJohn eloquently points out, Allied tankers paid a heavy price of the US Army's prewar institutional failures."

About the Author

Christian DeJohn, a published historian completing a masters degree in military and American history, is a former United States Cavalry tanker with hands-on experiences as a gunner in an M1 Abrams tank, and a veteran of service in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He is also the author of the upcoming "Legends of Warfare: The M1 Abrams Tank."

Users Review

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