

# Armored Vanguard: Marine Corps Tanks and Ontos in Vietnam

## Unveiling the Pioneering Armored Force of the Vietnam War

Step into the annals of military history and embark on an exhilarating journey through the pivotal role of armored vehicles in the Vietnam War. "Marine Corps Tanks and Ontos in Vietnam" chronicles the indomitable spirit and unwavering determination of the United States Marine Corps as they unleashed a formidable armored force against the unrelenting challenges of the unforgiving Vietnamese terrain.



**Marine Corps Tanks and Ontos in Vietnam: Book Two –  
1967 and 1968** by Colin Philpott



★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 27623 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 1105 pages  
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



## : The Genesis of an Armored Force

In the early stages of the Vietnam War, the U.S. military faced a dilemma: how to project overwhelming firepower and protection in a dense and unforgiving jungle environment. The solution emerged in the form of armored vehicles, particularly tanks and Ontos. Tanks, such as the M48 Patton and M551 Sheridan, provided unmatched firepower and mobility, while Ontos, compact anti-tank vehicles armed with six 106mm recoilless rifles, offered devastating close-range firepower.



The M551 Sheridan was the first air-transportable tank and provided significant firepower to Marine forces.

### **The Ontos: Vietnam's Armored Surprise**

The Ontos, a unique and specialized vehicle, earned a fearsome reputation among both allies and enemies alike. With its six recoilless rifles, it was capable of delivering a devastating barrage of fire at close range. Ontos crews, renowned for their bravery and skill, played a crucial role in clearing heavily fortified enemy positions and providing fire support to infantry units.



## **Tank Platoons in Action: The Battle for Hue**

The Battle of Hue, a pivotal moment in the Vietnam War, showcased the exceptional capabilities of Marine Corps tanks. Tank platoons, attached to infantry units, spearheaded the assault on the fiercely contested city, providing critical fire support and paving the way for the Marines' advance. Their efforts were instrumental in securing victory in one of the war's most intense urban battles.



Marine Corps tanks played a crucial role in the urban fighting during the Battle of Hue.

### **The Ontos in Ambush: The Battle of Lang Vei**

The Battle of Lang Vei stands as a testament to the tenacity and resilience of Ontos crews. Surrounded and outnumbered by a superior enemy force, a detachment of Ontos, along with infantry and artillery units, fought valiantly for days to defend their base camp. Their persistent resistance and accurate fire inflicted heavy losses on the attackers, ultimately contributing to the enemy's defeat.



## **Commando Missions and Armored Recon: The Evolution of Tank Tactics**

As the war progressed, Marine Corps tank units embarked on innovative tactics. Tank platoons were often attached to infantry units, forming Commando Recon Teams that conducted high-risk reconnaissance and ambushes deep in enemy territory. These teams utilized the tanks' mobility and firepower to surprise and overwhelm enemy forces.



Tank platoons were often attached to infantry units, forming Commando Recon Teams that conducted daring missions behind enemy lines.

### **Legacy and Impact: The Resurgence of Armored Cavalry**

The deployment of Marine Corps tanks and Ontos in Vietnam laid the foundation for future armored warfare doctrines. The lessons learned from the jungle battles of Southeast Asia influenced the development of modern armored cavalry units, emphasizing mobility, firepower, and the integration with infantry forces.



## **: The Indomitable Spirit of the Armored Vanguard**

The story of Marine Corps tanks and Ontos in Vietnam is a testament to the indomitable spirit of the men who operated these formidable machines. In the face of relentless adversity, they demonstrated unwavering courage, tactical innovation, and unwavering determination. Their legacy lives on today, inspiring future generations of Marines and shaping the evolution of armored warfare in the 21st century.

If you are fascinated by the history of warfare, military vehicles, or the Vietnam War, "Marine Corps Tanks and Ontos in Vietnam" is an essential addition to your collection. With captivating firsthand accounts, stunning imagery, and in-depth analysis, this book will immerse you in the heart of the action and provide a profound understanding of the pivotal role armored forces played in this historic conflict.



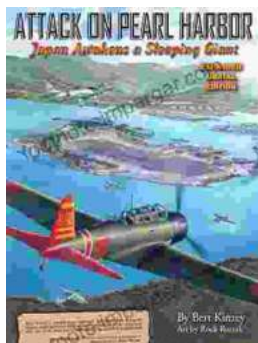
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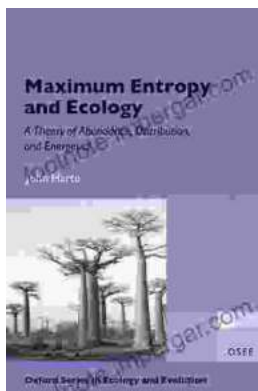
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