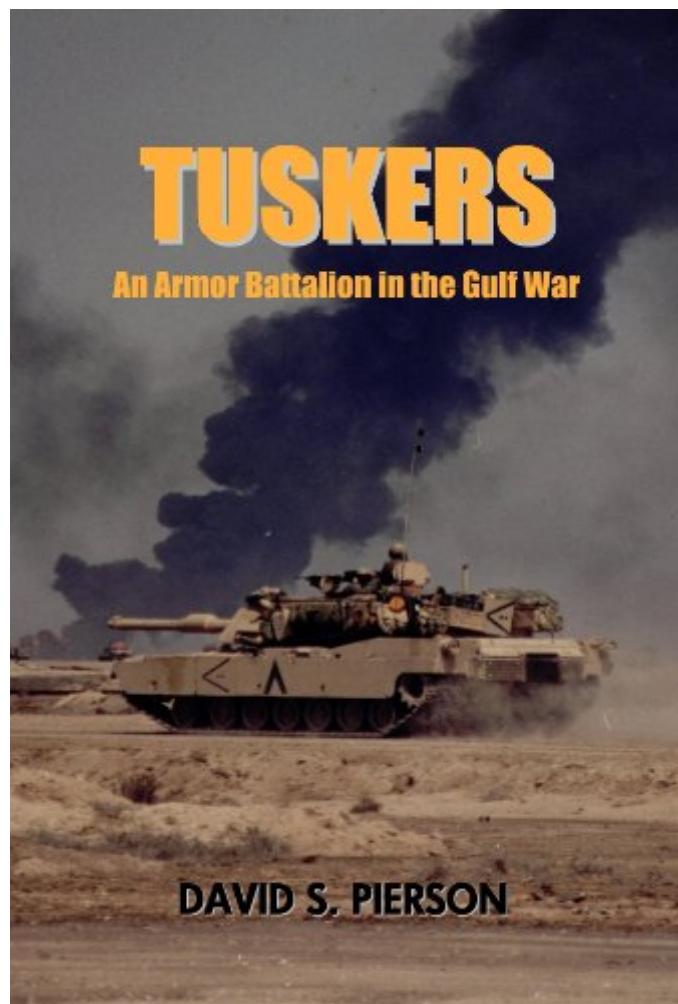


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# TUSKERS: An Armor Battalion In The Gulf War



## **Synopsis**

The U.S. used its armored ground forces with devastating effect in DESERT STORM â “ the last major land campaign of the 20th century. Tuskers is the story of 4-64 armor battalion, a U.S. tank battalion at the tip of the devastating assault on the Iraqi army. The Tuskers were part of the 24th Infantry Division, the first mechanized division to deploy to Saudi Arabia as part of the DESERT SHIELD defense. After months of preparing in the desert, they led the sweeping left flank attack into the Euphrates River Valley â “ an attack that went farther and faster than any ground attack in the history of warfare. The Tuskers attacked through the Iraqi 26th Commando Brigade and into the Republican Guards logistics area astride Highway 8 near An Nasiriyah. After severing the Iraqi armyâ ™s escape route to Baghdad, they continued east on Highway 8 to the the outskirts of Basra. In the final battle of the war, the Tuskers destroyed much of the Iraqi Republican Guards Nebuchadnezzar division as it attempted to escape across the Euphrates River. â œTuskersâ • is a narrative that describes the unitâ ™s deployment, preparation for combat, and their overwhelming success in combat. It focuses primarily at the battalion and company level, detailing not only the actions taking place, but also the thoughts of the men behind the guns as they face combat for the first time.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

I had the privilege of being a scout platoon leader during the Gulf war. Most people share a common memory of the Gulf War -- press briefings and dramatic footage of "smart bombs." The author shares his perspective as a staff officer and soldier (and family man) serving in 4-64 Armor, one of two battalions in the 24th Infantry Division to receive the Valorous Unit Award. If you want to know what the orchestrated carnage of the "Hail Mary" maneuvering 24th Infantry Division sounded like away from the press room and at the task force level, this is a must read book. Ask any ground war Gulf veteran. If they saw any action, they all talk about "the smell." Pierson gets it right. *Tuskers* is a story is worth telling and a worthy read at that.

Good review from the unit level (S-2's) perspective. Because the author was the S-2 he had a good picture of the larger setting in which this task force accomplished its mission. Much of the success of this "100" hour conflict is lost in the larger nation building that continued fitfully under two different administrations--it's good that Pierson took the time to remind us of the intensity of the conflict and how well our young troops presented themselves. Couldn't put it down once I started reading it.

This book gives a unique perspective on what it was like to be part of an armored task force during the Persian Gulf War. I was apart of the 4-64 "Tusker" task force as a member of the attached engineer company, A Co, 5th Engineer BN out of Fort Leonard Wood, MO. David Pierson captures all of the details and emotions of the months that we spent sitting and waiting during Desert Shield, as well as the fast-paced and chaotic environment of the battles that we fought. Reading this book brought back a lot of memories, as I was apart of most of the battles described within. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who wants to know more about the Gulf War and the soldiers who fought in it.

A truly captivating account of one of the finest Tank battalions in the world. I served with 4/64 Armor as a Air defender from 1/5 ADA. I rode along side LTC Craddock 50-100 mtrs to his right rear flank. This book provides a great opportunity to regain memories lost. A honest an impartial look at modern warfare. Things done right as well as wrong by a Armor Bn are honestly portrayed for both civilian and military readers in a language easy to understand. A must get product.

I worked with Dr. Elfrink and P.A. Jackson, mentioned in the book, as a medic, during the Gulf war. I was with the ALOC/Battalion Aid Station with them. Cpt. Pierson's mentioning them of them in the

book brought back old memories. I was the medical vehicle mentioned that took care of the civilians. I was also there when the scout vehicle got hit. Cpt. Pierson nailed the scene and the emotion of that time. This is a must-read for any member of 4/64 Armor because it is most detailed and honest description of the how it felt to be there. The smell, the sounds, and the awesomeness of the war comes flooding back.

Having been an enlisted soldier who fought alongside the Tuskers in 1st brigade, I'm a little prejudiced. That being said, I found the story to be dead-on and relating our experiences intelligently and truthfully. If you are interested in what adventures today's soldiers go through, during deployments and combat, here is your book. Interesting additions are the 'lessons learned' sections, pointing out battlefield problems and how they were handled or how they should have been.

Nice book. I really like the photo on the cover. One of mine from my time as a photographer with the 24th ID. Highly recommended. SGT JW Sternickle, 24th INF DIV, PAOCombat Camera Team

TUSKERS is a very honest book that almost makes you feel you're part of the first Gulf war. In a brilliant way it describes the excitement and chaos of battle, the troubles of the logistics, the endless waiting every soldier knows so well, and every other aspect of what war is. Most of all, this book unveils the vast difference between the Iraqi and the US armies, in terms of training and equipment, which were the deciding factors of the Gulf war.

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