

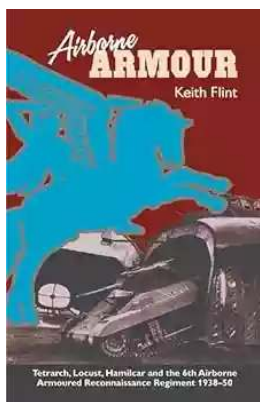
# Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar And The 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment: History, Tactics, and Triumphs

When one hears about the Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar and the 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment, visions of daring missions, fearless soldiers, and remarkable victories come to mind. This article delves into the incredible story of this elite regiment and the unrivaled capabilities of their machines.

## A Legendary British Regiment

The 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment, also known as the "Red Berets," was a legendary British military unit that played a vital role during World War II. From their formation in 1942 until the end of the war, these highly trained soldiers conducted numerous reconnaissance, intelligence gathering, and combat missions across multiple theaters of war.

Their exceptional success was attributed not only to their courage and skill but also to their utilization of advanced vehicles like the Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar.



## Airborne Armour: Tetrarch, Locust, Hamilcar and the 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment 1938-50

by Keith Flint (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 13662 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 455 pages



## **The Mighty Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar**

The Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar, an exceptionally designed vehicle, played a pivotal role in the operations of the 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment. With its lightweight design, unmatched speed, and powerful armament, it possessed unparalleled tactical advantages in various combat scenarios.

Equipped with a 2-pounder gun and machine guns, the Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar could engage enemy targets effectively while providing excellent mobility for reconnaissance purposes. Its small size also allowed it to traverse difficult terrains, making it an ideal choice for airborne operations.

## **The Bold Tactics of the Regiment**

The 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment adopted daring tactics during their missions, consistently catching their opponents off guard. One such famous tactic was the "Leapfrog Method," where their Tetrarch Locust Hamilcars would advance in rapid bounds, leapfrogging from cover to cover to maintain their momentum and keep the enemy guessing.

This agile approach allowed the regiment to quickly infiltrate enemy lines, gather vital intelligence, and disrupt enemy communications. The element of surprise combined with the firepower of their vehicles often resulted in overwhelming victories.

## **Triumphs in Historical Battles**

The 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment left an indelible mark on history through their incredible performances in various battles. One such notable

engagement was during the Normandy landings on D-Day, where their Tetrarch Locust Hamilcars provided crucial support to Allied forces.

In another remarkable incident, during Operation Market Garden, the regiment played a crucial role in holding the bridge at Arnhem, prolonging the defense against overwhelming odds. Their Tetrarch Locust Hamilcars proved vital in preventing enemy advances, showcasing their resilience, skill, and unmatched valor.

## **The Legacy and Influence**

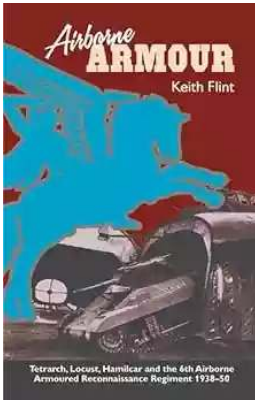
The 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment's legacy continues to inspire future generations. Their innovative use of the Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar and audacious tactics shaped military strategies and continues to serve as a model for modern armored reconnaissance units.

Today, their stories of bravery and triumph are cherished, reminding us of the sacrifices made by these brave men and their remarkable machines.

The Tetrarch Locust Hamilcar and the 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment hold a significant place in military history. Their unwavering courage, utilization of cutting-edge technology, and daring tactics enabled them to achieve remarkable victories during World War II.

Their story serves as a testament to the power of innovative thinking, resilience, and teamwork in the face of formidable challenges. We must remember and honor their sacrifices, ensuring that their legacy lives on in the annals of history.

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Despite all the works on airborne forces published since 1945, the full story of Britain's 'airborne armour' has remained untold. This book is intended to correct that omission. The story has two main strands - the project to fly tanks onto the battlefield to support airborne forces, and the history of the unit which operated those tanks and supported 6th Airborne Division in the ground role - the 6th Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment. The book is the result of considerable original research and contact with surviving members of 6th AARR. It contains the full development background of both airborne tanks, the British Tetrarch and American Locust, and also that of the Hamilcar glider. It examines rival or complimentary projects, in particular the German Me 321 Gigant glider, and analyses the extent to which the British airborne armour project was a success. The history of 6th AARR is traced back to the little known Special Service Squadrons of the RAC which were pioneers of armoured amphibious assault, and who saw action in the invasion of Madagascar in 1942. One of these squadrons became the Airborne Light Tank Squadron, which grew into the Airborne Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment in time for D-Day. This unit flew 20 Tetrarch tanks into battle on the evening of D-Day in the first ever assault landing of tanks from the air, and did the same 10 months later when 8 Locust tanks were landed as part of the massive Rhine crossing operation. 6th AARR also had a

proud history in ground combat in Normandy, the Ardennes, and Germany, often forming the spearhead for the advance of 6th Airborne Division. The unit has a fair claim to be the 'forgotten regiment' of British airborne forces, a fate which this book aims to put right. Airborne Armour describes and analyses a unique unit of the British army and some unique military operations.



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