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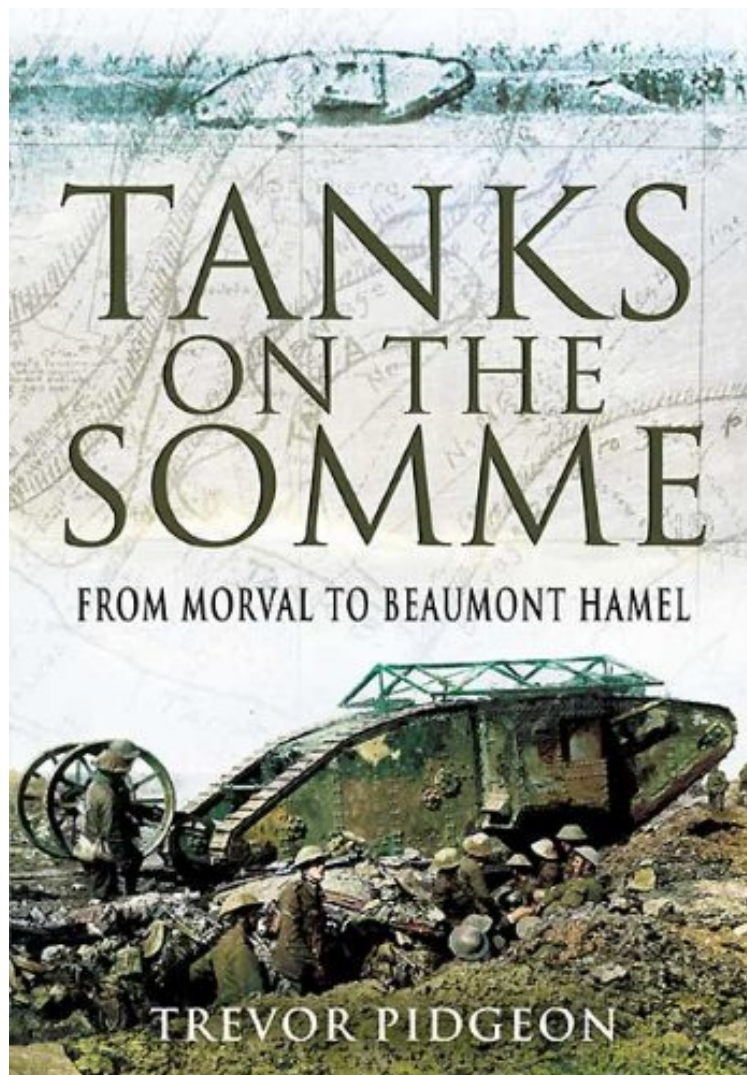
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On 15 September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme, tanks - one of the decisive weapons of twentieth-century

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About the Author After a career in the diplomatic service Trevor Pidgeon devoted much of his time to pioneering research into the Great War, in particular into the development of tanks and the operations of the first tanks on the Western Front. His work led to several books that were milestones in the field, including his classic study *Tanks at Flers: An Account of the First Use of Tanks in War at the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, the Somme, 15 September 1916*. Trevor Pidgeon sadly died in 2008 and his last book, *Tanks on the Somme*, was completed by his friend Dr Graham Keech.