

IMPORTANT EVENTS RELATED TO THE PATTON TOWN

3rd May 1954: Frankie Hansen, born in Ettelbruck, was arrested by the Gestapo on 1 September 1944 for his participation in the strike of 1 September 1942. He was transferred to a concentration camp and later incarcerated in a prison in Lublin.



After his escape from prison he returned to Ettelbruck to join the Vianden militia.



As a volunteer combatant he entered at the end of October 1944 with his brother Pierre in the 8th US infantry division. In November 1944, this division was engaged in violent fighting in the Hürtgen forest and around the Roer dams.

On the night of February 20 Frankie Hansen volunteered for a dangerous mission.

It was to save a bridge between Lendersdorf and Krauthausen that was prepared for destruction.

Frankie Hansen slipped into the water and managed to deactivate the explosive charge from the detonating cords.

Through this bridge the American troops were able to cross the bridge with troops and heavy equipment.

For his heroic act, Frankie Hansen was awarded the Silver Star on May 3, 1947.



1961: Letter of thanks from President Kennedy to the town administration of Ettelbruck in appreciation of the Patton Memorial stamp.

1964: The name Avenue Grand-Duc Adolphe is changed to Avenue Kennedy, after the assassination of the president.

1966: The astronaut John Glenn visits the town of Ettelbruck.

1984: Sister Georgina Patton (granddaughter of General Patton) is welcomed by the municipality of Ettelbruck.



1995: A commemorative plaque in honour of Colonel Lansing McVickar, Commander of the 318th Regiment of the 80th US Infantry Division is inaugurated at the Alzette Bridge:



SQUARE

COLONEL LANSING McVICKAR

Commander 318th Regiment

80th U.S. Infantry Division

Liberator of the City of Ettelbruck

Christmas 1944

From 1995, John McVickar, son of the liberator colonel, visited Ettelbruck several times.