

World War II Truck Donated to Museum

Restored vehicle will make public debut at June 6 D-Day anniversary event

WHEATON, IL, June 4, 2013 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park welcomes a new addition to its historic vehicle fleet, a 2.5-ton GMC CCKW truck.

The donor, Mark Norman of Jupiter, Florida, said he believes the First Division Museum is the proper home for the vehicle, where it can be properly maintained and displayed for the public.

Norman, a veteran, worked many years to restore the vehicle to its full glory. His interest in the Army's 1st Infantry Division led him to represent the CCKW as one that would have landed on Omaha Beach June 6, 1944, with the Division.

Nicknamed the "Jimmy" by soldiers, the truck rivals the Jeep in the collective memories of World War II veterans as the vehicle that won the war.

The CCKW, LCP (WWII-era landing craft) and other historic military vehicles will be on display June 6 from 10 am to 2 pm at the First Division Museum to commemorate the 69th anniversary of the Allied landings on the beaches of Normandy (D-Day). Activities are planned for children and the event is free with paid parking (\$5).

The CCKW truck will be displayed at Cantigny Park this summer and will appear in several local parades and community events. The First Division Museum's fleet of nine historic military vehicles range from World War I through Vietnam.

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About the First Division Museum

The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundations, promotes public learning about America's military heritage and affairs through the history of the "Big Red One"—the famed 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. It stands in tribute to all who have served our country in the armed forces. The museum's main exhibit hall transports visitors to the trenches of World War I, the beaches of World War II and the jungles of Vietnam. Outside, tanks are displayed from every era, along with personnel carriers and artillery. The Robert R. McCormick Research Center, open to the public, houses the museum's library, archival and photo collections. Visit the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park online at FirstDivisionMuseum.org.

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