



News Release

Renowned Military History Author Rick Atkinson to Speak on May 15

Presentation at the Cantigny Visitors Center kicks off national book tour

WHEATON, IL, May 1, 2013 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park announces a free presentation by three-time Pulitzer Prize winner Rick Atkinson on Wednesday, May 15, at 7:30 pm.

Atkinson will be discussing *The Guns at Last Light*, the final installment in his epic “Liberation Trilogy” about World War II. Cantigny will be his first stop after the book’s official release on May 14. The author will then embark on a national book tour.

Cantigny is to be the first stop on Atkinson’s national book tour for Atkinson’s latest work portrays Western Europe from 1944-1945, taking readers through D-Day, the liberation of Paris, Operation Market Garden, Battle of the Bulge and the fall of the Third Reich. The dramatic narrative is told through a wide variety of first-hand accounts ranging from generals to riflemen.

Rick Atkinson is the bestselling author of *An Army at Dawn*, volume one of the trilogy and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for History in 2003. Volume two, *The Day of Battle*, was released in 2007. Other works by Atkinson include *The Long Gray Line*, *In the Company of Soldiers* and *Crusade*.

Atkinson won the Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting in 1982 while on staff with *The Kansas City Times*. In 1999 he won his second Pulitzer, for Public Service, with *The Washington Post*. Atkinson’s career at the *Post* spanned 25 years as a reporter, foreign correspondent and senior editor.

Atkinson will speak on May 15 at Le Jardin, the large banquet and restaurant space inside the Cantigny Visitors Center. A book signing will follow and copies of *The Guns at Last Light* will be available for purchase.

Admission and parking are complimentary. For more information, please call 630.260.8227.

The event is part of the First Division Museum’s popular series, *A Date with History*. The monthly programs feature an evening of lively discussion with authors, panelists, historians and special speakers. Information about upcoming programs is online at FirstDivisionMuseum.org.

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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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