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Colonel Gregory Fontenot to Speak November 1

Book profiles 1st Infantry Division during transformational period through Desert Storm

Wheaton, Ill., October 18, 2017 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park welcomes Colonel Gregory Fontenot, U.S. Army (Ret.), on Wednesday, November 1. He will discuss “The 1st Infantry Division and the U.S. Army Transformed,” a narrative history of the “Big Red One” from 1970 through the Operation Desert Storm victory celebration in 1991.

The free presentation inside the Cantigny Visitors Center begins at 7:30 pm. Parking also is complimentary.

Published in June and coinciding with the 100th anniversary of 1st Infantry Division’s formation, Fontenot’s book closes a gap in the historiography of the late Cold War U.S. Army and is crucial for understanding the current situation in the Middle East.

The author commanded a tank battalion in Operation Desert Storm and an armor brigade in Bosnia. A former director of the School of Advanced Military Studies and the University of Foreign Military and Cultural Studies, Fontenot is the co-author of “On Point: The United States Army in Operation Iraqi Freedom.” He is a Distinguished Military Graduate of Kansas State University, commissioned in 1971 as an armor officer.

Doors open at 6:30 pm on November 1. Copies of “The 1st Infantry Division and the U.S. Army Transformed” will be available for sale and a book signing will follow the program. Le Jardin will offer a cash bar and limited food menu. Coffee is complimentary.

This event is part of the First Division Museum’s *Date with History*, a monthly series featuring lively discussions with authors, panelists, historians and special guests. Information about upcoming programs is online at fdmuseum.org.

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About the First Division Museum

The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park, part of Robert R. McCormick Foundation, 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. 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 artillery pieces and a personnel carrier. The Robert R. McCormick Research Center, open to the public, houses the museum’s library, archival, and photo collections. The First Division Museum is currently closed for a major renovation with a grand reopening set for August 26, 2017. Visit the museum online at fdmuseum.org.