



News Release

Best-selling Military Author Tom Ricks to Speak on November 28

WHEATON, IL, November 19, 2012 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park invites the public to a free presentation by author Thomas E. Ricks on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 7:30 pm. Ricks will discuss his newly published book, *The Generals: American Military Command from World War II to Today*.

The Generals, released last month, tells the story of great leaders and suspect ones, generals who rose to the occasion magnificently and those who failed themselves and their soldiers badly. Ricks argues that since the end of World War II, our military leadership has been in decline, with a culture that neither punishes mediocrity nor rewards daring; one that is tactically savvy but strategically obtuse.

Ricks is a fellow at the Center for a New American Security, an independent think tank dedicated to helping develop wise, pragmatic, non-partisan national security policies. He also is a contributing editor of *Foreign Policy* magazine, for which he writes the award-winning blog “The Best Defense.”

Ricks covered the U.S. military for the *Washington Post* from 2000 through 2008, and was part of the *Post* team that won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for reporting about the beginning of the U.S. counteroffensive against terrorism. He is the author of *Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq, 2003-05*, a No. 1 *New York Times* bestseller and a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2007. His second book on that war, *The Gamble: General Petraeus and the American Military Adventure in Iraq, 2006-08*, was published in 2009.

Museum doors open at 6:45 pm on Nov. 28. A book signing will follow Ricks’ presentation and copies of ‘*The Generals*’ 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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