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BATTLE OF THE BULGE REMEMBERED

First Division Museum commemorates 75th anniversary of epic WWII battle

Wheaton, Ill., November 12, 2019 — The [First Division Museum at Cantigny Park](#), part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, will commemorate the Battle of the Bulge with special exhibits, lectures and book signings beginning this month.

The Battle of Bulge occurred 75 years ago, from December 1944 to January 1945. Fought during a bitterly cold winter, it was the last major battle on Europe's Western Front during World War II. Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division helped hold the line and repel Germany's mass offensive, hastening an end to the war and securing victory for the Allies.

The public is invited to these free-to-attend commemorative events:

- **Battle of the Bulge Exhibit**
Opening Tuesday, November 19 • 10 am
First Division Museum
A display in the museum's lobby focuses on the victory at Bütgenbach, Belgium, a key position held by the Army's 1st Infantry Division. Inside the museum's main exhibit hall, the Battle of the Bulge Gallery tells a more comprehensive story. Outside, visitors will encounter a diorama depicting a destroyed German position with a Pak 38 anti-tank gun and other German equipment.
- **Date with History: Battle of the Bulge**
Thursday, November 21 • 7 pm
Cantigny Visitors Center
Author, historian and U.S. Army Colonel (retired) Gregory Fontenot discusses "Loss and Redemption at St Vith: The 7th Armored Division in the Battle of the Bulge." Published this month, copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing. In 2017, Fontenot released "The 1st Infantry Division and the U.S. Army Transformed," a narrative history of the "Big Red One" coinciding with the Division's 100th anniversary. Parking for this program is complimentary.
- **Date with History: The Ghost Army**
Thursday, December 5 • 7 pm
Cantigny Visitors Center
Author and award-winning filmmaker Rick Beyer discusses "The Ghost Army of World War II," his book about the top-secret Army unit that employed battlefield trickery to fool the enemy and gain strategic advantage. Copies will be available for purchase and signing. Beyer also wrote and directed the acclaimed documentary *The Ghost Army*, premiering on PBS in 2013. Parking for this program is complimentary.

The First Division Museum's Battle of the Bulge remembrance extends overseas. Through the nonprofit [Wreaths Across America](#), the museum is sponsoring more than 200 wreaths to be placed on the graves of 1st Infantry Division soldiers who were killed in action at the Battle of the Bulge or after in the waning months of World War II. Ceremonies will take place November 30 at the Luxembourg American Cemetery and December 1 at the American Netherlands Cemetery.

More information is online at www.FDMuseum.org. The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free with paid parking (\$5 per car).

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About the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park

The First Division Museum, part of Robert R. McCormick Foundations, interprets military history through the lens of the U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division. The museum's main exhibit hall, *First in War*, transports visitors to the trenches of World War I, the beaches of World War II and the jungles of Vietnam. The *Duty First* gallery is dedicated to the Division's activities since Vietnam, including the unit's current missions around the world. 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. For more information, visit fdmuseum.org.