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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

D-DAY AUTHOR JOHN C. McMANUS TO SPEAK MAY 21

Wheaton, Ill., May 8, 2014 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park announces a free presentation by author John C. McManus on Wednesday, May 21, at 7:30 pm. He will discuss his book, “The Dead and Those About to Die: D-Day: The Big Red One at Omaha Beach,” in the Cantigny Visitors Center Theater.

Published last month, Amazon.com calls it a “white-knuckle account of the 1st Infantry Division’s harrowing D-Day assault...McManus has written a gripping history that will stand as the last word on this titanic battle.”

“The Dead and Those About to Die” is well timed, with the 70th anniversary of D-Day approaching on June 6. Cantigny Park will host a full day of commemoration activities on Saturday, June 7. Details are online at firstdivisionmuseum.org.

Nicknamed the Big Red One, the U.S. Army’s 1st Infantry Division played a pivotal role in accomplishing one of the most challenging and deadly missions ever on June 6, 1944. As the men hit the beach, their equipment destroyed or washed away and soldiers cut down by the dozens, courageous heroes emerged. McManus tells their stories, drawing on a rich array of new or recently discovered sources, including interviews with veterans. Much of the author’s research was conducted in the Robert R. McCormick Research Center, located inside the First Division Museum.

A book signing will follow McManus’s presentation, and copies of “The Dead and Those About to Die” will be available for purchase in the Cantigny Shop. Admission and parking are complimentary.

This 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.