

**Media Contact:**  
Gayln Piper  
First Division Museum  
630.260.8130  
[gpiper@firstdivisionmuseum.org](mailto:gpiper@firstdivisionmuseum.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**VIETNAM EXHIBIT OPENS MAY 16**

*Debut of special exhibit will include family-friendly activities and music*

**Wheaton, Ill., May 7, 2015** — The [First Division Museum at Cantigny Park](http://FirstDivisionMuseum.org) announces the debut of “Five Years in the Jungle: Vietnam Experiences of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division 1965-1970.” The special exhibit opens at 10 am on Saturday, May 16, and runs through Sunday, November 1. Admission is free with parking (\$5 per car).

The exhibit features an in-country “museum” that matches the 1967 original in Loc Ninh, Vietnam. The U.S. Army created the museum concept to supplement the training of new soldiers, educating them about life in the jungle and the enemy. The culture of the 1960s is captured with music interactives that enable visitors to create playlists and listen to historic recordings of radio transmitted over the airways by the Army in Vietnam.

“*Five Years in the Jungle* presents objects primarily collected by soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division during their time in Vietnam,” said Bill Brewster, curator at the First Division Museum. “There is a significant representation of captured Viet Cong and North Vietnamese material presented in several formats. We hope exhibit visitors will experience a sense of immediacy through the displays, feeling a connection to the soldiers and the war.”

The exhibit, more than a year in the making, coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vietnam War’s outbreak in 1965.

The First Division Museum will celebrate the opening of the exhibit with free activities on May 16:

- At 1 pm, performers from the **Old Town School of Folk Music** will recreate a song circle hootenanny and talk about songs that were inspired by war.
- From 1 to 4 pm, visitors can learn about the amazing wildlife of Vietnam with live animals presented by the **Friends of Scales Reptile Rescue**.
- From 7 to 10 pm, **ShinDig!**, a 1960s tribute band, will play music from the Vietnam War era. The museum will stay open during the outdoor concert, inviting attendees to connect the exhibit with the music.

More information is available online at [FirstDivisionMuseum.org](http://FirstDivisionMuseum.org).

###

**About the First Division Museum**

The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, promotes public learning about America's military heritage and affairs through the history of the "Big Red One"—the famed 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://FirstDivisionMuseum.org).