



News Release

Wheaton College Team Debates “Air-Sea Battle” on April 15

WHEATON, IL, March 24, 2014 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park welcomes the Wheaton College Debate team on Tuesday, April 15, at 7:30 pm. The award-winning team will debate the controversial doctrine under consideration by the U.S. Department of Defense called Air-Sea Battle.

Air-Sea Battle aims to counter efforts that restrict United States military access to certain areas of the world. The doctrine envisions that air and naval operations, including missiles launched from submarines, will be vital to defeating such efforts. The Air Force and Navy emphasize that the Western Pacific is where the U.S. is most likely to encounter hostile anti-access strategies.

Air-Sea Battle would impact the future of U.S. strategy and engagement in the world. It is controversial in part because it implies a very limited role for the U.S. Army and shifts funding priority to the Navy and Air Force. Some argue that the doctrine would also encourage China to increase its military capabilities and could lead to a war. Others say that the Middle East should still be America’s priority, pointing to the current war in Syria.

Spectators on April 15 will see the rules and procedures of an official parliamentary debate in action. Wheaton College’s parliamentary debate program began in 2003 and promotes the development of persuasive, articulate and critical thinking. Wheaton teams compete in the prestigious National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence and consistently earn both debate and speaking awards at local, regional and national tournaments, including the National Parliamentary Debate Association championship.

Museum doors open at 6:45 pm. Admission and parking are complimentary. For more information, please call 630.260.8187 or visit 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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