



## Cantigny First Division Foundation Funds Traveling World War I Exhibit

**WHEATON, IL, April 22, 2010** — A photo exhibit made possible by the Cantigny First Division Foundation has so far visited seven states and informed more than 20,000 students, teachers and parents about America's sacrifice during World War I.

"We've set a goal of educating 4,734,991 United States citizens about World War One before the end of the war's 100-year anniversary in 2018," said David DeJonge, president of the World War I Memorial Foundation.

The figure quoted by DeJonge reflects the actual number of Americans who served in WWI. Those veterans, however, are still not remembered with a national monument in Washington, D.C. The [World War I Memorial Foundation's](#) mission is to honor their service and sacrifice by filling this void.

The traveling exhibit features DeJonge's own photographs of the world's last WWI survivors. Besides educating, it aims to raise awareness and dollars toward a national memorial. Cantigny First Division Foundation granted \$10,000 for the national tour, which began in 2009.

"We're pleased to support this national education and commemorative effort," said Paul Herbert, executive director of Cantigny First Division Foundation. "We have deep roots in World War I—our benefactor, Colonel Robert R. McCormick, was a distinguished veteran, serving in the Army's 1<sup>st</sup> Division; he named his estate 'Cantigny' to honor the war's first American battle. Were the Colonel alive today, I am certain he'd approve of this important initiative to honor those who served."

Senators John Rockefeller (D-W.Va.), John Thune (R-S.D.), and Jim Webb (D-Va.) introduced S. 2097, the bipartisan Frank Buckles World War I Memorial Act on Oct. 29, 2009. It calls for the rededication of the existing District of Columbia War Memorial, creating instead a national World War I memorial.

The bill's namesake, [Frank Buckles](#), is the only living American WWI veteran. At age 109, he is honorary chairman of the World War I Memorial Foundation.

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### About the Cantigny First Division Foundation

The Cantigny First Division Foundation, part of the 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. The centerpiece of these efforts is the [First Division Museum](#), which celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. The world-class military museum and McCormick Research Center are located on the grounds of Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Illinois. The 500-acre Cantigny estate was home

to Col. Robert R. McCormick, publisher of the *Chicago Tribune* and a veteran of the First Division in World War I.

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