



# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 18, 2024 MEDIA CONTACT: Tamara Brown, 614.427.2158 tbrown@nationalvmm.org

# Do You Have What It Takes to be a Member of the "Ghost Army?" Find Out During Spy Night on July 27 at the NVMM

An evening of fun, intrigue, deception and top-secret operations awaits!

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) invites guests to find out if they are secret-mission worthy during <u>Spy Night</u>. Participants will be challenged with a series of classified operations that will take them on a thrilling journey throughout the museum. <u>For those who choose to</u> <u>accept it</u>, the mission begins on July 27 at 6 p.m. (Ages 21+)

Participants will receive a confidential mission packet containing a series of deceptive actions to complete. This is an opportunity to exploL. WiegandMM through the lens of the museum's current exhibition, <u>Ghost Army: The Combat Con Artists of World War II</u>, exclusively sponsored by the E.L.Wiegand Foundation.

A limited number of openings are available so <u>memorize this</u> <u>location and register today</u>! Tickets range in price from \$20 - \$30 including a mission packet, prizes, light appetizers and a drink ticket.

*Ghost Army: The Combat Con Artists of World War II* exhibition explores how 1,100 members of the top-secret U.S. Army 23rd Headquarters Special Troops known as the "Ghost Army" utilized artists, engineers and soldiers to create and deploy the first mobile, tactical deception unit in Army history. The 23rd was capable of simulating up to two divisions (30,000 men) utilizing inflatable rubber tanks, trucks and planes, false radio messages, sound effects and more to mislead enemy forces.

A number of members from the Ghost Army unit returned to the U.S. to work in Hollywood, theater or become designers, cartoonists, writers and artists. A few of the more recognizable Veterans who served in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Headquarters Special Troops are Bill Blass (fashion designer), Ellsworth Kelly (painter and sculptor) and Art Kane (fashion and music photographer).



#### About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum takes visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and sharing experiences of Veterans from all military branches throughout history. <u>The National Veterans</u> <u>Memorial and Museum</u> pays tribute to the sacrifices of men and women in service and their families. History is presented through a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multimedia presentations, and interactive exhibits. Together, these elements link our national story of service to the larger context of the world.

Editor's Note: " Ghost Army" exhibition release <u>available here</u>. Photos available upon request.

## PRESENTED AT THE NVMM BY



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