



# Distinguished Speaker Series



## The 1st Infantry Division in World War II

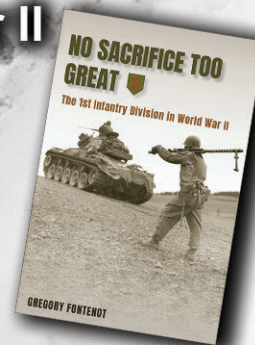


Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024

5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Riverfront Community Center

123 S Esplanade St., Leavenworth, KS



**You are invited to a Distinguished Speaker Series dinner event on Sept. 26, 2024.**

**Reception at 5:30 p.m. • Buffet Dinner at 6 p.m. • Presentation at 7 p.m.**

The U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division (1st ID), familiarly known as the Big Red One, adapted to dynamic battlefield conditions throughout the course of its deployment during World War II by innovating and altering behavior, including tactics, techniques, and procedures. Both the division's leaders and Soldiers accomplished this by thinking critically about their experiences in combat and wasting little time in putting lessons learned to good use. Simply put, they learned on the job — in battle and after battle — and did so quickly. In this edition of our Distinguished Speaker Series, Retired Army Colonel Greg Fontenot will provide details about the 1st ID's experiences in WWII he researched and wrote about in his recently published book *No Sacrifice Too Great*.



Colonel (Ret.) Gregory Fontenot served in the U.S. Army as an armor officer for more than 28 years at duty locations in the United States, Europe, the Balkans and Southwest Asia. His key assignments included commanding a battalion during Operations Desert Shield and Storm and a brigade in Bosnia. As an educator he taught history at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and was director of the School of Advanced Military Studies at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. In his last assignment he commanded the Battle Command Training Program at Fort Leavenworth.

After his military retirement in 1999, Fontenot embarked on a second career as a Department of the Army Civilian in the military intelligence specialty. In this capacity he served as director of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's wargaming directorate and later as director of the University of Foreign Military and Cultural Studies, the Army's "red teaming" school. He served on campaign plan assessment teams in Iraq in 2010 and Afghanistan in 2011. He left the civil service in 2013 to pursue his interest in writing military history.

Fontenot has authored numerous articles and book reviews in *Army* magazine, *Military Review* and other publications, and is co-author of *On Point: The United States Army in Operation Iraqi Freedom* in 2003. In 2017 he published *The 1st Infantry and the US Army Transformed: The Road to Victory in Desert Storm 1970-1991*, which earned him the 2017 Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Award for Unit History. In 2019 he published *Loss and Redemption at St Vith: The 7th Armored Division in the Battle of the Bulge* and his most recent work, *No Sacrifice too Great: The 1st Infantry Division in World War II* was published in June 2023.

Fontenot continues to support the U.S. Army as a consultant on threat emulation and leadership.

**Register now at**  
**<https://www.cgscfoundation.org/DSS-240926>**



Questions about registration? – Contact Laurie Morgado, [lmorgado@cgscf.org](mailto:lmorgado@cgscf.org) or call 913-651-0624.

For questions about the DSS contact Col. (Ret.) Robert Ulin, Simons Center Director, at [rulin@cgscf.org](mailto:rulin@cgscf.org) or call 913-240-1495.

### *Thank You to Our Sponsors*

The CGSC Foundation through its Simons Center conducts the Distinguished Speaker Series (DSS) program to offer extracurricular, educational lectures intended to help enrich the Command and General Staff School curriculum and provide opportunities for outreach to the public. Topics covered in the Distinguished Speaker Series of lectures span the gamut of leadership and ethics, organizational effectiveness, collaboration, as well as current events and issues in business, government and the military. Programs are made possible in part by our sponsors.