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War Comes Home: The Legacy Comes to Calico Rock Museum **Exhibition Features Correspondence Revealing How War Changes Lives, Families, Communities**

Highlighting private correspondence from almost every major conflict in U.S. history, new exhibition *War Comes Home: The Legacy* opens on June 7, 2016 at the Calico Rock Museum & Visitor Center in Calico Rock, Arkansas. The traveling exhibition, rich with historic and contemporary letters, offers an intimate perspective into the thoughts and emotions of veterans and their families upon a soldier's homecoming.

War Comes Home: The Legacy is part of California Humanities' current *War Comes Home* initiative, a thematic program designed to promote greater understanding of veterans and explore how war shapes a community. The exhibition is based on the work of the Center for American War Letters (CAWL) and is presented by Exhibit Envoy. Andrew Carroll, the Director of CAWL and an award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author, and John Benitz, Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre at Chapman University, co-curated the exhibition.

The exhibition explores the joys and hardships that returning soldiers and their families face during homecoming, as expressed through private letters and email correspondence. Spanning conflicts from the Civil War through the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and displayed on thirteen interpretive panels, *War Comes Home: The Legacy* explores the shared themes of wartime separation, the adjustment to life back at home, and the costs of war. As Staff Sergeant Parker Gyokeres writes, "Those of us coming back...are not looking for sympathy. We might be reluctant at first to talk about what we've been through...[but] your support has made this journey an incredible one...Thanks, above all, for listening."

The exhibit will include local artifacts from our permanent collection. Anyone with artifacts from time on the warfront may also submit their items for display. To join this effort, contact Gloria Sanders at 870-297-6100.

This exhibition runs through Saturday, June 18. The exhibit will be on display in the Murphy Gallery at the Calico Rock Museum. There is no cost for admission. For more information, visit www.calicorockmuseum.com or call 870-297-6100.