

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  March 2, 2018

**Detroit Arsenal of Democracy Museum Receives**

 **Valuable Addition**

*-- Rare 1942 Cadillac joins World War II Collection*

 *-- Cadillac currently on exhibit at Warren City Hall*

Warren, Mich. – One of the last cars made before the United States ceased automotive production and began mass producing armaments during World War II has been donated to the Detroit Arsenal of Democracy Museum. The 1942 Cadillac Series 61 was assembled in Detroit on Feb. 3, 1942, and was one of the last five cars assembled at Cadillac’s Clark Street Plant.

The Cadillac has been donated to the museum by the family of Joe H. Moore, Sr., a veteran from Springfield, Tennessee. Moore had been a car collector for much of his life and his family selected the Cadillac Series 61 to be donated to the museum in his honor following his death last year.

“This Cadillac Series 61 represents a critical time in our nation’s history,” said John Lind, director of the Detroit Arsenal of Democracy Museum. “Right after this Cadillac rolled off the assembly line, General Motors retooled its plants and began producing armaments for the war effort. GM produced more than $12 billion worth of tanks, aircraft and vehicle engines, along with other war material,” Lind said.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States War Department ordered that no cars could have any chrome work on them, exceept for bumpers and a few smaller items, in order to save the metal for the war effort. Moore’s Cadillac was originally ordered in 1941, before the Pearl Harbor attack in December, but was not built until February.

The Cadillac Series 61 is currently on display at the Warren City Hall as part of a traveling exhibit highlighting the Detroit Arsenal of Democracy Museum and its ongoing fundraising and awareness efforts as it prepares for the groundbreaking of a new 25,000 square foot facility at Warren’s Veterans Memorial Park.

Fundraising for construction of the new museum is now underway, with donation packages available for automakers, defense contractors, veterans and their families. The naming rights to the museum will be offered to an individual, corporation or family seeking to solidify a lasting tribute to their legacy of support for national defense.

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