

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

G U E R N S E Y • S

Contact:

Maggie Beaudouin

646.695.7050

Maggie@rosengrouppr.com

THE ASTOUNDING COL. MCCRAHON WWI POSTER COLLECTION COMING TO UNRESERVED AUCTION *Guernsey's to Sell the Finest Collection of 2,000 Patriotic Posters*

NEW YORK – On June 30 - July 1, New York City-based auction house Guernsey's will be conducting an unreserved auction of quite possibly the finest collection of patriotic posters relating to World War I. Roughly half of the approximately 2,000 posters are from the United States, with the balance reflecting the many different nations involved in the Great War. The auction will be held on LiveAuctioneers.com.

Brooklyn-born Edward H. McCrahon was so passionate in his defense of the Allied nations that he joined the French Army two years prior to the United States entering the war. Once the U.S. became involved, McCrahon returned home, enlisted in the U.S. Army, and rose to the rank of Colonel. However, it was during his stint in France when he first became riveted by the compelling graphics of war poster art.

At the conclusion of the war, McCrahon devoted his energies towards assembling what is ultimately recognized as the most extensive collection of war posters known to exist. By the mid-1930s – after 16 years of collecting – the McCrahon Collection was widely exhibited and acknowledged in countless print articles, and even in *Ripley's Believe It or Not*, as the very finest collection of its type.

The Colonel McCrahon Collection reflects true international flavor of the war, as numerous countries and their respective languages were used to inform and motivate the civilian public during this time of great crisis. (Of note are the many foreign language posters printed here in the United States that functioned as outreach to the large clusters of immigrants in cities such as New York.) Although all are patriotic at their roots, this Collection features posters that cover



fundraising, food rationing, enlistment, women's war efforts, and animal aid. Many of the posters collected by Col. McCrahon are the only known copies to exist today.

Never having left the McCrahon family, the Collection has been consigned to Guernsey's by the Colonel's grandchildren. The sale will take place over two days with approximately 700 lots each day (some of the lots containing multiple posters).

For additional information visit www.guernseys.com or contact Guernsey's at 212-794-2280. For media inquiries or to request an interview, please contact Maggie Beaudouin at 646-695-7050 or Maggie@rosengrouppr.com.



ABOUT GUERNSEY'S

In its fortieth year, Guernsey's has built a reputation as the auction house known for representing the most extraordinary properties. From the largest auction in history (the ocean liner S.S. United States) to vintage racing cars on to artwork from the Soviet Union, pre-Castro Cuban cigars and the \$3 million baseball, the firm has few rivals when it comes to the presentation of wildly diverse artwork and artifacts. The John F. Kennedy, Franklin Roosevelt, Princess Diana, Elvis Presley, Jerry Garcia, John Coltrane, Dick Clark, Mickey Mantle and the Beatles events were all conducted by Guernsey's.

Guernsey's is particularly proud of its work with the Library of Congress in the preservation of the complete Rosa Parks Archive. In the midst of its series devoted to the legendary, Holocaust-related poster collection of Dr. Hans Sachs, other upcoming sales in 2015 include the Urban Archaeology Collection, Historic Artifacts from the Kennedy White House, Atocha Undersea Treasures, and a remarkable, recently-discovered work by Pablo Picasso.

###