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**Passion River Films in Association with Recreation Media will be presenting *The Wereth Eleven* and *USS Franklin: Honor Restored* at the 2010 American Film Market.**

November 3, 2010- *The Wereth Eleven* and *USS Franklin: Honor Restored*, two new groundbreaking WWII documentaries, will be presented at the American Film Market from November 3-10. Both films are directed by award winning filmmaker Robert Child, who will also be attending the market from November 3-5.

*The Wereth Eleven* recounts the heroic battle waged by the African American 333rd Field Artillery Battalion against the attacking German army at the start of the Battle of the Bulge. When their position was overrun, eleven men from Battery C made their escape on foot to Wereth, Belgium where their lives would end in a senseless massacre on December 17, 1944, at the hands of Hitler's most ruthless soldiers, the SS.

This SS unit moved on to commit the Malmedy Massacre and subsequently the massacre of 130 Belgian civilians in the village of Stavelot. These war crimes were prosecuted vigorously at Nuremberg - Wereth was not. Although an investigation was launched it was quickly closed for reasons that remain unanswered to this day. Through the efforts of private citizens in Belgium and the United States, a memorial at Wereth has been erected and the site survives as hallowed ground. It is the only site in Europe dedicated to the service of African American soldiers in WWII.

Producer Joseph Small, whose persistence allowed many of the documents regarding the *The Wereth Eleven* to become declassified under the Freedom of Information Act, researched the project for over two years. The film was shot mainly in Belgium in and around Wereth with some parts filmed in the United States. It contains feature quality battle reenactments and detailed CGI work integrated with the live action. *The Wereth Eleven* is narrated by General William Ward, the only black four-star General currently serving in the United States army.

*USS Franklin: Honor Restored* recounts the eve of the invasion of Okinawa when the *USS Franklin*, an American aircraft carrier was hit dead center with strike by a Japanese dive-bomber. In an instant more than 700 sailors were killed. The men who remained tried to save the ship while 55 additional explosions from the ship own arms felled or blew overboard hundreds more. The men, who hit the water or were transported off the ship unconscious or too wounded to stand, became known as the "wet soldiers" and the subject of Captain Lesley Gerhes' rage. At a sweeping subsequent court marshall. Gerhes insisted that no order was given by him to abandon the ship and that any man who had not remained – had deserted his post – no matter what his

condition. Capt. Gehres gravestone today boasts a chiseled reminder and a last insult to his men. It reads, "I did not go down with the ship". Many of his men wish he had. *USS Franklin: Honor Restored* and *The Werewith 11* are currently currently completing Post Production

Robert Child, a veteran filmmaker and creator of these WWII documentaries, has a growing body of distinguished projects including "Silent Wings: The American Gilder Pilots of WWII" and "Lincoln and Lee at Antietam: The Cost of Freedom". Mr. Child has won a number of awards including two CINE Golden Eagles and a Special Jury Award at World Fest Houston.

Recreation Media offers a unique solution and a one-stop shop for filmmakers, producers, financiers, rights-holders and other media participants looking for expert strategic advice on boosting profits, and impeccable execution for enduring results in a fast-changing environment.

Since 1998, Passion River has been devoted to acquiring, distributing, and representing independent film projects for both the U.S. and foreign markets. Passion River offers "indie," documentary, and art house filmmakers with customizable modes of distribution and co-branding opportunities to effectively reach their niche audiences.

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