



Americana Festival Auction Kruse Plaza - June 12 & 13, 2020

LOT 7591

1944 Dodge WC-57 Command Car

CHASSIS NO: 81684857

Timeline of known history

1950 – Guy Franz Arend begins collecting WWII items in Belgium. Shortly thereafter, he was a key person in the creation of the Bastogne Museum. Specific vehicle acquisition date unknown.

1975 – Guy Franz Arend opens the WWII Victory Memorial Museum in Belgium. Dodge WC-57 is known to be part of this collection and presented as one of the WC-57s assigned to General Patton’s 3rd Army motor pool and used by General Patton.

2000 – Dean Kruse of Auburn, Indiana purchases the lifetime collection of Guy Franz Arend and moves it from Belgium to Indiana including this Dodge WC-57. Vehicle is presented as a centerpiece of the Kruse Foundation WWII Victory Museum as General Patton’s Command Car.

2018 – Command Car asset acquired by the J. Kruse Education Center a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on career path exploration and connection for K-12 students and returning veterans.

2019 – Worldwide Auctioneers is officially engaged by the nonprofit to market and auction the vehicle. Following extensive research by Worldwide Auctioneers, a prior curator of the WWII Victory Museum in Auburn relays their in-person account of a WWII veteran coming to the facility in Auburn circa 2005. After carefully inspecting the WC-57, the veteran informs the curator that he was an Army mechanic in the war and performed maintenance on this exact unit and that General Patton did indeed use this very Command Car.

2020 – Worldwide Auctioneers begins marketing General Patton's Dodge WC-57 Command Car at no reserve – selling to the highest bidder on Saturday, June 13, 2020.

NOTE: All proceeds will be used by the education center to further their mission to assist individuals as they discover their God-given talents and passions and guide them toward a specific career path. This will be achieved by creating an unparalleled immersive career exploration experience with an emphasis on students K-12 and returning veterans.

Learn more at <https://jkruseeducation.org/>