



Media Center

SAVING MILITARY HISTORY FROM A DIFFERENT TYPE OF WAR

The Indiana Military Museum, located in historic Vincennes, Indiana, is a museum dedicated to fostering appreciation of U.S. military history. Through educational programming, archives and displays, guests can learn about America's military dating back to the American Revolution. Bill Cleveland, owner of Cleveland Pest Control in City, State, has worked with the museum as a volunteer curator for many years, helping to set up displays and direct museum guests on tours. Yet until earlier this year, Bill never thought he would be waging a war of his own to protect military memorabilia from crumbling to pieces.

In June 2008, one of the museum's full time curators was going through the museum's antique book collection. Upon close examination, he noticed that some of the books had holes in the pages, and that most of the books were damaged in some fashion. The culprits? Wood-destroying termites.

With these pests top of mind, Bill Cleveland decided to volunteer his company's services to inspect and treat the museum for termites. During the inspection, Cleveland's technicians discovered active mud tubes near a display case housing the uniforms of Generals Patton, Bradley, and Powell. Yet due to the design of the museum facility, it was difficult for Cleveland to determine the extent of structural damage to the building.

"We decided to do localized treatments with **Termidor**[®] termiticide/insecticide to control the active infestations quickly before we performed a full conventional **Termidor** treatment," said Cleveland.

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In order to do localized treatments, Cleveland and his team removed the artifacts from their display cases and used special equipment to convert the **Termidor** liquid to foam. This foam could be injected into the walls and behind baseboards, reaching the termites that were attacking the structure with maximum precision and minimum disruption to the building's interior. "We knew that **Termidor** would be the ideal product for this termite infestation, because it is the fastest and most effective at eliminating termites," said Cleveland. "Such product attributes were necessary in this situation, considering the termites were endangering valuable artifacts."

Following a full conventional treatment in August 2008, the Indiana Military Museum is now termite free. Cleveland Pest Control plans to continue yearly inspections to ensure that the facility remains protected and fully "armed" against these damaging pests.