

July
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History of Orleans

Welcome to Orleans



ORLEANS AREA COMMAND

HEADQUARTERS
ORLEANS AREA COMMAND
Office of the Commanding Officer
APO 58, US Forces

1 July 1961

SUBJECT: Welcome to Orleans Area Command

TO: All newly assigned personnel

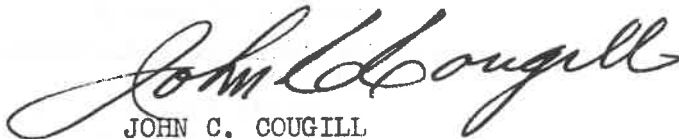
I extend to you a hearty welcome to Orleans Area Command, U.S. Army Communications Zone, Europe, at Orleans, France. I hope that your tour of duty here will be most pleasant and that you will enjoy living in France.

This pamphlet is published for your benefit. It contains much information about Orleans Area Command facilities and services and the Orleans Area. We hope it will assist you in obtaining quickly a knowledge of the background and conditions under which we live and work.

One of our aims is to promote a better understanding of French and American cultures and, by so doing, increase the effectiveness of our common defense mission under NATO and, at the same time, make your stay in France more enjoyable. Needless to say, it is advisable to study the French language. If you are not able to do this in the States, you may want to take advantage of one of the language courses given in the Language Laboratories we operate here in Orleans.

An important point to remember is that we are not here to serve as missionaries in the conversion of France to Americanism. Her customs and courtesies existed for centuries before the United States became a Republic. As soldiers assigned to duty here we must, instead, respect local traditions and methods of getting things done.

We are glad you are joining us and I assure you that a continuing effort is made within available resources to make your working and living conditions in Orleans as comfortable and pleasant as possible.



JOHN C. COUGILL
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

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I INTRODUCTION

Orleans Area Command is one of four major sub-commands of the U.S. Army Communications Zone, Europe.

OAC headquarters is located at Foret d'Orleans, approximately five miles from the city of Orleans.

Normal duty hours are from 0800 to 1700, Monday through Friday.

A full-time duty officer is available during the day or night.

He may be reached by calling Civilian 87.16.11, Extension 7001 (Adjutant).

Beginning as a small detachment with the establishment of Headquarters, U.S. Army Communications Zone, Europe, at Coligny Caserne, November 1950, Orleans Area Command today includes elements located in twelve geographic areas within the French department of Loiret.

The mission of OAC is to support military units and activities stationed in the Orleans area. In general, OAC is similar to a post headquarters in the continental United States.

The command houses Headquarters, U.S. Army Communications Zone, Europe, which directs operation of the vast network of depots and installations from the Atlantic coastal ports of France into West Germany, for the support of US Army combat forces in Europe.

History of Orleans

Orleans is located on the Loire River, 70 miles south of Paris. It has a population of 80,000 and a metropolitan population of 115,000 (including its adjacent villages).

Few French cities equal Orleans in historical significance. It was captured and burned by Julius Caesar in 52 B.C. during the Gallic Wars and rebuilt by the Emperor Aurelian, from whom it derives its name. In 450 A.D., Attila, the Hun, and his hordes assaulted the city, to be driven back by Saint Aignan, Bishop of Orleans. In the middle of the 6th century, Orleans flourished as a trading center, next in importance to Paris.

Joan of Arc's deliverance of the city in 1429 marked the turning point of the Hundred Years' War, celebrated locally on the seventh and eighth of May, each year. The event draws pilgrims from every corner of France, wearing provincial costumes and participating in colorful parades and pageants.

Orleans became part of the Protestant movement during the 16th century Wars of Religion. Occupied by both Huguenots and the Catholic League, it was finally conquered by Henry IV of Navarre. John Calvin studied at the city's law school which flourished until quite recently.

Coligny Caserne, which houses the headquarters of U.S. Army Communications Zone, Europe, owes its name to Admiral Coligny, the great Huguenot leader.

Occupied by the Prussians in 1815, after Napoleon's Waterloo, Orleans was re-taken by the Germans in 1870-71. June 1940 marked the beginning of the bombardment by Axis powers, destroying the entire center of the city. Allied bombing in 1943 devastated some of the surrounding areas, particularly in the vicinity of the railroad station at Les Aubrais. The famous city, however, is progressively rebuilding itself.

The oldest part of Orleans is surrounded by boulevards built on the sites of ancient fortifications. Many of the houses, of white porous stone, are built above the quarries from which the building material was taken. Some of these buildings boast as many as seven levels of cellars, used mainly for storing wine.

In the district called Les Carmes, three levels of wine cellars were transformed by monks into lengthy underground passages terminating at the river.

The Cathedral of Sainte-Croix dominates the city. Built originally during the 13th and 14th centuries, it was destroyed by the Huguenots and restored by order of Henry IV, the great French king who laid the cornerstone in 1601.

The Hotel de Ville, north of the cathedral, was built during the Renaissance, between 1549 and 1583. Its center arch leads into a formal garden, illuminated on summer nights, as are the cathedral and the Hotel de Ville.

During the bombardment of June 1940, fire gutted the Church of Saint Paul, leaving only the facade and the Chapel of Our Lady of Miracles. This chapel contains a famous "Black Virgin" (Vierge Noire) statue, the object of pilgrimages since 800 A.D. It was here that Joan of Arc prayed during the siege of Orleans.

Other historical locales includes Chartres, with its world-famous cathedral, the picturesque village of Beaugency, part of whose medieval wall is still intact, the 11th century monastery of Saint Benoit, and the chateau of Sully-sur-Loire may all be reached in a short drive from Orleans.

Cool summers and cold winters prevail in the Orleans area, with frequent rains throughout the year. Even for summer wear it is advisable to have light-weight wool clothing. The evenings are cool.

Orientation

An administrative orientation is held each weekday morning at Coligny Caserne Processing Center (adjoining the main gate). It serves officers, warrant officers, Department of the Army Civilians and all dependents. Processing of necessary forms and administrative actions can be accomplished at this time. In addition, handouts covering support facilities, their operational hours and other pertinent information are presented to incoming personnel.

II FACILITIES AND PERSONAL SERVICES

Billeting

Housing in the Orleans area continues to be critical. Average delay for occupancy of Government Guarantee Rental housing is one year. These are not considered government quarters. They are similar to Wherry units in the United States. Allocated by a percentage for each grade and rank, priority is established by date of departure of the sponsor from the United States.

In addition to the 600 Guarantee Rental housing units, there is a United States Surplus Commodity Housing area (Government Housing), consisting of 198 units. However, the total of all units does not fill requirements for the approximate 2,300 families in the Orleans area.

Since there is an average 12-month delay for Government-controlled housing, it is necessary that housing be obtained on the local economy. The Billeting Office, Orleans Area Command, publishes a weekly housing list of available properties on the economy. Priority for nomination for this housing list is also established by date of departure from CONUS; however, separate waiting lists are maintained for government-controlled and local economy housing. A move into housing on the local economy will not affect a priority for movement into Guarantee Rental or Surplus Commodity housing.

If the individual locates a house not previously occupied by Americans, a priority is NOT required. This, however, must be coordinated with the Billeting Office. Once a French house is occupied by an American, it is placed on the billeting priority list.

Bachelor Officer Quarters are available for male and female officers but BOQ space is not available for dependents.

Hotel accommodations are difficult to obtain during the summer months. If you accept coordinated travel, you may expect to spend 30-60 days in a hotel at an average rate of fifteen to forty New Francs (currently about \$3 to \$8.) The main hotel district is located in the center of town.

If you have three or more children, it is not advisable to accept concurrent-coordinated travel, because of the inconvenience, high cost of living in hotels, and the long delay in securing housing.

Rents are comparatively high, in view of the difference in standards of living between French and American houses. It is frequently necessary to expend from \$50 to \$200 in adapting a French house to individual needs.

Since furnished places are limited, it is advisable to bring as much household goods as possible. In most cases, stoves and refrigerators are not furnished, and they are provided only in government-controlled housing units. Even in furnished houses, kitchen items such as pots, pans and silverware are vital necessities in your what-to-bring list.

Approximately 5% of indigenous houses are furnished; 95% are unfurnished. Unless you plan to rent a furnished house, it is recommended that furniture, with the exception of electric stoves, TV sets and electric clocks, be shipped to France well in advance of your arrival.

Coal is expensive, running from \$45 to \$60 a ton. Generally, bathroom facilities are old-fashioned, so you cannot expect sanitation and heating standards to match those in the United States.

Natural gas is available in most dwellings in Orleans. By all means, ship your butane or oil-type space heaters. These can also be purchased in the local Post Exchange.

Electric current is usually 110 volts in towns and 220 in rural areas, both are 50 cycles, which frequently causes difficulty in operating automatic washers, dryers, phonographs and deep freezers.

It is recommended that you leave your TV sets and electric clocks in the United States. Power surge shortens the lives of light bulbs and electric appliances. Radios should include frequency modulation (FM) band as the American Forces Network in France broadcasts only on FM. Transformers for conversion of 220 volts to 110 volts may be purchased in the Post Exchange. Electricity is expensive in France, with a slight reduction during summer. French houses are not wired to carry excessive electrical loads.

It is advisable to ship portable clothes closets, kitchen cabinets and other non-electrical household items. However, most of these items can also be purchased in the Post Exchange here.

Education

A kindergarten is operated during the school year at the La Chapelle Elementary School. Elementary schools are located in La Chapelle and Foret d'Orleans. A fully accredited high school for children of military and civilian personnel of the installation is located at Foret d'Orleans. Student registration information is published and distributed prior to commencement of the school term.

School buses cover most of the residential areas for elementary and high school students to and from schools. If you have children of school age, you should not accept economy housing located at a distance of more than 25 kilometers from Orleans.

Nursery

A post nursery is available at Coligny Caserne for children between the age of six months and eight years. There is a fixed hourly charge for use of the nursery, and a small family registration fee which is renewable annually.

US Army Education Center

Army Education Centers are located at Coligny Caserne, La Chapelle and Maison Fort. United States Armed Forces Institute (USAFI) tests and education courses are available to all military personnel.

Language Laboratories located at Coligny Caserne, Maison Fort and La Chapelle, utilize audio-visual aids, with emphasis placed on conversational French. On and off-duty courses in French are offered all military and civilian personnel and their dependents. Information concerning all courses may be obtained from educational advisors at the center.

The University of Maryland also conducts college level courses within the installation, open to all qualified personnel and their dependents.

Fiscal

US Army Finance Offices

The 63d Finance Disbursing Section is located at Coligny Caserne. A Class B Agent's office functions in Building 511, Maison Fort.

Military Pay Vouchers for regular monthly pay are honored on the last day of each month, by the servicing finance office. Arrears of pay due service members are normally paid within 24 hours after receipt of the voucher in the finance office. Travel vouchers for permanent change of station for service members and their dependents are normally paid within 72 hours after receipt of the voucher in the finance office.

Temporary lodging allowances and station housing allowances are paid in this area according to procedures established in Chapter 8, AR 37-104. These rates are subscribed in Appendix B of the Joint Travel Regulations.

Service members desiring to bring dependents to the command are advised to consult their local finance officer in advance of departure from CONUS, regarding current allowances payable, since these rates are subject to frequent change.

Military and DAC personnel are paid in US currency. US dollars may be exchanged for French francs at the Finance and Accounting Office. Current exchange rate information can be secured from any banking facility or travel agent in CONUS.

The American Express Company (AMEXCO) Facilities

The American Express Company (AMEXCO) maintains its Orleans office at Coligny Caserne with a branch office in Maison Fort. Normal banking services, including US dollar and French Franc checking accounts, loans, savings accounts, currency exchange, money orders and traveler's cheques are available. In addition, AMEXCO offers travel agency service, automobile insurance, telegrams and cable service and US Savings Bonds. AMEXCO checks are negotiable in the CONUS. Checks drawn on CONUS banks may be cashed for a small fee.

Medical Services

Military Personnel: There are medical facilities located at Harbord Barracks, Coligny Caserne, Saran, Foret d'Orleans and the US Army Hospital, La Chapelle-St Mesmin. Individuals requiring hospitalization and/or specialized clinic treatment will be referred to by the medical facility physician to the US Army Hospital, La Chapelle-St Mesmin, four miles west of Orleans.

Dependents: Dependents of military personnel receive outpatient and inpatient (hospitalization) care at the US Army Hospital, La Chapelle-St Mesmin.

Department of the Army Civilians (DAC): Department of the Army Civilians and their dependents are authorized outpatient care at the US Army Hospital, La Chapelle-St Mesmin. A fee of \$1.00 is charged for each visit, and \$5.00 for each inpatient hospital day. Immunizations required by Army regulations for this area are furnished without charge. All other immunizations cost \$1.00 each.

Immunizations Required for France:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Small Pox | - Vaccination or re-vaccination within one year of beginning travel. Annual re-immunization while in this area. |
| Typhoid-Paratyphoid | - Basic series or re-immunization within one year of beginning travel. Re-immunization every four years. |

- Tetanus - Basic series or re-immunization within four years of beginning travel. Re-immunization every four years.
 - Poliomyelitis - For personnel under 40 years of age, basic series plus one re-immunization one year later if this interval has elapsed since basic series. Travel is not delayed for any except the first dose. Required doses not administered prior to travel will be given in this area.
 - Typhus - Basic series - except that travel is not delayed if two injections of basic series have been given. Required dose not administered before travel will be given in this area.
 - Influenza - Required of all military personnel. Vaccination on a voluntary basis is offered to dependents and DAC personnel.
- Emergency Room: An emergency room is in operation at all hours, day and night, at the US Army Hospital, La Chapelle-St Mesmin.

Ambulance Service: Ambulance service for patients requiring emergency treatment is available on call at the nearest medical treatment facility or at the Army Hospital, La Chapelle-St Mesmin.

Dental Service: Dental service for military personnel is provided normally at the same place the individual reports for sick call, i.e., personnel assigned to Coligny Caserne are treated at the Caserne Dental Clinic, etc. Dental care for dependents of military personnel assigned locally at the following places: (1) Dependents of military personnel assigned to Coligny Caserne will be treated at the Caserne dental clinic. (2) Dependents of military personnel assigned to the US Army Hospital, Chapelle-St Mesmin, will be treated at the hospital dental clinic. (3) All other dependents will be treated at Harbord Barracks or Foret d'Orleans. In addition, all DACs receive dental care at the Harbord Barracks dental clinic.

Veterinary Service: A veterinary, located on the grounds of the US Army Hospital, La Chapelle-St Mesmin, provides veterinary food inspection service and operates a small animal clinic.

Sanitation: Because pasteurizing standards locally do not compare with those of the United States it is advisable to purchase your milk, butter and cheeses and other commodities, from the commissary and the European Exchange System. In either case, delicatessen purchases should be washed with a compound available at both places, free of cost. Additional instructions on sanitation measures will be furnished during your first orientation after arrival in France.

Newspapers and News Stands

The Orleans Item is a weekly Troop Information newspaper of Orleans Area Command, published to be distributed to military units each Friday.

Stars and Stripes, daily Troop Information newspaper for the United States Armed Forces, Europe, operates news stands throughout the command. Other English language newspapers, periodicals and books are also on sale at the same news stands.

Open Messes (Clubs)

Enlisted Open Messes are located at Coligny Caserne, Harbord Barracks, Maison Fort, Saran, Foret d'Orleans and La Chapelle. These facilities provide bar and short order services, also entertainment programs for enlisted personnel.

The non-commissioned Officers Open Mess, located at Harbord Barracks, provides a cocktail bar, dining and dancing, floor shows and party catering service to members. The non-commissioned Officers Wives Clubs meet every Tuesday at the NCO Club, Harbord Barracks.

The Officers and Civilian Open Mess, at Chateau la Mothe, provides facilities for dining and dancing, private parties, and other social gatherings. Wives will be encouraged to join one of the many officers Wives Clubs using the club facilities each month.

Passports, Visas and French Identity Cards

Non-military personnel are cautioned to safeguard the passport issued to them by the State Department as this document is the only proof of their identity as citizens of the United States. It should be shown to French authorities if requested, but should never be relinquished without receiving a receipt.

The Officers' Barber Shop (open to officers and DACs, GS-7 and above) is located in Room 107, Building 107, Coligny Caserne. Other barber shops are located in Building 135, Coligny Caserne, Maison Fort, North Saran, South Saran, La Chapelle, Samec, Harbord Barracks and Foret d'Orleans.

A Beauty Shop, located in Coligny Caserne, employs French hairdressers and provides current continental and stateside styles.

EES Tailors are located in Coligny Caserne, Maison Fort, Harbord Barracks, and Foret d'Orleans.

Shoe repair, watch and radio repair, film development, special order services are available through EES outlets. Gasoline and Deisel Coupons are available to eligible personnel at retail stores.

Quartermaster Facilities:

Commissary Sales Store: Located at Coligny Caserne.

Laundry and Dry Cleaning Plant: Located at SAMEC, with Pick-up Points at Coligny Caserne, Maison Fort and SAMEC.

Clothing Sales Store: Located in Building 511C, Maison Fort.

Shoe Repair Shop: Located at SAMEC with Pick-up Points at Coligny Caserne, Maison Fort and SAMEC.

Class VI Store: Located at Coligny Caserne and Maison Fort.

Recreation Facilities:

Theaters: Located at Coligny Caserne, Harbord Barracks, La Chapelle and Foret d'Orleans.

Bowling Alleys: Located at Coligny Caserne, Harbord Barracks and Maison Fort.

Libraries and Service Clubs: Located at Coligny Caserne and Harbord Barracks.

Crafts Shops: Function at Coligny Caserne, Saran, and La Chapelle.

Community Activities Building: Located at Harbord Barracks.

Photo Centers: Located at Coligny Caserne, Harbord Barracks and Foret d'Orleans.

Gymnasiums: Located at Coligny Caserne, Harbord Barracks and Foret d'Orleans.

Golf: A nine-hole course located at Chateau La Touche is open to members and their guests every day except Mondays. A recreation and picnic area is also available here.

Baseball Diamond: Located at Patton Field (Harbord Barracks).

Football Fields: Located at Patton Field (Harbord Barracks).

Softball Diamonds: Located at Patton Field (Harbord Barracks) Maison Fort, Saran and La Chapelle.

Tennis Courts: Located at Maison Fort, Chateau La Mothe, La Chapelle, Saran and Chateau La Touche.

Outside all Purpose Courts: Consist of basketball and volleyball facilities, located at Maison Fort, Saran, and La Chapelle.

AYA Baseball Fields: Four diamonds for Little League and Babe Ruth League are located across the road from the main entrance to Maison Fort.

Orleans Rod and Gun Club: Located at Chateau du Corvier, and offers hunting, fishing, skeet and trap shooting to members and their guests.

Religious Services: Can be attended at any of four chapels in the Orleans Area, one each at Coligny Caserne, Maison Fort, Harbord Barracks, and La Chapelle. All three major faiths, Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish have a full program of religious activities scheduled regularly.

Wide denominational services are available for personnel of the Episcopal, Baptist, Christian Science, Latter Day Saints, and Seventh Day Adventist churches. Three Sunday Schools are operational at Maison Fort, Coligny Caserne, and La Chapelle. Secular organizations for Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish personnel are also prominent here.

Current announcements of religious activities are published in a special bulletin of Religious Activities, The Orleans Item, and in the Daily Bulletins.

III MISCELLANEOUS

Telephone Service:

Official and unofficial service and subscriber service is available. Subscriber Service, open to military and DAC personnel, has no carrying charges and the subscriber is billed only for toll calls. Commercial facilities are furnished by French Postes Telegraphes et Telephones (PTT) affording pay stations which may be used for unofficial calls (including collect calls to the United States). Such facilities are located as follows:

French (Orleans) Main Post Office, Place du General de Gaulle: Weekdays, 0800 - 1900 hours; Sundays, 0800 - 1200 hours and 1400 - 1800 hours. Also at French Post Offices in Orleans at 183 Rue de Bourgogne; 6, Place Dunois; and 135 Rue St Marceau, and at the French Post Office outside the Orleans Railroad Station: weekdays, 0800 - 1900 hours; closed on Sundays.

Cost and availability of telephone installation vary with the individual cities and villages. Normally installation costs are high (above \$65) and monthly fees moderate (about \$5).

Transportation Services:

Only a limited bus service is available for military, DACs, dependent students and French National employees. School buses are operated for dependent students during the school year and for summer school.

Commercial Transportation offers a French bus service (TREC) at frequent intervals within the city of Orleans and its environs. Fares vary with established zones and must be paid in Francs.

French taxis are available to personnel and their dependents in Orleans. Principle taxi stands are located at the Gare d'Orleans (the railroad station at Place Albert ler), and at Place du Martroi, (the square in which the statue of Joan of Arc is located).

Whether personnel travel by ship or air from the United States, they usually arrive at Orleans via rail from Paris. Trains arriving at Orleans stop either at Les Aubrais (Lays o bray) or the Gare d'Orleans. The OAC Transportation Division maintains a rail information office at the Gare des Aubrais which is open Mondays through Fridays from 0800 to 1700 hours.

Private Automobiles are a necessity for families. Since government transportation is not available for any but official business, it is recommended that automobiles be delivered to the port ahead of normal departure from CONUS. A letter of permission from a mortgager, if any, is required for shipment of a car overseas. There is usually a four to six-week delay in delivery to France. Most automobiles arrive at St. Nazaire, 231 miles from Orleans.

Generally, road conditions in the Orleans area are the same as in most of France and are characterized by their asphalt, blacktop-type pavement with high crowns (for drainage) and low-speed curves (flat and sharp). Many of them are rather narrow, particularly for a large US car meeting a truck. Shoulders are usually strong, but narrow. There is a great deal of traffic on Orleans-area roads, consisting of bicycles, motorcycles, scooters, small European cars, larger cars, horse-drawn vehicles, large buses and trucks.

It is recommended that tools, tire gauge, pump, (and extra spark plugs and points if your car is not one of the more popular makes) be shipped with the vehicle. A number of American automobile agencies located in Orleans stock parts at somewhat higher prices than CONUS. Most American cars are represented by parts agencies in Paris.

Unless accomplished by personnel themselves, all automobile repairs must be made on the French economy. Services are somewhat higher, and qualified mechanics for some makes of American cars are not available in Orleans. However, most American car manufacturers have service agencies in Paris.

All automobiles are required to be registered with the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, this command. Requirements for registration are as follows:

Normal proof of ownership (title); minimum liability insurance coverage of 500 thousand New Francs or \$102,000.00 per vehicle per accident (either the Attestation of Assurance for French insurance companies - "Yellow Card" or an International Insurance Certificate - "Green Card" for other than French insurance companies will meet the requirements for proof of insurance coverage in France); the installation of yellow headlights as required by French law; the purchase of a "Carnet" or customs document which costs approximately \$6.60 annually. (The Carnet is equivalent to French licensing and permits control of a vehicle which has been exempt from French import duty).

The French law requirement of liability insurance coverage of 500 New Francs applies also to motor bicycles and motor scooters, regardless of the size of the motor.

A U.S. Army Communications Zone operator's license is required and will be issued upon the completion of the course at the OAC Driver Testing Center. This license will permit operation of a vehicle in France and several other countries in Europe. However, an International Driver's License is required to drive in Austria, Great Britain, Spain, Greece and Denmark - and also in Norway if a rented car is driven. The International Driver's License may be obtained through the OAC Driver Testing Center for a cost of 2.70 New Francs.

Personnel planning to drive in countries other than France are urged to check with their insurance companies and purchase a "green card" or international insurance certificate. Generally, this purchase will be more economical than to pay the insurance fees each time an international boundary is crossed. Some companies furnish this free.

Welfare Organizations

The Field Director of the American Red Cross maintains an office in Coligny Caserne, with branch offices located at the US Army Hospital, La Chapelle and at Harbord Barracks.

Army Emergency Relief is available at Headquarters Orleans Area Command to provide emergency financial assistance to members of the Army and their dependents.

Youth Organizations

The American Youth Activities (AYA) program sponsors baseball, basketball, social and camping activities for dependent children aged 8 to 18 years. An active Boy and Girl Scout program is organized to include Explorer Posts.

Emergency Leaves

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Communications Zone, Europe, is authorized to grant emergency leaves. Prior to departing the United States, personnel should advise appropriate individuals that in event of emergency, they should have their local Red Cross chapter contact the Red Cross Field Director, APO 58, Orleans, France, direct.

Firearms

All firearms with a bore larger than 32 caliber are prohibited in France. Personnel may possess as many hand guns of 32 caliber and below as they desire. These must be registered with local Provost Marshal and kept in the unit's arms room. If the individual resides in family-type quarters, he may retain one hand weapon in his possession. In the latter case, the weapon must be registered with French authorities in addition to the local Provost Marshal. Upon arrival in France, all weapons, other than sporting weapons, must be surrendered to the French authorities. Application through the area commander for return of the weapons is accomplished in approximately 120 days. Weapons brought into this command must be registered with the Vehicle and Weapons Registration Office, OAC Provost Marshal Division, within five (5) days after arrival in the command.

Pets

Importation of dogs and cats into France from any country is subject to presentation at the customs office, prior to entry into France, of a certificate of anti-rabies vaccination. It will certify that the vaccination has been accomplished at least one month, but not more than six months prior to the animal's entry into France and that the vaccine employed is an officially controlled one. (Note: All rabies vaccine manufactured in the United States is controlled by the US Department of Agriculture). The certificate will be executed by a veterinary officer of the US military forces or by an official veterinarian of the animal's country of origin. The same procedure applies to animals temporarily exported from France, in which case the certificate of anti-rabies vaccination can be accomplished prior to the animal's departure from France.

The anti-rabies certificate is not required for dogs and cats accompanied by a certificate executed by a veterinarian, certifying that the animal is less than three months old in the case of dogs, and six months in the case of cats. The animal may be denied entry to France or subjected to French-controlled quarantine if the above certificates are not produced.

Dogs and Cats Are Not Allowed in the St. Jean de Braye Rental Guaranteed Housing Area.

Further details and bi-lingual forms will be furnished upon request.

Uniforms

Within Orleans Area Command, the winter uniform is prescribed for wear from the third Monday in September to the first Monday in June. Summer uniform is prescribed for wear during the remaining months.

The Green AG 44 uniform and the Blue uniform are mandatory for officers and warrant officers. Only the Green 44 is mandatory for enlisted personnel. Black boots are required.

Special Items to Bring With You

Women's shoes, walking shoes, women's suits and slacks, and sweaters for the whole family. (Although the PX maintains a fine selection of cashmere, lamb's wool and orlon sweaters at moderate prices, there are frequent shortages in certain sizes). Children's and infants' warm clothing, as far as growth permits; special cosmetics, vitamins, knee-high socks for children are also recommended items on your shipping list.

If your family members sew, bring the patterns; bring your golf clubs, bowling ball, a box of gadgets including thumb tacks, screws, picture hangers, screw drivers, hammers, and a couple of flashlights; one for your car and one for the house. Also bring clothes racks for indoor drying; a refrigerator; and a power of attorney (from your husband - at least three copies). Transformers can be purchased at the PX, if necessary.

French Taxes

Military and civilian personnel of the Armed Forces of the United States, stationed in France pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Status of Forces Agreement, and their dependents, are subject to the following French taxes:

a. Contribution Mobiliere. General revenue tax for the benefit of municipalities and departments levied upon the occupants of a dwelling as of 1 January each year.

b. Taxe d'Habitation. Tax imposed on occupants of premises and is in addition to the contribution mobiliere.

c. Taxe des Presentations ou Taxe de Voirie. Alternative taxes to cover maintenance of local roads.

d. Taxe d'Enlevement des Ordures Menageres. Local garbage disposal tax imposed on property owners for services rendered. However, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, the owner is legally entitled to be reimbursed by the tenant for payment of this tax.

e. Tax de Deversement a L'Egout. Sewage services tax imposed on the property owner. In an absence of an agreement to the contrary, the owner is legally entitled to be reimbursed by the tenant for payment of the tax.

f. Taxe de Balayage. Road sweeping tax imposed on the owner of real estate property bordering a road. In the absence of an agreement to the contrary, the owner is entitled to be reimbursed by the tenant for payment of the tax.

g. Radio and Television Tax. Imposed annually upon individuals who possess radio or television sets. A separate tax is imposed on each automobile radio.

US personnel are exempt from the following taxes:

a. Automobile tax. This tax is not applicable to CF-registered vehicles.

b. Taxe sur les Chiens. Dog Tax.

Detailed information on payment of French taxes by US Forces personnel is contained in Command directives and other publications.

Hiring of Domestic Help

Domestics may be employed by US Forces personnel in France. The employer is responsible for compliance with the laws of France regarding domestic employment, including payment of social security and family allowances taxes. All prospective employers of domestic help should first familiarize themselves with the provisions of pertinent Command directives.

Tips on Traveling in France

In France, you will be in Europe's leading tourist country. A few special hints may make your tours more enjoyable and make you a better guest.

Few servicemen in the world are as well paid as the American soldier. During World War II, when Americans were serving in the British Isles, English soldiers frequently spoke of our servicemen as "overpaid, overfed and over here". The remark, although in jest, conveyed a grain of normal resentment that a man feels on seeing another get greater pay for the same job. It should be remembered, therefore, that a well-filled wallet, prominently displayed, can make enemies as well as friends. In the interests of good taste and good manners you should refrain from boasting about pay or any other matter to your French or any other European neighbor.

Be sensible about money, and spend it in such a manner as not to attract unfavorable attention or comment. In a group of Allied soldiers, spend money on a par with them. Refrain from spending sprees, remembering that handling money disdainfully creates contempt, and that thoughtless spending sends prices skyrocketing.

Railroads

French railroads may not compare with some of the American types. Trains, however, are run very efficiently and promptly and have modern conveniences including dining and sleeping cars.

Of the two classes of French rail travel, first class compares favorably with United States extra-fare trains. Second class is favorable compared with American parlor cars. Inquire about tourist or excursion railroad rates, since reduced vacation rates are common in most European countries.

An important thing to remember concerns train tickets. Before boarding, the ticket must be shown at the gate and then later it will be punched on the train. It is then collected at the end of your journey at the exit turnstile in the station. If unable to produce it at that time it may be necessary to buy another ticket. Don't throw your ticket away!

Rental of Household Furnishings

Complete household furnishings may be rented from a furniture rental agency (COMIL), whose office is located at the St Jean de Braye Housing Area; Telephone - Orleans Civilian 98-13-03, Bldg. 56. The office is open every morning from 0900 through 1200 noon, except Saturdays and Sundays, or by appointment. Minimum rental contract is \$15.00 per month for a minimum of two months. A two-month rental deposit is required. Within six months, the renter has the option of buying, with all rental money applied against purchase price. Listed below are rental prices of the more commonly required items:

Dining room table (light mahogany)	\$3.20
Dining room chairs	.90 each
Sofa Bed	6.45
Lounge Chair	6.45
Buffet (two drawers)	6.45
Book case	2.20
Twin Beds (Simmons springs)	2.10
Double Beds (Simmons springs)	3.50
Double-decker bed with mattresses	3.55

*Floor Plans
St. Jean de Braye Rental Guarantee Housing Area*

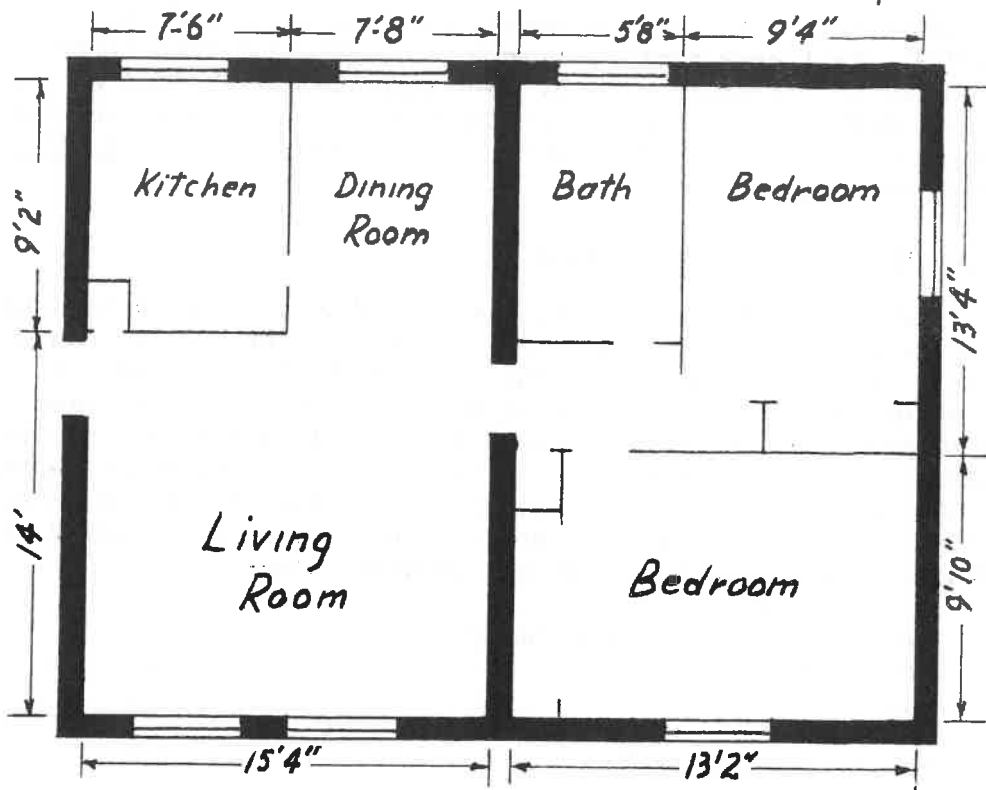


Figure 1-2 - Bedroom Apartment

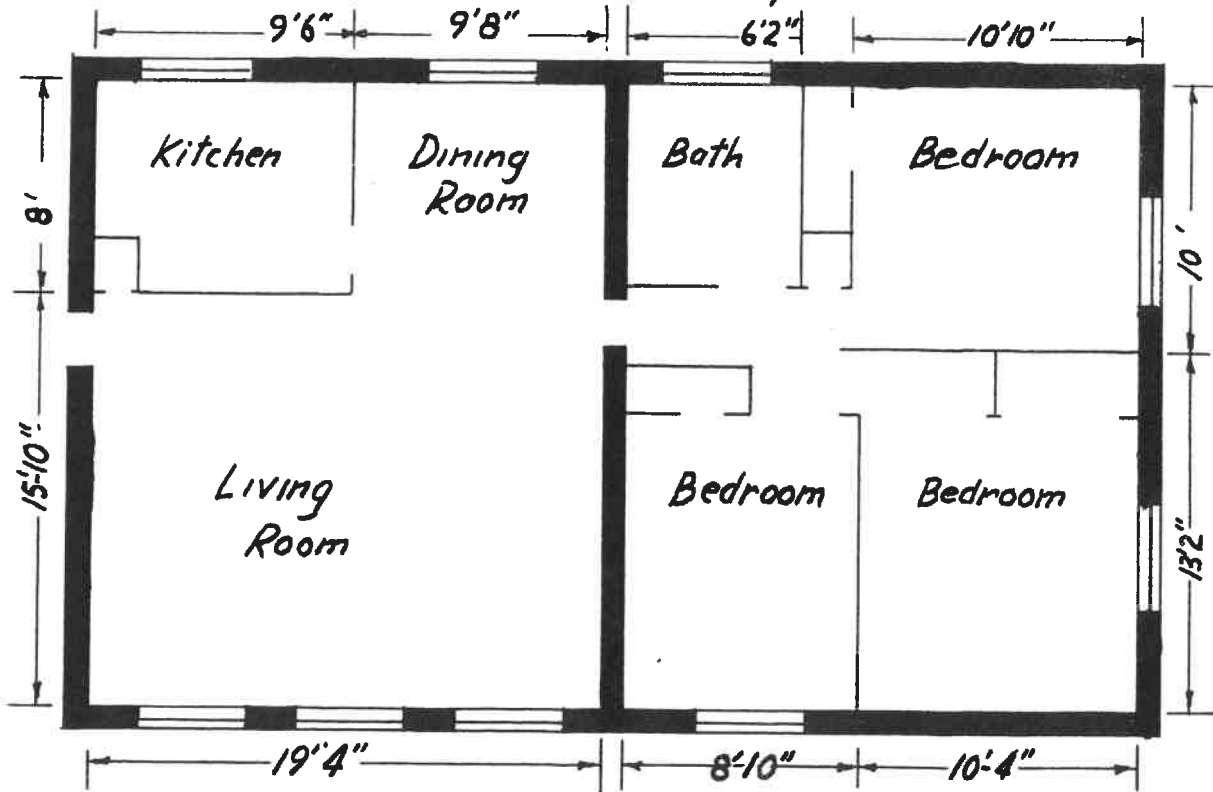


Figure 2-3 Bedroom Apartment

St Jean de la Ruelle Guarantee Housing Area

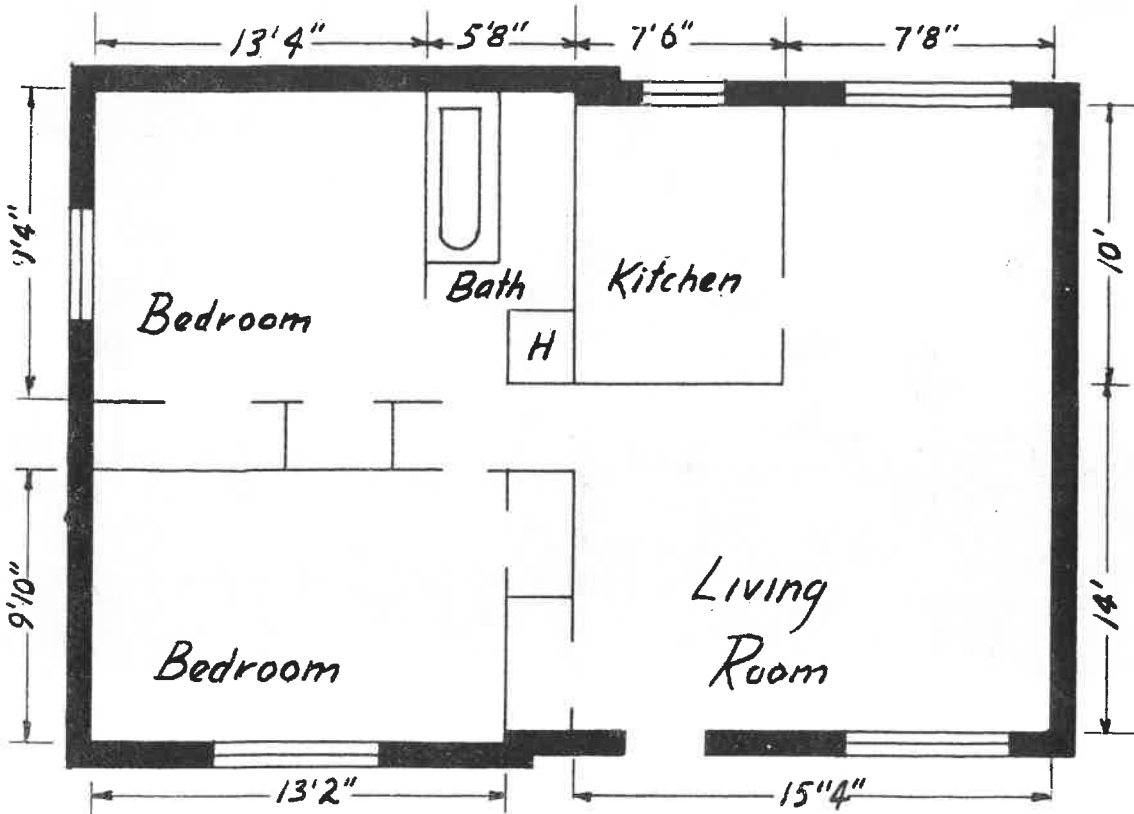


Figure 3-2 Bedroom Unit

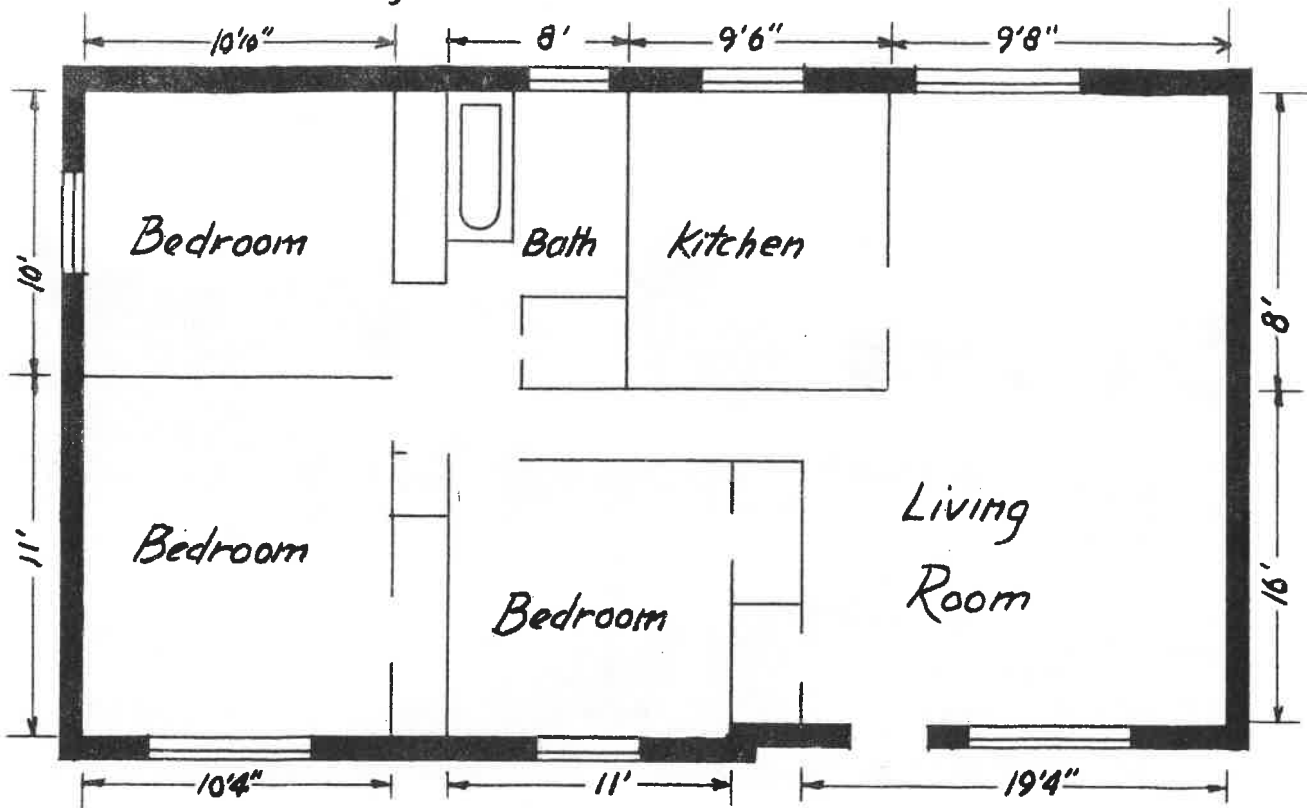


Figure 4-3 Bedroom Unit



**Guarantee Rental Housing
St Jean De Braye**



**Guarantee Rental Housing
S. J. D. B. H.**

Surplus Commodity Housing Area (Olivet)

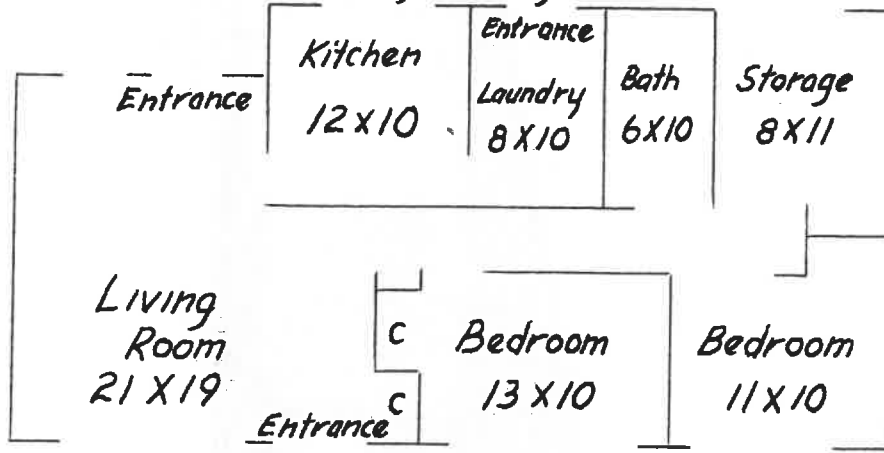


Figure 5-2 Bedroom Duplex

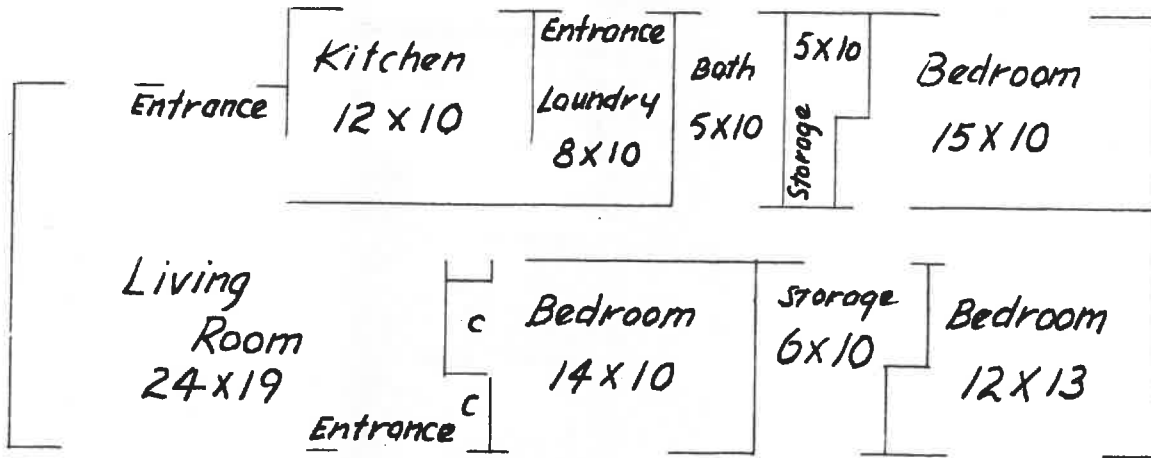


Figure 6-3 Bedroom (Large)

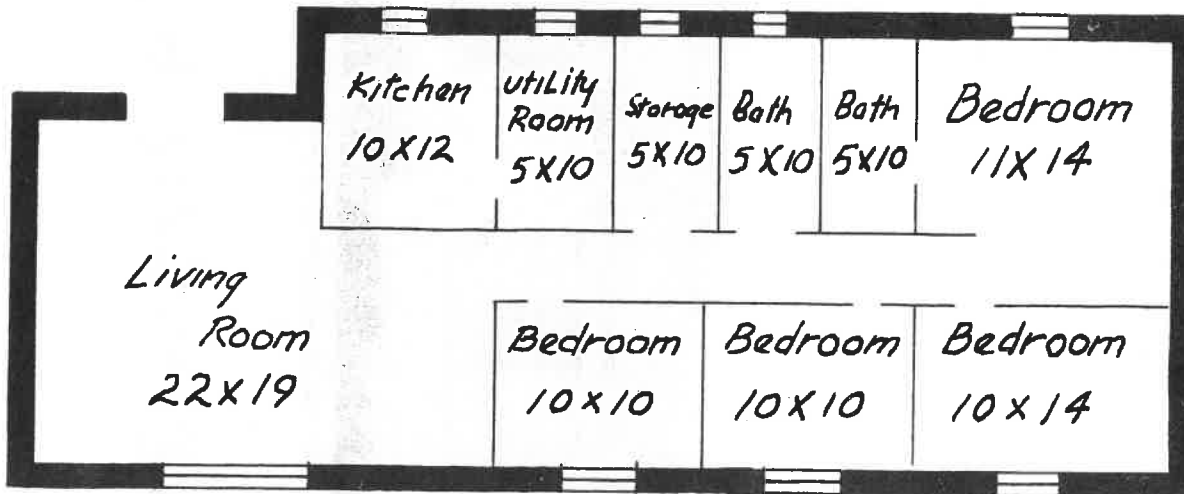
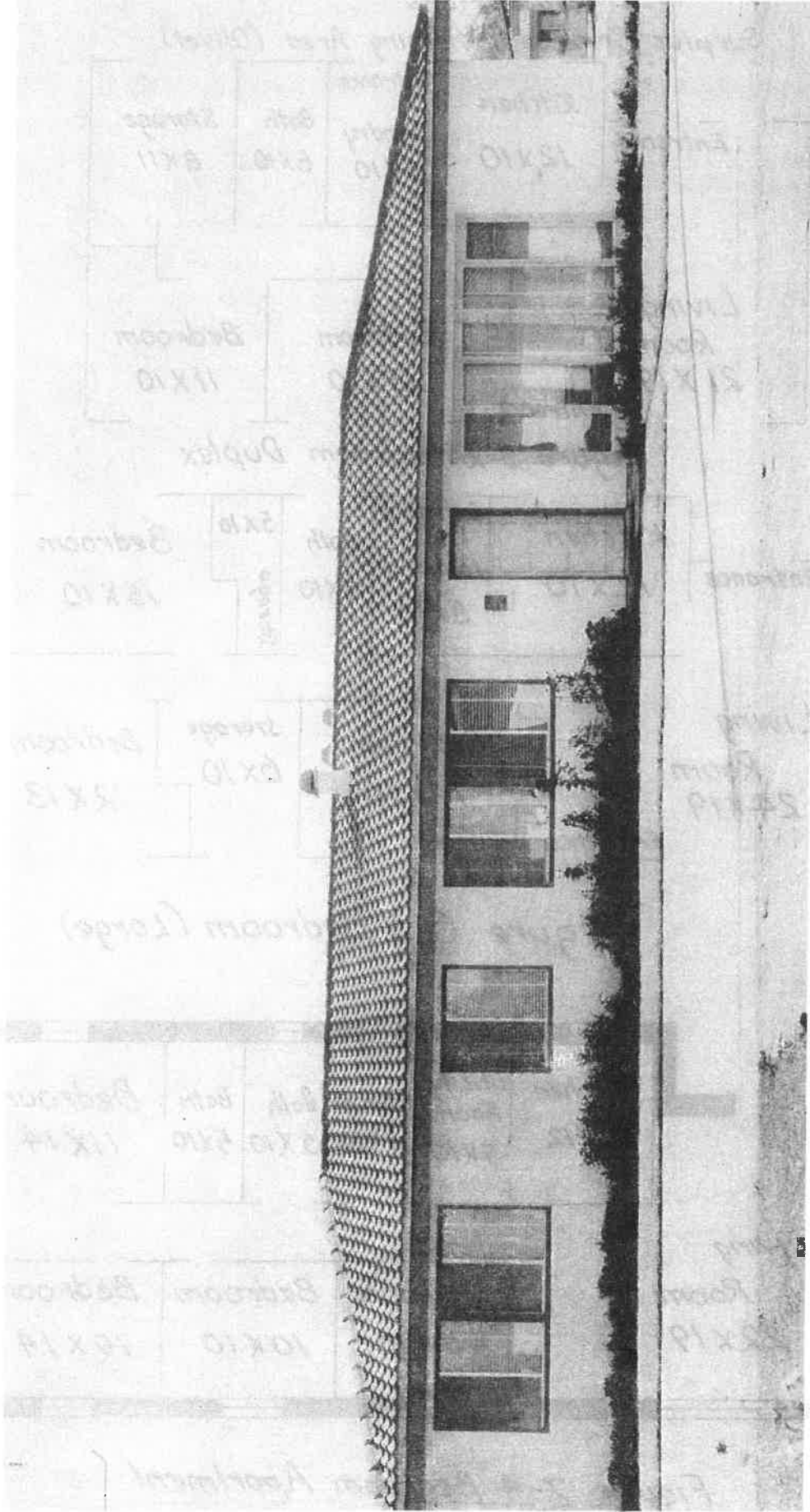
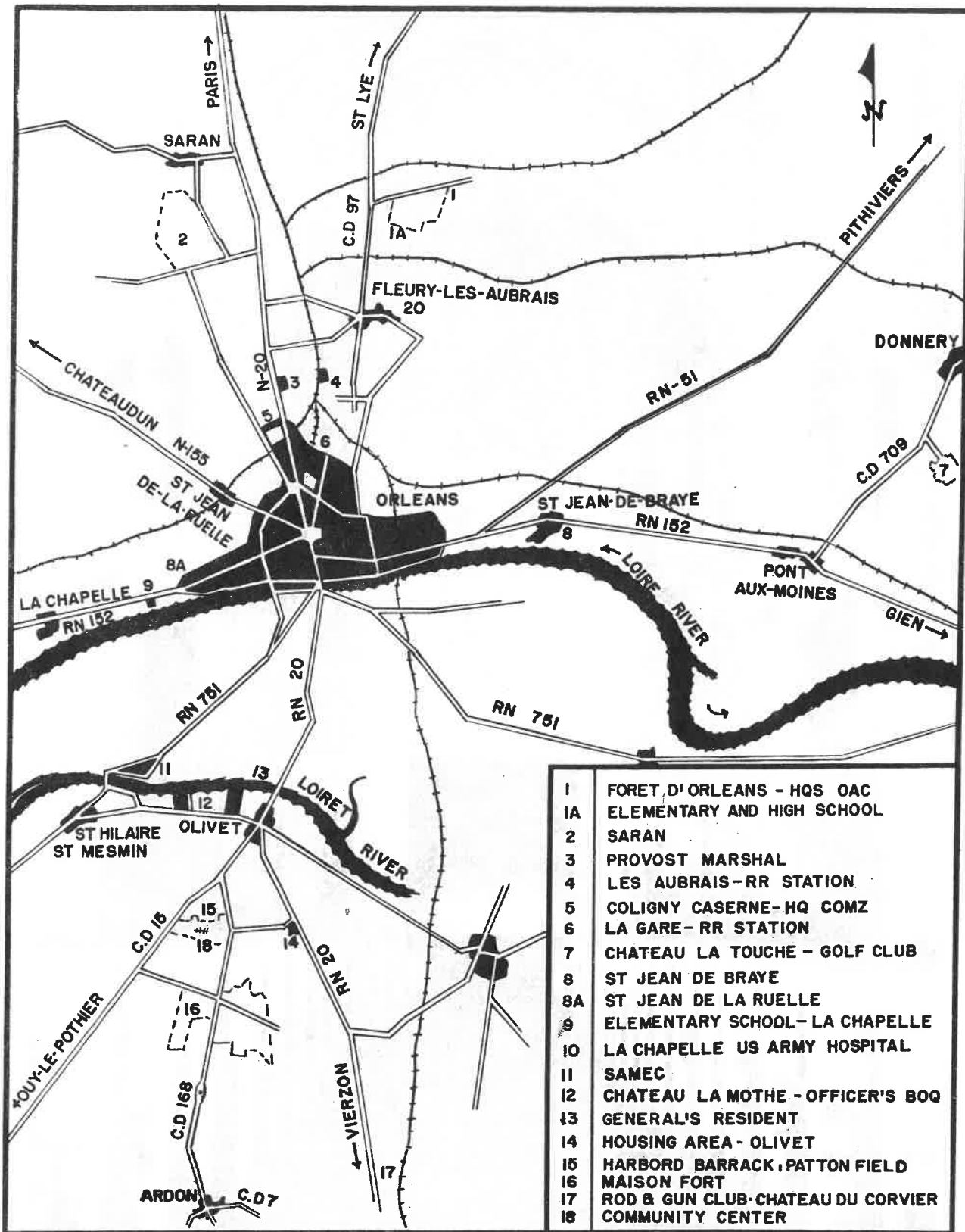
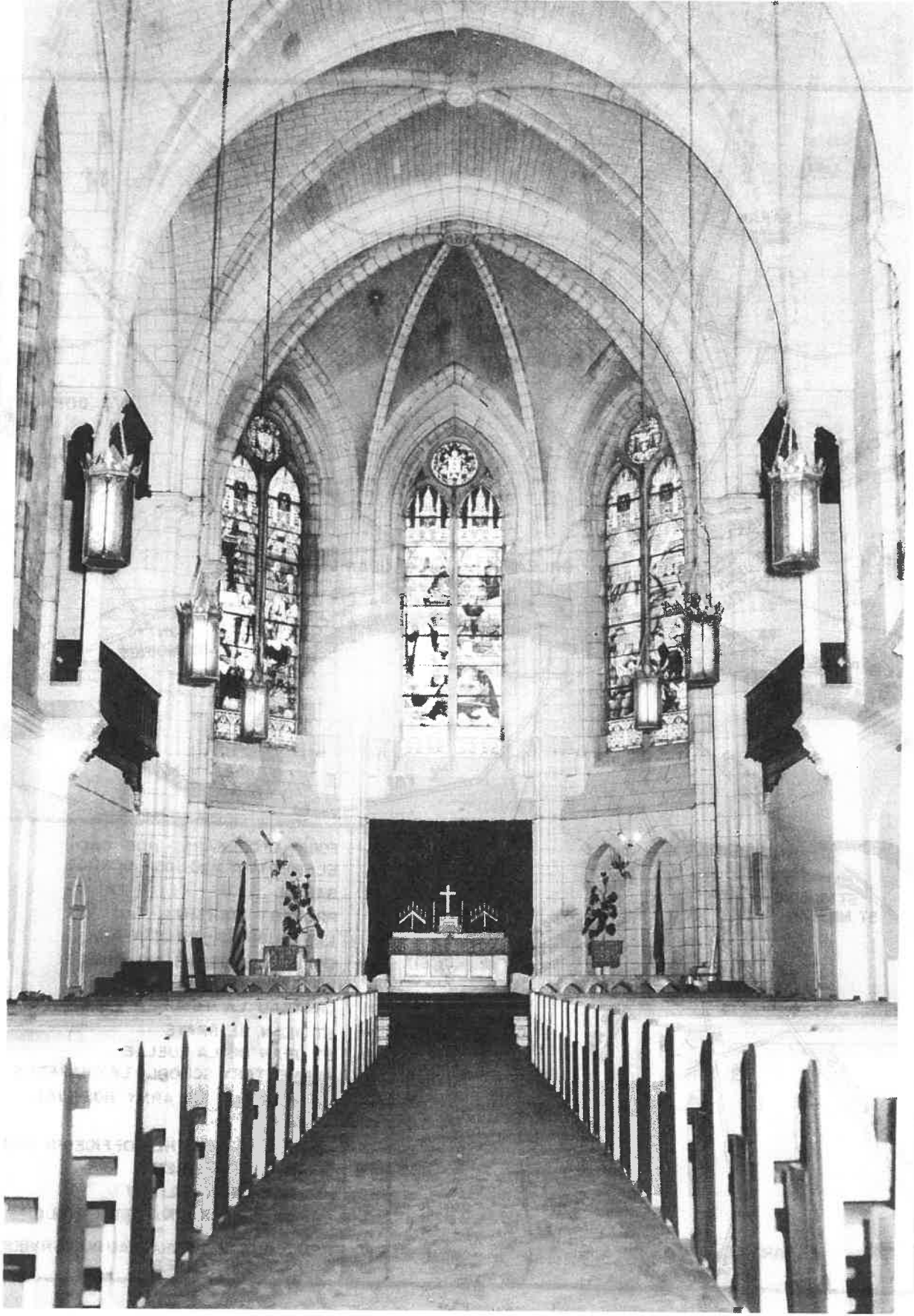


Figure 7-4 Bedroom Apartment



Surplus Commodity Housing
Cite Marchal Foch

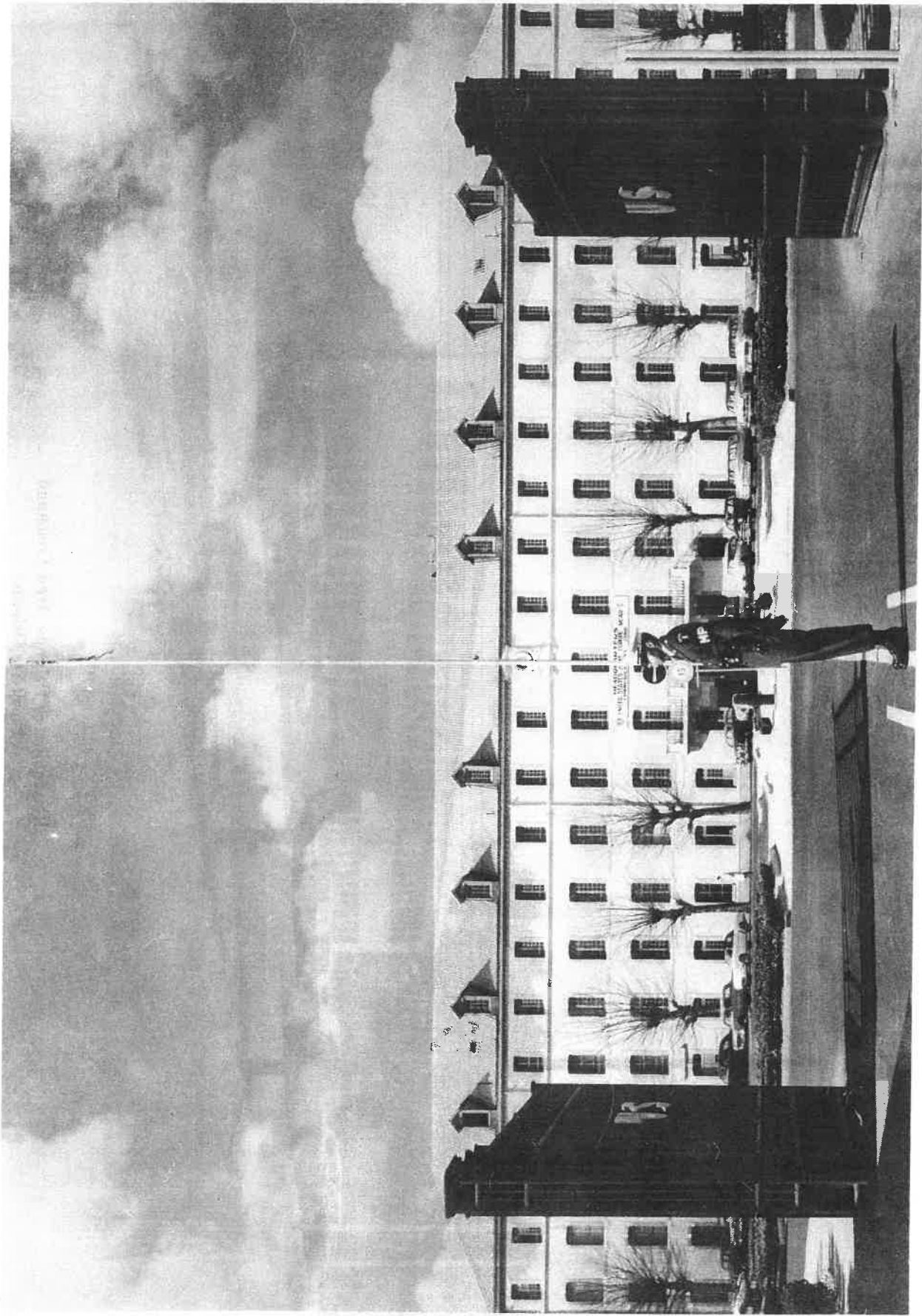




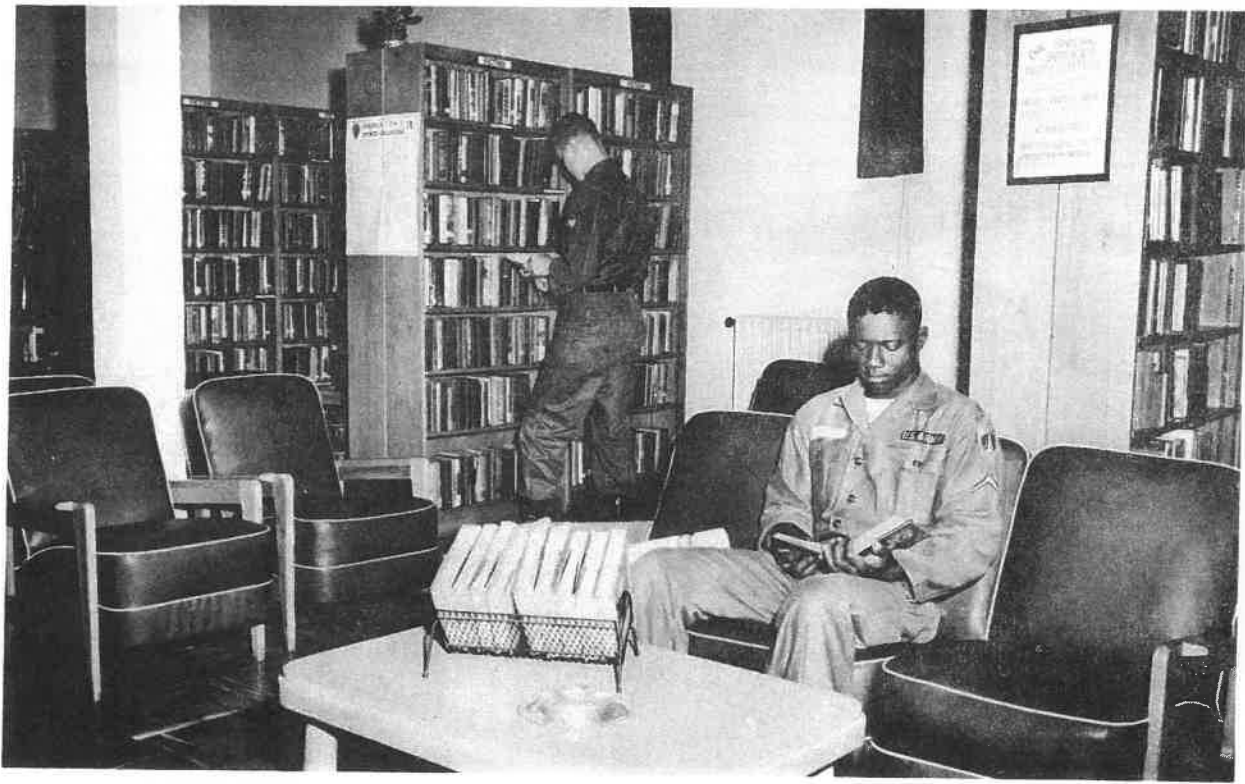
Chapel



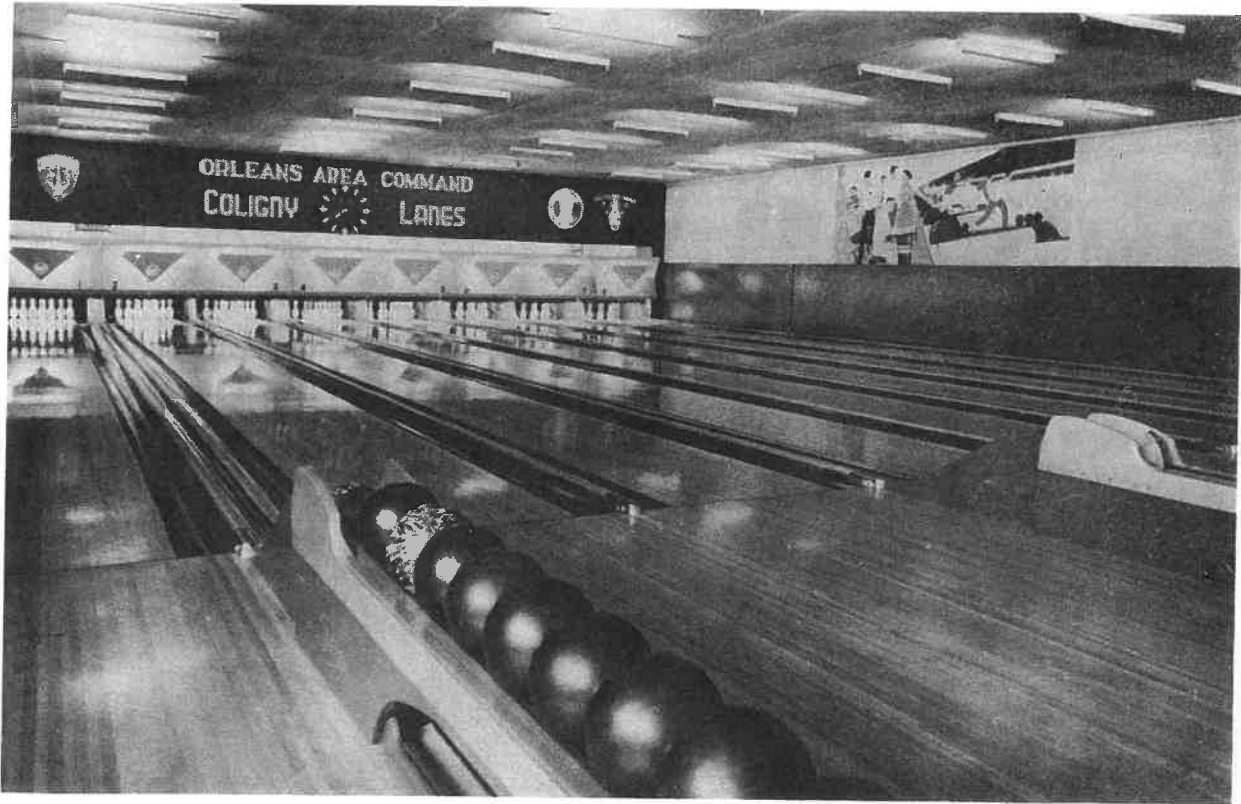
Headquarters Orleans Area Command
Fort De Orleans



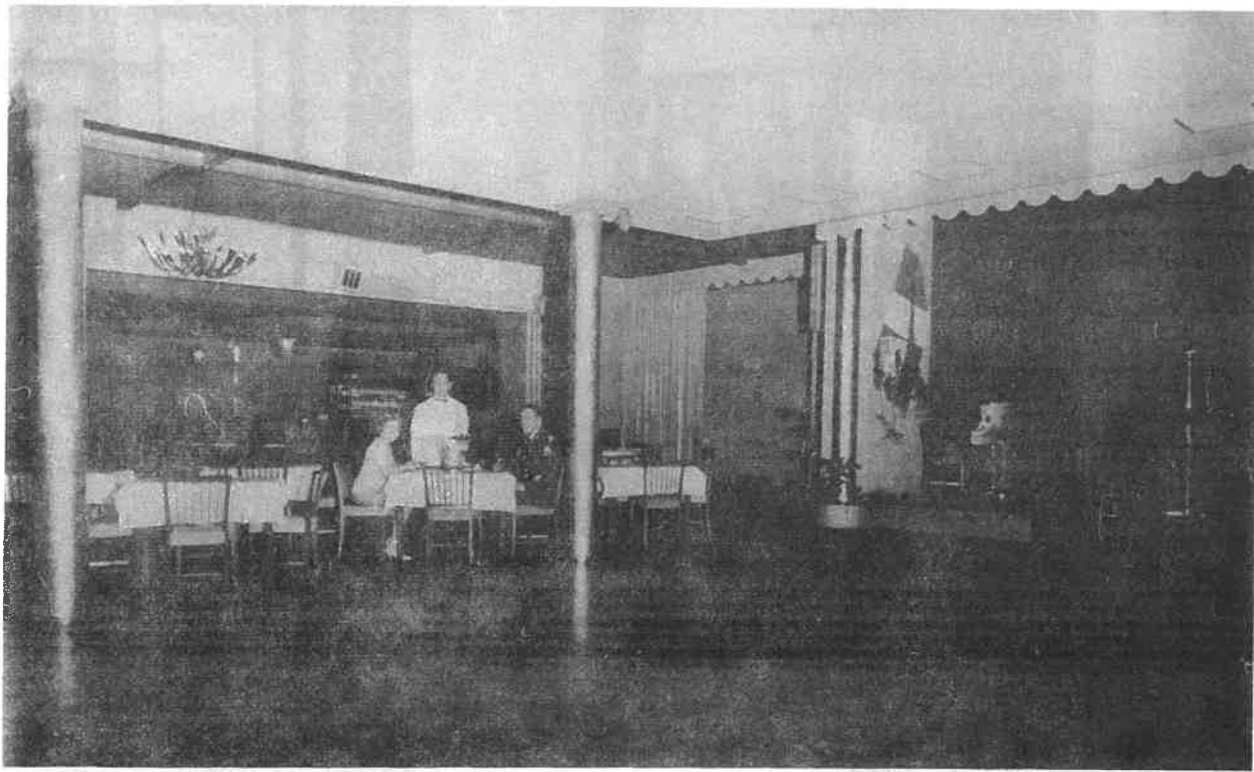
Headquarters
United States Army Communications Zone, Europe
Orleans, France



**Special Service Library
Caserne Coligny**



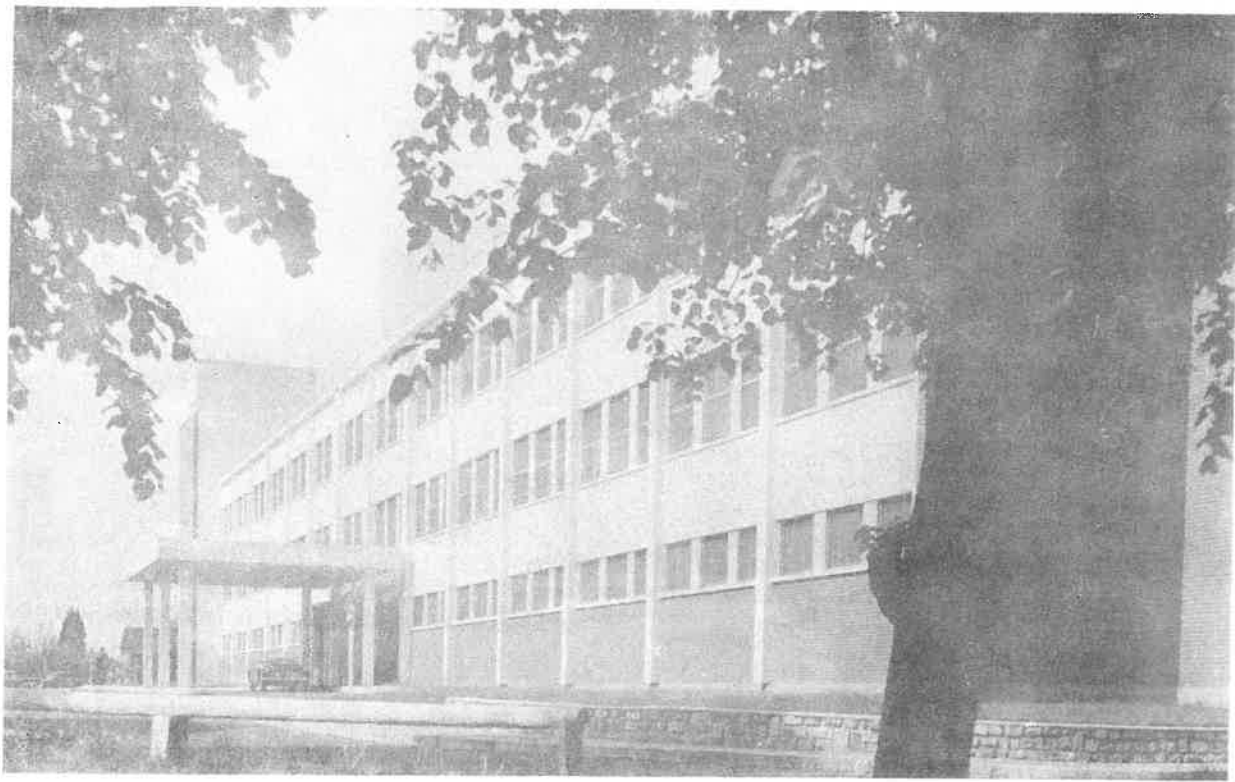
Special Service Bowling Alley



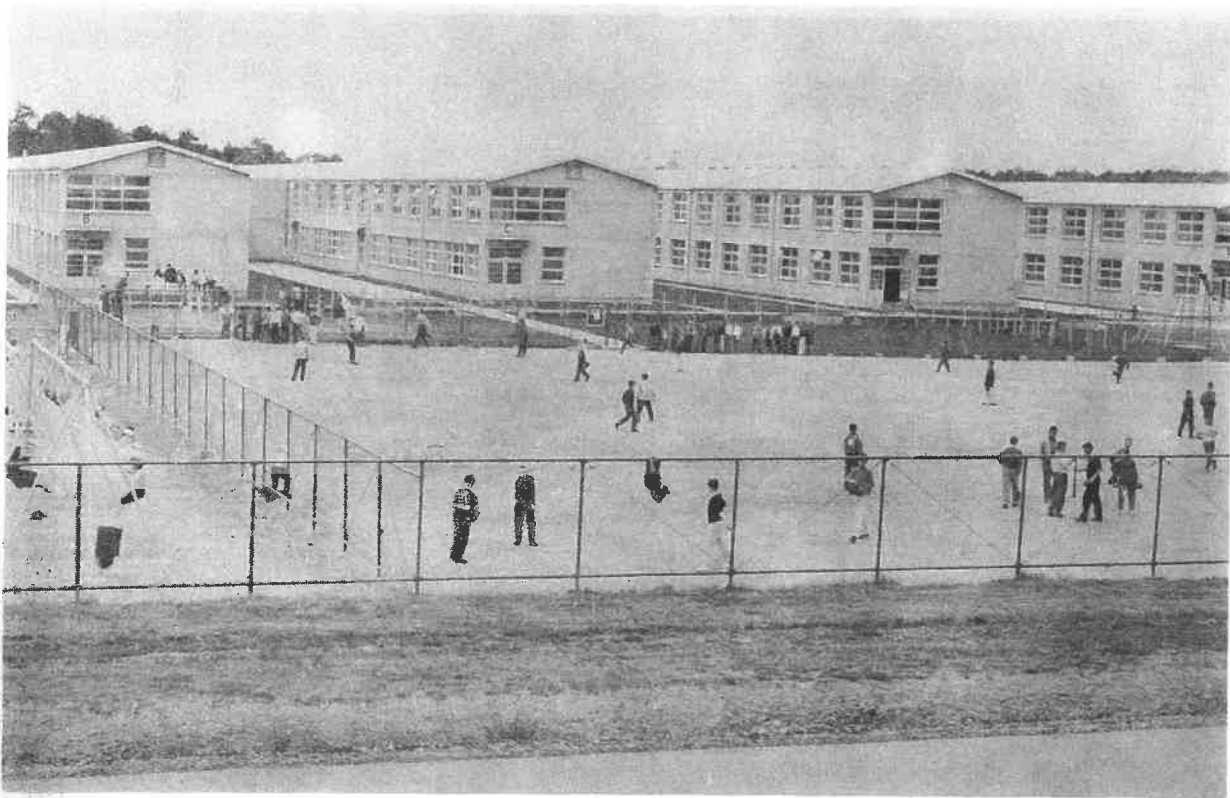
**Non-Commissioned Officers' Open Mess
Harbord Barracks**



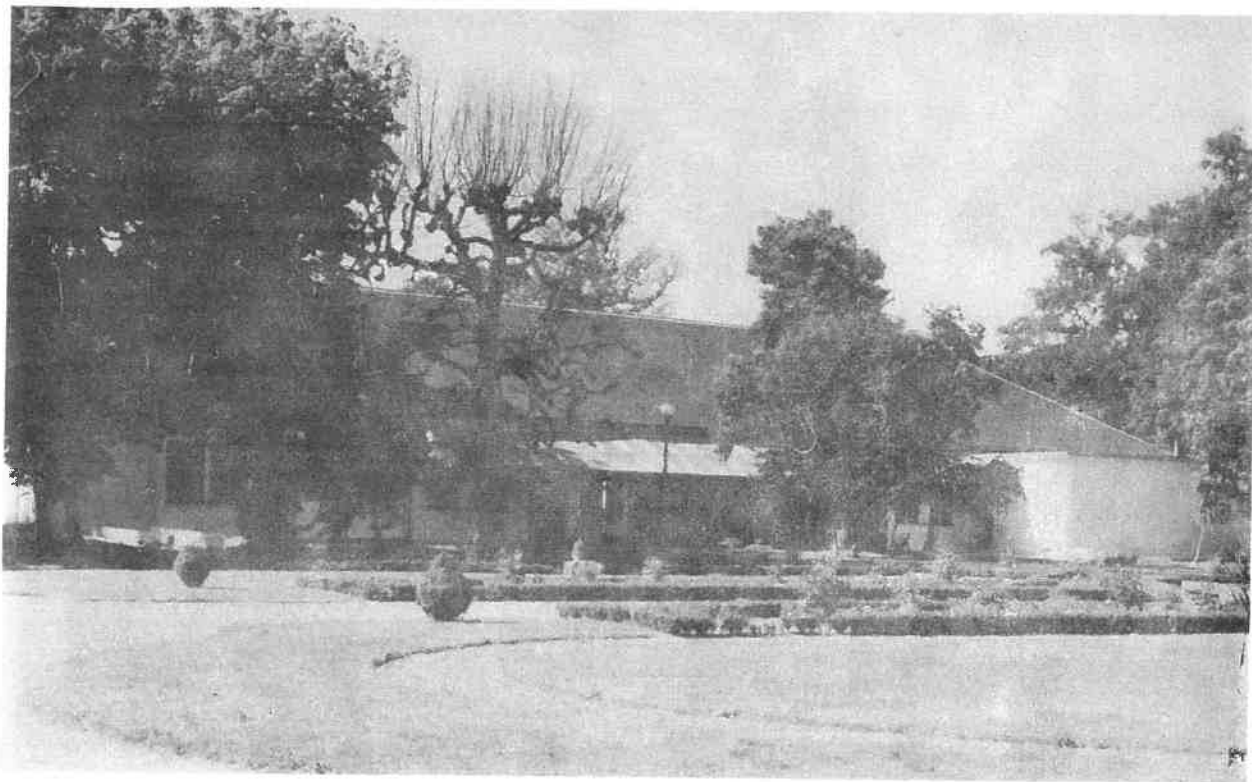
**Post Exchange
Casema Colony**



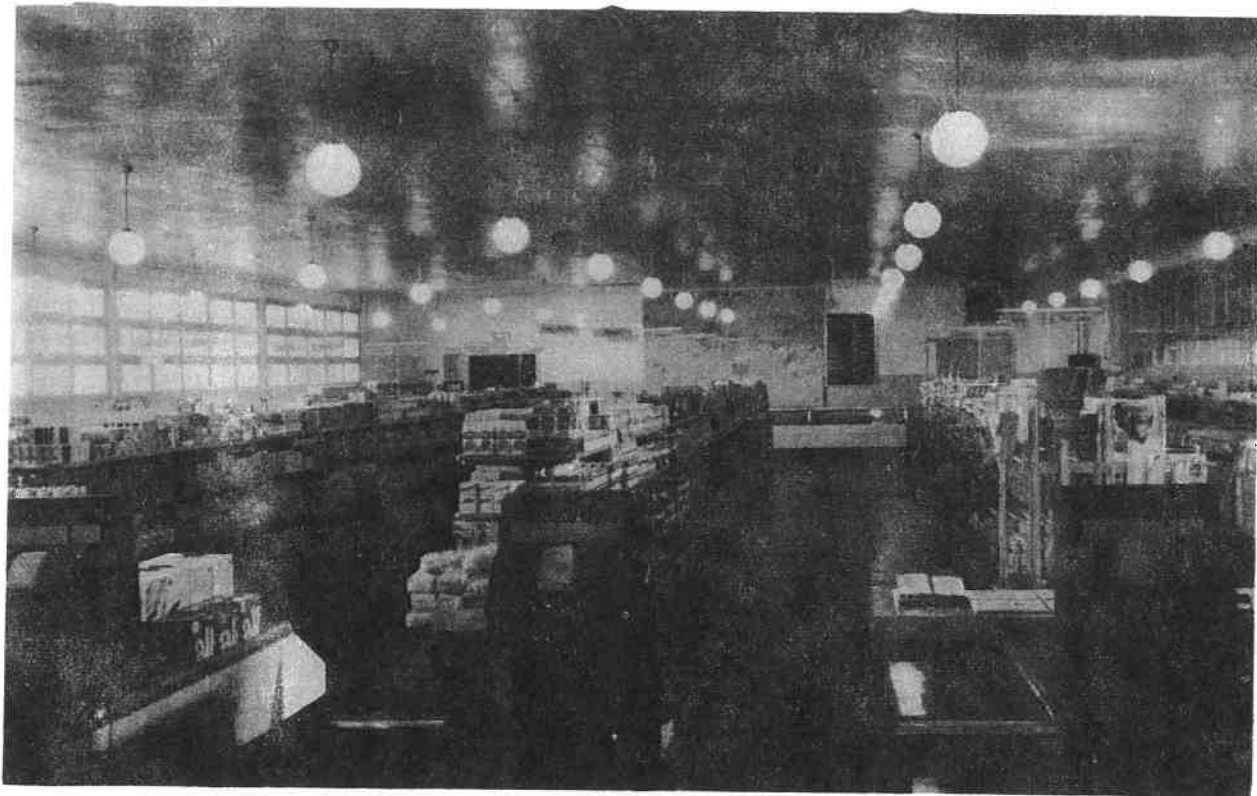
**34th General Hospital
La Chapelle**



Orleans American School



**Officers' and Civilians Open Mess
Chateau La Motte**



US Army Commissary