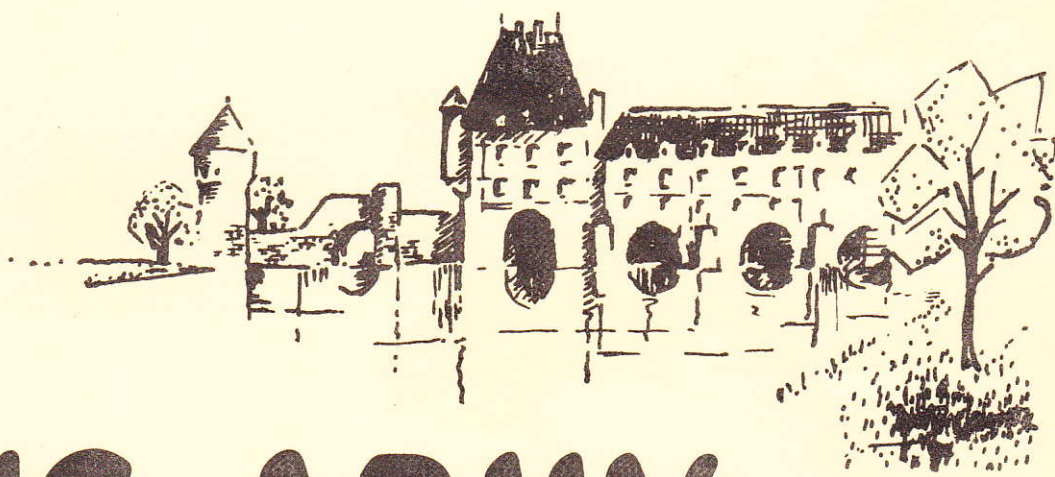


# WELCOME

to the



# US ARMY

# COMZEUR

## TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS

You are coming to France, you are friends and allies; we bid you welcome. Our two countries have every reason to be friendly and to understand each other. We have, each to the other, a mutual debt of gratitude. Without the French assistance of Lafayette and Rochambeau, the US would perhaps never have existed. Without the soldiers of Pershing, and later of Eisenhower, France would have had great difficulty in preserving her liberty.

The present must be worthy of the past: this friendship must be maintained and strengthened. This depends much on you. In France, you will represent your country; it will be judged by your behavior. I know, I who have lived long in the US, that the Americans are friendly, benevolent and generous. It is up to us to give the same impression now that you are coming to live on a strange continent.

You are coming to a very old country which has a noble history and a great culture. It is proud of this; it has the right to be. Respect its memorials and its customs. You will find its habits different from your own. Do not blame it. It is quite natural that different kinds of events would engender a different kind of life. If you look well, you will find beneath these differences a common trait - which is the love of liberty.

Because the peoples have a long history, do not believe that they are backward. On the contrary, modern France is a country of pioneers. Go and see the factories, they will surprise you. Remember that only a few years ago, France was in ruins. War destroyed its towns, its bridges, its railroads. You see today a country rebuilt. That implies great courage and great work. Respect the French and they will respect you.

André MAUROIS  
De l'Académie Française  
Président de l'Association  
France - Etats-Unis





ENGLAND

LONDON

ENGLISH CHANNEL

CHERBOURG

LE HAVRE

ST. ANDRE

FONTAINEBLEAU

PARIS

ORLEANS

FRANCE

CHATEAURoux

CHINON

INGRANDES

POITIERS

LA ROCHELLE

ROCHEFORT

ST. NAZAIRE

BAY

OF

BISCAY

BOURDEAUX

SPAIN

ANDORRA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

NORTH SEA

AMSTERDAM

HOLLAND

BRUSSELS

BELGIUM

VERDUN

METZ

NANCY

VITRY LE FRANCOIS

WEST GERMANY

FRANKFURT

FRANKFURT

GIESSEN

KAISERSLAUTERN

STRASBURG

SAARBRUEN

LUZERN

SWITZERLAND

BERN

ITALY

SAN MARINO

ROME

ADRIATIC SEA

JUGO.

AUSTRIA

MUNICH

VIENNA

EAST GERMANY

BERLIN

POLAND

BALTIC SEA

BREMEN



## WELCOME TO COMZ

You are being assigned to the United States Army Communications Zone, Europe, to carry out one of the most vital missions in the worldwide scope of United States Armed Forces commitments.

You will be here as a member of an organization supporting the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) team, comprised of fifteen nations pledged to "mutual aid and assistance" in case of attack. The United States Government is one of the original twelve countries signing this treaty in April 1949.

The United States Forces are in France as allies of free people to insure the survival of the Western world's free, democratic nations. Preserving an unshackled Western Europe is of as great importance to us as it is to the people of Europe's free countries. If communist domination ever spread across Western Europe the United States would be alarmingly vulnerable to aggression.



## WHAT IS COMZ?

COMZ is the supply base and the logistical bulwark for the United States Armed Force facing eastward in Europe.

Modern warfare has categorically demonstrated that an army without a strong, smoothly operating supply line is a "dead duck".

An apt description of the vital role of a communications zone supply line was voiced recently by General Lyman L. Lemnitzer: "Military effectiveness demands that the items which are needed must be available where they are needed, in adequate quantity, and at the time required."

Fulfillment of this responsibility for the US Army, and to a certain extent for other US services, in Europe is the task of the COMZ supply line.

COMZ's job - your new job - is to keep that vital supply line strong, flexible and ready to meet every need of the combat soldier.



COMZ is a complex of ports, pipe-lines, supply depots, supply control centers, truck fleets and railways extending from the Atlantic coast of France to beyond the Rhine River in Germany. But more than materiel, COMZ represents people too; soldiers with their families, and American, British, French, German, Dutch and other civilians who combine their talents in an integrated structure to keep those supplies moving.

#### WHY COMZ?

In 1945 all supplies from the United States for our armed forces entered Europe through Bremerhaven, Germany. Bremerhaven is an excellent port on the North Sea and would be quite adequate for peace-time needs. But Bremerhaven's potential vulnerability in time of war was suddenly made vivid by the communist blockade of Berlin in 1948-49. Bremerhaven, lying as it does on the flat plains of Northern Germany, is near the natural, historical route of European invasions from the East. The necessity for larger supply channels and alternate routes of supply became obvious.

On 6 November 1950, the French and American governments reached an agreement whereby the United States was permitted to organize, staff and maintain a line of communications (LOC) in France. This line is COMZ.

Present day COMZ has a proud heritage of two previous LOC's across France. From 1917 to 1919 General Pershing's AEF was maintained in the field by the first American supply complex based in France. In World War II the Services of Supply, so vividly characterized by the famed Red Ball Express, magnificently supported the most materiel-consuming war in man's history from French ports and other French facilities.

#### WHY FRANCE?

Certain conditions are vital to an effective supply line: a long coastline with all year ports (France has 2,000 miles of such coastline); large land area for huge and dispersed supply operations (France is the second largest country in Europe with 212,659 square miles - about the size of Texas); it must be to the rear of an operational theater and relatively safe from becoming cut off by any enemy (all of the countries which border France are either partners in NATO, friendly to the Western block like Spain, or traditionally neutral like Switzerland); it must have a modern road and a rail network over which to move supplies (France has 85,000 miles of highway and 55,000 miles of railroads) and its people must be receptive to your aims and the necessity of your being in their country.



(France is a NATO member. More than that, her ties with the US and our people are not only cordial but are based on enduring historical associations and partnership in the greatest struggles for freedom that both nations have undergone.)

#### GROWTH OF COMZ

Five days after the signing of the LOC Agreement, about 1,000 United States technical service troops with 300 trucks and trailers moved into France. By mid-November of 1950 the first supply ships were being unloaded at Bordeaux and the 500-mile supply line across France was a going concern.

From that small first contingent COMZ has grown into a vast network of efficient builders and operators of this new supply line. Highly skilled military and civilian technicians, from engineers to transportation specialists, from depot personnel to hospital technicians, all contribute their skills to keep needed supplies flowing to forward areas.

COMZ delivers - delivers supplies where needed and when needed and with an enviable record of speed and efficiency. Each member of COMZ, regardless of assignment, contributes his share to this moving logistical chain.

The headquarters of the United States Army Communications Zone, Europe, is in Orleans, about 70 miles south of Paris. COMZ is composed of five major commands, four of which are in France: Fourth Logistical Command at Verdun; Seine Area Command (SACCZ) at Paris; US Army Port Area Command (USA PAC) at La Rochelle, and Orleans Area Command (OAC) at Orleans. The fifth, US Army Port of Embarkation (USA PEB) is located in Bremerhaven, Germany. Operation of the supply and maintenance system is the task of subordinate units too numerous to list here.

#### RELATION OF COMZ TO NATO, SHAPE, US EUCOM & USAREUR

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is comprised of 15 nations pledged to mutual defense, to the elimination of international economic conflict and to the encouragement of cultural and economic cooperation. Member nations of the NATO alliance are: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers, Europe (SHAPE), located near



Paris, is the organization of NATO which welds the military forces placed at NATO's disposal by the member nations into a unified defense machine.

United States European Command (US EUCOM), also located near Paris, is the headquarters coordinating all United States Forces in Europe (Army, Navy and Air Force) and the various Military Assistance Advisory Groups (MAAG's).

United States Army, Europe (USAREUR) at Heidelberg, Germany, is the senior US Army Headquarters in Europe.

COMZ, as a major subordinate command of USAREUR, is a part of the United States contribution to NATO.

### YOU AND FRANCE

America is in the forefront of world affairs. It is vital that we understand the people of the world with whom we are bound by our deepest associations and beliefs.

Understanding many people with whom we are not familiar is a learning process which takes effort and application. But the effort is truly worthwhile and always results in a broadening of our own lives.

The time you spend in learning to understand the French will be rich in rewards both to you and to the United States.

The late Andre Siegfried, one of the leading contemporary French historians, in his book "The Soul of the Peoples", sums up the diverse outlook and development of the French people:

"France presents three faces to the world, for she is at the same time Western, Continental and Mediterranean. The result is a balance which is original and perhaps unique.

"On the Atlantic front she looks out over the ocean and is attracted by the influence from overseas. This France belongs to the group of liberal Anglo-American civilizations and is authentically "Western". On the other hand, as a continental power, she is indissolubly linked by her flesh and blood to Europe, and is no longer, from this angle, Atlantic but Continental, attached to the land and essentially European.





"Finally, on the Mediterranean front, France is in direct contact with Africa and Asia, the East and Far East; in other words, linked in space with an exotic and fabulous world and in time with the most illustrious history of mankind.

"The unique character of French psychology comes precisely from this diversity, forged by the passage of centuries into a unity. The unity itself is contradictory, influenced by the East and West, the past and the future, tradition and progress."

This diversity of people in one country is not unique to France. Remember the difference you found in local customs on that last trip across the United States!

One salient fact in history should deeply affect us as Americans: France is the only major European power which has never fought a war against the United States. In fact, one of the main reasons why you are a member of a great and free country today is because France contributed heavily in men, materiel and guidance to the struggle of our thirteen colonies.

#### YOU ARE AN AMBASSADOR

You and your family are US ambassadors.

You don't receive the salary and privileges of ambassadors, you don't deal with government officials, attend diplomatic parties or make policy. But you do rub shoulders with average people. To many Frenchmen you will represent the only contact they may ever have with America and Americans.

Reverse the situation. Put "Jacques Dupont" (the equivalent of "John Doe") in a small town in the U.S. whose inhabitants never expect to get to France. What Jacques does, what he says, how polite he is and how he tries to fit into the local scene would condition the entire town's reaction to the French people.

Here in France YOU are America. You are responsible for what the average Frenchman thinks about America. It is vital to our country's welfare for our people to live together in harmony with our allies in NATO. You can do much by your conduct to cause "Jacques Dupont" to understand you and the American ideal and way of life.



## FRENCH CUSTOMS

You will find many customs in France which will differ from our own. Have no doubts - many American customs are just as puzzling to a foreigner when he visits the States.

Part of the enjoyment and education of living abroad is being able to observe and share ways of **life** different than ours.

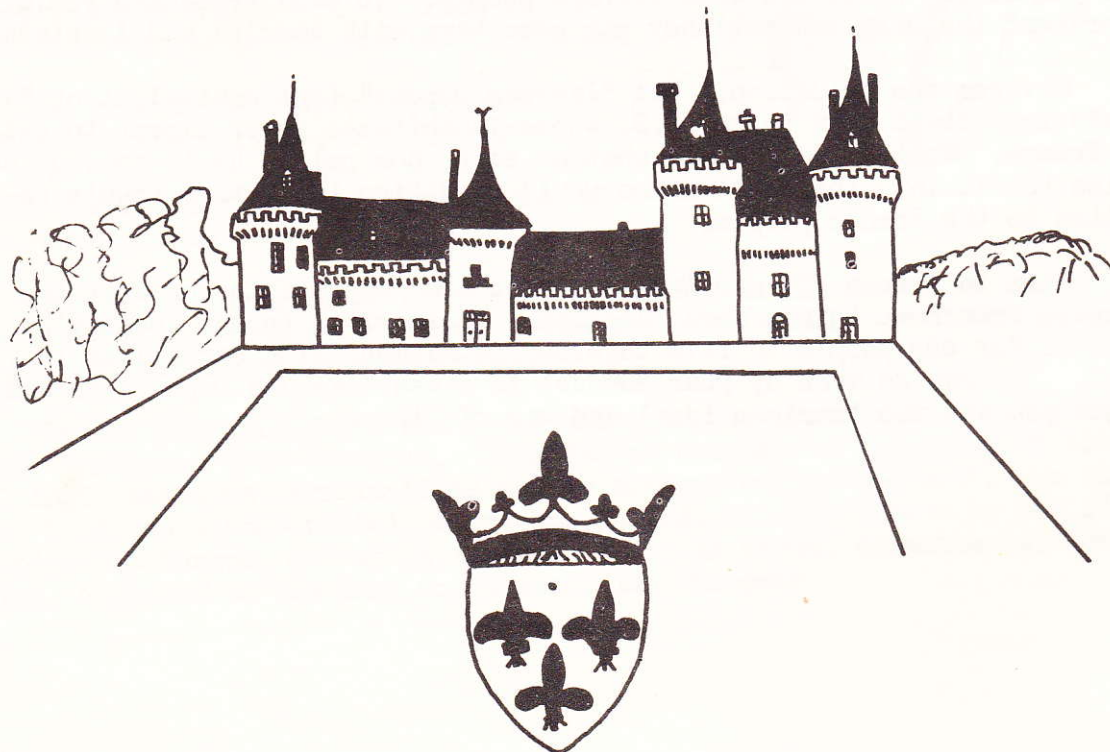
Come to France with an open mind. Accept what you find, observe and enjoy it. But remember this is the Frenchman's France, you are the guest.



## FRENCH HISTORY

History has more importance in every-day living in Europe than it has at home. Americans coming to Europe must remember that any nation is proud of its past, especially when the past has been glorious.

France, in its 2,000 years of history, has developed a goodly share of interesting villains and heroes and those of you who take the time to read before coming over, will be rewarded by a greater appreciation of the country and the people among whom you will spend the next few years. Consult your local library for books on modern as well as historical France.





The influence of the French is felt in many aspects of our American life - much of it stemming from descendants of French immigrants to America in the 17th and 18th centuries and others who came to America to help us in our fight for freedom.

Travel and study opportunities are unlimited for those who are interested in history, ancient and modern. Some COMZ soldiers like to visit places where their parents or they themselves served in World War I or World War II. Many visit the monuments, cemeteries and battle grounds around Verdun, the Meuse-Argonne and Belleau Wood. Others will want to see the site of the D-Day invasion of World War II on the beaches of Normandy.

Whatever your interests, you will find France rich in her own contributions to Western culture and in associations meaningful to Americans.

### THE FRENCH FAMILY

French families generally keep very much to themselves. Acceptance into the family circle is a process which takes a long time in France.

The conventions for acceptance vary greatly from one stratum of society to another but in all phases of French life, it is rare for a family to receive someone whose situation in life is unknown to them.

Different regions of France have different approaches towards the stranger: The North and South are very hospitable, while in the center of France, acquaintances take longer and local customs are not unlike those of the United States.

If you are not greeted with open arms by your neighbors in the town you live in, it's not because you are an American. It's just part of the pattern of living in France.

The French, great hosts that they are, are handicapped today by economic factors. French custom makes it mandatory to honor one's friends by offering them a large and choice meal accompanied by good wines. Many Frenchmen today are just making ends meet. Pot-luck doesn't exist.





## FRENCH CHARACTER

The French appear both expansive and reserved but the contradiction is only a surface one. Outward gestures or demonstrative reactions are very important in daily life but do not commit one to anything.

The French are not a secretive people but they guard their home life and their private life jealously. It just isn't good taste to question people one does not know - even casual acquaintances - about political opinions, religious beliefs, professions, salary, income or their private lives. A Frenchman would resent your intrusion into his private affairs - but he would equally resent a fellow-Frenchman delving into these areas.

The French people don't show their friendship as openly or as quickly as Americans do, but friendship, once given, is responsive and lasting. Frenchmen don't make casual acquaintances easily with Americans but they don't make them easily with fellow Frenchmen either.

The same goes for the use of first names. The French, who are more formal than they appear to be, do not use Christian names with the same abandon as we Americans. This is not anti-American; it's just a European custom.

It is easy for Americans in France to jump to conclusions because we don't always understand customs which differ from ours. There are many day-to-day things which we consider important but, in France, these matters may be unimportant to the French.

RESERVE YOUR DECISION. Don't condemn - understand.

## TRAVEL

One of the most enjoyable phases of your overseas tour of duty is the opportunity you have to travel, to see new places, sample new foods, meet interesting people and enjoy the wonders that Europe has to offer.

France has myriad attractions which can entice the most demanding sightseer. Every American installation in France is surrounded by, or near, picturesque beauty and interest.





Paris, the capital of France, has a well known wealth of attractions such as the Arch of Triumph; the Louvre, the largest art museum in the world; the soaring Eiffel Tower; historical Notre Dame and the renowned Avenue des Champs Elysees. Paris is a world-famed amusement city of restaurants and night clubs; it is also a city of beauty and serenity.

A few kilometers from Paris is Versailles; the majestic palace of Louis XIV, with marble fountains and lovely gardens. Fontainebleau, located southeast of Paris, is a chateau that has served, among other things, as a winter hunting resort for French kings.

The Loire Valley, which stretches from Nantes to Orleans, is land rich in beauty and historical background. It was there that Saint Joan of Arc was proclaimed "Maid of Orleans" for rallying her people and driving the British out of Orleans, the first large French city to be liberated in the Hundred Years War. Castles and chateaux, along the banks of the river Loire and in the surrounding country, stand as eloquent witnesses to the greatness of old France.

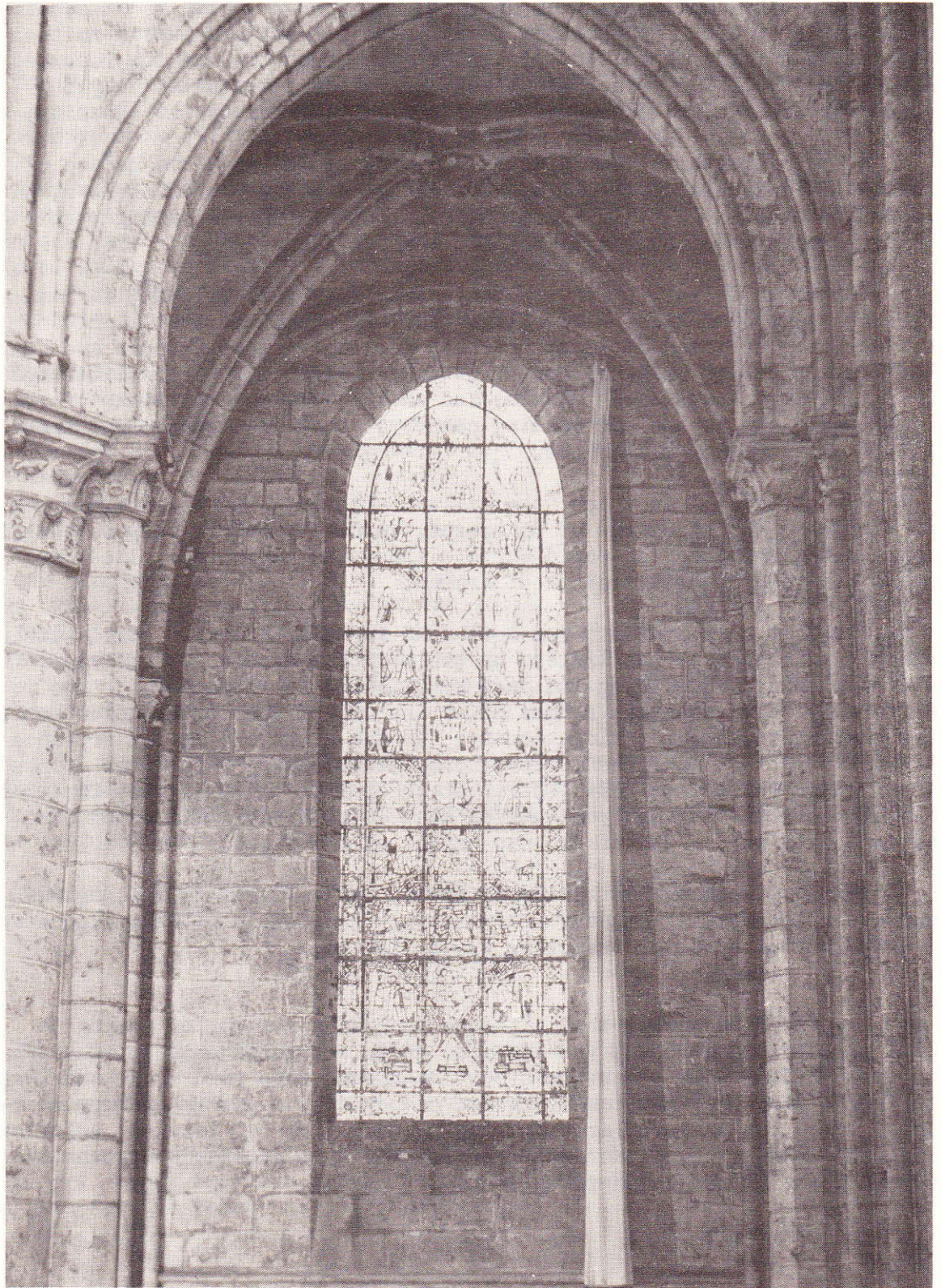
The forests of Ardennes; the hills of Picardy; the drained marches of Flanders; the vineyards of Champagne; Verdun, scene of many battles in many wars and fulcrum of World War I - these and many other places are found in the northeast section of France.

Somewhat more distant from most COMZ installations but still within visiting distance is the Riviera on the Mediterranean coast of France where swimming, sunbathing and deep sea fishing can be enjoyed. The different French mountain ranges offer the winter sports enthusiast skiing, ice skating and breathtaking scenery. In the northwest is the province of Normandy, lush and green, where rusty skeletons of ships that stirred the English Channel on D-Day, still stand open to the sky. Not far away may be found the strangely beautiful Mont Saint Michel, and Rouen, the ancient city where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake.

Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, England and other interesting countries are readily accessible without expensive transportation costs or traveling great distances.

Keep in mind always that although your main reason for coming to COMZ is national defense, you are also given a magnificent opportunity to visit and live in places that most Americans have read about and longed to know. Yours for the taking is travel beyond the dreams of most Americans. You can explore large and fascinating areas at leisure, enjoying rich and meaningful contact with peoples who have provided our own land with much of its finest heritage.





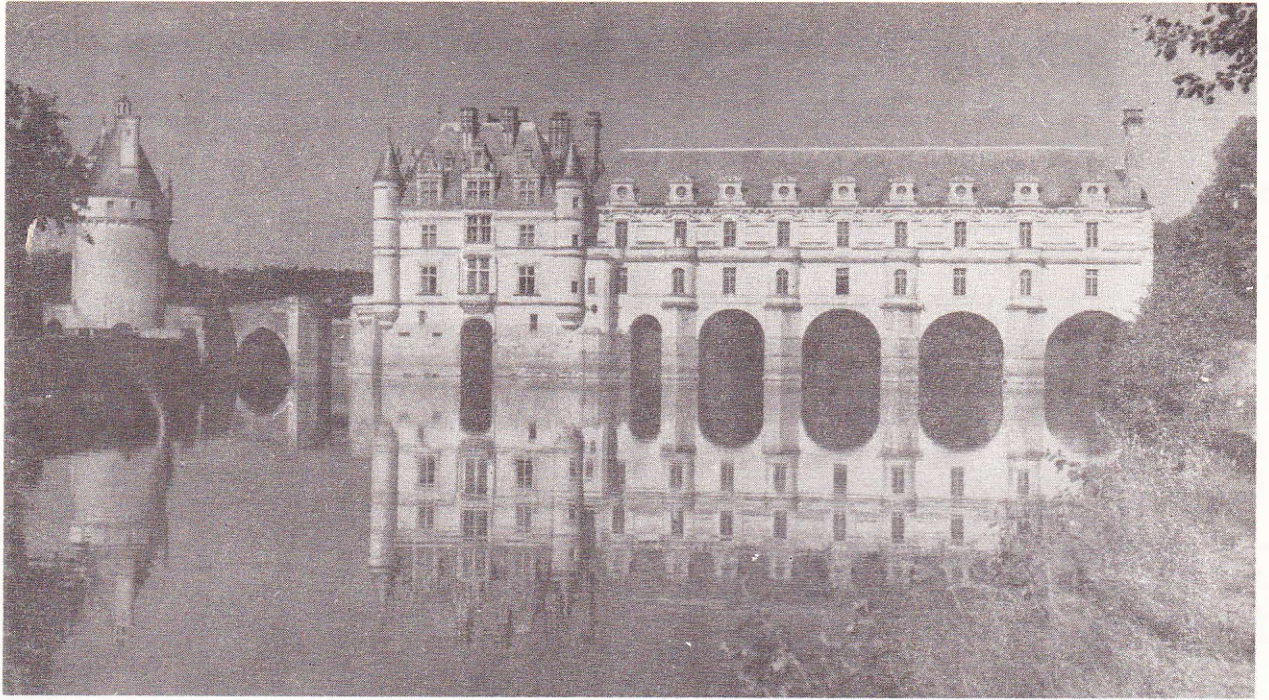
American Architects stained glass window at Chartres Cathedral



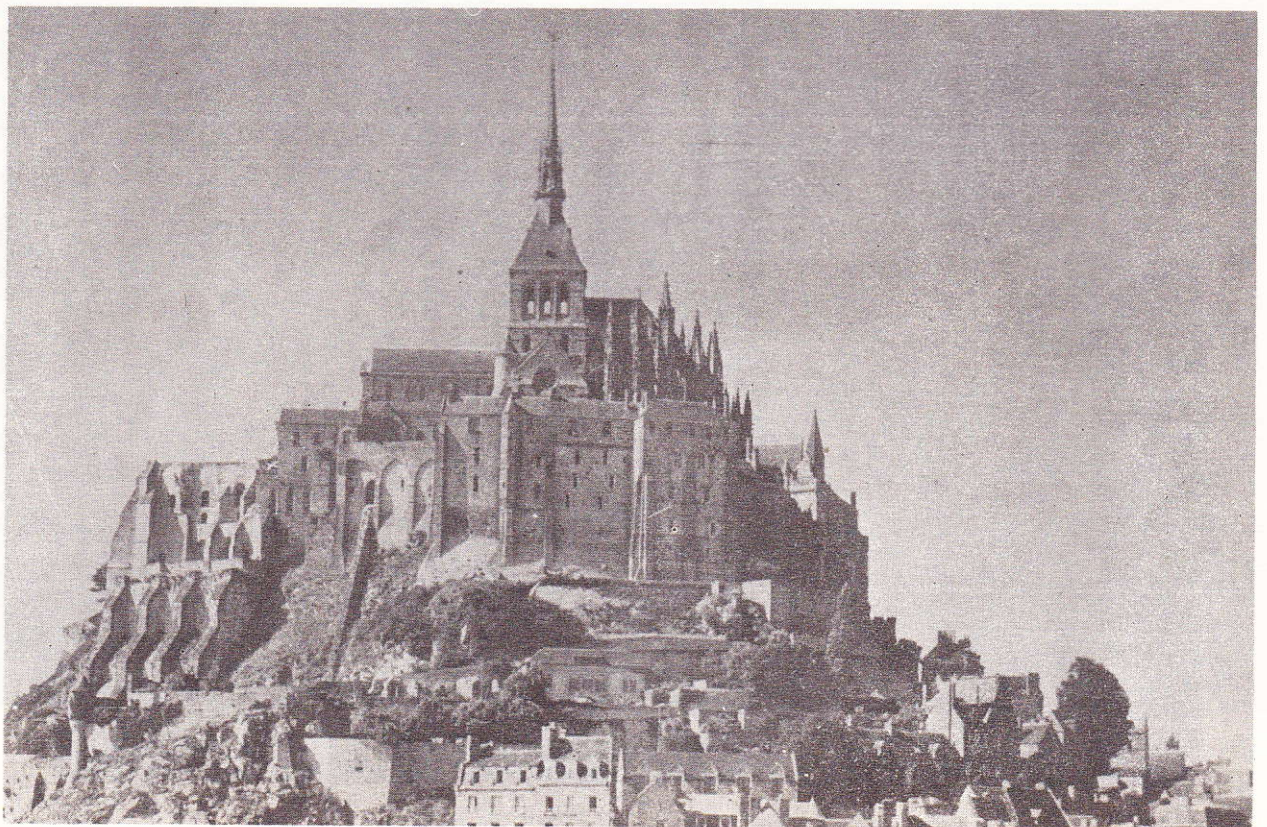


Statuary at Strasbourg Cathedral





Chateau at Chenonceaux, Loire Valley

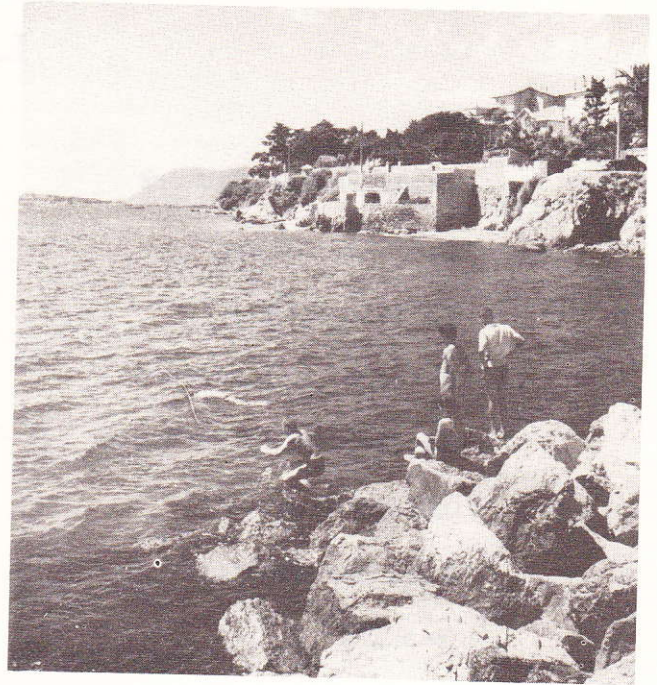


The Abbey at Mont St. Michel

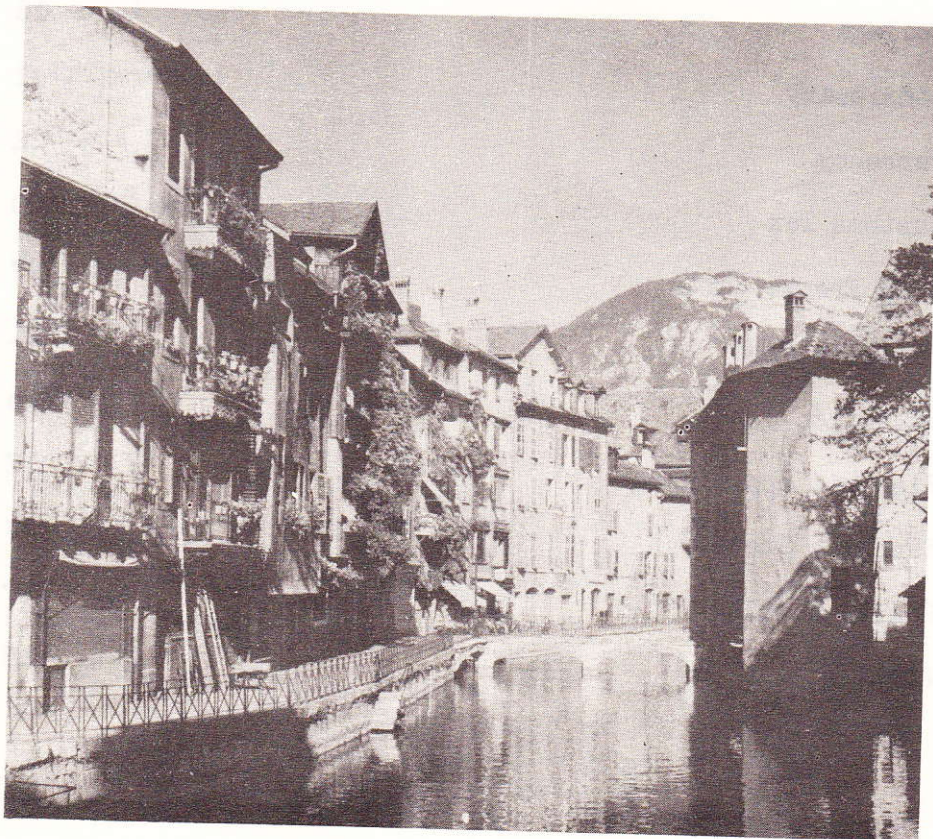




Skating Rink—Megeve (Haute Savoie)



Mediterranean Coast near Toulon



Old Quarter of Annecy (Haute Savoie)



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## AMERICAN FORCES NETWORK

The American Forces Network in France broadcasts on frequency modulation (FM) only. Included in its programming are the leading state-side dramatic and variety shows, classical, country, western and popular music shows, and daily coverage of major sports events. World news is presented every hour on the hour.

FM receivers are available at local European Exchange Services (PX) outlets and range in cost from \$25.00 up. Ordinary radio receivers with AM (standard radio band) will not pick up AFN in France but can receive French and other European programs.

There are no American TV broadcasting outlets in France. American TV sets cannot receive French TV broadcasting without costly modification and should be left at home.

## ANIMALS, PETS

Cats and dogs are eligible to enter France on presentation to French customs authorities of a certificate of origin and health issued by an officially licensed veterinarian within three days prior to the departure of the animals from the United States. The certificates must specify that the animal originates in an area in which no case of rabies has occurred in three years and that the animal has lived in that area for at least six months or since birth.

Owners can also bring their cats and dogs into France by presenting to French customs a certificate of rabies vaccination issued by a licensed veterinarian, stating that the animal has been vaccinated at least one month and less than six months prior to the animal's entry into France, and that the vaccine employed is an officially controlled one.

If neither of these certificates can be produced, the animals will either be denied entry or will be placed in quarantine for a month and given anti-rabies shots at the owner's expense.



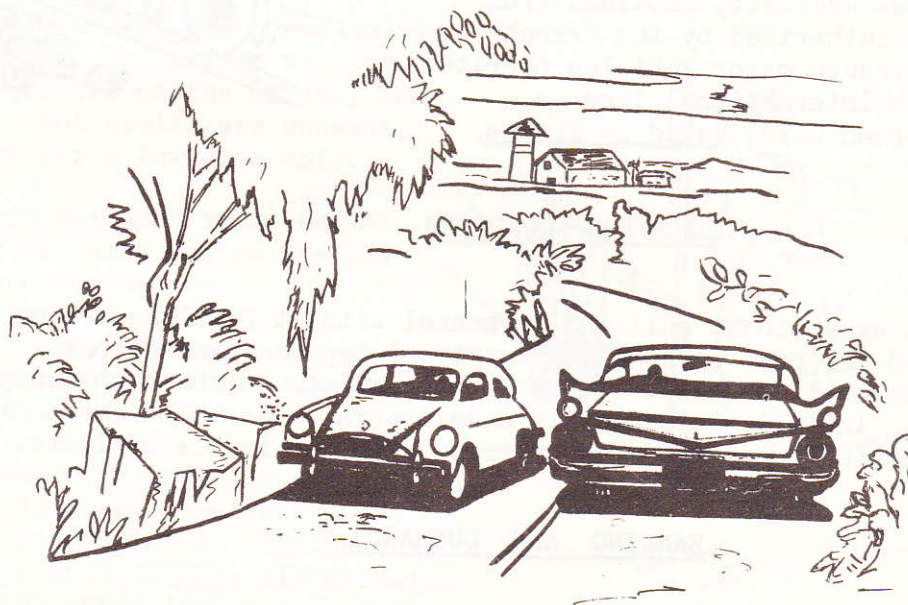


The anti-rabies vaccination certificate is not required for dogs less than three months old and cats less than six months old when these animals are accompanied by a certificate of age signed by a veterinarian.

Importation into France of any species of parrots, parakeets and cockatoos is prohibited.

#### AUTOMOBILES

An automobile, particularly for a family, is not a luxury. It is a necessity in France. Cars shipped to France from CONUS normally arrive at Saint Nazaire about a month after receipt by the stateside port of embarkation.



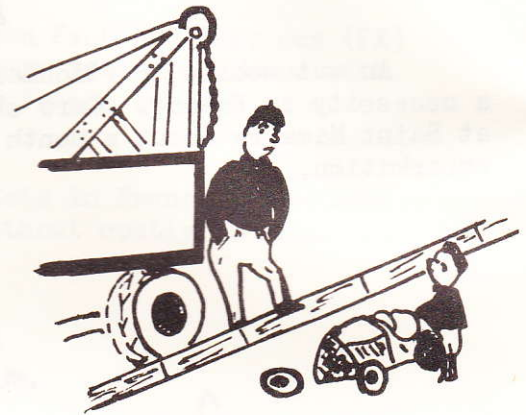
Gasoline is available through Esso stations especially authorized to accommodate US personnel. Octane rating is not as high as in most gasoline in the States. Cost per gallon is less than in any state in the USA.

Although France has an abundance of good paved roads (in fact, proportionately more than any other country in the world including the USA), they are narrower and more winding than ours. Only main national highways carry large traffic loads in peak vacation periods.



Normal spare parts and tires for the more popular make American cars are usually available through European Exchange Service, but repair facilities for American cars are limited in France. Owners should insure that their cars are in good mechanical condition when delivered to CONUS ports. Mechanical or electrically operated turn signals are required by French law and all window glass must be free from breaks, cracks or discoloration which might impair the driver's vision.

**Liability insurance:** All privately owned motor vehicles (including motorcycles, motor bicycles, motor scooters, regardless of the size of the motor) their trailers and semi-trailers, operated in France must be covered by either a third-party liability insurance contract providing minimum coverage of 500,000 New French Francs (approximately \$102,000) per vehicle, per accident, obtained from a company duly authorized by the French government to insure motor vehicles operated in France or an International Insurance Certificate (Green Card) Valid in France.



#### BACHELOR QUARTERS

With few exceptions, enlisted personnel without families are no longer billeted off post in hotel or apartment type accommodations. Sufficient troop billets exist at most installations to house unaccompanied personnel. Installations usually have modern bachelor officer quarters available to accommodate unmarried male and female officers.

#### BANKING AND CURRENCY

**Banking:** The American Express Company or the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, operate military banking facilities or mobile banking units on all major Army installations in France. These facilities offer the following services: US dollar and French checking accounts, savings accounts, conversion of US dollars to French francs, sale of travelers' checks and money orders, personal loans and cable service. Paris offices are maintained by the First National City Bank of New York, Bank of America and the Chase National Bank. European Exchange Service stores will usually cash personal checks on stateside banks up to \$50 at any one time.



Currency: US dollars are the medium of exchange in all military installations in France and Germany. Normally, French francs are the medium of exchange in transactions on the French economy. Since there is no restriction on the amount of francs which can be imported into France by individuals for their personal expenses, personnel are advised to purchase francs in CONUS if the rate of exchange differs substantially from military finance offices, banks or other authorized conversion points, at the legal rate of exchange.

### CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

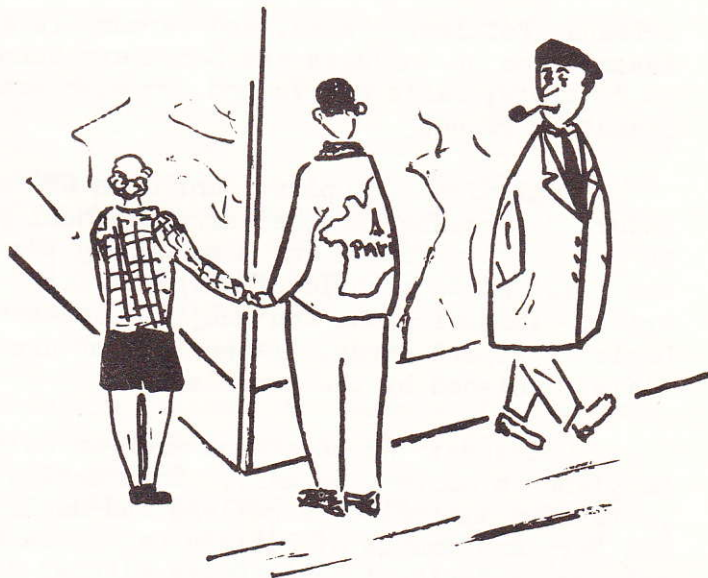
France is roughly on the same latitude as the Northern United States. However, the weather is usually somewhat warmer because of the proximity of the Gulf Stream. Except for the summer this country has a climate similar to that of New York City.

Year around, clothing should be mainly of the warmer variety, except for the months of July and August. Hot spells are unusual, and last for a few days only.

Good rainwear is essential. The further east you go the less temperate the winters.

Military personnel may normally wear civilian clothing on off-duty time.

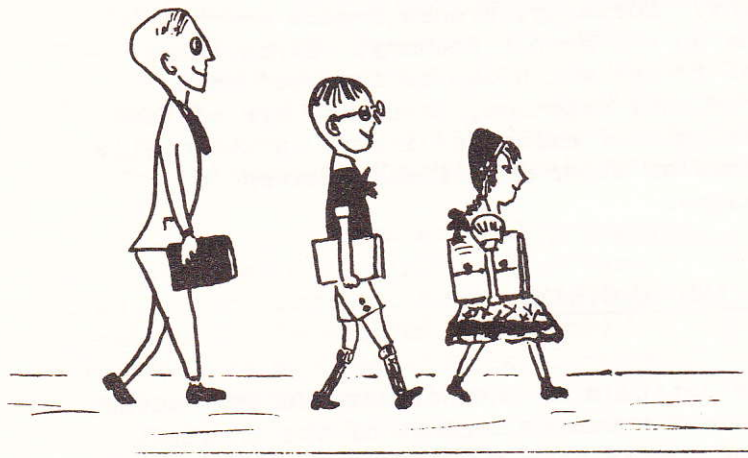
Dress in France (in all Europe) is more conservative than in the United States. Bizarre clothes, gaudy colors, slacks and shorts for women just aren't worn, except at resorts and beaches.



### EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

ADULT: The educational development program for military personnel provides the opportunities normally found on posts in the United States for elementary and high school studies. At most installations, classes in college subjects are conducted by the University of Maryland and carry recognized college credits.





Classes, both on and off duty, are also conducted in spoken French. A working knowledge of French will add much to the pleasure of your tour and to your understanding of your French neighbors.

DEPENDENTS: The Army operates schools in grades one through twelve for children of military and civilian personnel stationed in France. Courses of study are similar to those of the American public schools and standard textbooks and materials are used. High schools located in

Orleans, Poitiers, Paris, and Verdun are accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Dormitories are available at Poitiers, Paris and Verdun for high school students who live beyond commuting range.

Admission of pupils: Children who reach their sixth birthday on or before 31 December of the current school year are eligible for admission to the first grade at any time during the first month of school. After the first month a child of eligible first grade age may be admitted on trial. Initial grade and subject placement of pupils will be made on the basis of report cards, transcripts of credits, or other acceptable credentials furnished by the parents.

Colleges: An on-campus program is maintained by the University of Maryland in Munich, Germany. Instruction is limited to the first two years of a liberal arts college and duplicates the instruction given on the Maryland campus at College Park. Information can be obtained by writing to the Resident Dean, University of Maryland, APO 403, New York, N.Y., or College of Special and Continuation Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

Many excellent French universities located near USACOMZEUR installations are open to American students who meet the entrance requirements. Information regarding French universities can be obtained from: Office National des Universites et Ecoles Francaises, 96 Boulevard Raspail, Paris, VI, France.



## FAMILY HOUSING

Housing has been a major problem in France since World War I. The situation was worsened by World War II when 458,000 living quarters in France were totally ruined and 855,000 units were partially destroyed. Although progress has been made, adequate family quarters are difficult to find in most areas and they are expensive. Utilities are also expensive.

Do not expect to find stateside heating and plumbing facilities. These facilities, for the most part, are antiquated but adequate. Many Frenchmen are not satisfied either, but it's all part of the housing problem.

Rooms in new places are smaller than stateside and it is better to bring the minimum furniture you need for normal living comfort. Leave the big family museum pieces home. Bring wardrobes for storing things because few homes or apartments anywhere in Europe have built-in closets.

Electricity in France (most of Europe, too) is priced higher than at home and existing circuits weren't built to carry the load we Americans expect to throw on at one time. The normal current is fifty cycles (leave your electric clocks home) and either 127 and/or 220 volt current will be found throughout France. Your 110 volt appliances will work on 127 volts without adaptation. Transformers from 220 volts current to 110 volts can be purchased. Your stateside record player, depending on make, will require a modification kit or a simple adjustment to convert a 50 cycle operation.

You don't need air conditioning in France (the summers are mild and the winters cool); you'd be better off leaving that big deep freeze-refrigerator combination home (if you manage to fit it into your kitchen it will probably blow the fuse) and that nice, new, automatic push-button washer will work in very few houses here. The hot water supply is usually inadequate and you may not wish to install extra capacity at your expense.

Surplus Commodity housing has a utility room which permits operation of automatic washers, and some rental guarantee housing units provide automatic washers.

As a rule of thumb, bring simple household tools and appliances such as a normal sized refrigerator, vacuum cleaner; etc. Limit electrical appliances to units demanding 1500 watts or less.

Electric stoves are a problem in France; better leave yours home. Normal gas stoves of American manufacture can be adapted to French city



gas (available in certain metropolitan areas) or bottled gas and should be brought over (providing they can be adjusted to take bottled gas) since houses and apartments are usually rented without them.

Simple furniture and appliances (refrigerators, stoves, storage closets, etc.) are on sale at European Exchange outlets.

Generally, adequate Rental Guarantee, Surplus Commodity or French economy housing can be found after a reasonable waiting period.

US Rental Guarantee housing is available for a portion of assigned personnel. These apartments and houses approximate stateside facilities and are unfurnished except for refrigerator and kitchen stove. All are centrally heated.

Some Surplus Commodity housing for US personnel is also available at many installations in France. This housing provides refrigerator and cooking stove. Surplus Commodity housing is operated as government housing. Houses are centrally heated.

Billeting offices at all installations have been established to act as clearing agencies for housing.

#### HUNTING AND FISHING

France has more licensed hunters than all other European countries combined. There are numerous American Rod and Gun Clubs throughout France as well as many organized hunting parties.

Hunts in France are usually conducted on the stand and drive method.

Rifles are not used in France. Most French hunters use double barrel shotguns in 16 or 12 gauge with modified and full choke.

France offers a goodly number of small game; hare, partridge and quail, pigeon, woodcock and rabbit. Ducks, water game and pheasant are also plentiful.





Wild boar and roe deer are abundant.

French waters abound in trout, grayling, white fish, pike, perch, bass and some river salmon.

French fishermen fly fish for trout and also spin fish using light nylon lines (3 to 6 pound test). Lures used are mainly spinners (3 to 8 grams) and a few plugs.

Pole fishing for perch, red eyes, carp, tench and pike is widespread in France.

#### IMPORTATION OF FIREARMS

There are no restrictions governing the importation into France of hunting, target, or sporting rifles, shotguns, and antique firearms. All other firearms imported into France must be deposited with French customs officials at the point of entry. Release of such firearms may be obtained by the owner upon written application through his unit commander to French authorities within 120 days after arrival in France.

No person in France may have in his possession a handgun (other than antique) which has a bore greater than 7.65mm (.32 caliber) or one capable of firing ammunition larger than 7.65mm (.32 caliber). Such firearms must be stored in unit arms rooms during the owner's stay in France. One handgun, 7.65mm (.32 caliber) or smaller, may be retained in family type quarters.

All firearms owned by persons who do not reside in family type quarters must be stored in unit arms rooms. There are no restrictions governing the retention in family type quarters of hunting, target or sporting rifles, shotguns, and antique firearms.

Transportation of firearms to France is subject to military regulations which should be checked with your local transportation officer.

#### LEGAL STATUS

French Law: Personnel of this command and their dependents are subject to French law to the same extent as they are subject to the laws at home. Persons who violate French criminal laws are liable to be detained for preliminary investigation or trial, tried, and if convicted, fined or imprisoned in much the same way as in the United States.



You may have heard old-wives' tales of unjust detention or punishment of US personnel in French courts. These are without foundation. France, when exercising criminal jurisdiction under the NATO Status of Forces Agreement, has administered legal actions with exceptional circumspection.

The judge advocates and their staffs in various headquarters throughout the command are your advisors on legal matters.



#### LOCAL INFORMATION

Each installation in USACOMZEUR has prepared a brochure containing necessary information on local conditions, facilities, housing, etc. As soon as you are certain of the specific installation of assignment you should submit a request for this brochure from the Adjutant of the installation.

#### MEDICAL CARE

Medical care for personnel and their dependents is available in accordance with AR 40-108. This includes dental, obstetrical, gynecological and pediatric care.

**Immunizations:** Additional immunizations beyond those normally given in the United States are required in France. It is advisable to check the medical facility at your present station for requirements, and to start taking shots as early as possible before departure.



#### POSTAL FACILITIES AND CUSTOMS DUTIES

Complete postal facilities, similar to those in the States, are available through APO's at all installations. Postal savings are not handled at overseas installations.



DELIVERY TIME: Air mail from three to six days. Surface mail (ordinary first class, newspapers and parcel post) from three to six weeks.

FRENCH CUSTOMS: All personal effects brought into France (even though APO mail) are subject to French customs administration. Through the years of our stay in France, the French authorities have been extremely lenient in their imposition of customs duties on personal effects.

Lists of items subject to French import customs and tax, and items prohibited from importation into France, are available at your local post office in the United States.

#### SALES SERVICES

Normal commissary, quartermaster sales store, snack bar, news stand, Class VI and European Exchange service is maintained at installations in France. Personnel needing special shoes, dietetic food, etc., should make arrangements for a supply of such items from the United States.

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HEADQUARTERS  
US ARMY COMMUNICATIONS ZONE, EUROPE  
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1. USACOMZEUR Pamphlet 355-12 is published for the personal information and guidance of all personnel newly assigned to U. S. Army Communications Zone, Europe who are stationed in France.

2. Previous editions of this pamphlet are superseded.

(AEZIN, Orleans Mil 8056)

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:



NEIL M. MATZGER  
Colonel, AGC  
Adjutant General

C. F. TANK  
Brigadier General, GS  
Chief of Staff

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