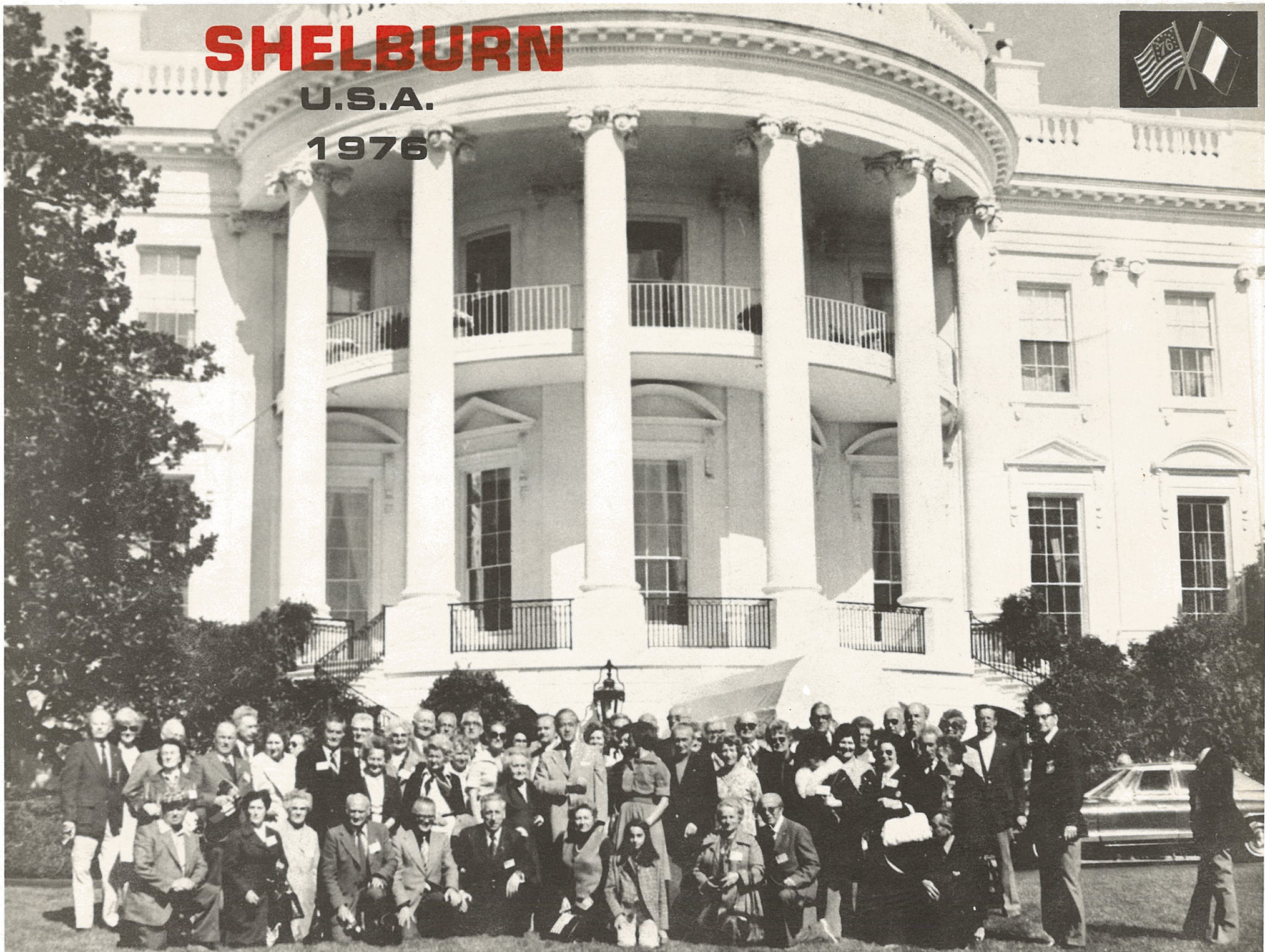


# SHELBURN

U.S.A.

1976





## FIRST SERIES

Yvonne always thinks of the happy occasion.

Good evening to everyone at the house of Alphonse.

Rigoulet has a good head.

Louis Phillippe was a good King

The class warmly salutes its friends.

The old wines are the best.

## Dinan — Saint Brieuc

The Bee is a hard working insect.



Map drawn by Capt. Job Mainguy, French Merchant Marine, naval expert Réseau Shelburn.

ORDER OF OPERATIONS	AVIATORS GOING OUT	AGENTS LEAVING	AGENTS ARRIVING	TOTAL
January 29, 1944	16	2 (English)		18
February 28, 1944	19	2 (French)		21
March 18, 1944	30			30
March 24, 1944	25	1 (French)	2 (French)	28
March 30, 1944	19	1 (English)		20
The night of June 16th and 17th	0		6 (3 French & 3 English)	6
July 13, 1944	15	3 (English)		18
July 14, 1944	4	2 (1 English & 1 French)		6
July 24, 1944	0	3 (1 English & 2 French)		
	<u>128</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>150</u>

Americans	=	94
Belgian	=	1
Hindu	=	1
English and Commonwealth	=	<u>32</u>
		128

We believe that this constitutes the French record for escapes by sea.

# The Miracle of Shelburn

As the air war over German occupied Europe built up in late 1943 and early 1944, Allied aircrews who had been shot down and evaded capture began to build up and become a serious problem to patriotic nationals of the occupied countries who were sheltering them. To relieve this pressure and to return these crews to England, British Military Intelligence slipped a number of agents into the occupied countries to help organize various underground groups into escape networks.

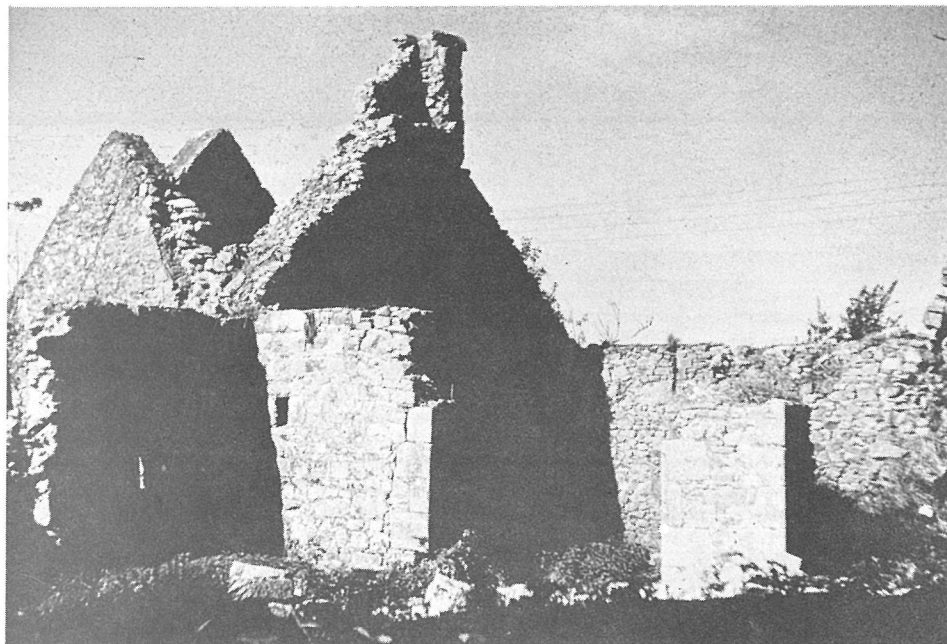
It was in late 1943 that two Canadian Army volunteers, Captain Lucien Dumais and Lt. Ray LaBrosse were flown into occupied France in a RAF Lysander to set up an organization to help Allied airmen escape from occupied Europe. They named this organization "Shelburn" after a county in Canada.

With the help of patriotic Frenchmen from all over France they organized and executed "Operation Bonaparte", one of the most daring and successful escape operations of World War II. Downed Allied fliers were gathered from all over France and systematically sent to the towns of Guingamp and Plouha in the Province of Cotes du Nord in the Brittany section of France. From here they were transported by small truck and on foot to the beach for their rendezvous with the British Motor Gun Boat 503.

Reseau Shelburn's "Operation Bonaparte" was responsible for the safe return of 135 Allied agents and fliers, 94 of whom were U.S. Air Force personnel.

After the war General Eisenhower presented the Freedom Medal to these brave people for their courageous work.





Above left: "La Maison d'Alphonse". Airmen and agents were brought to this last rendezvous point in France for their final briefing before going to the beach. This farmhouse owned by M. & Mme. Jean Jicquel was burned down by the Germans in July of 1944 after the last Operation Bonaparte mission.

**Above:** The point of descent from the top of the cliff to the rendezvous point with the small boats of MGB 503.

**Left:** "Plage Bonaparte": The beautiful beach on the rugged Brittany coast that served as the embarkation point for all "Bonaparte" missions.



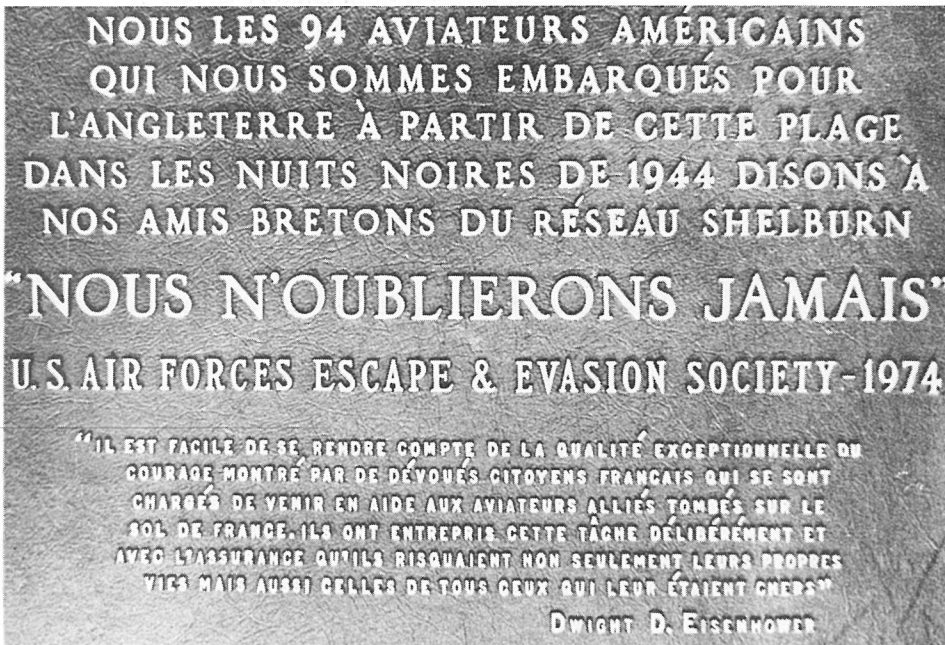


Airmen and agents were picked up from the beach by small rowboats from the M.G.B. 503. Powered by three high speed diesel engines, the 120 foot long craft normally cruised at 33 knots but could go faster. She was under the command of Lt. Cdr. Mike Marshall O.S.C. during "Bonaparte" missions. The 503 was lost with all hands immediately following V.E. Day after hitting a mine in the North Sea.

In 1954, two American airmen who had escaped from France via "Operation Bonaparte" went back to France to retrace their escape route. During this visit they met Mathurin Branchoux, one of the Shelburn leaders in the Guingamp area, who furnished them with a list of the 94 American airmen who had been returned to England by "Operation Bonaparte". This list was the nucleus of the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society (AFEES). In June, 1964, the AFEES sponsored a reunion in Buffalo, New York, attended by Dumais, LaBrosse, Branchoux, Anita Hartman Lemonnier and 35 former airmen. AFEES was officially organized at this meeting and it was resolved to meet in Paris in 1969.

In June, 1969, fifteen members of the AFEES and their families in concert with members of the Royal Air Forces Escaping Society Canadian Branch, met in Paris and journeyed on to Brittany for a reunion with the members of Réseau Shelburn. As a result of this warm meeting of the two organizations, a strong bond of friendship was established.

IN JUNE OF 1974, A BRONZE PLAQUE WAS DEDICATED BY A DELEGATION OF AFEES MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE U.S. EMBASSY. AT THIS DEDICATION CEREMONY, 50 MEMBERS OF SHELburn WERE INVITED TO BE THE GUESTS OF THE AFEES DURING A TWO-WEEK VISIT TO THE U.S.A. THE FOLLOWING IS THE STORY OF THAT VISIT.



## SHELBURN — U.S.A.

### PROGRAM

**October 5th** Arrive Kennedy Airport 7:30 PM  
Stay overnight at the Sheridan Motor Inn, Nanuet, N.Y.

**October 6th:**  
**9:00AM** Depart Nanuet for Albany, N.Y.  
Lunch at the Italian Inn "Chez d'Italia"  
**1:30PM** Depart for Niagara Falls, N.Y.  
**6:00PM** Arrive at John's Flaming Hearth Motor Inn  
**8:00PM** Dinner at the Motel sponsored by the RAFES (Canadian Branch)

**October 7th:** Morning free to tour the Falls area  
**11:30AM** Lunch at Niagara Falls Air Force Base sponsored by the 914th TAC  
**1:30PM** Depart for Detroit-Bloomfield township  
**6:00PM** Reception at the Bloomfield Township Hall. Meet host families

**October 8th:**  
**9:00AM** Depart for a tour of Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum.  
**Noon** Lunch in Greenfield Village sponsored by The Detroit Bank & Trust Co.  
**7:00PM** Dinner at the Birmingham Country Club.

**October 9th:** Free day with host families.

**October 10th:**  
**11:00AM** Depart for Pittsburgh  
**6:00PM** Arrive at the University of Pittsburgh for a reception with host families. Host families arranged for by the Pittsburgh Council for International Visitors and the French community of Pittsburgh.

**October 11th:**  
**AM** Free with Host families  
**PM** Sightseeing tour of Pittsburgh  
**8:00PM** Dinner Wilksburg Holiday Inn

**October 12th:**  
**9:00AM** Depart for Washington D.C.  
**5:00PM** Arrive at St. Alban's School for assignment to host families.  
AFEES home base in Washington will be the Military Towers, 420 Van Dorn St., Alexandria, Va.

**October 13th:**  
**9:35AM** Wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers in Arlington Cemetery  
**Noon** Lunch at the Pentagon  
The Department of Defense will conduct a tour of the Pentagon, and the Air Force will provide a briefing officer.  
**6:00PM** Reception at the French Embassy

**October 14th:** Sightseeing in Washington. Tour of the White House.  
Lunch at the National Gallery of Art.  
Visit the Air & Space Museum, tour the Capital

**October 15th:**  
**9:00AM** Depart for New York City.  
**1:00PM** Arrive at the Prince George Hotel, 14 E. 28th St. Greeted by the Mayor of New York City — Mr. Abraham Beame.  
Reception at the French Consulate

**October 16th:** Sightseeing in New York.  
Dinner at the Prince George Hotel given by AFEES

**October 17th:** Reseau Shelburn given honored position in "Massing of the Colors" parade.  
Interfaith service at St. Patricks Cathedral

**October 18th:** Tour of New York harbor.  
Evening reception at the Biltmore Hotel Sponsored by the Veterans of the O.S.S.

**October 19th:**  
**7:00PM** Depart Prince George Hotel for Kennedy International Airport



During their stay in the U.S., the members of Shelburn were guests of American families in Detroit, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. The following is a list of the Host families.

#### DETROIT HOST FAMILIES

Barbara Amundson  
677 N. Eton  
Birmingham, Mi 48008

Mr. & Mrs. John C. Angeli  
18051 Dunblaine  
Birmingham, Mi 48009

Mr. & Mrs. Pierre Biarnes  
530 Half Moon Drive  
Birmingham, Mi 48010

Mr. & Mrs. James Booker  
5360 Provincial Drive  
Bloomfield Hills, Mi 48013

Mrs. Charles A. Eddy  
1142 Maryland Blvd.  
Birmingham, Mi 48009

Mr. & Mrs. J. Robert Haefner  
4190 Valley Forge  
Birmingham, Mi 48010

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Hindsley  
29153 Ohmer  
Warren, Mi 48092

Mr. & Mrs. William Holmes  
1012 Oxford Drive  
Birmingham, Mi 48008

Mr. & Mrs. William K. Hughes  
151 N. Glengarry  
Birmingham, Mi 48010

Mrs. Herbert Hunter  
627 Pilgrim  
Birmingham, Mi 48009

Mr. & Mrs. Don Iodice  
796 Wilwood  
Rochester, Mi 48063

Mrs. James Scott  
3801 Lincoln Drive  
Birmingham, Mi 48010

Mr. & Mrs. William Spinning  
357 Waddington  
Birmingham, Mi 48009

Mr. & Mrs. W. David Jaymes  
197 Mohawk Road  
Pontiac, Mi 48053

Mrs. Fred D. Keller  
6000 Wing Lake Road  
Birmingham, Mi 48010

Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. Kenney  
2428 Benjamin  
Royal Oak, Mi 48073

Mr. & Mrs. John Marsh  
1415 Yorkshire Drive  
Birmingham, Mi 48008

Mr. & Mrs. Barret Mason  
1280 Buckingham  
Birmingham, Mi 48008

Mr. & Mrs. Edward McLatcher  
34423 Richard O Drive  
Sterling Heights, Mi 48077

Mr. & Mrs. C. Arthur Miller  
1061 Northlawn  
Birmingham, Mi 48009

Mr. & Mrs. James Moore  
668 Half Moon Drive  
Birmingham, Mi 48010

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Morrow  
3590 Bradway Blvd.  
Birmingham, Mi 48010

Mr. & Mrs. Roderic E. Righter  
1383 Yorkshire Road  
Birmingham, Mi 48008

Mr. & Mrs. Charles M. Scales  
4900 Lahser Road  
Bloomfield Hills, Mi 48013

Alice Stanley  
25300 Larkin Road  
Southfield, Mi 48075

Mr. & Mrs. Fletcher Street  
1492 Yorkshire Road  
Birmingham, Mi 48008

#### PITTSBURGH HOST FAMILIES

Mr. & Dr. Hubert Delano  
115 Inglewood Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Mr. & Mrs. Walter H. Dick  
1130 Woodland Drive  
Monroeville, PA 15146

Mr. & Mrs. John Wilson  
158 W. Hutchinson St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

Mr. & Mrs. William Winowich  
619 Stoneridge Drive  
Allinson Park, PA 15101

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Seeburger  
5623 Maple Heights Center  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Brown  
200 Orchard Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Dempsey  
3001 Hillcrest Road  
Bethel Park, PA 15102

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Frolik  
4345 Schenley Farms Terrace  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Mr. & Mrs. Partick Athol  
402 Manordale Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Fitting  
414 Sunderland Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bauer  
4033 Tall Timber Drive  
Allison Park, PA 15101

#### Washington D.C. Host families and people who helped to organize the activities.

Mr. & Mrs. Henri Billey  
1821 Vernon Street  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Senator Charles Mathias, Jr.  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Trischler  
181 McIntyre Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Dr. & Mrs. Murray Reswick  
627 Morewood Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Michel  
305 S. Craig Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Hutton  
222 W. Swissvale Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

Mr. & Mrs. Felicien Steichen  
6815 Edgerton Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Mr. Jeffery Johnson  
Ms. Sharyn Siebert  
1202 Trevanion Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

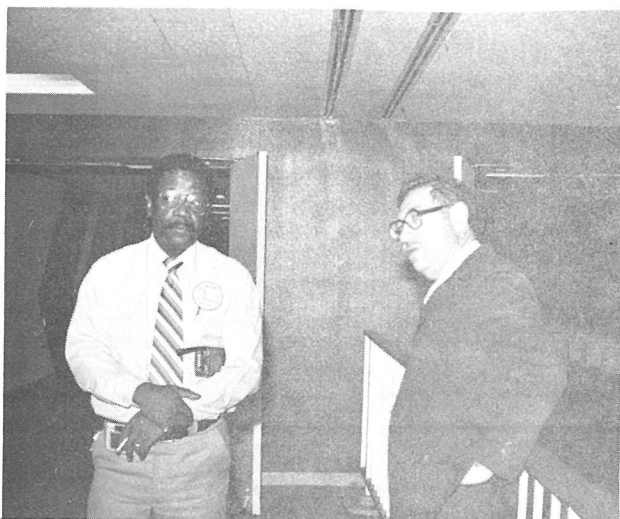
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lorin  
1613 Old Beulah Road  
Churchill, PA 15235

Mr. & Mrs. David Mitchell  
6701 Ridgeway Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

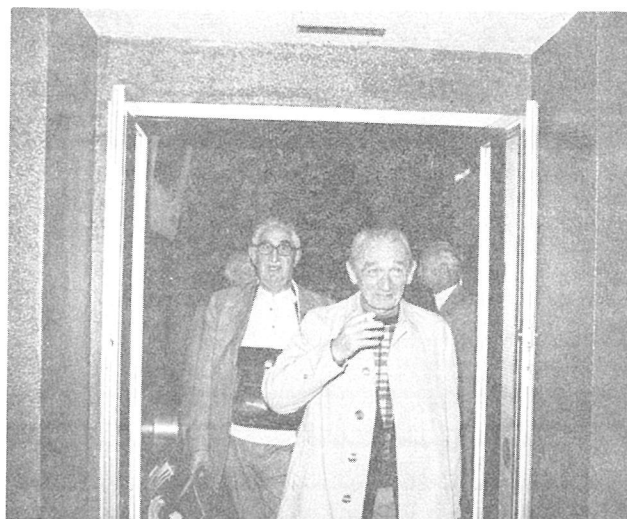
Mrs. E. Suchman  
2320 Marbury Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Mr. & Mrs. C. D. Chalfant  
Box 452, R.D. 3  
Gibsonia, PA 15044

Mr. & Mrs. R. Sargent Shriver  
Washington, D.C.



**7-A:** Kennedy airport officials and AFEES member, Leo Arlin, await arrival of Shelburn group.



**7-B:** Yves LePicard and Roger Dubost arrive at U.S. Customs.



**7-C:** First night in U.S.A. is spent at the Sheraton Motor Inn — Nanuette, New York.

### TEXT BY ALAIN LEGUEN

Between October 5 and 20, 1976, 50 members of the SHELburn evasion network visited the U.S.A. The visit was sponsored by American airmen who had escaped to safety from Bonaparte beach in 1944.

Most members of the delegation are from Brittany. The party was led by Monsieur Yves LE PICARD, although he was not a member of Réseau Shelburn, he is the President of the Brittany Section of the French veterans of the resistance. He was accompanied by Monsieur Alain LE GUEN, who is a county councillor, and the mayor of PLOUHA. The members of the Air Force Escape Society, which is chaired by Mr. Ralph PATTON, had prepared an extraordinarily warm welcome for those who had helped them escape from occupied France. In the various cities where they called, the French visitors were generally the guests of American families.

### FROM GUINGAMP TO NEW YORK CITY

On October 5, at 3 a.m., a coach from Guingamp, called at PLOUHA, ST. QUAY-PORTRIEUX, BINIC and SAINT BRIEUC, picking up local passengers who were later joined by a few others from Southern Brittany and the PARIS area. A Pakistan Airlines jumbo jet took off from Orly Airport at 5 p.m. The Transatlantic flight would take over 7 hours. During the crossing, a substantial meal was served, including a huge cake adorned with the Cross of Lorraine. The plane landed safely at Kennedy Airport, where the time was 7:30 p.m. (00 H 30 French time).

The party is very warmly welcomed by Ralph PATTON, and at 9 p.m. the small French group board a bus bound for NANUET, a small town located some 30 miles North of NEW YORK CITY. The party is accommodated at the "Sheraton

Motor Inn" at the crossroads of three highways. The Press and Television meet the French visitors, and the first reception follows chaired by a lady-senator from NEW YORK STATE.

### ACROSS NEW YORK STATE

On October 6, after breakfast, the bus with Mr. Johnson, a very friendly black chauffeur at the wheel, is heading North along the Hudson River, across Spring Valley, which is beautifully green with numerous forests and small white painted detached homes on either side of the road. Small farms are scattered here and there, with red painted silos, white cows with black udders are grazing.

The bus stops at ALBANY, the capital of NEW YORK state, with a population of 120,000 and a University which was founded in 1795. At the junction of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, ALBANY and the twin-city of Troy form an important industrial Center (oil refineries and light mechanical industries). Lunch is served at an Italian inn, the "Chez d'Italia", where the French visitors are the guests of Colonel Agenor CASTRO, a public relations manager, NEW YORK state correctional services Department. Several photos will appear in the local press the following day.

The bank of the Hudson is left, and the bus drives along the Mohawk River, and on through AMSTERDAM, UTICA, SYRACUSE, across forests and small villages with their attractive small churches. ROCHESTER is by passed and BUFFALO reached in the evening. BUFFALO has a population of 500,000 and is located on Lake Erie. It has an important port, with busy industries: steel, engineering, automobile, electrical equipment, textile.





**Above left:** Enroute to Albany, New York via the New York Turnpike.

**Above right:** Lunch at Italian Inn "Chez d'Italia" restaurant, Albany, New York, courtesy Maj. Castro and the 9015th Air Force Reserve.

**Lower left:** Madeleine Jezegou, Genevieve de Poulpiquet, Mme. Truchis de Lays, August Mehu.



### TEXT BY ALAIN LEGUEN

The night is spent at NIAGARA FALLS, a city of 86,000 between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Primarily a tourist site, NIAGARA FALLS has also specialized in electro metallurgy, electro chemistry and plastics.

The "John's Flaming Hearth" Hotel stands close by the Falls. It is a first class hotel, with television in every room. A formal dinner is given in honour of the French party by the escaped Canadian airmen. Three speeches are made at the end of the dinner: by Mr. Don McClarty, President of Canadian Airmen, by Mr. Ralph Patton and Mr. Le Picard. Shortly before midnight, the party will gaze in wonder at the Floodlit Falls, red on the American side, blue on the Canadian side. They divide the two countries and the sight is fairy-like.

On the morning of October 7, the French visitors are roused from sleep by the rumbling Falls, and after having shot a few pictures of the unique scenery, they stroll towards Niagara Falls Air Force military base (914 th T.A.C.), where a number of "Hercules" and training fighters "Gruman"

can be seen. A lunch is given by Colonel Mariello, who is in command of the base and has been in the Air Force for 30 years. He had flown over France 36 times during World War II.

### INTO CANADA

The bus crosses a bridge spanning the Niagara River over a gorge of great beauty, and drives into Canadian territory. Here is Sainte-Catherine, a city with a population of 120,000. Then the bus rides on "Queen Elizabeth Way" along the South side of Lake Ontario, and amidst vineyards and orchards of peach and apple trees. The brick cottages are quite attractive with their well kept lawns opening on to the road. Past Hamilton and Brantford, the bus runs on the TORONTO-DETROIT highway, and across Windsor, a city of 220,000. Canada is left through a tunnel running under the river of Detroit.





**Above left:** Dinner — John's Flaming Hearth Motor Inn. Sponsored by the Royal Air Forces Escaping Society (Canadian Branch).

**Above right:** At the American Falls.

**Lower left:** Lunch at the Niagara Falls Air Force Base.

## Bloomfield Township, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan



We enter the Detroit area — the automobile capital of the world — with a Police escort, sirens and red lights flashing and are taken to the Bloomfield Township Hall for a reception and to meet our host families. We were greeted by Township Supervisor, Homer Case; Township Clerk, Delores Little; and Bicentennial Chairman, Kay Smith.

**Above left:** The Spinnings — Bill, Bob and Billy greet Hermance and Arthur Lanciaux on their arrival in Michigan. The Lanciaux's were Bill's Helpers during the war.

**Above right:** Homer Case, Township Supervisor, welcomes Mayor and Mrs. LeGuen of Plouha.

**Lower left:** When Arthur Lanciaux picked up Bill Spinning, he took his uniform and insignia and dressed him in Frenchmen's clothes. Here, Arthur is returning Bill's Lieutenants bars.



### TEXT BY ALAIN LEGUEN

Driving into Detroit, the coach is escorted by two big police cars, and the motorcade stops in front of Bloomfield City Hall. BLOOMFIELD, with a population of 50,000, is a suburban center near Detroit (Population 4 million). A reception is given in the municipal Hall by the Supervisor, Home Case. He presents the Mayor of PLOUHA with two superb books tracing the genealogy of French immigrants in Detroit between 1701 and 1901. Monsieur LE GUEN thanks him in the following words:

"Wherever we go, the Americans who greet our party express their grateful thanks to us for our having sheltered 94 U.S. airmen in PLOUHA in 1944; and smuggled them to safety across the Channel. In our turn, we ought to be thankful to the great American nation of its intervention in the two World Wars. It was in Detroit that the weapons of victory were made, since the capital of the automobile industry alone produced one third of the United States armament, chiefly ammunition, trucks and armored tanks."

On the same evening, while all French members are the guests of American families, they are given an opportunity to watch on T.V. the warm celebration given at City Hall during the day.

The SHELburn party will spend two days in Detroit, October 8 and 9. This big city was founded in 1701 by a Frenchman, De Lamothe Cadillac, and in 1896 Charles King ran the first American automobile. Detroit is an industrial center of paramount importance with steelworking, automobile works (Ford, Chrysler, General Motors), shipbuilding, chemistry, foodstuffs, etc.

The morning of October 8 is devoted to a visit of Henry Ford Museum, where the pioneering spirit, which sparked the making of America, has been preserved. The museum, which is unique of its kind, contains valuable exhibits, covering

American History, from the silver masterpieces created by Paul Revere to Henry Ford's first automobile, the 1896 four-wheeled cycle. In the hall of Mechanic Arts, visitors can trace the course of the Industrial Revolution from the days previous to steam to the jet plan era. A remarkable collection including 200 motor cars illustrates the progress achieved by land transportation in the fields of steam electricity and internal combustion. The museum shelters life-size steam locomotives, airplanes, boats, agricultural implements, horse carriages and bicycles of all times.

The tour is wound up by a lunch given in Greenfield Village Restaurant by the "Detroit Bank and Trust Co."

Following a guided tour of the city, a dinner for 150 guests is given by Detroit airmen at the "Birmingham Country Club". At the end of the dinner a high school choir sings several American songs and the French anthem. Speeches are delivered by Mr. PATTON, Job MENGUY (on behalf of the Shelburn resistance group), and Colonel Raymond Labrosse from Canada (who was one of the network leaders in 1944 in PLOUHA). The Mayor of PLOUHA receives an American flag from the hands of Ralph PATTON. This flag which used to float on Capital Hill in Washington, will be one of the exhibits in the Resistance Museum to be built on the site of Bonaparte Beach. Mr. LE PICARD winds up the speeches by expressing grateful thanks to the audience.

On October 9 is spent visiting Detroit and the neighborhood with American families. Some of the guests are taken to OAKLAND UNIVERSITY, one of the ten universities located in Michigan. OAKLAND University registers 10,000 students, of whom 2,000 live on the campus, while the staff includes 300 teachers, lecturers and Professors. Both buildings and sports grounds are drowned in a vast environment of woodland and green spaces.



**Above left:** Detroit Channel 4 T.V. crew records the town hall reception.

**Above right:** Official welcoming ceremony.

**Lower left:** Kay Smith, Bloomfield Township Bicentennial Chairman, pours champagne for Dominique Biarnes as Evelyn Eddy looks on.



**Above left:** Dominique and Pierre Biarnes enjoy a conversation with Charles and Marcel Pasco.

**Above right:** M. & Mme. Jezegou greet Evelyn Eddy and Catherine Spinning.

**Lower left:** Arthur and Helen Morrow. Host family to Yves LePicard.



## Bloomfield Township, Michigan



**Above left:** Hostess Alice Scott entertains Martine Violo, Ralph Patton and Francine Violo. Francine and her husband Jean sheltered Ralph Patton for two weeks in February, 1944.

**Above right:** Host family Art and Jean Miller with Fernand Trochel on **left** and Mrs. Trochel on the **right**.

**Lower left:** Host family Haefner — Gail Haefner, Andre Chareton, Anne Chareton, Bob Haefner, Jean Guegan, Lois Haefner.



Our gracious hosts on a visit to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village were the Detroit Bank and Trust Co. and The Management of the Museum and Village.

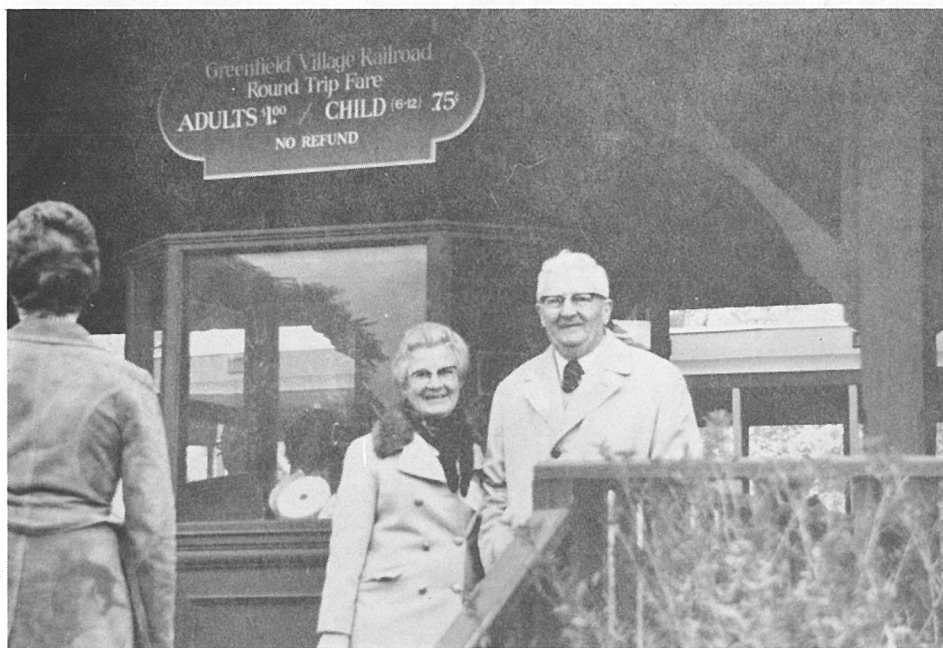


**Above left:** The theme portraying the French heritage of the area.

**Above right:** Old circus calliope attracts considerable attention.

**Lower left:** Arthur Lanciaux looks up to the world's largest steam locomotive.





**Above left:** M. and Mme. Daniel prepare to board the Greenfield Village railroad.

**Above right:** All aboard!

**Lower left:** Smiles indicate an enjoyable ride.



**Above left:** Amanda Iodice, hostess to Mayor and Mrs. LeGuen, enjoy the gardens of the Village.

**Above right:** Thomas A. Edison Laboratory. Andre Chareton, Charles Pasco, Marcel Pasco, Josephine Pasco and guide.

