







Above left: Rendezvous on the steps of the senate wing of the U.S. Capitol building.

Above right: Touring the rotunda of the capitol.

Left: Mayor LeGuen speaks to Senator Mathias of Maryland from the speakers rostrum of the House of Representatives as Mr. Henri Billet, French professor of St. Albans School, translates.



Above left: Heyward Spinks, Leslie Atkinson, Bette Patton and Geoff Patton enjoy a toast at Emersons Restaurant.

Above right: The final dinner in Washington, a quiet dinner with ample wine.

Left: American Airmen — George Buckner, Heyward Spinks, Bob Laux and Keith Sutor bid the group adieu as they leave the Military Towers for New York City.

NEW YORK CITY — Text by Alain LeGuen

At 3 p.m. on October 15, the group of 50 French people gather on the steps of New York City Hall. The Mayor, Mr. Abraham Beame, presents the Mayor of Plouha, Monsieur Alain Le Guen, with the key to New York City (a replica of the 1812 key of City Hall).

Mr. Ralph Patton presents Mr. Beame with a diploma conferring him honorary membership of the Air Force Escaping Evasion Society. Afterwards, the group directs their steps towards the "Prince George Hotel" in downtown Manhattan (38th St.) where the party will be accommodated during the next four days.

In the evening, all members are the guests of the French Consul in person at the New York French Consulate. The Consul, Monsieur Gaussens is a former member of the Resistance. He reminds the audience of the hard times experienced during Nazi occupation, while Mr. Le Picard recounts the achievements of the Shelburn network agents.

On October 16, begins a sightseeing tour of the huge city with its population of 8 million, located at the junction of the Hudson and East Rivers and including 5 "boroughs"; Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Richmond and Bronx. It is a population of immigrants' sons: 1 million Italians, 850,000 Puerto Ricans, 800,000 Russians; 500,000 Germans and Irish, 2 million Jews, and 1,500,000 black people. The cosmopolitan ethnological feature of New York is unique in the world.

The longest Avenue is Broadway, the heart of the City's cultural life the "Great White street" (a debauchery of city lights). In and around Wall Street, at the Southern end of Manhattan, or less than one square kilometer, is crowded the most fantastic financial power on the planet (the seats of the largest world Banks). The twin towers of the world trade center are the highest in the world. Between skyscrapers, the streets look narrow. Fifth Avenue, one of the widest ones, is only 90 feet in breadth, while the Empire State Building, rising alongside, is over 100 stories high. Trees, lawns and green spaces are scarce; they are concentrated on two locations: Central Park (750 acres) and Flushing Meadow (1100 acres).

Ranking first in the world as an economic metropolis and third as a port, New York has six large universities, 30,000 wholesale trades and 3 international airports (Kennedy, La Guardia and Newark). The largest store in the world, Macy's, receives 200,000 visitors on each opening day. Among other monuments, we visited the United Nations, the Secretariat, the General Assembly Hall, the Security Council, and the trusteeship Council Halls, Rockefeller Center (70 stories), the Museum of Modern Art.

On October 16, in the evening, a dinner is given by the AFEES in the rooms of the Prince George Hotel (250 guests) in honor of the members of the French Shelburn resistance group, with the participation of the Northern Valley Music Association which besides other pieces, performs the 4 National Anthems: French, English, Canadian and American. Speeches are made by: Father Peron, Chaplain of the Federation of French War Veterans, M. Ralph Patton, National Commander Air Force Escape and Evasion Society, Lou Rabinowitz, representing escaped airmen from New York, Le Picard, President of the Shelburn network and Lucien Dumais, a Canadian Captain and former leader of the network in Plouha. A ball winds up the celebration.

On October 17, in the afternoon, the French group is invited to parade up Fifth Avenue (the main avenue in New York City) on the occasion of the "Massing of the Colors", an annual celebration which is held at this time of year in memory of the

war dead. In the endless, two-kilometer long pageant parading from Central Park to 50th St., a place of honor has been reserved for the members of the French Shelburn group (Fernand Trochel, the flag bearer, stands in their front) just behind West Point Cadets in their grey uniforms and black plumes. A small Breton flag is carried nearby the tricolor, and cheered by a number of spectators. The former resistance people are thrilled by so many honors and march in step (the women trying to do the same but with some difficulty) amidst numerous military bands and delegations from: the Military Academy Cadets, U.S. Army Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, Coast Guard and Veterans from the 2 World Wars, from the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Everybody is now in St. Patrick's Cathedral (the largest Catholic Church in the U.S.A.) for an interfaith service presided over by Catholic, Episcopalian, Lutheran and Jewish Chaplains, in the presence of General Wilson, General Moran and Admiral Neville. The French Resistance Group is in the first row, in the center, and behind them flags of all the U.S. Army Corps. Assisted by the powerful organs, the choir strikes up the French Anthem in the Vernacular and the American Anthem. Unforgettable minutes of emotional intensity when tears come to the eyes of the old Resistance members from Brittany.

The young cadets of the Military Academy sing several Hymns and the ceremony is concluded by the blessing of the colors by Msgr. James Rigney, the Rector of St. Patrick's.

On October 18, the bus is ferried across from the Battery to Governor's Island occupied by the Coast Guards. On board one of their boats we sail round New York Harbor. The boat sails under the "Verrazano Narrows Bridge", the longest suspension bridge in the world (span 3600 ft.), linking Staten Island to the middle of the harbor. It is the work of the French sculptor Bartholdi (1886). We sail past a number of supertankers (150,000 — 200,000 ton). The port area mainly extends itself on either side of the Hudson River, the old site on the East River being gradually abandoned. The port area covers 50 square kilometers, and the total length of wharfs is 1200 kilometers, 200 piers have been built perpendicularly to the shore.

Manhattan is more specialized in the handling of passenger traffic, Jersey City of minerals, Newark of oil and Brooklyn to the handling of tropical farm produce. The port of New York handles 40% of the nation's foreign trade (tonnage — 120 million tons).

After the tour of the harbor (Job Menguy, a former captain in the Merchant Navy, has been at the wheel for a few moments), Colonel Daniels, in command of the Coast Guards, invites us to have lunch in the officers' wardroom where speeches are made by M. Rabinowitz, Daniels and Le Picard.

On October 18, in the evening, a reception is given in the Baltimore Hotel by Veterans of the Office of Strategic Service. During cocktails, speeches are made by M. President of the O.S.S. et M. Le Picard.

On October 19 at 7 p.m., the bus leaves the Prince George Hotel on its way to Kennedy Airport. After a last farewell, the American airmen and their French rescuers part with one another delighted with those two unforgettable weeks spent on United States soil.

The Pakistan Airlines plane takes off at 10 p.m. and will land 6 hours later at Orly Airport (10 a.m. local time).



Above left: Mr. & Mrs. Lou Rabinowitz greet Ralph Patton and driver Hank Johnson on the groups arrival at the New York City Hall.

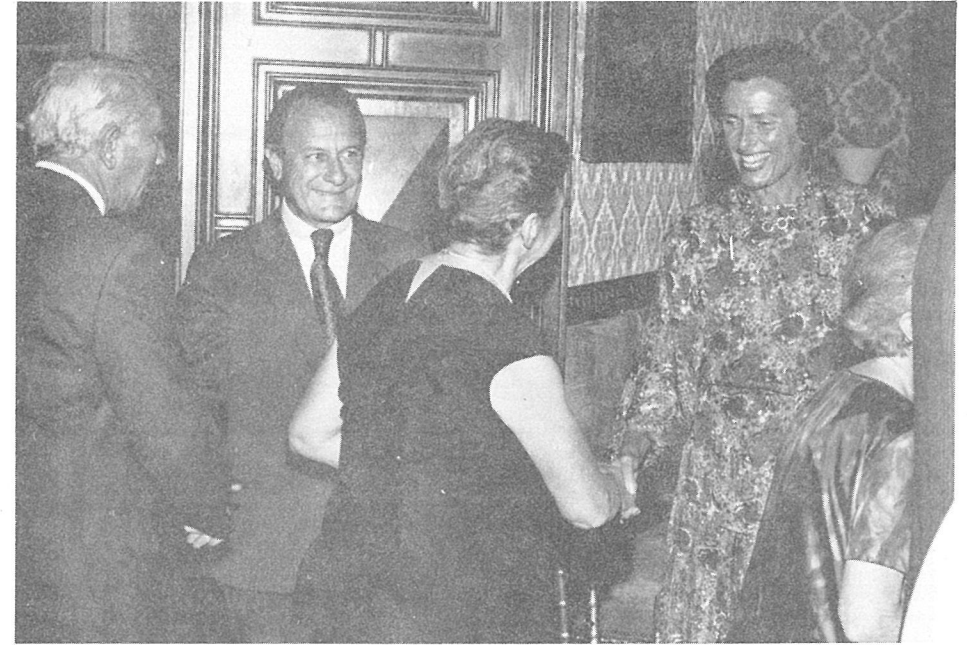
Above right: Awaiting the arrival of Mayor Abraham Beame.

Left: Lou Rabinowitz presents a citation to Mayor Beame on behalf of the AFEES.





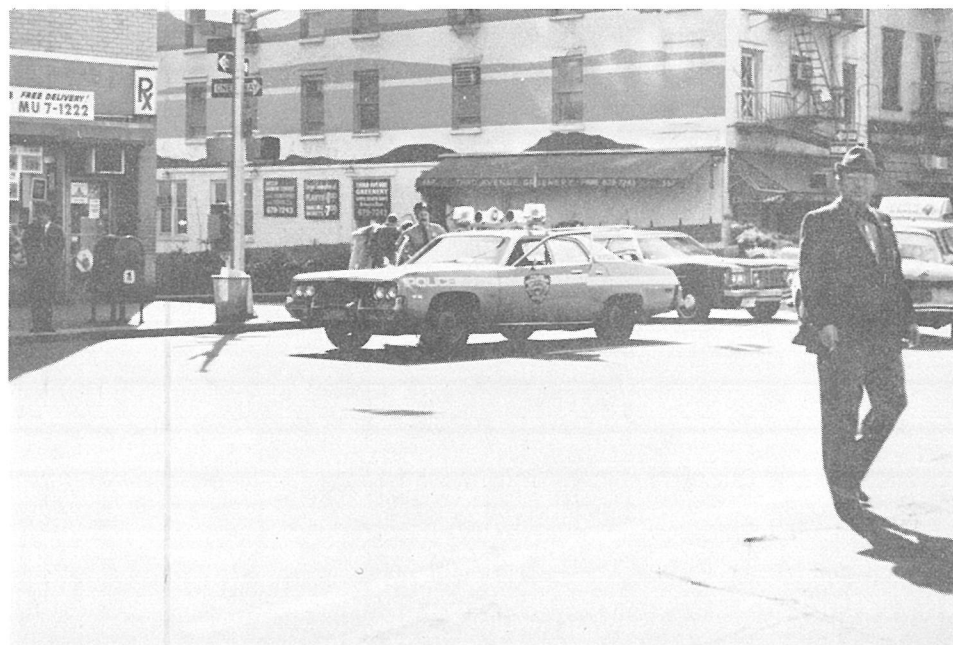




Left: Bette and Ralph Patton arrive at the French Consulate, 934 Fifth Ave., for a reception given by the Consul General of France in honor of the members of Réseau Shelburn.

Above right: Consul General & Mrs. Gerard Gaussen greet their honored guests.





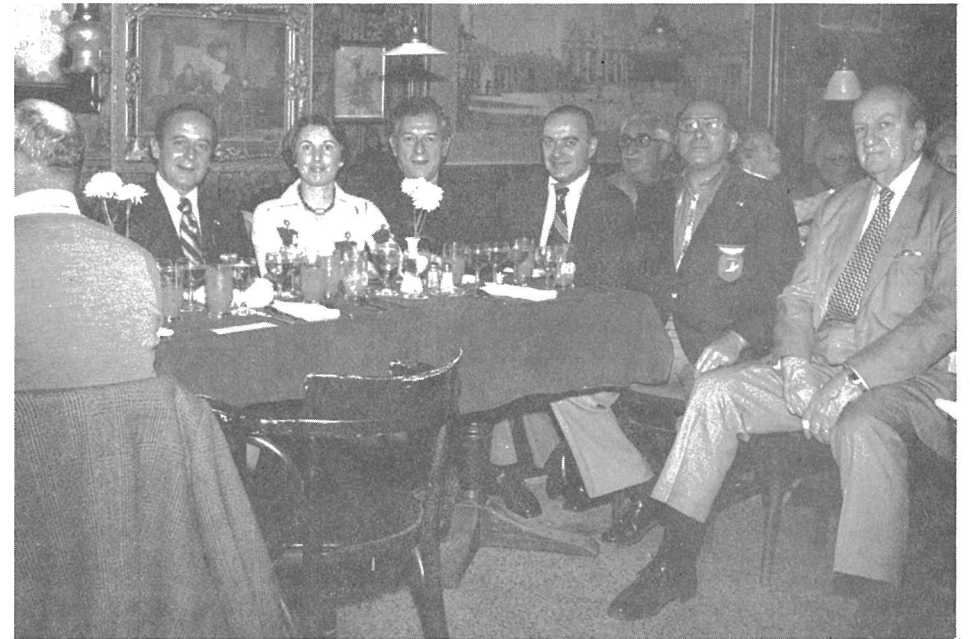
Above left: Lou Rabinowitz arranges for New York's finest to hold up traffic on 3rd Ave. while pictures are taken.

Above right: The assembled Reseau Shelburn and friends.

Left: Mr. & Mrs. Alain LeGuen are welcomed by the officials of Kittyhawk's Restaurant, Mr. & Mrs. Guiterman and their son, Fred Guiterman President of Horn & Hardart, owners of Kittyhawk's.

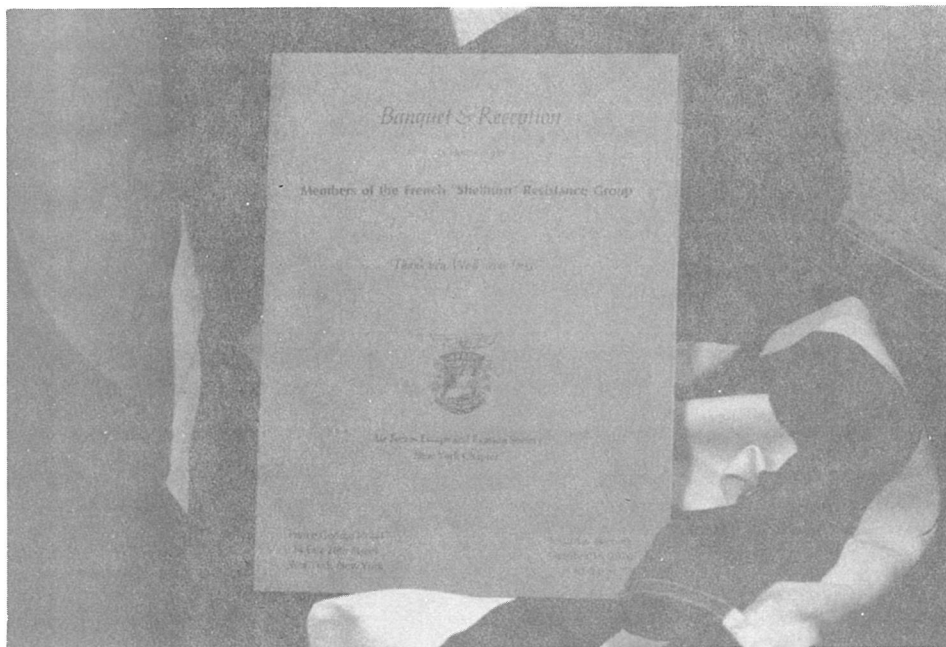


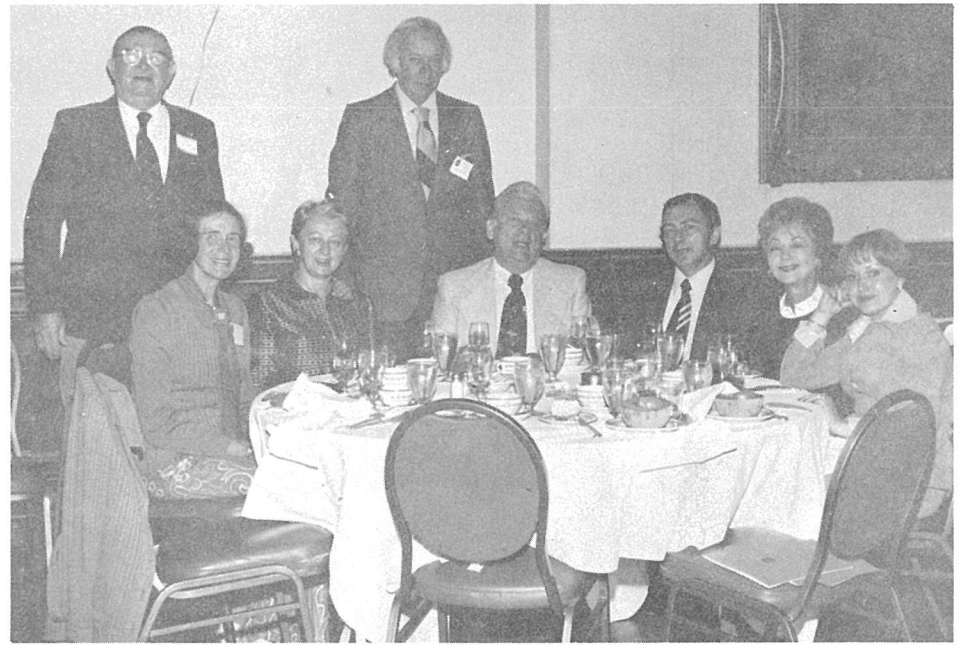
















Above left: Lucien Dumais (alias Captain Harrison of British Military Intelligence), the Canadian leader of Réseau Shelburne addresses the group.