

7305TH SUPPORT SQUADRON  
317TH TROOP CARRIER WING (M)  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

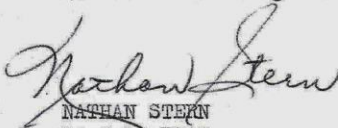
REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: PAS

SUBJECT: Assignment to Dreux Air Base, France

3 Jan 64

TO: A3C Ronald R. Maroney  
28 Nevine Circle  
Rockland, Mass.

1. Information has been received that you are being assigned to the 7305th Support Squadron here at Dreux Air Base with a reporting date of 28 January 1964. I am pleased that you are to become a member of this organization and extend a sincere welcome.
2. You will find enclosed, a booklet which contains some general information about this organization. I hope it will be helpful in introducing you to your new surroundings.
3. I am assigning a member of this organization to act as your sponsor and it is my intention that he will assist in effecting your smooth transition to this base. In addition to meeting you when you arrive, he will be corresponding with you in a few days to provide additional information which you may require.
4. We are looking forward to having you as a member of this organization.

  
NATHAN STERN  
Lt Col, USAF  
Commander

1 Atch  
Booklet

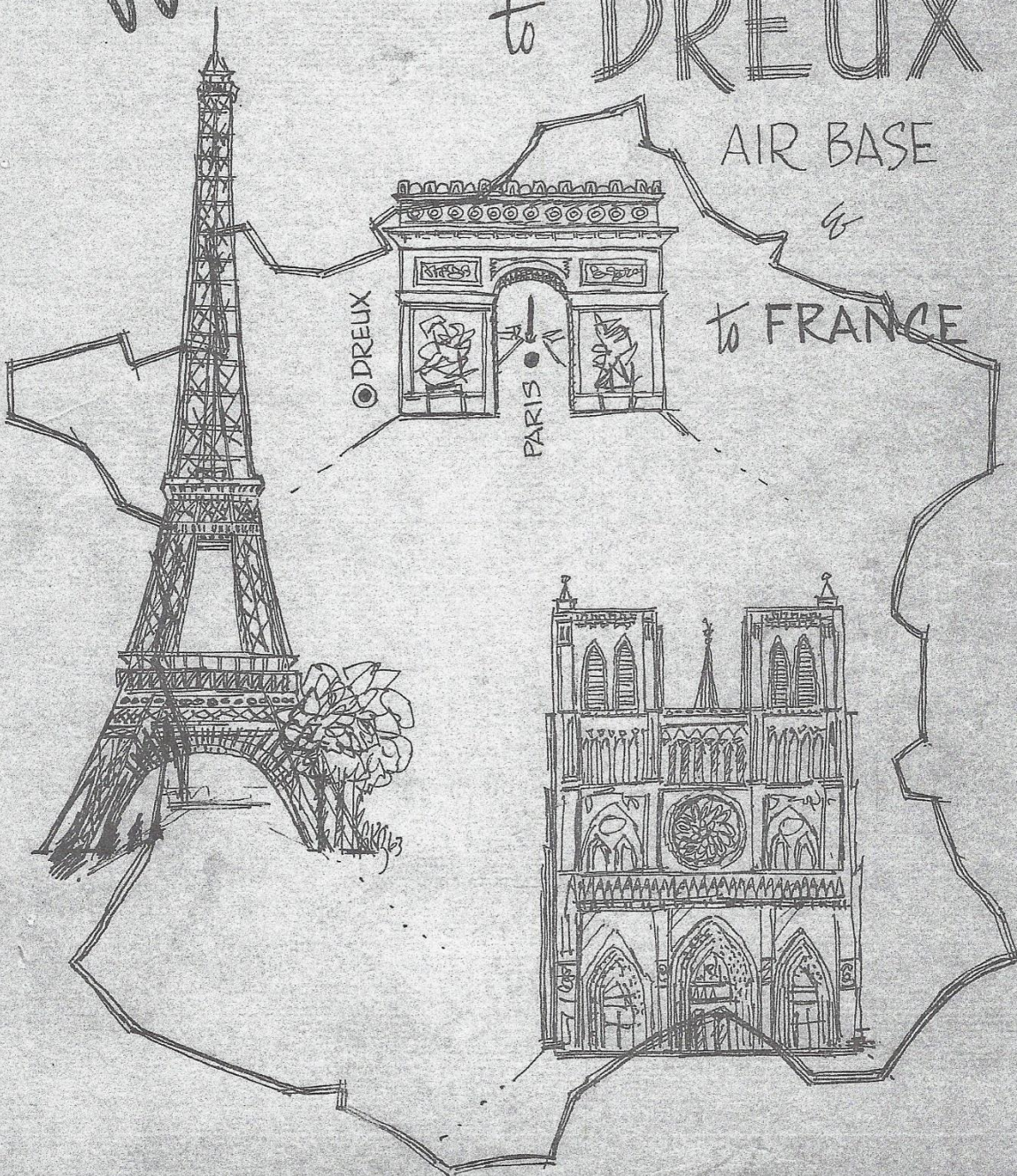


# Welcome

to DREUX

AIR BASE

to FRANCE







Lt Colonel Nathan Stern

#### WELCOME

The military and civilian personnel of Dreux Air Base join me in extending a warm and friendly welcome. This booklet was prepared to assist in acquainting you with our facilities and services, and to provide some answers regarding the base and France. Obviously all of your questions could not be anticipated; however, we have compiled this information to cover as many as possible. Your sponsor will add other details upon specific request. We look forward to greeting you personally and having you work with us.

*Nathan Stern*  
NATHAN STERN  
Lt Colonel, USAF  
Commander

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## MISSION

To provide for the operation and maintenance of Dreux Air Base, France as a Dispersed Operating Base (DOB) and provide administrative and logistical support to all assigned and attached units as directed.

## ENVIRONMENT

Dreux Air Base is located in the heart of the small farming district of North Central France. The nearest metropolitan centers are Dreux and Chartres which are 19 and 25 miles away respectively. Numerous farms and villages surround the base, and the rolling countryside offers year-round scenic beauty. There are no main highways serving this base, but many secondary roads radiate in every direction. Generally the secondary roads are rough and slightly narrower than those found in the United States. The main highways have from two to four lanes and are usually in good condition.

The base is conveniently located to many places of interest. Almost every town and village has a church or town hall of artistic and historical significance. To the north are the famous beaches of Normandy which played such an important part in the Allied invasion during World War II. The resort beaches of Deauville and Trouville can be reached by automobile in less than three hours. A short distance away is Deauville Le Harve, the great harbor where the large trans-Atlantic ships land their passengers.

Rouen, where Joan of Arc was tried and burned to death at the stake is now a large modern city; not quite two hours from the base by automobile.

Brittany is to the west; where many beautiful cathedrals and chateaux can be seen. Throughout the year there are many festivals during which the people dress in colorful, ancestral costumes. Of particular interest are the Calvaries, Granite statues depicting Biblical scenes.

To the south is the city of Le Mans, world famous for its automobile races which attract the best competitors throughout the world. Chartres, south of the base, has its ancient and magnificent cathedral. This Gothic structure dates back to the XII Century. Further south is the Loire Valley, famous for its many castles or "Chateaux", a must for every tourist.

Approximately 50 miles to the east is the city of Versailles, famous for the Palace of Louis XIV. This enormous palace surrounded by exquisite gardens and fountains, stands as evidence of the regal splendor enjoyed by the Kings of France. Paris "The City of Lights" served by modern highways from all directions is about 65 miles east of the base. Train service is available.



## THE PEOPLE

The Frenchman is by nature a "free soul". He probably has the most acute consciousness of his individuality of any person in the world. He espouses the arts, gourmanderie, fervant patriotism and an undying interest in politics at any level. All this amounts to a state of mind known as Gallice, or simply an atmosphere and manner particularly French.

As a companion piece to all this, the Frenchman is endowed with a code of social ethics which compliments a sense of grace in all things. It may be said that the rare accomplishment of knowing precisely where the social amenities end and privacy begins has been admirably achieved by the Frenchman.

In observing the French in their daily living, Americans see any number of things which seem strange when adjudged by our standards. Among these, for instance is the French practice of taking time to greet the same person formally no matter how many times two particular individuals meet during the course of a day. This is not a waste of time, it is an indication of how strongly one man feels toward the right of another to be recognized as an individual.

Just as the individual is the true singular unit in French society, the family is its strongest group. The family circle is bonded together by a commonness of accord governed by a strong sense of responsibility to patriarchal authority. The Father is the head of the family in the truest sense.

An invitation to a French family event, such as birthday celebration is a decided honor, Americans fortunate enough to receive such an invitation should by all means accept.

It is a definite mistake to begin drawing economic comparisons between the earnings and standards of living of our own people and the French. This is not due to indolence or lack of vitality on the part of either party--it is instead a part of the economic facts of life which surround nations living in such close proximity one to another.

It must be taken into consideration that the relative geographic size of Europe delegates that some nations (not states within a nation) will be (principally) agricultural, while others will be industrial. No nation in Europe has a really strong element of both--at least not in the manner of the United States where great industrial output can be diverted into a producing means to swiftly and mechanically bolster the rural or more predominantly agricultural areas. Industrial revolution has come to France, but hindered by numerous facets; such a revolution cannot be expected to occur overnight.



When sharp inequities exist between the economic embellishments of two people operating within the same social sphere (such as ourselves, living in France and shopping among the French) it is too often a simple matter for one party to exhibit an attitude of condescension or superiority toward the other. Such an attitude on the part of Americans would destroy our present community relations. It is paramount that Americans residing here keep in mind that we are the guests of the French Government. A good guest does not insult his host or hostess.

#### REPORTING IN

If you arrive in Paris by air or train, you will be met by a vehicle from the base providing we know in advance the time and date of your arrival. Otherwise you will be taken to the Gare de Montparnasse; which is the only station from which trains depart for the city of Dreux. If you arrive after the last train has departed, you will be taken to a hotel and given further information on currency exchange and how to get to Dreux Air Base.

French transportation is divided into first and second classes and is relatively inexpensive. It is advisable to travel first class for "comfort's sake". The city of Dreux is approximately an hour's ride by train from Paris. Upon arrival in Dreux City, call the base (Dreux 794) and ask for the motor pool dispatcher. Don't be afraid of the telephone. The operators are quite accustomed to our accent. In French the telephone number is "SEPT CENT QUATRE VINGT QUATORZE" (set sawng cat-ruh van cat-orze).

Upon arrival at Dreux Air Base report to Base Headquarters (Bldg 145). During off-duty hours, first sign in and then go to the Billeting Office (Bldg 31) for lodging.

#### HOUSING

##### TRANSIENT FACILITIES FOR FAMILIES:

There is a limited amount of BOQ space for overnight stays and Transient Trailer facilities on base for all officer, airmen or civilian sponsors and their dependents. Stay in BOQ's is limited to emergencies only. Trailers are authorized for a maximum of 30 days. Fee for BOQ bed space is established by the BOQ Fund council and presently is \$1.00 per bed per night. Fee for trailers utilized as Guest or Transient facilities is \$3.00 per day and includes utilities. Bedding, dishes and furniture are furnished.



Most of the questions asked mainly concern Guarantee Rental French Housing (GRFH), eligibility, waiting and certification lists, and assignment procedures for family housing. Therefore, these areas will be covered to a greater extent than other areas. We have under Dreux Air Base, two types of "Government Controlled Housing". These are Guarantee Rental French Housing and Government owned trailers. Let us take each of these different types in turn beginning with GRFH.

#### RENTAL GUARANTEE HOUSING

GRFH units are of concrete block construction with plastic coated concrete floors. Interior and exterior walls are plaster covered. All window and door trim and moldings are wood. Ceilings are a type of plaster board. An oil paint is used for interior painting. Rental is \$85 for a small two bedroom unit (A type), \$90 for a larger two bedroom unit (B type), \$95 for a small three bedroom unit (C type), and \$100 for a larger three bedroom unit (D type). The dimensional difference between A and B type unit is approximately 9 inches in overall length and between C and D type units is approximately 11 inches in overall length. The difference is noticeable only in living room and dining room areas. All units are either duplex or quadplex buildings. Each unit has a combination living room, dining room area, a kitchen, a hallway extending back to 2 or 3 bedrooms (depending on type) and bathroom. A small enclosed shed of the same concrete block construction is attached to the back outside wall of each unit for storage purposes. The kitchen is comparatively small and has far less cupboard space than most Americans are accustomed. An apartment size electric cooking stove and a small (6 cu. ft.) electric refrigerator are furnished. Washing machine connections are not provided, but may be installed at the tenant's own expense for a nominal sum. A large electric hot water heater is furnished for each unit. The bathroom has a bathtub and other normal fixtures. A shower is installed in each bathtub with a shower curtain rail. Shower curtains are not provided. Closets are located in each bedroom and living room and a small linen or broom closet is located in the hall area. Draw-string curtain rods are provided for all windows. Heat is provided by a large forced air floor furnace in each unit. The furnace is fueled by No. 1 "Fuel Domestique", a type of heating oil. This oil is delivered by private French companies in tanker trucks as required. Payment is made on delivery to the deliveryman. The heating bill for each unit will average approximately \$15-\$25 a month over the



entire year. Electricity is 220V/50 cycle current. Portable transformers will have to be used for most American appliances. These must be provided by the tenant, and they can normally be purchased at the AFEX on base for approximately \$7-\$20 depending on what capacity desired. Sixty cycles electronic timer mechanisms (electric clocks, etc.) will not work properly on 50 cycle current. The electricity bill will also average approximately \$25-\$35 per month for a year. In the winter between December and March, French electrical rates are much higher than during the summer months. For Senonches and Chateaufort housing areas, a deposit of approximately 110 NF (\$21) will be paid to the Electricity Company at the time electricity is turned on. This deposit minus any amount owed will be refunded when the tenant vacates the unit. Personnel living in GRFH units are eligible for Housing Allowance at rates as determined by Joint Services Travel and Per Diem Committee. These rates are subject to change. Contracts for a GRFH unit are signed with the sponsor for a three year period, but a tenant may move at any time by giving at least 30 days notice.

All units are considered adequate quarters. These housing areas are managed by a resident manager. The question is often asked, "What is Rental Guarantee Housing". GRFH is housing which is contracted between the United States Government and private French realtor companies (called sponsors) to be built for occupancy by US Government employees. During the term of contract, occupancy at contracted rates is guaranteed by the US Government to be maintained at 95 per cent. In return the US Government has the right to "designate" who will live in these quarters for the duration of the contract. At the termination of the contract the US Government has the right to negotiate for continuation of the contract for two or more years at reduced rental rates. SAGA is the sponsor for Senonches and Chateaufort, called Package II. Package II was contracted for in August of 1957, and the contract is due to expire in August of 1964. Whether the contract will be renegotiated depends entirely upon the population and needs of this base at that time. It will be well at this point to mention something of the relationship between the tenant of a GRFH unit and the resident manager, who is the sponsor's representative in the area.



It must be remembered by occupants of GRFH that except for determining who will live in the units under his control, the resident manager is their landlord in every sense of the word, just as though they were living in civilian housing projects in the United States. Disputes, which occasionally arise, are normally settled between the tenant and the Resident Manager. In those cases where agreement cannot be reached between these two individuals, the Housing Officer will attempt to arbitrate the dispute. Acting in this capacity, the Housing Officer is the official representative of the Base Commander and he will base his attempt to arbitrate the dispute upon the Base Commander's policies and decisions concerning similar cases. In cases which cannot be settled by the Housing Officer, the Base Commander will arbitrate the dispute with means at his disposal and his decision is final as concerns the tenant. One important area in which disputes have arisen in the past, concerns the procedures for checking out of GRFH units when a tenant is terminating his occupancy. According to the terms of Package II the sponsor is required to completely repaint and redecorate a unit only once every three years. The sponsor is also responsible for maintenance of a unit. However, damages to a unit such as broken windows, broken and missing parts on the furnace, stove, and refrigerator, marks and dirt on walls, floors, ceiling, and woodwork, and all other such damage caused by neglect and carelessness of the tenant, are not the responsibility of the sponsor. Disputes have arisen as to who is responsible for such damage. The outgoing tenant and the Resident Manager will inspect the unit together after the tenant's personal belongings have been removed. If the unit is in good repair and completely clean so that it is ready for immediate occupancy to another tenant, the outgoing tenant is cleared. If, however, the apartment has need of repairs, an agreement must be reached before the Resident Manager will clear the tenant. In some cases the unit must be completely repainted. In those cases where the responsibility is the tenant's he will pay a proportionate share of the cost for repainting, based upon when the unit was last repainted, how much of the damage is his fault, and how long he has lived in the unit. All other damages caused by the tenant are also paid. The manager assumes full responsibility after agreement is reached for placing the unit in condition. The repairs to be made are noted on an inspection form. Before designating the unit to the new tenant, another inspection is made to ascertain that all repairs agreed upon were accomplished.

The Base Commander requires periodic inspection of quarters areas to insure satisfactory standards of cleanliness, sanitation, and safety. Person failing to meet reasonable standards will be reported to their Unit Commanders for appropriate action. Repeat offenders will be required to vacate quarters. Personnel who are required to vacate Government controlled quarters, and who move



onto local economy must have the quarters into which they are moving into inspected for sanitary requirements.

#### GOVERNMENT TRAILERS

There are 243 Government trailers on base at Dreux. Waiting list is compiled and managed in the same manner as are the list of GRFH. Waiting time is approximately 2 years for trailers. Eligibility and assignment are also the same except at the time of notification for movement personnel must have 3 months remaining in the Command. Maintenance is provided by Civil Engineer. Trailers with large "lean-to's" will primarily be for personnel with two or more children if available.

Rental for each trailer is \$35 per month. Electricity is 115V/50 cycle. A flat rate for electricity, garbage collection, and water of \$5 per month is charged. These are paid monthly at the Bank of America. Heat is provided by kerosene forced air furnaces. Kerosene is delivered to each individual trailer by the POL section as needed and the average year-around cost is \$10-\$15 monthly. Tenants are billed monthly by POL. Bottled gas from two outside bottles is used for cooking and water heating. Gas delivery is conducted on base once weekly.

When these trailers were emplaced, the original attached lean-to's were constructed with one room and an overhanging roof. The original reason for building lean-to's was to provide space for tenants to store personal belongings. Since they were not originally designed for anything but storage the construction was simple. The foundation was poured as a concrete slab. A wooden frame was erected with a tar paper roof, including the overhang. Outside walls were attached and everything made as waterproof as possible. If a tenant desires to finish the inside and/or construct another room he can do so at his expense and in accordance with specifications as approved by the Base Civil Engineer. Upon departing their trailers those personnel who do such building are not allowed to sell their equity for modifications and additions. This, of course, is because the addition and modification were voluntarily made and become Government property. The Base Engineer is not responsible for maintenance of anything except the original construction and the trailer itself. No records of such modification are maintained by the Housing Office. If the trailer is in need of major repair it will not be certified ready for occupancy until such time as repairs have been accomplished. Each vacating tenant is held entirely responsible for cleanliness and condition of his trailer, and he will not be cleared from his trailer until it has been inspected and cleared by a Housing Office representative.



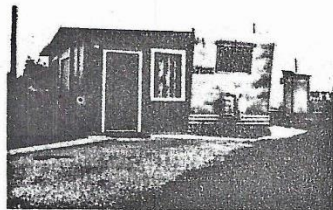
Government trailers are furnished or unfurnished (depending upon the sponsors desires). Furniture available is: double bed, two bunk beds, refrigerator, stove, folding leaf table, six chairs, couch (makes into bed) and one upholstered chair. This furniture is the property of the Base Housing Office and will be signed for by the tenant during the acceptance inspection. Trailers were placed on the base as an emergency solution to the family housing problem and are considered inadequate and substandard quarters. They are used only when adequate quarters are not available (GRFH). For your information trailers are 8' by 45', have a small bathroom with sit down tub and shower.

#### ELIGIBILITY AND WAITING LISTS

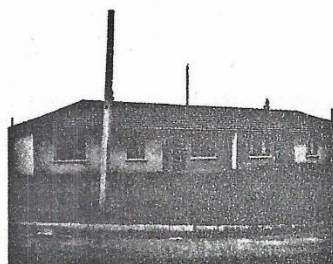
Personnel may apply for the two types of housing (GRFH and trailers). At time of certification, one may accept or refuse. If a person refuses one type of housing, he may request that his name be replaced on the bottom of the waiting list, for the type of housing he has refused. In the event Guarantee Rental Housing is refused, eligibility for Base Trailer is relinquished. A waiting list for GRFH and trailers is maintained by the Housing Office. This list is divided into four categories: Officer three bedroom, Officer two bedroom, Enlisted three bedroom, and Enlisted two bedroom. The Officer or Enlisted man who applies for GRFH and trailer is placed upon the appropriate two or three bedroom waiting list in accordance with 7305th Support Squadron Regulation 30-1. The individuals position on the waiting list in his category is determined by his priority date. In most cases this priority date is the individual's date of departure from the Zone of Interior. However, if he was not eligible for family housing at the time he left the ZI, the priority date would be one of the following:

- a. Date of Marriage after departing ZI
- b. Date of accumulation of 4 years service as an E-4

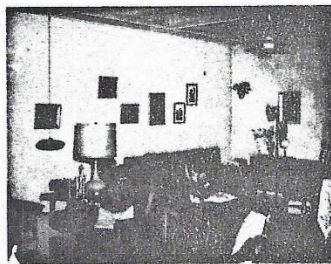
If an eligible individual delays applying for Government Controlled quarters after 45 days from his date of PCS arrival at this station or other date of eligibility, his date of priority will be the date that he applies for such change. During the period when an individual is on the waiting list, awaiting certification, his name may be displaced by the application of an individual whose priority date would place him ahead of another on the list. However, once an individual is notified that he may move he cannot be placed on the certified list by such subsequent arrivals.



Trailer



Garage



Living Room of Apartment



### HOLD BAGGAGE

You are authorized to ship certain items as hold baggage dependent upon weight and size. This baggage may accompany you or in most cases, arrive at your destination approximately a week or two later.

Since your household goods will normally not arrive in France until 60 to 90 days after being picked up by the Transportation Officer at your base, it is suggested that you ship in your hold baggage those items such as cooking utensils, linens, silverware, baby needs and clothing will permit comfortable living while awaiting your household goods.

Because of weight and size of limitations on hold baggage, care should be taken that only those items for which you will have immediate needs be sent. The Transportation Officer at your present station will assist you and give you more information concerning the limitations.

### MEDICAL FACILITIES

Dreux maintains a Class "B" Dispensary for outpatient care and immediate needs. Medical care is furnished by a 100 bed hospital, specialty clinics in internal medicine, general surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology at Evreux, approximately one hour by car from Dreux.

Those with illnesses that cannot be effectively treated at Evreux are air-evacuated to the hospital at Wiesbaden Air Base, Germany.

A closely monitored immunization schedule is carried out at Dreux Dispensary for all personnel assigned to the base. This schedule is an important safeguard to the health of all personnel.

Dental care is available on the base for all military personnel and on a limited basis for dependents of military personnel. It is encouraged, however, that dependents have any major dental problems corrected prior to departing the United States.

There are competent and reputable physicians and dentists in the larger towns surrounding the base, and of course, in Paris. Medical and dental care from civilian sources at Government expense is not authorized except in extreme emergency cases.

Illnesses or injuries requiring immediate hospitalization can be handled by local hospitals temporarily until such time the patient can be moved to a military hospital.

## EDUCATION

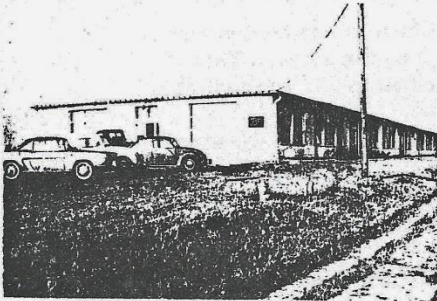
Dependent schooling in France is virtually identical to education systems of the United States and is arranged to make the transition from and to Stateside schools as easy for the student as possible.

The Dreux Air Base Dependent School is for children in grades one through twelve.

Many dependent children attend local French schools where the scholastic standards are quite high. Naturally, the language barrier is a handicap at first, but is quickly overcome especially by the very young children. The University of Paris, popularly called Sorbonne, is an excellent university for those who seek degrees in the social and scientific fields. Les Beaux Arts in Paris is a reputable college offering courses in painting, sculpture, drama and architecture.

Evreux-Fauville Air Base Education Services Office makes available to officers and airmen educational programs ranging from the elementary level through study for a college degree. This office also enrolls students in USAFI and ECI (Air University) courses, and administers GED, Achievement and Subject tests. Group Study classes are conducted on base during duty hours and off-duty hours.

Of particular interest is the University of Maryland's programs leading to a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies. Nearly all of the required courses are taught at nearby Evreux-Fauville Air Base.



## HIGH SCHOOL

A fully accredited American High School, activated in September 1960, operates with an average enrollment of 400 students. In accordance with the current feeder plan for USAFE Dependent Schools, Dreux American High School serves as the accredited home for eligible students from Crete, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Egypt, Spain and France. Dependents of all branches of US Military Services, Embassy Officials and Attaches, may enroll on a space available basis.



The school serves the Evreux-Fauville Air Base on a 5-day week student basis. Dormitories provide adequate billeting facilities for boys and girls; a "home away from home" for students from remote areas.

All subjects normally accorded students attending high schools in the United States are available to Dreux American High School. Course composition and teacher qualifications meet standards as laid down by the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges, one of the leading accreditors of American educational institutions.

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A newly renovated elementary school, located on base serves the surrounding housing areas as well as the base itself. Serving grades one through six the elementary school has an average enrollment of 260. Except for French Language Class, American teachers are utilized. An active PTA group forms an integral part of the dependent education program for the elementary as well as high school and kindergarten.

#### KINDERGARTEN

A kindergarten is operated as an affiliate part of the Dreux Elementary School and is sponsored by the Dreux Parent Teachers Association. Fees to cover the cost of hiring a teacher are paid by the individual parents, at a rate of \$10 per student per month. First and last month fees are payable at the time of registration. Two sessions of the kindergarten are normally conducted each day, with students attending either one of the morning or afternoon sessions. This is chiefly due to the large enrollment.

#### FAMILY SERVICES

In an effort to make new personnel feel welcome and at home at Dreux Air Base and to acquaint them with the personnel and activities of their new assignment, the Family Services Office is established to provide the following services:

When the Base is notified that a family is assigned to Dreux, the Welcoming Committee immediately appoints a sponsor who sends the family an information brochure and a letter telling a bit about the Base

and France. Upon arrival, the family is greeted at Orly Field in Paris by a welcoming sponsor, if available, and accompanied to Dreux where they move into a furnished transient trailer at the cost of \$3.00 per day.

Once the family is settled, the sponsor assists them in clearing onto the Base, in becoming familiar with the facilities at Dreux, and in securing permanent housing.

Housing Services also maintains a Lending Service offering household items which may be needed temporarily by the family, i. e., cribs, playpens, dishes, silverware, cooking utensils, etc. The office and the Lending Service are located in Building 31 in the Housing Office. A member of Welcoming Committee will also visit the family to brief them on the social and service activities of the Base.

Periodically a Family Services Orientation Course is offered to assist wives acquainting them with their rights, benefits, and privileges as dependents of military personnel. In addition there is a special committee established to assist in situations of an emergency nature. It is on call 24 hours a day to provide transportation, babysitting, shopping, casualty assistance, etc.

#### BANKING

The Bank of America, located on this Base, furnishes full banking facilities for all your banking needs.

#### LIBRARY

The Base Library is in Building 57. It offers a variety of reading material including fiction, nonfiction, biographies, children's books, and technical and professional volumes. There are two reading rooms and a music room. Long playing records of classical music are available on a loan basis.

#### TRAVEL AGENCY

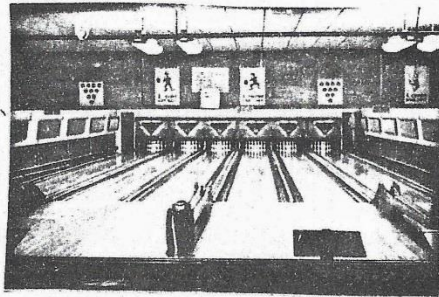
For the convenience of military personnel and their dependents, a travel agency is located at the Service Club at nearby Evreux-Fauville Air Base. Here, reservations can be made for all types of transportation



to all points in the world. As an added service, the agency will make reservations at reputable hotels throughout Europe. Seats for concerts, theatres, music halls and nightclubs in Paris can also be obtained through the agency. For your convenience the travel agency has a representative one day per week at Dreux Air Base.

#### THEATRE

The Base Theatre, Le Normandie, is equipped to show cinemescope movies. The latest American films are shown twice nightly with matinees on Saturday and Sunday.



#### BOWLING ALLEY

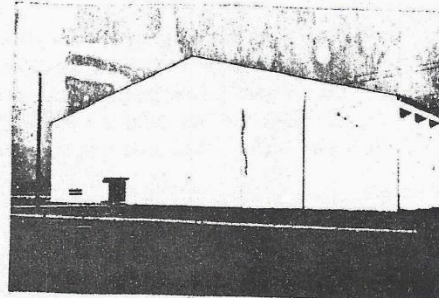
A modern six lane, automatic pin setting bowling alley was recently completed on base. Shoes are available on rental basis at the Alley. There are several bowling

leagues for dependents and military personnel, and the alley has proven to be one of the most popular facilities on base.

#### ATHLETICS

The base has a modern gymnasium with locker and shower facilities. Special Services has athletic equipment for all popular sports including baseball, softball, tennis, golf, basketball, soccer, and volley ball. The base has baseball, softball and football fields.

A new annex features a handball court, weight and work out room and steam baths.



A nine hole golf course and driving range is now in full operation. The nearest French golf courses are in Versailles, Paris and Rouen.

### RADIO

Dreux Air Base now has Armed Forces Network Radio operating on the FM Band at 950MC. AFN includes many broadcasts here in Europe as well as rebroadcasts from the United States and keeps an up-to-the-minute newscasts schedule. You will find the AFN Schedule similar to commercial stations in the United States.

### TELEVISION

Although Armed Forces Television Networks have been forecasted for France, it will probably be far in the future before it is in actual operation. American television sets must be converted to receive Paris telecasts. This is usually very expensive.

### APPLIANCES

When refrigerators are included in a furnished house on the economy as well as in the Guarantee Rental houses, they are quite small and may not meet the needs of a large family. With the use of a transformer, American refrigerators operate normally. American electric clothes dryers operate more slowly due to the reduced cycles of the current.

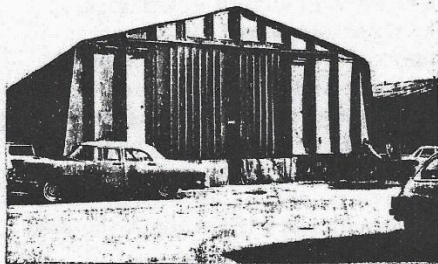
Air cooling systems are of little value in this area since the temperature rarely remains high enough to make such units practical. The weather is generally cool and damp. The winters are similar to those of the Middle Atlantic States while the summers are relatively cool with a few hot days. Rain is abundant in all seasons.

### CLOTHING

Although the Base Exchange carries a variety of clothing for all seasons you may wish to purchase your wardrobe in the States. Be sure to include sufficient rain clothing, as it will probably be your most frequently worn outfit.

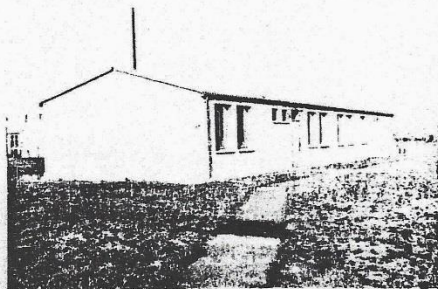


### AUTO HOBBY SHOP



There is a complete auto hobby shop available with trained supervisor on duty to handle any automotive repair from tune ups to a major overhaul.

### PHOTO HOBBY SHOP

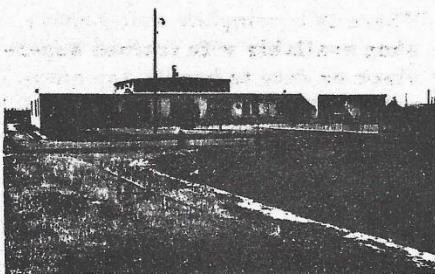


The Photo Hobby Shop offers complete facilities for developing and printing all types of pictures from portraits to snap shots. There is a trained attendant on duty.

### WOODWORKING HOBBY SHOP

There is available a woodworking shop with tools to do any job you want to undertake. There is an experienced assistant on duty. All hobby shops are used in conjunction with the school.

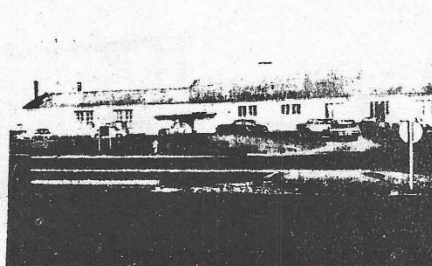
### DREUX OPEN MESS



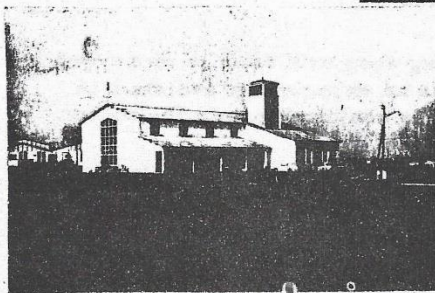
Always the centers of activity, the Open Mess and Officers' Annex provides the best in entertainment and meals for members and their guests. Touring shows and bands are presented regularly. The finest European and American dishes are served as well as special holiday dinners throughout the year. Dues are moderate.

### YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Under the American Youth Association are such activities as the Teen Club, Boy Scouts, Brownies, and Cub Scouts. The Community Services Center is used by these groups for club meetings, dances and other social activities. All youth activities are supervised by professional personnel who have had experience in planning youth programs.



### CHAPEL

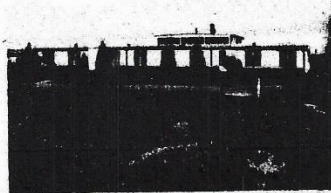


Personnel are encouraged to worship in the faith of their choice. There is one Chapel on the Base, in which Protestant, and Catholic services are conducted. Jewish services are conducted at Evreux-Fauville Air Base and the Jewish Chaplain is on call at all times.

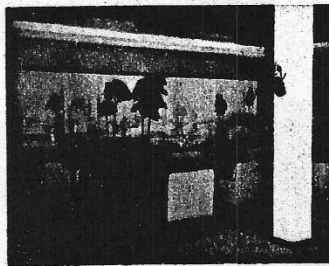
All personnel are urged to take advantage of the beautiful USARER Retreat Facility in Berchtesgaden, Germany as well as to visit the countless shrines and cathedrals of France steeped in centuries of religious tradition.



NCO OPEN MESS



NCO Open Mess

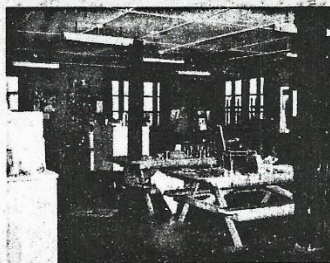


Lounge

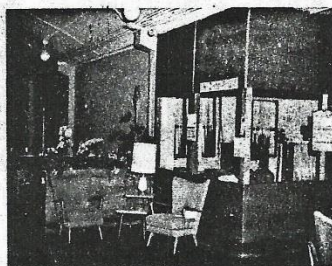
SERVICE CLUB



Service Club Lounge



Ceramics Shop



Information Bureau



A detailed list of Protestant and Catholic services in the civilian churches in the Paris Area is carried each weekend in the Herald Tribune Newspaper.

We have a very active Protestant Women of the Chapel Guild; Protestant Men of the Chapel; Protestant Youth of the Chapel; a Catholic Ladies Altar Society; and a Catholic Holy Name Society for the men; which we urge you to join.

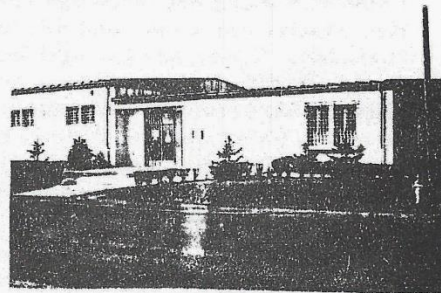
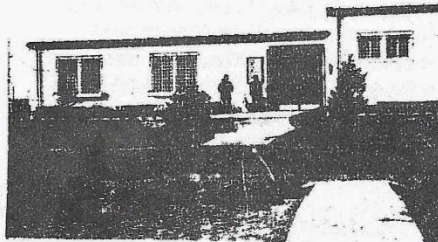
#### HUNTING

The most popular game is partridge, rabbit, pheasant, wild boar and deer. Hunting is a very popular sport with the French and hunting areas are numerous. In order to preserve the game and to promote safety, the French have certain hunting laws and regulations which must be complied with by military personnel. Information on game laws is available in the French Liaison Office on the base. Access to a leased hunting area approximately 1300 acres in size is provided through a nearby Rod and Gun Club. Complete information may be obtained from the Dreux Rod and Gun Club.

#### AMERICAN RED CROSS

A Field Office of the American National Red Cross is maintained at Evreux-Fauville Air Base, France. A representative of this office is present at this base on Thursdays to assist in any problem which may arise.

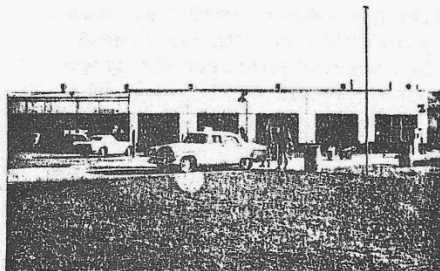
#### BASE EXCHANGE



The Base Exchange is in operation five and one half days a week. Similar to the exchanges in the U.S., it carries clothing, household

utensils, gift items, toilet articles, tobacco, etc. Presently, the only rationed items in the main store of the exchange are cigarettes. Each person is allowed 4 cartons per month. Those items which are not normally stocked can be obtained by special order. Catalogs of the major mail order companies in the U.S., as well as in European countries, are available at the Base Exchange.

### GAS STATION



The Air Force Exchange System (AFEX) operates a gas station, garage, and auto parts store on the base. Gasoline is also a rationed item, with allowances based on the size of the automobile. The normal allowance is 280 litres per month for small European cars to 400 litres per month for American types (1 gallon equals 3.7 litres). Coupons are

bought on a monthly basis in 80 and 200 litre books. Gasoline costs approximately 18 cents a gallon. Good quality regular gas is available on base and at many Esso Service Stations throughout France. Without the coupons, gas costs approximately 75 cents per gallon. Esso stations authorized to accept these coupons are numerous, and are identified by clearly visible signs.

The AFEX garage offers limited services, although facilities are constantly being expanded and improved. Presently, only lubrication, tire repair, car wash, and minor repair and adjustment services are available. There are General Motors garages in Chartres, Dreux and Paris. Many smaller garages are located in surrounding towns and villages but service is extremely slow, expensive and often not satisfactory. Parts may be difficult to obtain and quite expensive. Although these garages are frequently patronized by base personnel, many of the mechanics are still not familiar enough with American automobiles to offer the best service.

The Auto Parts Store is conveniently located next door to the garage and filling station. Some accessories and small parts are stocked but not a complete line. Items can be obtained by special order, with a waiting period of two to six weeks. There is little difficulty in obtaining tires and batteries.



If you plan to ship a car from the United States, be certain that it is in the best condition before delivering it to the port.

### COMMISSARY



The Base Commissary carries a complete line of canned goods, meats, frozen food, fresh fruits and vegetables. Buying food items on the French Market is usually discouraged, since sanitation standards in France do not measure up to American standards. The commissary is open each day

except Sunday. AFEX operates a delicatessen which is open every day and carries a limited variety of food items.

### LAUNDROMAT

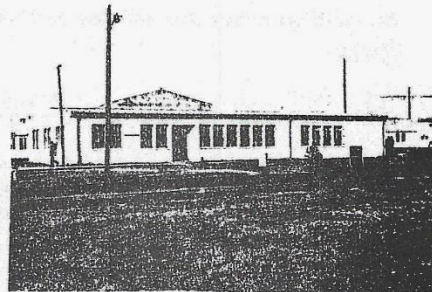
A base laundromat is located in Building T-114, and is available for use by all personnel.

### LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING

Dry cleaning is ready for pick-up on Tuesday and Friday, at the main exchange. A military laundry pick-up point is located in Bldg. 132.

### POST OFFICE

The Base Post Office offers complete mailing facilities including stamps, registry and parcel post. Mail drops are conveniently located at points throughout the base and letters are picked up once a day. On the average, air mail letters coming from or going to any place in the U.S., take three days while ordinary letters take about two weeks.



Your address at Dreux Air Base will be:

RANK, NAME, AFSN  
ORGANIZATION  
APO 84, New York, New York

### AUTOMOBILES

An automobile has become almost a necessity rather than a luxury. The commercial means of transportation are slow and often not available to and from certain rural areas. Chances are that you will live in one of the surrounding towns. In this case, a car would be most desirable.

If you plan to bring a vehicle with you, your transportation officer will assist you in the necessary preliminaries for the delivery of your car to the port of embarkation. If the car is taken to the port by any one other than yourself, be sure the individual has your power of attorney. The legal office at your present station will supply you with more information concerning this. It usually takes three to eight weeks for the car to arrive in France. Upon the vehicle's arrival, you will be given three days TDY at no expense to the Government to pick up your car. The car will arrive at either Saint Nazaire or La Rochelle, which are about 192 and 237 miles, respectively, from Dreux. If you have your insurance, registration papers, license plates and title, the processing time will be cut greatly. Most of the required items can be obtained either at Dreux or the Port.

Under the French Law, no vehicle entering the country free of import taxes can be sold on the French market without first paying the tax. If you plan to sell your car in France, most cars have to be sold to other American military personnel since this tax is very large.

### TRAFFIC

European traffic laws and customs differ from those in America in many ways, but after a few days of driving, it becomes less complicated. Fortunately, traffic is on the right side of the road. Although automatic traffic signals utilize the familiar red, yellow and green



lights, the road signs are quite different. For the most part, designs are used rather than words to minimize the confusion which might result from a lack of reading knowledge of French. Unfortunately, signs and signals are not always placed where they are needed and defensive driving is necessary at all times. At intersections where there are no signs, the vehicle on the right has the right of way. The French often exercise this right without looking for approaching vehicles. Bicycle traffic is heavy as it is a very popular means of transportation in France.

French motorists may drive a little too fast for the road conditions since there are few speed limits on the open highway. Pedestrians and cyclists seem particularly careless. Many of the sidewalks in the smaller towns are not quite wide enough to accommodate crowds so they walk on the streets with little regard for passing traffic.

Driving in Paris is just as hectic as in any other metropolis and many find it more convenient to park their car and use the excellent subway system. There are very definite rules concerning parking in France and especially in Paris.

Pamphlets containing European road signs are available in the Transportation Office, Bldg 94. While you are waiting for your automobile to arrive, you should study this booklet. If you have a valid driver's license from any state, you will not be required to pass a road test before being issued your license here. However, you must pass a written test based on information contained in the booklet. The same applies to dependents.

The importance of safe, courteous driving cannot be overstressed. Obey the laws and regulations, and make this tour a safe one for you and your family.

## LOCAL HISTORY

### DREUX

Legend has it that the city of Dreux was founded shortly after the Biblical flood, by one King Drius, and thus takes its name. It is more historically feasible, however, that the name was derived from the Druids; pagan priests and judges who lived in the forests of this country when the ancestors of most western Europeans roamed the trans-alpine regions dressed in skins and painted blue.

Historical fact indicates that Dreux existed during this period, when France was known as Gaul and the original native was a proud celtic warrior whose home was a wattle hut; and whose favorite pastime was taking the heads of his enemies. These he preserved with cedar oil and hung at his doorpost.

At the time of the Roman conquest, Dreux gained importance as the intersection of several highways built up by the invaders. A fortified camp is said to have been built there during the early centuries AD,, and many vestiges of Roman Life and times have been unearthed in this area. As the empire builders from the Tiber faded from influence, little is known of Dreux until the 10th century, when it became and remained for more than 400 years - an important strategic point in the denfese of France against the powerfull Dukes of Normandy. At this time, a great fortress stood on the hill overlooking the valley and town. Remains of these fortifications can still be seen.

The Dukes repulsed, a brief century of comparative quietness followed. Then, with the outbreak of the 16th century religious wars, fighting raged in and around Dreux once more. Finally, in 1593, the town was conquered by King Henri IV who ordered its fortress and battlements torn down.

During more contemporary periods of French history, the county Dreux belonged to the Royal Family of France, and was often entrusted to members of collateral branches. Thusly, it became the property of the Orleans branch, whose members were buried in Saint-Stephan's Church, built on the hill where the old fortress stood.

During the Revolution, in 1793, St.-Stephan's was destroyed, and the remains of the Orleans thrown into a common grave. In 1816, however, the Duchess of Orleans had a new church built. This was enlarged and embellished by her son, Louis Philippe, who became King in 1830. This was done to provide a burial place for himself and his descendents, of whom none were destined to reign. Some interesting stained glass work made during Louis' reign by the Royal Manufacture at Sevres can be seen today in the crypt.

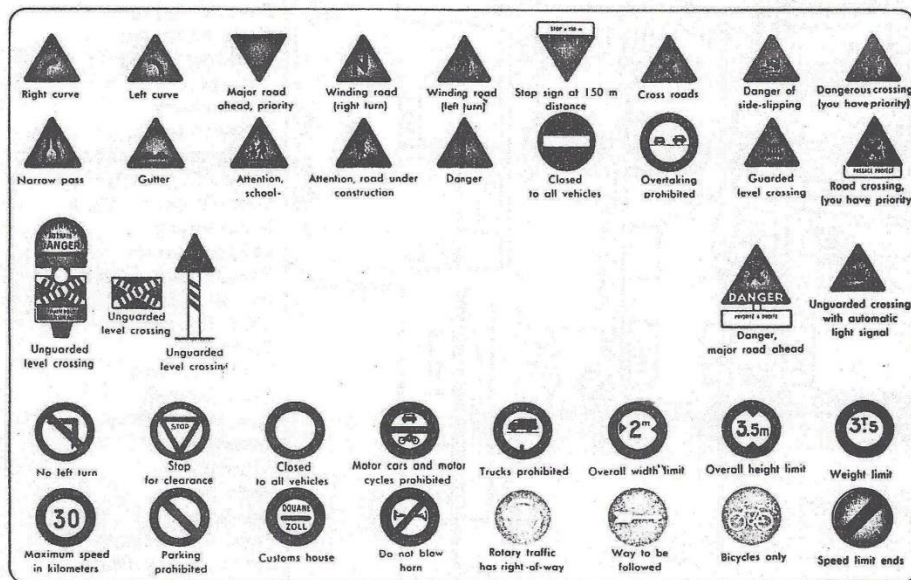
Down in the town, the "Beffroi", a combination town hall and watch tower, build in 1512, still stands as a fine example of Renaissance architecture.



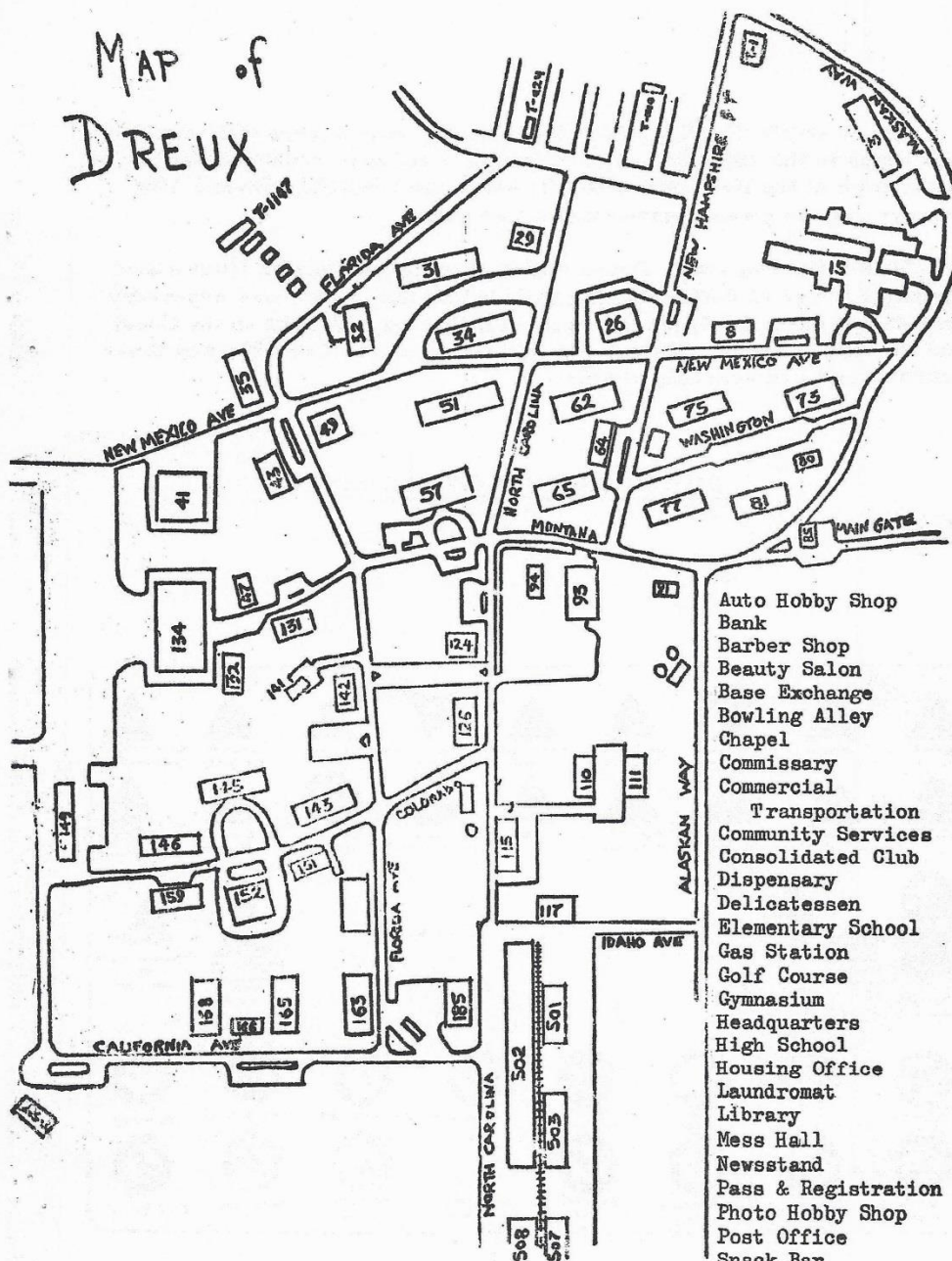
Saint Peter's Church, which faces on the main square of Dreux, was begun in the 13th century, and though it suffered cruel mutilation at the time of the Revolution, it still has some beautiful 15th and 16th century stained glass windows and a fine organ.

Within our own time, Dreux suffered some destruction from Allied air raids aimed at destroying the railroad station. This was especially true during early 1944, when it was vital that all rail links to the Coast and Normandy be cut. Today, however, the town has rebuilt, and these scars of war are scarcely visible.

### EUROPEAN ROAD SIGNS



# MAP of DREUX



Auto Hobby Shop	41
Bank	132
Barber Shop	142
Beauty Salon	142
Base Exchange	126
Bowling Alley	T-1147
Chapel	43
Commissary	124
Commercial	
Transportation	508
Community Services	57
Consolidated Club	152
Dispensary	15
Delicatessen	126
Elementary School	62
Gas Station	185
Golf Course	T-537
Gymnasium	29
Headquarters	145
High School	3
Housing Office	31
Laundromat	T-1114
Library	57
Mess Hall	26
Newsstand	57
Pass & Registration	85
Photo Hobby Shop	47
Post Office	142
Snack Bar	57
Theater	49
Wood Hobby Shop	35