

**The original documents are located in Box 28, folder “State Visits - Giscard d'Estaing (2)” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Ron Nessen donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

*State Visit to the United States*  
*of*  
**VALERY GISCARD d'ESTAING**

*President of the French Republic*

MAY 17-22, 1976



*AMBASSADE DE FRANCE*  
*SERVICE DE PRESSE ET D'INFORMATION*

972 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021 REgent 7-9700

STATE VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE

Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, President of the French Republic, will pay a state visit to the United States at the invitation of President Ford, from Monday, May 17 to Saturday, May 22. In addition to Washington, the President will visit Yorktown, Philadelphia, Houston, Lafayette and New Orleans.

President and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing will arrive at Andrews Air Force Base in the morning of May 17. They will go directly to the White House for the welcome by President and Mrs. Ford. The President will have his first meeting with President Ford immediately afterwards.

That same day, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing will go to Arlington National Cemetery for a wreath-laying ceremony. This will be followed by a reception at Anderson House given by the Society of the Cincinnati. In the evening, President and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing will be guests of President and Mrs. Ford at a banquet at the White House.

On Tuesday, the French President will have a second meeting with President Ford at the White House. He will then go directly to Capitol Hill to address a joint session of Congress. A luncheon at the State Department will be given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing by Secretary of State and Mrs. Kissinger. That evening the President will be host to Mr. and Mrs. Ford at a dinner at the French Embassy.

Wednesday morning, the President and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing will attend ceremonies at the Victory Center and Victory Monument near Yorktown. The President will unveil the last marker on the route taken by Washington's and Rochambeau's troops.

From there they will go to Philadelphia to be met by Governor Shapp and Mayor Rizzo. A luncheon will be given in their honor by the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia and the United States Council of the International Chamber of Commerce.

In the afternoon they will go to Independence Hall where the President will present copies of two French paintings of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette which used to hang on the walls of the early Congresses and which disappeared during the 19th century. The President will then address a joint gathering of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania and members of the University of Pennsylvania outside Independence Hall. He will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Science in Economics.

On returning to Washington that evening, the President and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing will drive with President and Mrs. Ford to Mount Vernon for the first presentation of the Sound and Light Show, France's official gift to the United States for the Bicentennial. Afterwards, the two Presidents and the First Ladies will meet guests in George Washington's home.

The next morning, May 20, the President will meet with American journalists at the National Press Club. Later that morning, Mr. and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing will leave for Houston from Andrews Air Force Base. On their arrival they will go directly to a ranch for a barbecue lunch. In the evening there will be a gala dinner given by Mayor Hofheinz of Houston.



On Friday morning, May 21, Mr. and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing will arrive at Lafayette, Louisiana, where they will be met by Governor Edwards and Mayor Bowen. They will attend ceremonies at Blackham Coliseum at the University of Southwestern Louisiana where they will be presented with certificates making them honorary citizens of Acadia. The President will address the gathering in French.

Immediately after the ceremonies, they will fly to New Orleans where they will be welcomed by Mayor Landrieu. They will drive directly to the Superdome for a luncheon given by Governor Edwards. Afterwards they will tour the city. In the evening they will attend a banquet given for them by the Mayor.

The next day the President will leave for Paris from New Orleans Airport. The Concorde is scheduled to take off in the morning and will make a stopover in Guadeloupe.

Many events will be open to the press; at others, press pools are being arranged.

Further information regarding the program and arrangements may be obtained in Washington from: The French Embassy (Tel.: (202) AD 4-0990)

- Mr. Renaud Vignal
- Mrs. Solange Shulman
- Miss Danielle Manier

The State Department (Tel.: (202) 632-0685) Miss Mary Masserini

in New York : The Press and Information Division of the French Embassy  
(Tel.: (212) RE 7-9700)

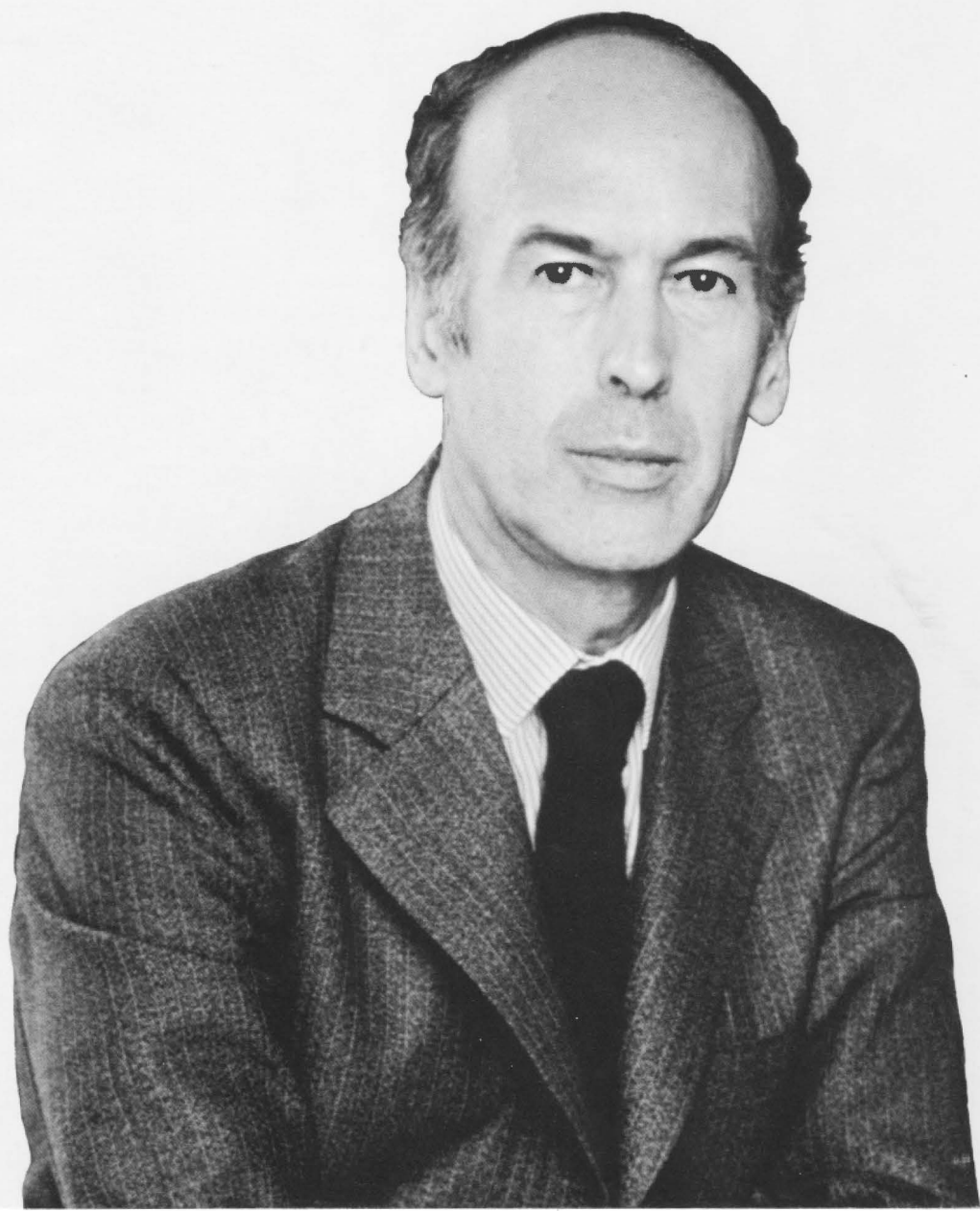
- Mrs. Monique Polgar
- Miss Anne-Marie de La Boissière
- Mr. Laurent Lemarchand

in Houston : Mr. Louis Vorms, Consul General (Tel.: (713) 228-0128)

in New Orleans : Mr. Alain Gouhier, Press Attache (Tel.: (504) 897-6381)

*VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING*

*THE MAN  
AND  
THE PRESIDENT*



*I started school in Paris where my family was living—I have five brothers and sisters. I studied all the usual things, and later entered the Lycée Janson de Sailly. . . . I took the math and philosophy “bachots” the same year.*

*In school I had my ups and downs. . . . But I rallied for senior year. . . .*



At age 18 serving as a Free French volunteer in the Second World War



Finance Minister Giscard d'Estaing speaking to the French National Assembly



As a Boy Scout

*. . . I joined the Resistance. I was 18 at the time. I was with a first cousin . . . and our dream was to get to England. . . . It had even been arranged. . . . One of our friends was the contact for the operation. . . . [He] was caught. . . . We couldn't leave.*

*. . . My cousin and I joined France's First Army which had landed in Provence; both of us signed up with the same regiment, one of the tank regiments. . . . For me war was a kind of moment of truth. . . .*

*I spent two years at the Ecole Polytechnique and then went to the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) but not right away. I finished up at Polytechnique in July and started at ENA the following January. During the six-month hiatus I went abroad. I used to have a motorcycle but I sold it and the money paid my way to Canada. I stayed there for six months teaching in a school and getting to know North America; then I returned to France.*

By the age of 26, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing was already a high-ranking civil servant in the Finance Ministry. He pursued elective and appointive careers alternatively and at the age of 36 became one of France's youngest Ministers of Finance and Economic Affairs ever, holding this position for a total of nine years. He was also elected to the National Assembly and served as mayor of Chamalières, a town near Clermont-Ferrand.

Valéry Giscard d'Estaing was elected President of the French Republic by universal suffrage on May 19, 1974.



With his wife and children

*My family life was not really affected by my public life since my children were very small then, and I thought it would not be good for them to grow up knowing they were the children of a cabinet minister. . . . My children are the most precious things in the world to me; they are completely open, sensitive, capable and they have all the qualities I would like to have. . . .*

*There are two areas of the arts that attract me, and those are music and literature. . . . In music, as in all the things I try my hand at, there is something that can be called perfection. I think Mozart is perfection itself. . . .*

*I admire many writers in all categories, but I have a special admiration for Maupassant and Flaubert in French literature.*



Walking in the woods near his home in the country



The President and his wife vacationing in the French Alps

*I am a person who likes to be in the country. I love the country and I like animals, especially dogs. . . . Whenever I can, I go to the country; I like to go for walks and lead a rural life.*

*Some sports I am very fond of, such as skiing, which I really like, and tennis, too. Other sports I do occasionally, for instance swimming, but I am not really very good at it; I do it for the exercise but I am not a fanatic.*



At the wheel of his car



*I have always written things for my own pleasure and I have always wanted to publish. But in writing, as in the things I say . . . I am a perfectionist. I try to achieve perfection in form; I say "try" because one never does achieve it, but I try anyway. . . .*



Town Hall at Chamalières, where the President used to be Mayor

*. . . I am rather tall—over six feet—and tall people are naturally considered a bit haughty since they often have to look down on people. I do not believe I am haughty. . . . If you visit my own town of Chamalières, no one will say I am haughty.*



Valéry Giscard d'Estaing as Finance Minister meeting with Secretary of State Fowler and Under Secretary of State George Ball

*I do not remember being particularly ambitious when I was young. I was like everybody else—that is, I wanted to succeed, I was enthusiastic, I liked what I was doing. . . . When I entered public life I went through an ambitious stage in which I wanted to hold high office. I was interested in doing this and when I attained these positions I was proud of being there. . . .*

## ON FRENCH AFFAIRS...



Walking to his inauguration



Taking office at the Elysée Palace

### The Presidency

*A president must be able to conceive a line of action and hold it for a certain period of time. Unlike others, he cannot allow himself the luxury of changing with every breeze. As I define it, steadfastness consists not in seeking out opposition, but in maintaining as long as it is useful the line of action one has chosen.*

Television broadcast,  
November 26, 1974



Voters in the March 1973 legislative elections

#### The Democratic System

*The first aim, if I can put it so, is to dust some of the cobwebs off the Republic. To my mind the basic characteristic of a republic, that is of a democratic system, is its responsiveness to the human realities of its time; democracy—and by the way this is written into our Constitution—consists in governing for the people and with the people, and thus the representative institutions of democracy have to be a mirror of their age; they have to be very unaffected and very direct, without of course neglecting or denying the traditions that have come down to us through history.*

Press meeting, July 25, 1974

#### Need for Dialogue With the Opposition

*In the dangerous, changing world we live in, a world rarely predictable except by irresponsible people, my specific task is to see that France is a country of stability, freedom, security and controlled progress. For this, we need unity. That was my purpose when I proposed dialogue with the opposition leaders; it wasn't a trap. That is the aim of the appeal I am making today to union leaders and professional organizations and also to ordinary French men and women.*

Remarks made over French Television, September 4, 1975



The President at his desk

#### French Institutions

*The problem as far as our institutions in France are concerned is not a permanent one. But there is a problem in the way these institutions evolve. As you know, our present system, the Fifth Republic as amended by the referendum of 1962, is a "presidentialist" system that is one in which the powers of the President of the Republic are very important regarding the momentum he gives to policy. It is not a presidential system per se because within the framework of our Constitution Parliament has its own powers which permit it to use a motion of censure to reopen debate on the direction of the policy followed by the government, that the President of the Republic has named.*

Press meeting, July 25, 1974



Aboard the French nuclear submarine Le Terrible

#### An Independent Defense Policy

*I have thought at length about this problem and I have reached the conclusion—the same one reached by General de Gaulle—that France has to have an independent defense system.*

*France is part of an alliance, but she must guarantee her defense herself, in an independent manner.*

*This implies two things: first of all, that we ourselves must have the means needed to guarantee our defense and secondly, that we ourselves must decide on the circumstances under which we should use these means. These are the principles that currently guide France's independent defense policy.*

Television broadcast, March 25, 1975



#### Growth and Reform

*My intention is to see that France is in the front ranks of the medium-sized powers in the world. . . . France used to be a superpower, practically until World War I, but our size, population and natural resources prevent us from being so today. We can, however, be in the forefront of the medium-sized powers, but this will necessitate continued and substantial economic growth. . . . A certain degree of economic and social consensus is also needed, in other words the French people have to agree to work together toward the same goal. To do this, they must feel that they are equal partners and are getting a fair deal in French society. The way to reach this consensus, to give them this sense of fairness, is through reform. . . .*

Press meeting, April 22, 1976

#### Education

*Our society must make it easier for every individual to achieve personal fulfillment in terms of his own aptitudes and preferences. Hence the fundamental role of a completely democratic education, adapted to the individual needs of each person. Hence the vital importance of adult education.*

Message to Parliament, May 30, 1974





### Quality of Life

*In a humanist society, of which France should be a model and perhaps an example for others to follow, the state does not and should not claim to administer the people's happiness or impose its fiat on daily life. But in France, a land without extremes, a land which has been civilized and cultivated for centuries, the state must act so that age-old landscapes are respected and needless change is avoided. It must act so that open spaces are preserved and utilized with the active cooperation of the rural citizenry. It must act so that in urban France, the emphasis is put on providing services as well as amenities, on the planning of time as well as on the organization of space. The focus should be less directly on new construction than on better utilization of our existing inheritance. . . .*

*Protect, embellish, purify, soften, improve the environment of our daily life—this is an essential task today.*

Speech for the installation of the High Committee of the Environment, October 29, 1975

## ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS...

### France's Foreign Policy

*. . . France's foreign policy . . . shows four characteristics. First of all, sovereignty of decision: France intends to be free to make the decisions that affect the development of international relations and therefore free to make these decisions on her own, while naturally respecting the treaties and agreements she has signed.*

*Secondly, it is a world-oriented policy because I am convinced that at the present time the problems facing us do in fact face us on a world scale and that we must therefore use this perspective, the world scale, in seeking the answers. It is a policy of consultation, putting consultation before confrontation. And lastly, the fact that it is a liberal policy means that France, with a liberal policy at home, must also have a liberal policy and a liberal image abroad.*

Press meeting, October 24, 1974

### France and the European Community

*. . . I am convinced that Europe will come into existence. . . . Europe's weakness is not that it is not moving but rather that it is not yet organized; it has no way to express itself. This is where we must take action. . . .*

Interview in *L'Aurore*, May 16, 1975



With other European leaders: (left to right) Messrs. Tindemans (Belgium), Schmidt (West Germany), Hartling (Denmark), Wilson (United Kingdom), Chirac (France), Moro (Italy), Cosgrave (Ireland) and Thorn (Luxembourg)

*Europe must have some idea of what its medium-term future will be, so it must ask itself what will be, a few years from now, the equilibrium of its trade balance, its supply of energy and raw materials and its level of employment, taking into account a growth rate which will probably be more moderate during the coming years. So I believe it is important for the heads of the European governments to define, together and with the aid of the Community institutions, the common perspectives for this period.*

Press conference, October 24, 1974

*The French government is deeply committed to the political organization of Europe. It demonstrated its desire to further this aim when the European Council was created. Taking into account contemporary realities, as revealed by events, France believes it is essential to find means of reinforcing Europe's capacity to define and pursue genuine political action.*

Council of Ministers' meeting, February 18, 1976



### France and West Germany

*On all the subjects we discussed, we expressed our opinions altogether freely and trustfully, as should be the rule from now on between two countries which have succeeded, in a few years, in making of their cooperation an exemplary model.*

Remarks broadcast over France-Inter, February 13, 1976

*Everyone knows that the French-German entente is crucial to Europe. Without it, there can be no Europe. This [entente] lies at the base of the construction of Europe and remains indispensable at every step. Rather, a lack of entente might give our other partners cause for alarm.*

Interview in *Nice-Matin*, February 12, 1976

*French-German entente is both an established fact and a necessity. The economic and political situation in the two countries allows them to follow a number of lines of action and to share parallel attitudes on a number of problems. Their concepts of the actual organization of Europe are very close. I consider this fact to be an important impetus for European construction.*

Interview in *Le Figaro*, November 12, 1975

The President with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt



With Prime Minister Harold Wilson

### France and the United Kingdom

*Our two countries have a duty to work together to build a coherent ensemble able to play an active role in the concert of nations. They must do this by resolutely supporting the great design which is the foundation for European organization and by accepting the discipline which its realization implies.*

Speech at presentation of credentials by British Ambassador Sir Nicholas Henderson, December 23, 1975

### France and the United States

*Our two countries and our two peoples, united by so many close and long-standing ties of friendship, are called upon to pursue their trustful cooperation in their common interest and with a view to strengthening peace among nations.*

Telegram of congratulations on Ford's taking office, August 9, 1974



With President Ford in Martinique

*In my first meeting with the President of the United States, I thought it was very important to avoid anything that might look like a search for success on one side or the other.*

*My job was to see that these great countries, the United States of America and France, could have in-depth, serious and methodical talks on the real problems.*

*What characterized our conversations, I think, was precisely the very serious, very thorough, very concrete nature of the discussions we had.*

Remarks broadcast over Europe 1 on his return from Martinique, December 16, 1974



With Leonid Brezhnev

### France and the Soviet Union

*Of all the countries with which the Soviet Union enjoys bilateral cooperation, France is the one with which it has the best relationship. Of course, there are countries that have greater economic and industrial means than we do, but taking into account the scale of means, French-Soviet cooperation works the best. I think this is because our economy has an overall structure, half state-run, half liberal, that enables us to adjust more easily than others to the mechanisms of the Soviet economy. And the atmosphere during our talks about cooperation was very positive.*

Interview in *Le Figaro*, November 12, 1975

### France and China

*I am convinced that as world affairs evolve, China's responsibilities will be considerable. There are reciprocal interests between France and China that we should consolidate and develop.*

Interview in *Le Figaro*, November 12, 1975

### Relations Between Energy-producing and Energy-consuming Countries

*After the preparatory conference which was held in Paris in September, we can now hope that, in the relations between countries that produce raw materials and energy and countries that consume them, confrontation will gradually give way to true concertation, and to the rational search for the best solutions, that is the solutions which permit normalization of prices at a level profitable for the producers and at the same time tolerable for the consumers' economies.*

Speech for the 75th anniversary of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, November 28, 1975

### The New International Economic Order

*The aim of this meeting is to further rationality and justice in the working of the world economy.*

*We must also try to obtain a more orderly evolution of the prices of products significant in international trade, whether they be raw materials or manufactures. . . . We must eliminate erratic or contradictory fluctuations, and exaggerated or sudden upward or downward variations which tend to permanently disrupt markets, the productive sectors that is, to the detriment of producers and consumers alike.*

*Finally, we must make available the means to maintain the producing countries' buying power.*

*. . . In the new equilibrium which our planet is trying to achieve, developing countries must feel that they are being treated more as partners than as countries receiving assistance.*

Opening of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation, Paris, December 16, 1975



### France and the Third World

*French policy vis-à-vis the developing world finds its inspiration in the traditional equality and universality which goes back to the French Revolution. It is based on a belief in the dignity of man without distinction as to economic standing, race or religion. Economic development, we feel, does not only uphold justice; it guarantees peace in the world. . . .*

*France scrupulously respects the sovereignty of countries which receive aid from her, especially in their choice of national economic objectives and likewise in their individual path of development.*

Address at the UNCTAD Meeting,  
Santiago, Chile, April 14, 1972



Talking with President Mobutu of Zaire

*Accordingly, we must understand that this new international economic order will not be achieved against nations, by imposing it on them by some kind of trickery. Nor will it be achieved by going over the heads of nations by contenting ourselves with a few Utopian visions of world government. In reality, it will be achieved with nations. Therefore our task should be to establish the conditions, circumstances, forums and procedures for discussion that will permit each country to make a contribution and eventually give its agreement to this new world economic order.*

Address at the Ecole Polytechnique,  
October 28, 1975



Meeting at Rambouillet, November 1975: (left to right) Aldo Moro (Italy), Harold Wilson (United Kingdom), Gerald Ford (United States), the President, Helmut Schmidt (West Germany) and Takeo Miki (Japan)

### Economic Stability and Growth

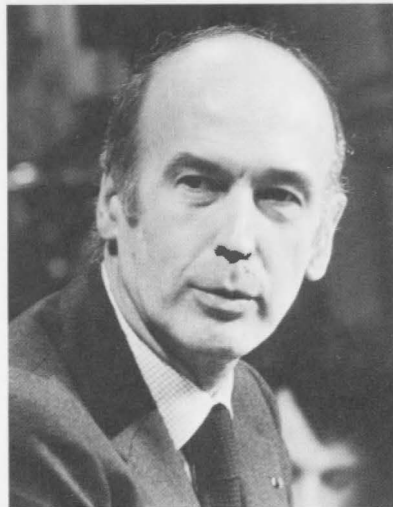
*The meeting at Rambouillet has achieved the goals which were fixed when the meeting was called for. The results of this meeting have markedly improved the chances for the Western economy to regain stability and maintain regular growth.*

Council of Ministers' meeting,  
November 19, 1975

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE Service de Presse et d'Information  
972 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021

# THE MASSIF CENTRAL





*"... This powerful, solemn land uniting grandeur and simplicity, this country so close to our lives and hearts, sweeping from crater and hill to the great Aubrac Plateau. Flanking it on four sides are the varied landscapes bearing the traces of 2000 years of labor by men who hewed roads out of the rock, tilled the soil and built villages.*

*"This is why I should like the times we are experiencing together, times of great change in the world and in France, to mark... an era of exceptional development for the Massif Central."*

*Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, Le-Puy-en-Velay, September 29, 1975.*

*"If he offered me the whole New World, he would not make me renounce that part of the old one where I had the good fortune to be born and where I have that of living. There is nothing in my opinion so charming as to be an Auvergnat, and, be it said without vanity, even from Haute Auvergne..."*

*Marquis de La Fayette, October 12, 1784.*

*I was not expecting so much grandeur, this feeling of eternity. It is a bit our roof for the world.*

*Jules Romains.*





## DISCOVERING THE MASSIF CENTRAL

*A great land, as hard as basalt, as lively as grass, as simple as the air.*  
Pourrat

A century ago, Robert Louis Stevenson rode out astride a donkey to explore the little-known Massif Central in the heart of France. Much has changed in this region in a hundred years, but its varied offerings are still relatively neglected by outsiders. Let us start from the bustling cosmopolitan city of Paris and, following in Stevenson's steps, discover the 20th-century reality of lands which have attracted men since prehistoric times.

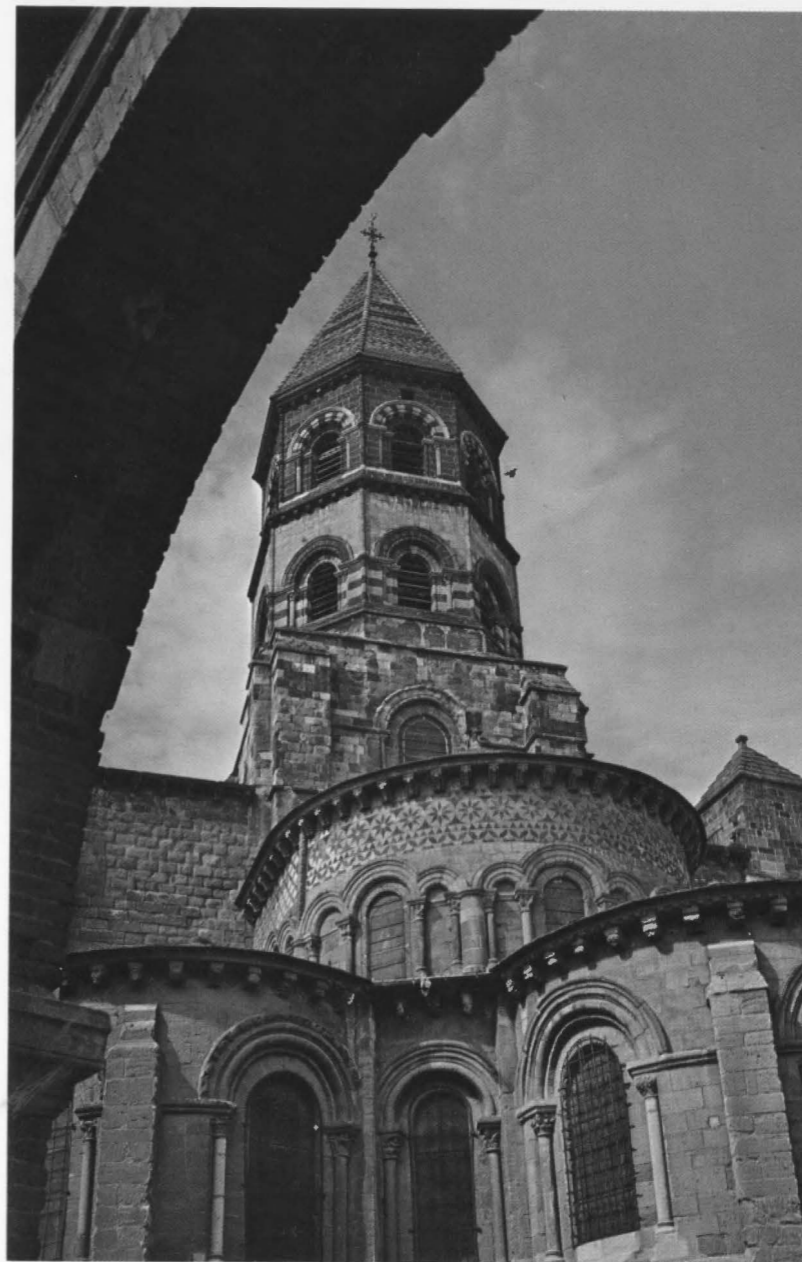
After crossing a sweeping expanse of flat plains south of Paris, the modern explorer's first impression of the Massif Central is of rolling green hills crisscrossed with sparkling streams. This is Limousin Province, where hedges partition the cattle pastures and slate-roofed hamlets nestle among the fields. Then the land rises, the grassy pastures give way to heather-covered moors: we have come to the Plateau de Mille-vaches, or Plateau of the Thousand Cows. In the distance, the majestic forms of the extinct volcanoes of Auvergne are silhouetted against the horizon. From the ruins of a Roman temple on the Puy de Dôme peak, a panorama of the Puy Mountain Range: rounded volcanoes like oversized mole hills, others indented with craters and overgrown with grass and trees, deep blue crater lakes rimmed with rich green pine forests. To the east the cathedral spires of Clermont-Ferrand tower above the red roofs of the town. To the south unfolds a view of the impressive mountain masses of the Cantal Massif and Mont Dore



Puy de Dôme



Here all is green and calm. Giraudoux



St.-Julien de Brioude

and, rising from the center of an enormous volcano, the Puy de Sancy, at 6286 feet the highest peak in the range and often white with snow.

After passing this mountain barrier we descend abruptly to the Limagne, fertile valley plains where wheat and fruit trees are cultivated and the sun on the red tile roofs conjures up a Mediterranean feeling. The valley narrows, and, hemmed in between the Velay Massif on the left and the lava Aubrac Plateau on the right, scattered villages stand among the hillocks of Margeride Mountain.





The castle sits high on a rocky spur. Pourrat

Suddenly the scene changes again. The greenery gives way to dry limestone plateaus intersected with deeply eroded canyons. Flocks of sheep graze among the rocks, and the accents of the shepherds show that we are now in southern France. Chasm-like valleys have been hollowed out of the stone, and Mount Lozère and Mount Aigonal look down upon the lonely beauty of Les Causses.

We leave this deserted landscape and complete our rapid tour of the Massif Central by climbing again until the valleys widen, the vegetation becomes richer and we descend the steep slopes of the Cévennes Mountains to the Mediterranean coast.



Les Causses

## THE MASSIF CENTRAL: A UNION OF CONTRASTS

*The Massif Central radiates out over northern and southern France, two countries separated by the Loire and united by the Massif.*

### Pourrat

Mountains and plains, barren land and rivers, 28,000 square miles of towns, villages and uninhabited spaces—these striking contrasts coexist within one unified region. Today the unity is administrative, but it was first of all geographic. These are the French highlands, commanding the richer surrounding plains, demanding of men's imagination and endurance before they consent to yield their concealed but real treasures, geologically both the most ancient and the most recent lands in France.

The Massif Central was formed by centuries of violent geological upheavals, floods and volcanic eruptions. Then glaciers smoothed out the jagged peaks so that today the region is both wild and accessible. Rivers flowing through the glacial valleys have earned the region its nickname of the "water tower of France": the Loire, the Dordogne, the Tarn, the Lot and the Allier rise in the Massif Central.

Like the geography of the Massif Central, its climate bears the mark of contrasting influences. The region is a meeting place for mild

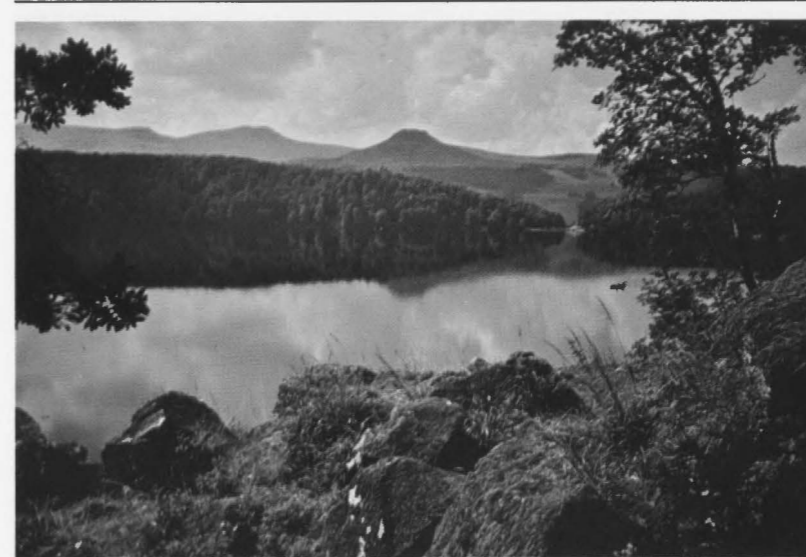
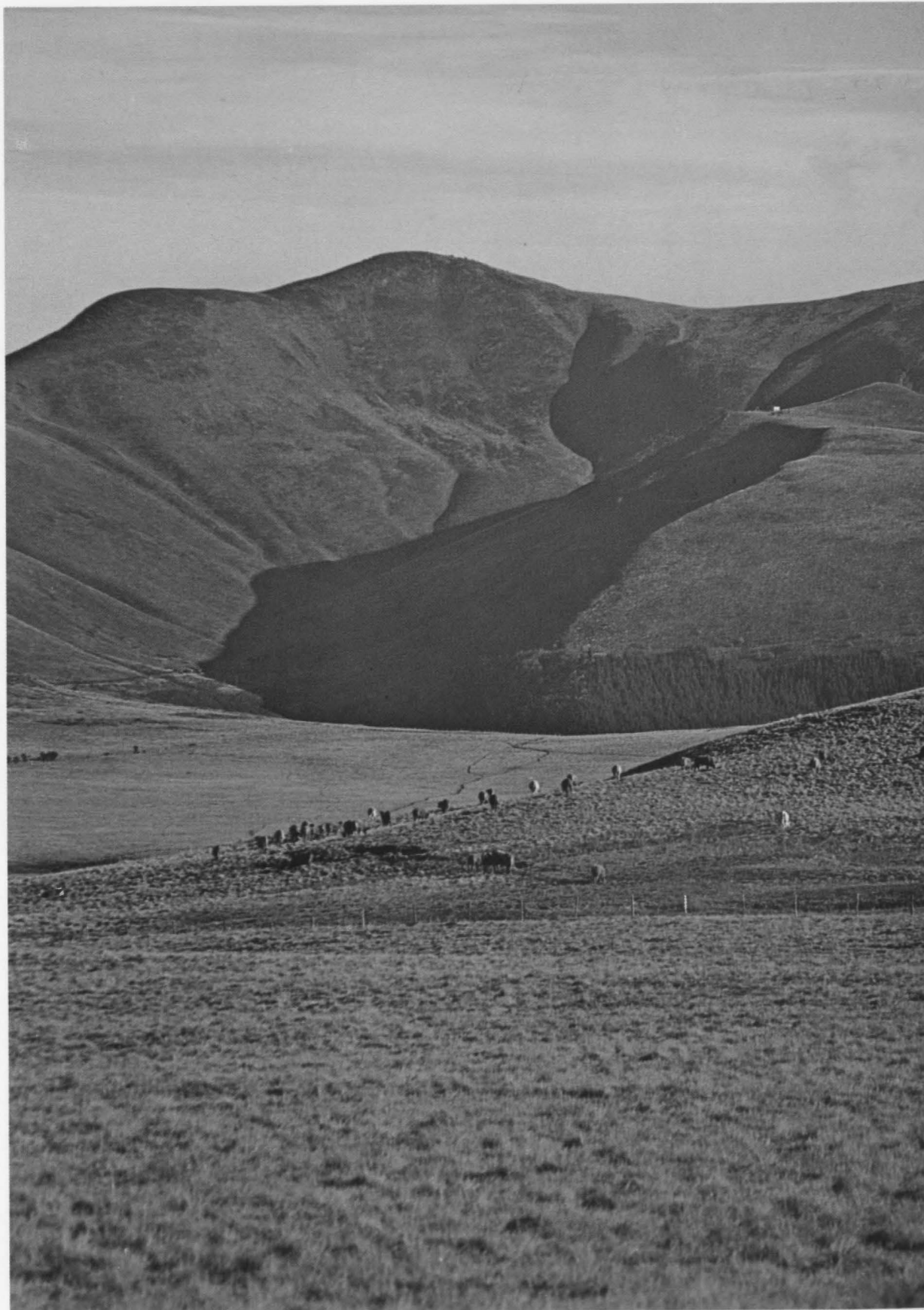


Clermont-Ferrand



A procession of cows files past, russet and solemn. Pourrat





Lake Pavin



Lot River

It was a little stream, in love with its own waters and chasing after them.

Giraudoux

The moor, so high, with this immense horizon unfolding on all sides. Hamlets a thousand years old, like the one we passed through a little while ago. The wind,

Romains

temperatures and humidity from the Atlantic Ocean and drier and hotter weather from the Mediterranean Sea. Because of the mountain altitudes, winters tend to be long and cold. But despite the rude climate and some dry areas, the summer impression is of varied and often lush vegetation, ranging from chestnut trees and Mediterranean pines in the south to arable land or pastures in the plains, heather and gorse on the moors, and fir trees or birches in the mountains.

## Facts about the Massif Central

### AREA

28,000 square miles  
Equivalent to the State of Maine  
13% of French territory

### POPULATION

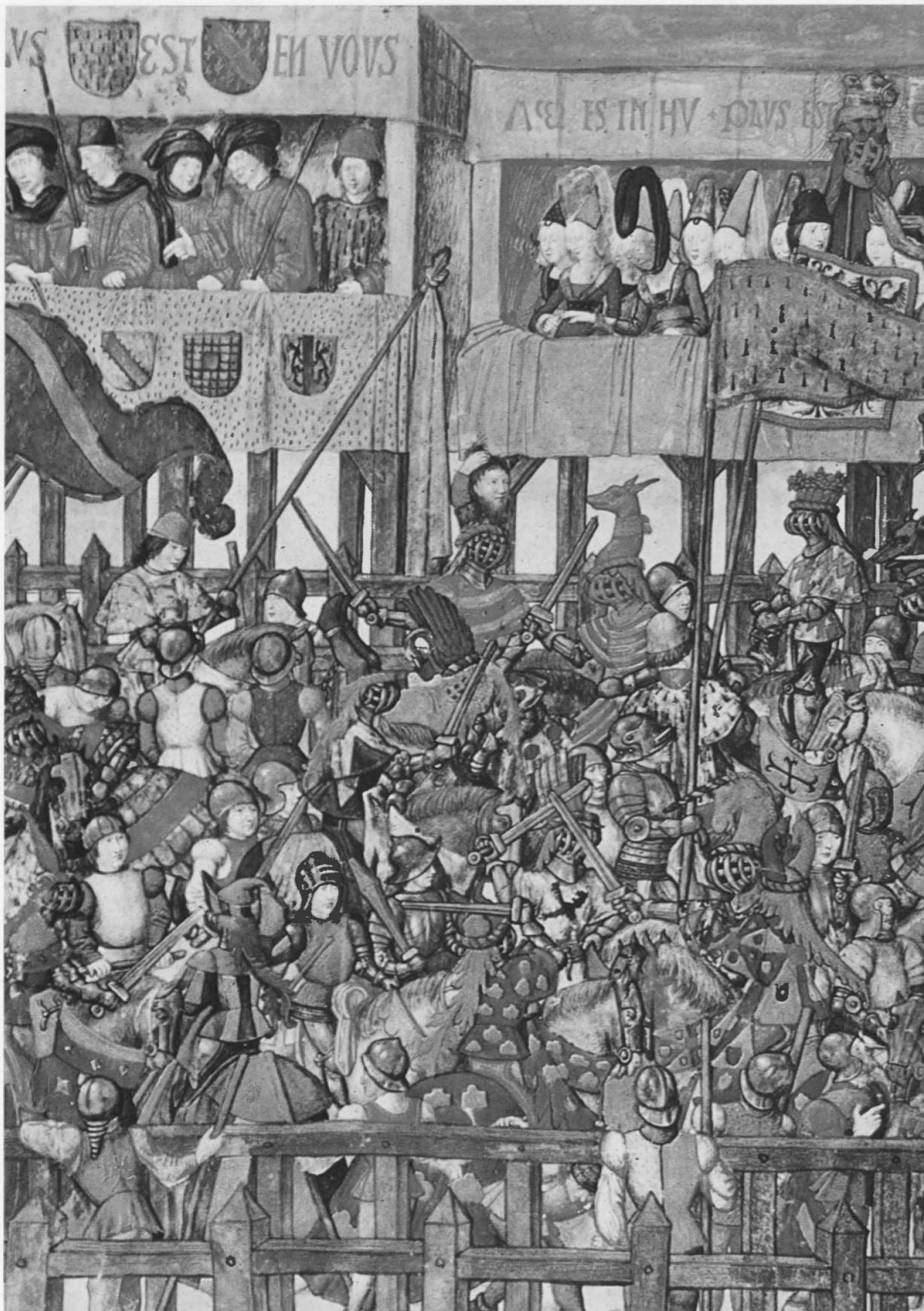
3,000,000 inhabitants  
5.6% of the French population

### ADMINISTRATION

Includes the regions of  
Limousin and Auvergne and  
part of Midi-Pyrénées (35%),  
Languedoc (35%) and  
Rhône-Alps (15%)

### CITIES

More than 100,000  
inhabitants: Clermont-  
Ferrand, Limoges  
From 20,000 to 60,000  
inhabitants: Brive, Tulle,  
Cahors, Aurillac, Rodez,  
Millau, Montluçon, Moulins



## THE MASSIF CENTRAL: A RESERVOIR OF MEN

Despite harsh geographical conditions, the Massif Central has been inhabited for longer than any other region of France: the skeleton of the oldest man known to have lived in France was discovered in the Chapelle aux Saints, and cave paintings and Stone Age monuments bear witness to thousands of years of human presence. The need to struggle for a living has developed a doughty breed of men characterized by their hardworking determination to overcome obstacles and by attachment to their land even when they must leave it to work elsewhere.

*Your Auvergne has fathered a multitude of chancellors and presidents, fighters for justice all.*

*Ronsard*

If the Massif Central has been reluctant to yield up its wealth to its citizens, over the centuries its inhabitants have contributed generously to events outside the region. Current French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, following in his grandfather's footsteps, was elected deputy from the region to the National Assembly at the age of 30. He was mayor of Chamalières, a small town near Clermont-Ferrand, and remained active in local government until his election as President of the Republic. Premier Jacques Chirac has close ties to the Corrèze Department, and former president Georges Pompidou also came from the Massif Central.

These names are only the most recent from a long list of illustrious men of the Massif Central who have participated in significant moments in French history. For example, Michel de l'Hospital, a native of Aigueperse, was a noted Renaissance jurist and humanist. He became chancellor of France during the 16th-century Wars of Religion and worked for unity and religious tolerance under a reinforced monarchy.

The Bourbon family began as feudal lords of a region around Moulins in the Massif Central. By the 17th century one branch of the family ruled France, while others reigned over Europe from Spain to Austria. Today the region where the family originated is still known as the Bourbonnais.

Of all the courtly men, the men of Auvergne are the most courtly.  
*Song of Roland*

Another native son of the Massif Central who left his mark on a whole period of French history was Jules Gambetta, late 19th-century statesman from Cahors. A great orator and several times minister, he was known as the "traveling salesman of the Republic."



Chamalières, town of President Giscard d'Estaing



Louis XIV

### Famous Sons of the Massif Central

#### PHILOSOPHERS

Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)—mathematician and mystic  
Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955)—scholar and mystic

#### AUTHORS

Clément Marot (1496-1544)—Renaissance poet  
Jean Giraudoux (1882-1944)—playwright and novelist,  
author of *Tiger at the Gates*  
Jules Romains (1885-1972)—novelist, author of *The Men of Good Will*  
Henri Pourrat (1887-1959)—bard of Auvergne

#### SCIENTISTS

Joseph Gay-Lussac (1778-1850)—discoverer of the law of the expansion of gases  
Henri Mondor (1885-1962)—surgeon and writer



## Fighters for freedom

... a taste for independence ...

### Romains

The Massif Central has been invaded by Romans, barbarian tribes, English kings and Nazi troops. In response to frequent danger its people have consistently preferred to risk their lives rather than sacrifice their liberty.

The first French national hero was Vercingetorix, chief of the Arverni tribe which gave its name to Auvergne Province. Against great odds he succeeded in uniting rival Gallic tribes, and in 52 B.C. he defeated Julius Caesar at Gergovie near Clermont-Ferrand. Although later overpowered and imprisoned at the battle of Alesia, he remains a symbol of courageous resistance and French national independence.

The Camisards were also brave fighters for their rights. When Louis XIV abolished religious freedom by revoking the Edict of Nantes in 1695, these Protestants formed armed bands and fought royal troops for years in the Cévennes Mountains.

One of the most international fighters for freedom was the Marquis de La Fayette, who was born in the Château of Chavaniac near Le Puy and was deeply marked by his early life in Auvergne. La Fayette left France at the age of 19 to join Washington's army in its fight for independence, and he later participated in the French Revolution.

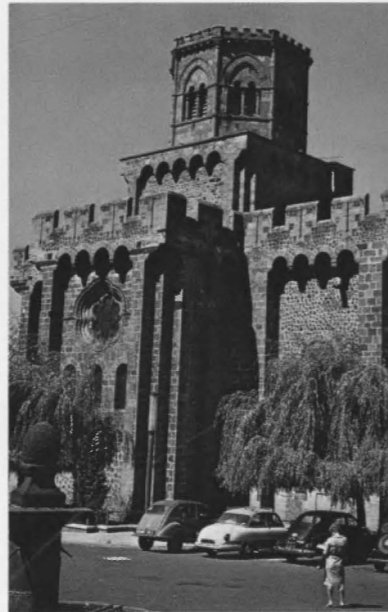
The Massif Central was one of the centers of underground resistance to the Nazis during the Second World War. The University of Strasbourg moved to Clermont-Ferrand when eastern France was occupied at the beginning of the war, and it became a hotbed of resistance. Although many were killed or deported to concentration camps, the movement grew in importance throughout the region. At Mount Mouchet a monument commemorates the struggle against the enemy.



Cordès



Chavaniac-Lafayette



Royat

The people born in these cantons prefer them to the most beautiful spots on earth.  
Pourrat

## VISITING THE MASSIF CENTRAL

*Auvergne, land of nature, where men are still in touch with the natural conditions of times past.*  
Pourrat

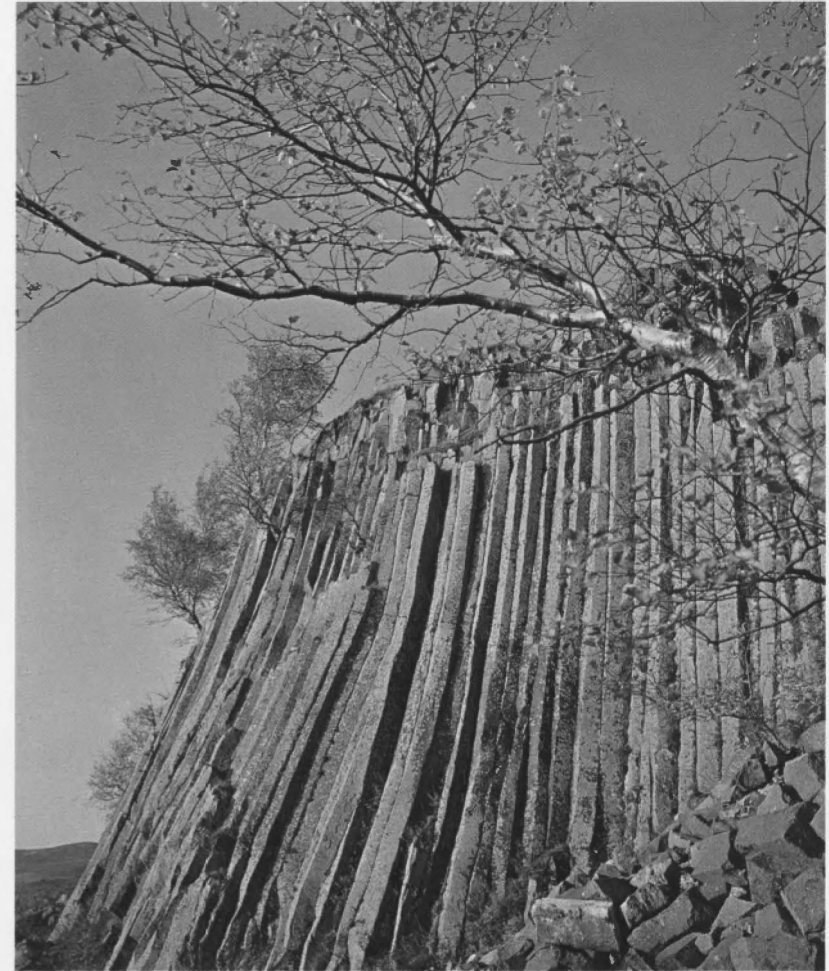
The Massif is proud of its glorious past but it is equally proud to welcome tourists to its land and sites. Tourists of all tastes can visit them with the double pleasure of comfort without crowding.

### Discovering nature

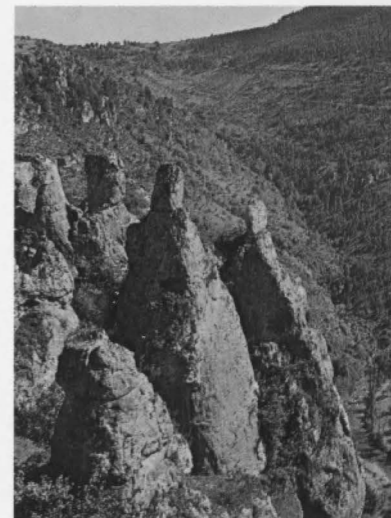
The Massif Central is one of the rare regions in Europe to offer unspoiled open spaces for a relaxing vacation far from the madding crowd, and it is made to order for the new breed of tourist who seeks an active vacation in any season. In Cantal or the Sancy Massif you can hike up a volcano; in the Cévennes National Park you can spend a day crosscountry skiing through the forest; and in Lozère you can fish for trout or salmon in a fast-flowing stream. In any region you can bike along country roads, picnicking at noon and spending the night in a picturesque village inn, or spend several days backpacking on remote trails.

Along the way you will discover that nature has given free rein to its imagination in the Massif Central. You can see the dramatic limestone formations of Les Causses, the Tarn River Gorges, crater lakes such as Servières or Pavin, red volcanic cinder eroded into shapes resembling ruined villages in the Valley of the Saints, and lava frozen into the impressive "organs" of Murat and Bort.

You may want to adopt the slower rhythm of past times to savor these varied facets of nature. Horses, horse-drawn carriages and canoes are relaxing means of transportation for those who eschew more usual buses, trains or rented cars. You can share a country meal and conversation with hospitable farmers, and peasant-artists open their homes to tourists who wish to practice traditional handicrafts.

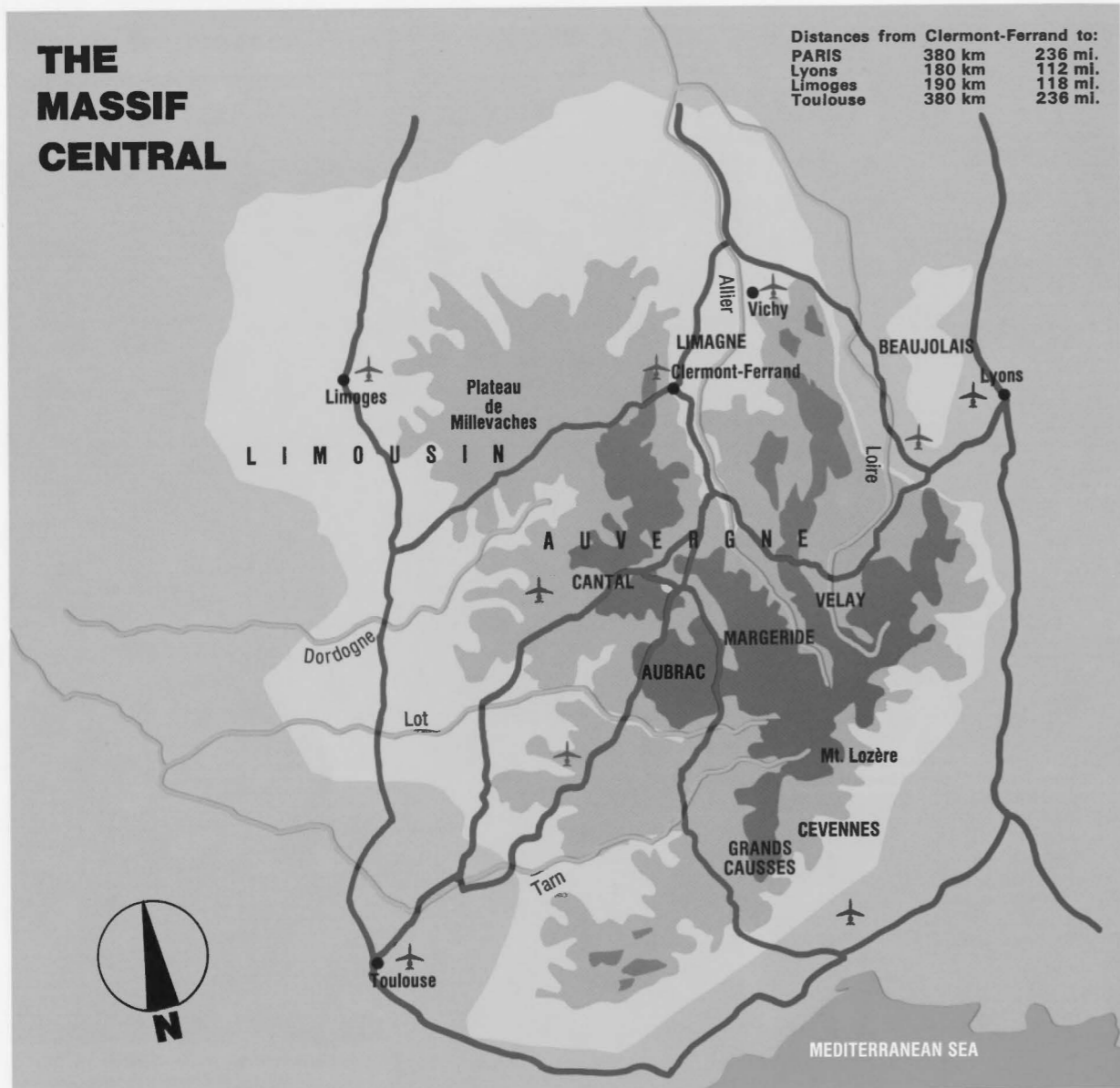


*These sites are extraordinary...*  
Romains



# THE MASSIF CENTRAL

Distances from Clermont-Ferrand to:		
PARIS	380 km	236 mi.
Lyons	180 km	112 mi.
Limoges	190 km	118 mi.
Toulouse	380 km	236 mi.

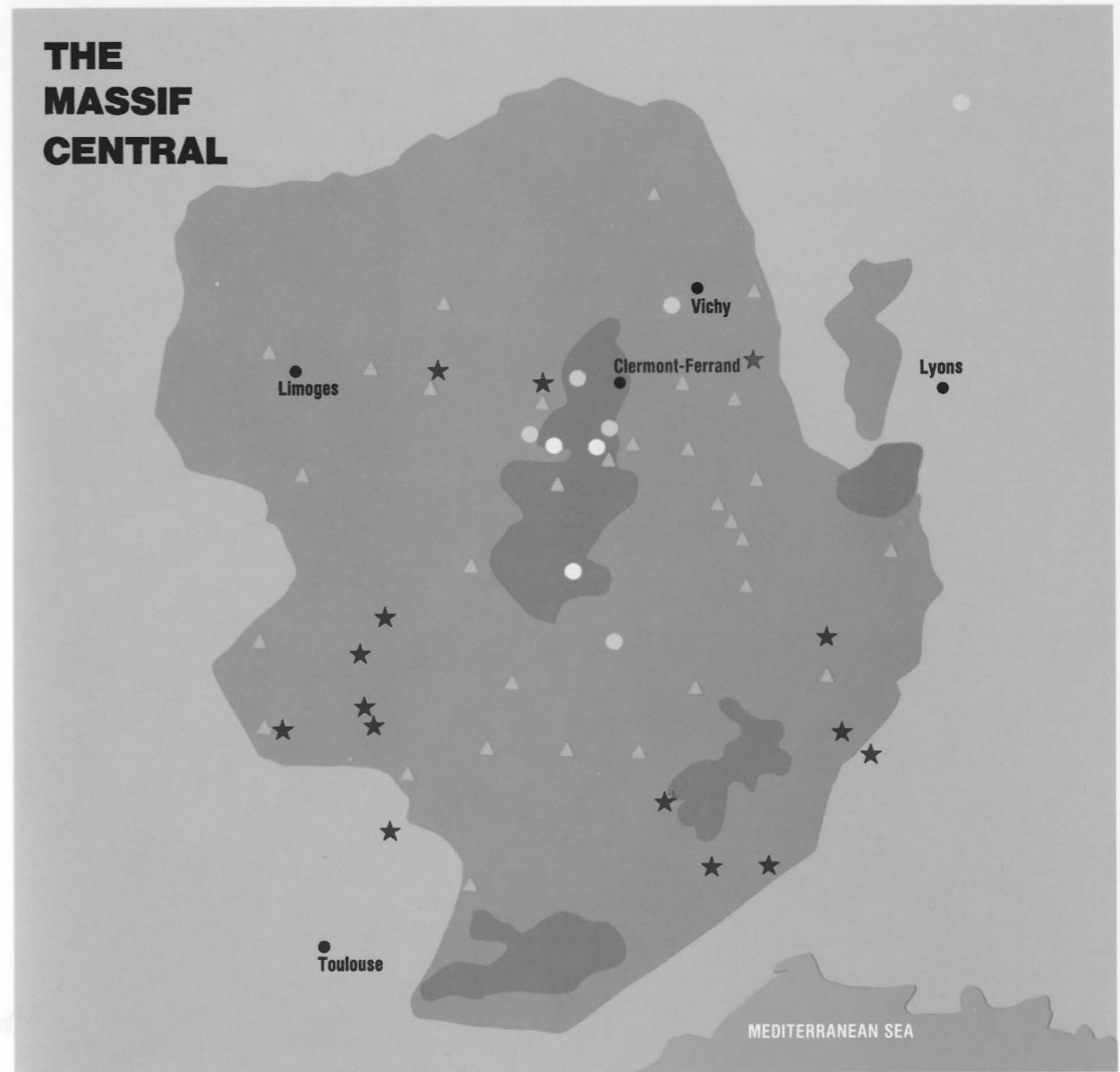


## KEY

- Vichy      Cities
- Rivers
- Connecting Roads
- ✈ Airports
- Mountains
- Plateaus

NOTE: The map inset at the left shows the position of the Massif Central in France and Europe.

# THE MASSIF CENTRAL

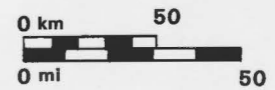


*"Even if you have crisscrossed France in every direction and often thrilled to its diversity, go back to Haute Auvergne." Mondor*

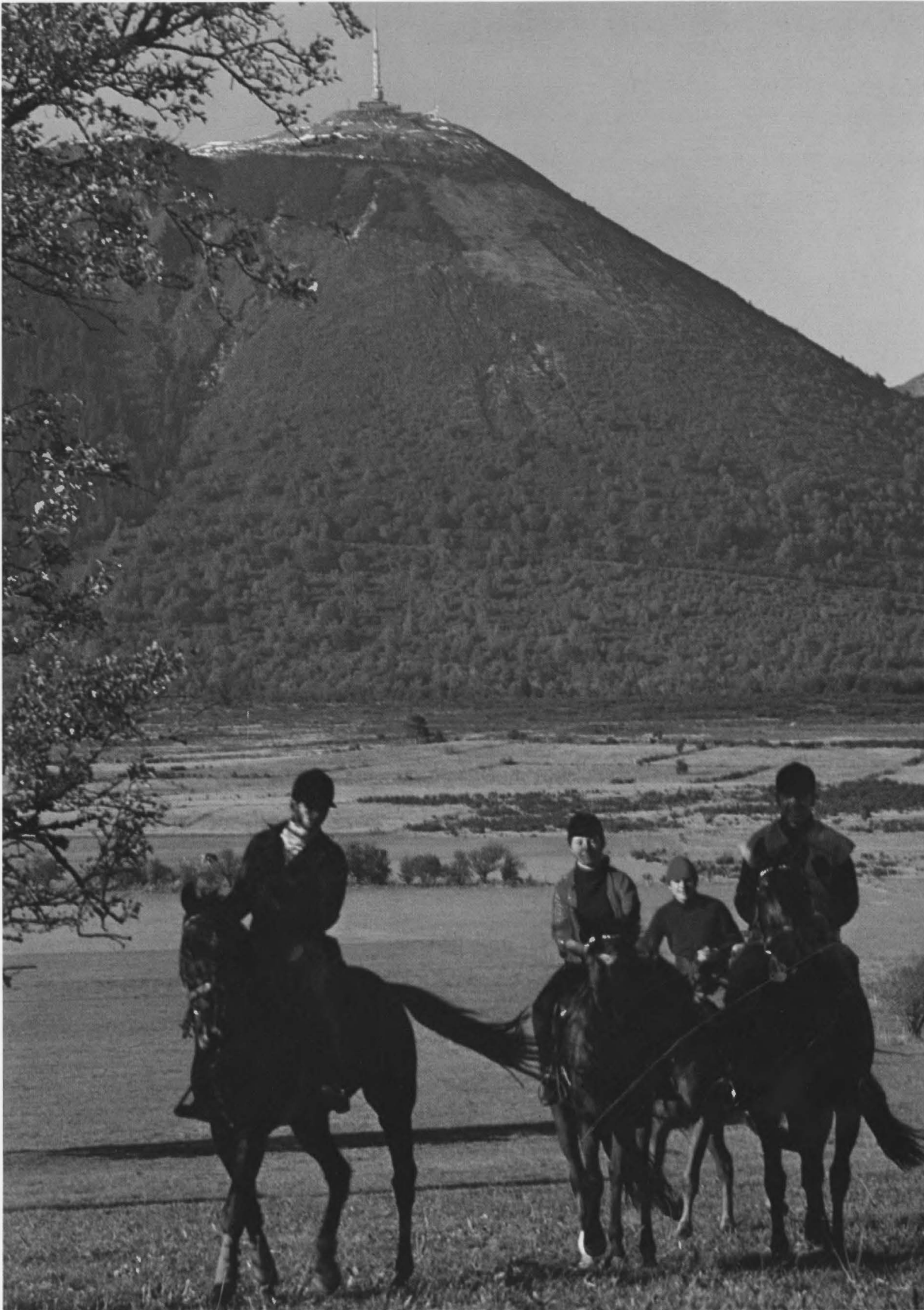
Among the offerings of the Massif Central: volcanic domes, crater lakes and lava rock formations; more than 500 castles ranging from medieval fortresses to classical palaces, some lying in ruin and others completely furnished; Gothic or Romanesque churches or cathedrals in almost every village and town.

## KEY

- Golf Courses and Spas
- Winter Resorts
- ▲ Church or Castle
- ★ Geographic Point of Interest
- National Parks







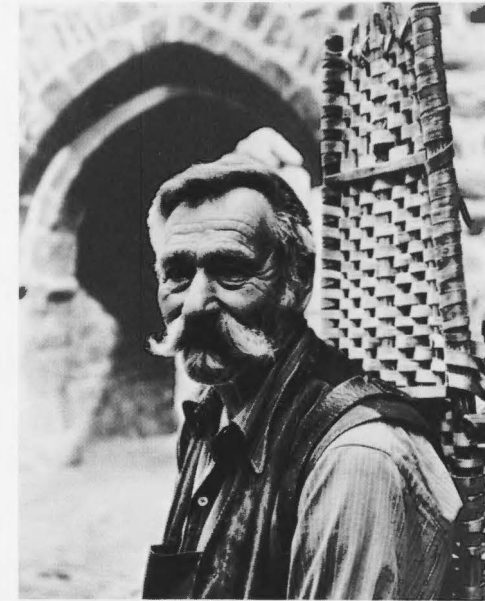
How deeply one can breathe here. There is just a little nip in the air. Pourrat

## Discovering the men of the Massif Central

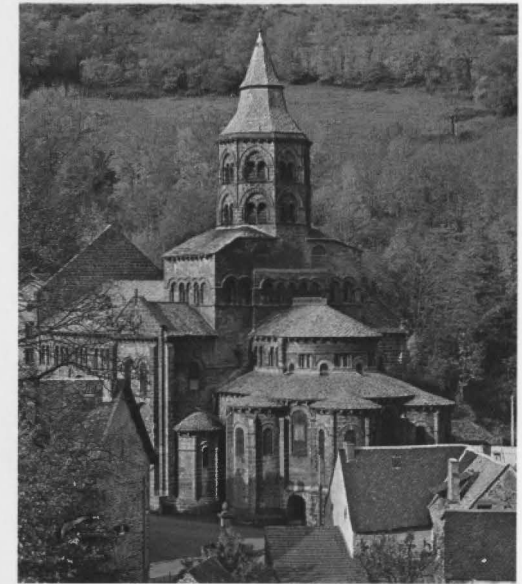
*... the people of the Inn, in nine cases out of ten, show themselves friendly and considerate. As soon as you cross the doors you cease to be a stranger . . . . Robert Louis Stevenson*

The Massif Central greets tourists with artistic and archaeological treasures from the past, and with a warm welcome to the towns and villages where men live and work today.

Over the ages more than 500 castles were built in the Massif Central. Tourists can visit an underground fortress in the grottos of Jonas, and the ruins of Muroi Castle perched on a summit overlooking three ancient roads. The lava keep of Chateaugay Castle has remained almost intact since it was constructed on a basaltic plateau



It is still mountain country, but here the air is softer and the sun is warmer. Pourrat



Orcival

*... solid, compact, squat . . . [these churches] give a striking impression of balance and harmony. Bourget*



Orcival, statue of the Virgin



Super Lioram



I will take you to little mountain taverns overlooking the passes. You will see men in blue smocks drinking at the corner of a table. You will eat chunks out of a sausage hanging from the ceiling. Romans

in the 14th century; Val is impregnable on a rocky island. By the 15th century castles began to lose their fortress aspect. Cordès is a charming manor surrounded with terraced gardens, and the Château of Parentignat, built by Louis XIV, is called "Little Versailles".

The most typical works of art are religious rather than military. The 10th century, an era of prosperity and religious faith, inspired the Auvergne School of Romanesque art, known for some of the most harmonious religious art in France. The Cathedral of Conques, with its magnificent tympanum representing the Last Judgment, was a halting place for pilgrims on the way to Santiago de Compostela. The basilica of Notre Dame du Port in Clermont-Ferrand, the carved stone capitals of St. Austremonne in Issoire, the luminous choir and sober and harmonious sculpted virgin of Notre Dame d'Orcival, the steeple of St. Saturnin and the Cathedral of St. Nectaire are all examples of Romanesque art.

Gothic art is represented by a celebrated mural, Dance of Death, at La Chaise Dieu; by stained glass windows in Clermont; and by the triptych altar painting of the Master of Moulins, a masterpiece of French primitive art.

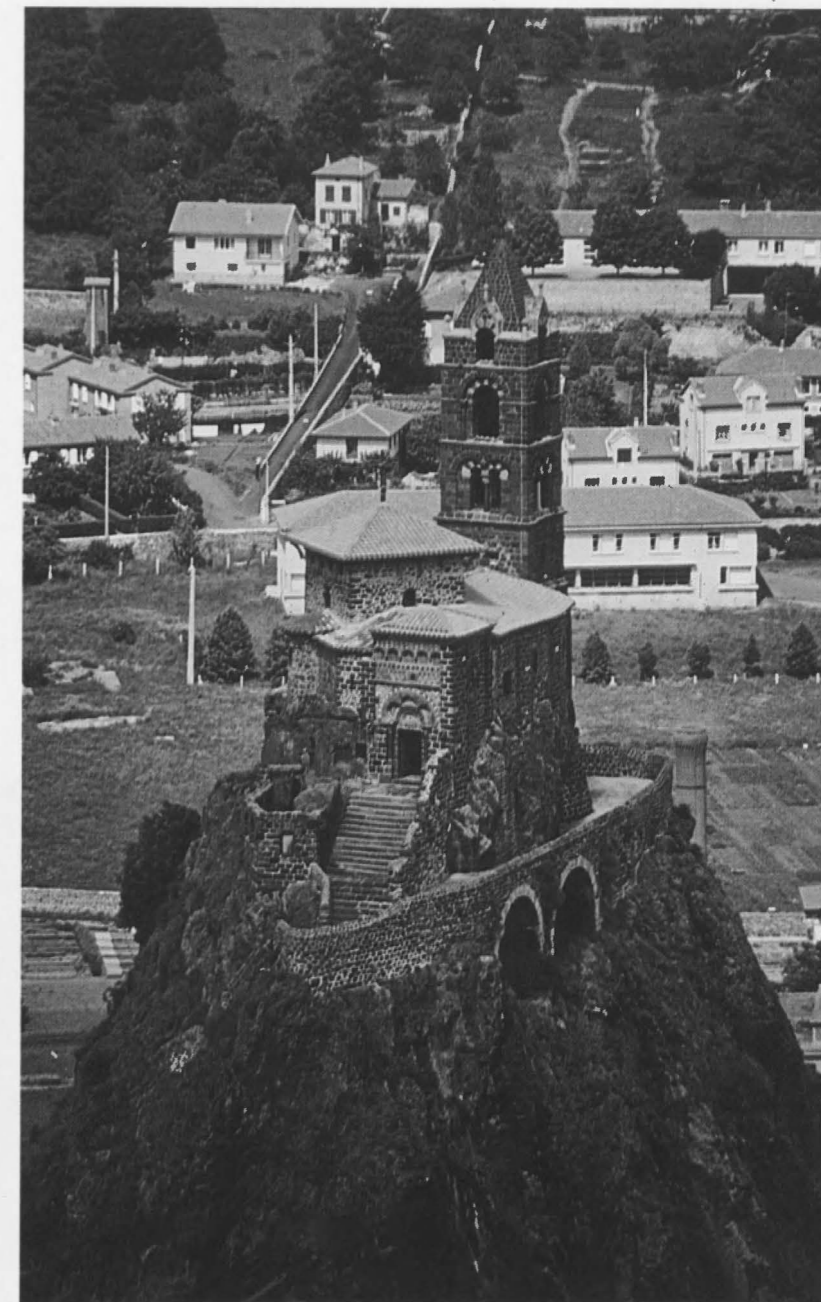
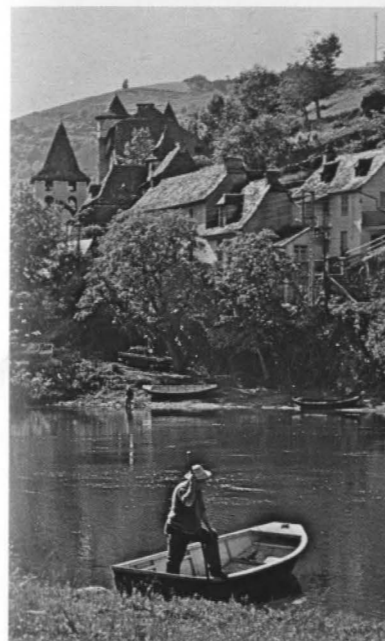
Many towns of the Massif Central are artistic monuments: Salers, with its ramparts, the medieval city of Besse, the old streets of Cahors and the rose-colored houses of Moulins. But they also share contemporary activities with tourists. You can see a theater festival at Bellac, home of Jean Giraudoux, and music festivals at Notre Dame du Port in Clermont and at La Chaise Dieu. You can participate in a pilgrimage to Le Puy or watch



some of the best rugby teams in France in Clermont-Ferrand, Brive and Aurillac.

Since Roman times the region has attracted tourists to its spas, such as Le Mont Dore, La Bourboule and Vichy, "queen of the waters". Today water sports, tennis or golf and flourishing casinos tempt people as much as medical treatment does, and well-equipped ski resorts appeal to the winter tourist.

The large cities of the Massif Central offer very comfortable hotels and convenient travel connections to Paris and beyond. They also offer the food specialties which make dining a pleasure throughout the region. Cabbage soup, "tripoux" or stuffed sheep's feet, blue cheese from Ambert, Auvergne or Roquefort and round wheels of Tomme or St. Nectaire, truffled goose liver and cherry flans appear on tables in the Massif Central and can be washed down with wine from Cahors. They are signs of people who enjoy the good things of life—and who are ready to share them if you have the time and curiosity to come and discover their land.



Le Puy



## THE MASSIF CENTRAL: RESOURCES AND CHALLENGE

*It is necessary . . . to give this region . . . the means to develop the potential wealth at its disposition . . . Valéry Giscard d'Estaing*

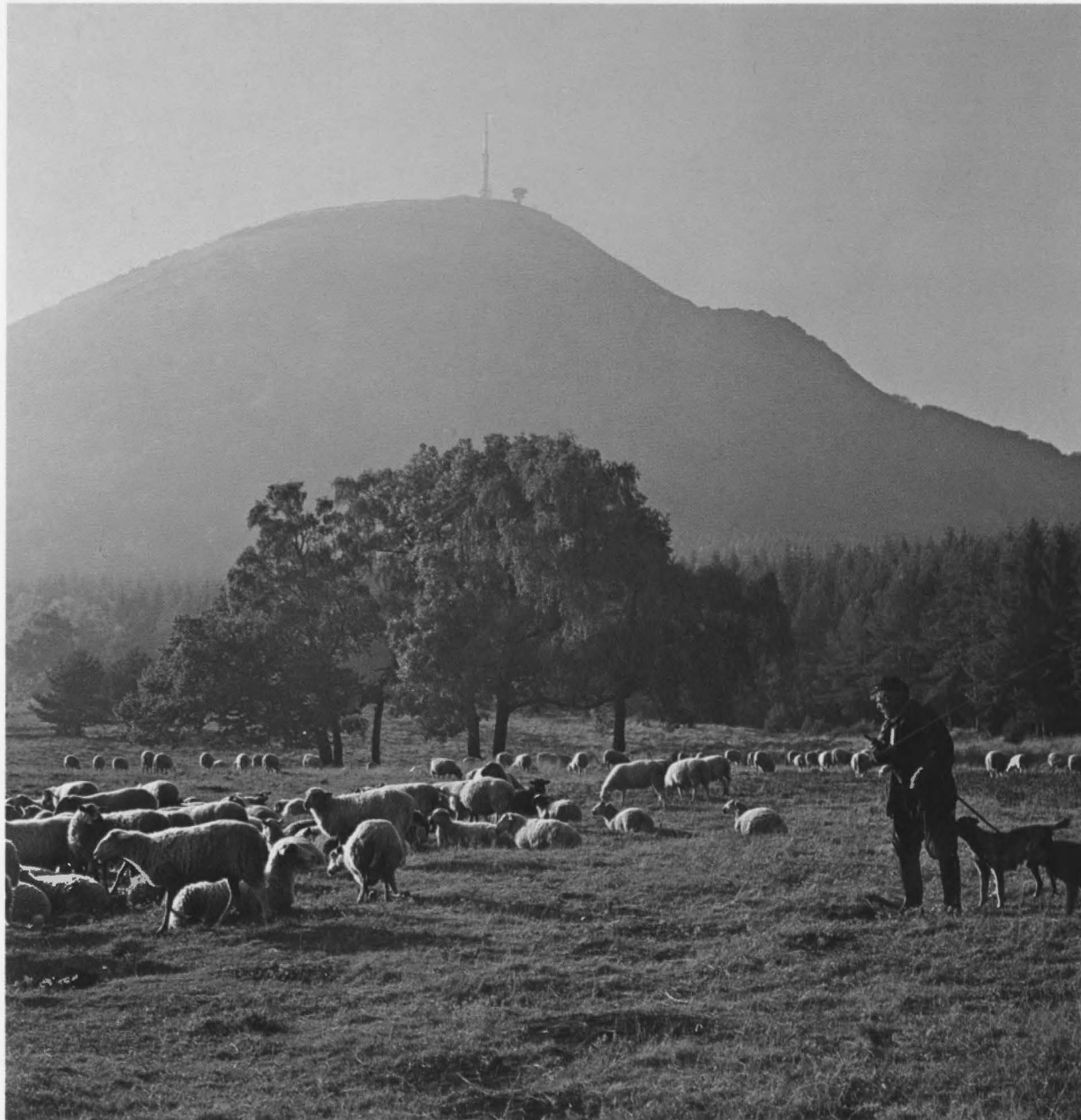
The people of the Massif Central do not live from tourism alone, and the region, which for many years was handicapped by isolation and slow growth, is now the object of a comprehensive government program for economic development.

In Clermont-Ferrand or Limoges, cities near the northern limits of the Massif Central, it is clear that the region has a long and successful industrial past. During the 19th century, the railroad linked the region to other parts of France, and coal mining provided power for development.

Many towns were originally centered around one industry—cutlery at Thiers, umbrellas at Aurillac, tanneries at Le Puy and Bort-les-

Orgues, gloves at St. Junian—which demanded a high level of craftsmanship. Realizing that this pattern is vulnerable to change or recession, these towns are now working to modernize the old while attracting new industries.

Clermont-Ferrand, home of the international Michelin tire company, has a population of 350,000. With factories and research centers in sectors such as chemicals, metallurgy, pharmaceutical products and



Michelin testing ground

electronics, and a university of 14,000 students, it is a major industrial city. Limoges, traditionally synonymous with fine porcelain, today has more workers in mechanical industries than in porcelain, and with theaters and a new university it is an example of a balanced city where the quality of life has improved along with the economy.

In less densely populated areas, new ways to utilize resources are being sought. This is one of France's leading livestock breeding regions, and the government is helping farmers to group together and improve their marketing outlets for meat and dairy products. Charolais and Limousin cattle are exported to the Common Market and beyond, and Roquefort and other cheeses from the Massif Central are available in American supermarkets.



### Development Program for the Massif Central

A vast government program for the development of the Massif Central was launched in September 1975. Its goals:

- *Improved communications* (a four-lane highway across the Massif, new rail connections and airports).
- *Incentives* for setting up handicraft workshops and factories in small towns.
- *Better use of forest resources*; protective measures for cattle breeding.
- *Promoting tourism*, especially hotel services.
- *Improvement* of living conditions in rural areas (education, telecommunications).
- *Nomination* of a commissioner for industrialization and creation of a company to aid exports.

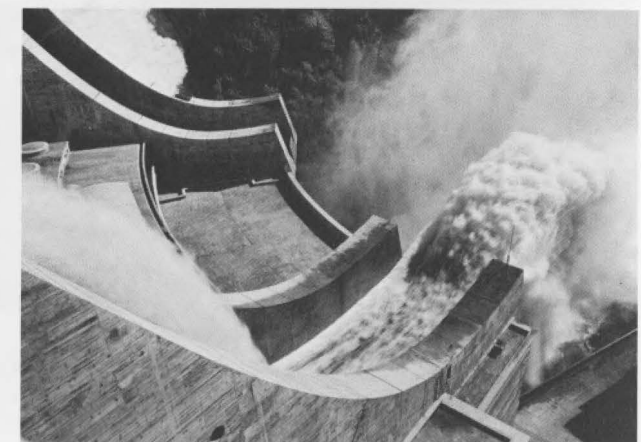
In addition, the Massif Central benefits from measures authorized by the government for the development of all under-industrialized zones in France (cash incentives of up to 25% of total cost of plants, tax exemptions).

*So France is in fact formed by this massif, water tower, fortress, storehouse of national energies. Pourrat*

Nearly 13% of France's forests are in the Massif Central, and here again is untapped potential for economic development. The government plans to double the area's timber output over the next 15 years. The rivers of the region provide 20% of the country's hydroelectric power, and new dams are being constructed.



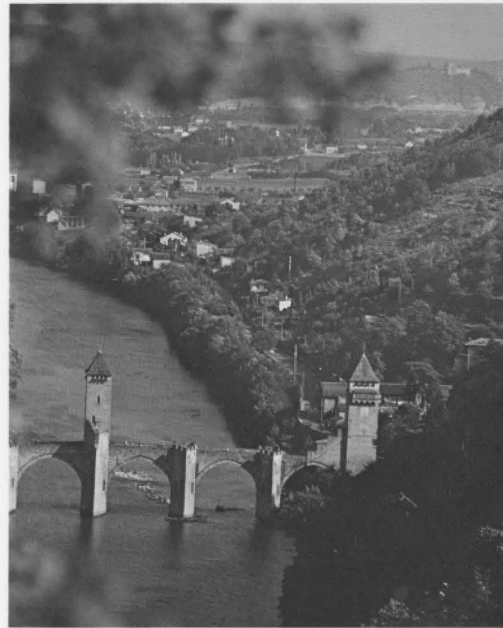
Roquefort caves



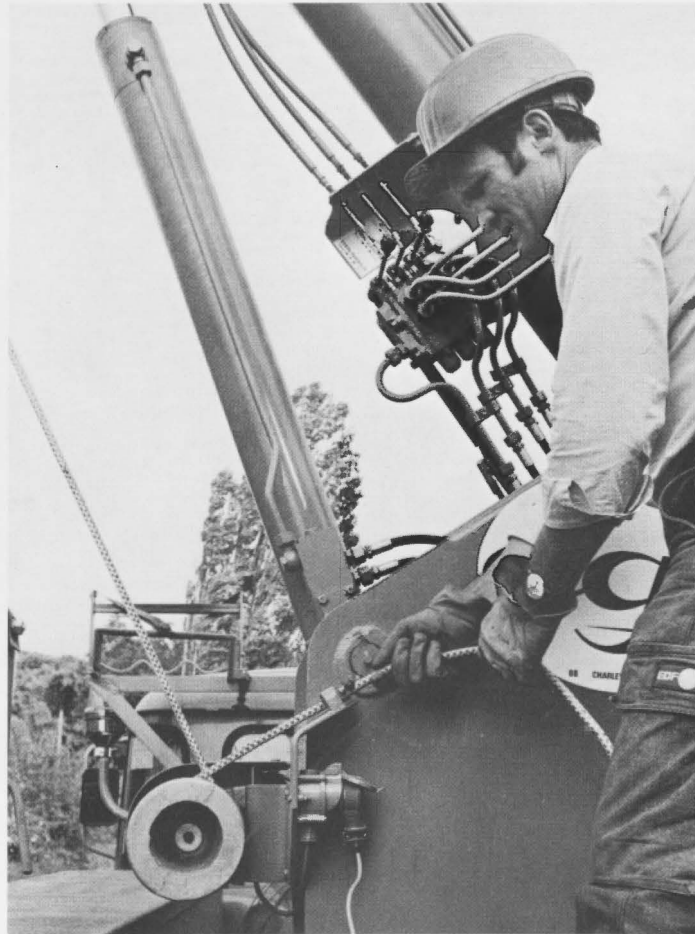
The challenge of developing the Massif Central has inspired an imaginative philosophy which points the way to industrializing without sacrificing human needs. Rather than construct huge, impersonal plants as in the past, industries now build medium-sized or small factories employing from 100 to 500 people. At this dimension it is easier for management and staff to work together and find mutually satisfactory ways for a more human kind of growth.

In small towns or villages, the problem of rural underemployment is being solved by the creation of rural workshops. Locally-trained workers may stay near their homes and produce precision materials in a very small factory integrated into local surroundings.

By moving from an agricultural economy to small factories or workshops, the people of the Massif Central hope to have the best of both their traditional rural life and of modern industrial society.



Cahors



"The sun came out as I left the shelter of a pine-wood, and I beheld suddenly a fine wild landscape to the south. High rocky hills, as blue as sapphire, closed the view, and between these lay ridge upon ridge, heathery, craggy, the sun glittering on veins of rock, the underwood clambering in the hollows, as rude as God made them at the first. There was not a sign of man's hand in all the prospect...."

Robert Louis Stevenson, *Travels with a Donkey in the Cévennes*

## PHOTO CREDITS

R. Benech — cover photo, p. 3, 4, 8, 12, 14, 16, 18; Jo Bayle — p. 5, 6, 7; Ray Delvert — p. 17; French Embassy Press Service; French Embassy Cultural Service; French Government Tourist Office; Découverte de l'Auvergne; SOPEXA; SOMIVAL

Designed by Stanley Moss

Printed by Sanders Printing Corp.





**AMBASSADE DE FRANCE, Service de Presse et d'Information**  
**972 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021**



# France in Figures

## **FRANCE is the**

*4th trade power in the Western world*

*4th industrial power in the Western world*

*3rd space power*

*3rd nuclear power*

*2nd country for aid to developing countries (in % of GNP)*

French Embassy  
Press and Information Service  
972 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021



FRANCE IN EUROPE (1974)	European Communities	France	Germany	United Kingdom	Italy
Area (in thousands of square miles)	561	211	96	94	116
Population (in millions)	258	52.6	62	56.2	55.4
Gross National Product at market prices (in billions of dollars)	1,135.8	272.4	365.2	189	153.3
Gross National Product per capita (in dollars)	4,400	5,190	5,890	3,360	2,770
<b>ECONOMIC TRENDS</b>					
Growth of real GNP/GDP (percentage changes)	2.1	3.8	0.4	-0.4	3.5
Industrial production seasonally adjusted (IMF 1970 = 100)	-	124	111	106.3	105.9
Consumer Prices (IMF 1970 = 100)	-	136.3	127.1	148.6	146.3
Wages (IMF 1970 = 100)	-	169.9	147.1	167	180.9

#### POPULATION (March 1975)

Total	52,674,800
Men	25,818,400
Women	26,856,400
City of Paris	2,290,900
Paris metropolitan area	9,863,400
Major cities of France	
Marseilles	907,900
Lyons	457,000
Toulouse	383,200
Nice	344,500
Strasbourg	257,300
Nantes	257,300
Bordeaux	221,100

1968-1975: 5.7% increase (0.8% average annual increase)

#### MANPOWER

Total working population, 1975 (42% of total population)	21,500,000
Male working population	13,500,000
Female working population (38% of workers, up from 35.6% in 1970)	8,000,000
Foreign workers (January 1975)	1,900,000
Unemployment (January 1976)	
Unmet job demand	928,200
Unfilled job vacancies	110,200
As % of civilian labor force: 1974 2.3% (actual)	
1975 3.9% (estimated)	
1976 4.0% (forecast)	
Weekly working hours: all activities	
1974 42.8 hours	
1975 41.9 hours	

#### NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

	(in billions of francs)	
	1974	1975 (estimated)
Resources		
Gross domestic production	1,168.3	1,278.9
Imports	257.1	236.7
Total resources	1,425.4	1,515.6
Expenditure		
Private consumption	767.4	876.1
Administrations and financial institutions	44.3	49.1
Total	811.7	925.2
Gross fixed capital formation	347.7	368.4
Changes in inventories	27.2	-26.6
Exports	226.9	234.9
Balance of services uses	11.9	13.7
Total expenditure	1,425.4	1,515.6

#### BUDGET - BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE IN MAJOR SECTORS

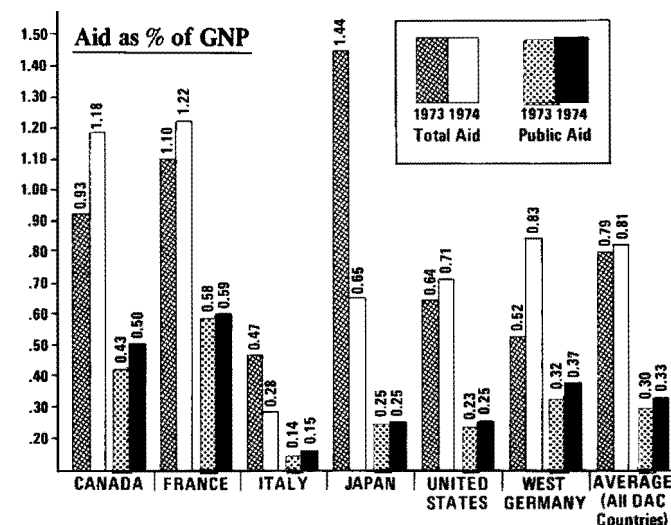
	1975 (in millions of francs)		1976 (in millions of francs)	
		%		%
Public authorities and general administration	31,558	11.8	36,476	15.58
Education and culture	68,298	25.3	78,084	14.33
Social affairs, health, employment	49,761	18.4	53,448	7.41
Agriculture	10,210	3.8	11,347	11.47
Housing and urban planning	13,892	5.1	16,121	16.05
Transportation and communications	15,518	5.8	17,702	14.07
Industry and services	14,052	5.2	16,706	18.89
Foreign affairs	7,331	2.7	8,415	14.79
Defense	48,292	17.9	55,083	14.06
Miscellaneous expenditure	10,437	3.8	12,468	19.46
Total	269,349		305,850	

#### TAXATION (1974)

	(in millions of francs)		%
Direct taxes			
Individual income tax	50,465		17.8
Corporation tax	38,387		13.6
Other direct taxes	12,199		4.3
Total	101,051		35.7
Indirect taxes			
Turnover tax	116,118		41.0
Customs and excise taxes	24,874		8.8
Wage and salary tax	5,483		1.9
Other indirect taxes	35,527		12.6
Total	182,002		64.3
TOTAL TAX REVENUES	283,053		100.0

#### AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (1974)

	(in millions of dollars)			
	Total	Public aid to dev.	Other public	Private
Canada	1,677.0	713.4	159.7	803.9
France	3,362.3	1,614.8	190.3	1,557.2
Italy	419.8	218.4	28.2	173.2
Japan	2,962.3	1,126.2	788.9	1,047.2
United States	9,931.0	3,439.0	823.0	5,669.0
West Germany	3,173.1	1,430.1	96.0	1,646.7



In % of GNP spent on aid, France ranks 2nd in the world after the Netherlands (1.31%).

#### ENERGY (1974)

	National production	Imports
Coal and lignite (million metric tons)	26.80	16.20
Oil (million metric tons)	1.08	130.20
Natural gas (million therms)	71,297	101,429
Hydraulic electricity (Gwh)	56,300	2,000
Nuclear electricity (Gwh)	13,800	500
Net energy resources (million tec)	1973 275.6	1974 281.8

#### INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (1975)

All industries (except construction)—Base year 1970 = 100; 1974 = 123; 1975 = 112.4; Dec. 1975 = 116	
Sectors	(in thousands of tons)
Iron ore	49,655
Pig iron	19,886
Raw steel	23,778
Automotive industry (cars)	2,951,160
Sulfuric acid (11 months)	3,475.2
Paper and cardboard (11 months)	1,606.34

1 kilometer = 0.624 miles

Currency units per U.S. dollar (based on IMF average daily rates of exchange) - 1974: \$1 = 4,8099 francs; 1975: \$1 = 4,2864 francs

#### AGRICULTURE (1973)

Total grain production (1000 metric tons)	42,785
Sugar beets	22,706
Potatoes	7,359
Wine (1000 gal)	1,983,666
Animal products (1000 metric tons)	3,396
Dairy products	6,223
Number of farm holdings	1,300,000
Working farm population: 12% of total working population	2,560,000

#### HOUSING (1974)

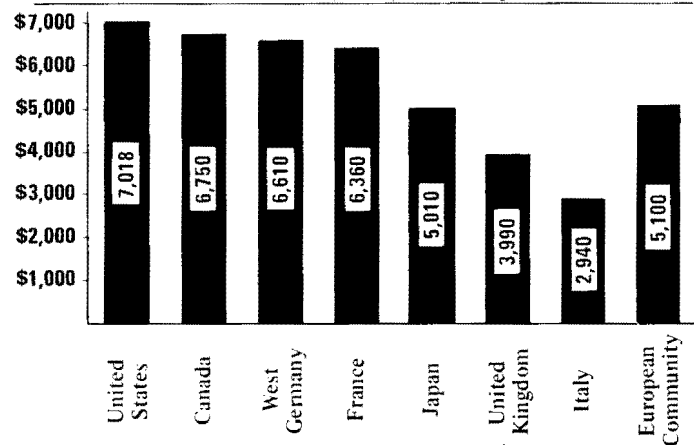
Total number of building permits issued	627,000
of which: HLM (moderate-rent housing) for rent	114,900
for sale	34,200
New dwellings completed	500,500
New dwellings begun	550,800

#### TRANSPORTATION

Rail (SNCF French National Railroad) 1975	
Freight traffic	
Tonnage dispatched - total (millions of metric tons)	219.05
Ton-kilometers (millions of tons/km)	64,033
Passenger traffic	
Passenger total (millions)	617.9
Passenger-kilometers (billion p/km)	50.98
Inland waterways 1975	
Total gross traffic (1000 metric tons)	94,581
Tons/km (millions)	11,906
Ocean 1975	
Passenger traffic (departures & arrivals in thousands)	10,933
Freight (1000 metric tons)	
Entered	210,867
Cleared	54,991
Air 1974	
Passenger total (Air France, UTA, Air Inter, millions)	12,244.8
Passenger/kilometers (millions)	21,872.5
Total freight (1000 t/km)	2,924,913
Roads	
Network (as of 12-31-1974)	948,982 miles
of which: major highways	1,767.7
Accidents	
Total accidents	1974 260,187 / 1975 237,532
Fatalities	1974 13,521 / 1975 13,090
Injuries	1974 353,059 / 1975 353,730

#### ENVIRONMENT (1975)

	Number	Area in acres
National parks	5	691,600
Regional parks	14	-
Nature reserves	23	64,470
Forests (public)	-	10,495,000

**FRANCE IN THE WORLD (1975) – Per Capita GNP**

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (1974)**

	(in billions of francs)
<b>I - Goods and services</b>	
(A) Goods	- 18.738
(B) Services	+ 1.583
Balance (I)	- 17.165
<b>II - Grants and other unilateral transactions</b>	
(A) Private	- 6.758
(B) Public	- 4.839
Balance (II)	- 11.597
Balance of current transactions (I and II)	- 28.752
<b>III - Non-monetary capital movements</b>	
(A) Long-term capital	+ 10.499
(B) Short-term and liquid capital	+ 12.204
Balance (III)	+ 22.703
<b>IV - Errors and omissions</b>	+ 5.704
<b>V - Variation in assets and liabilities</b>	
in the banking sector	- 1.831
in the public sector	+ 2.176
Balance (V)	+ 0.345

Official reserves (February 1976): \$11.386 billion

**ARMED FORCES (1975)**

<b>Total Personnel</b>	584,405
Army	331,522
Air Force	102,078
Navy	68,315
Gendarmes	73,647
Military Justice	197
Health Service	6,473
Other	2,173
Women included in above figures:	11,602

**HEALTH**

Number of hospital beds (1972)	617,324
Number of beds per 1000 people	11
Number of doctors (1973)	77,450
Public health expenditure (billions of francs – 1975)	10.250
Percentage of total budget (1975)	3.65%

**FOREIGN TRADE**

	(in millions of dollars)		
	1974	1975	
Total imports f.o.b.	49,723	51,667	-8%
Total exports f.o.b.	46,388	52,991	+2%
<b>BALANCE</b>	- 3,335	+1,324	

In 1975 France ranked 4th in the world in total trade.

**Trade by sector (1975)**

	Exports	Imports
Agriculture	7,716	6,100
Raw materials	2,323	4,525
Energy	1,407	1,225
Manufactured products	40,051	30,707
Semi-manufactured products	12,369	11,435
Finished products		
Agricultural equipment	4,619	6,254
Industrial equipment	13,625	10,031
Consumer goods	14,772	9,394

**TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES**

	(in millions of dollars)		
	1974	1975	
Imports from the United States	2,883.43	2,951.97	+3%
Exports to the United States	2,305.10	2,164.13	-6%
<b>BALANCE</b>	-578.33	-787.84	

The United States exports more to France than it imports from her.

**French-American trade for selected sectors (1975)**

	(in millions of dollars)	
	Imports from the U.S.	Exports to the U.S.
Food and livestock	307.94	71.81
Tobacco and alcohol	12.02	133.75
Raw materials	247.86	30.54
Petroleum products	192.72	23.97
Chemicals	278.40	255.52
Manufactured products	289.81	585.56
Industrial equipment	1,337.01	590.90
Other manufactured products	214.16	374.93

**EDUCATION**

School enrollment 1975-76	12,300,000
Public schools	10,500,000
Private schools	1,800,000
<b>Pupils by age</b>	
Nursery and kindergarten (2-6 years)	2,254,000
Elementary	3,951,000
Secondary	3,985,000
University enrollment 1974-75	803,595

Sources: Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques; Ministries of Finance, Industry and Research, Agriculture, Transport, Education; the Armed Forces; O.E.C.D.; U.S. Government.

**STANDARD OF LIVING**

Total number of households (1974)	17.2 million
Percentage owning a:	
car	62.3
refrigerator	87.3
washing machine	66.4
dishwasher	5.4
freezer	10.2
television set	79.8

Private cars (end 1973) 14,500,000

Telephone	
Subscribers in 1974	6.19 million
Forecast 1980	12 million

Family budget: expenditure by sector	1959	1974
Food	37.3%	25.9%
Clothing	11.5%	8.7%
Housing	17.5%	22.2%
Hygiene and health	8.3%	13.4%
Transportation and telecommunications	8.4%	10.6%
Culture, recreation, miscellaneous	18.0%	18.8%

**SOCIAL SECURITY GENERAL SCHEME (1974)**

	(in billions of francs)
<b>Health, maternity, disability, life</b>	
Contributions	48.041
Sickness benefits, treatment, daily cash benefits	45.214
<b>Industrial injuries</b>	
Contributions	10.000
Temporary disability benefits	2.925
<b>Old-age pensions</b>	
Contributions	27.753
Benefits	23.753
<b>Family benefits</b>	
Contributions	
Employed persons	25.621
Employers and self-employed	1.672
Benefits	
Employed persons	20.310
Employers and self-employed	1.696

**LEISURE**

<b>Vacations (1973)</b>	
Number taking a vacation away from home	24,500,000
Average length of paid vacation	29.6 days
<b>Press and publication</b>	
Newspapers and periodicals (1972)	
Overall circulation	7,266,055,000
Total number of titles	14,814
Books (1972)	
Total production	336,952,000
Number of titles	22,261
Libraries (1976)	800
<b>Cinema (1973)</b>	
Number of movie theaters	4,147
Attendance	173,600,000
Museums (1975)	900
<b>Sports</b>	
Membership in federations covering one sport	3,920,000
Membership in federations covering several sports	1,111,000



France

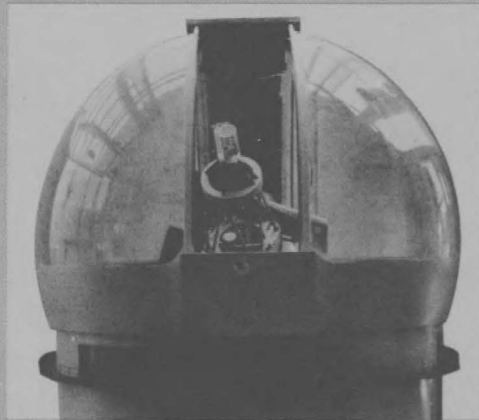
---

Science & Technology



# Basic Research

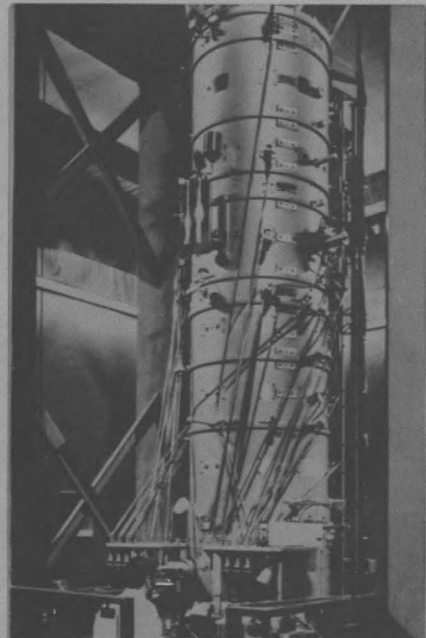
**Telescope in Hawaii:** Model of the 11.8-foot-diameter French-Canadian telescope currently being built on the summit (13,870 feet) of Mauna Kea, Hawaii. This tripartite—France, Canada, the United States—scientific instrument will be operational in 1978.



**Pasteur Institute:** Created in 1886, the Pasteur Institute is involved primarily in basic and applied research in biology. Its headquarters are in Paris, with branches in France and overseas.

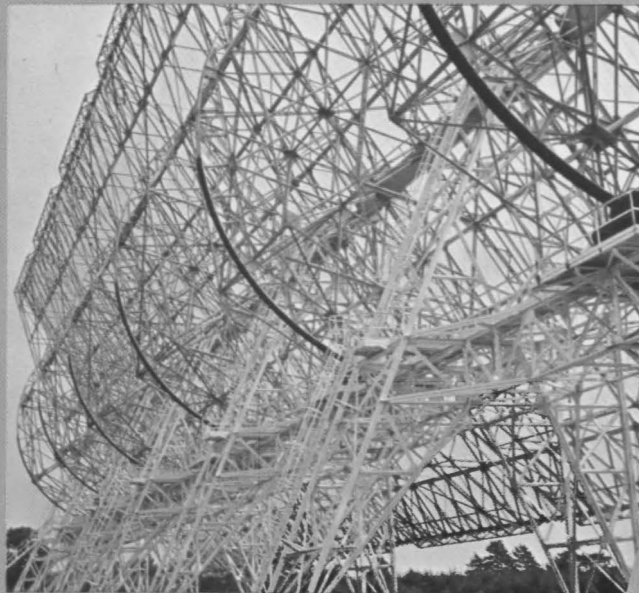


**High-Power Laser:** France is one of the leaders in the field of high-power lasers. As early as 1972, lasers delivering 300 joules of energy in 3 nanoseconds were commercially available and exported to American firms involved in nuclear fusion research.



**Electron Microscope at Toulouse:** This powerful 3MV electron microscope has allowed scientists to observe single molecules, study the structure of lunar samples and make three-dimensional reconstructions of biological microstructures.

**Radiotelescope at Nançay:** This giant telescope, 980 feet long and 230 feet high, has enabled scientists to measure the distance of the farthest known pulsar and observe the spiral galaxy Maffei 2, which is 9 million light-years away.

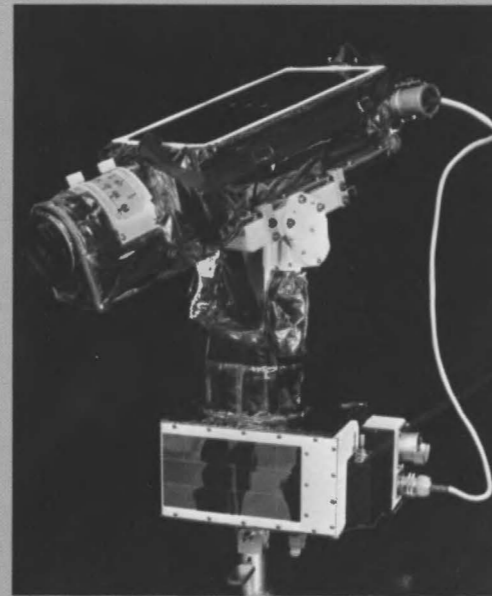


**Underwater Research Diving Capsule:** France is one of the pioneers in underwater exploration. Operation FAMOUS (French-American Mid-Ocean Undersea Survey), carried out in 1973 and 1974, made a decisive contribution to knowledge of the formation of the earth's crust.

**Cover:** The parabolic reflector and tower of the Odeillo solar energy facility. This 1,000-kilowatt solar furnace, the world's largest, offers unique research possibilities and is being used by several American teams in liaison with French scientists.

# Space & Telecommunications

**Color TV Camera:** This French transistor camera is used by CBS television.



**Pleumeur-Boudou Space Telecommunications Center:** This center made the first trans-Atlantic connection by satellite, contacting Andover, Massachusetts.



**The French-German Telecommunications Satellite Symphonie** was placed in orbit on August 26, 1975 by a NASA rocket from Cape Canaveral.



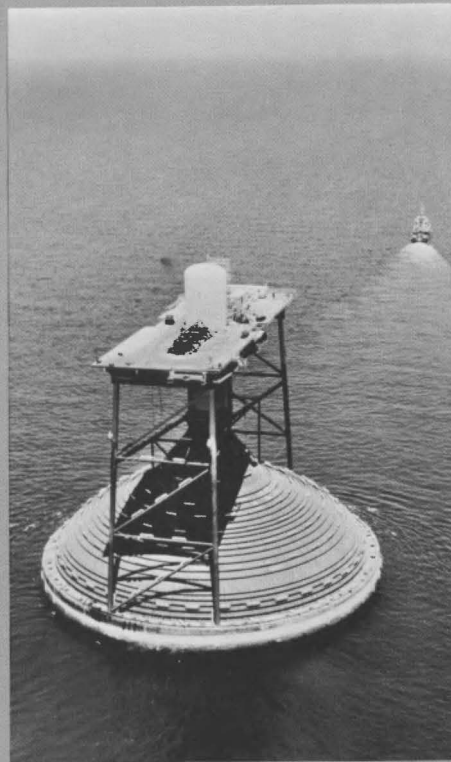
**Zoom Lens:** French zoom lenses were chosen by NASA to equip all its TV cameras, including those used in the Apollo program, both on the lunar rover and the Skylab.

France, the third space power in the world, is carrying out an extensive program in the framework of the European Space Agency as well as through her own agency, the National Center for Space Studies. She has set up a world-wide satellite tracking network, a launching site in French Guiana and test facilities at Toulouse. A number of French-built satellites have been put into orbit, for instance, the D1-A, the Diadème 1 and 2, the D2-A and D2-B, the Starlette and the Symphonie, the last one developed with West Germany. France has also developed a light-weight launch vehicle, the Diamant B-P4, and is participating in the development of the Spacelab and the telecommunications launch vehicle Ariane. Examples of French-U.S. cooperation include the Spacelab, TIROS N, OSO 8, INSEE-C and HEAO.



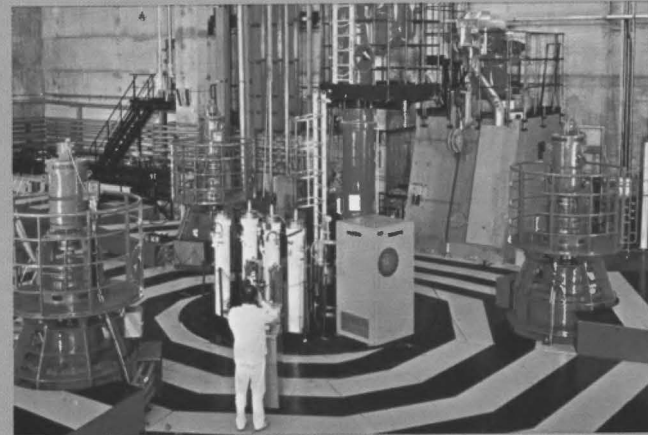
# Energy

**Immersible Crude-Oil Reservoir:** This 20-story-high floating reservoir has a storage capacity of 500,000 barrels. Pumping equipment and separators are installed on the platform.



**Neptune Offshore Drilling Platform in the North Sea:** The floating platform for offshore oil prospecting has an electric power plant and living quarters for some 60 people.

**280-Mw Fast Breeder Reactor Phénix** at the world's most advanced nuclear power plant, Marcoule. A 1,200-Mw Super-Phénix is planned for the early 1980's.



**Fessenheim Nuclear Power Plant:** The most recent nuclear power plant in France, located on the Rhine River, is equipped with a powerful 970-megawatt turbo-alternator weighing more than 4,000 metric tons.



**Oil Refinery at Gonfreville, Normandy**



**House Heated by Solar Energy**

# Transportation

**Arzwiller Water Sled Eliminates the Need for Locks**



**Fully Automatic VAL Urban Transit System in Lille,** one of several experimental systems.

**High-Speed Turbotrain:** Amtrak has six in service.



**French-British Supersonic Concorde**



**Airbus: The Wide-Body, Twin-Jet Airbus** for Short and Medium-Range Flights



**Control Panel of the VAL**



**Gazelle:** The French-British Gazelle helicopter broke three speed records in 1971. By the end of 1975 more than 500 had already been sold.



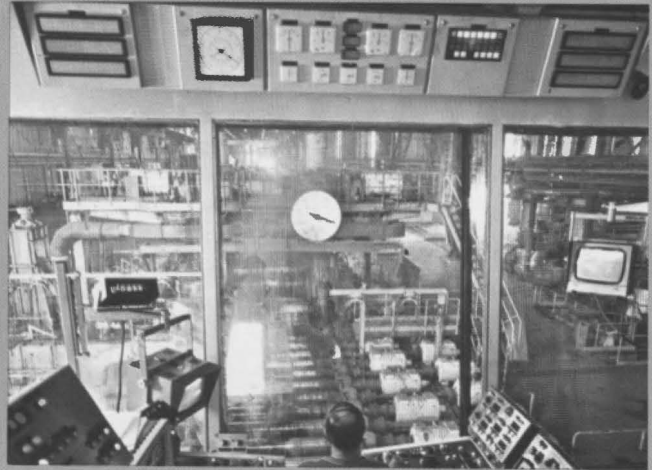
**Falcon 20:** 347 of these planes are in use throughout the world. It is widely used in the U.S. as a corporate charter plane and for freight. The U.S. also has 64 out of the 80 new-model Falcon 10's.



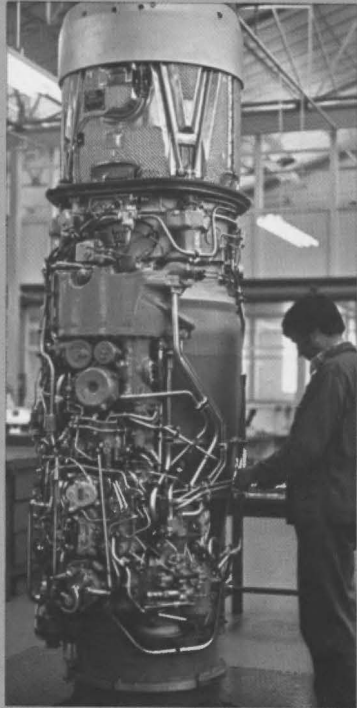
# Industry



**Le Creusot Plant — Molten Steel:** The French steel industry ranks fifth in the world behind the U.S.S.R., the U.S., Japan and West Germany.



**An Automated Steel Plant**



**Tarnos 40 Aircraft Engine at the Turbomeca Plant:** Turbomeca manufactures turbojet, turboshaft and turbo-propeller aircraft engines.



**Noyelle-Godault Metallurgical Plant —** Molten zinc being poured.

**Supertanker Esso-Bretagne (225,500 tons) at St. Nazaire:** The largest oil tanker in the world (550,000 tons) is to be launched in May 1976 at St. Nazaire.

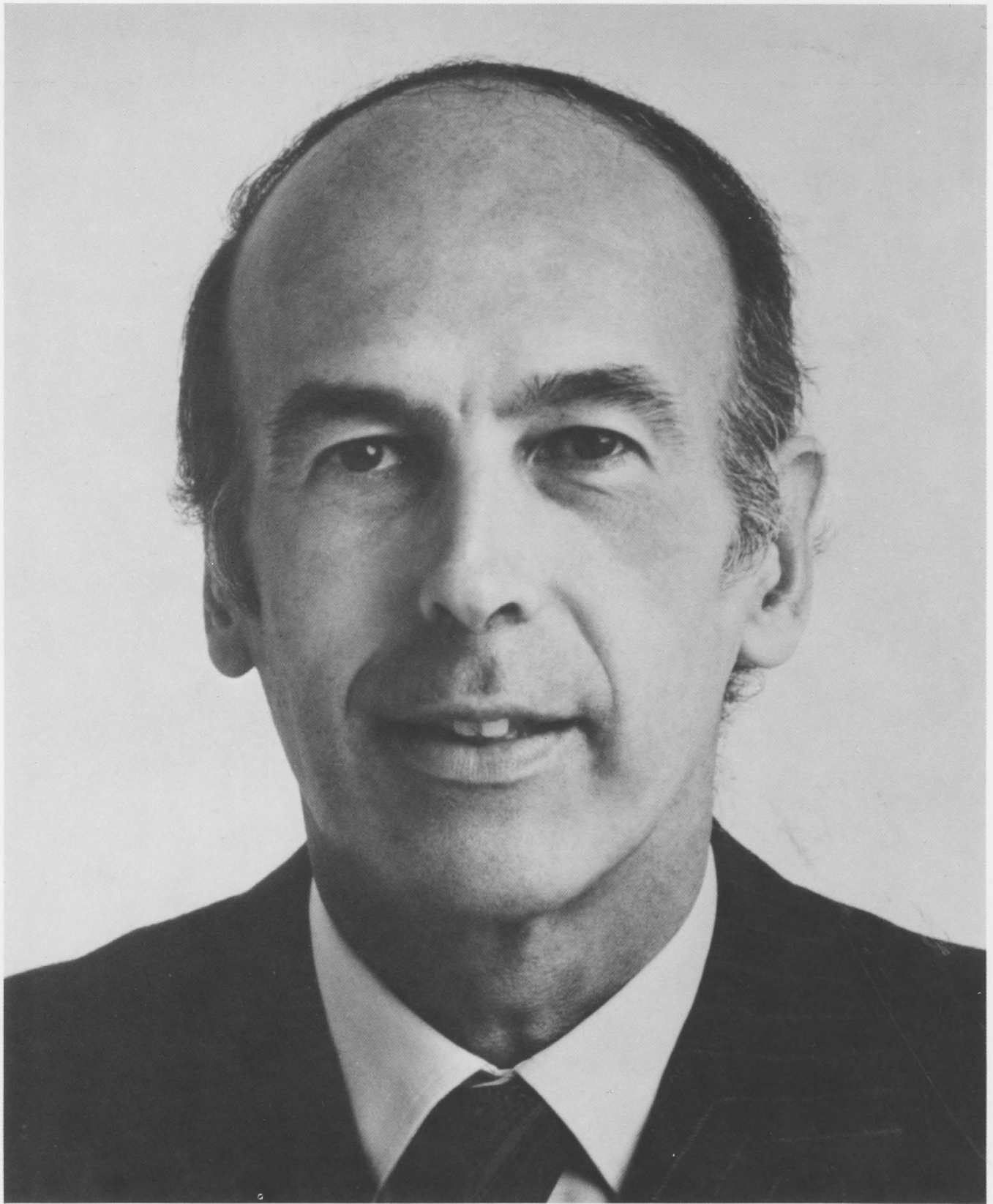


**Nuclear Tank**

PHOTO CREDITS: Brun-D.F.; I.A.U.R.P.; C.F.E.; CNEOX; CETE, Nord, Picardie; ESSO; Framatome; Sodel Brigaud Morceau; CNRS; Chirot-Total; ALMASY D.F.; EDF-Sodel; CGE; Thomson C.S.F.; C.F.E.; Aviation M. Dassault; Aérospatiale DF; Penarroja; Sodel-Jaumont; Fouion-ELF; Angénieux; Sacilor.

DESIGN: Eric Gluckman. PRINTING: Sayers of Saint Louis.

**AMBASSADE DE FRANCE Service de Presse et d'Information**  
972 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021



Valéry Giscard d'Estaing  
President of the French Republic



Mrs. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing



## *Madame Valéry Giscard d'Estaing*

Anne-Aymone Giscard d'Estaing, the wife of the President of the French Republic, was born in Paris on April 10, 1933.

She was one of five children of François and Aymone de Brantes. François de Brantes was a career officer in the French Army. When the young Anne-Aymone was four years old, she moved to London with her father, who became military attaché of the Embassy there. With the German invasion of France in May 1940, her father saw military action with the French Army. In 1941 and early 1942 Commandant de Brantes (he was to finish his career as Lieutenant Colonel) moved his family to Lisbon where he also held the post of military attaché. He returned to occupied France in mid-1942 to take up service in the French Army, but when the Army was dissolved by the Germans in November of 1942, he went into the French underground. He became a military intelligence officer of the French Resistance, working with the "Organisation de la Résistance de l'Armée" (Organization for Resistance of the Army) in the Loire Valley. Denounced to the Germans, he was captured in January of 1944 and deported to Germany. He died in a German concentration camp, Mauthausen, in May of 1944. Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing's mother, a graduate of Holton Arms in Washington, D.C., is the daughter of the Prince Guy Faucigny Lucinge and today lives at Les Hermites in the French department of Indre-et-Loire.

With the end of the war, Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing commenced her secondary school studies at the Institution Notre-Dame-des-Oiseaux. She attended school there from 1945 to 1951 with one interruption to pursue studies in Cambridge, England. In 1951 and 1952, she took courses to become a bilingual secretary and at the same time studied the history of art at the Ecole du Louvre.

Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing married the future President of the French Republic, then newly graduated from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, in December of 1952 in the chapel of Le Fresne, the Brantes family's 18th-century property at Authon in the Loir-et-Cher.

She has participated in a number of social and charitable projects. After her marriage, she also undertook the study of economics and in 1969 participated in the founding of an investment club for women and remains an active member of the organization. She is also an avid gardener and is interested in agriculture. One of her brothers, Paul de Brantes, is a farmer in the Loir-et-Cher. Her other brother, Guy, is a financial adviser in New York. Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing also has two sisters, Rosamay Henrion, wife of a French businessman, and Marguerite, a Benedictine nun in Dakar, Senegal.

The Giscard d'Estaings have four children: Valérie-Anne, 22, is a member of the staff of the Secretary of State for Culture; Henri, 19, is a student at the Institute of Political Science in Paris and an active member of the Jeunesse Sociale Libérale (a movement of young supporters of President Giscard d'Estaing); Louis, 17, has finished high school and is preparing his entry into a business school; and Jacinthe, 16, is studying in high school and is competing in horse jumping.

Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing's favorite sport is skiing. She is an indefatigable reader and is particularly interested in history. She is completely bilingual in English and also speaks Spanish and Portuguese.

# Valéry Giscard d'Estaing

## President of the French Republic

The political career of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing spans the post-World War II history of France. At 29, he became one of the youngest members of the National Assembly; at 32, he became the youngest minister of the Fifth Republic; at 48, he became the Fifth Republic's youngest President.

His election as President of the French Republic on May 19, 1974 came at the end of the most dramatic political campaign France has seen since, at the suggestion of President Charles de Gaulle, the French adopted an amendment to the Constitution in 1962 providing for the election of the chief executive by universal suffrage.

The election had been caused by the premature death of President Georges Pompidou on April 2, 1974. Three important candidates entered the race to succeed President Pompidou: Valéry Giscard d'Estaing; Jacques Chaban-Delmas, former Premier of France and a leading member of the UDR, the party founded by Charles de Gaulle; and François Mitterrand, the First Secretary of the French Socialist Party and the candidate of the Unified Left parties in France, including the French Communist Party.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing's task was not easy. The Independent Republican Party, which he had formed with his political allies in 1966 and which he headed, was the junior partner of the Gaullist coalition, dwarfed in size and importance by the UDR. To be elected President, it was vital for Mr. Giscard d'Estaing to run ahead of Mr. Chaban-Delmas in the first round of the presidential election. None of the candidates was expected to receive the necessary clear-cut majority and Mr. Mitterrand was expected to lead.

That Mr. Giscard d'Estaing succeeded was a tribute to his personal campaign style and his effective presentations on radio and television in debates with Mr. Mitterrand. As predicted, Mr. Mitterrand led in the first ballot, with Mr. Giscard d'Estaing easily outdistancing Mr. Chaban-Delmas. In the second ballot of the election, on May 19, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing won a narrow victory over Mr. Mitterrand. His margin was 342,000 votes out of 26 million cast. His percentage was 50.80.

President Giscard d'Estaing's election brought to power a man with a different vision of the political needs of his nation. For the new, young Chief of State, France is a great country with great potential but its political institutions are badly in need of reform. Those who had known Mr. Giscard d'Estaing since his youth were not surprised at the accent the new President put on reform. He had been born into a politically oriented family, and at a very young age had manifested a desire to play a part in the political life of his country.

Valéry Giscard d'Estaing was born in Coblenz, Germany, during the French occupation of the Rhineland, on February 2, 1926. His father, Edmond Giscard d'Estaing, was an *inspecteur des finances*,



an elite group of national public auditors who oversee the finances of the state. He had moved from that to the business world. President Giscard d'Estaing's mother, May Giscard d'Estaing, came from a distinguished French political family. Her grandfather, Agénor Bardoux, had been a minister in the Mac-Mahon government and vice president of the Senate. Her father, Jacques Bardoux, was an influential member of the National Assembly from the department of Puy-de-Dôme in the Auvergne region of France. (Of historical note, Thomas Paine, author of *Common Sense*, was elected to the Convention, the first French assembly after the French Revolution, by the electors of the department of Puy-de-Dôme.) Valéry was less than one year old when his family went home to the Auvergne where he spent his early childhood. He was very young when his teachers perceived that they had a brilliant student. He pursued his studies at the Lycées Janson de Sailly and Louis-le-Grand in Paris and at the Lycée Blaise Pascal in Clermont-Ferrand.

It was during this period that one of the most dramatic events occurred in young Giscard d'Estaing's life — the German occupation of France. He was in the Auvergne, in the heart of France, when the French surrendered and he saw the Germans march into Clermont-Ferrand in 1940. His mother took him back to Paris to pursue his studies at the Lycée Janson, but the young man wanted to participate in the struggle against the Germans. He joined a section of the French Resistance, "Défense de la France", and participated in its clandestine activities by delivering anti-occupation literature and later arms. In 1943 he wanted to go to London, but was prevented from doing so when the Resistance organization he was working with was broken up by the Germans. But when Paris was liberated, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing managed to make his way to General de Lattre's First Army where he participated in the final stages of the war in France and Germany as a tank soldier. He was decorated with the Croix de Guerre.

France liberated, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing went back to his studies. He pursued his education in two of France's most prestigious schools—the Ecole Polytechnique and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration. The latter (known as ENA) is a school for advanced studies in public administration. The most brilliant graduates of both these schools generally enter the government, industry or the diplomatic service. In 1952 he was named *inspecteur des finances*, like his father. With this background and education, the road to the political career he wanted was open to him, but the young Giscard d'Estaing had to prove himself. For three years he served as the number two man on the staff of the Finance Minister and then Premier of France, Edgar Faure, and on January 2, 1956 was elected to the National Assembly from the Puy-de-Dôme department.

Charles de Gaulle returned to power in France in 1958 and in January 1959 appointed Mr. Giscard d'Estaing junior minister of finance in the government of Premier Michel Debré. In this first high-level government post, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing served first under Finance Minister Antoine Pinay and then Finance Minister Wilfred Baum-

gartner. In January 1962 De Gaulle decided that the young man's apprenticeship was over—he named him Minister of Finance. He was 35 years old. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing was to serve a total of nine years in this key job in the French government—1962-1966 and 1969-1974, the latter five years during the presidency of Georges Pompidou. His services as Finance Minister were marked by the modernization of the institutions of the Ministry, stabilization of the French economic situation and the rising strength of the French franc, and by a tough campaign against tax fraud. It was during this period that the young Finance Minister traveled widely and met with some of the world's top leaders, including Presidents John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon of the United States, German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

During his period out of government (1966-1969), Mr. Giscard d'Estaing concentrated on building his new political party which won important victories in the legislative elections of March 1967. Giscard himself was reelected to the National Assembly from the Puy-de-Dôme and for the first time, the UDR party realized that it would not have a majority without the support of the Independent Republican Party. Thus was born a government coalition which has survived until today. New legislative elections were held in June 1968, after the student riots of May 1968, and Mr. Giscard d'Estaing was once more elected to the National Assembly. In 1969 President de Gaulle submitted a referendum to the public on regionalization. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing publicly advocated a "no" vote on the referendum and when it was defeated President de Gaulle resigned, paving the way for the election of Georges Pompidou, who on taking office recalled Mr. Giscard d'Estaing to the Finance Ministry.

During all this period, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing was also elected to other political responsibilities. In France, a political leader can hold a number of political offices at the same time. For example, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing was simultaneously a member of the National Assembly, member of the General Council of Puy-de-Dôme for the rural canton of Rochefort-Montagne (elected in 1958) and Mayor of Chamalières, a town of 20,000 inhabitants near Clermont-Ferrand (elected in September 1967).

With the death of President Pompidou, the race for his succession was on. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing chose Chamalières as the site for the announcement of his candidacy.

Reform has been the central theme of President Giscard d'Estaing's administration. Already enacted are reforms of the nation's abortion laws, divorce laws, national television system, and urban-growth and real-estate laws. Further, at the suggestion of the President, the vote has been given to everyone over 18 years of age. The President is now pushing forward with the enactment of France's first capital-gains tax and sweeping changes in business laws.

Since assuming the presidency, he has been active in foreign policy. He met with President Gerald Ford (1) in Martinique in December 1974 and in Rambouillet in November 1975. He also met with

Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow in October 1975. He has received a number of world leaders (2) and has visited a number of countries (3). He has worked out an increasingly close working relationship with German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and is actively working with other European leaders toward an old post-World War II dream, the creation of a political Europe.

President Giscard d'Estaing has also taken a number of significant international initiatives to deal with the pressing economic problems of our time. He was the instigator of the idea of a dialogue between the rich countries, the developing countries and the oil-producing states of the world which resulted in the North-South conference, whose work is still proceeding. He also organized the Rambouillet conference in 1975 at which leaders and heads of state from the United States, France, West Germany, Great Britain, Italy and Japan discussed world economic and monetary matters.

President Giscard d'Estaing has traveled widely in the United States, as a student, as a journalist (he did an interview of the late Senator Robert Taft for *Paris-Presse*), and as a parliamentarian. He has been a parliamentary member of the French delegation to the United Nations. As Minister of Finance, he represented France at a number of the meetings of the International Monetary Fund in Washington. President Giscard d'Estaing speaks English.

His term of office is seven years. He does not have to seek reelection until 1981. Under French law, he may serve consecutive terms of office. The next legislative elections must be held no later than June 1978. Since the beginning of the Giscard d'Estaing administration, the French Premier has been Jacques Chirac, a dynamic, 41-year-old leader of the UDR, who broke ranks with his own party to support Mr. Giscard d'Estaing in the 1974 elections.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing has always liked sports. He has played football (called soccer in the United States) and is an accomplished skier. In 1967, along with Maurice Herzog, the conqueror of Annapurna, he was the first person to ski down the north face of Mont Blanc. He has piloted airplanes and helicopters. He is an avid reader and a lover of good music, particularly Mozart. He himself plays the piano and the accordion. He has a country house, l'Etoile, near Authon, in the Loir-et-Cher department where he spends many weekends with his family.

The President was married in December 1952 to Anne-Aymone de Brantes.

- (1) He met with President Ford on three occasions:
  - in December 1974 in Martinique
  - in July 1975 in Helsinki
  - in November 1975 in Rambouillet.
- (2) — H.I.M. the Shah of Iran, June 1974
  - President Gerald Ford, December 1974
  - President Sadat, January 1975
  - Vice-Premier of the People's Republic of China, Teng Hsiao-ping, May 1975
  - Leonid Brezhnev, October 1975
- (3) In 1975, the President paid visits to Algeria, Morocco, Poland, Zaire, Greece, the U.S.S.R., Tunisia and Egypt.

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE Service de Presse et d'Information  
972 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021

**AMBASSADE DE FRANCE**  
**SERVICE DE PRESSE ET D'INFORMATION**

972 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 21, N. Y. REgent 7-9700

BACKGROUND

FRENCH-AMERICAN MEETINGS SINCE 1959

Sept. 2-3, 1959 : Visit to France by President Eisenhower

President Eisenhower met with General de Gaulle during a tour of major Western capitals prior to the visit of Soviet Premier Khrushchev to the United States. The main questions under discussion were American-Soviet relations, Berlin (on which both were in complete agreement) and the eventuality of a Summit Conference. The two leaders stressed their commitment to the Atlantic Alliance and reaffirmed the importance of a resumption of negotiations on disarmament. African problems, particularly those relating to North Africa, were discussed, as well as the means of organizing better cooperation between the two countries.

(See communiqué)

Dec. 19-21, 1959 :

Marginal talks were held during the four-power conference (which also involved Mr. MacMillan and Mr. Adenauer) between the French and American Presidents. The focal point of the consultations was the forthcoming Summit Meeting with the Soviet Union.

April 22-29, 1960 : Visit by General de Gaulle to the United States

During the week-long visit General de Gaulle traveled to Washington, New York, San Francisco and New Orleans. Talks centered on preparations for the Summit Conference.

(See communiqué)



May 16-17, 1960 : Breakdown of the Summit Conference in Paris

On this occasion, General de Gaulle and President Eisenhower met again.

May 31-June 2, 1961 : Visit to Paris by President Kennedy

En route to Vienna for talks with Mr. Khrushchev, John Kennedy was received in Paris by the French President. The communiqué issued after the consultations spoke of the "fundamental agreement" existing between the two leaders. The principal issues discussed were Berlin, Southeast Asia, the People's Republic of China, the situation in Algeria and the evolution of the Evian negotiations, the ex-Belgian Congo and relations between Cuba and the United States.

The two Presidents also examined defense problems.

(See communiqué)

Nov. 25, 1963 :

General de Gaulle attended the funeral of John Kennedy and met for the first time with President Johnson.

April 25, 1967 :

General de Gaulle and President Johnson held brief talks on the occasion of the funeral of Chancellor Adenauer.

Feb. 28-March 2, 1969 : Visit to Paris by President Nixon

President Nixon visited General de Gaulle in Paris during his first tour of major European capitals. Mutual relations, particularly with respect to the problems of the Atlantic Alliance and European construction, were discussed along with the following issues: the Middle East crisis, the Vietnam conflict and progress of the Paris negotiations, the Biafra secession.

Economic and financial problems were discussed less extensively. No communiqué was issued following the visit.

Feb. 23-March 3, 1970 : Visit by President Pompidou to the United States

President Pompidou spent a week in the United States, visiting Washington, Cape Kennedy, San Francisco, Chicago, Westchester and New York on the occasion of his first official trip since his election.

During talks between the two Presidents the problems of Western Europe as well as its relations with the socialist countries were examined. Particular attention was also paid to the situation in the Middle East and the prospects of a settlement of the Vietnamese conflict. Economic relations between the two countries and monetary questions were also discussed.

No communiqué was issued at the end of the visit.

Dec. 13-14, 1971 : The Azores Meeting

This encounter between President Nixon and President Pompidou was devoted mainly to monetary problems. The two heads of state agreed on the need for a prompt realignment of exchange rates through a devaluation of the dollar (which occurred a few days later following a meeting of the Group of Ten in Washington).

The two sides also agreed on the need for an imminent opening of trade negotiations between the United States and the European Economic Community in order to settle short-term problems currently pending.

During their talks, President Nixon and President Pompidou also examined various international political questions, namely relations between the United States and Western Europe as well as the latter's prospects of unity, relations between Eastern and Western Europe particularly with respect to the question of eventual negotiations on security in Europe and a balanced reduction of forces, American-Soviet relations, the situation in Vietnam and the Indo-Pakistani conflict.

(See communiqué)

May 31-June 1, 1973 : The Reykjavik Meeting

The American and French Presidents devoted most of their talks to relations between the United States and Western Europe.

They also examined military problems (SALT negotiations, balanced reduction of forces) as well as the situation in the Middle East and the application of the Paris agreements on Vietnam.

Lastly, trade and financial matters also came up for discussion, particularly prospects for future multilateral negotiations within the framework of GATT and changes to be made in the international monetary system.

No communiqué was issued following these consultations.

Dec. 14, 15 and 16, 1974 : State Visit to Martinique by President Ford  
First Meeting With President Giscard d'Estaing

The two Presidents reviewed the international economic, financial and monetary situation in the context of the crisis prevailing at that time.

The energy problem was examined thoroughly. The two Presidents agreed on the need for increased cooperation among energy-consuming countries and on the timeliness of opening a dialogue between these countries and the producing countries, in accordance with the proposal made by the President of the French Republic on the preceding October 24.

The need for close economic cooperation (through the adoption of harmonized policies) and for financial cooperation through measures of solidarity) was also emphasized. As regards gold, it was agreed that any country that wished to might assess its holdings in this metal on the basis of current market prices.

The two presidents exchanged views on the development of East-West relations; the situation in the Middle East; European unification, for which Mr. Ford restated American support; Atlantic defense and cooperation between France and NATO.

This meeting also resulted in a financial settlement regarding the transfer out of France in 1967 of the American forces and bases that had been made available to NATO.

(See communiqué)



Nov. 15, 16 and 17, 1975 : Six-Nation Economic Meeting at Rambouillet

The President of the French Republic invited the highest authorities of the principal industrial democracies to meet at Rambouillet from November 15 to 18, 1975. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a political perspective on the problems presented by the world economic situation and to outline action to resolve these problems.

President Ford participated in the summit meeting along with the heads of government of West Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy and Japan.

During the wide-ranging exchanges of views which took place over the three days, a consensus emerged on the responsibilities of the industrial democracies in the establishment of a new world economic order characterized by greater stability (particularly in the monetary field), and a reduction of the gap between rich and poor countries (by the stabilization of export earnings and a redistribution of financial resources).

The participants expressed their satisfaction at the opening, on December 16, 1975, of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation, a result, in an extended form, of the French proposal for a conference. They agreed to carry on in a positive spirit the dialogue which is to be established by this conference between industrialized and developing countries.

(See declaration)

JOINT FRENCH-AMERICAN COMMUNIQUE

P a r i s

SEPTEMBER 3, 1959

The President of the United States and the President of the French Republic have had during the day of the 2nd and 3rd of September meetings, during the course of which all the questions which are of interest to the two countries have been discussed. The Prime Minister of the French Republic and the two Ministers of Foreign Affairs took part in these meetings. The conversations between the former comrades-in-arms of the Second World War took place in the very friendly and cordial atmosphere which has traditionally characterized Franco-American relations.

President Eisenhower set forth to General de Gaulle his views on U.S. - U.S.S.R. relations on the eve of Mr. Khrushchev's visit to Washington and in view of the expected visit of the President of the United States to Moscow. The two Chiefs of State expressed their complete agreement on the question of Berlin. They also agreed that a Summit Conference, useful in principle, should take place only when there is some possibility of definite accomplishment.

African problems in general and those which relate to North Africa in particular were discussed at some length. The President of the United States and the President of the French Republic stressed their devotion to the Atlantic alliance. They exchanged views with respect to means of assuring a more efficient functioning of this alliance.

The two Presidents reaffirmed the importance they attach to the resumption of negotiations on general and controlled disarmament as well as to the problem of assistance to the under-developed areas. They also examined the means of organizing better cooperation between the two countries in the world as a whole, especially through the expansion of consultations on all major problems, political as well as military.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

APRIL 25-1960

White House press release dated April 25

The President of the United States and the President of the French Republic have had a series of talks from April 22 to 25 on the occasion of the visit of General de Gaulle. The Secretary of State of the United States, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France and the Ambassadors of the two countries have taken part in these talks.

The exchanges of views which they have had have permitted them to define more precisely the positions which will be taken at the Summit Conference on the questions which will be raised there.

The main purpose of this Conference in the view of the two Presidents is to achieve an easing of tensions in the international situation.

May 16, 1960



JOINT COMMUNIQUE

JUNE 2, 1961

White House press release (Paris) dated June 2

The President of the United States of America paid a state visit to Paris from May 31 to June 2. This visit itself is evidence of the close and friendly relations traditionally characteristic of the history of the two countries.

During the visit there have been long talks between General de Gaulle, President of the French Republic, and President Kennedy.

The two presidents discussed the principal issues in the present international situation with regard both to relations between the United States and France, and to their policies in all parts of the world. In the course of these discussions, which were both direct and searching, they examined the position of the two countries with regard to the Soviet Union and the communist world; and the activities of these two countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, including aid to under-developed countries. They also examined means for strengthening the Atlantic Alliance, that fundamental association of free nations.

These conversations have shown the fundamental agreement which exists between the two presidents. In particular, President de Gaulle and President Kennedy confirmed the identity of their views on their commitments and responsibilities towards Berlin.

The conversation which has just taken place allowed the President of France and the President of the United States to know each other and to set forth fully the respective positions of the two countries, taking into account the interests and responsibilities incumbent upon each of them.

Thus the talks have made an essential contribution to the development of relations between France and the United States.

The deep solidarity which binds the two nations together in the tradition of Franco-American friendship remains the basis of these relations.

JOINT FRENCH-AMERICAN COMMUNIQUE

ISSUED IN THE AZORES

DECEMBER 14, 1971

President Nixon and President Pompidou reached a broad area of agreement on measures necessary to achieve a settlement at the earliest possible date of the immediate problems of the international monetary system. In cooperation with other nations concerned, they agreed to work toward a prompt realignment of exchange rates through a devaluation of the dollar and revaluation of some other currencies. This realignment could, in their view, under present circumstances, be accompanied by broader permissible margins of fluctuation around the newly established exchange rates.

Aware of the interest of measures involving trade for a lasting equilibrium of the balance of payments, President Pompidou confirmed that France, together with the governments of the other countries which are members of the European Economic Community, was preparing the mandate which would permit the imminent opening of negotiations with the United States in order to settle the short-term problems currently pending and to establish the agenda for the examination of fundamental questions in the area of trade.

President Nixon underscored the contribution that vigorous implementation by the United States of measures to restore domestic wage-price stability and productivity would make toward international equilibrium and the defense of the dollar exchange rate. The presidents agreed that discussion should be undertaken promptly in appropriate forums to resolve fundamental and related issues of monetary reform.

FRENCH-AMERICAN COMMUNIQUE

PORT-DE-FRANCE, MARTINIQUE

DECEMBER 16, 1974

The President of the United States, Gerald R. Ford, and the President of the French Republic, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, met in Martinique December 14-16, 1974, to discuss current issues of mutual concern. They were joined in their discussions by the Secretary of State and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Henry A. Kissinger and Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Sauvagnargues, and by Secretary of the Treasury William Simon and Minister of Finance Jean-Pierre Fourcade. The Ministers also held complementary side talks.

The meeting took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual confidence. President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing welcomed the opportunity to conduct detailed substantive discussions on the whole range of subjects of mutual concern. As traditional friends and allies, the two nations share common values and goals and the two Presidents expressed their determination to cooperate on this basis in efforts to solve common problems.

They reviewed the international situation in the economic, financial and monetary fields.

The two Presidents agreed that the governments of the United States and of the European Community, in the name of which the French President spoke on this subject, must adopt consistent economic policies in order to be effective in avoiding unemployment while fighting inflation. In particular, they agreed on the importance of avoiding measures of a protectionist nature. And they decided to take the initiative in calling additional intergovernmental meetings should they prove necessary for achievement of the desired consistency of basic economic policies among industrial nations.



In the light of the rapid pace of change in international financial positions in the world today, the Presidents were in full agreement on the desirability of maintaining the momentum of consideration of closer financial cooperation both within the international monetary fund and through supplementary measures. As one specific measure to strengthen the existing financial framework, the Presidents agreed that it would be appropriate for any government which wished to do so to adopt current market prices as the basis of valuation for its gold holdings.

The two Presidents considered in depth the energy problem and its serious and disturbing effects on the world economy. They recognized the importance for the U.S.A., the EEC and other industrialized nations of implementing policies for the conservation of energy, the development of existing and alternative sources of energy, and the setting up of new mechanisms of financial solidarity. They stressed the importance of solidarity among oil importing nations on these issues.

The two Presidents also exchanged views on the desirability of a dialogue between consumers and producers and in that connection discussed the proposal of the President of the French Republic of October 24 for a conference of oil exporting and importing countries. They agreed that it would be desirable to convene such a meeting at the earliest possible date. They regard it as important that all parties concerned should be better informed of their respective interests and concerns and that harmonious relations should be established among them in order to promote a healthy development of the world economy.

The two Presidents noted that their views on these matters are complementary and, in this context, they agreed that the following interrelated steps should be taken in sequence:

- They agreed that additional steps should be taken, within the framework of existing institutions and agreements to which they are a party, and in consultation with other interested consumers, to strengthen their cooperation. In particular, such cooperation should include programs of energy conservation, for the development of existing and alternative sources of energy and for financial solidarity.

- Based on substantial progress in the foregoing areas, the two Presidents agreed that it will be desirable to propose holding a preparatory meeting between consumers and producers to develop an agenda and procedures for a consumer/producer conference. The target date for such a preparatory meeting should be March 1975.

- The preparatory discussions will be followed by intensive consultations among consumer countries in order to prepare positions for the conference.

The two Presidents agreed that the actions enumerated above will be carried out in the most expeditious manner possible and in full awareness of the common interest in meeting this critical situation shared by the United States and France and all other countries involved.

President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing reviewed current developments in East-West relations. They discussed their respective meetings with General Secretary Brezhnev, and Secretary Kissinger reported on his discussions with leaders of the People's Republic of China. They exchanged views on developments in East-West negotiations, including the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. They expressed their conviction that progress in easing tensions was being made.

The two Presidents exchanged views on the present situation in the Middle East. They agreed on the importance of early progress toward a just and lasting peace in that area.

President Giscard d'Estaing described current efforts by France and other members of the European Community to further the process of European unity. President Ford reaffirmed the continuing support of the United States for efforts to achieve European unity.

The two Presidents discussed the situation in Indochina. They noted that progress in Laos toward reconciliation and reunification was encouraging.

The two Presidents agreed on the need for all parties to support fully the Paris Peace Agreements on Vietnam. Regarding Cambodia, they expressed the hope that the contending parties would enter into negotiations in the near future rather than continuing the military struggle. They expressed the hope that following Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam might also find their political way towards civil peace.

The two Presidents renewed the pledges of both governments to continue close relations in the field of defense as members of the Atlantic Alliance. They agreed that the cooperation between France and NATO is a significant factor in the security of Europe.

They noted with satisfaction that the positive steps in negotiations on SALT taken during the Soviet-American meeting at Vladivostok have reduced the threat of a nuclear arms race. The two Presidents explored how, as exporters of nuclear materials and technology, their two countries could coordinate their efforts to assure improved safeguards of nuclear materials.

The President of France indicated that his government was prepared to reach a financial settlement in connection with the relocation of American forces and bases committed to NATO from France to other countries in 1967. The French offer of \$100 million in full settlement was formally accepted by President Ford.

The two Presidents concluded that the personal contact and discussion in this meeting had demonstrated accord on many questions and expressed their determination to maintain close contact for the purpose of broad cooperation in areas of common concern to the two countries.

DECLARATION ISSUED AT THE CLOSE OF THE SIX-NATION ECONOMIC MEETING

HELD AT THE CHATEAU DE RAMBOUILLET, FRANCE

NOVEMBER 17, 1975

The heads of states and governments of France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America; met in the Chateau de Rambouillet from 15th to 17th of November 1975, and agreed to declare as follows:

[1]

In these three days we held a searching and productive exchange of views on the world economic situation, on economic problems common to our countries, on their human, social and political implications and on plans for resolving them.

[2]

We came together because of shared beliefs and shared responsibilities. We are each responsible for the government of an open, democratic society dedicated to individual liberty and social advancement. Our success will strengthen, indeed is essential to, democratic societies everywhere. We are each responsible for assuring the prosperity of a major industrial economy. The growth and stability of our economies will help the entire industrial world and developing countries to prosper.

[3]

To assure in a world of growing interdependence the success of the objective set out in this declaration, we intend to play our



own full part and strengthen our efforts for closer international cooperation and constructive dialogue among all countries, transcending differences in stages of economic development, degrees of resource endowment and political and social systems.

[4]

The industrial democracies are determined to overcome high unemployment, continuing inflation and serious energy problems. The purpose of our meeting was to review our progress, identify more clearly the problems that we must overcome in the future, and to set a course that we will follow in the period ahead.

[5]

The most urgent task is to assure the recovery of our economies and to reduce the waste of human resources involved in unemployment. In consolidating the recovery it is essential to avoid unleashing additional inflationary forces which would threaten its success. The objective must be growth that is steady and lasting. In this way consumer and business confidence will be restored.

[6]

We are confident that our present policies are compatible and complementary and that recovery is under way. Nevertheless, we recognize the need for vigilance and adaptability in our policies. We will not allow the recovery to falter. We will not accept another outburst of inflation.

[7]

We also concentrated on the need for new efforts in the areas of world trade, monetary matters and raw materials, including energy.

[8]

As domestic recovery and economic expansion proceed, we must seek to restore growth in the volume of world trade. Growth and price stability will be fostered by maintenance of an open trading system. In a period where pressures are developing for a return to protectionism, it is essential for the main trading nations to confirm their commitment to the principles of the O.E.C.D. pledge and to avoid

resorting to measures by which they could try to solve their problems at the expense of others, with damaging consequences in the economic, social and political fields. There is a responsibility on all countries, especially those with strong balance of payments positions and on those with current deficits, to pursue policies which will permit the expansion of world trade to their mutual advantage.

[9]

We believe that the multilateral trade negotiations should be accelerated. In accordance with the principles agreed in the Tokyo declaration, they should aim at achieving substantial tariff cuts, even eliminating tariffs in some areas, at significantly expanding agricultural trade and at reducing non-tariff measures. They should seek to achieve the maximum possible level of trade liberalization therefrom. We propose as our goal completion of the negotiations in 1977.

[10]

We look to an orderly and fruitful increase in our economic relations with socialist countries as an important element in progress in détente and in world economic growth.

[11]

We will also intensify our efforts to achieve a prompt conclusion of the negotiations concerning export credits.

[12]

With regard to monetary problems, we affirm our intention to work for greater stability. This involves efforts to restore greater stability in underlying economic and financial conditions in the world economy. At the same time, our monetary authorities will act to counter disorderly market conditions, or erratic fluctuations, in exchange rates. We welcome the rapprochement, reached at the request of many other countries, between the views of the U.S. and France on the need for stability that the reform of the international monetary system must promote. This rapprochement will facilitate agreement through the I.M.F. at the next session of the interim committee in Jamaica on the outstanding issues of international monetary reform.

[13]

A cooperative relationship and improved understanding between the developing nations and the industrial world is fundamental to the prosperity of each. Sustained growth in our economies is necessary to growth in developing countries: And their growth contributes significantly to health in our own economies.

[14]

The present large deficits in the current accounts of the developing countries represent a critical problem for them and also for the rest of the world. This must be dealt with in a number of complementary ways. Recent proposals in several international meetings have already improved the atmosphere of the discussion between developed and developing countries. But early practical action is needed to assist the developing countries. Accordingly, we will play our part, through the I.M.F. and other appropriate international fora, in making urgent improvement in international arrangements for the stabilization of the export earnings of developing countries and in measures to assist them in financing their deficits. In this context, priority should be given to the poorest developing countries.

[15]

World economic growth is clearly linked to the increasing availability of energy sources. We are determined to secure for our economies the energy sources needed for their growth. Our common interests require that we continue to cooperate in order to reduce our dependence on imported energy through conservation and the development of alternative sources. Through these measures as well as international cooperation between producer and consumer countries, responding to the long-term interests of both, we shall spare no effort in order to insure more balanced conditions and a harmonious and steady development in the world energy market.

[16]

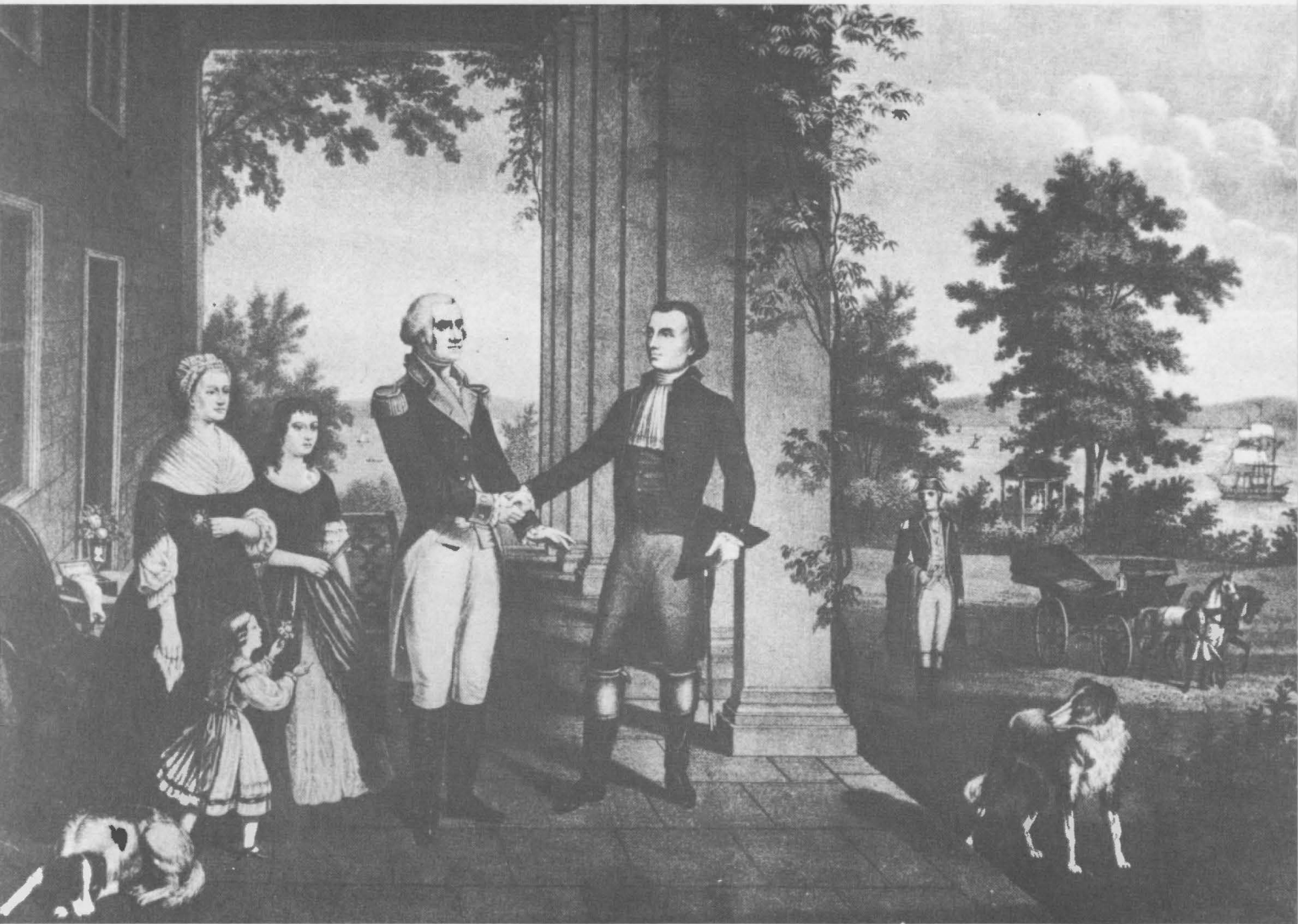
We welcome the convening of the conference on international economic cooperation scheduled for December 16. We will conduct this dialogue in a positive spirit to assure that the interests of all concerned are protected and advanced. We believe that industrialized and developing countries alike have a critical stake in the future success of the world economy and in the cooperative political relationship on which it must be based.

[17]

We intend to intensify our cooperation on all these problems in the framework of existing institutions as well as in all the relevant international organizations.



# *France And America*





# France and America

## Four Centuries of History

Only a few short years after the voyages of Columbus — in 1524 to be exact — a French king, Francis I, sent an expedition to explore the coast of North America between Newfoundland and Florida. Thus the first Frenchmen who came in contact with America were navigators and soldiers of fortune. These men gave names to the new shores they sighted: the region where New York City now stands was called "Terre d'Angoulême."



Ten years later Jacques Cartier discovered the St. Lawrence River and thirty years after that, at the time of the religious wars, Coligny, Grand Admiral of France, made plans to found a Huguenot colony along the shores of what is now South Carolina and Georgia. He sent an expedition under the leadership of Captain Ribaut,

which built two fortified enclosures — one on the site now occupied by Jacksonville, Florida, and the other near the present Marine Corps training station on Paris Island. These settlements were named Fort Caroline and Fort Charles, respectively, in honor of King Charles IX. Many of the rivers in the area were given French names: the St. John's River was called "Rivière de May" in honor of the month when the settlers landed; other rivers were named the Garonne, the Charente and the Loire to remind the exiles of their native land.

With Ribaut and his band came the first European painter ever to set foot on American soil; he was Lemoyne de Morgues, an official member of the expedition, whose duties were to depict the New World and its inhabitants as well as to draw maps. Never had the Spanish, settled farther to the south, taken the initiative of bringing an artist with them. The Spaniards however — who outnumbered the newly-arrived French — could not tolerate their presence in the area. They invaded the brand-new colony and massacred all the inhabitants.

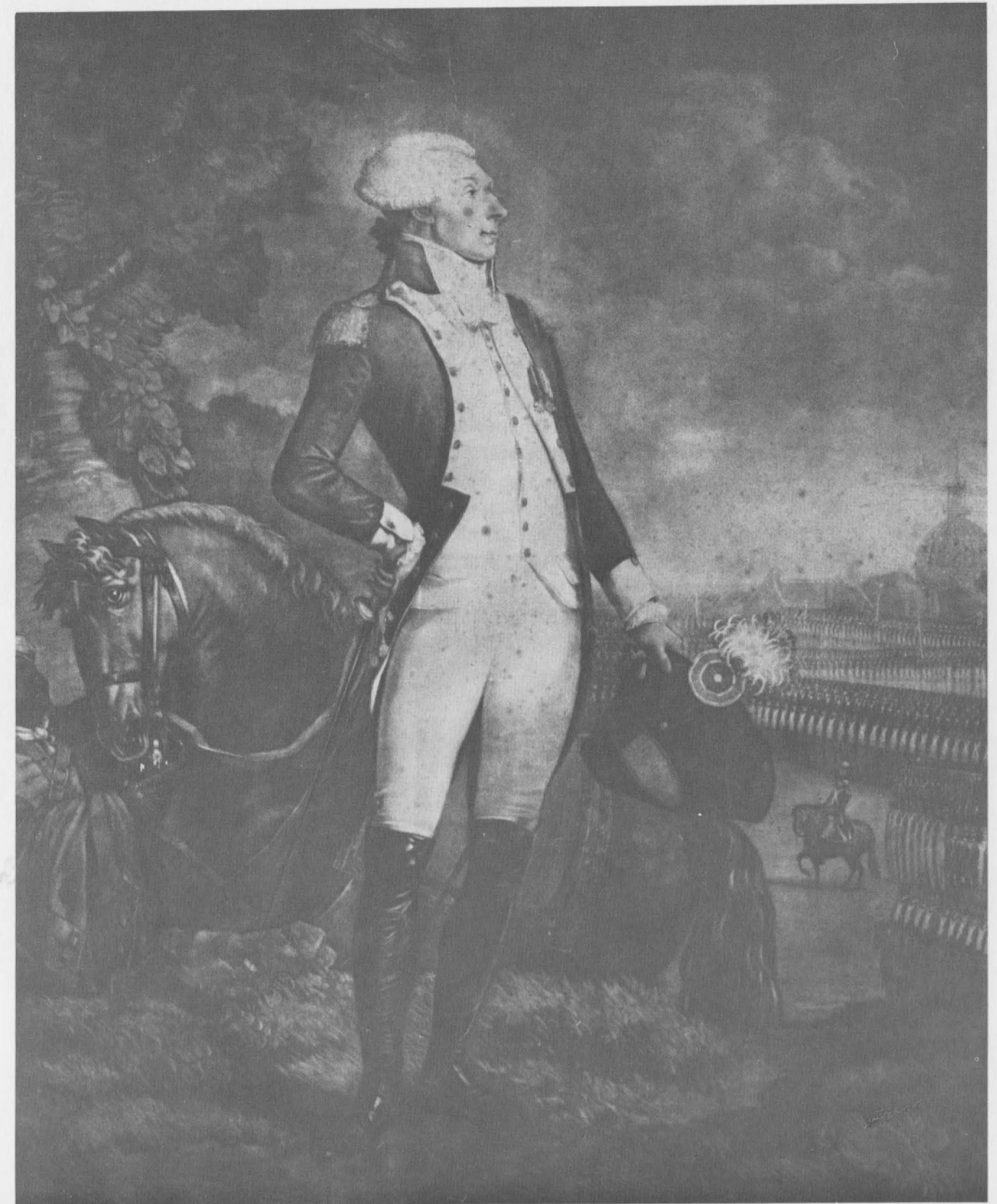
France's efforts were then concentrated in the north, near the St. Lawrence River.

The French were not the sort of men, however, to limit their explorations on this boundless continent. Though they had gained a foothold in Canada, as well as in the regions that have since become Maine, Vermont and parts of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan, they still felt drawn to the South. The Mississippi beckoned, and they were the first to descend the whole length of it through regions where no white man had ever penetrated before Cavalier de la Salle. A voyage of two years took him almost to the Gulf of Mexico in 1682.

During part of the seventeenth century and the first half of the eighteenth, the French constructed a line of forts, intended to keep the English in the east and to prevent them from making any gains in the direction of the Mississippi.

Situated at strategic points, on lakes or watercourses, these forts were scattered throughout the virgin forests and threatened the British possessions from the rear: Fort Niagara, Fort Carillon (later Fort Ticonderoga), Fort le Boeuf, and others. The fall of Fort Duquesne spelled the doom of French hopes in a whole area of the New World. The English reconstructed the fort and named it Fort Pitt, and this little frontier post set at the fork of two imposing rivers — a site whose importance France recognized — became in time the city of Pittsburgh.

In those days, the French looked upon the Mississippi as *their* river. They first called it the "Colbert," before transliterating its Indian name as "Messachabé." They had taken possession "in the name of the King" of immense territories situated between the Great Lakes and the Gulf of Mexico. The Mississippi formed the backbone of this half-mythical land, ill explored and without any western boundaries. For a long while, France claimed exclusive right to navigation on the great river; when Napoleon sold Louisiana to the United States this claim was still maintained.



*Marquis de La Fayette*



In this Louisiana of the heroic days, the French founded many cities from Detroit to New Orleans; from Sault Sainte Marie to Baton Rouge, Mobile and Biloxi; from St. Paul to St. Louis and Louisville; from Coeur d'Alene to Marietta, named in honor of Marie-Antoinette in 1788.

Modern Louisiana still retains from its French heritage its administrative division into parishes, as in pre-revolutionary France, while all the other American states are divided into counties or towns. Its laws are based on the Napoleonic code and in the network of its bayous, the French language is still spoken.

As long as the American colonies were subject to the British crown, the inhabitants, drawn into the orbit of English politics, were more or less hostile to France. The French and Indian Wars could not help but leave the colonists with bitter memories.

One day all this changed, and friendship for France grew in America along with the feeling of nationality. When George Washington took off his uniform as an officer of the British crown, he shed the prejudices he had acquired in the English army. However, these prejudices still remained among part of the population when Rochambeau landed at Newport. The exemplary conduct of the French army and the good nature of its officers disarmed those colonists who had still remained suspicious of France.



C. F. COMTE DE ROCHAMBEAU.  
*Lieutenant Général des Armées du Roy  
Commandant l'Armée Française en Amérique*

In her relations with the people, as well as on the battlefields, France thus set her seal of approval on the American Revolution. France's contribution was not merely a matter of official aid in men, money and matériel. The individual contributions to the Patriot cause of many colonists of French origin should also be remembered. Faneuil Hall, cradle of Liberty in Boston, was named for a Frenchman, and other French names are common among the Patriot leaders and the statesmen who proclaimed and achieved independence: Henry and John Laurens, John Jay, Alexander Hamilton — whose mother Rachel Fawcett was the daughter of a Huguenot by the name of Faucette — and Gouverneur Morris, whose unusual first name was his mother's maiden name.

The roster of Revolutionary heroes whose names are preserved in history and legend includes the son of Gascon Rivoire — Paul Revere — who is remembered for his famous midnight ride. This New England Yankee of French descent had his counterpart in the South in Francis Marion, the "Swamp Fox," who led the British on a wild goose chase through the Carolina swamps.

France's sentimental ties with America began when the colonies made their first move to revolt against British domination. La Fayette, who has given his name to more than 40 American towns, remains the symbol of these ties. Versailles and Paris, the court and the "philosophes," the "salons" and the people shared a common enthusiasm for the Patriot cause. Benjamin Franklin was fêted by the King of France as well as by Voltaire, and was acclaimed by the people in the streets as well as by the ladies of the nobility. While Franklin, then Jefferson, two giants of the American Revolution, represented their country in France, many other outstanding leaders, like John Paul Jones, Thomas Paine and Joel Barlow — the two latter were given honorary French citizenship — began to establish the friendly relations between Americans and Frenchmen which have never ceased.

France's cultural ties with America had begun a long time ago with the missionary explorers who were eager to discover new lands and to convert the heathen. The French people, in its diversity, sent across the Atlantic men of all faiths and political persuasions. Followers of Voltaire, future or former revolutionaries, also played their role in the New World: St. John Crèvecoeur, Brissot, Volney and Dupont de Nemours, whose success in his adopted country was particularly brilliant.

A similar humanitarian ideal and the same dream of liberty inspired the two countries for many years. The republican proclamations on both sides of the Atlantic struck the same note; the Declaration of the Rights of Man echoed the Declaration of Independence.



The French Revolution and the Negro revolt in Hispaniola brought unexpected visitors to the United States, such as the future king, Louis-Philippe, with his two brothers, and many emigrants who engaged in a variety of occupations. For example, an historian has compiled quite a long list of French painters who emigrated during this period. Among these is Saint-Mémin who left a considerable number of works, including the portraits of all the best-known Americans of his time.

During the same period, America was becoming a more and more popular theme in French literature — in the works of Chateaubriand, of the Duke of Liancourt and of Volney, and in the memoirs of Talleyrand and other travelers.

The French Revolution and the Empire also gave rise to some legends in the United States, which had its impostors of the Dauphin, and where the story spread that Marshal Ney — having escaped the firing squad — was hiding in an obscure corner of the United States. A bayou in Louisiana still proudly claims to have on its banks the tomb of Napoleon, to which the body is said to have been brought from Saint Helena by Dr. Antomarchi. Be that as it may, upon the fall of the Empire, the United States welcomed Joseph Bonaparte and his large family who lived at Bordentown for almost twenty years. It also sheltered the son of Murat and several former officers of Napoleon's Grand Army.

In South Carolina, for example, a city such as Charleston has had several big successive waves of French immigration: the first began at the end of the seventeenth century, when a group of Huguenots came from England, and continued during the eighteenth century. The next to arrive was a band of Acadians driven from Nova Scotia by the English in 1755; they were followed by the refugees from the French Revolution and the Empire, both those from France and those from Hispaniola. Charleston still has its Huguenot church, but unfortunately the services are no longer given in French, except once a year. And French is no longer spoken on the stage of the old local theater, where for many years French companies performed and where the famous Rachel played.



Joseph Bonaparte

It is sometimes difficult to trace the origins of the first French immigrants, for they were often scattered among the Dutch and English settlers who brought them

over on their boats, and who mispronounced and misspelled their names. Thus the name of Guillaume Moullins, who came on the *Mayflower*, was changed to Mullins; one of the ancestors of President Franklin Roosevelt, known by the name Delano, was really "de la Noye." In the same way "Baudoin" became Bowdoin, "Typhaine" became Tiffany, "Frere" became Freer and "Poinset" became Poinsett.

When the United States had become independent and started to build its own monuments and towns, it sometimes followed French models.



Jefferson was inspired by the "Maison Carrée" in Nimes in his design of the capitol in Richmond, which houses the oldest legislative body in the country. He was still haunted by memories of the "Hôtel de Salm" and the Paris Wheat Market when he drew up the plans for the University of Virginia. Advice was sought of former officers of the army of La Fayette and Rochambeau. Quesnay de Beaupaire was of great help, and Major l'Enfant has become famous for having laid out the plan for Washington, D.C., once the site of the new capital had been chosen.



Treaty of Alliance

Traite d'alliance  
eventuelle et deffensive

The most Christian King and the  
United States of North America  
to wit New Hampshire, Massachusetts,  
Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York,  
New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware,  
Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina,  
South Carolina and Georgia, having  
this day concluded a Treaty of Amity  
and Commerce for the reciprocal  
advantage of their Subjects & Citizens  
have thought it necessary to take  
into consideration the means of  
strengthening the engagements of  
confidence which are useful to the safety  
and tranquillity of the two parties par-  
ticularly in case Great Brittain  
should break the connection of the  
said States which is the chief  
of the said States should break the  
connection with France either by  
hostilities or by hindering her  
Commerce and Navigation in a  
manner contrary to the  
Rights of Nations, and the  
Rights of the said United States  
having resolved in that case to join  
their Councils and Arms against  
the Enterprises of their common  
Enemy, the respective Ministers  
and Ambassadors were empowered to  
concert the clauses and conditions  
proper to fulfill

Le Roi Très Chrétien et les  
Etats unis de l'Amérique septentrionale,  
à savoir: New Hampshire, la Baye  
de Massachusetts, Rhode Island,  
Connecticut, New York, New Jersey,  
Pennsylvanie, Delaware, Maryland,  
Virginie Septentrionale, Caroline  
Septentrionale et Caroline méridionale  
et Georgie, ayant ce jour d'aujourd'hui  
conclu un Traite d'Amitié, de  
commerce et de Commerce  
pour l'avantage réciproque de leurs  
Sujets et Citoyens, ils ont eu devoir  
prendre en considération les moyens  
de renouer leur liaison, et de leur  
servir d'utilité à la Sécurité, et à la  
tranquillité des deux Parties, et  
notamment dans le cas où la Grande  
Bretagne, en haïne de ces mêmes  
liaisons, et de la bonne correspondance  
qui forment l'objet du dit Traite,  
se porteroit à rompre la paix avec  
la France, soit en l'attaquant  
hostilement, soit en troublant son  
commerce et sa navigation, d'une  
manière contraire au droit de guerre  
et à la paix subsistante entre

Treaty of Alliance between France and the United States,  
February 6, 1778

1803. 30 April  
(1803)

Treaty  
Between the French Republic  
and the United States of America

The first Consul of the French Republic in the name of the French  
people, the President of the United States of America desiring to  
remove all source of misunderstanding relative to objects of misapprehension  
mentioned in the second, fifth, and sixth articles of the Convention of the 18th  
November 1795 relative to the rights claimed by the United  
States in virtue of the Treaty concluded at Madrid the twenty seventh  
of October 1763 between his Catholic Majesty, the said United States,  
willing to strengthen the union & friendship which at the time of  
the said Convention was happily established between the two Nations  
have respectively named their Plenipotentiaries. To wit: The First  
Consul in the name of the French people <sup>Francis</sup> Barbé-Maubray  
Minister of the public Treasury, and the President of the United States  
of America by, with the Advice & consent of the Senate of the said  
States Robert R. Livingston Minister Plenipotentiary of the United  
States, & James Monroe Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy  
extraordinary of the said States near the government of the French  
Republic who after having respectively exchanged their full powers  
are agreed to the following articles

Art. I.

Whereas by the article the third of the Treaty concluded at Madrid  
the 18th November 1763 between his Catholic Majesty, the said United States,  
the first Consul of the French Republic, his Catholic Majesty, it was  
agreed as follows

Louisiana Purchase: Text of the treaty between France and the United States,  
April 30, 1803.

La Ramée in New York State and Godefroy in Maryland have also left evidences of their work in the architecture of colleges, churches and other public buildings.

After the loss of Canada, after America had won its independence and after the cession of Louisiana, the French no longer had anything to hope for in the United States except individual achievements. A few peaceful explorers continued to come from France, such as Audubon, who ranged the American forests in quest of birds, studied their habits and drew and painted them with great accuracy and talent. The son of a citizen of Nantes, Audubon had spent most of his youth there, and perhaps, when passing through Paris, had been a student of David. One of the Bonapartes, the son of Lucien, also devoted himself to American ornithology, while Le Conte studied American trees and vegetation.

These friends of nature continued the tradition of the eighteenth century, a period of lively trade in plants between France and the United States. The letters of Franklin and Jefferson are filled with references to the seeds and plants sent to ministers and beautiful ladies in Paris, and at Rambouillet the trees still stand which were a gift from America to Louis XVI when this king sent the naturalist Micheaux on a mission to that land.

In the field of practical application, the French have contributed to establishing and improving American agriculture, by introducing various plants and methods of cultivation. In particular, rice and indigo culture in the Carolinas and winegrowing in California owe a great deal to the French.

After it had acquired Louisiana, the United States still had far to go to reach the Pacific; it was a man of French blood who ensured the possession of California for his country. Frémont, who got his start by working with the French explorer, Nicollet, was sent by the American government to explore and map a part of the western territories. This son of an immigrant from Lyons had the spirit of a conqueror; he dreamed of greater things than peaceful exploration and topographical reliefs. Continuing his trek westward to the farthest point, he finally took military action and helped to oust the Mexicans, replacing their flag by the Stars and Stripes.

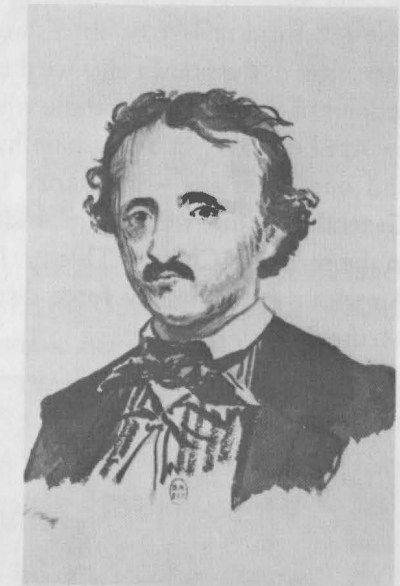
During the same period in the middle of the last century, another Frenchman stood out among the historical figures. He was a priest on horseback, Monsignor Lamy, a settler and missionary, who had come from the heart of France, Auvergne. After a stay in Baltimore, Monsignor Lamy was sent to Santa Fe, just at the time when the United States took possession of New Mexico. At Santa Fe he surrounded himself with a group of priests who had come from the diocese of Clermont-Ferrand in France. He was such a success that his episcopal see was occupied after him by

a succession of prelates from Auvergne. They all gave effective help, first to the military authorities, and then to the civil authorities, during a difficult period of adjustment. His life was immortalized by Willa Cather in *Death Comes for the Archbishop*.

The "Institut de France" since the time of its creation has included Americans among its members, and intellectual exchanges between the United States and France continued to grow during the nineteenth century in the artistic, literary and scientific fields. There were exchange tours of theatrical groups as well as an exchange of books dealing with everything from medicine to mechanics and all that interests the human mind.

Robert Fulton was the first American to carry out scientific research in France and to obtain patents there. Samuel Morse was to follow him in this course. Later there were others, notably the Wright brothers who, at the beginning of this century, chose France for the test flights of their airplanes.

Washington Irving and James Fenimore Cooper became popular novelists in France after the translation of their works and their prolonged stays in Paris. Baudelaire introduced the writings of Edgar Allen Poe in cultivated circles. At the same time American poets of French origin, such as Whittier and Sidney Lanier, were becoming famous; they had been preceded by Freneau, during the Revolutionary period. Longfellow told the tragic story of the expulsion of the Acadians in *Evangeline*, and Walt Whitman dedicated a moving poem to France. Education was offered to young Americans in the institutions founded or endowed by the Bowdoin, Girards, Tulane, Lemonnier, Juilliard and other families of French origin. Works of art were being purchased by Americans and the great collectors of Boston already possessed some canvases by Millet when this painter was not yet selling in Paris. History repeated itself in the case of the Impressionists, and the works of Manet were hung in the Metropolitan Museum in New York before they were admitted to the Louvre.



Edgar Allen Poe

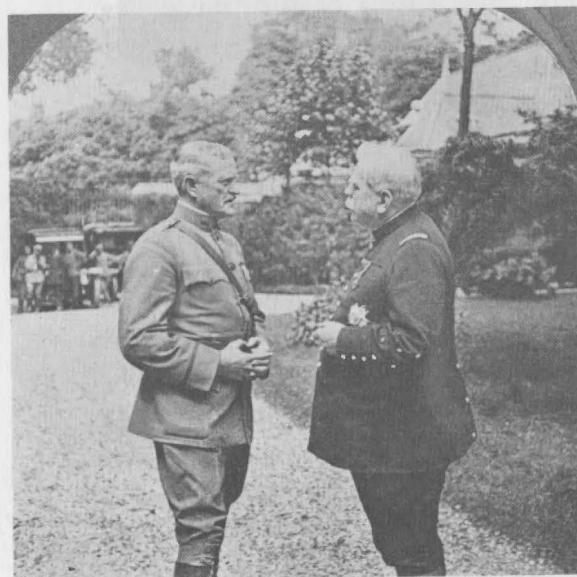




*Alexis de Tocqueville*

Degas once stood before a picture by Mary Cassatt and exclaimed, without knowing who had painted it, "Here is someone who feels as I do." This comment helps perhaps to explain what may seem a paradoxical friendship between peoples who are so different and who often appear to be opposed. But these peoples, from time to time, suddenly discover deep affinities and often have the same reaction when confronted by the same problem. This may be why such visitors as Tocqueville and later André Siegfried have understood America better than other Europeans.

These ties were to be strengthened dramatically during World War I. From the very start of the war the "Escadrille Lafayette," volunteers and innumerable American relief committees made their contribution to the French war effort. Memories of the French alliance during the War of Independence helped arouse the support of the American people when the United States declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917. In a few months America's powerful resources were mobilized and one year later — in March 1918 — the first American contingents, led by General Pershing, were disembarking in Bordeaux to be engaged shortly afterward in the region of Château Thierry. During the major allied offensive of July 18 the American expeditionary force distinguished itself in Bois Belleau, and freed the Meuse valley.



*Marshal Joffre and General Pershing*



*Georges Clemenceau and President Wilson*



*American soldiers on the Champs-Élysées after the Liberation*

In addition to military support — in men and matériel — which helped France to liberate her occupied territories and win the war, the United States aided France in her war effort by giving her considerable economic and financial assistance.

France will never forget that, 25 years later, it was the tremendous war effort of the United States and the bravery of the American forces that ensured her liberation in 1944. As early as 1941 Free France benefited from American lend-lease.

In 1943 the United States extended lend-lease to the French Army in North Africa and facilitated the full participation of the French forces in the liberation of their territory.

Even before the implementation of the Marshall Plan, France benefited from the interim aid plan which made it possible to start restoring her economy. In April 1948, the Marshall Plan was implemented. The American aid — which covered all sectors of the economy — continued until 1952, and helped France to reestablish her war-ruined economy on solid bases, to reconstruct and modernize her equipment.

Since World War II commercial, technical and cultural exchanges have steadily increased between the two countries. Yet during the 1960's some of General de Gaulle's positions on foreign policy and defense matters may have been wrongly interpreted in the United States as indications of a basic change in policy instead of a legitimate desire for national independence and sovereignty. The result was that relations between the two countries lost some vitality, and official visits and other practical forms of cooperation began to diminish.

However in 1969 the two nations decided to put an end to what was basically a misunderstanding and to resume more consistent bilateral relations, while keeping sight of their respective national interests.

In May 1969 the President of the United States paid a state visit to Paris. His talks with French leaders dealt mainly with mutual relations, the Atlantic alliance and European construction; the outcome was fruitful, bridging differences of opinion, enhancing cooperation and strengthening mutual confidence.

From then on high-level talks became increasingly frequent. In February 1970 the French President visited the United States. Then in December 1971 the two Chiefs of State met in the Azores where they had lengthy discussions about the problem of international monetary disorder, whose adverse effects were starting to be felt. Lastly in May 1973 they exchanged views in Reykjavik on relations between the United States and Western Europe, negotiations on arms limitation, the Middle East and Vietnam.

The meeting in Martinique on December 14, 15 and 16, 1974 between President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing culminated this ongoing effort to



*Presidents Ford and Giscard d'Estaing in Martinique*

strengthen relations between the two countries. Apart from talks on specific topics, the main result was the decision to further strengthen dialogue by maintaining close contact at all levels between government officials and the chiefs of state themselves.

Since then exchanges have grown rapidly, and this method has produced results: France and the United States are now working together to find a common approach to the world's major problems. The fact that both countries are pursuing the same basic goals and that there are no fundamental divergences between them greatly facilitates this effort. As Jean Sauvagnargues, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, said in Ottawa in June 1974, France remains "a full member of the Atlantic alliance," even though she has adopted an independent strategic policy.

By the same token, the example of détente with the East, which is one of the constants of United States foreign policy today, was set by France. The active role played by France in rapprochement and cooperation between the East and the West has greatly facilitated this development. France has among other things given strong backing to American efforts to foster relations with China which she feels are essential to world stability.



*American astronauts are received at the Paris City Hall.*



To be sure, there are differences in the way the two countries approach and understand certain problems such as the Middle East or the handling of the energy crisis. The important thing, however, is that dialogue is being continued and this will help them in their common search for solutions. The summit meeting at Rambouillet in November 1975, for instance, enabled France and the United States to come substantially closer in their views on a subject where only a few months ago the differences seemed to be fundamental: international monetary matters.

While dialogue is being strengthened among the chiefs of state and the ministers of foreign affairs, it is also developing at other levels. Over the past few years there has been a significant increase in the number of exchanges and reciprocal visits. These are more than mere good-will missions; they are genuine efforts to establish communication and exchange ideas and experiences. French cabinet members, senior government officials and members of Parliament frequently visit the United States; similarly, members of the United States Congress visit France.

Cooperation is also pursued among experts in the scientific and technological domains, and ranges from oceanography to improved stock breeding. This permits the two countries to save time, money and effort in their constant search to better the conditions of human existence.

The longstanding relations of friendship and cooperation between the United States and France are without precedent in modern times. Despite destinies which are so different, relations between the two countries have varied little in their broad lines since the time Benjamin Franklin went to Paris to gain French support for the revolutionary cause. The reason for this is that France and the United States have always shared the same concept of freedom and democracy.

**AMBASSADE DE FRANCE** Service de Presse et d'Information  
*972 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021*

*Washington, D.C.*

*Yorktown, Virginia*

*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

*Houston, Texas*

*Lafayette, Louisiana*

*New Orleans, Louisiana*