

THE WEEK OF REMEMBRANCE from 8 to 16 November 2014

70th ANNIVERSARY
MOSELLE LIBERATION





Remarks by the President



Twice in the last century the freedoms of our beautiful country of France, freedoms of which we are so proud, have been trampled.

Each time, our American allies came to our rescue to help our soldiers dispatch an implacable enemy.

Thus we have created, over the last 70 years, unique and unbreakable bonds of friendship with the United States of America.

We are fortunate that the most recent actors in the great epic of our local history will again be with us, one last time, in our cities and villages. They are committed to transmitting the flame of liberty to our youth, so that we may never forget.

Many of them, with deep regret, are unable to travel here. But we know already, from their messages of friendship, just how much they wanted to be with us. They all tell us of their affection for our land, Lorraine.

Together, we express to them one last time our gratitude and our recognition, through our participation in the parades, rallies, reenactments, and ceremonies that our committee and local communities have organized.

I invite you to be with us throughout this week of commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Liberation, in order to carry forward with us the flame of memory.

So we simply say to our veteran friends: "Thank you" for the magnificent gift of liberty that you gave to us.

Pascal Moretti

President of the Association Moselle River 1944



PROGRAM OF

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8 th

Thionville

Assembly of veteran combatants and members of their families at the Hotel:

Kyriad Prestige, Allée Poincaré in THIONVILLE Downtown

The participants check into their rooms

Buses leave from Hotel Kyriad Prestige at 7:00pm

7:30 pm

Welcome reception at HOTEL HORIZON 50 route du Crève Cœur THIONVILLE

Buffet and Cocktail



Albert Cardamon, US veteran who lived in Yutz

Président d'Honneur de l'association Moselle River



PROGRAM OF

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9 th

Bertrange or Malling, Koenigsmacher

During that morning the American participants will be divided in two groups.

1° BERTRANGE Group

Former Members of 5th, 80th, 95th, 106th, Infantry Division and 4049 QMT and other interested persons.

10:15 am

Parade from the church to the city hall.

11:00 am

Ceremony at the monument to the war dead and at the 95th Infantry Division memorial

1:00 pm

Lunch at Buding with all the participants



THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

PROGRAM OF

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9 th

2° MALLING Group

The itinery is subject to change

Former members of the 90th Infantry Division and 10th armored Division

9:30 am Mess to commemorate the civilian victims of

the war and military casualties at the church

in Kerling les Sierck

10:30 am Laying of a wreathe at the monument of the

war dead

11:00 am Laying of tribute of flowers at the tomb of

Jean Marie Serba

11:15 am Ceremony at Malling

12:00 am Wine reception

1:00 pm Lunch at Buding with all the participants





THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

Remarks by the Sub-Prefect of Thionville

This year, France has an uncommon rendezvous with her History: we have begun the series of celebrations marking the Centenary Anniversary of the First World War, and we are also celebrating, throughout the country, the 70th anniversary of the landings of June 1944 and the Liberation of our cities and towns. These moments of commemoration are occasions for us to gather in order to be reminded of how much we owe to the Allied troops who, on two occasions, came to help our Armies liberate French soil. First of all, we are animated by an immense and eternal feeling of gratitude.

Once again, but this year in a special way, we bear witness, in the intensity of our collective regard for all those, of all nationalities, who played a role through their courageous acts in the liberation of the country and the re-establishment of national integrity. Next, in a now-unified and peaceful Europe, without a spirit of revenge, it is our duty to recall these facts to the younger generation. We must also pass on to them the flame of memory, so that it may never be extinguished, and our gratitude to these often-anonymous heroes. The actions of the Moselle River organization have contributed to this in precious and exceptional ways, with numerous ceremonies, parades of period military vehicles, and historical reenactments. I want to congratulate the association's president as well as his committee, and to express my warmest thanks to each of the volunteers who have dedicated their time and their energy to the success of these events.

In this way, France is beautiful, grateful, and generous!

Let us show, by decorating our homes with the red, white, and blue for the upcoming ceremonies and by participating in large number in the gatherings of commemoration, how much we honor our Allies and how strong is our pride in being French and European!

Etienne STOCK

Sub-Prefect of Thionville

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9 th

Kænigsmacker

2:30 pm Parade of WW2 US military vehicles at

Koenigsmacher

3:00 pm Ceremony at the monument to the war dead

No Return to THIONVILLE

Evening Dinner

Time and place to be announced at Buding and return to the hotel Time of departure from Hotel by bus to be announced





memoire et souadule

The history of the Maginot Line

This "History of the Maginot Line" in comic book format, has been designed in the spirit of French textbooks of the 1930s and is intended for all age groups.



Une bande dessinée traduite en Anglais

commandez sur: www.moselleriver.org

ÉGALEMENT EN VENTE SUR TOUS LES SITES DE COMMÉMORATION

PROGRAM OF

MONDAY NOVEMBER 10 th

Distroff and Kédange-sur-Canner

10:00 am

Small ceremony at Valmestroff

10:30 am

Ceremony at Distroff with school children

Noon lunch at Buding

3:00 pm

Ceremony at the monument for war dead at Kedange sur Canner with school children in attendance

Evening Lunch

at Buding

Time of return to hotel to be announced







Remarks by the mayor of Basse-Ham

We are once again very proud and honored to welcome a delegation of American soldiers on the occasion of the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of our community, which took place from November 9 to 14, 1944.

We will welcome them on November 11 - at the same time as the ceremony commemorating the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War I - to take advantage of the presence of schoolchildren from Basse-Ham, constituent bodies, and the entire population, in order to express - as is only right - our profound gratitude to our liberators, for their courage and their limitless bravery.

These young Americans who gave so much for our liberty deserve eternal gratitude on our part.

We must instill the habit of remembrance, so that we will never forget, and so that their sacrifice remains engraved on our hearts and in our memories.

We are grateful to President Moretti and those who have worked with him, in "Moselle River," for helping us to do just that.

Their dedication is exemplary. It is the most fitting homage that one could render to these young Americans who lost everything.

Their combat, undertaken so that this desire might live, deserves to be appropriately saluted, as does the spirit that animates them.

Let us never forget that, although the defense of liberty is everyone's business, it is only the sacrifice of a few that has always allowed liberty to triumph.

They are heroes for all time.

The mayor of Basse-Ham

PROGRAM OF

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 11 th

Basse-Ham and Terville

10:00 am

Ceremony at BASSE Ham

Noon: Lunch at Buding

3:00 pm

Ceremony at Terville

Reception to follow **Evening Dinner**

Evening Dinner

Time and place to be announced











Remarks by the Mayor of Terville

The only legitimate truth is to believe in liberty and to fight for it

It is with great pride and much emotion that we welcome for the third time a delegation of American veterans, the liberators of our city, who gave us hope for the future.



For us and for history, the United States will forever embody the spirit of democracy, the desire and the duty to always serve the truth. These men and women whom we welcome with open arms this November 11, 2014, a day full of significance for France, have carried with them throughout their lives the values that made them capable of extending their hand to us some 70 years ago.

They transformed the spirit of their nation into their heroic actions.

Many of us here are immigrants; our land of the Moselle is a land of asylum, a land where people who have been separated from their homeland, who want to build a future for their children, have worked while suffering but also with joy and enthusiasm. They have ceaselessly worked to build and rebuild, have endured and forgiven, without losing faith in a better tomorrow.

In our region, North Moselle, we know the price of blood and tears and we have deep inside us a sense of respect, dignity, courage, and justice. It is for this reason that we remember.

It is for this reason that we honor the veterans and their families present in Terville on this 70th anniversary of the Liberation.

Finally, I want to thank Pascal Moretti in particular: with Moselle River, he has given unstintingly of his time and effort to make possible the presence in the Moselle of these American veterans, so that our people and elected officials might give them the worthiest of homages, and so that we might never forget.

Patrick Luxembourger Mayor of Terville

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12 th

9:30 am

Ceremony at Buding with school children

Participation in ceremony of WW2 historic military vehicles.

Noon: Lunch at Buding and return to HOTEL Kyriad Thionville.

Afternoon

Free Time with the possibility of visit to fort Driant or to METZ and the Cathedral Saint Etienne.

Evening Dinner

Time and place to be announced









Artistic representation of the **COMBAT AREA** around **THIONVILLE** from a 1944 prepared and censored DRAWING, with original spellings and names of locations



The Moselle River 1944 Association would especially like to thank the collectors' associations for their participation in these commemoration events:



Avec la participation de

Sillegny and the Lucky Seven

SILLEGNY

Pascal BAUSCH Gilbert BARTHE Pierre THIRY

HESTROFF - 57 **BOULANGE - 57** FONTOY - 57 Denis NIFDERI ANDER MAIRY - 54

Les Petits Gi's d'Albert Cardamon

YUT7

Le Républicain Lorrain

L'amicale du Fort Driant

ANCY/MOSELLE

PROGRAM OF

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 13 th

Yutz, Boulay and Saint-Avold

Visit of group to Yutz and to Boulay

10:00 am

Visit to the WW2 exposition

Lunch at Yutz

Departure. Time to be annouced

3:00 pm

Visit to American military cemetery at Saint-Avold

With 10,489 grave sites it is the largest US cemetery of the WW2 in all of Europe



Evening Dinner, place and time to be announced





Remarks by the President of the CCAM

In addition to the homage that we are paying to the soldiers who fell 100 years ago and to soldiers who were victims of many other conflicts, in this mid-November we are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Liberation of our region. In 1944, for the second time in 26 years, the Moselle region once again became French territory. After 1609 days "under the boot" of the occupiers, and after suddenly hiding the flags brought out too soon when the occupiers' departure was announced. the residents of the canton of Metzervisse



were met by American tanks and the Gls who had come to liberate our native land. Several of these Gls are honoring us by returning to see us again. We thank them! Their youth and their lives were forever altered by the sacrifices and the heroism that were needed in order to survive.

Thank you also to our own who fought: to Elise Hourt, to Louis-Eugène Jandik and so many others who refused to surrender.

Finally, thank you to Moselle River who have so fully realized their goal—helping us to pass along our duty to remember. Because of the work of Pascal Moretti and those working with him, the schoolchildren of our community can "touch" the history of our country, and meet those who made that history...

This is not a celebration of folklore, as I have heard it described, but an activity that is both necessary and purposeful. What our schoolteachers are doing is essential, asking the last witnesses of these dark days to share their living memories with our youngest citizens. Along with its member communities, the Association of Mosellan Arc Communities is of course a participant in the ceremonies that mark this anniversary. We have a duty to fulfill, as well.

It is true that we must always remember, we must never forget. For the future is built on lessons from the past. We must always remember, we must never forget that peace—the peace that our children and grandchildren benefit from today—was purchased at a high price, a price paid through sacrifice, blood, suffering, and tears.

Always remember, never forget, that the madness of men and the rise of fundamentalisms can lead the world into a deadly descent to the underworld. Always remember. Never forget. Never forget, so that our common and universal hope for "a better world" might finally become a concrete and enduring reality.

Pierre Heine

Mayor of Metzervisse President de la Communauté de Communes de l'Arc Mosellan PROGRAM OF

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14 th

Sillegny and Veckring

10:00 am

Ceremony at Sillegny

Lunch at Sillegny and return to Veckring

3:00 pm

Ceremony at Fort Hackenberg a fortification of the Maginot Line

A visit to the underground installations with reception

Note: The temperature in the interior of Fort Hackenberg is 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Remember to dress warmly for this underground tour and reception. Wear shoes with good tread to prevent slipping.



www.maginot-hackenberg.com

Evening Dinner

Time and place to be announced





Remarks by the of the President of the Council General of Moselle

The Moselle region has as its inheritance a historical land, a land of memory, a land where reconciliation has shown itself to be stronger than battles.

We must preserve this history and make sure it is passed on for the future.

The most visible way in which we encourage this remembrance is our annual gathering aimed at helping us to remember these unique periods from our past: the Departmental Day of Mosellane Memory.

The 8th edition of this event will take place on November 16 and will be larger than ever, on this occasion of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Moselle.

The participation of military authorities, the presence of numerous veterans from the allied troops who fought in these battles, the participation of patriotic organizations and collectors of period American military vehicles, all will help to re-create the atmosphere of the liberation and will give great solemnity to the event.

The energy of these patriotic groups, the contribution of the Moselle River organization and the commitment of the Council General have aided in the success of this important event and help to carry on this policy of remembrance, which has gained recognition and shown its effectiveness.

We will, again this year, experience a day of intense emotion.

Thank you to all.

The President of the Council General of Moselle



THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

PROGRAM OF

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15 th

Metzervisse and Thionville

9:30 am

Ceremony at Metzervisse with the presentation of the flag of the Moselle River 1944 association

Noon: Lunch at Thionville

2:30 pm

Reenactment of the US engagement of 1 September 1944 with scenes of the combat action on the Thionville bridge

Parade of military vehicles of WW2

Ceremony carried by satellite with the brotherhood town of Thionville, that is

Urbana, Illinois

6:30 pm

Concert by Philippe Dorn and his symphonic orchestra at the Thionville municipal theater

A buffet follows

Return to be announced





Remarks by the Mayor of Thionville

The seventieth anniversary of the liberation of Thionville is an important time of remembering. All of Thionville's residents are united by the same emotion: gratitude to those who sacrificed everything for our liberty, leaving behind their family and even their homeland.



Thousands of men and women from many places made sacrifices in order to liberate us, and we will never forget it. Thionville honors its heroes by immersing itself in the atmosphere of the Liberation. It is thus in with a sense of gratitude but also of joyful and festive memory that these commemorations will take place on November 15 and 16.

The Thionville sector was completely liberated 70 years ago and several veterans will be present to attend the planned festivities. We will experience a historic moment which will also see the creation of a sister-city relationship between Thionville and Urbana, an American city in Illinois, not far from Chicago.

To become a sister city is an act full of symbolism. If we have chosen Urbana, it is because of the links that History has woven between our two cities. One of the veterans who participated in the liberation of Metz and who was in Thionville in the winter of 1944 lives in Urbana, this is marvelous! The 70th anniversary of the Liberation thus offers us the opportunity to solidify the link between our two communities.

I would like to salute the remarkable work of the Moselle River Organization, its president and the team of volunteers who have made this commemoration possible. Peace and liberty are a precious and fragile inheritance that we must

cherish. Ensuring that they are passed down for future generations is the most beautiful homage that we can pay to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for France.



Anne GROMMERCH Mayor of Thionville

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THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

PROGRAM OF

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 th

Thionville

9:00 am

Official ceremony of the day of remembrance of the Moselle with the general council of the Moselle in the presence of french soldiers

10:30 am

Parad of military vehicles of WW2

11:00 am

Lecture and showing of a film produced especially for this day.

« The unknown battle » Nomades TV

Noon

Buffet lunch

L' HORIZON ***

Hôtel -Restaurant Anne Marie et Jean Pascal Speck 03 82 88 53 65 www.lhorizon .fr



Remarks by the Mayor of Yutz

Commemorating the libération of Novembre 1944

This year we are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the American Army's liberation of our commune from the yoke of the Nazi occupier, which had begun in June 1940. This is the commemoration of an event that belongs to our history and that we must keep alive in the collective memory. To re-



member those days which restored liberty and hope to the population of Yutz is essential. We are making a place in the present day for the memory of the victims, the combattants, and the resistants who were engulfed into this worldwide conflict in which the human race almost lost its humanity.

I know that participating in this anniversary constitutes a real duty for the Moselle River 1944 Association. It is a patriotic mission that the association fills with passion and respect for history. Accordingly, Moselle River has engaged us to render hommage and to express our gratitude to those who have made November 13, 1944, a date of the first order: that of the liberation of Yutz.

Philippe SLENDZAK
Maire de Yutz



PROGRAM OF

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 th

2:30 pm

Ceremony at the monument to the dead of the war at the church of St Nicolas at Yutz

Parade of military vehicles of WW2

5:00 pm

Reception and buffet at Yutz, L'Amphi

6:00 pm

Return to the hotel

7:30 pm

Departure bus to the concert

Special Concert

8:00 pm : Municipal Theater of THIONVILLE

"The Ambassadors Jazz Ensemble", a unit of the U.S. Air Forces Band Europe



le Bleuet de France



THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



Pâtisserie Schaming 03 82 56 01 98

Homage to the men of the 357th Bloc 8 Fort Hackenberg

After November 16, 1944, the terrain was pockmarked with bomb craters, signs of the bitter fighting that took place here, taking the lives of many men of the 357th Infantry Regiment.

Their names were:

William H. Johnson

Albert Williams, Jr.

William B. Lamkin

Russell J. Ramus

John W. Presley

Sergeant John B. Langelier

and so many of their comrades.

Today trees and flowers grow here.

The bomb craters are disappearing, as are the witnesses to this war. Let us never forget their sacrifice for our liberty.





NOTE:

Please wear appropriate seasonal clothing. For the day median high temperature for this time of year is about 50° Fahrenheit and the nightly median low temperature is about 30° Fahrenheit

Concert by US Air Force Band Europe The Ambassadors Jazz Ensemble

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 th
8:00 pm
at the Thionville municipal theater



...Closing ceremony of the commemoration...

MOSELLE RIVER 1944

Villerov & Boch

par VILLEROY et BOCH en TIRAGE LIMITÉ

EN VENTE

à l'hôtel Kyriad Prestige de Thionville +33 3 82 50 34 67



Partenaire officiel de la semaine de commémoration et sur tous les sites de commémoration

La médaille du souvenir du 70e anniversaire de la Libération de la Moselle







En vente sur tous les sites de commémoration

Moselle River - BP12 - 57940 METZERVISSE

MÉDAILLE 3D

Technique Bronze Finition antique bronze Dimension: 60 mm Recto: visuel 3D Verso 2D : texte en relief fond grainé