



LA SOCIETE DES QUARANTE HOMMES ET HUIT CHEVAUX
GRANDE VOLONTÉ DE FRANCE

7 rue des Batignolles
75017 PARIS
Phone : 01 43 87 69 96
(with answering machine)
Fax : 01 42 93 13 59

Paris, Feb.9, 2006

Subject : May 8, 2006 Victory-in-Europe morning ceremonies in Menton (Côte d'Azur) with the confirmed participation and wreath-laying by three of the U.S. Veterans' Outfits' in France Commanders & Members

To His Excellency, Mr Ambassador to France, Craig R. STAPLETON

Dear Craig,

Each year in France, on May 8th, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 48 Grande de France and the American Legion China Post 1 lay wreaths and participate either at Issy-les-Moulineaux (Paris Suburb) as in 2005 or this year in Menton.

We are co-ordinating with Chef du Protocole, Mr. François LEONELLI of the Mairie of Menton, phone 04.92.10.50.00, fax 04.92.10.51.69, who is receiving a copy of this letter of invitation for your attending these impressive ceremonies where our National Anthem is played thrice :

At 9.00 hrs. : Cdr. John DAVIS & Service Officer Paul KULAUZOV will lay a wreath at the Naval (V.W.F. France) Lost-at-sea Monument,
At 9.25 hrs. : Gd. Chef de Gare Frank CORRIGAN & National Aide-de-Camp Tim BROWN will (40/8 Gde de France) lay a wreath at the French Resistants' Monument,
At 9.55 hrs. : Cdr. Fred PLATT will lay a wreath at the « Place des Victoires » War Memorial. (American Legion China Post 1)

I am enclosing the 2004 Program of Ceremonies (in French), while awaiting the 2006 Program, with photos of our officers, who have come from afar, at the War Memorial (from left to right) : Tim BROWN (Saudi Arabia), Roger GOWEN (Gold Canyon, AZ), Hans STOCKENBERGER (Saudi Arabia), Fred PLATT (Houston, Texas) and yours sincerely from Paris !

By this letter, the Grande de France has the honor and privilege, Mr. Ambassador, to invite you to attend these 3 morning ceremonies in Menton where the people still remember our 1944-45 military engagement to liberate the South of France.

With this request, I am also asking Mr. François LEONELLI to send you an invitation as well as the May 8, 2006 program in March.

Fraternally,

Frank J. CORRIGAN
(40/8 Cdr. For France)

Annexed documents : 2004 detailed V-E Day Ceremonies in Menton / Photos of U.S. Veteran Officers ;
Nice-Matin Journal report « 8 mai ('04) commémoration et ferveur »

c.c. Mr. François LEONELLI, Menton's Chef du Protocole

Copies to : Messrs. John DAVIS, Tim BROWN, Fred PLATT, Roger GOWEN and Paul KULAUZOV.

f.i. : American Legion Commanders in France :

- Clarita GEOGHEGAN, Paris Post 1
- Tony DI PIETRO, (Nice) Riviera Post 5