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**CLASS OF SERVICE**

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1901

**SYMBOLS**

DL - Day Letter

NL - Night Letter

LC - Deferred Cable

NLT - Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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**N114 INTL=CD BERLIN VIA RCA 38 6 2244P**

**VLT MRS F D ROOSEVELT=**

**:HYDEPARKNT=**

647 APR 6 PM 10 29

**: MEMORIAL EVENT MARKING LATE PRESIDENT DEATH APPROACHES  
WITHOUT MESSAGE FROM YOU MAY WE HAVE CABLE TO BE READ  
FROM STAGE AT MEMORIAL SERVICE=**

**JAMES G ROGERS CHAIRMAN BERLIN CHAPTER AMERICAN  
VETERANS COMMITTEE=**

959  
 LEANED TO  
*Ind. message application*  
 APR 19 1945  
*Rogers*

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS CUSTOMERS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Rogers -

Miss Andress did  
speak to me about the  
Museum. Unfortunately,  
I have no bust <sup>or</sup> no  
portrait that does not  
belong to the Library, and  
therefore go to property.

I could give the  
Museum a large colored  
photograph of the Salisbury  
portrait of my husband  
which when framed  
looks very nice but of  
course it is not as  
valuable as a bust or  
a painting

enclos

*Rogers, D*

THREE SUTTON PLACE

October 21, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt;

At the suggestion of Miss Mary Vail Andress I am enclosing these leaflets about the Franco-American Museum at Blerancourt, Aisne. Miss Morgan had hoped to have an opportunity to tell you of the great desire of Monsieur Jaujard Director of the National Museums of France to secure a bust, or else a portrait for the Blerancourt collection in which he is deeply interested, of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Now Miss Morgan's serious illness makes her personal plea impossible so I am writing as Secretary of the American Friends of France to ask your cooperation in this matter.

The Museum which Miss Morgan helped found after the first World War is a unique and most interesting expression of Franco-American friendship the collections include souvenirs of the American Revolution and that period-Lafayette, Rochambeau, Washington, Franklin and John Paul Jones. It has a special Salle Jefferson. The war of 1914-1918 has a most comprehensive showing of the French and Americans who played an important part in those years.

Monsieur Jaujard is now concentrating on the third phase where French and American relations have been so vitally important and he is especially anxious to have a portrait of your husband who was so outstanding in his development of the highest type of friendship between the two countries.

Sincerely yours

*Daisy Fiske Rogers*

Secretary to Miss Morgan

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt  
29 Washington Square West

enclosures

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rel. 2  
you  
4/20/47  
D.F.R.*





## TWO THOUSAND YEARS

In that small triangle, made by Soissons, Chauny and Laon, lies the heart of France. Here, on the same spot, more than two thousand years of struggle, romance, life and death have gone into the building of a great republic. Laon on its hill-top, once the home of cave men, — Soissons, resplendent under the first Cæsars, once the capital of France.

Here the domain of the Church was created in the 3rd century, and on the Champ de Mars of Soissons king Clovis made his obeisance. Religious art reached its peak in this region. In all France are no finer examples of both Roman and Gothic in every stage of evolution. Here feudalism flourished. And of all feudal strongholds none was greater than the colossal Coucy whose embattled towers dominated the countryside for centuries. Coucy le Chateau was built in 1242 by Enguerrand III and represented the best military architecture of the Middle Ages. Though practically destroyed by the Germans in the late war, parts of it are still standing. The kings built France in this territory. The king was the ally of the people against the bitter oppression of feudalism. The armies of the king protected the frontiers against dreaded northern invaders. Here national pride was born, and later, in Camille Desmoulins and Saint-Just, the spark that fired the French Revolution.

Here too was the most complete devastation of the last and greatest war. But once again grain is growing on the vast and fertile plateaus, and the work of restoration continues as so often before.

In the centre of this area is Blérancourt.

## FRANCO AMERICAN COOP

The Chateau de Blérancourt was built by Marie de Medici, a favorite of Marie de Medici, was the Palais du Luxembourg in Paris, all that survived of the famous chateau pavillons and the two monumental gables added the damage of the last war. Devastated France with headquarters in 1927 restored the pavillons and one year later in conclusion of their work in France created all time will commemorate Franco American cooperation.

The museum is now one of the Museums of France. The Chateau is classified as an Historical Monument by the Ministry of Beaux Arts.

In the museum, which is open all day, are documents, portraits and souvenirs of the 18th century to the present day.

In the "Salon Anne Dike" — in memory of Mrs. Anne Murray Dike, Director of the American Committee — souvenirs of the battle of Yorktown, of Washington, Franklin, Lafayette, Rochambeau and de Grasse.

Two paintings by P. A. Wille representing the departure and return of a young French officer to the American War of Independence. A bust of John Paul Jones by the famous sculptor Houdon and a very interesting and colorful set of gouaches, from the studio of Nicolas Hoffmann of French Infantry uniforms at the time of the American Revolution.

In the "Salle Lafayette", are maps, portraits, autographs, caricatures and many historical souvenirs of



## FRANCO AMERICAN COOPERATION

The Chateau de Blérancourt was built in the 17th century by Potier de Gesvres, a favorite of Marie de Medicis and Henry IV. Its model was the Palais du Luxembourg in Paris. After the French Revolution all that survived of the famous chateau was the moat, two mutilated pavillons and the two monumental gates. To this destruction was added the damage of the last war. The American Committee for Devastated France with headquarters at Blérancourt from 1917 to 1927 restored the pavillons and one wing of the chateau, and at the conclusion of their work in France created a museum there which for all time will commemorate Franco American cooperation.

The museum is now one of the Musées Nationaux of France, and the Chateau is classified as an Historical Monument by the French Ministry of Beaux Arts.

In the museum, which is open all the year, are many valuable documents, portraits and souvenirs of Franco American relations from the 18th century to the present day.

In the "Salon Anne Dike" — in memory of Mrs. Anne Murray Dike, Director of the American Committee — souvenirs of the battle of Yorktown, of Washington, Franklin, Lafayette, Rochambeau and de Grasse.

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In the "Salle Lafayette", are maps, portraits, autographs, caricatures and many historical souvenirs of

America's War for Independence.

In the "Salle Jefferson", memories of Saint Just the Revolutionary who came from Blérancourt and of Franco American relations during the French Revolution with portraits of Jefferson, Madison, Adams and Joel Barlow.

In the "Vestibule", portraits and souvenirs of the family of the Duc de Gesvres and pictures of the original Chateau de Blérancourt.

In the "Pavillon of the American Committee", all the Franco American souvenirs of the War of 1914-18, the collection of portraits and sketches by J. F. Bouchor, records and photographs of the Committee and other American War Work.



## PARTNERSHIP

At Blérancourt and in its surrounding neighborhood, French and American traditions are united forever. Here America and France stood side by side in the greatest struggle the world has ever known.

In February of 1918 the 26th American Division moved into sector on the plateau between Coucy and Anizy over which runs the Chemin des Dames. The first village to be taken by Americans was Cantigny, not far from Compiègne, in May of '18. Shortly after, American troops aided in stopping the German offensive at Chateau Thierry. In this drive, Blérancourt and all the territory from Coucy and Anizy to Noyon, south to Soissons and Chateau Thierry and east to Reims had been retaken by the Germans. In June came the battle of Belleau Wood where the U. S. Marines fought so gallantly.

In the final Allied Offensive the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 32nd Divisions were with General Mangin and the French Tenth Army, between the Aisne and Marne. Soissons was retaken August 2nd. From then on the Allied Armies continually progressed. The 32nd Division, seeing almost constant action until the Armistice, contributed to the retaking of Coucy. While farthest to the east France and America were sharing the terrific fighting in the Argonne, at St. Mihiel and Verdun.

The American Committee, stationed at Blérancourt, was forced to evacuate during the German advance in '18. They returned as soon as the village was liberated and began again their work of building up the morale, creating health, social and agricultural centers, and restoring to a people, ravaged by four years of unbelievable suffering, their will and interest to start a new life.



## A DAY'S TOUR

This land of Picardie, Ile de France and the Aisne, is of fascinating interest. Motoring from Paris by way of Senlis (or Chantilly) the road leads through Crepy-en-Valois to Pierrefonds, where the impressive Chateau of the Middle Ages recreated by Viollet-le-Duc during the Third Empire, towers on the hill above the ancient village. One continues to Compiègne made famous by the kings of France and Napoleon, and in Compiègne's glorious forest one still may see at Rethondes, the "wagon" of Marechal Foch where the Armistice was signed. The road goes on by way of Choisy au Bac and Cuts to Blérancourt. By this time it is noon and one is very grateful for the excellent luncheon served out doors or in the charming Logis on the grounds of the Chateau de Blérancourt. (Noyon, occupied by the Germans for over three years, the birthplace of Calvin, 12 kilomètrés from Blérancourt).

After luncheon one makes a tour of the Musée and the rose gardens before leaving for Coucy. Here is the celebrated feudal ruin of Coucy le Chateau and a marvelous view from the hill top. (Laon 28 kilomètrés). The road then descends to Soissons, if there is time, by way of Anizy and the Chemin des Dames. Soissons seems to have sprung miraculously from its ruin, but its Cathedral is still a grim sign of war and devastation. It was at Soissons that one of the first American hospitals was instituted. From Soissons one goes on to Chateau Thierry, Belleau Wood and reaches Paris by way of Meaux.

### Train Service :

Train leaves Paris (Gare du Nord) for Noyon at 9 h. 30 a. m. Blérancourt Bus meets train.  
Train leaves Noyon for Paris at 5 h. 40 p. m. Bus calls at Blérancourt at 5 p. m.

DRAEGER, PARIS.

## THE LOGIS

As one enters the main gateway of the Chateau de Blérancourt, the stone building on the right with flower gardens and inviting blue doors is the Logis. Here luncheon and tea are served under the horse Chestnut trees on the broad terrace. The charming salons and dressing rooms of the Logis are also open to the public, but its attractive bed-rooms are reserved exclusively for the use of "Les Amis du Musée de Blérancourt", a French Society, (reconnue d'utilité publique), with a French and American membership, organized to promote the growth and development of the museum.

Members of "Les Amis" or their guests may stop over night, spend a week end or remain still longer at Blérancourt which affords opportunity to make worth while tours in every direction, as well as to rest and enjoy the quiet beauty of rural France.

The Logis is open from May through October, the Museum all the year. There is a stone garage on the grounds for the convenience of motorists.

PRICES :  
Luncheon .. 25 francs. Dinner .. 30 francs. Rooms .. 25 francs a day.  
(Reduction of 10% to members of "Les Amis du Musée de Blérancourt").

The Logis can be reached by telephone N° 11 Blérancourt by Chauny.  
Autobus parties kindly make reservations in advance for luncheon or dinner.

#### ADMINISTRATION :

M. Paul Crestin.  
M. Emile Delagarde.  
Mlle Blanche Richard.

#### COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN RELATIONS :

Mrs. Arthur Ellis Hamm.  
Miss Anne Morgan.  
Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt.

