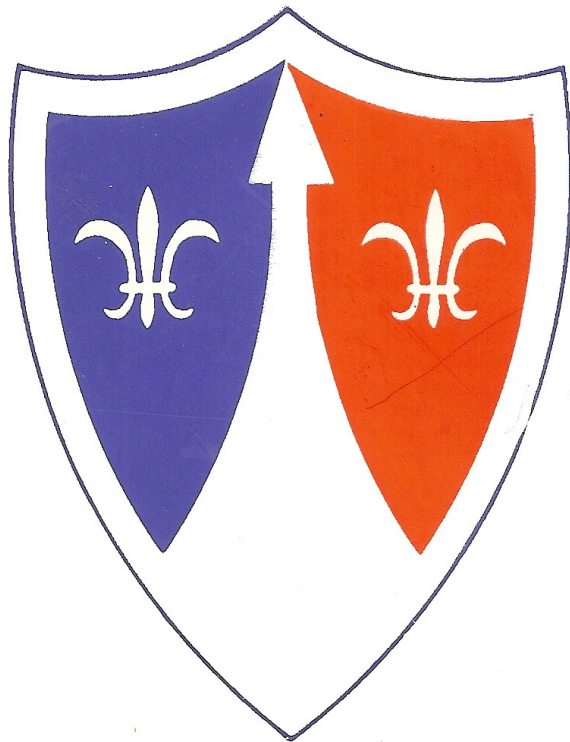


**US ARMY GARRISON
VERDUN**



WELCOME

WELCOME TO VERDUN

As Verdun Garrison Commander, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Verdun, France and your new assignment. Since there are many units stationed at Verdun, each unit with a wide range of mission responsibilities, you may be working in nearly any skill the Army authorizes. The purpose of this pamphlet, however, is not to inform you about your duty requirements, these I am sure you are familiar with, but to answer some of the questions you certainly have about Verdun, France, in particular, and Europe in general.

If you have been overseas before, you know that any country has its individual personality, customs, and opportunities for traveling and sight-seeing. I doubt if any area offers more than Verdun. Not only is Verdun itself a World War I historical site, but it is also so centrally located that nearly any point in Europe is within a few days of travel. France, itself is world renowned for culture, food, history and famous landmarks. Even a full tour is too short to see everything. You should plan now those activities, which you would most enjoy. You should also start to learn a few simple phrases in French so you will be able to better enjoy the many facilities available in France.

Finally, the facilities of Verdun Garrison are described in the remainder of this pamphlet. You will find that these facilities and comfort are comparable to those of any stateside installation. I am sure that you will enjoy your tour here and that you and your family will make the best of the opportunities provided you during your tour.

s/Wallace A. McDaniel
WALLACE A. McDANIEL
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

¹ Transcribed and prepared by MAJ (Ret.) Larry L. Castleman for the history files, 97th EBC, from original documents provided by John Ray Scrimpsheer, 1967-1969 Pirmasens/Ft. Riley, Platoon/Company Commander, C-97th Engr.

VERDUN

Having discussed the history of Verdun in the Welcome to Verdun Pamphlet, our aim at this time is to illuminate a few of the historical and scenic points of interest to the new arrival.

Verdun, as a tourist attraction, offers many sites of interest to the new arrival. Situated on the Meuse River, Verdun has a population of approximately 28,000, of which several thousand are American military and civilian personnel. Verdun has seen the tides of war many times in its long history, beginning in 451 AD, when the invading Huns completely destroyed the city.

Interesting sites in Verdun include the Tour Chaussee. Personnel in the US Army Corps of Engineers wear a replica of this tower as their insignia. The Tower is part of the fortified wall, ramparts and citadel designed by Vauban to protect the city from invaders.

On the heights of the city is the Citadel, complete with the underground passage ways. Near the Citadel is the 18th Century Bishop's Palace and Cathedral, which was constructed during the 11th-13th centuries.

In the center of the city stands the Hotel de Ville (City Hall) which also contains a military museum. Copies of the famous "Golden Book of Verdun", which indicates the names of all who fought to save Verdun during WWI, can be viewed there. One may also see the varied decorations bestowed upon the city for its gallant defense during the First World War to include the solid gold medal from the United States of America.

Other interesting sites include the WWI Victory Monument, Rodin's Monument to the Defense of Verdun in front of Porte St Paul and the monument marking the end of the "Voie Sacree" (Sacred Way), the route over which supplies were transported to the besieged defenders of Verdun from Bar-le-Duc.

However, the new arrival or tourist is not confined to the city of Verdun for scenic or historical excursions. In the immediate area, one may visit the famous battlefields of World War I and the American cemeteries of St Mihiel and Romagne. The historic cities of Luxembourg, Reims and Metz are within easy driving distance. Paris is approximately a 5-hour drive while many other sites in France, Germany, Luxembourg and Belgium can be reached and enjoyed during a weekend.

MISSION OF VERDUN GARRISON

The headquarters of USAG Verdun is located in Maginot Caserne, Verdun. The mission of Verdun Garrison is to function as an area command and provide logistical and administrative support to assigned and attached units. In addition, it provides emergency plans and operational control for all US Army units located in or passing through the area of responsibility.

Other units in the area include Headquarters, 4th Logistical Command, General Depot, 319th Station Hospital, 32nd Engineer Group and other technical service units. Specific information concerning your assignment will be furnished by your unit.

Support facilities such as the Commissary and Post Exchange, designed for military and civilian personnel located throughout the area, are discussed in this pamphlet on subsequent pages. A pocket map guide to Maginot Caserne and Jardin Fontaine is located at the back of this pamphlet for your convenience.

FACILITIES PROVIDED AT THE US ARMY GARRISON VERDUN NOT INCLUDED