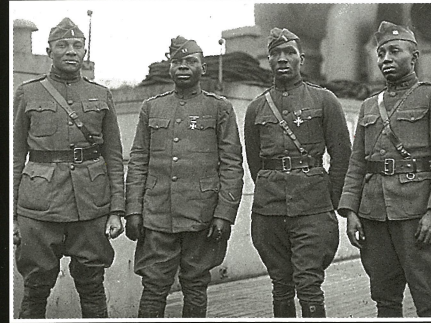


COMMEMORATING THE END OF WORLD WAR I

NOVEMBER 11, 1918

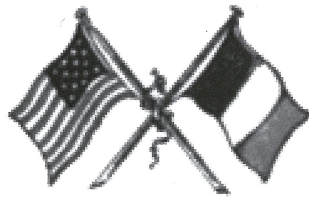


WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO HELP HONOR OUR VETERANS

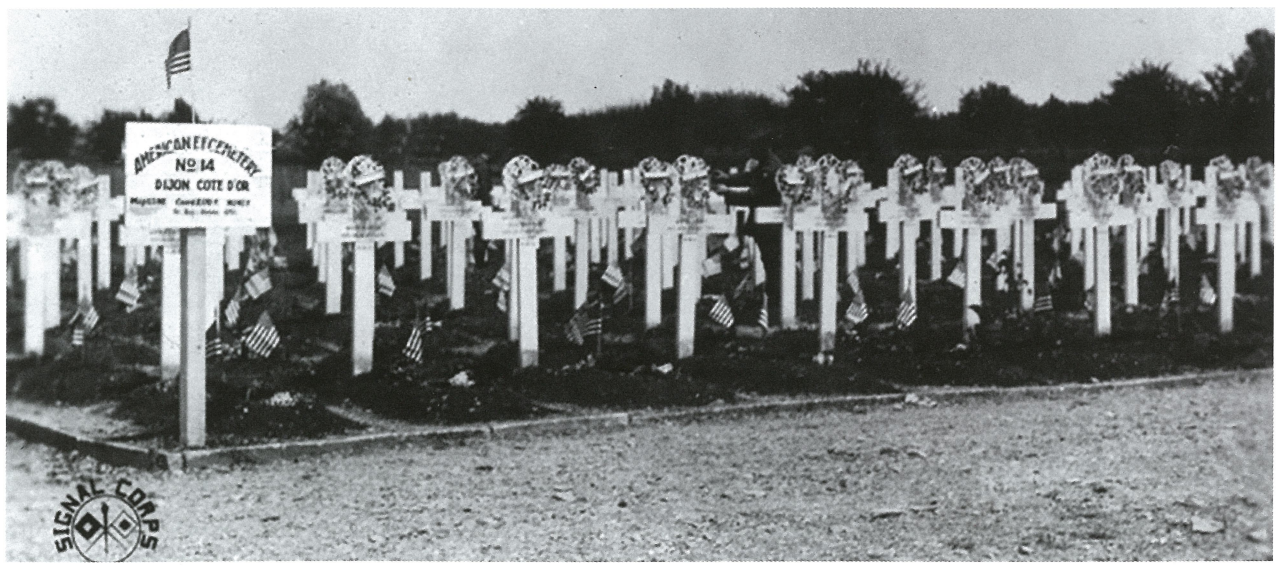


GREATER DALLAS VETERANS DAY PARADE

Celebrating on November 12, 2018 | #Dallasvetsday



Salute to Dijon, France. Home to American Soldiers, 1917-1920 Dallas' Sister City since 1957.



Péjoces, American cemetery. City of Dijon Archives 4CD9.²

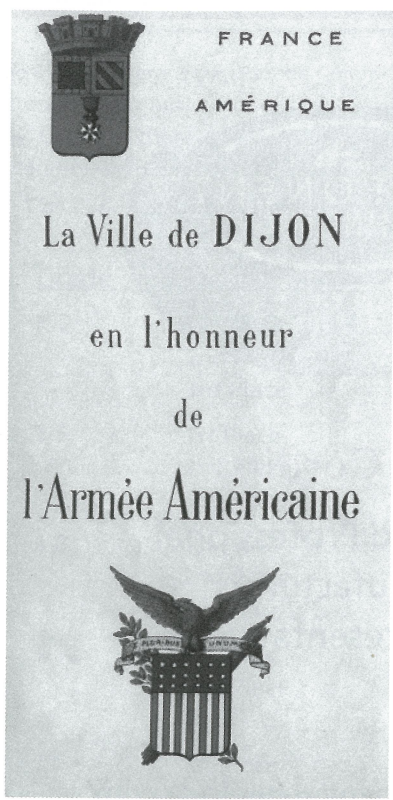
On April 6th, 1917, after the U.S. House of Representatives confirmed the U.S. Senate's approval, the United States joined the World War I conflict alongside the Allied Entente troops. The geographic location of Dijon, in France's Côte-d'Or department, facilitated rapid transport of materials and soldiers from ports along France's west coast to its eastern battle fronts. In July, 1917, the American army opened in Dijon a hospital, medical laboratories, medical and pharmaceutical materials depot, vehicle repair facility, airport and camouflage equipment factory. Although armistice was declared on November 11, 1918, American soldiers were based in Dijon through 1920, and St. Michel cemetery in Dijon became the resting place for 142 American soldiers.

Social encounters between American soldiers and Dijon's residents were numerous, and included cultural (theatre, movies, concerts) and organized sporting events (boxing matches, bicycle races, baseball games). This good rapport fostered the opening of the American University section within the Humanities Department of Dijon's Université de Bourgogne in 1919.

Almost four decades later and eleven months after President Eisenhower announced the U.S. Sister Cities initiative in 1956, Dijon and Dallas celebrated their twinning ceremony at the Statler Hilton downtown, on October 15, 1957. Leaders in Dallas, particularly Stanley Marcus, who had visited the



THE 2018 VETERANS DAY PARADE



Poster of event honoring American soldiers.⁴



Soldiers during raising of the flag.³



Soldiers in front of double doors (American University established within University of Burgundy).⁵



Soldiers in front of U.S military trucks.⁶

region while in France, were inspired by Dijon's history, prestigious wine region and leadership as the capital of today's Burgundy-Franche-Comté region. Exchanges of art, students and academic lectures have occurred since then, including the exhibition: *The Mourners: Tomb Sculptures from the Court of Burgundy* at the Dallas Museum of Art in 2009 and an ongoing artist-in-residence exchange between SMU and Dijon's Consortium, an internationally known contemporary art institution.

In 2013, Dijon received one of four French awards as a center for gastronomy. Dijon is converting their old general hospital

built during the 16-18th centuries into a 5,000 square meter tourism and agricultural center: "The Gastronomy and Wine City" due to open in 2019-2020. This center will emphasize the link between French food and wine's culture and traditions.

Today we are recognizing Dijon for its participation in WWI as the main base of support and medical assistance for American soldiers fighting in the final offensive at Meuse-Argonne and for their hospitality to American soldiers from 1917 to 1920.

1. American and French Flags. City of Dijon Archives.

2. Péjoces, American cemetery. City of Dijon Archives 4CD9
As soon as 1920 the remains of soldiers are repatriated to the United States (207 soldiers) or transferred to St. Michel cemetery in Dijon (142 soldiers)

3. Raising of the flags in front of the Base Hospital # 17, on Boulevard Voltaire. Collection Joël Mangin. City of Dijon Archives.
The American Hospital equipped with important sanitary and medical equipment, welcomes the wounded from the front and soldiers sickened with Spanish flu.

4. Program of the Evening organized by the City of Dijon in honor of the American Army. City of Dijon Archives SG144
The good Franco-American relations are expressed in parties and receptions.

5. Personnel in charge of the American University Section in front of the Faculty of Arts and Languages. City of Dijon Archives 4CD9.
The American University Section welcomes in Dijon 260 soldiers under the leadership of captain Robb.

6. American military vehicles parked on Dijon's boulevards. City of Dijon Archives 4CD9.
Dijon's people are in awe by the quality and importance of the American Army equipment

