

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



Dennis Owens

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2025 - 2026MY

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

James Dennis GR30

COMMANDERDennis Owens NL01

ADJUTANT
John Fleming CH01

ALT NECMAN VCAL
Lee Preston GR42 Jim Brotherton NL01

VICE COMMANDERVICE COMMANDERKen Keckler GR20Kerwin L. Hester GR05

CHAPLAIN
Brad Bell NL01
FINANCE OFFICER
Larry Atkins CH01

JUDGE ADVOCATE
James Settle GR42

ADJUTANT NECMAN

ing CH01 Hans Stockenberger CH01

VICE COMMANDER Valerie Prehoda BE02

VICE COMMANDER
Todd Johnson GR07

SERVICE OFFICER
Frank Phillips GR1982

ADJUTANT EMERITUS
Robert Fuelling FR01

Greetings Department of France,

September has been a very busy month for our Department and myself as I wrap up my trip to the States. I will be returning to Europe on the 15th of October just after the Commanders & Adjutants meeting at National Headquarters in the Fall Meetings.

I want to give a shout out to our VCAL Jim Brotherton and our Vice Commanders Val Prehoda, Kerwin Hester and Ken Keckler for the nonstop work they do with all of our Posts. Keep it up with the great communication.

Our Department is still number one compared to all other 54 Departments of our American Legion. Our membership right now is 70.32% IN SEPTEMBER!!!!! Membership Chairman Jim Dennis is doing a brilliant job as our chairman. His reports are timely and packed full of useful information to both Posts and our Department. If we keep this up, then we will be on the top step at the next National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky next August. The only way I see that we can do it again is to get all of our current members to renew. Commanders, please do not be shy, get the word out to all of your Post Members to renew now for 2026. Get it out of the way then have an Early Bird Dinner with your members and

spouses! If needed due to financial constraints, make it a potluck. My Post loves potluck style get togethers.

This month I had the privilege to attend the China Post 1 Reunion. This year it was in San Diego with perfect weather and wonderful CH01 members from all over the world attended. I was able to present Commander Jeff Carson a couple of Certificates from our last convention and was able to recognize all of their Vietnam Veterans with the USA Vietnam War Commemoration Pin from our Pentagon.

The highlight of the reunion for me was the tour on the USS Midway docked in San Diego.



Department of France is still very much alive and kicking by saving lives and changing lives.

Commander Dennis



John Fleming

Department Adjutant's Corner

Greetings Comrades,

I will be traveling to the States on 3 October to attend the National Fall Meeting in Indianapolis. We will return on 11 October. I will be answering emails; however, there might be some delay.

Certification of Officers: Thank you to the Posts who have recently held elections and sent in the Notification forms. I can add all Post Officers to the Post Officers Roster on myLegion.org. Reminder, after Post elections or a change in Post Officers, it is required to send two forms to the Department Adjutant.

1.Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutants: This form must be sent to the Department Adjutant immediately (within 24 hours) after Post elections. The form should be dated the date of the elections/appointment.

2.Post Officer Certification of Service Form: This form has been revised and sent to all Posts. It needs to be forwarded to the Department Adjutant as soon as possible after Post elections (within 15 days). The Effective Date of Election of Appointment is the date of the original election or appointment. For example, if an Officer was elected on 1 May 2023 and reelected on 1 May

2024, the Effective Date block will show 1 May 2023.

These forms are critical to keep the current Post Officer informed of Department news. If I do not have the correct information, your Post may not receive vital information.

Please contact me for any questions or if you need the forms.

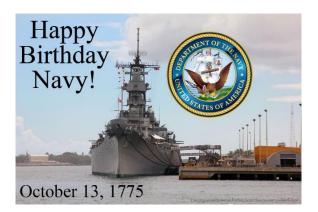
Dates to Remember:

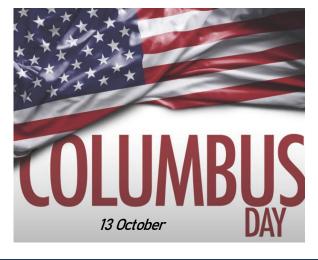
12 October 2025, 1400 CET – Commanders and Adjutants Meeting, via WebEx

25 October 2025, 1300 CET – 2nd Department Executive Committee Meeting

Thanks, and best wishes.

John Fleming







William "Bill" Shetz President Department of Latin America



FOREIGN AND OUTLYING DEPARTMENTS AND POSTS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

ALASKA • FRANCE • HAWAII • LATIN AMERICA • PHILIPPINES PUERTO RICO • CANADIAN POSTS • CHINA POST 1



Still Serving America's Veterans ... Around the World

2025 - 2026 FODPAL OFFICERS



Antonio Arroyd
1st Vice President
Department of Puerto Rico



Larry Atkins 2nd Vice President Department of France



Sharon Cherette 3rd Vice President Department of Alaska



Juan Cruz Sergeant at Arms Department of Puerto Rico



Asst Sergeant at Arms Department of France



Secretary Department of Alaska



Jim Hussey Judge Advocate Department of Hawaii



Lee Preston Asst Judge Advocate Department of France



Ramon Rivera Historian Department of Puerto Rico



Jimmie Foster Treasurer Department of Alaska



Doug Haggan Asst Treasurer Department of France



Doug Haggan Breakfast Chairman Department of France



Mark DeVirgilio Asst Historian Department of Hawaii



Terry Huisman Chaplain Department of Alaska



Asst Chaplain Department of Latin America



Jimmie Foster Nomination Committee Department of Alaska



Anthony "Tony" Jordan Nomination Committee Department of Maine



Anthony "Tony" Jordan Master of Ceremonies Department of Maine

DEPARTMENT



Jim Brotherton

Hello Comrades -- Just a few short notes. To begin with, I had the pleasure of attending the General Membership Meeting/Elections for Post GR05.

A thank you for the invitation to outgoing Commander Kerwin Hester for his leadership and mentoring the Officers and Members of GR05 for the past year. I would like to congratulate Commander Ernie Cojoe, on stepping up to lead GR05 for the new membership year. I know you will do a fine job and wish you and your Post a successful 2025-2026 new membership year.

A reminder to **ALL POSTS**. We will be holding our 2nd DEC in St. Avold on the 25th of October. The Call to the Department of France for the 2nd DEC has gone out from Department

Adjutant, John Fleming. I encourage **ALL POSTS** who can physically attend to submit the paperwork for their Posts Delegates as soon as possible. I ask all Posts who are authorized to attend this meeting online, to also get your paperwork submitted for your Post Delegates.

I hope to see as many Posts as possible in attendance, in one form or the other. This is your opportunity to let your voice be heard. It is the members of this Department, supported by the Posts, who decide how this Department should function.

Everyone, have a Great American Legion Day and look forward to seeing you at the 2nd DEC in St. Avold France.



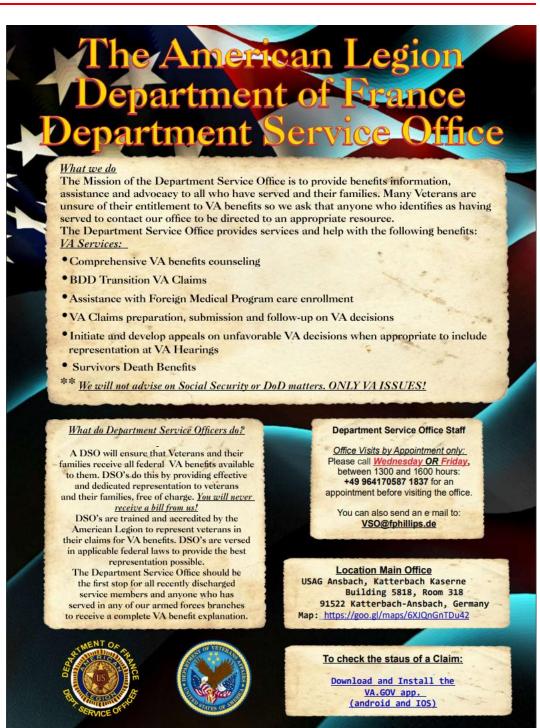




DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER



Frank Phillips



DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



James Dennis

2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	% of	Next Cutoff Date	Plus	Members Needed
DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE	New	PUFL	Renewals	HQ	Actual	Post	2026	10-Oct-25	or	To Reach
MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS	Members			Transfer	Mbsp.	Goal	Goal	Needed To Meet	Minus	2026 Goal
27-Sept-25								55%	to Cutoff	AHEAD/BEHIND
1 Paris FR01	0	94	73	0	167	200	83,50%	110	-57	-33
2 Rota SP292	0	6	8	1	15	16	93,75%	9	-6	-1
3 David Chavez GR1982	8	40	37	1	86	160	53,75%	88	2	-74
4 HQ9999	0	30	17	0	47	60	78,33%	33	-14	-13
5 Flanders Field BE02	5	17	38	0	60	90	66,67%	50	-10	-30
6 China CP01	9	346	411	2	768	1062	72,32%	584	-184	-294
8 London EG01	0	19	8	1	28	34	82,35%	19	-9	-6
9 Liberty EG02	5	12	19	1	37	65	56,92%	36	-1	-28
11 Athens GC01	0	0	17	1	18	18	100,00%	10	-8	0
12 Kaiserslautern GR01	1	54	37	0	92	145	63,45%	80	-12	-53
13 Rhein Neckar GR03	0	17	26	0	43	40	107,50%	22	-21	3
14 Rhein Main GR05	0	25	31	0	56	80	70,00%	44	-12	-24
15 Stuttgart GR06	1	118	33	0	152	235	64,68%	129	- 2 3	-83
16 Wiesbaden GR07	0	31	25	0	56	90	62,22%	50	-6	-34
17 Sgt. William D. Nelson GR09	0	29	14	0	43	56	76,79%	31	-12	-13
18 Thomas W. Barnett GR14	0	19	8	0	27	34	79,41%	19	-8	-7
19 Eifel GR20	17	16	3	0	36	100	36,00%	55	19	-64
20 Audie Murphy GR30	0	12	3	0	15	20	75,00%	11	-4	-5
21 Omar Bradley GR42	0	17	8	0	25	25	100,00%	14	-11	0
22 George S. Patton GR45	0	7	3	0	10	10	100,00%	6	-4	0
23 John Wayne GR79	0	11	6	0	17	58	29,31%	32	15	-41
24 Pride of Erin IR01	0	8	11	0	19	27	70,37%	15	-4	-8
25 Father Francis Duffy IR02	0	3	22	0	25	23	108,70%	13	-12	2
26 Commodore John Barry IR03	0	2	12	0	14	14	100,00%	8	-6	0
27 John F. Kennedy IR63	0	3	4	0	7	7	100,00%	4	-3	0
28 Rome IT01	0	3	5	0	8	8	100,00%	4	-4	0
29 Margraten NL01	14	29	76	1	120	225	53,33%	124	4	-105
30 Brig Gen. Robin Olds TH01	4	15	44	0	63	80	78,75%	44	-19	-17
31 Sgt Thomas Oliver Ahlberg TH02	5	11	119	0	135	140	96,43%	77	-58	-5
GRAND TOTALS	69	994	1118	8	2189	3.122	70,12%	1721	-468	-933

							ı			
	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	% of	Next Cutoff Date	Plus	Members Needed
Membership Chairman	New	PUFL	Renewals	HQ	Actual	Goal	2026	10-Oct-25	or	To Reach
James Dennis/Doug Haggan	Members			Transfer	Mbsp.	Goal	Goal	Needed To Meet	Minus	2026 Goal
								50%	to Cutoff	AHEAD/BEHIND
1 HQ9999	0	30	17	0	47	60	78,33%	33	-14	-13
GRAND TOTALS	0	30	17	0	47	60	78,33%	33	-14	-13
	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	% of	Next Cutoff Date	Plus	Members Needed
Vice Commander	New	PUFL	Renewals	HQ	Actual	Goal	2026	10-Oct-25	or	To Reach
Ken Keckler	Members			Transfer	Mbsp.	Post	Goal	Needed To Meet	Minus	2026 Goal
								55%	to Cutoff	AHEAD/BEHIND
1 China CH01	9	346	411	2	768	1062	72,32%	584	-184	-294
2 Athens GC01	0	0	17	0	18	18	100,00%	10	-8	0
3 Sgt. William D. Nelson GR09	0	29	14	0	43	56	76,79%	31	-12	-13
4 Omar Bradley GR42	0	17	8	0	25	25	100,00%	14	-11	0
5 Pride of Erin IR01	0	8	11	0	19	27	70,37%	15	-4	-8
6 John F. Kennedy IR63	0	3	4	0	7	7	100,00%	4	-3	0
7 Rome IT01	0	3	5	0	8	8	100,00%	4	-4	0
GRAND TOTALS	9	406	470	2	888	1203	73,82%	662	-226	-315
	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	% of	Next Cutoff Date	Plus	Members Needed
Vice Commander	New	PUFL	Renewals	HQ	Actual	Goal	2026	10-Oct-25	or	To Reach
Valeria Prehoda	Members			Transfer	Mbsp.	Post	Goal	Needed To Meet	Minus	2026 Goal
								55%	to Cutoff	AHEAD/BEHIND
1 London EG01	0	19	8	1	28	34	82,35%	19	-9	-6
2 Liberty EG02	5	12	19	1	37	65	56,92%	36	-1	-28
3 Father Francis P. Duffy IR02	0	3	22	0	25	23	108,70%	13	-12	2
4 Commodore John Barry IR03	0	2	12	0	14	14	100,00%	8	-6	0
5 Margraten NL01	14	29	76	1	120	225	53,33%	124	4	-105
6 Brig Gen. Robin Olds TH01	4	15	44	0	63	80	78,75%	44	-19	-17
7 Sgt Thomas Oliver Ahlberg TH02	3	11	119	0	135	140	96,43%	77	-58	-5
GRAND TOTALS	26	91	300	3	422	581	72,63%	321	-101	-159

		2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	% of	Next Cutoff Date	Plus	Members Needed
	Vice Commander	New	PUFL	Renewals	HQ	Actual	Goal	2026	10-Oct-25	or	To Reach
	Kerwin Hester	Members			Transfer	Mbsp.	Post	Goal	Needed To Meet	Minus	2026 Goal
									55%	to Cutoff	AHEAD/BEHIND
1	Rhein Neckar GR03	0	17	26	0	43	40	107,50%	22	-21	3
2	Stuttgart GR06	1	118	33	0	152	235	64,68%	129	-23	-83
3	Wiesbaden GR07	0	31	25	0	56	90	62,22%	50	-6	-34
4	Audie Murphy GR30	0	12	3	0	15	20	75,00%	11	-4	-5
5	George S. Patton GR45	0	7	3	0	10	10	100,00%	6	-4	0
6	John Wayne GR79	0	11	6	0	17	58	29,31%	32	15	-41
7	David Chavez GR1982	8	40	37	1	86	160	53,75%	88	2	-74
	GRAND TOTALS	9	236	133	1	379	613	61,83%	338	-41	-234

	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	% of	Next Cutoff Date	Plus	Members Needed
Vice Commander	New	PUFL	Renewals	HQ	Actual	Post	2026	10-Oct-25	or	To Reach
VCAL	Members			Transfer	Mbsp.	Goal	Goal	Needed To Meet	Minus	2026 Goal
								50%	to Cutoff	AHEAD/BEHIND
1 Flanders Field BE02	5	17	38	0	60	90	66,67%	50	-10	-30
2 Kaiserslautern GR01	1	54	37	0	92	145	63,45%	80	-12	-53
3 Rhein Main GR05	0	25	31	0	56	80	70,00%	44	-12	-24
4 Thomas W. Barnett GR14	0	19	8	0	27	34	79,41%	19	-8	-7
5 Eifel GR20	17	16	3	0	36	100	36,00%	55	19	-64
6 Paris FR01	0	94	73	0	167	200	83,50%	110	-57	-33
7 Rota SP292	0	6	8	1	15	16	93,75%	8	-6	-1
GRAND TOTALS	23	231	198	1	453	665	68,12%	366	-86	-212

NOTES:

Made the Monthly % goal Post 9999 Still in process IR63, and IT01 (Last Man Standing Posts)



Transferr Post 9999 Over 100% for the year



CALL FOR THE 2ND DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Second Department Executive Committee (DEC) Meeting will convene on 25 October 2025, at 1300, at the

Mairie de Saint-Avold, 36 boulevard de Lorraine, 57500 Saint-Avold, France,

and via Webex.

Registration of the DEC delegates will begin at 1200 hours, Saturday, 25 October 2025

> 1115 – 1145 Past Commanders Club 1200 – 1255 Registration

1200 – 1300 Lunch 1300 – 2nd DEC Kinsale. Co. Cork has hallowed ground with its *Garden of Remembrance* (GoR)

commemorating 343 New York firefighters who died in the line of duty on September 11, 2001. Kathleen (Cait) Murphy a 40 year Registered Nurse at Lennox Hill hospital in New York was working and attending to her firefighters on 9/11. Kathleen planned to retire

back to her homeland in Kinsale, she decided to set aside some land to build the GoR, planting an individual tree in Kinsale for each firefighter with a photo and name. After the Twin Towers debris was removed, the only living thing found was a Callery Pear tree. In 2024, FDNY members along with Irish firefighters planted a sapling from the Survivor tree in the Kinsale

GoR. This year, as Commander of Commodore John Barry, Ireland 03 in Co. Mayo, I had the honor to represent the military that were killed in the Pentagon and the civilians who perished when on flight 77 that crashed into the Pentagon. About 25 FDNY members attended the ceremony this year.

KINSALE IRELAND









US AMBASSADOR TO IRELAND







REMINDER...ALL NEWSLETTER ARTICLES SHOULD BE TURNED IN BY THE 28TH OF THE MONTH. I WOULD PREFER IF YOU SENT IT IN WORD FORMAT, PDF WOULD ALSO DO. GET THE WORD OUT!

Davidg1959@t-online.de

DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER
EDITOR

David N. Greaux

Commander Rice and SAL members







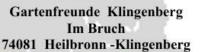
Legion meeting at the Post Home





25 October 2025

14.00







Pumpkin Carving

Games for Kids

John Wayne Post GR 79 Kids free

Drinks pay as you go Email- vcalbrown50@gmail.com

Handy--01701888034

POC GR 79Past Commander Charlie Brown

DETACHMENT COMMANDER

DETACHMENT OF FRANCE





HELDON

DETACHMENT ADJUTANT



James Dennis

Detachment Commander

Hello Comrades,

I will be traveling to the States on 3 October to attend the National Fall Meetings in Indianapolis. We will return on 11 October. I will be answering emails; however, there might be some delay.

Membership: We are in the 2026 Membership Year.

We are at 49.10% of our 2026 Goal! Get your members to renew. Talk to your Post members to see if they are eligible. If your Post does not have a Squadron, contact the closest Squadron or the Squadron of your choice and sign up. Talk to family members and sign them up. The Department has over 3000 Members. The Detachment should have at least that many.

Upcoming Events: **18 October 2025** – 2nd DEC, Wiesbaden, hosted by GR07. **7 March 2026** – 3rd DEC, TBA **6 June 2026** – 4th DEC/Conference/1st DEC, TBA

John Fleming Detachment Commander

Detachment of France 2026 Membership Standings as of 27 September 2025	2026 NEW MEMBERS	2026 PUFL	2026 RENEWAL	2026 Actual Mbsp.	2026 Post Goal	% of 2026 Goal	Next Cutoff Date 10-Oct-25 Needed To Meet 25%	Plus or Minus to Cutoff	Members Needed To Reach 2026 Goal AHEAD/BEHIND
1 Paris FR01	2	0	1	3	12	25,00%	3	0	-9
2 HQ9999	0	0	0	0	0	100,00%	0	0	0
3 Flanders Field BE02	0	0	0	0	13	0,00%	3	3	-13
4 China CP01	2	0	30	32	35	91,43%	9	-23	-3
5 Kaiserslautern GR01	0	0	8	8	18	44,44%	5	-3	-10
6 Rhein Main GR05	0	0	0	0	4	0,00%	1	1	-4
7 Stuttgart GR06	0	0	0	0	4	0,00%	1	1	-4
8 Wiesbaden GR07	0	0	9	9	16	56,25%	4	-5	-7
9 Thomas W. Barnett GR14	0	0	0	0	2	0,00%	1	1	-2
10 Omar Bradley GR42	0	0	27	27	31	87,10%	8	-19	-4
11 John Wayne GR79	0	0	0	0	24	0,00%	6	6	-24
12 Margraten NL01	1	0	2	3	16	18,75%	4	1	-13
GRAND TOTALS	5	0	77	82	175	46,86%	45	-37	-93

NOTES:

Made the % goal and renewal Squadron 9999

Still in process Made 100% goal



	Detachment of France	2026	2026	2026	% of	2024	2025	2024-2025	POST
	2025	PUFL	RENEWED	TOTAL	2026	NOT	NOT	NOT	HONOR
	Renewal Standings		l	RENEWED	Renewals	RENEWED	RENEWED	RENEWED	RIBBON
	as of 27 Sept 2025					ESTIMATED	ESTIMATED	ESTIMATED	31-Dec
1	Paris FR01	0	1	1	8,33%	11	9	20	12
2	HQ9999	0	0	0	100,00%	0	0	0	0
3	Flanders Field BE02	0	0	0	0,00%	8	12	20	13
4	China CP01	0	30	30	85,71%	5	7	12	35
5	Kaiserslautern GR01	0	8	8	44,44%	0	9	9	18
6	Rhein Main GR05	0	0	0	0,00%	0	3	3	4
7	Stuttgart GR06	0	0	0	0,00%	2	1	3	4
8	Wiesbaden GR07	0	9	9	56,25%	4	7	11	16
9	Thomas W. Barnett GR14	0	0	0	0,00%	0	2	2	2
10	Omar Bradley GR42	0	27	27	87,10%	8	3	11	31
11	John Wayne GR79	0	0	0	0,00%	2	23	25	24
12	Margraten NL01	0	2	2	12,50%	0	13	13	16
GRAN	ID TOTALS	0	77	77	44,00%	40	89	129	175

NOTES:

Made the Honor ribbon and over 90%

Squadron 9999 Made 100% Renewal goal



PCC President



Department of France Past Commanders Club 2026MY

90

Diehand Cimmon

PCC Secretary

Who is eligible to join the Department of France Past Commanders Club?

Past and Present Department Commanders, Department Vice Commanders At Large, Department Vice Commanders, Post Commanders, SAL Detachment Commanders, SAL Squadron Commanders, Auxiliary Department Presidents, Auxiliary Unit Presidents... so if you were just voted into the office, you are eligible to join

Initial dues for the Past Commanders Club is only \$25.00 / Renewal dues for the Past Commanders Club is only \$10.00

GRAND CHEF DE GARE





GRAND CORRESPONDANT



DAVID GARCIA DAVID GREAU.

LA SOCIÉTÉ DES QUARANTE HOMMES ET HUIT CHEVAUX (THE SOCIETY OF FORTY MEN AND EIGHT HORSES) IS AN INDEPENDENT, BY INVITATION, HONOR SOCIETY OF AMERICAN VETERANS, MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS "THE FORTY & EIGHT".

THE FORTY & EIGHT IS COMMITTED TO CHARITABLE AND PATRIOTIC AIMS. OUR PURPOSE IS TO UPHOLD AND DEFEND THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF VETERANS, THEIR WIDOWS, WIDOWERS, AND ORPHANS, AND TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN SELECTED CHARITABLE ENDEAVORS, WHICH INCLUDE AMONG OTHERS, PROGRAMS

THAT PROMOTE CHILD WELFARE AND NURSES TRAINING.

Membership is by invitation, and open only to honorably discharged veterans and honorably serving members of the United States Armed

http://www.fortyandeight.org/

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 1. 11 October 2025: Grand Cheminot hosted by V1524, Heilbronn, Germany.
- 2. 17 January 2026: Grand Wreck hosted by V1546 to be held in the Niederland.

Grand and Locale 1546 Prominade Nationale Attendees: 2025

Left to Right, Joe James ALT Cheminot Nationale, Lee Preston Cheminot Nationale, Ron Rolfes Correspondent Nationale. All from Locale 1546.

