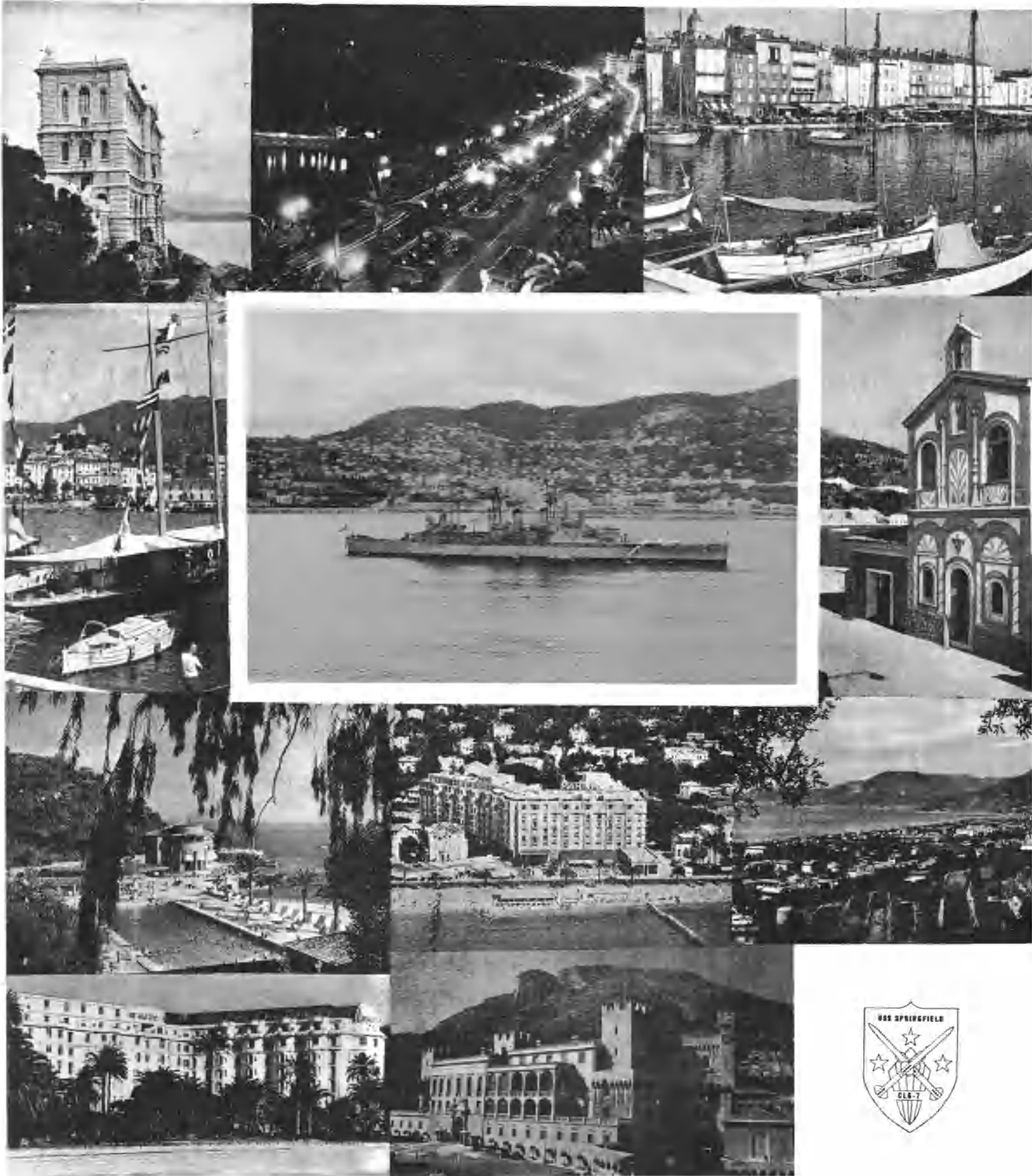


The French Riviera



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THE HIGHLIGHTS OF FRANCE:

The highlights of France are these: Paris, of course, is number one; it can be your base for visiting several other major sights, such as the Cathedral of Chartres; the Chateaux of Versailles, Fontainebleau and the Loire Valley. Before scheduling your visit to the chateau country, inquire about the dates of the light and sound spectacles at nearly all the big chateaux; the museum city of Rouen; and the champagne country of Rheims.

The Riviera is second: Nice is its big city, Cannes its society rendezvous, Juan-les-Pins its popular bathing beach; other notable spots are Monte Carlo, the hill towns of Roquebrune, Eze and La Turbie, Cagnes-ur-Mer. Vence, St. Paul, the perfume center of Grasse, St. Tropez and the ultra-ritzy Cap d'Antibes, with famous Eden Roc. The Gallo-Roman cities of the Rhone Valley are probably third; see a fight in Arles, the Roman arena and Maison Carree at Nimes, the Wall of Orange, the Pont du Gard, the Palace of Popes at Avignon, the French Pompeii of Vaison-la-Romaine.

Other regions favored by tourists include Brittany, Alsace, the Burgundy wine area, the Basque country. Unique are the great medieval fortress of Carcassonne; the spectacular Middle Ages architecture of Mont St. Michel; the prehistoric cave paintings of Les Eyzies; the pilgrimage centers of Lisieux in the north, Lourdes in the south; the Pyramide restaurant in Vienne.

Outside of Paris the biggest sporting events from the point of view of both spectator and participant concern winter sports. As soon as the first snow falls in late November, tourists and natives migrate toward the ski stations in the French Alps. Less frequented, but growing in popularity, are the winter resorts in the Pyrenees, Massif Central, Jura, and Vosges.

In the Alps, the most popular resorts are Megeve, Chamonix, Alpe d'Huez, Serre-Chevalier, and Val d'Isere. Megeve has the beautiful 3-mile Mont d'Arbois trail to Saint-Gervais. It has two teleferics, five lifts, two skating rinks, 80 hotels, and the largest ski school in France. A rapidly developing resort center is Courchevel.





Historical Ville - *Our Mediterranean Home*

From ancient times until the time of Christ, many peoples came to the area now known as Villefranche. The Greeks once called this harbor Portus Herculis; the Celts, the Greeks, the Romans, all marched armies over the Grand Corniche on their way to new territories. The Romans called these hills Mont Olivio, after the beautiful olive groves. Ships of many nations were sheltered in the harbor, but ideal though it seemed, no town grew up on the shores. This was because of the steep rocks coming right to the water's edge and there being no source of drinking water. When Christianity came to the area the Arabs, the Moors, the feudal system and the Crusades all touched these shores.

It wasn't until the thirteenth century that Villefranche, as we know it now, came into being. Charles II d'Anjou Prince of France, realized the enormous possibilities of the harbor, and planned the creation of a strongly fortified city that could protect the port. His plans were written down and followed out precisely. The Barmassa, a torrent which descended from what is now Col de Villefranche to the water, was to form one side of the town, along which high walls with no openings were to be built. From the north, high cliffs would be the protection--as well as high towering walls. The dwellings and shops within the walled town would rise steeply one behind the other with stairways for streets. The lowest level would be made into a Voie Obscure (the tunnels of the 0-1 level) where reserves would be stored to enable the inhabitants to survive in case of a seige. One or two gates would connect the city with the port. There was a gate at the entrance to Place de la Paix and another at the tower in the Torre Vecchia area.

Charles II recruited people from the surrounding hills to live in this city and serve him. They were willing, as their day to day existence was very difficult. After forty years of constant work the city was completed. The inhabitants led a busy life, and worked hard to hold on to their rights and the income they received from all passing ships. They received two percent of the cargo of each ship entering the harbor.

The union of the various peoples, who became the inhabitants of Villefranche, created a strong race who loved the sea and commerce, and soon became quite prosperous. The Pope visited the village as did Queen Jeanne. In 1388, Nice and Villefranche ceased to be a part of Provence of France, and became independent, under the Count of Savoy. In the fifteenth century, the plague came to Villefranche and killed one fourth of the population.

Villefranche became an important military fort and harbored many fleets. In 1560, the forts of Villefranche (between fleet landing and the commissary) and Mont Alban were built, and the Duke Emmanuel Philibert was determined to make the town one of the primary ports of the Mediterranean. The Darse area was developed.

In 1691, Louis XIV recaptured the area, and Villefranche once again became French, after a glorious period of importance. Since that time, the city has frequently changed hands and figured in many wars. However, since that time it became less of a bustling commercial city and more of a small fishing town, with small shops. The people gained barely enough to raise their families, and their religious festivals formed an important part of their life.

Finally in 1864, Napoleon III officially made Villefranche a part of France, and it has so remained until this day. After the construction of the railway, and with the invention of the automobile, the town gradually became a tourist attraction. An important garrison of the Chasseurs Alpins (the Blue Devils) occupied the fort. They are famous for their heroism in the wars.



HISTORICAL NICE:

Nice, the chief town of the department of the Alpes Maritimes, is 739 miles by rail from Paris. The population fluctuates with the seasons, owing to the influx of tourists, as Nice is one of the principal resort cities of Europe. Its normal population is about 260,000, and it ranks as the 5th largest city in France.

Nice (Nicaea) was founded about 2,000 years ago by the Phenicians of Marseille; it received its present name in honor of victory over the neighboring Ligurians, and soon became a busy trading station. Nice had a rival in the town of Cemanelum (now known as Cimiez, a part of Nice) in existence until the time of the Lombard invasions, which left it in ruins.

In the 7th century, Nice joined the Genoese League formed by the towns of Liguria. In 729 it repulsed the Saracens, but in 859 and 880 they pillaged and burned the city, and for the most part of the 10th century remained masters of the surrounding country. As an ally of Pisa, Nice was the enemy of Genoa, and both the King of France and the Holy Roman Emperor endeavored to subjugate it, but it remained an independent state.

In the course of the 13th and 14th centuries it fell more than once into the hands of the Counts of Provence, and finally in 1388, it placed itself under the protection of the Counts of Savoy. The maritime strength of Nice rapidly increased until it was able to cope with the Barbary pirates. The fortifications were largely extended, and the roads to the city greatly improved.

During the struggle between Francis I and Charles V, great damage was caused by the passage of the armies invading the Provence; pestilence and famine raged in the city for several years. In 1543, Nice was attacked by the united forces of Francis I and Frederick Barbarossa; the inhabitants were ultimately compelled to surrender, and Barbarossa was allowed to pillage the city and carry off 2,500 captives. Pestilence appeared again in 1550 and 1580. In 1600, Nice was taken by the Duke of Guise. By opening the ports of the Country to all nations, and proclaiming full freedom of trade, Charles Emmanuel in 1626, gave a great stimulus to the city.

Captured by Catinat in 1691, Nice was restored to Savoy in 1696, but it was again besieged by the French in 1705, and in the following year its citadel and ramparts were demolished. The treaty of Utrecht in 1713 once more gave the city back to Savoy; and in the peaceful years which followed the "new" town was built.

From 1744, until the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle (1748) the French and Spaniards were again in possession. In 1775, the king of Sardinia destroyed all that remained of the ancient liberties of the community. Conquered in 1793 by the armies of the French Republic, the county of Nice continued to be part of France until 1814; after that date it reverted to Sardinia. By a treaty, concluded in 1860, between the Sardinian King and Napoleon III, it was again transferred to France.

Nice is protected towards the north by hills which rise behind stage to the main ridge of the Alps, and is celebrated for the mildness of its climate, the mean temperature is 60°, that of winter being 49°, of summer 72° with the temperature rarely above 90°. The mean rainfall is 65", usually falling in heavy showers which soon leave the sky clear again. The city is famous for its carnival festivities, especially the "Battle of Flowers."



TRANSPORTATION:

LOCAL: Transportation from Villefranche to Nice is provided by train, bus or taxi. Regular bus schedules depart from Nice at Avenue des Phoceans, the Municipal Casino to the square above the Villefranche landing on a regular schedule of approximately every twenty-minutes from 0630 to 2030 daily, and from 2030 to 2400 when the U.S. Fleet is anchored in Villefranche Bay. The train departs from the Villefranche Station at 0612, 0719, 0908, 1116, 1432, 1558, 1924, 2053, and 0026, and arrives at the Gare de Nice approximately 12 minutes later. Returning trains from Nice, depart at 0010, 0647, 0800, 0925, 1014, 1102, 1210, 1345, 1500, 1720, 1835, 2050, and arrive at Villefranche approximately 12 minutes later. A check should be made at the railway station to establish the exact time of departure, before relying on the above schedule.

Taxie service is good, but extremely expensive, the average trip from Nice to Villefranche being about 7 francs. Taxi fare from Nice to Cannes is about 30 francs. For bus and train schedules to Cannes and Golfe Juan see Cannes-Golfe Juan section. For schedule to Monaco and Menton see Menton sections.

ROADS AND RAILROADS: Villefranche is connected to Nice to the west and Monaco to the east by secondary roads along the coastline. The road is kept in good repair and is in excellent condition the year round.

The city of Nice is connected to the east to Monaco, Menton, and cities along the Italian Riviera by two excellent highways N-7 and N-564; to the north to Switzerland by two principal routes (N-204 and N-202) and one secondary route (D-19), all in excellent condition. To the west, a principal highway connects Nice with Grasse and points directly west; route N-7, along the coastline connects Antibea, Cannes, St. Raphael, St. Tropez, Toulon, and Marseilles. Both are in excellent condition at all times.

Rail connections exist along the coastline to all points between Nice and Marseilles and north to Paris. The railroad line continues eastward from Nice to cities on the Italian coast, Rome and Florence and Venice. Regular scheduled trains provide accommodations found in most European countries.

Here are 5 outline routes which give some idea of the main Continental mileages. In conjunction with good touring maps, they will enable you to plan a rough touring timetable. To reap the maximum enjoyment from your trip, do not hesitate to make detours from these routes to sample what takes your interest. The suggested time schedules provide ample time for such detours. In most cases, these times can be reduced if you exceed an average speed of over 30 m.p.h.

1. Paris - Riviera- This is probably the most popular holiday journey in Europe. There are three separate routes through widely differing regions.

1a. Via Rhone Valley- One night en route. Paris (N.7), Fontainebleau (N.5), Sens (N.6), Auxerre, Tournus, Lyon (N.7), Bollene, Avignon, Marseilles--or

VISINES LA GROSSETTE



Bollene, (N.113), Nimes, Marseilles--St. Raphael, Nice, Menton. Total distance Paris - Marseilles, about 495 miles.

1b. Massif Central Route- One night. Paris (N.7), Moulins, Vichy (N.100, Le Puy (N.88 and N. 106), Nimes (N.113), Marseilles. About 515 miles.

1c. Route des Alpes- Two nights. Paris (N.19), Troyes (N.71), Denon (N.5), St. Julien (N.201 and N.90), Grenoble (N.75), Sisteron (N.85), Cannes. Total distance Paris - Cannes, about 615 miles.

2. Paris - Pyrenees - Andorra - Costa Brava- Total mileage about 660. Three nights. N.20 to Orleans, Limoges, Toulouse, Foix (Andorra), Bourg Madame (Frontier) N.152, Barcelona.

3. Paris - Loire Valley - Biarritz - Basque Coast - Portugal- Total mileage about 1120. Six nights. N.10 to Chartres, Tours, Angouleme, Bordeaux, Bayonne (Biarritz), frontier, San Sebastian (mileage about 505), N.1/240 to Burgos, Valla-Lisbon. Mileage San Sebastian - Lisbon, about 620 miles.

4. Paris - Frankfort - Hamburg- Total mileage about 720. Two nights. N.3 to Meaux, Chalons-sur-Marne, Verdun, Metz, Saarbrucken (mileage 240), N.40 to Kaiserlautern, Mainz, Frankfort (170) autobahn and N.3 to Hanover, Celle, Hamburg (310).

5. Rome - Cannes- Two nights. N.1 to Pisa (207). Rapallo, Genoa (330), San Remo, Nice (457), Cannes (478), Thence by Routes 1a, b, c, above to Paris.

Road miles:

FROM	Cherbourg	Nice	Boulogne	Frankfort
TO PARIS	212	559	152	364

CURRENCY:

U. S. currency may not be landed in the Nice-Villefranche area. Currency will be exchanged by the Disbursing Officer aboard ship at the following rates:

- 1 New Franc = \$0.20
- 4 New Francs & 86 Centimes = \$1.00

TOURS:

The most interesting tour in the Mediterranean is offered to Paris, lasting for four (4) days and includes transportation, hotel accomodations, meals, and guided tours around Paris and Versailles. The cost is approximately \$60.00.

An excellent tour is also available to Switzerland. An excellent tour lasting

MONTE CARLO CASINO



for a day, is to the Beuil-Valberg area, transportation by bus, and lunch is included.

Local tours include a whole and a half-day tour of the French Riviera, transportation by motor-coach, with English speaking guides. The one day tour includes Nice, Monte Carlo and the Casino, Grasse, and the perfume factories and lunch. The half day tour includes Nice, Grande Corniche Road, and Monte Carlo, commencing at 1300 and returning about 1800 daily. By courtesy of the Funel Perfume factory is offered free.

CHURCHES:

The church of the Holy Trinity (American), 21 Blvd. Victor Hugo, Nice, is a congenial and friendly church. The American Rector is Rev. Dr. Henry C. Sartoria, telephone 894-66, and regular services are conducted each Sunday morning at 1100. The church is closed for two (2) months each summer. Numerous Catholic churches are scattered throughout the city of Nice, two of which are: Tr. Longchamp, one block west of Ave. de la Victoire; the other at Rue Cronstadt and Rue de France. The Cathedral is on Ave. de la Victoire. In Villefranche the closest is just above the landing. Free USO bus transportation will leave the fleet landing at Villefranche at 1030. Return transportation to the fleet landing will be provided by USO for standby sections that may be permitted to attend these services. Other religious services include:

Mormon: The church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 11 Rue de Belgique. Sunday services are at 1030 (Sunday School) and 1700 (Sacrament Meeting). Mutual Services (M.I.A.) are held Tuesdays at 0900.

Jewish: Synagogue, 2 Rue Gustane Deloye (opposite Galeries Lafayette). Services are held on Fridays at 1730, and Saturdays at 0900 and 1715. There are prayer books in English available.

Greek Orthodox: Blvd. Tzarewitch. Services are held on Saturdays at 1700, and Sundays at 1000.

CLUBS AND HOTELS:

Villefranche: Tennis Club de Barmassa; Lawn Tennis Club, Beaulieu-Hotel Bristol, are the leading private clubs. The Versailles Hotel and the Hotel Welcome on the Villefranche Quai are the leading hotels.

Nice: Tennis Clubs include the Nice Lawn Tennis Club, Parc Imperial, telephone 825-24, and the Tennis Club at the Hotel Ruhl.

VAISBERG



Leading hotels, in order of the accommodations and service offered, are as follows: Hotel Negresco, Hotel Ruhl, Hotel Continental, Hotel Luxembrough, and Hotel Royale. Accommodations are practically unlimited in practically any variety and range but reservations should be made as far in advance as possible, especially during the tourist season from May to September. There are nearly 200 hotels with about 10,000 rooms, which does not include boarding.

RESTAURANTS:

Numerous small restaurants and bars are scattered near the waterfront of Villefranche, and good food and beverages may be purchased at reasonable costs. Numerous restaurants and bars, both large and small, expensive and reasonable are located in Nice. A recommended restaurant is the Normandie Manor on rue de France, and Chez Meners on 9 Rue Barralis. Excellent meals and drinks are served at the Ruhl, Continental, and Negresco Hotels, and numerous other places in Nice. Food and drinks, for the most part, are reasonable in price, and excellent in quality. The Chateau Madrid on the Moyenne Corniche is recommended, but is extremely expensive. Da Bouttau is recommended for local color. Chez Adolfe, near the fish market, also serves excellent food. On the outskirts, Lion D'Or in Vence and Colomb D'Or in St. Paul are highly recommended.

Other good restaurants in Nice are: Maison Rouge, elegant, with a view of the sea; La Caravelle, inexpensive Provencal cooking; Carac, closed Tuesday, very fine, in expensive Nicise cooking, noted for fish; Da Bouttau, opposite the cathedral; Cambrinus, rue de l'Hotel des Postes, unpretentious, inexpensive.

Corsaire is the most expensive of the waterside restaurants in Villefranche. Darse, on the yacht basin is simple but good and fairly cheap.

CINEMA:

In Nice, the Edouard VII is the only theater known which shows English speaking movies. This theater is located near the American Church.

ATHLETICS:

Football, softball, basketball, and track events may be held at the Stadium located at Leo Lagrange daily except Sundays, on Cartier Francois Benon, provides a suitable place for softball, soccer, and basketball. The Beaulieu Lawn Tennis Club, Hotel Bristol, extends complimentary membership to officers as well as the Monte Carlo Country. The Golf du Mont Agel, Monte Carlo, extends complimentary membership and golf privileges to officers from the ships in the vicinity of Villefranche. The Hotel Ruhl, Promenade des Anglais, Nice, and the Barmassa tennis Club, Villefranche, extend tennis privileges to enlisted men; Nice Lawn Tennis Club, Parc Imperial, Nice telephone 825-24 also,



English speaking movies - 8, rue Maréchal-Joffre, NICE

extends privileges to utilize their tennis facilities; and the Bastide du Roy Golf Club, Biot (near Antibes), extends golfing privileges to enlisted men. Bicycles may be rented at various shops and establishments.

The Monte-Carlo Bowling Club is located across from the Casino. There are six alleys, all in excellent condition; however, the price is expensive at \$1.00 per game.

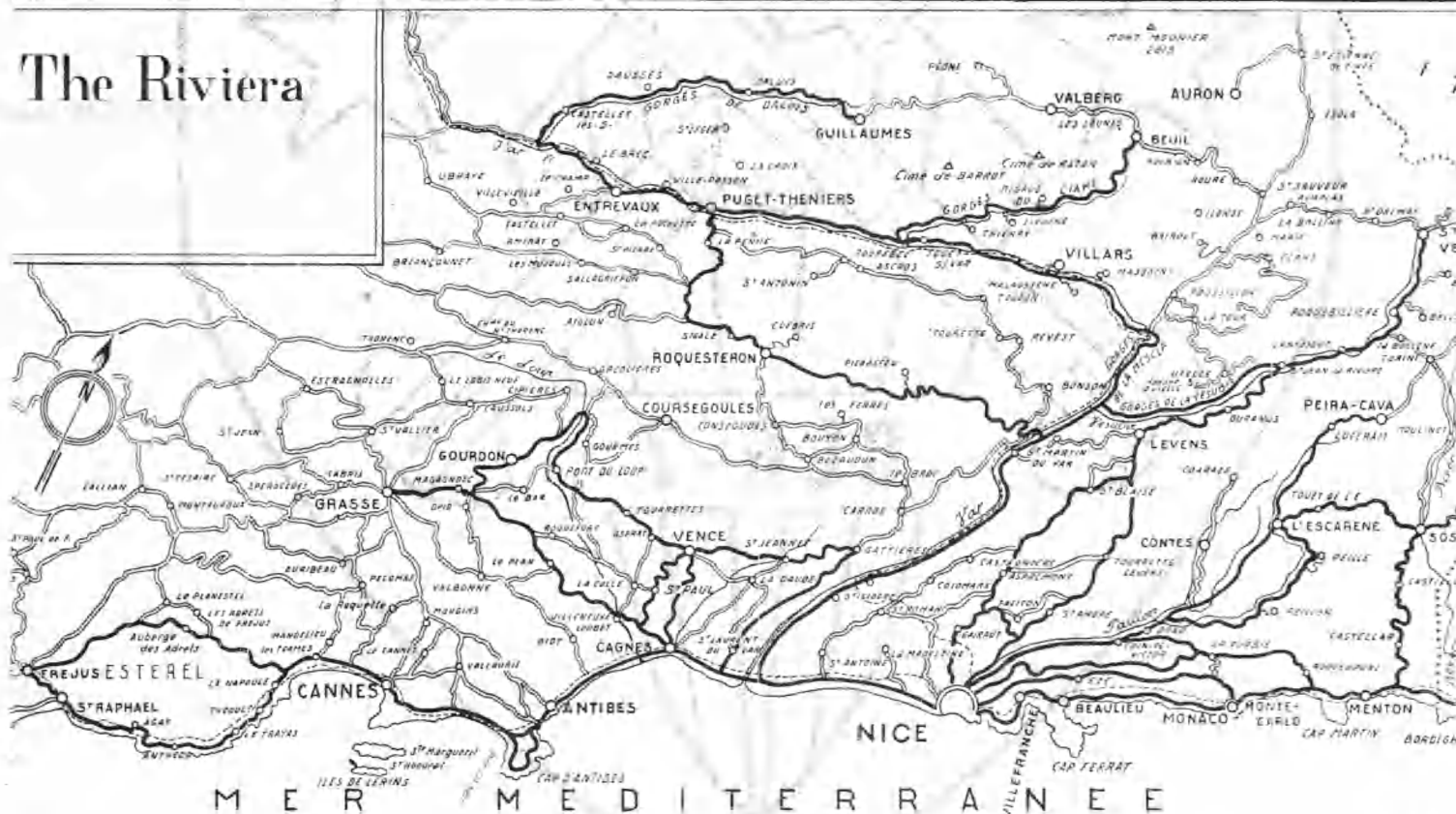
BEACHES:

Excellent swimming is offered along the beach front of Nice, and there are no restrictions on bathing with the exception of the harbor of Nice and the coast west of St. Helen Church on Promenade des Anglais up to the mouth of Var River. The beach is a pebble beach, and relatively clean. Excellent swimming and facilities are offered at the Roc Beach Hotel east of Nice Harbor. Additional swimming beaches are located on Cap Ferrat, across the bay from the Villefranche landing or quays, or in the vicinity of the town.

NICE



The Riviera



USS SPRINGFIELD



CLG-7