

ONE DAY DEVOTED TO STUDYING THE ARCHIVES OF RESISTANCE AND TRANSPORTATION IN CORRÈZE – TULLE November 29th 2002

The ruling of the Museum of Resistance Henri Queuille in action

(HENRI QUEUILLE :)

(1) It's not possible to deal with the Queuille's personal archives without calling back, even briefly, who and what was "the most illustrious of Correzians" as the President de la République said.

(2) "Henri Queuille was born in 1884 at Neuvic where his father was a chemist and deputy-mayor. A child in the school at the Republic, pupil with a grant at the grammar school of Tulle, an orphan of 11 at his father's death, graduate at 18, (3) he starts as a medicine student in Paris when he starts a friendships with Geroges Duhamel. Foreseeing tourism when 20, as he is still a student. (4) He founds the Association of the Dordogne Valley "QEB", which issues post-cards and leaflets.

In 1908, back home, after he lost his mother; he starts as a M.D., he is 24. (5) The following year, he holds a conference with electric projection – today we should say diaporama upon the Dordogne Valley in the course of the 3rd meeting of Tree and Water in the main theatre of Brive.

As a country M.D. (6), he runs the rough ways of Upper-Corrèze, often by night, on foot, on a bicycle or riding a horse up to the days before the great war. It is then that he starts his political career which is to make him a most influent man in the IIIrd and IVth Republics.

Elected mayor of Neuvic (7) in 1912, he is 30, Conseiller Général in 1913, M.P. in 1914, President of the Conseil Général of Corrèze for nearly twenty years 1921-1940. Volunteering (8) for the 14-18 war as an army medical officer. Having the Croix de Guerre with special mention, it is the only order he will accept to show, with later on, and in exceptional circumstances, the Medal of Resistance with Bar, granted by general de Gaulle.

(9) He starts his career as a minister when 36 as a sub-secretary for Agriculture in 1920, four times minister of Agriculture (10) in 11 different government, to be pointed out, in the economical crisis 1924-1938; he holds the ministries of Public Health 2 times in 1931 and 1934; of the G.P.O. in 1932. Public works in 1937 and supplies in 1940. Abstaining for the vote of full powers to Petain; put off all his elective functions by Vichy, (11) he secretly gains de Gaulle in London then in Algiers where the general makes him head of the Provisary Government of the Republic pro tem in 1943-44. He is then 60. He, himself, signs the decree creating the FFI. State Minister in 1948, Prime Minister three times in the after-war days, his government in 48-49 (12) keeps standing for 14 months, a noticeable case in the IVth Republic, after 54, he progressively withdraws from the national stage.

His last mandate is that of a plain town councilor of Neuvic. (13) The Republic, an exceptional feat, renders him a last homage in 1965 for his being 80 by granting him the medal, stamped at his effigy, during a ceremony, in Paris, in the full-up hall of horticulturists, 7 former Prime Ministers being present. He dies in June 1970 when 86.

(THE MUSEUM :)

(14) In 1976, after their father deceased, Henri Queuille's children bequeath their family house to the Department of Corrèze on condition to set up there a Museum that should recall the work of our illustrious fellow citizen and the history of Resistance in Upper-Corrèze. The Conseil Général makes the rooms proper for their use in 1979 and devotes to the Association, created shortly before, the duty to achieve the visit of the museum on end and ruling of it.

(15) The exhibits are issued from : a collection gathered by Henri Queuille in 1945. Gifts and deposits from former resustants AS, FTP. A committee of historians, former resistants and maquis boys of upper Corrèze is set up. This committee which has Marcel Barbanceys for president, in charge of the part of conservator, is responsible for welcome and exhibitions.

(16) The museum is inaugurated in May 1982 by the President de la République, François Mitterrand with Jacques Chirac at his side. Twenty years since, the Museum has got richer with a lot of other deposits and gifts from the local Resistance.

(THE QUEUILLE'S FUND :)

(17) In 1979, Henri Queuille's children accordingly turn to Marcel Barbnceys, the conservator of the Museum when they decide that their father's archives come back to Neuvic, with the obligation, registered by a notary, that they should be kept in the family house turned into a museum. An independent and safe room is then especially set up to receive them waiting for the basic work which is to be done : the inventory and classification.

(18) On the conservator's request, Mrs Gallot, a daughter of Henri Queuille, gets in touch with the director of the Archives of France, who sets forth a bright student of the Acole des Chartes, Hervé Bastien, who achieves the inventory and the classification in 1986. (would be head of the party in 1989, he afterwards becomes Maitre de conférence at the political studies institute of Paris and Conservator of the General Survey of the Archives of France.

The fund which covers the period 1910-1960 is made up with.

- (19,20,21) the fund of archives properly said; say 64 cardboard boxes, seried in five items A, B, C, D and E, corresponding to prominent lines of Henri Queuille's political career. Each alphanumeric combination (A1, A2, B1, B2...) is in connection with a different box accordingly.
- Of Henri Queuille 's diary for the periods September 1939 / June 1940 on the one hand and April 1943 / July 1944, on the other hand, seried on the boxes A8 to A10
- With an iconographical complement (photos) and a legislative one (issues of the Journal Officiel sealed from 1919 to 1958, interesting for the details of law-issuing as well as debates in Parliament), the subdivisions of which correspond to those of the fund of archives and are recalled at the end of each series.

(22) This list is the matter dealt by the Nationam Archives which issue it in 1987, this leaflet, with a foreward by the Haed of the Archives of France (Jean Favier) is to be found at the museum, can be consulted on our internet-site : www.musee-henriqueuille.com

(23) Hervé Bastien issues in the magazine of modern and contemporary history of March 1988 "Henri Queuille et la République" and in 1989, is awarded the Prize Auguste Molinier for his thesis on "Henri Queuille in Algiers or the exiled Republic, August 1943 – August 1944".

From 1990 and hence, out of a concern for safety, with the help of the Department Archives of Corrèze, Mr Quincy then Mrs Say, microcast of the fund is achieved. Two samples of microfilms are accordingly to be found, one at the department archives, the other at the Museum where consulting the fund can be carried out henceforwards on a reader-reproducer.

(24) The photographs are reproduced by the service of department archives which keep one item as a deposit. Laser reproductions can be consulted at the Museum (several hundreds of photos within 5 albums.)

(25) The safety of the archives room as been made safer (fire detection, telewatching, metal fence) control of temperature and hygrometry, putting a technical fitting up in operation with an air humidity-remover system.

The numerisation of Queuille's fund is foreseen, after the present operation on the archives of Resistance and exhibits. It will be possible to contact it on our particular basis via internet.

(26) Since it is at hand, the Queuille's fund has been consulted by well-known historians such as Robert Paxton, Francis de Tarr, and teaching people such as Gilles le Béguec, Gilbert Beaubatie... or numerous student of sciences politiques fore their works on memoirs.

However there is a lot to be explored left, for Henri Queuille's work is tremendous in the demesmes where he has been a novator: Agriculture, technical teaching, managing the rural lands, tourism, hydroelectrical fittings. Especially, it is seldom known that he gave birth to the SNCF...

These issues and writings testify of the worth of the deposits:

- "Henri Queuille and the correzian Front" by Denis Fougeras - publishing firm of CERPP - 1984
- "Henri Queuille and Corrèze" acts of the colloquy of Tulle - publishing firm Lucien Souny - 1986
- "Henri Queuille and the Republic" acts of the colloquy of Paris - UER Limoges - 1987
- "Henri Queuille without any legend" leaflet of the Society of Letters Sciences and Arts of Corrèze - Gilbert Beaubatie - 1990
- Diary of the war September 7th 39 - June 8th 1940 - PULIM - Limoges 1993
- Diary of the war April 43 - July 44 - Plon 1995
- Henri Queuille in his days. Biography - Francis de Tarr - La table ronde - 1995

(27) Finally, in 1996, the Journaux Officiels of the Queuille's fund have allowed to publish the bound compendium of the issuing in Algiers from June 1943 to August 1944, following the issuing of the Journal Officiel de la France Libre, printed in London.

(THE ARCHIVES OF RESISTANCE :)

(28) The archive documents of Resistance and Transportation, set in the glass cases of the Museum when it was created, twenty years ago, and supplemented as years passed by up to the present day come from :

1/ (29) A fund gathered by Henri Queuille after is being back from Algiers by the end of 44. He got from his fellow citizens to tell what their happening was during the war. Those tales written down by means of a writing pen by the secretary of the town-hall, illustrated by a lot photos set in a frame, these "fresh" testimonies tell of : taking a part in parachute dropping, concealing allied airmen or important persons on their leave for London such as general Cochet or Hettier de Bois Lambert, the activities of resistance and the maquis and so on...

2/ (30) Of documents gathered by the committee in charge of setting up the Museum, from former members or Resistance or of the fellow-societies AS and ANACR : posters, faked identity cards, letters, orders for a mission, maps of operations, permissions to pass, photographs of the time, messages and so on...

3/ Of archives, the property of the Friendly Society of the Maquis AS of Upper Corrèze :

This fund includes particularly :

- (31) All the reports confirmed by a written piece of resisters and gathered in a heap by Marcel Barbanceys since 1944
- The funds given by the wives of the chiefs when they disappeared : general Craplet (Duret), Le Moigne (Jean-Jacques), Audy (Ulysse), Nival (Gérard), Beaudenon (Théo), Montalat, Rouby, Dr Belcour, Moulinet In these

funds, some original documents can be found : the date original command notes from July 6th to October 14th 1944, the reports and tales of ambushes written down and signed by every captain commanding the fight and dated on the very day.

- (32) The report of the battle for Ussel AS and FTP Duret-Passemar
- The file on how Marèges was saved written down by captain Jules (Bloch)
- The file on the searching in Germany and in France concerning Regiment 1000 of the Jesser Brigade for Corrèze-Creuse
- (33) The full file of the ½ Brigade Upper-Corrèze : how it started – the full file (about 2000 personal slips) how it came to an end.
- (34) Finally an iconographical fund : photos of the time exceptional

Mrs Barbanceys, present president of the Friendly Society of the Maquis AS has serried these archives with noticeable fitness, with her knowing of what had been lived as she was a former fighting and resisting girl and the aptitude of a teacher specialised in series making.

The Amicale gives us a right to have a free accession to its archives in the purpose of : having documents useful for the exhibitions in the Museum, our multimedia productions and, especially, archiving the CD Rom on the Resistance and its Maquis of Upper-Corrèze " from the Plateau de Millevaches to the deep valley of the Dordogne" the project of which has just been made valid.

These are open to the students and searchers who express a desire for it on condition that there should be an agreement as for their objectives and works.

These archives file corresponds to any glass-case, panel, frame or any other exhibit; it receives the genuine documents, only copies are exhibited as a safety purpose.

The list of archives and collections is on its way to be carried out it goes together with an appreciation of the worth of pieces; their numeration and integration in a multimedia basis of elements of which we are to give you a hint to conclude our intervention...

(35) The historical exploitation of the archives of the archives of the Amicale des Maquis AS started with its birth by the end of 44 by the issuing of Number 1 of its three-monthly bulletin, appearing in January 1945. Number 225 will be the next one. The numerisation of the whole collection is being achieved.

(36) Marcel Barbanceys together with Louis le Moigne are the authors of a book that can be referred to " Sédentaires, Réfractaires et Maquisards" the Secret Army in Upper Corrèze 1942-1944, issued in 1977 and printed again several times.

Jean Chastrusse, René Garnier et Louis Vaux have issued, in 1991, "The last nazi start in Corrèze".

Marcel Barbanceys has written the foreword and epilogue of colonel Savoyant's "One day at Roussines" in 1992.

(Let us quote, too, for memory's sake, the book dated 44 of the Demi-Brigade AS, with a foreword of colonel Marty (Dudeux) "Upper Corrèze being free" which was recently re-printed.

A lot of students have explored the archives to write down their memoirs on diverse subjects such as "STO, the refusal of Corrèze" Mastership of contemporary history by Remi Fourche, September 95, university Lumière in Lyon, A+ award – "A just on his way" Celine Combes, April 2000, Political Institute Studies of Grenoble, searching work of a 1st year, the way is open... (37) Otherwise, every year, the service for education and documentation of the museum is consulted for being fit up with the competitive writing on Resistance.

(ANOTHER DEPOSIT :)

(38) At last, it must be pointed out, the recent deposit of the archives of Elie Rouby (1894-1970) by his grand-daughter as her grand-father was Compagnon de la liberation, president of the Conseil Général from 1946 to 1970. In this deposit, the

archives for the days of 44-45, are prominently devoted to the fights on the front de l'Atlantique and more especially to the stronghold of Royan :

- Reports of missions and gatherings of information, shore defense of la Trablade – French Force of West and South-West (1944)
- Control on the operations of the Corps Franc on the Seudre River
- Told testimony on "The Armagnac Free Group of Seaman" and the landing in Oleron by the night of August 30th up to May 1st 1945.

Marcel LAVAU