LA FRANCE AUX PHILIPPINES ET EN MICRONÉSIE

magazine

FRANÇAIS DESTROYER
LORRAINE PORT CALL

JOINT COMMANDER
OF ALPACI RETURNS
TO THE PHILIPPINES

RAdm Geoffroy d’Andigné  Captain Xavier Bagot

ALSO IN
THIS ISSUE :

OFFICIAL VISITS TO
MICRONESIA &
MARSHALL ISLANDS

juin-juillet 2023 | june-july 2023
Édition réalisée par le Service de Presse:
Thomas Rollet | Conseiller politique
Patricia Viray | Attachée de presse
Herby Esmeralda | Directrice artistique

Ambassade de France aux Philippines et en Micronésie
French vessels sailing overseas have been designed to carry out:

1. surveillance of overseas areas under French sovereignty
2. maritime domain awareness & police patrol
3. maritime cooperation with allies
4. humanitarian action
Highlights of the port call of the French destroyer Lorraine (D657) in Manila

Lorraine's visit was part of her maiden deployment, which contributes to upholding the international rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific.

The visit of the Aquitaine-class destroyer enabled interactions between French and Filipino Navy officers. Most importantly, it enabled exchanges between experts of anti-submarine warfare and air defense tactics and technologies.

Captain Xavier Bagot
Commanding Officer of French destroyer Lorraine
The visit of Rear Admiral d’Andigné reinforced the cooperation between the French and Armed Forces of the Philippines in favor of a free, safe, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific. It reflected the mutual commitment by Presidents Emmanuel Macron and Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to deepen exchanges in several fields, including defense and security.

Based in French Polynesia, RAdm. d’Andigné leads the joint French armed forces operating in Asia-Pacific.

ALPACI conducts several activities, including exercises on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), amphibious exercises, and the regular deployment of air and naval assets.

**OPINION**

**Strengthening France-Phl ties in a rapidly evolving geopolitical context**

**WORLD VIEW - Rear Admiral Geoffroy d’Andigné - The Philippine Star**

June 25, 2023 | 12:00am

From 23rd up to 29th June, the French Navy destroyer Lorraine is calling in Manila. This stopover is an opportunity for this French military diplomacy ambassador to strengthen ties with the Philippine Navy. As part of my first official visit to Manila since I took office in July 2022, I will be meeting the Philippine political and military authorities, in line with my predecessors, to discuss ways of strengthening cooperation between our two countries.
PRESS BRIEFING ABOARD LORRAINE AND EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

FRENCH REAR ADMIRAL ON PH-FRANCE MILITARY TIES, REGIONAL SECURITY
Geoffroy d'Andigné | Joint Commander of the Asia Pacific & French Armed Forces

Ambassador Michèle Boccoz, Rear Admiral Geoffroy d'Andigné, and Captain Xavier Bagot of French destroyer Lorraine held a press briefing with the Philippines press to answer questions on French-Philippine defense cooperation, activities of ALPACI in the Asia-Pacific, and the purpose of Lorraine’s maiden deployment in the Philippines.
The visiting crew of French destroyer Lorraine and the Philippines very own Blackwater Bossing held a friendly basketball match at Paco Arena in Manila.
Dr. Thomas Gomart (right), Director of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) visited Manila from June 27 to 28, 2023. This is the first visit to the Philippines of an official from the think tank dedicated to international affairs based in Paris, France. Mr. Gomart met with some Filipino analysts to discuss foreign policy, defense, geopolitics, and other related topics.
THE ORDER OF ARTS AND LETTERS: RANK OF KNIGHT

22-23 JUIN
FRENCH EMBASSY IN MANILA

Ms. Tina Colayco (artistic cooperation and student exchanges) and Ms. Liza Diño (cinema) were awarded the grade of Knight in the Order of Arts and Letters by French Ambassador Michèle Boccoz.

MERSEA:
FÊTE DE LA MUSIQUE

22 JUIN
AFM

As the celebration of the 75th anniversary of French-Philippine diplomatic relations drew to a close, Alliance française de Manille and the French Embassy held a Jazz Night: #LesJeudisCulturels featuring the Remi Panossian Trio.

Culture & Arts

CEBU MURAL ART: ARCHBP. REYES AVE. FLYOVER

22 JUIN
CEBU

French and Filipino artists CEET Fouad and Distort Monsters worked day and night to finish the mural in just 6 days, with Cebuano artists Bart Bros and Julius Noel. It was initiated by the French Embassy and curated by Claire Piton of Rose Studio Art Gallery.

ETUDIER EN FRANCE: MEET & GREET

27 JUIN
PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN FRANCE

The France Alumni Philippines Association and Association of Filipino Students in France held a meet and greet led by Ambassador Junever Mahilum-West. This gathering is a testament to the pursuit of academic excellence, extensive research, and intercultural representations of the many Filipino identities in France.
CONGRATULATORY LETTER FROM FRENCH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MACRON TO PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS JR. ON THE PHILIPPINES’ 125TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

President Macron highlighted the fruitful relations and the rich cooperation between France and the Philippines. President Macron restated, on that occasion, expressed his wish to host President Marcos in France for a State visit. The two countries recently marked their 76th anniversary of diplomatic relations.

French President Emmanuel Macron has written to Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to convey his best wishes on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the independence of the Philippines on June 12, 1898.
The 7th Anniversary of the Award rendered in the Arbitration between the Republic of the Philippines and the People's Republic of China on the South China Sea

The 12th of June 2023, Ambassador Michèle Boccoz participated to the event organized by Stratbase – ADR Institute in Manila. She paid tribute to former Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert del Rosario, who championed the Philippines claim at the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

The same day, France joined the EU delegation in Manila as well as 15 other EU members in a statement recalling the merits of the 2016 Award, and reiterating the fundamental importance of upholding the freedoms, rights and duties established in UNCLOS, in particular the freedoms of navigation and overflight.

« There is simply no alternative to the strict adherence to the rule of law. In that regard through the 2016 Award, the Philippines upheld the highest standards. This historical milestone paves the way for the peaceful settlement of disputes in the South China Sea.

While France does not take position on sovereignty aspects relating to claims, it is in our fundamental interest to underline the importance of such efforts to maintain a non-confrontational, constructive behavior for regulating international relations. It is true by principle, as I already explained, and also because of the Philippines’ strategic position in the region and its wider implications for global stability. »

Michèle BOCOCOZ
Ambassador of France to the Philippines and Micronesia
You have been living in El Nido for a long time now. Can you tell us more about your history in the Philippines?

The dream of changing something in my life, trying something new, and pursuing new horizons appeared a few years before we moved to the Philippines. **Travelling to the island of Palawan, we fell in love with El Nido, a city of paradise, at first sight, where we loved the climate, nature, people, and the opportunity to discover new experiences for ourselves and tourists from all over the world.** Even at that time, Filipino culture was already intertwined with many other cultures of the world. Alongside Filipino restaurants, Italian, French, German and many other cuisines were present in El Nido, giving it the status of a truly global tourist spot.

So when we arrived in 2014, there was no question of what we would do here, and in early 2016 we opened a Ukrainian street cafe called Odesa Mama, which itself identifies our origin. Along with the idea of representing Ukrainian food culture, we also came up with the idea of building a craft brewery because at that time beer was only available in the form of a locally mass-produced beer in the town.

By mid-2017 we were already serving beer from our craft brewery "Boodmo", which literally means let’s be and is used to mean cheers. Starting a restaurant was not a big challenge for us. After all, we had been running a family restaurant and business in Ukraine for almost 15 years.

As for the recipes, they are based on historical experience and old culinary recipes, which are in any case the basis of modern Ukrainian culture. My idea is to cook as deliciously as my great-grandmother did. I hope that our guests will appreciate it. And that is why our menu offers the most famous authentic dishes that I have taken directly from my family’s table."
Can you tell us more about Odesa Mama?

Odesa Mama was the first step, it was a small cafe with a few seats and a very short menu. We had to share our experience and train our employees to cook Ukrainian food on their own. I would like to say that the Filipinos were very capable of doing this, and four months after the opening, the place was operating independently for a month when we went to Ukraine to visit our parents and friends.

Filipino’s ability to adapt is surprising and impressive. For example, Ukrainian borschch is a soup made with red beets and other vegetables, both in meat and other broths, which is recognized by UNESCO as an intangible cultural heritage of Ukraine.

Our Filipino chefs treat this dish with special care. The borscht in our restaurant is hard to distinguish from the borsch my grandmother used to cook. It's delicious, authentic, Ukrainian food, cooked in El Nido.

The menu also includes some dishes that are present in other European culinary traditions in one way or another, but we always find something that distinguishes them and identifies them as Ukrainian. A favorite Ukrainian dish, nalysnyky (in the sense of "on a sheet"), is essentially a pancake recipe, which I think is similar to the famous French crepes, but unlike them, it is thinner and smaller.

Ukrainian pancakes are filled with minced meat (meat, mushrooms, cottage cheese, berries, etc.), wrapped in an envelope, fried in a pan on a griddle, and generously drizzled with sour cream. The most popular pancakes are made with cottage cheese, to which raisins are sometimes added. As they say in Odesa, the better the hostess, the smaller the nalysnyky she cooks (twists).
It seems you have a sausage recipe that is almost legendary in the local Ukrainian community. Would you be willing to share it with us?

Indeed, Ukrainian sausage has a special place in our menu and has long been a bestseller. On the vast territory of Ukraine (26 regions), I alone can count more than 50 types of sausages, and maybe twice as many recipes. By the way, we chose a recipe from Liubashivka (north of Odesa region) as the basis for the sausage in our kitchen. This is our favourite taste of sausage, when no ingredients interfere. When the taste of meat and the smoke smell remain natural and familiar from childhood.

To make the sausage, you need pork meat, pork fat, garlic, hot mustard, salt, pepper, and water with ice. The sausage is smoked on fruit (apple or cherry) chips.

The secret to a delicious sausage is careful selection of meat and adherence to all the necessary technological processes.

How would you characterize the city of Odesa in Ukraine?

Odesa is a multicultural seaport on the Black Sea, a kind of melting pot where the cultures and traditions of many peoples of the north-western Black Sea region intertwine. The culinary tradition of the Odesa region is slightly different from the general Ukrainian one due to the influence of Jewish, Romanian, Polish, Bulgarian, Greek, German, Tatar, Gagauz, Turkish and other cultures. This applies not only to culinary culture, but also to other aspects of culture and traditions. Even after the great "cleansing" of the region in the 20th century, even after the Holocaust, the culture of the Odesa region did not lose this influence and heritage.

We aimed to base our menu on classic Ukrainian dishes that are historically known in the world. But, for example, we separated Crimean cheburek, which we cook according to a personal Crimean Tatar recipe that I got from my father, and salted fish according to the recipe of Odesa fishermen, which is a must-have for any dinner in Odesa, be it festive or day-to-day. In general, Odesa is a city of sun, sea, diversity, food worship and generous hosts.
Today many people are wondering how our lives have changed since February 2022.

With the onset of Russia's full-scale unprovoked aggression (because the war actually began in 2014, coinciding with our move to the Philippines), the attitude towards life in general has changed, and some values have been rethought. For example, to the donations we receive from our guests, we add a significant portion of our own funds, which we send to support the Armed Forces of Ukraine. You can send your donations to United24 or to Odessa Mama boxes in El Nido.

Our lifestyle has changed a lot. We live in the time zone of Ukraine. We support our families and friends at home, and we are in constant touch with them. There is a lot of stress and we have less rest. But this is a war wherein we must do our job, play our role, and help as much as we can.

We are doing it on our own and we are grateful to those who are doing it with us. We will win together.

Slava Ukraini! Heroiam Slava!
VISIT OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR MICHELE BOCCOZ TO THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
2-5 juillet 2023

The first non-resident Ambassador to visit the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) after the pandemic, H.E. Michele Boccoz made an official visit to Pohnpei.

Discussions focused on climate issues, illegal fishing, access to water, food security, climate and energy.

The Ambassador was also delighted to learn of the forthcoming opening of a FSM diplomatic representation in Geneva.

(L-R) FSM Vice President Aren B. Palik, French Ambassador Michele Boccoz, and FSM President Wesley W. Simina
President Simina highlighted Micronesia’s education and training. The learning of the French language and the training of Micronesian diplomats will enable the French Embassy to launch a new cooperation program with the FSM, thanks to the support of the College of Micronesia, represented by its President Mrs. Theresa Koroivulaono, who is attached to the French culture and interested in the implementation of this new program.

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A visit to the Nan Mandol site, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, enabled the French delegation to assess the challenges of preserving the site and nearby sites where French technical expertise is expected.
French Ambassador Michèle Boccoz met with the Honorary Consul of France Jennifer Hawley, entrepreneur, mother of 6 children, and granddaughter of former President Mr. Amata Kabua, 1st President of the Marshall Islands from 1979 until his death in 1996; and current President David Kabua.

The discussions focused on access to water, food security, climate and energy issues. The President thanked France for its strong involvement in all multilateral issues, in particular on the subject of the equality of small countries with regard to climate challenges.
In the field of education, a soon-to-be-initiated scholarship program will enable young Marshallese to study in France or New Caledonia in expected sectors such as engineering, diplomacy, hard sciences, human and social sciences, and public services.

Officials also underlined the crucial need for training in cultural management. Expertise from New Caledonia, followed by the award of a scholarship, could lay the foundations for cultural cooperation which, in the long run, could lead to the creation of a new museum, the Ministry’s flagship project dealing with the dramatic events of nuclear testing in the 1950s.

An exciting evening was spent with several young people from civil society involved in various organizations such as the nuclear legacy commission, the office for the abuse of women and girls, the youth commission on climate change, the youth club for the evolution of a Marshallese society torn between modernization and respect for tradition, overseen by the High Council of Traditional Leaders chaired by Mr. Leeje Loeak.
BEEF BOURGUIGNON
CULINARY WORKSHOP

Le Coude Rouge

July 15
11AM to 12 PM
Alliance Francaise de Manille - 209 Nicanor Garcia, 2, Makati, 1209 Metro Manila

1000php
for 2pax
LE CINÉ CLUB
ADVENTURES EDITION

16 LEVERS DE SOLEIL
JULY 12, WED, 7:30PM
AT ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE DE MANILLE AUDITÓRIOUM

ADIEU LES CONS
JULY 19, WED, 7:30PM
BYE BYE MORONS

KOMPROMAT
JULY 26, WED, 7:30PM
KOMPROMAT

FREE REGISTRATION
AMBASSADE DE FRANCE AUX PHILIPPINES ET EN MICRONÉSIE

Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité