



*Let's face it: 2003 has been a really tough year for the French...*

*First:* Jerry Lewis hasn't been performing much these days, depriving the French of their primary source of inspiration.



*Second:* There's the embarrassing problem that there hasn't been a French military victory since the 15th century, in a campaign which was lead by a paranoid schizophrenic girl.



*"Aide toy, Dieu te aidera" ("God helps those who help themselves"). Jeanne d'Arc*

In fact, a [Google](#) search on [French Military Victories](#) has gotten downright depressing.

*Third:* Those French jokes are simply getting out of hand.

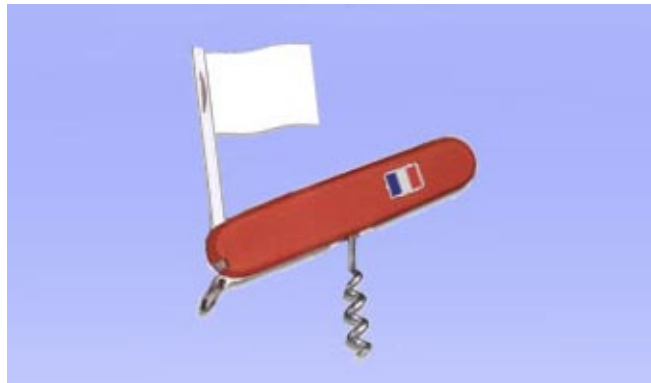


Even traditional back packing gear has suffered in the onslaught...

Swiss Army Knife:



French Army Knife:



*So...* Who can rescue the French people from this dire state of affairs?  
Who can emerge as the new French leader for the 21st century?  
Who can marshal the talents of a people who have given the world so much?  
Only one man is equal to the challenge ...

*Joseph Pujol is that man!*



*Sure, Pujol has been dead for nearly 60 years.  
But at least that means that "Le Pétomane" hasn't done anything stupid lately,  
which makes him uniquely qualified to be a French leader!*

*Come join with Pujol as he inspires loyalist*

**LES PÉTOMANES**

*to form*

*The Coalition of the Dubious*

*in a liberating strike at the very heart of the timeless alpine beauty of*

**Garnet Lake**

*for*

**Back Pack 2003!**

**July 30 - August 3, 2003**



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## **The Complete Military History of France**

### **Gallic Wars**

- Lost. In a war whose ending foreshadows the next 2000 years of French history, France is conquered by of all things, an Italian.

### **Hundred Years War**

- Mostly lost, saved at last by female schizophrenic who inadvertently creates The First Rule of French Warfare; "France's armies are victorious only when not led by a Frenchman." Sainted.

### **Italian Wars**

- Lost. France becomes the first and only country to ever lose two wars when fighting Italians.

### **Wars of Religion**

- France goes 0-5-4 against the Huguenots

### **Thirty Years War**

- France is technically not a participant, but manages to get invaded anyway. Claims a tie on the basis that eventually the other participants started ignoring her.

### **War of Revolution**

- Tied. Frenchmen take to wearing red flowerpots as chapeaux.

### **The Dutch War**

- Tied

### **War of the Augsburg League/King William's War/French and Indian War**

- Lost, but claimed as a tie. Three ties in a row induces deluded Frogophiles the world over to label the period as the height of French military power.

### **War of the Spanish Succession**

- Lost. The War also gave the French their first taste of a Marlborough, which they have loved every since.

### **American Revolution**

- In a move that will become quite familiar to future Americans, France claims a win even though the English colonists saw far more action. This is later known as "de Gaulle Syndrome", and leads to the Second Rule of French Warfare; "France only wins when America does most of the fighting."

### **French Revolution**

- Won, primarily due the fact that the opponent was also French.

### **The Napoleonic Wars**

- Lost. Temporary victories (remember the First Rule!) due to leadership of a Corsican, who ended up being no match for a British footwear designer.

### **The Franco-Prussian War**

- Lost. Germany first plays the role of drunk Frat boy to France's ugly girl home alone on a Saturday night.

### **World War I**

- Tied and on the way to losing, France is saved by the United States. Thousands of French women find out what it's like to not only sleep with a winner, but one who doesn't call her "Fraulein." Sadly, widespread use of condoms by American forces forestalls any improvement in the French bloodline.

### **World War II**

- Lost. Conquered French liberated by the United States and Britain just as they finish learning the Horst Wessel Song.

### **War in Indochina**

- Lost. French forces plead sickness; take to bed with the Dien Bien Flu

### **Algerian Rebellion**

- Lost. Loss marks the first defeat of a western army by a Non-Turkic Muslim force since the Crusades, and produces the First Rule of Muslim Warfare; "We can always beat the French." This rule is identical to the First Rules of the Italians, Russians, Germans, English, Dutch, Spanish, Vietnamese and Esquimaux.

### **War on Terrorism**

- France, keeping in mind its recent history, surrenders to Germans and Muslims just to be safe. Attempts to surrender to Vietnamese ambassador fail after he takes refuge in a McDonald's.

To quote from the Wall Street Journal:

*"The French: They're there when they need you."*