Morizet's Visit Is Under Auspices of CODOFIL

France's new ambassador to the United States, Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet, is scheduled to tour south Louisiana next week in an official display of the French government's support of this state's efforts to preserve and expand her French language and culture.

The tour, which will be Morizet's first as ambassador, is being planned under the auspices of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL).

The ambassador will be greeted at Ryan International Airport in Baton Rouge on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. by a reception committee chaired by Louisiana's French-speaking Secretary of State, Wade Martin. He will then travel to the state capital for an official welcome by Louisiana's bilingual Governor, Edwin Edwards.

Following a visit to the governor's mansion, Morizet will leave Baton Rouge by helicopter for Lafayette, with arrival scheduled for 12:30 at municipal airport.

ANTHEMS SLATED

Allen Babineaux, judge-elect of the 15th Judicial District, will chair airport ceremonies, which will include playing of the French and American national anthems.

Gueydan Mayor Rene Breaux will extend greetings to the ambassador on behalf of Louisiana officials. Lafayette Mayor Kenny Bowen will make the ambassador an honorary citizen of Lafayette.

A press conference will follow the airport ceremony.

A motorcade will leave the airport for a Breaux Bridge restaurant, where the ambassador will have an opportunity to sample Cajun cuisine. State Rep. Richard Breaux of Jeanerette will chair the luncheon session, and CODOFIL leader Paul Tate of Mamou will address the gathering.

The public is invited to join the airport welcome and motorcade, according to the CODOFIL office.