

THE GAZETTE

Published for members of the SHAPE/Chièvres, Brussels and Schinnen communities

Benelux news briefs

JFC Brunssum ID card section reduces hours

Due to a personnel shortage, the JFC Brunssum ID card section will be open Dec. 22 to 24 from 9 a.m. to noon with limited services and will be closed Dec. 25 and 26.

For an appointment, contact the ID Section at DSN 364-3475 or civilian +31 (0) 45-5263475.

Gazette goes on hiatus

This issue is the last Gazette of the year. The Jan. 8, 2015, issue will be the first Gazette of the new year. Deadline for that Gazette is Monday, Jan. 5, 2015, at 3 p.m., but submissions are being accepted now.

Other than emergency information, submissions received after the deadline won't be published until the following issue, if applicable.

Get news updates during holidays

For important updates during the holiday season when the Gazette is on hiatus, visit the USAG Benelux Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/USAGBenelux>.

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Victims of Malmedy Massacre honored at memorial

Part of a community color guard, Sgt. Joseph Quirarte, Sgt. John Webb, Spc. Kyle Borsody, Pfc. Antonio Jones and Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy King stand next to the memorial in Baugez near Malmedy, Belgium, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, during the commemoration held to honor the prisoners who were executed 70 years ago during the Battle of the Bulge. On Dec. 17, 1944, some 120 prisoners were taken to a field at the Baugez crossroads when the Nazi Kampfgruppe Peiper, part of the 1st SS Panzer Division, suddenly fired with their machine guns. Most of the prisoners were killed; some dropped to the ground and pretended to be dead when the shooting started. Later, a few survivors emerged and were able to link up with American troops in Malmedy. Because the Baugez crossroads had been in no man's land until the Allied counteroffensive, it wasn't until Jan. 14, 1945, that U.S. Forces reached the massacre site and conducted an investigation. The frozen, snow-covered bodies were removed from the scene for identification. Seventy-two bodies were found in the field Jan. 14 and 15, 1945. Twelve more, lying farther from the pasture, were found between Feb. 7 and April 15, 1945.