

Trenches to Foxholes



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Memorial Day ceremony at the Mardasson in Bastogne



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(Picture 1)The city of Bastogne hosted a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Mardasson monument, Friday, May 16, 2014. In the ceremony were (in the order of the parade) a U.S.Army Garrison Benelux platoon (picture 3), a British platoon from the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers of Europe (picture 5), an international Color Guard composed of (picture 2 from left to right) Spec. Devlin Trefethen (U.S.), Adjutant Chef Henri Plessiet (BE), Maréchal des Logis Chef Alexandre Joleaud (FR), Colour Sgt. John Brown (UK), Caporal 1ère Classe Jeff Eich (LU), Sgt. Major Raymond Janssen (NL), Sgt. John Webb (U.S.) and Sgt. Joseph Quirarte (U.S.), led by Sgt. Gregory Roberts (U.S.), a French platoon from the 40th Signal Regiment in Thionville (picture 4) and a Belgian platoon from Base Bastogne (picture 6). During the commemoration, local school children sang a song of peace in front of the authorities (picture 7). The ceremony, to honor all who gave their lives during the Battle of the Bulge, was held at the Mardasson monument, a memorial unveiled in 1950 as a tribute to the 76,890 American Soldiers who were wounded or killed during the last major WWII offensive. Listed above the five-pointed star monument are the names of the 48 states of America that existed at the time of the Battle of the Bulge. (U.S.Army photos by Cis Spook)



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