

This MONTH in military history...

- 1848:** War w/ Mexico ended by Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
- 1861:** Confederate States of America formed in Montgomery
- 1864:** Sherman begins Meridian Campaign in MS
- 1898:** U.S. Battleship *Maine* explodes
- 1917:** Ties are severed when German sub sinks U.S. liner
- 1942:** 1st WWII MOH awarded to 2nd Lt. Alexander Nininger
- 1943:** U.S. troops capture Guadalcanal
- 1945:** Americans & British begin bombing of Dresden, Germany
- 1951:** Operation Killer begins
- 1973:** 135 American POWs are released from Vietnam
- 1989:** Soviet Russia withdraws from Afghanistan
- 1991:** Desert Storm ground operations begin

ASC History Newsletter



Our 405th Army Field Support Brigade

The 405th Army Field Support Brigade was activated on 16 October 2008 in Seckenheim, Germany. The brigade mission is to act as the single point of entry to AMC for all units in USAREUR as well as provide command and control over all AMC elements and manage all AMC activities in USAREUR. In addition, the 405th is responsible for AMC emerging missions in AFRICOM.

The 405th unofficial history stretches long before October 2008. In July 1982 DARCOM-Europe was established as a one star command. (DARCOM was the name used for AMC from 1976-1984) The creation of DARCOM-Europe in 1982 closely patterns the reasons for creating the AFSBs. In 1982 DARCOM had 39 activities spread across four European countries, to include fielding teams, forward depots, R&D, science and technology teams, and the Logistics Assistance Program (LAP). The elements reported back to a variety of commodity commands or DARCOM HQ. The role of DARCOM-Europe, called AMC-Europe after 1984, was to provide command and control of all AMC assets in Europe, manage LAP, interface with HQ USAREUR and

senior logistics elements in Europe, manage equipment fielding, and better utilize AMC contractor facilities. These missions are much the same as the current roles of the 405th.

The AMC-Forward concept continued in Europe into the 1990s, although the command position was reduced to colonel in a later reorganization. However, over time the C2 role was reduced and the commodity commands and Program Managers reestablished greater. After Desert Storm the War Reserve in Europe was transferred from USAREUR back to DA and then assigned to AMC's Industrial Operations Command at Rock Island. In 2000 the command at Rock Island assumed control of AMC-Europe. Operations Support Command was charged with creating an "AMC Single Face to the Field" in a recreation of the original role of AMC-Europe.

In 2004 War Reserves in

Europe were merged into AMC-Europe. In 2004 AMC-Europe was re-designated as the AFSB-Europe. The name change was designed to gain the senior AMC officer in Europe more recognition as a brigade level commander and greater access to senior commanders in Europe. At the same time the AFSB-E began to alter its TDA to make it more deployable and greater capable of contingency operations. In late 2004 this work bore fruit as much of the staff was deployed to Balad, Iraq to create a brigade level structure over LSEs in Iraq. In October 2007 the unit was provisionally renamed the 405th AFSB-Europe as a TDA unit and then activated as the MOTE 405th AFSB a year later.

Today the 405th AFSB acts as the AMC Single point of Entry for all units in Europe and manages LAP, LOGCAP, RESET, Left Behind Equipment, ALT coordination, fielding, and other missions that look nearly exactly like AMC-Europe in 1982. The more things change, the more they look the same and, while preparing to assume control of the DOLs in Europe, the 405th continues to Support the Soldier in Europe-Fulcio Bellatoris!



Rock Island Ordnance Center

The Rock Island Ordnance Center played a vital role in distribution and management in World War Two after its creation in May 1944. Rock Island was largely seen as an important center of technical ordnance knowledge and a vital production plant. After the U.S. entered the war, the Ordnance Department sought to delegate greater responsibility to field headquarters.

The Ordnance Center was established to supervise, manage, and command. It was composed of the Rock Island Arsenal, Ordnance Depot, and Field Service Sub-Office. The Arsenal produced large quanti-

ties of materiel, the Depot met the demands of supplies and overseas shipments, and the Field Service Sub-Office kept and received records and held supplies until needed.

BG Norman F. Ramsey was the commander of both the Arsenal and the Ordnance Center, which was one of only four master depots at the time. He presided over major expansions on the island which included additional buildings, changes in manufacturing, and enlarging storage functions. The Center's workforce was massive and largely composed

of women as more men were drafted into service. The Rock Island Ordnance Center supported the war effort tirelessly until it was dissolved in 1946.



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