



# ASC History Newsletter

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## This MONTH in military history...

**1775: Congress resolves to forge Indian alliances**

**1809: Chief Tecumseh urges Indians to unite against whites**

**1863: Confederates surrender Vicksburg**

**1898: The Battle of San Juan Hill**

**1944: American bombers deluge Budapest in more ways than one**

**1947: "Mr. X" article appears in Foreign Affairs**

**1965: Ball recommends compromise in Vietnam**

## LOGCAP Before OIF

In April 2002, LOGCAP III began establishing operations at K2 Airbase in Uzbekistan. Until then life support was provided by tactical Army units. Those combat units had been running their own dining facilities and maintenance operations as well as providing latrines, showers, and water. When LOGCAP III arrived in Uzbekistan, the tactical CSS units were able to both redeploy and focus on their prime missions rather than life support. This progression complemented the original intent of the program, reducing Soldiers on the battlefield by creating a sustainment augmentation capability for logistics during deployed operations.

The Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) is an Army Program that augments the force by providing Combat Service Support (CSS) capabilities to meet operational requirements for mission support. While best known for operations in support of US Forces during OEF and OIF, LOGCAP has been around since 1985 and is capable of also supporting humanitarian operations, disaster relief, and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear operations.

The first iteration of LOGCAP (LOGCAP I) fell under the responsibility of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The first contract was awarded in late 1988 to install petroleum pipelines in SWA

and provided some support in Desert Shield/Desert Storm. In 1992 the contract was converted to a task order system focused more on life support. In this form LOGCAP I supported operations in Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Haiti, and Rwanda. In 1996, AMC assumed responsibility for the program and the next iteration of LOGCAP (LOGCAP II) was awarded that same year. LOGCAP II was used to support operation in the Philippines, Guatemala, Colombia, Panama, and East Timor. In 2000, LOGCAP was transferred to the Operations Support Command (OSC) as a vital element in enhancing a single point of entry into AMC for the field Army. During this time, OSC began establishing strategy for the next LOGCAP iteration (LOGCAP III), awarded in December 2001.

LOGCAP I, II, and III each required the awarded contractor to develop a worldwide support plan proving feasibility of support. These plans listed potential vendors in different geographical areas to demonstrate contractors had the ability to support contingency operations around the world. A challenge for LOGCAP III was that Army units were operating out of K2 in November before the December 2001 contract was awarded. The LOGCAP program at K2 was challenged by

long supply lines, few available vendors, and rapid expansion of operations in Afghanistan in 2002. However, the Army and contractor members of LOGCAP III quickly learned how to operate in an austere environment while adding support at Bagram and Kandahar. The honing of skills by the LOGCAP III contractor and Army personnel in establishing and executing LOGCAP missions in an extended combat environment in 2001-2002 paid dividends when in June 2003 LOGCAP was tasked to simultaneously provide support in Iraq.

While the concept has evolved since the mid-1980's, the basic principles remain the same. The US Army can reduce the size of its logistics force at home station by relying on contractor support during a wide variety of deployed scenarios.



**LOGCAP in East Timor 2000 building a runway**

## The Arsenal's First Building

In 1862 the Army appointed a board of officers to inspect the island and to recommend a construction site for the first buildings on Rock Island. The officers were to further report on the type of construction material to be used for the building. The board consisted of three Ordnance officers: Major C.P. Kingsbury; Major F.D. Callendar; and Captain T.J. Treadwell. In their report to the Chief of Ordnance, the officers recommended the first Arsenal building, designated "Storehouse A" and today known as the Clock Tower Building, be constructed on the western tip of the island. The officers also recommended limestone from LeClaire, Iowa as the building material for the Arsenal structures.

In addition, the board

selected two possible sites for an ammunition magazine, also on the west end of the island. Once the officers' final report was approved, Major Charles P. Kingsbury, the first Rock Island Arsenal Commander, was appointed to oversee the initial construction of the arsenal.

Construction of the first building on the island began in mid-1863, and in April 1864 the cornerstone of the initial permanent building, Storehouse A, was laid. Builders using LeClaire limestone erected a five story tower, nearly 120 feet in height, which housed a clock with dials facing in four directions. The clock's four dials were twelve feet in diameter, with a minute hand six feet long and an hour hand approximately five feet long. Kingsbury's successor, Brevet Brigadier General Thomas J. Rodman, purchased the clock from its manufacture, A.S. Hotchkiss Company, New York, New

York in 1867. Considered to be one of the finest in the country, the clock may be the only timepiece of its kind still operating with its original parts. The massive weights which operate the clock hang the length of three floors, and its clock bell weighs 3,500 pounds. The clock was purchased for \$5,000. The Clock Tower Building was the only building erected from the original arsenal plans.

On 19 April 1864, Congress passed into law an act that authorized the army to reclaim the entire island and to settle all legal land claims held by others. This act provided Major Kingsbury with the capability to build an arsenal equal to the Harper's Ferry Armory and capable of manufacturing ordnance stores. The armory would now become an arsenal. In August 1865, General Rodman would take over this mission from Major Kingsbury, as the second Rock Island Arsenal commander.

