



# THE ASC HISTORY NEWSLETTER

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## OUR 402D ARMY FIELD SUPPORT BRIGADE

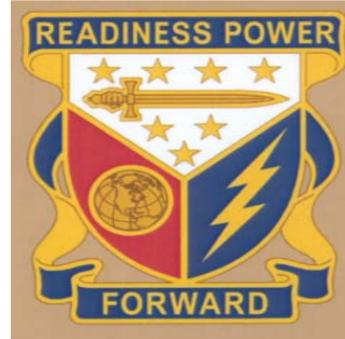
The 402d Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) was officially activated as a MTOE unit on 16 Oct 2006 at Balad Air Base, Iraq. While the official lineage of the 402d AFSB started on 16 October 2006, for many the date was just another small change in the evolution of an ever changing command. The Army may only trace the 402d lineage back four years, but there was a significant period of mission support prior to that. In October 2006 the structure and standing in the Army changed, but not the missions on the ground in Iraq.

In late May 2003 nine Logistics Support Elements (LSE) provided operational logistics support to their customers in Iraq. All 9 LSEs were under the command and control of the LSE-SWA. However, LSE-SWA was also responsible for all other AMC operations in SWA and the mission had already out-paced effective span of control. LSE-Iraq was established in late May 2003 to provide C2 for all LSEs in Iraq. The unit was established in Logistics Support Area-Anaconda, now known as Balad Air Base, in order to be centrally lo-

cated as well as co-located with the Corps Support Command headquarters. LSE-Iraq took an administrative burden off LSE-SWA allowing LSE-SWA to focus on Kuwait, Qatar, and Afghanistan.

As the theater matured the missions of LSE-Iraq expanded. By Sept 2003 CECOM and TACOM had forward repair activities in Iraq, with the largest concentration in Balad. These forward units remained under the C2 of LSE-SWA. In late 2004 Logistics Support Activity-Iraq was established to provide C2 on Balad for these units. At the same time AMC was increasing support to the Army in Iraq with the establishment of up-arming programs and retrofit. At times these activities competed with the LSEs in Iraq for space. Diverging chains of command further confused the situation on the ground.

In January 2005 LSE-Iraq was transformed and renamed the AFSB-Iraq. In addition to the name change, AFSB-Iraq also



assumed C2 of all AMC operations in SWA, once again establishing a single point of entry for all AMC operations in Iraq. In 2005 AFSB-Iraq's mission set continued to grow with the addition of Retrograde Property Accounting Team, Theater Property Book, Route Clearance support, and increasing number fielding missions.

In October 2006 the 402d AFSB was activated in Balad assuming all of the mission sets of the AFSB-Iraq. The 402d continued to execute all AMC missions in Iraq, including transitioning to retrograde operations in 2009 as the Army began to withdraw from Iraq and shift focus to Afghanistan. In 2010 the 402d AFSB assumed responsibility for AFSBns Kuwait and Qatar giving it control over the entire retrograde process and freeing up the 401st AFSB to concentrate on the Afghanistan surge.

The 402d AFSB also assumed direct responsibility for LOGCAP operations in Iraq and Kuwait.

Today the 402d continues to focus on retrograde and drawdown while providing continuing support to forces remaining in Iraq. The unit will shift headquarters to Kuwait in 2011 as force structure in Iraq further draws down. 402d AFSB continues to provide "Readiness Power Forward."

### *This MONTH in military history...*

- **1775:** Birth of the U.S. Marine Corps
- **1783:** Last British soldiers leave New York
- **1811:** Battle of Tippecanoe; U.S. defeats Tecumseh
- **1863:** Lincoln's famous Gettysburg's Address at the dedication of the military cemetery
- **1864:** Battle of Johnsonville, TN
- **1918:** World War I officially ends
- **1941:** Top Secret Order No. 1, to bomb Pearl Harbor in 34 days, is given to the Japanese Fleet
- **1944:** U.S. B-29s raid Tokyo
- **1961:** Kennedy orders increased military aid to South Vietnam
- **1965:** The 1st African American since the Spanish-American War, Lawrence Joel, earns the Medal of Honor
- **1971:** U.S. 23rd Division begins withdrawal from South Vietnam



Former Commander Colonel Stanhope E. Blunt was first introduced to the game of golf in 1897 by a man named Lieutenant Pierce. Within the year, Colonel Blunt, Lieutenant Pierce, and Captain Horney officially established the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club on 24 July 1897.

After an opening reception, the three men walked across

## ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL GOLF CLUB

the street to the course and began the first official game of golf on the island. The original course consisted of nine holes covering a distance of 1,945 yards.

Colonel Blunt hosted the 1st tournament on 9 Sept 1897, and the Club gained admittance to the U.S. Golf Association in early 1898.

By the spring of 1902, Colonel Blunt and the Golf Club had the course expanded to eighteen holes. After a fire in 1905, the course was given a license to build a new clubhouse and change the status of community players to private members. The Grand Ballroom was

added onto the clubhouse in 1920 to maintain its status as a premier golf club.

The year 1997 was cause for celebrating the Golf Club's 100th anniversary, making it one of the oldest golf clubs in the United States.

Recently, there have been multiple changes to the Club. In 2006, a private company contracted to operate and maintain the Club's 190 acres on the island that included Quarters One. This year, however, the lease for the course was terminated, and RIA Morale Welfare and Recreation assumed management of the Club.

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