

U.S. ARMY

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

- 1775: Continental Congress approves construction of first naval force.
- 1777: Washington attacks British at Germantown. Both sides suffer heavy losses.
- 1812: William H. Harrison defeats British & Indians at Battle of Thames, Ontario.
- 1918: Alvin York leads group of 7 men in killing over 20 Germans and capturing another 132 during the Meuse-Argonne offensive.
- 1921: The Unknown Soldier is selected to be entombed at Arlington National Cemetery.
- 1942: U.S. defeats Japanese in Battle of Cape Esperance.
- 1944: Aircraft from USS Ranger sink/damage 8 German ships at base in Norway.
- 1944: Japanese begin *kamikaze* attacks during the Battle for Leyte Gulf; decisive Allied victory in Leyte Gulf in same month.
- 1962: Cuban Missile Crisis.
- 1965: 1st major operation in Vietnam begins when 1st Cavalry Division joins with South Vietnamese Marines.

# The ASC History Newsletter



The 401st Army Field Support Brigade formally traces its lineage to 16 Oct 2006 when it was activated as the first MTOE AFSB. While the 401st has official lineage from 2006, the unit has a longer TDA history in SWA. The 401st traces its history back to the 1997 activation of the Combat Equipment Group-Southwest Asia. The command was formed as a result of the Chief of Staff of the Army's decision to

expand AMC's responsibility for War Reserve stocks to include the Persian Gulf region.

While the unit created APS sets in Qatar and Kuwait, it underwent a series of name and organizational changes. CEG-SWA was renamed the AMC Forward-SWA on 1 Oct 2000 when the unit assumed responsibility for the Logistics Assistance Program and LOGCAP in SWA. AMC Forward-SWA was re-designated the Army Field Support Brigade-SWA on 1 Oct 2004. At the time the AFSB-SWA consisted of the Brigade HQ in Qatar; AFSBn-Qatar; AFSBn-

Kuwait; AFSBn-Afghanistan; Pre-positioned Watercraft at Kuwait Naval Base; and the Logistics Support Element at Arifjan, Kuwait. AMC Forward began war support operations in SWA in Oct 2001 when it began to support U.S. Forces in Afghanistan. The HQ moved from Qatar to Kuwait in the fall of 2002 as part of the ramp up to OIF. It was re-designated AFSB-SWA in 2005.

The AFSB-SWA was deactivated on 16 Oct 2006 when the 401st AFSB was activated. In 2008 the Brigade HQ forward deployed to Bagram Airbase, Afghanistan. In 2010 the battalions in Kuwait and Qatar transferred to the 402d AFSB in order to allow the 401st to focus on the surge in Afghanistan. The 401st now has the AFSBn-Afghanistan and the AFSBn-Kandahar under its control, as well as other AMC assets in Afghanistan.

## Our 401st Army Field Support Brigade

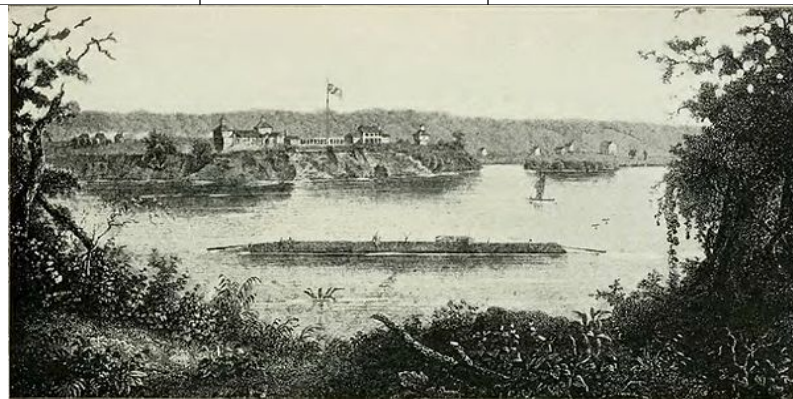
### Bagram Airfield

Bagram, Afghanistan has been home to HQ 401st AFSB for the last three years.

Bagram Air Base was established by the Soviet Armed Forces during their war in Afghanistan. Soviet occupation lasted from 1979 until 1989. After Soviet Armed Forces left, opposing forces in the Afghani civil war contested for control of the base until 2001.

During the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan, the British secured occupation of the base, and by mid-December 2001 the United States had a military presence of 300 soldiers. By mid-2002, over 7000 personnel were stationed at Bagram.

Due to heightened presence, Bagram Air Base is currently undergoing \$200 million worth of expansion projects.



### Fort Armstrong, Rock Island, IL

The United States Government first established an official presence in Rock Island with the construction of Fort Armstrong in 1816.

The military presence at Fort Armstrong served as protection for settlers and pioneers during Indian uprisings.

The Government was concerned with trading issues and desired the construction of the military post as a means to control trade in the area. Due to the location of the island along the river and the increased amount of settlers in the area, trading activities became abundant. The fort

was also used to deter the success of British and Indian traders in the region.

The position of the Fort along the Mississippi allowed the military to communicate up river with other military posts, like Fort Crawford in Prairie du Chien.

The Fort was named after John Armstrong, army officer and later Secretary of War under President Madison. After the Black Hawk War the Fort was rendered unnecessary and abandoned until the later establishment of the Arsenal.

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