



The 405<sup>th</sup> Army Field Support Brigade was activated on

16 October 2008 in Seckenheim, Germany. In FY09 the unit headquarters moved to Kaiserslautern. The 405<sup>th</sup> AFSB provides theater sustainment, synchronized acquisition, logistics and technology, and leverages the Army Materiel Command (AMC) Materiel Enterprise to support Joint Forces in the European theater. The 405<sup>th</sup> is also responsible for AMC emerging missions in AFRI-COM.

The 405<sup>th</sup> 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). In 1982 DARCOM had 39 activities in Europe, to include fielding teams, forward depots, R&D, science and technology teams, and the Logistics Assistance Program (LAP). The role of DARCOM-Europe, called AMC-

## The 405th AFSB

Europe.

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 405<sup>th</sup>.

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 independence. In 1993, after Desert Storm, the War Reserve in Europe was transferred from USAREUR to AMC's DESCOM and later to Industrial Operations Command, later the Operations Support Command (OSC). In 2000 the OSC assumed control of AMC-Europe. OSC was charged with creating an "AMC Single Face to the Field" in a global re-creation of the original role of AMC-Europe. As part of the effort, in 2004 war reserve in Europe were merged into AMC-

In 2004 AMC-Europe was redesignated as the Army Field Support Brigade-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 commanders in Europe. In October 2007 the unit was provisionally renamed the 405<sup>th</sup> AFSB-Europe as a TDA unit and then activated as the MTOE 405<sup>th</sup> AFSB a year later.

Today the 405<sup>th</sup> AFSB acts as the AMC Single Point of Entry for all units in Europe and manages ASC and AMC missions in Europe and Africa. The 405<sup>th</sup> has assumed responsibility for all LRCs in Europe. Now in command of two battalions, AFSBn-Germany and AFSBn-Italy, the 405<sup>th</sup> in the past year has established the European Activity Set (EAS) in Graf to support rotational forces and has largely converted facilities in Italy to MRAP repair and storage. As a coordinator of AMC missions and executor of ASC missions in Europe and Africa, the 405<sup>th</sup> continues to Support the Soldier -

**Fulcio Bellatoris!**

### This Month in Military History:

- **1783:** Spain recognizes the United States' independence
- **1787:** Last of the John Shay rebels surrender to Massachusetts authorities
- **1863:** Confederate raider 'Alabama' burns US schooner 'Palmetto' off Brazil

## Antoine LeClaire— Founder of Davenport

- **1864:** Union troops occupy Jackson, Mississippi
- **1942:** US ceases production of private cars to convert to war production
- **1944:** US ships shell Japanese island Paramushiro in the Kuriles
- **1973:** Funeral held for the last US soldier killed in Vietnam, LT COL William Nolde

Many cities in this area are named for men who had a great impact on the land to either found or improve the community— Davenport, LeClaire, Keokuk, and Colona are but a few. LeClaire was named for Antoine LeClaire who came to the area from Wisconsin. Born in late 1797 to a French-Canadian father and a Spanish mother, LeClaire spoke over a dozen Native American dialects as well as French and Spanish. In fact, the only language he was not readily able to speak by age twelve was English. These linguistic skills made him an incredible asset, which got him noticed by General William Clark. LeClaire's father fought during the War of 1812 on the side of the Americans, but was captured and sent to a camp in Illinois. At that camp LeClaire came to the attention of Clark who had LeClaire sent to school to learn proper English, and then recruited as interpreter for the Government. It was in this position he was sent to Fort Armstrong, present day Arsenal Island, in 1818 where he met

his lifelong friend George Davenport.

One of LeClaire's influences to the community was his presence during the Blackhawk Treaty of 1832. During the proceedings, Keokuk, the Sac chief, donated a reserve of land to LeClaire's wife, with the condition that they build their home on the exact spot where General Scott signed the treaty. The Sac and Fox then gave Antoine the land where the town of LeClaire now stands, and the Pottawatomie gave him land on the Illinois side, where the city of Moline stands today. In the spring of 1833, after Congress ratified the Black Hawk Treaty, LeClaire began building a small log house on the site of the treaty. This was replaced later by a small white house called "The Treaty House." LeClaire later sold some of that land for the original town of Davenport, named after his friend. LeClaire laid out the town and also donated land for churches. He became the postmaster and

justice off the peace. He established a ferry, foundry, mill, and quarry— the

source of the limestone for the Clock Tower Building. LeClaire and Davenport jointly founded the first public house in the area. He also translated Black Hawks memoirs for publication. Finally, LeClaire was instrumental in bringing the railroad to town in the 1850's.

About the same time Davenport planned to build a town above the Rock Rapids, and paid LeClaire \$1,750 for the land, a fair price. On that site Davenport founded the town of LeClaire, named for his friend. The land sale provided LeClaire and his wife the money to move from the Treaty House to a mansion at present day 630 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Davenport. From this spot, LeClaire could see onto Arsenal Island, and his friend Davenport's home. It is said these two would come to their porches and wave to each other every morning. While LeClaire's long term relationship with George Davenport is heartwarming, more important is LeClaire's role in the physical and cultural development of the Davenport/Rock Island area.



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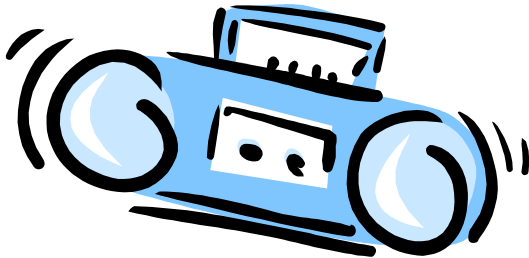


  
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