## ASC HISTORY NEWSLETTER

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## THIS MONTH IN MILITARY HISTORY

- ∂ 1861: Winfield Scott proposes the Anaconda Plan
- **1861:** Kentucky declares neutrality in Civil Way
- ∂ 1886: Haymarket Riot, Chicago bomb kills seven policemen— still an unsolved crime
- ∂ **1912:** Flying a S38 'amphibian' Lt. Charles Samson, RN, becomes first man to take off from a moving ship, battleship HMS Hibernia
- ∂ **1919:** US Anti-Radical "MayDay Raids"
- *∂* **1942:** Women's Army Auxiliary Corps founded
- **1946:** US Marines recapture Alcatraz from rioting prisoners
- ∂ **1970:** Ohio National Guard shoots four students at Kent State University during anti-war protest

## **Distribution Management Center-DMC**

The Distribution Management Center (DMC) is responsible for providing materiel readiness management support of the Army globally, materiel management of the ARFORGEN and RESET processes, and has assumed Army Sustainment Command's (ASC) role as executing agent for the Lead Materiel Integrator (LMI) mission.

The DMC was created in mid-2006 as a reaction to the transformation of the Army to brigade-based modular deployable units. One of the changes in transformation was the shift of focus from division down to the brigade level. As part of that shift, the Materiel Management Centers (MMC) at division and higher stood down and the MMC capability was assumed by the DMC. Initially the DMC was staffed with a handful of DA Civilians, but by the end of 2006 more than 30 Soldiers had been assigned to the DMC.

By the end of 2007 the DMC had nearly reached full operating capability. In addition to typical MMC missions of redirecting excess, maintenance management, reset management, and customer assistance for SARSS-2, the DMC also managed the left behind equipment (LBE) program and Pre-Deployment Training Equipment (PDTE) program. In the following

years, the DMC continued to improve MMC processes through maturation of the staff and collaboration with the Logistics Support Activity (LOGSA), the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC), and other materiel managers in the Army.

In late 2010 ASC prepared to become Army Materiel Command's (AMC) executing agent for the Lead Materiel Integrator (LMI). DMC executes the mission for the Army. In March 2011, the Secretary of the Army published a memo assigning AMC as the LMI for the Army. This function placed the DMC as the management center responsible for ensuring that the Army, both CONUS and OCONUS, has the right equipment, at the right place, in the right readiness condition to support training, deployment, recovery and reset missions.

The DMC spent the rest of 2011 preparing for the transition of authority from HODA G-8 which took place in February 2012. The transition of authority allowed several key materiel management operations to transfer to Rock Island Arsenal.

During FY2013 the **DMC** executed groundbreaking sustainment support



including the modernization and optimization of the Korean peninsula, the dissolution of Left Behind Equipment (LBE) sets maintained at deployed unit home station locations across CONUS, the LIN management transition to the DMC from DA G8, accelerated Afghanistan equipment retrograde, and the initiation of the Army-wide transition from Standard Army Retail Support System (SARSS) to Global Combat Support System - Army (GCSS-Army).

DMC has become the Army's Materiel Management Center, and its mission is critical to the materiel readiness of the Army at home station and during deployments, bringing material management back to the Army.

## **Unique Water On Arsenal Island**

The definition of an island is being surrounded by water on all sides. Finding large amounts of water in an island usually means that the island is sinking, or water levels around the island are rising. Over the years Rock Island Arsenal built some water structures on the island. Arsenal Island also came with others, these with a more mysterious origin.

The first planned structure was a reservoir, constructed in 1868. When it was completed, the reservoir was circular with an interior diameter of 80 feet with a wall height of 32 feet 8 inches from the floor of reservoir. The thickness of wall at floor line was 8 feet and at the top, 2 feet ten inches. It was covered with a coping 10 inches thick that projected 5 inches. In total, it was designed to hold 1,200,000 gallons of water. When RIA first attempted to fill the reservoir, excessive leakage was found. This required the erection of double brick walls on the inside that were

reinforced and sealed with concrete. This task cut down the total capacity of the reservoir to only 800,000 gallons. The reservoir was torn down a few years ago.

The next water attraction was Crystal Lake, which used to be located on the north part of the current golf course. Initially a seasonal lake, the Army dammed one end by 1870 and then built a rustic bridge that allowed people to transverse the water. (Photos of much smaller now than in the this bridge and lake can be found in the Arsenal Museum) The bridge was constructed in 1881. Many blue prints and maps of the island identify the location of the

lake. If you use the golf course today, one will undoubtedly notice the lack of a lake. There are many conflicting and confusing stories as to how and when the lake was drained. The truth of the matter is the lake existed until 1890. It is likely the

draining occurred due to mosquitoes and general stagnation.

The last water spot is a small pond referred to as the Punch Bowl. There is far more information not known about this pond than is known. Map evidence suggests is was built as a water trap for the 10th hole of the golf course, although it may have been a natural attraction. Other photos from suggest it is 1950s.

These water elements and their demise adds intrigue to our fair island on the Mississippi.



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