



## THIS MONTH in MILITARY HISTORY

- 1812 The United States declares war against Great Britain.
- 1919 American forces operating in Arkhangelsk, Russia withdraw.
- 1948 The Berlin Airlift begins after the Soviet Union established a land blockade.
- 1967 The *U.S.S. Liberty* is attacked by the Israel Defense Forces, killing 34.
- 1970 The Cambodian Campaign concludes.
- 1984 Saudi Arabian jet fighters shoot down two Iranian fighters over the Persian Gulf.
- 1989 Chinese Military Forces open fire on civilians at Tiananmen Square.
- 1996 Operation *Quick Response* concludes with Marines departing Bangui.
- 1999 Operation *Allied Force*, the bombing campaign of Serbia and portions of Kosovo, ends.
- 2003 Marines are sent to Liberia to secure U.S. assets amid the Second Liberian Civil War.

## TRIVIA

- Which deployed combat brigade has the distinction of being “the Army’s first Stryker-equipped force?”
- What was Rock Island Arsenal’s most publicized contribution to the Korean War?
- Which predecessor command of ASC adopted the mission of being the “single point of entry” for Army Materiel Command?

### ANSWERS FOR MAY 2020 QUESTIONS

- Where was the first fielded use of the new M777 155 mm howitzer by American forces?  
➤ Iraq in 2008
- What artillery piece has the distinction of firing a shell for the longest range?  
➤ The Paris Gun, ~75 miles
- What was the designation for the Anti-Ballistic Missile Defense system that utilized a laser system aboard a Boeing 747?  
➤ YAL-1, Airborne Laser Testbed



Black Hawk (Ma-ka-tai-me-she-kia-kiak) was the Sauk War Chief that attacked the American’s at Campbell’s Island. He was also the leader of a band of individuals who attempted to reoccupy the village of Saukenuk. This action resulted in the later Black Hawk War of 1832.



For answers to trivia, information on this month’s artifact spotlight, digital copies of old newsletters and more, visit the ASC History Office website at:

<https://aschq.army.mil/About-Us/History>



## THE ASC HISTORY NEWSLETTER

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Presented to you by your friendly ASC History Office. Feel free to call or stop by our office for any of your history needs.

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## The 405th Army Field Support Brigade

The 405th Army Field Support Brigade was activated on 16 October 2008 in Seckenheim, GE. In 2009 the headquarters moved to Kaiserslautern. The 405th Army Field Support Brigade provides theater sustainment; synchronizes acquisition, logistics and technology; and leverages the AMC Materiel Enterprise to support Joint Forces in the European theater of operations. In addition, the 405th is responsible for AMC emerging missions in U.S. Africa Command.

The 405th AFSB unofficial history stretches long before October 2008. In July 1982 DARCOM-Europe was established as a one star command. 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. The role of DARCOM-Europe, called AMC-Europe after 1984, was to provide command and control of all AMC assets in Europe, manage LAP, interface with US Army Europe headquarter and senior logistics elements in Europe, manage equipment fielding, and better utilize AMC contractor facilities. These missions are much the same as current missions.

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. After Desert Storm the War Reserve in Europe was transferred from USAREUR to AMC’s Industrial Operations Command (IOC). In 2000

the IOC became the Operations Support Command (OSC). As part of that change, OSC assumed control of AMC-Europe. OSC was charged with creating an “AMC Single Face to the Field” in a recreation of the original role of AMC-Europe. In 2004 war reserve in Europe were merged into AMC-Europe.

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 senior commanders in Europe. In October 2007 the unit was provisionally renamed the 405th AFSB-Europe as a TDA unit and then activated as the MTOE 405th AFSB a year later.

Today the 405th AFSB acts as the AMC Single point of entry for all units in Europe and manages AMC and ASC missions in Europe and Africa. The brigade is in command of four battalions, AFSBn-Africa, AFSBn-Benelux, AFSBn-Germany and AFSBn-Mannheim (provisional); Army Prepositioned Stocks; Logistics Support Teams (LST) providing direct support to Brigade Combat Teams (BCT), Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) and to U.S. Army Africa; LSTs East and West, providing direct support on an area basis to Army separate reportable units in Europe; and all Logistics Readiness Centers (LRCs) in Europe. As a coordinator of AMC missions and executor of ASC missions the 405th continues to Support the Soldier - Fulcio Bellatoris!

## Battle of Campbell’s Island

The Battle of Campbell’s Island was one of the westernmost battles fought in the War of 1812. The Sac and Fox tribes in the Rock Island region allied with the British in an attempt to protect their land from the Americans. MAJ John Campbell left St. Louis on 2 July 1814 with LT’s Jonathan Riggs and Stephen Rector, 3 keel boats, reinforcements, sutlers, and supplies for Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. His part of 133 included 42 men of the 1st U.S. Infantry, territorial rangers, civilians, women, and children.

Campbell’s group camped at the foot of Rock Island on 20 June and gained the attention of local Indians. Local Sac and Fox ate and drank with the American party that night. Unknown to Campbell, during the night the Indians received a request from the British to attack any Americans coming upriver and a promise to pay in gunpowder and supplies.

On 21 July, as he was headed upstream, Campbell’s boat was driven ashore in the Rock Island Rapids. The Sac and Fox, under the leadership of Blackhawk, had been trailing the party and attacked. The Indians eventually shot fire arrows and set the boat aflame.

Riggs and Campbell entered the fray, took survivors onto another boat and then escaped.

U.S. losses were 16 killed, including a woman and a child, and 21 wounded. Indian losses are unknown. The battle was considered by the British to be the “most brilliant victory of the war won by Indians, unassisted by any whites.” This and other battles during the War of 1812, including the Battle of Credit Island in September 1814, set both sides on a collision course ending in the Black Hawk War, a disaster for the Sac and Fox tribes.



A keelboat, typical of river forces, ca 19C.