U.S. Army Materiel Command

Eye On AMC

AMC 60th Birthday Edition

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

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U.S.ARMY

What's in a name?

The first names the Army considered in 1962 were the U.S. Army Systems and Materiel Command and the U.S. Army Materiel Development and Logistics Command. "AMC" was created by Lt. Gen. Frank S. Besson Jr., the first commander, in May 1962. In January 1976, AMC commander Gen. John R. Deane Jr. redesignated AMC as the Development and Readiness Command, or DARCOM. In August 1984, GEN Richard H. Thompson changed it back to AMC.



Going permanent

In AMC's 60-year history, the headquarters building for this command has been located in four different locations: Building T-7, located at what is now Reagan National Airport, from 1962 to 1973 (the "T" stood for "Temporary"); Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia, from 1973 to 2003 (a leased office building); a temporary structure on Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, from 2003 to 2011; and our first permanent and current headquarters on Redstone Arsenal.



First major contingency

October 2022 marks the 60th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis, AMC's first major contingency since its establishment in August 1962. AMC assets at Redstone Arsenal were used to identify Soviet missiles in Cuba. Installation leaders prepared the workforce for a nuclear conflict that could have affected Redstone Arsenal. When the crisis ended, AMC was responsible for installing the first "hotline" between the White House and the Kremlin.



The Big Five

From the late 1970s to the mid-1980s, DARCOM focused a lot on what is now called "Big Five" – the Apache, Black Hawk, Abrams tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle and Patriot missile system. Other notable items introduced into the Army inventory during this time were the High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicles, the Kevlar helmet and body armor, the Battle Dress Uniform, the MK19-3 40 mm Grenade Machine Gun and the Multiple Launch Rocket System.



'We are going electronic'

In April 1998, the last hard-copy AMC newspaper was published. "The Command Post" was the last in a series of different newspapers (and names) used by the AMC Public Affairs Office to distribute information across the entire command. The announcement in the April 1998 issue of the command post stated "we are going electronic." The relatively new world wide web would be the new home for command information and news. And here we are!



Post-9/11

Supporting two wars, contingency operations and relocating nearly 11,000 employees was the 'norm' for AMC in the 2000s. For Soldiers deployed, AMC provided everything from clothing, food, bullets, HUMVEEs and helmets. For all the equipment in Iraq and later Afghanistan, a plan was created to remove it all – the Responsible Reset Task Force – led by AMC.

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2022 History in the Making

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AMC briefs Pacific leader on efforts to set the theater

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – The U.S. Army Pacific Command Commanding General, Gen. Charles Flynn, met with Army Materiel Command leaders during a visit July 22 to Redstone Arsenal to learn about AMC's support to operations in the pacific. Gen. Ed Daly, commanding general of AMC and major subordinate command leaders provided Flynn with an overview of AMC's support to Foreign Military Sales, surface distribution and installation readiness in the Asia-Pacific region.



Army to switch all active duty Soldiers to semimonthly pay

INDIANAPOLIS – In an effort to prepare Soldiers to move to its new Integrated Pay and Personnel System – Army, the Army is mandating all Soldiers on long-term active duty orders be paid on a semimonthly schedule, starting Oct 1. The vast majority of the Army's Soldiers on active duty orders of more than 30 days, either in the active or reserve components, get paid semimonthly on the first and fifteenth of each month. About 11,000 Soldiers who previously opted to be paid only once per month will now be paid semimonthly to standardize the Army.



Prep underway for turn-in of APS-2 issued for Ukraine invasion

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany – For the first time in history, a U.S.-based armored brigade deployed to Europe and fell in on an entire ABCT's worth of APS-2 armored vehicles and equipment, plus all the basic issue items, repair parts and tools needed to sustain them– all thanks to the 405th Army Field Support Brigade. The 3rd Infantry Division's 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team is now wrapping up its mission after about six months in Europe and it's time to start the process of returning all the APS-2 equipment.



Lawrence assumes command of SDDC

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. – Brig. Gen. Gavin A. Lawrence took command of the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command during a change of command ceremony July 20, in Hangar 1. Air Force Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost, commander of U.S. Transportation Command, officiated the ceremony. Lawrence replaced Maj. Gen. Heidi J. Hoyle, who had commanded SDDC since June 2020. Lawrence comes to SDDC from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, at U.S. Army Forces Command.



Leadership of 13th ESC changes hands at Fort Hood ceremony

FORT HOOD, Texas – The 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command hosted a change of command ceremony on Sadowski Field July 15 to bid farewell to Brig. Gen. Ronald R. Ragin and welcome Brig. Gen. Sean P. Davis as the new commanding general. Over the past 24 months, Ragin has led the 13th ESC through a variety of support operations, including supporting the Department of Defense's response to COVID-19, Hurricane Ida, and the NATO response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

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Custom munitions printing tech increases modernization

CRANE, Ind. – Crane Army Ammunition Activity – in a joint effort with the Air Force – is integrating a customized printing system into its countermeasures decoy flare program. The new technology allows printing to be done on live energetics which is increasing safety while ensuring that CAAA remains a key supplier for the military in its efforts to support the warfighter.

Sill breaks ground on new training complex

FORT SILL, Okla. – The Fort Sill landscape is changing to meet the needs of Army with a new Advanced Individual Training Complex. Leaders broke ground July 12 as Phase II of construction gets underway. The first phase consisted of constructing two barracks, a battalion headquarters, and a running track for 1st Battalion, 78th Field Artillery. The second phase will consist of two additional barracks and one dining facility.

Joint meeting aims to boost ammunition readiness

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. – The Joint Munitions Command, Munitions Logistics Transportation Division, hosted a joint meeting at Rock Island Arsenal to discuss several topics, receive feedback and evaluate processes at JMC depots to increase efficiency, readiness and modernization. The event fostered better partnerships between headquarters, installations and other entities of the Defense Transportation System enterprise.

Security assistance enterprise benefits from mentorship

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – The Security Assistance Command has honored its graduates of the annual command mentor program. There were 10 mentees from across the command in this year's class, located at several sites within the organization and included new and seasoned employees. The USASAC mentor program began in 2017 at New Cumberland, Pennsylvania and has seen an average of 13 mentor/mentee pairs in the program each year.

Fort Campbell's barracks renovations to be complete in 2023

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. – Large-scale renovation efforts for 17 of the oldest barracks buildings in Bastogne's footprint are moving ahead, and the Directorate of Public Works aims to have the first two completed by early next year. Work on the project began in summer 2021 to improve housing conditions for Soldiers. The renovations will raise ceilings, improve lighting and convert existing two-bedroom areas into larger one-bedroom suites.

Tobyhanna, L3Harris Technologies to maintain AF equipment

TOBYHANNA, Pa. – Depot personnel and partner L3Harris Technologies marked the arrival of the MQ-9 Reaper workload with a ribbon-cutting ceremony late last month. The Reaper, part of a remotely piloted aircraft system, performs strike, coordination, and reconnaissance missions. The asset is designed for long-endurance and high-altitude surveillance and can carry 15 times more ordnance payload than its predecessor.



Former police officer sees parallels to his Army career

RIA Choose to Lose challenge wraps up, winners announced

Depot recognizes Veteran workforce

APS-2 mechanic also 20-year Royal Netherlands AF vet



West Point provides indepth bio threat analysis for Army

Army medics focus on long-term care

Fort Hunter Liggett First in Army to Receive Prehospital Whole Blood Transfusion Capability

Big Deuce — The donkey with a beef

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