

History of the 34th Combat Aviation Brigade

1. Organized and Federally recognized 30JAN1919 in the Minnesota National Guard as Company D, 6th Infantry at St. Paul, MN
2. Redesignated 1DEC1923 as Company D, 206th Infantry, 34th Division
3. Reorganized and redesignated 1JUL1940 as Battery D, 216 Coast Artillery (Antiaircraft)
4. Reorganized and redesignated 10SEP1943 as Battery D, 774th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion
5. Inactivated 8JUN1944 at Camp Howze, Texas
6. Disbanded 26JUN1944
7. Reconstituted 25AUG1945 in the Minnesota National Guard
8. Reorganized and redesignated as Battery D, 256th Antiaircraft Artillery, 47th Infantry Division at St. Paul
9. Ordered to active duty on 16JAN1951 at St. Paul, MN
10. Battery D, 256th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion (NGUS) federally recognized 16JAN1953 at St. Paul, MN
11. Battery D, 256th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion released from active duty 2DEC1954
12. Converted and reorganized and redesignated 22FEB1959 as 47th Aviation Company, an element of the 47th Infantry Division
13. Expanded, reorganized and redesignated 1APR1963 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 47th Aviation Battalion
14. 47th Aviation Battalion reorganized 30SEP1978 to include units in Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa.
15. Aviation Battalion reorganized and redesignated the Aviation Brigade, 47th Infantry Division October 1986 with the following units:
 - HHC Aviation Brigade, 216th Aviation Company (Air Assault), and Company E in St. Paul
 - 1st Squadron 194th Cavalry with Headquarters in Brainerd Minn and units in Minnesota and Iowa
 - 47th Air Traffic control platoon, located at Camp Ripley, Minnesota
 - 813 Medical Detachment (later redesignated 1187th) located at Camp Ripley
 - 1-147th Attack Battalion located in Madison, Wisconsin
16. The Aviation Brigade 47th Division was reorganized September 1990 with the formation of the 2d Battalion 147th Aviation (Air Assault) with units in Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois. F Company (formerly 1247th Maintenance Company) in St. Paul and the 458th and 460th Aviation Detachments
17. The 47th Infantry Division was redesignated the 34th Infantry Division February 1991
18. September of 1995 the Aviation Brigade reorganized with the addition of the 3d Battalion of the 147th (Attack) and the deactivation of the 459th, 460th and the 1187th Medical Detachment
19. The 34th Combat Aviation Brigade mobilized in May 2008 for a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 34th CAB was the command element of Task Force 34, a Multi-National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I) Corps Aviation Brigade which conducted full spectrum aviation operations throughout Iraq. Task Force 34 provided a stable and secure environment allowing the Iraqi National Government the ability to assume more for the security and governmental function of Iraq. The Soldiers of Task Force 34 provided aerial support to all areas of responsibility, including tactical missions, VIP escorts, area reconnaissance, medical evacuations and other operations. Task Force 34 transported more than 130,000 passengers and 11,670,000

pounds of cargo. Units comprising Task Force 34 included: The 834th Aviation Support Battalion of the MNARNG, 3rd Battalion, 142nd Assault Helicopter Battalion of the HYARNG, 3rd Battalion, 159th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, a U.S. Army unit stationed in Germany, 1st Battalion, 244th Assault Helicopter Battalion of the LAARNG, 2nd Battalion, 149th General Support Aviation Battalion of the TXARNG and C Co. 1-126th Medical Company of the MEARNG.

20. In 2011, the St. Cloud based B Co., 2-211th General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB) returned from a combat tour in Iraq, providing CH-47 "Chinook" helicopter heavy lift capability during the drawdown of U.S. military forces. The St. Cloud-based C Co. 1-171 GSAB deployed to Afghanistan to support UH-60 "Blackhawk" medical evacuation. The St. Paul-based A Col., 2-147th Aviation Regiment deployed to Kuwait to enhance the aviation capability of U.S. Central Command. The 34th CAB also executed Emergency Management Assistance Compacts with both ND and SD by providing lift and hoist capability during Missouri River Valley flooding. In Minnesota, 34th CAB helicopters dropped more than a half million gallons of water during two wildland fire suppression efforts.

34 CAB Commanders

COL Shawn Manke, 2015-2018

COL Thingvold, 2013-2015 OIR/KU May 2014- May 2015

COL Michael Huddleston, 2009-2012

COL R. Clay Brock Jr. 2008-2009 OIF08-10 Task Force 34

COL Ronald Neumeister 2006-2008

COL Mark Dugger, 2002

COL Dan Morgan, 1999

COL Matthew Brockway

COL Stephen DeMars

COL Rick Erlandson

COL Jerome Litschke

COL Ronald Sprengler