

834th ASB UNIT HISTORY

The 834th Aviation Support Battalion (ASB) was organized on 1 September 2000 from new and existing units within the National Guard. The 834th ASB is headquartered in Arden Hills, MN to provide logistics, transportation, medical, maintenance, and communications support for the 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade. The Soldiers of the 834th ASB support the systems that enable rotary wing aircraft to perform their daily missions. There are four companies in the 834th ASB: Headquarters and Supply Company (HSC); A Company; B Company located in Tulsa, Oklahoma with detachments in Arden Hills and Tupelo, MS, and C Company.

The Battalion performed extensive MN state active duty operations during the 2001 Red River Flood. It also provided the logistics support for the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team of the 34th ID's Mobilization Readiness Exercise at Fort Polk, Louisiana in 2005.

On 3 June 2008, the 834th ASB was federalized for service as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and was sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for training and mobilization. For the deployment, the Mississippi Detachment of B Company, 834th ASB was not activated. The battalion was also augmented with personnel from B Company, 248th ASB of the Iowa National Guard. The 834th ASB was part of Task Force 34th which was commanded by the Combat Aviation Brigade, 34th Infantry Division (Expeditionary). By August 2008, the battalion arrived at Camp Buehring, Kuwait to train and manage the port operations for the rest of the Task Force.

After moving north into Iraq, the 834th ASB replaced the 412th ASB on 7 September 2008 in Balad, Iraq (LSA Anaconda/Joint Base Balad). Task Force 34th was the Corps Combat Aviation Brigade as part of Multi-National Corps - Iraq (MNC-I). The 834th ASB provided support not only to TF 34th, but also became the supporting ASB for TF 49 (later replaced by TF 449) that was the Combat Aviation Brigade for Multi-National Division Center (MND-C). This arrangement required the battalion to have a support element based at the Baghdad International Airport (BIAP). Later, with mission restructuring in the southern part of Iraq, the battalion sent additional assets, including C Company, 834th ASB to Tallil, Iraq (FOB Adder) to develop an aviation support infrastructure there. Eventually, the BIAP-based elements moved south to Tallil to support Multi-National Division-South. The 834th ASB completed its combat tour in Iraq in May 2009 and was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation on 8 May 2009.

Forty Soldiers from B and C Company, 834th ASB deployed in June 2015 for a seven-month mobilization in support of Operation Spartan Shield. These Soldiers were headquartered at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, and conducted aviation maintenance and communication support operations to augment the 185th Theatre Aviation Brigade, with the Mississippi Army National Guard.

Today the Soldiers of the 834th ASB stand ready to provide support operations to the 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, 34th Infantry Division, the State of Minnesota and the Nation.