Unit Information:
The 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team of the 34th Infantry Division (1/34th ABCT) is an Army National Guard brigade headquartered in Bloomington, Minn. The 1/34th ABCT is capable of supporting the U.S. Army with a trained and ready combat force and supports the State of Minnesota with troops capable of assisting civil authorities in times of emergency.

The 1/34th ABCT’s task organization looks much different as we move into training year 2015 (TY15). In the new fiscal year (October 1, 2014), 1/34th ABCT added a third artillery battery to the 1-125 FA, stood up a Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB) which replaced the Brigade Special Troops Battalion (BSTB). Additionally, the 1st Battalion, 145th Armor Regiment (1-145 AR) from the Ohio Army National Guard is in an aligned for training relationship with the 1/34th ABCT in (TY15).

1/34th ABCT Current Task Organization:

- More -

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Unit Information Continued:
The changes with the 1/34th ABCT stem from the Army’s 2020 Force Structure Realignment announced back in June 2013 by the Chief of Staff of the Army.

The new Armored Brigade structure consists of seven battalions: three combined arms, one cavalry (RSTA), one artillery battalion, one engineer and one brigade support battalion. The armored brigade combat team is the largest brigade combat team formation with more than 5,000 Soldiers assigned.

Eight major units now make up the 1/34th ABCT: Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) headquartered in Bloomington; 334th Brigade Engineer Battalion (334 BEB) headquartered in Bloomington; 1/34th Brigade Support Battalion (134 BSB) headquartered at Camp Ripley; 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 194th Armor Regiment (1-194 AR CAB) headquartered in Brainerd; 1st Squadron, 94th Cavalry (1-94 CAV) headquartered in Duluth; 1st Battalion, 125th Field Artillery (1-125 FA) headquartered in New Ulm; 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 136th Infantry (2-136 IN CAB) headquartered in Moorhead and 1st Battalion, 145th Armor Regiment (1-145 AR CAB) from the Ohio National Guard which is in an aligned for training relationship with the 1/34th ABCT.

The new reorganization has been described as one of the Army’s largest organizational changes since World War II. The end state for this Army transformation is to have modular combat brigades that are self-contained combined arms formations. There are three types of BCTs in today’s modular Army; Armored Brigade Combat Teams (ABCTs), Infantry Brigade Combat Teams (IBCTs which includes Light, Mountain, Air Assault and Airborne) and Stryker Brigade Combat Teams (SBCTs).

The 1/34th ABCT will expand the brigade’s fires capability by adding a third battery to the existing 1-125 FA fires battalion.

The addition of the BEB will give the 1/34th ABCT more engineer capabilities, including two engineer companies and a battalion-level staff capable of engineer planning and command and control. The BEB will also be home to the 1/34th ABCT’s military intelligence and signal companies.

The aligned for training relationship with the 1-145 AR will increase the brigade’s combat power and maneuver capability by providing a third combined arms battalion.

The 1/34th ABCT is one of seven Army National Guard Armored Brigade Combat Teams prepared to deploy and conduct decisive action and sustainable land operations.

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Unit History:
The 1/34th ABCT traces its lineage back to the Civil War with the 1st Minnesota Volunteers, organized in 1861. Minnesota Governor Alexander Ramsey had committed the regiment to the Union while he was in Washington, D.C. on the day the Confederacy attacked Fort Sumter, making it the first regiment to be accepted on active status during the Civil War. The 1st Minnesota Regiment played a pivotal role in the Union victory at the Battle of Gettysburg by charging a Confederate division to prevent them from breaking through the Union line.

Unit Campaign Participation Credit:
Civil War - Bull Run, Peninsula, Valley, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Petersburg, Virginia in 1861, Virginia in 1862, Virginia in 1863, Virginia in 1864, Virginia in 1865
War With Spain - Manila
Philippine Insurrection - Luzon, San Isidro
34th Infantry Division World War I – Activated by not deployed
34th Infantry Division World War II - Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Anzio, Rome-Arno, North Apennines, Po Valley
Operation New Dawn - 2011-2012

Decorations:
Meritorious Unit Citation for service in Iraq from Mar 2006 – Jul 2007.

The 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team Today:
As the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team transforms into the Army’s 2020 Force Structure Realignment, the brigade and its units stand ready to provide personnel and equipment in support of federal, state and community missions in order to assist and/or protect the citizens of Minnesota and the United States.

The 1/34th ABCT is comprised of capable men and women. Many of whom have served together during one or more deployments. The brigade recognizes the great cohesion and camaraderie that results from these shared experiences which greatly contributes to our success at home and abroad.

The brigade has also learned a number of important lessons through deployments over the past 13 years. One of the most important being the invaluable support and assistance that our military members have and continue to receive from their families, employers, colleges and universities, neighbors and the generous citizens of Minnesota.

The next two years will be an exciting time for 1st Brigade. Its Soldiers are about to embark on the best training opportunities that the Army has to offer with the Brigade Warfighter Exercise, an XCTC Rotation and a National Training Center Rotation.