

Historic Timeline



25th Infantry Division



October 1, 1941
Hawaiian Division's Transformation produces 24th & 25th Infantry Divisions. 24th ID keeps taro leaf as insignia.

December 7, 1941
First military action for new 25th ID. Return fire on Japanese bombers during attack on Wheeler Airfield.

December 8, 1941
United States declares war on Japan.



January 1942, WWII Guadalcanal
25th ID fight for 1 month before completing first wartime mission, earning the nickname, "Tropic Lightning" for the lightning speed and aggression used to defeat the enemy.

Summer 1943, WWII Solomon Islands
Takes part in advance through Northern Solomons.

Late 1943
Shoulder patch of lightning bolt superimposed onto the taro leaf is formally adopted.



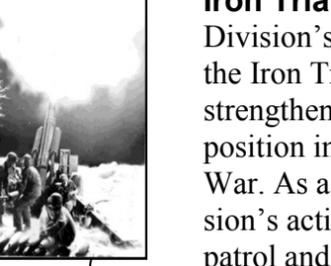
January 1945, WWII Philippines
Division arrives in Luzon to push through the Balet Pass, establishing a record of 165 consecutive days in active combat.

September 1945
WWII ends. 25th ID begins occupation of Japan.



July 1950, Korea
25th ID is deployed to Korea in an effort to block North Korean's efforts to takeover South Korea.

October 1950, Korea
Division successfully drives North Koreans back over the 38th Parallel; however, a overwhelming number of Chinese Communist, newly allying with North Korea, causes the Division to be driven back south of Osan.



1951, Korea Iron Triangle
Division's capture of the Iron Triangle strengthens NATO's position in Korean War. As a result, Division's activity slows to patrol and maintaining the line of resistance.

May 1953, Korea
25th ID defends Seoul against enemy attacks in the last weeks of the war.

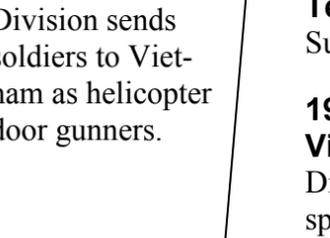
August 1953
Division officially adopts nickname, "Tropic Lightning." Thus, changing the strictly numeral designation to "25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning)."

1954, Hawaii
Division returns home to Hawaii after 12 years of duty.



1963, Vietnam
Division sends soldiers to Vietnam as helicopter door gunners.

December 1965, Vietnam Operation Blue Light
3rd Brigade deploys to Vietnam by air in the largest airlift in division history at that time.



1968-1969, Vietnam Tet Offensives
Successfully fights off enemy.

1969-1970, Vietnam Vietnamization Project
Division begins handing over security responsibilities to South Vietnamese forces.

April-June 1970, Vietnam Cambodia
Participates in operations to clear and destroy enemy bases in Cambodia.

1971, Hawaii
25th ID returns home from Vietnam, where 22 Medals of Honor are awarded to Tropic Lightning soldiers. The most received by any other single unit during the war.



1986, Hawaii
Re-organized into a "Light" infantry division, gaining flexibility and rapid deployment capabilities.

1991, Saudi Arabia Desert Shield/Storm
Division soldiers provide security for Army (forward) Headquarters and General H. Norman Schwarzkopf in Iraq for truce signing.

1991-2005 Peacekeeping Missions
Various Peacekeeping Missions around the world, from Egypt and Bosnia, to Iraq and Afghanistan in an effort to maintain a safe and secure environment in troubled regions.



2006
No longer designated as a "Light" division with the addition of Stryker Brigades.

August 2006, Iraq Operation Iraq Freedom
25th ID Headquarters led the fight in northern Iraq.

2003, GWOT
Global War On Terrorism

January 2004 Iraq Operation Freedom
2nd Brigade deploys to Iraq to support first free elections in over half a century.

April 2004, Afghanistan Operation Enduring Freedom
Assumes command of ground forces in Afghanistan and oversees first free elections.



25th Infantry Division

1941-2009

Today
Ready to Strike! Anytime. Anywhere.