



25th Infantry Division



**Tropic Lightning Week
2018**

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Division Review Sequence of Events

Arrival of Official Party

Invocation

Ha'a Performance

Sound Off

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Rendering of Honors

Inspection of Troops

Presentation of Colors

National Anthem

Retiree/Veteran Recognition

Remarks

Post Colors

Pass in Review

Tropic Lightning March and Army Song

Ceremony Concludes





25th Infantry Division State of the Division “America’s Pacific Division”

It is an honor to celebrate the 77th anniversary of our famed Division's activation with our Tropic Lightning Soldiers, Veterans, Families and Friends. We are excited to share our "State of the Division" on behalf of the nearly 12,000 Tropic Lightning Soldiers currently wearing the taro leaf and lightning bolt patch, which generations of Soldiers have made famous since 1941. During the last year, America's Pacific Division has remained engaged across the Indo-Pacific region, training and building relationships with partner-nation militaries, while maintaining readiness to fight and win whenever and wherever we are called upon. Today's Tropic Lightning Soldiers are adding new chapters to our storied legacy while honoring the historic achievements of our fellow Soldiers who came before us. It is our humble privilege to lead these great men and women, and it is our pleasure to share with you their accomplishments from the past year.

MG Ron Clark
Lightning 6

CSM Brian Hester
Lightning 7



Admiral Philip S. Davidson

Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

U.S. Navy Admiral Phil Davidson is the 25th Commander of United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), America's oldest and largest military combatant command, based in Hawaii.

USINDOPACOM includes 380,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and Department of Defense civilians and is responsible for all U.S. military activities in the Indo-Pacific, covering 36 nations, 14 time zones, and more than 50 percent of the world's population.

Prior to becoming CDRUSINDOPACOM on May 30, 2018, he served as the commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command/Naval Forces U.S. Northern Command. He previously served as the commander, U.S. 6th Fleet, and the commander, Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO, while simultaneously serving as the deputy commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S. Naval Forces Africa.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Davidson is a 1982 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He is a surface warfare officer who has deployed across the globe in frigates, destroyers, cruisers, and aircraft carriers. His earlier sea commands included Carrier Strike Group 8/ Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group, USS Gettysburg (CG 64), and USS Taylor (FFG 50).

Ashore, Davidson has served in fleet, interagency, and joint tours as a flag officer; he was previously the director, Maritime Operations, U. S. Fleet Forces Command, the senior military advisor to the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP) at the State Department, and the deputy director for Strategy and Policy in the Joint Staff/J-5.

He served earlier in his career in policy, strategy, and operations billets on multiple tours with the U.S. Pacific Fleet staff, the Navy staff and the Joint Staff, and as the Navy's military aide to the vice president of the United States.

He is a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Naval War College. He has a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies, and a Bachelor of Science in Physics.

His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V," a Superior Honor Award from the U.S. Department of State, and other personal, service, unit, and campaign awards.





The Division Song

(Tropic Lightning March)

We strike like Tropic Lightning,
 We're trained and we're ready to fight
 The Twenty-fifth has written tales of glory,
 We can always add another story.
 Through the whole Pacific,
 Our answer will always be swift!
 We're tough, We're ready for whatever mission.
 We are the Twenty-fifth!



The Army Song

March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free.
 Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory
 We're the Army and proud of our name
 We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First to fight for the right
 And to build the Nation's might,
 And The Army Goes Rolling Along.
 Proud of all we have done,
 Fighting till the battle's won,
 And the Army Goes Rolling Along

Then it's hi! hi! hey!
 The Army's on its way.
 Count off the cadence loud and strong:
 For where'er we go,
 You will always know
 That The Army Goes Rolling Along.

History of the 25th Infantry Division

The 25th Infantry Division was formed October 1, 1941 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Its lineage can be traced to the Hawaiian Division, which defended Hawaii from 1921 to 1941. The division received its baptism of fire when Japanese forces attacked Oahu December 7, 1941. In November 1942, the 25th Infantry Division was ordered into action against the Japanese in the Solomon Islands. Due to superior performance during operations in the Solomons, the division earned the nickname "Tropic Lightning." The division also took part in the liberation of the Philippine Islands, landing on the island of Luzon in January 1945 and fought for 165 days without rest. After World War II, Tropic Lightning performed occupation duty in Japan.

In the summer of 1950, the 25th Inf. Div. was called to action in South Korea against communist aggression. Tropic Lightning deployed from Japan and immediately began operations to defend the city of Pusan. After weeks of bitter fighting, the division broke out of the "Pusan Perimeter" in September 1950 with U.S. and United Nations forces. Most of Korea was liberated before Chinese forces joined the fighting in November 1950, forcing allied forces south once again. Tropic Lightning began retaking lost territory in January 1951, fighting bitter battles until July 27, 1953, when an armistice took effect. The 25th Inf. Div. returned home to Hawaii in October 1954 after a 12-year absence, with the freedom of South Korea preserved.


In December 1965, Tropic Lightning answered another call to fight against communism and deployed to fight in the Vietnam War. In a massive airlift, the 3rd Brigade "Bronco" deployed to the central highlands at Pleiku; while the division headquarters, along with the 1st Brigade "Lancer" and the 2nd Brigade "Warrior," were transported by sea. By April 1966, all division units were in country with the headquarters established in Cu Chi district, 20 miles northwest of Saigon. The Vietnam War was unlike previous conflicts; the enemy fought from the shadows and hid among the population. During its five years in South Vietnam, the 25th

Inf. Div. engaged in operations to destroy the elusive enemy, to include fighting during the Tet Offensive of 1968, and offensives against enemy sanctuaries in Cambodia during 1970. By April 1971, all division units had returned to Hawaii after a seven-year fight in Southeast Asia.

The organization of the 25th Inf. Div. changed in 1985 when it was selected to reorganize into a light infantry formation. In 1995, the division headquarters, along with the 2nd and 3rd Brigades, were sent to Haiti as part of Operation Uphold Democracy. The 25th Inf. Div. continued peacekeeping missions into the 21st Century as 1,000 Tropic Lightning Soldiers deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina from April to September 2002 as part of Stabilization Force XI. Division Soldiers took part in mine clearing operations, reconstruction, and the destruction of weapons turned in by civilians to help Bosnia-Herzegovina rebuild after a devastating civil war.

At the dawn of the 21st century, the 25th Inf. Div. was thrust into its fourth war. In 2004, Tropic Lightning first deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Like the





insurgents the division fought in the Vietnam War, the enemy avoided open battle and blended into the population. Over the course of eight years, Tropic Lightning units were present at pivotal events in the war against terrorism: the first free elections in Afghanistan in 2004, and Iraq in 2005; the Iraqi “Surge” of 2007; the implementation of the Iraqi Security Agreement in 2009; and the Afghan “Surge” of 2011. During this same period, the 25th Inf. Div. reorganized into modular combat formations as part of an Army-wide transformation into a more agile force.

In January 2010, the division headquarters was reorganized as Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th Inf. Div. In December of that year, HHBN departed on its third deployment to Iraq. The division headquarters was given the task of overseeing U.S. forces in Baghdad and Anbar Provinces as Headquarters, United States Division - Center during Operation New Dawn. Tropic Lightning Soldiers partnered with Iraqi Security Forces to increase their capabilities and conduct joint operations against insurgents, while simultaneously transferring facilities to Iraqi

government control. These missions had to be completed by the end of 2011 in accordance with the 2008 Security Agreement. In the summer of 2011, the division headquarters was given an additional mission: safeguard American troops as they departed Iraq, and be the last division headquarters to leave. By the time Tropic Lightning completed its mission December 18, 2011, thousands of troops retrograded out of Iraq under its aegis, and dozens of bases were transferred to the government of Iraq. Through its outstanding performance, the 25th Infantry Division completed its final mission in Iraq with honor.

While the headquarters was in Iraq, the 1st and 3rd Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs) deployed to Afghanistan in the spring of 2011, followed by the 4th BCT and Combat Aviation Brigade in November 2011. While in Afghanistan, these units fought hard to preserve freedom and democracy against insurgent forces who were bent on keeping misery and subjugation alive. Missions included fighting and defeating enemy forces, as well as preparing local security and governance institutions for the day when they will stand on their own. By early 2013, all Tropic Lightning units had returned to their home stations.

Today, the 25th Inf. Div. has returned to its roots as America's Pacific Division, partnering with allied nations throughout the Pacific. In Pacific Pathways exercises, Soldiers from the 25th Inf. Div. train alongside allies in Australia, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and others. The 25th Inf. Div. Jungle Operations Training Center not only reflects the Pacific theater priorities, but also the legacy and history of the division.

For seven decades, the 25th Inf. Div. has fought in some of the most important conflicts of the 20th and early 21st centuries. From the jungles of the Solomons and Vietnam, to the mountains of Korea and Afghanistan, to the deserts of Iraq; Tropic Lightning Soldiers have fought for freedom throughout the world. America's Pacific Division is ‘Ready To Strike-Anywhere, Anytime.’





25th

Infantry Division Overview

It's been a busy year for the Tropic Lightning Division. The entire 25th Infantry Division staff deployed to the Republic of Korea alongside our higher headquarters, America's First Corps, to participate in Warfighter Exercise 18-02 in November 2017. And less than a year later, in October 2018, Tropic Lightning Soldiers and supporting units participated in Warfighter 19-01 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The multi-echelon exercise tested the division's ability to manage, direct, and synchronize multiple brigades with air and ground assets during continuous, 24-hour, unified-land operations.

The Tropic Lightning Division conducted two iterations of its largest Hawaii-based training exercise, Lightning Forge, during fiscal year 2018. Each iteration is designed to prepare an infantry brigade combat team for a rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana, by testing them in a high-tempo decisive action training environment.

Units from across the division represented the U.S. Army throughout the Indo-Pacific, in Pacific Pathways exercises in Australia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and others.

The year brought hurricanes, fires and floods to the Hawaiian Islands, and the Tropic Lightning Division was

ready to lend a hand.

From April 16-17, 2018, U.S. Army helicopter crews from the 25th Inf. Div. evacuated more than 180 Kauai residents and visitors from areas threatened by flood waters and delivered approximately 43,000 pounds of food, water, and clothing to distressed people. In May 2018, with the volcanic eruptions on Hawaii Island, Tropic Lightning Soldiers deployed to help provide assistance. On Aug. 5, 2018, the 25th CAB started support to the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources to assist in containing the Makua Kea'au Fire on Oahu. After Hurricane Lane struck the Hawaiian Islands Aug. 24, 2018, Soldiers from the 25th CAB conducted recovery efforts on Hawaii Island, as part of Joint Task Force 5-0.

The Division works closely with the community. In the Partnership of Ohana, Army representatives attend nine of Oahu's 36 monthly neighborhood boards, and Soldiers volunteer at 48 schools on the island. Tropic Lightning units are partnered with 28 schools. On Feb. 19, 2018, Soldiers joined thousands of our Oahu Ohana for the 34th Annual Great Aloha Run, Hawaii's largest participatory race. In late June 2018 Tropic Lightning Soldiers hosted the University of Hawaii Football team and coaching staff at Schofield Barracks. The 25th Inf. Div. command team



participated in the 9th Annual Na Koa Regatta at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki Aug. 18, 2018, to support Wounded Warriors as well as Gold Star Families.

In other milestones, on July 3, 2018, the commanding general's quarters were christened Hale o Lehua, or House of a Warrior, on the 100th anniversary of the historic home. On Aug. 1, 2018, the division officially consolidated with the U.S. Army Hawaii, with Maj.

Gen. Ronald Clark becoming commanding general, 25th Inf. Div. and U.S. Army Hawaii. On Sept. 13, 2018, the remains of one the first Soldiers sent from North Korea were identified as Pfc. William H. Jones, who was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Inf. Div. Jones was part of the division's operations against the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces near Pakchon, North Korea.





2nd

Infantry Brigade Combat Team

Soldiers from the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team “Warrior Brigade,” 25th Infantry Division, bookended fiscal 2018 with training deployments to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and spent much of the year in large-scale international training exercises around the Pacific.

From Feb. 1 to March 4, Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment “Wolfhounds,” served as opposing forces for the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Div., at JRTC Rotation 18-04.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment “Gimlets,” along with an element from the 65th Brigade Engineer Battalion and a battery from the 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 25th Inf. Div. Artillery, took part in several Pacific Pathways international training exercises with regional partner nations to build relationships, interoperability, and combined operational capability.

At Cobra Gold in Thailand, Task Force Gimlet Soldiers participated in squad situational training exercises, operations in urban terrain, jungle survival, sniper live fire exercises, stress shoots and a bilateral, small arms weapons qualification - side-by-side with members of the Royal Thai Army in both Phu Lam Yai and Surathampitak. Simultaneously, Gator Company, 1-21st Inf. Reg., conducted a battalion live fire exercise in conjunction with a U.S. Marine Corps company and a Royal Thai company at Ban Chan Krem.

Warrior Brigade Soldiers spent time honing individual Soldier skills such as weapons proficiency, first aid, machine gun theory, and professional development for platoon leaders in the task force, capped off with force-on-force training.

In March, Joint Team Hawaii – for the fourth year in a row – was named the Culinary Team of the Year at the 43rd annual Joint Culinary Training Exercise, an annual competition for the military’s best culinary professionals. Sgt. First Class Rene Arana, team manager, 1-27th Inf. Reg., proved instrumental in leading the team for its 4th straight title.

In April, the Warrior Brigade represented the 25th Inf. Div. by providing three of the four participants in the 2018 Best Ranger Competition in Fort Benning, Georgia. 1st Lt. Chris Smith, 1-27th Inf. Reg., and Sgt. Aditya Singh Sehrawat, 2nd





Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, placed 5th overall, and Staff Sgt. Carlos Techera, 1-27th Inf. Reg., and 1st Lt. Travis Smith, from Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th Inf. Div., placed 23rd overall.

TF Gimlet then moved to the Philippines to take part in Exercise Balikitan. Companies were able to train on defensive and offensive operations while facing the Armed Forces of the Philippines in force-on-force operations.

In May, 2-14th Cav. Reg., along with the 2-11th FAR, and elements from the 65th BEB and the 225th Brigade Support Battalion, participated in the division-led 'Lightning Strike'

exercise at the Pohakuloa Training Area, on Hawaii Island.

In late August, the brigade conducted Lightning Forge 18-02, a Division led, brigade-wide training event spanning from ranges on Schofield Barracks, Dillingham Airfield and Kahuku Training Area.

The Warrior Brigade closed out the year loading all equipment onto a vessel in support of the upcoming Joint Readiness Training Center rotation 19-02 at Fort Polk, Louisiana.





3rd

Infantry Brigade Combat Team

The 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team 'Broncos' continues to provide an infantry force capable of moving by foot, vehicle or air to conduct major combat operations and is an important part of the 25th Infantry Division's ability to project forces overseas.

Training and mission readiness were at the forefront as the brigade began operations for the year. Collectively the Soldiers marched thousands of miles, spent weeks in field environments, fired thousands of rounds of ammunition, earned dozens of skill badges and tabs, completed degree programs, earned technical and tactical certifications, and spent thousands of hours volunteering in the community.

Kicking off the year, more than 3,000 Soldiers from the brigade completed a demanding series of exercises at the Joint Readiness Training Center that tested each battalion, in addition to being regionally engaged with security missions in the Pacific and contributed to unit readiness. The exercises reinforced fundamentals of an infantry Brigade Combat Team missions – shooting, moving, communication.

The 'Bronco' Soldiers sustained partnerships with local communities, other Army units, sister services, and our allied nations. These relationships were strengthened while



the 'Broncos' remained integrated at every level to build a resilient, cohesive team.

Allies and partners from across the Pacific came to Oahu to participate in Tiger Balm 18. The annual bilateral exercise saw Soldiers from Singapore set-up a Civil Military Operations Center, participate in a counter-IED subject matter expert exchange, and a live fire exercise with Strike Observer Mission teams.

In July 2018, 'Bronco' Soldiers said farewell to the former brigade commander, Col. Robert M. Ryan and welcomed the current commander, Col. John W. Lubas.

This summer 'Bronco' Soldiers participated in Lightning Forge, an annual home-station training event that builds combat readiness in America's Pacific Division.

Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, sent their Soldiers, vehicles and equipment by air and sea for the Lightning Kokua training exercise at Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) on Hawaii Island. Lightning Kokua was a gunnery exercise involving all of the battalions in the brigade. After months of coordination, 3,500 Soldiers and 500 pieces of equipment were transported from various locations on Oahu to PTA.

A Bronco Soldier represented the brigade and the Army in 2018 as the Army's Soldier of the Year. After six days of demanding events at the Army's Best Warrior Competition, Spc. Hazen Ham, an infantryman with the 2-35 Infantry Regiment took top honors by winning the competition and being named the Army's Soldier of the Year in 2017.

Continuing a long-standing relationship with the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Rainbow Warriors and coaching staff participated in a team building day, where football players were given a taste of the life of an infantry Soldier. The team participated in an M4 stress shoot and obstacle courses at the Leadership Reaction Course.

In August 2018, Soldier's from the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, hosted children from the Holy Family Homes Orphanage. This event continues a long-standing tradition between the battalion and the orphanage beginning shortly after World War II. During their two-week stay, the kids lived with host-families, volunteer Soldiers from the





battalion and partook in various recreational activities across the island.

U.S. Military Academy and Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets received a preview of what is to come as more than a dozen cadets trained with the brigade. The Cadet Troop Leadership Training, or the CTLT program, is a leader development initiative to help develop, retain and ultimately commission quality ROTC cadets as second lieutenants. The mentorship opportunity allows cadets to shadow and learn from currently serving platoon leaders.

'Bronco' Soldiers and their families from the brigade helped to provide a joyful meal to the local community Nov. 21. This was the 6th Annual Thanksgiving Luau that Surfing the Nations has put on. About 40 members from the 'Bronco'



Brigade family provided invaluable volunteer support for the event.

3rd IBCT Soldiers supported the division's Warfighter certification exercise by providing six response cells, help-desk support for the computers and the network, a fires cell, and other mission critical and logistical support.

Overall, the Soldiers in the 'Bronco' Brigade had a great year hosting and participating in training exercises, growing their relationships with long-standing partners in the community and abroad and looks forward to what is to come in the future.





25th

Combat Aviation Brigade



The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade provides multi-functional aviation support to the 25th Infantry Division to conduct decisive action in support of unified land operations. Additionally, 25th CAB Soldiers train to be ready to deploy a scalable force in support of emerging requirements and contingencies in the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility, or anywhere in the world.

From February 3 to March 13, 2018, 25th CAB Soldiers helped support 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team's Joint Readiness Training Center Rotation 18-04 with an aviation task force. 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment (General Support Aviation Battalion), Task Force Hammerhead, deployed to Fort Polk, Louisiana, to conduct a decisive action training environment exercise in order to ensure the Broncos are ready to execute contingency operations.

Task Force Hammerhead was comprised of elements from the 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment (Assault Helicopter Battalion); the 3-25th GSAB; the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment; and support teams from the 209th Aviation Support Battalion.

In May, Operation Lightning Strike 18 took place at Pohakuloa Training Area on Hawaii Island. Lightning Strike is a combined arms live-fire exercise where the 25th CAB, alongside the 25th Division Artillery and the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, exercised live-fire training simulating the division's deep fight capability. The training increased unit interoperability and synchronization in an effort to mass combat power on the battlefield. This helped the 25th CAB

leadership and subordinate units better integrate with ground units to provide timely and precise aerial support.

In May and June 2018, several 2-25th AHB "Diamond Head" aircrews deployed to Hawaii Island during the Kilauea volcano eruption. Aircrews provided aerial reconnaissance support and were on standby to respond to the Joint Task Force and the State of Hawaii emergency officials.

The crews flew reconnaissance missions to better prepare emergency teams on how to best conduct hasty evacuations around active lava fissure areas to increase readiness and better support the people of Hawaii. The 25th CAB simultaneously conducts real-world and exercise missions, proving their multifaceted approach to the unique environment of Hawaii, and the Indo-Pacific theater.

In June 2018, pilots and flight crews from the 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment (Attack Reconnaissance Battalion), deployed from Fort Wainwright, Alaska, on a routine rotational deployment to the Republic of Korea. The 1-25th ARB was joined by Troop B, 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, as well as an additional RQ-7B Shadow platoon from Troop A, 2-6th CAV. Upon their arrival to Korea the organization became known as TF Arctic Saber, a reconnaissance organization comprised of both Alaska and Hawaii-based units. Lt. Col. Matthew Landrum, Task Force Arctic Saber commander, said this deployment provides a unique opportunity to expand and enhance the relationship with the ROK Army, and he knows his Soldiers are ready.





The 'Hillclimbers' of the 3-25th GSAB held a deployment ceremony June 5, 2018, prior to their movement to support Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Resolute Support in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. Although the deployment was short notice, the 'Hillclimbers' put mission first and rose to the task and completed their pre-deployment training, as well as preparing their families and loved ones for the tour. Their mission first, can-do attitude, is a testament to the units within the 25th CAB, staying true to our motto, "We fly for the Troops."

In August 2018, Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources officials and Division of Forestry and Wildlife firefighters called upon the U.S. Army for assistance to contain and extinguish the Makua Kea'au Fire on Oahu.

The 25th CAB mobilized UH-60s from the 2-25th AHB and the 3-25th GSAB to support state conservation and firefighting efforts by using "Bambi" buckets to carry greater amounts of water to combat the fire. Due to the superior

performance of the 25th CAB and our local partners, the fire was contained and put out before threatening additional loss-of-life, wildlife and property.

The CAB recently participated in the division-level culminating certification exercise known as Warfighter. Working in concert with division command and control elements, the CAB's systems and processes for the exercise were validated and lauded by the trainers. Although emboldened, the CAB still continues to refine and enhance its ability to function as a separate entity and as part of a whole.

The 25th CAB is focused on the future. The 2-25th AHB just finished supporting the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team's Joint Regional Training Center rotation in November 2018. Soldiers from the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, will head to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, to further enhance their capabilities as an attack reconnaissance squadron.





25th

Division

Sustainment

Brigade

The 25th Division Sustainment Brigade 'Lightning Support,' retained their title as the most deployed unit in the division with multiple companies and elements deployed worldwide. In the Pacific, the brigade continued to support America's I Corps and the 25th Inf. Div. in numerous exercises throughout the year.

Despite a busy operational tempo, the 25th DSB provided support operations to garrison, the 25th Inf. Div., the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, and the U.S. Central Command.

The brigade focused on our Lightning Support Ohana and the community by hosting and supporting family events at all echelons from the squad to brigade level. It has been a great year and we are very proud of the Lightning Support team.

This year Lightning Support Soldiers were able to welcome back the 536th Support Maintenance Company. They deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility in support of Operation Inherent Resolve from September 2017 to June 2018. The 536th SMC provided area maintenance, vehicle recovery, and test, measurement, diagnostic equipment support to customers, and services to more than 56 external units within the 1st Theater Sustainment Command and a combined joint task force. The company focused on equipment maintenance, resulting in an increase of 11 percent in combat-power and operational readiness, saving the Army approximately \$500,000. The 536th SMC completed



its combat support mission and provided superior theater-wide maintenance support to the units conducting or supporting combat missions in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

The 40th Composite Supply Company deployed in November 2017 for a nine-month combat tour in Iraq in support of Operations Spartan Shield and Inherent Resolve. The Soldiers provided multi-class supply, retrograde operations, liquid logistics, and general sustainment throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. The Soldiers supervised the distribution of more than 1.5 million gallons of petroleum, oils, and lubricants and managed the accountability of five million gallons of fuel. The company supported an Army aviation support battalion by refueling more 450 aircraft by issuing 35,000 gallons of fuel. Soldiers managed over 1.6 million items valued at approximately \$181 million, to include \$44 million of aircraft repair parts. The 40th CSC provided laundry support to over 6,000 personnel, processing approximately 14,000 bundles of laundry. The company supported the Building Partnership Capacity program by shipping 113 pallets and 44 containers. The BPC mission is designed to strengthen the relationship between the coalition and our host country by strengthening the country's defense efforts with training and logistical support.

An element from the 125th Financial Management Support Unit is currently deployed in support of Joint Task Force Bravo in Honduras. The section provides disbursing and military pay services to enable operational freedom of maneuver through strategic financial credibility for multinational forces in Honduras.

The 259th Postal platoon is currently deployed as the primary CENTCOM theater postal platoon, providing full-spectrum postal support at the Baghdad Diplomatic Support Center. The platoon has already delivered thousands of pounds of mail through eight different post offices across three different regional commands in support of Inherent Resolve and Spartan Shield. They expanded the scheme of postal sustainment operations in several countries in the U.S. Central Command area of operations and have brought mail services to an additional 2,200 service members that would not have otherwise been provided mail support.



Soldiers from the 25th DSB remained busy supporting U.S. Indo-Pacific Command operations throughout the year. The brigade served as the lead logistics element for Pacific Pathways 18-01. The brigade created multiple task forces that were able to provide uninterrupted refined support for operations in Thailand for Exercise Cobra Gold and in the Philippines for Salaknib and Balikatan. In Thailand, the brigade set up mission command elements in Korat, Phulomyi, and Surithan Pitok, and helped coordinate and control logistical movements during the exercise.

The brigade provided tailored support for expeditionary security cooperation operations in Thailand, the Philippines and other countries in coordination with the U.S. Eighth Army. These exercises increased and extended the readiness of U.S. armed forces while strengthening relationships with allies and partners in the Pacific region.

The 25th DSB introduced a new method to test logistical systems and prepare for large scale combat operations with the introduction of the week-long "Reverse Warfighter" exercise, focusing on logistics instead of the maneuver forces. The exercise was conducted at the Mission Command

Training Center-Hawaii and included stake holders from Combined Arms Support Command, Fort Lee, Virginia; the 8th Theater Support Command, Schofield Barracks; the 593rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Joint Base Lewis-McChord; division headquarters, and others. The exercise was designed to strain the capabilities of the 25th DSB to provide sustainment in an austere environment. It grew the brigade staff and allowed them to synchronize the logistics operations from the battalion to the theater level. At the end of this exercise all stake holders involved had a standardized logistics process and a common understating of logistics resupply within the theater.

The 25th DSB supported Lightning Forge 18-03, a large-scale training exercise on Oahu prior to JRTC 19-02 at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Throughout the duration of the two week exercise the 25th Composite Truck Company tested their drivers, equipment, and capabilities prior to JRTC 19-02. Additionally, the 25th CTC operated under the mission command of the 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, a National Guard unit out of Benicia, California, and increased interoperability with our sister CSSB.

The Lightning Support Brigade wrapped up the year by certifying brigade staff during Warfighter 19-01. The culminating event forced the staff to use systems and processes to work through challenges and provide courses of action in order to sustain the division. The Lightning Support team did a phenomenal job working with 593rd ESC and supporting the 25th Inf. Div. for the duration of the exercise.

Soldiers and families from the sustainment brigade contributed to their community by spending their mornings conducting beach cleanup days at the Kualoa Regional Beach Park and Makua. The brigade supported the removal of 37 pounds of debris from Kualoa Regional Beach Park and 14,000 pounds of debris from Makua. The brigade closed out the year with the first 'Sustainer Palooza.' Soldiers, family, and friends dressed up in costumes and enjoyed events such as a performance from the 25th Inf. Div. band and a tactical vehicle trunk or treating.





25th

Division Artillery

The mission of the 25th Infantry Division Artillery is to integrate, synchronize, and employ combined, joint, and multinational fires for the 25th Inf. Div. through home station training and while deployed throughout the Pacific area of responsibility.

The Soldiers, NCOs, and officers of the “Tropic Thunder” DIVARTY worked hard this year to support numerous training missions, partner engagements, and simulated exercises to increase the capabilities and readiness of the most lethal fires enterprise in the Pacific.

From January 5-11, more than 120 Soldiers competed in the 25th DIVARTY 'Best FiST' in the East Range Training Area at Schofield Barracks. Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, won overall, with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, earning the title Best FiST.

In May, DIVARTY Soldiers participated in Exercise Lightning Strike, a division-level exercise with the 25th CAB and the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team that integrated the 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment's battery and battalion gunnery live fire certifications with a wet gap crossing scenario relevant to the strategic decisive action training environment and current contingency reaction force missions throughout the Pacific area of responsibility.

On June 8, Soldiers, NCOs, and officers from the 25th DIVARTY marched onto Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks, to conduct a change of command ceremony to thank the outgoing commander, Col. Matthew Stader, and the outgoing senior enlisted leader, Command Sgt. Maj. Aaron White. They welcomed the incoming commander, Col. Brendan Raymond, and Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Donegan to the “Tropic Thunder” team.

The 25th DIVARTY served as the division's Field Artillery headquarters in three major command post exercises to build mission command capabilities and support theater security cooperation missions. From Sept. 30 - Oct. 11, the DIVARTY supported the joint-bilateral Warfighter Exercise 19-01 to enhance interoperability and improve operational readiness.

Tropic Thunder planners also focused on fielding modern equipment such as the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical Increment 1 Network Modernization, Precision Guided Kit, Improved Position & Azimuth Determining System w/GPS, and software upgrades for the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System, the M119A3 105mm howitzer, and fire support equipment.



Soldiers from the 2-11th FAR conducted gunnery training, fire support team certifications, and offensive and defensive exercises at Schofield Barracks, the Pohakuloa Training Area, and the Kahuku Training Area, to build up for their Joint Readiness Training Center rotation at the end of the year.

From February through May, Battery A, 2-11th FAR, and Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2-11th FAR, supported Task Force Gimlet during a Pacific Pathways rotation to Thailand and the Philippines. The 2-11th FAR deployed a composite battery of two M777 155mm and three M119A3 105mm howitzers as well as a fire support platoon and radar section to enable training in three U.S. Army Pacific exercises. The unit also supported partner training exercises in Australia, Japan and Indonesia in order to strengthen relationships with





allies and increase interoperability for the delivery of lethal, massed and coordinated fires in training and combat.

In May, the 2-11th FAR conducted battery and battalion-level gunnery certification live fire at the PTA as part of "Lightning Strike." The exercise enabled an external evaluation for Tables XV and XVIII in order to demonstrate the capability to mass timely and accurate fires in accordance with doctrinal certification standards.

The 2-11th FAR participated in Lightning Forge in July to support 2nd IBCT's two-week field training exercise across various locations throughout Oahu. Lightning Forge provided 2-11 FAR an interactive and dynamic training environment in preparation for a November 2018 JRTC rotation.



Soldiers from the 3-7th FAR conducted battalion and battery training exercises and supported division-level command post exercises to improve operational planning, mission command, and unit readiness. The 3-7th FAR focused this year on a number of joint and bilateral simulated exercises, including Warfighter 19-01.

The 3-7th FAR conducted a JRTC rotation with 3rd IBCT in February that culminated in a brigade live fire exercise at Fort Polk, Louisiana. The "Never Broken" Battalion tested individual and collective competencies against opposing forces to prepare for the demands of a wartime mission.

In October, the 3-7th FAR conducted joint exercise Operation Steel Crucible with the U.S. Marine Corps, which incorporated howitzer section and platoon gunnery table V-XII certifications as well as air assault missions with a USMC heavy helicopter squadron. The battalion staff focused on mission command training and sustainment operations to meet mission goals and objectives.









25TH INFANTRY TROPIC LIGHTNING



**Division
Commanding General**
Major General Ronald P. Clark



**Division Deputy Commanding
General-Operations**
Brigadier General Joel B. Vowel



**Division Deputy Commanding
General-Support**
Brigadier General Andrew D. Preston

RY DIVISION



**Division Command
Sergeant Major**
CSM Brian A. Hester



**Division Deputy
Commander-Interoperability**
Colonel Trevor J. Walker



Division Chief of Staff
Colonel David B. Womack



2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

WARRIOR BRIGADE



Commander
Colonel Kevin Williams



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Travis Thompson

1-21 IN



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel James Hart



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Nema Mobar



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Lou Kangas



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Victor Benavides



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Wade A. Germann



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Edgar Monsanto

1-27 IN

225 BSB



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Jennifer McDonough



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Bradley D. Waters



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel James Krueger



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Cornell Ellis



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Peterman



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Joshua Harrison

65 BEB

2-11 FAR

2-14 CAV



3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

NONE BETTER



Commander
Colonel John W. Lubas



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Michael J. Spear

2-27 IN



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Matthew Lee



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Timothy Custis



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Philip J. Mundweil



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Dennis A. Gholson



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Scott C. Sinclair



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Gregory Caywood

3-7 FAR

325 BSB



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Christine Takats



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Victor M. Garcia

29 BEB



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Marc J. Sanborn



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Patrick M. Ganacias

3-4 CAV



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel James Modlin



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Alex Kupratty



25TH COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE

WINGS OF LIGHTNING

1-25 AVN



Commander
Colonel Thomas
E. Burke



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Rodney
Harris



Command Chief Warrant Officer
CW5 Myke Lewis



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel
Matthew Landrum



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Antonio Ruiz

2-6 CAV



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel
Ryan Kendall



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Jon L. Trawick

2-25 AVN



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel
Elizabeth A. Martin



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Erik M. Whitman

3-25 AVN



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel
Jacob W. Miller



Command Sergeant Major
CSM John R. Thompson

209th ASB



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel
Scott R. Spurrier



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Carlos Alberto Loeza



25TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

LIGHTNING SUPPORT



Commander
Colonel Dennis Levesque



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Garland K. Moore

25th STB



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Michael Meumann



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Araceli Nava



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel James I. Collazo



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Felicia S. Griffin



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Julio F. Colon-Gonzalez



Command Sergeant Major
MSG Tronh M. Colley

524th CSSB Forward

524th CSSB Provisional



25TH DIVISION ARTILLERY

TROPIC THUNDER



Commander
Colonel Brendan C. Raymond



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Kevin M. Donegan

HHBN



Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Brian P. Hayes



Command Sergeant Major
CSM Jonathon J. Blue



America's

**Pacific
Division**