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2d Inf.  
**PRESS**



Division  
**RELEASE**

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HISTORY, MISSION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE 2ND U.S. INFANTRY DIVISION

One of the few active Army units organized on foreign soil, the 2nd Infantry "Indianhead" Division was formed Oct. 26, 1917 at Bourmont, France. Its nickname is derived from the unit's distinctive shoulder patch. The red Indian face, white star and blue bonnet feathers signify the American colors. The head and star are displayed on a black shield. The division's patch is, appropriately, the second largest of all Army division patches - second only to that of the 1st Cavalry Division.

The original patch looked slightly different from the present one. The Indian's head was larger and the background shape and colors varied with the Division's units. A standardized patch wasn't created until 1925, three years after the War Department authorized it as the Division's official insignia.

Twice during World War I, the Indianhead Division was commanded by U.S. Marine Corps officers, the only time in U.S. military history that Marine Corps officers have commanded an Army division.

Early in 1918, while attached to the French Army, the 2nd Infantry Division participated in its first campaigns. At Chateau Thierry, Soissons, and Bellau Wood, Indianhead soldiers battled seasoned German veterans and emerged the victor. For its part in blunting the last great German offensive, the Division was awarded the French fourragere, which is still worn proudly today by all members of the Division.

After the Armistice, the Indianhead Division moved into Germany as the major unit of the Army of Occupation. In April 1919, it moved to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to test new ideas and innovations for the Army.

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The division went to Northern Ireland in October 1943 for training, and preparation for the Normandy Invasion. On "D-Day plus one" it landed on Omaha Beach and immediately entered the fierce combat of Normandy. From there it battled its way across France, Belgium, Luxemburg and Germany. V-E Day found the division at Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, where it met Russian soldiers for victory celebrations.

After World War II, the division deployed to Fort Lewis, Washington, where it remained until the outbreak of hostilities in Korea.

In July 1950, the division landed in Korea, where it fought for the duration of the Korean Conflict. Actions with the United Nations forces included a lightning pursuit after the breakout from the Pusan perimeter and a gallant stand at Chipyong-ni, the first major defeat of Chinese Communist forces. The division was awarded both the Republic of Korea and the U.S. Presidential Unit Citations for heroic actions in that bloody conflict.

After more than three years of combat, the division returned to Fort Lewis, then moved to Alaska two years later. Inactivated in 1957, the division returned to the Army's rolls a year later at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Division warriors have maintained forces along the Demilitarized Zone since they returned to Korea in 1965.

The mission of the 2nd Infantry Division today is to deter war. It remains combat ready and prepared for combined operations in the defense of the Republic of Korea. The division is the principal American ground combat element of the Eighth U.S. Army and is under the operational control of the Combined Field Army (ROK/US). The "Indianhead" Division carries out its role in the defense mission by occupying a vital sector of the Demilitarized Zone astride the main highway running south from Panmunjom to Seoul.

Two guard posts - Collier and Ouellette - are located within the Demilitarized Zone. Each is manned by a platoon-sized force from the division. Additionally, the division equips and mans several radar sites along "Freedom's Frontier..". These radar sites and the two guard posts are fully integrated into the vital surveillance system that runs the entire length of the 151-mile Demilitarized Zone.

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The 2nd Infantry Division is organized into three combat brigades. Presently, there are eight maneuver battalions, including three infantry - 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry and 1st and 2nd Battalions, 503rd Infantry; two mechanized infantry - 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry and 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry; two tank battalions - 1st and 2nd Battalions, 72nd Armor, and an air cavalry squadron, the 5th Squadron, 17th Cavalry.

Division artillery has three battalions of 155mm howitzers - 1st Battalion, 15th Field Artillery; 1st Battalion, 4th Field Artillery and 8th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery; an 8-inch howitzer battalion with one Multiple Launch Rocket System battery - the 6th Battalion, 37th Field Artillery, and a Target Acquisition Battery, E Battery, 25th Field Artillery.

Combat support is provided by the 2nd Engineer Battalion (Combat); the 122nd Signal and 2nd Aviation Battalions; the 2nd Battalion, 61st Air Defense Artillery and the 102nd Military Intelligence battalion.

Division Support Command, which provides combat service support, consists of the 2nd Medical, the 2nd Supply and Transport and the 702nd Maintenance Battalions. Companies assigned to Division Support Command include the 2nd Adjutant General, the 2nd Military Police and 4th Chemical Companies.

Division Headquarters, Division Support Command and 1st Brigade are all located at Camp Casey. The 1st Brigade, also known as the "Iron Brigade," is organized with two armor battalions and one mechanized infantry battalion.

Beyond the hills just south of division headquarters is Camp Hovey, home of the 2nd Brigade. The "All Infantry" Brigade is organized with two infantry battalions.

Headquarters 3rd Brigade is located in the Western Corridor at Camp Howze, along the main highway leading northwest from Seoul. Co-located there is a mechanized infantry battalion. The brigade's other infantry battalion is north of the Imjin River at Camp Greaves.

The division's air cavalry squadron is headquartered at Camp Garry Owen with air troops located at La Guardia Army Air Field and Camp Stanley. The squadron is presently organized with one headquarters and four air cavalry troops.

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## HISTORY, MISSION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE 2ND DIVISION

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Division Artillery has its headquarters at Camp Stanely, near Uijongbu. The direct support artillery battalions for the 1st and 2nd Brigades are located at Camp Stanley. The direct support artillery battalion for the 3rd Brigade is located at Camp Pelham. The 155mm artillery battalions are equipped with three batteries of six howitzers each. One battalion is self-propelled and two are towed. The general support artillery battalion is located at Camp Essayons, near Uijongbu. This unit is compose of two batteries of six 8-inch self-propelled howitzers and one Multiple Launch Rocket System battery consisting of nine launchers.

The 20 battalions and other units of the Indianhead Division are manned by more than 15,000 American men and women. The division's strength is brought to its full wartime level of soldiers with more than 2,300 Korean Augmentees to the United States Army, KATUSAs. These Korean soldiers are integrated into every unit and serve alongside their American counterparts.

Division soldiers train in harsh climatic conditions and on the rugged terrain where they may be called upon to fight. Rigorous physical training, individual skill qualification and small unit training are a prelude to the combined arms, live-fire maneuvers conducted regularly by combat units.

Joint training with our Republic of Korea allies is one of the many benefits of the annual Team Spirit exercise which involves the forces of the Republic of Korea and the U.S. This large scale joint and combined exercise tests the capabilities of the free world to respond to any aggression on the Korean peninsula.

During some of these exercises, ROK Army and Marine brigades are attached to the division while combat battalions of the division operate with ROK Army divisions. This routine training demonstrates the capability to fully integrate the firepower and operations of the ROK and U.S. forces.

Nowhere else in the world is the threat to freedom so obvious, and nowhere else in the world is an American combat force so well trained and capable of performing its critical mission. The 2nd Infantry Division remains today, as always, "Second to None."