

# ***E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter***

## **National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association**

*Supporting Veterans, Soldiers and Friends of the 4th Infantry Division Since 1919*

WWI – WWII – Cold War – Vietnam – Iraq – Afghanistan – War on Terror

**June 1, 2025**

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## **Fort Carson News**

Lieutenant General Kevin D. Admiral, Commanding General, III Armored Corps and Fort Cavazos, Texas, will conduct the 4th Infantry (IVY) Division and Fort Carson's Change of Command Ceremony where Major General David S. Doyle will relinquish command to Major General Patrick J. Ellis. The ceremony will take place Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Founders' Field, Fort Carson, Colorado.



### **Major General Patrick J. Ellis**

Major General Patrick J. Ellis previously served as the Director of the Network Cross-Functional Team within Army Futures Command. MG Ellis was responsible for the continuous improvement of network transport, command, control, communications and intelligence to enable mission command.

MG Ellis' military education includes: the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Ranger School, Command and General Staff College and U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He also has a Bachelor of Science in Russian and a master's in management and strategic studies. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge and Ranger Tab. MG Ellis and his wife Brenda have two grown children.

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## **A busy June at Fort Carson**

**June 4, 2025** – 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team Assumption of Responsibility Ceremony in honor of Command Sergeant Major Ryan D. Dilling

**June 5, 2025** – 81st D-Day commemoration ceremony at Manhart Field

**June 5, 2025** – 4th Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade Change of Command Ceremony where Colonel Julie A. Maxwell will relinquish command to Colonel Heather M. Reilly

**June 12, 2025** – 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson will hold an Assumption of Responsibility Ceremony in honor of Division Command Sergeant Major Waylon D. Petty

**June 13, 2025** – 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team Change of Command Ceremony where Colonel Brian D. Gilbert will relinquish command to Colonel Nicholas C. Sinclair

**June 14, 2025** – the U.S. Army will celebrate its 250th birthday

**June 16, 2025** – 4th Combat Aviation Brigade Change of Command Ceremony where Colonel Nicholas J. Ploetz will relinquish command to Colonel Cameron G. Gallagher

**June 17, 2025** – 4th Infantry Division Artillery Change of Command Ceremony where Colonel Charles M. Knoll will relinquish command to Colonel Charles J. Brown

**June 18, 2025** – 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson Change of Command Ceremony where Major General David S. Doyle will relinquish command to Major General Patrick J. Ellis

**June 18, 2025** – 1st Medical Brigade, 627th Hospital Center Change of Command Ceremony where Colonel Jay A. McFarland will relinquish command to Colonel Kenneth M. Reed Jr.



### 4th Infantry Division Museum

The 4th Infantry Division Museum has reduced its open hours due to personnel shortages. Since May 2025, the museum will only be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday and Friday's.

To arrange unit or school tours or to request museum support, contact the museum curator, Daniel Roberts, at

[daniel.w.roberts63.civ@army.mil](mailto:daniel.w.roberts63.civ@army.mil)

4th Infantry Division Museum, 6013 Nelson Blvd, Fort Carson, CO 80913.

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## 4ID History – June Key Events

**6 June 1944** – D-Day, the long-awaited assault on German occupied Europe was launched. The 4ID, led by 2-8 INF, led the seaborne assault, landing on Utah Beach on France's Normandy peninsula at 0630 hours. By day's end, all 4ID regiments (8th, 12th, 22nd Infantry) and most supporting troops were ashore. For his actions on D-Day, BG Teddy Roosevelt, Jr., assistant division commander, earned the Medal of Honor.

**7 June 2006** – The long hunted terrorist leader, Abu Musab Zarqawi, was killed June 7 in Diyala province, northeast of Baghdad by a precision Air Force air strike that hit Zarqawi's safe house. Troops from 3BCT of 4ID (1-68 AR) were the first on the scene to exploit the strike.

**7 June 1968** – The Medal of Honor was earned (posthumously) by PFC Phill G. McDonald, team leader with A/1-14 INF.

**13-14 June 1918** – Orders were received on the evening of 13 June to place the 7th Brigade at the disposal of the 4th French Infantry Division and the remainder of the division was attached to the 164th French Infantry Division and directed to march on June 14 to an area on the Marne River. It was a step nearer to the plunge into action. Training continued with the French through the remainder of June.

**30 June 2000** – The 4ID Monument, on the road leading into Arlington National Cemetery, was unveiled. Soil from all the places 4ID has served since 1917 were spread across the base of the monument where ivy now grows. It honors all past, present and future 4ID Soldiers.

***Consult your Ivy Calendar for more daily history of the Division.***

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## **107th National Reunion – 2025**



**2025 National Reunion** will be held at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs / Fort Carson August 11-16, 2025. The Antlers Hotel in downtown Colorado Springs features spacious meeting and banquet facilities, multiple in-house restaurants, and a 24-hour pool and fitness center. Sleeping rooms are offered at \$149/Night with complimentary Self-Parking and Wi-Fi included. Watch the website and the *Ivy Leaves* for more information.

Deadline to Register for the National Reunion – **Friday July 11, 2025**

Deadline to Reserve Hotel Rooms and the Antlers – **Thursday, July 17, 2025**

**Notice:** We are approaching a critical date this week whereby we have the option to adjust our contracted room block with the Antlers Hotel to avoid any shortfall penalties. We are short at this time. If you are thinking of attending the National Reunion in August, please book your hotel rooms now, if your plans should change, reservations can be cancelled or changed up to 24 hours before arrival without penalty. Visit the 4IDA website using the link below – click on the Antler's Hotel Reservation link and reserve your sleeping rooms.

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## Chapter Events

The **Ohio Chapter** monthly breakfast gathering will be at 9 AM June 21st, Wayside Restaurant, 825 State Road, Champion (Warren), OH.

The **Mid-West Chapter** will be holding a chapter meeting on **Tuesday, August 12th from 4 to 5 PM** in the Stratton room at the Antlers Hotel during the 2025 National Reunion in Colorado Springs.

The **Redlegs Chapter** will be holding a chapter meeting on **Tuesday, August 12th from 7 to 8:30 PM** in the Stratton room at the Antlers Hotel during the 2025 National Reunion in Colorado Springs.

The **Ivy Dragoons Chapter** will be holding a chapter dinner meeting on **Wednesday, August 13th from 5 to 9 PM** in the Carson room at the Antlers Hotel during the 2025 National Reunion in Colorado Springs. You must preregister for this event using the 2025 National Reunion registration form.

The **A-1-8 Chapter** will be meeting September 22 – 26 at the Peppermill Hotel and Casino in Reno Nevada. Rooms are \$159, all inclusive, and a very full entertainment itinerary is planned including a day in Historic Virginia City and a visit with Mark Twain in his 1861 newspaper office as well as Chapter elections and selection of the 2026 venue. Interested parties can contact Chapter Secretary Ken McCormack at [kenmac197@gmail.com](mailto:kenmac197@gmail.com)

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## From the Archives

The American Red Cross "Donut Dollies,"  
were our "connection to home."



***Donut Dollies at LZ Oasis, home of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, located 15 miles southwest of Pleiku, Vietnam, circa 1967.***

At the invitation of the United States Army the "Donut Dollies" provided morale-boosting games to soldiers. Traveling by jeep, deuce-and-a-half, and helicopter, Vietnam Donut Dollies were able to visit troops in forwarding operating positions. They also visited hospitals to hand out activity books and spent time in evac hospitals with the wounded. As one Donut Dolly put it, "Our job was to smile and be bubbly for an entire year— no matter what the situation."



***Donut Dollies at 4th Infantry Division's Camp Enari June 1968 L-R Kay Brownfield, Frances Stewart, Wilma Rawls, Lois Hamilton, Cathy Knutson, and Vicki Kohlman. Photo Courtesy of Cathy Knutson Brown, (2nd from right)***

Over 600 Donut Dollies responded to the somewhat opaque Red Cross's ads seeking "qualified young women who were willing to serve one year overseas." They had to be at least 21, have a college education, and have that "girl next door" look. They usually traveled in pairs and dressed in their signature pale blue outfits, this time they brought smiles, songs, games, and a touch of back home to the guys who were in the bush counting the days down from 365.

And the fact that these young women had the guts to brave incoming mortars, sniper and ground- to-air fire, and other wartime hardships and dangers to visit the firebases earned them the unarguable respect and admiration of the troops. And that's exactly how Vietnam Veterans remember the Red Cross Donut Dollies over fifty years later — with unarguable appreciation, respect, and admiration.

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## ***Ivy Matters***

**June 14, 2025** – the U.S. Army will celebrate its 250th birthday on June 14, commemorating the Army's distinguished service to our nation. "As we prepare for our future, we also reflect on our past," said Gen. Randy George, Chief of Staff of the Army. ***"This we'll defend"*** was first used as a battle cry by the Continental Army. Today it reminds us that our Army's purpose is clear: to fight and win the nation's wars. We remain committed to honing our warfighting skills, enforcing standards and discipline, and living the values that have defined our Army culture for the past 250 years."

**June 15, 2025** – is the deadline to submit patriotic essays for the 2025 Legacy Educational Scholarships. Applications were published in the Spring/Summer *Ivy Leaves* and available on the website.

**Attention Chapter Officers:** Please ensure the Executive Director, Don Kelby, has a copy of your chapter's Bylaws in his records. If your Bylaws need updating, or you cannot locate a copy, we have templates you can use to update or create new Bylaws. We will be discussing this at the National Reunion in August, please confirm with Don before the Reunion.

**National Officer Positions** – Contact National President Rick Adams or Nominations Committee Chairman, Jerry Bumpus if you have an interest in serving in an Elected or Appointed position with the Association.

**Chapter Treasurers:** If you need updated chapter rosters, contact the Executive Director.

Remember to check your member status and membership expiration date on your *Ivy Leaves* mailing label. If you need help confirming your information, contact the Executive Director.

**E-Ivy Leaf Newsletters:** If you know of a topic, an issue or an event that would be appropriate to be included in a future *E-Ivy Leaf* or *E-Ivy Extra*, send the information to [admin@4thinfantry.org](mailto:admin@4thinfantry.org) for consideration. Thank you.

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## From The President



We warmly welcome the 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division and Fort Carson's new leaders, Commanding General, Major General Patrick J. Ellis, who will become the Division's 66th Commander on June 18th, and Division Command Sergeant Major Waylon D. Petty who will assume Command of the 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson on June 12th.

We bid a fond farewell to Commanding General Major General David S. Doyle and Division Command Sergeant Major Alexander Kupratty. The Association thanks these senior leaders for their dedication and service to the Division and wish them all the

best in their next career move.

A historic milestone will be reached on June 14th as the Army celebrates its 250th birthday. Show your pride by wearing your 4ID gear and attending events honoring this achievement.

Please book your hotel reservations using the link on the website and submit your Reunion registrations to Armed Forces Reunions (AFR) early, and begin planning to attend the August Reunion as we are just a few weeks from the cut-off dates.

We have a great reunion in store for you and it will be good to be back home with the Ivy Division again.

## Resources

2025 Spring / Summer Ivy Leaves

Visit Our Website

See us on Facebook

4th Infantry Facebook Page

AUSA Member Partnership

In case you missed or want to see a previous issue of the ***E-Ivy Leaf***, you can find past issues on the 4IDA website 'Members Only' section under the *E-Ivy Leaf* tab.

Download and print this **Membership Application** to recruit a new member or update your member information. Membership applications are always published inside the back pages of every *Ivy Leaves* magazine.

Membership Application

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### National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association

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