



U.S. Army Unit History

Era	Unit	Write-up
RevWar	3d Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) Fife & Drum Corps	Part of the 3d Infantry Regiment, which traces its lineage to 1784, the U.S. Army Fife and Drum Corps first performed on April 23, 1960. Soldiers of the Fife and Drum Corps wear uniforms patterned after those worn by Revolutionary War era Army musicians, bringing the historic sound of the Continental Army to life with through their performances. The Old Guard is the Army's official ceremonial unit and escort to the president, and it also provides security for Washington, D.C., in time of national emergency or civil disturbance.
WWI	4th Infantry Division	Constituted in November 1917, as the U.S. Army made ready for World War I, the 4th Infantry Division deployed to France in 1918. The "Ivy Division," a name that comes from the Roman Numeral four, or "IV," distinguished itself at the Battle of St. Mihiel, the Army's first major independent combat action, and during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, the largest and most costly military operation in American history, as well as the battles of Aisne-Marne, Champagne and Lorraine. By the end of WWI, 4ID had more than 5,450 casualties and more than 10,000 had been wounded in action.
WWI	42d Infantry Division	A New York National Guard unit from its inception, the 42d Infantry Division was constituted in August 1917. It is said it earned its nickname, "the Rainbow Division," after then Chief of Staff, Col. Douglas MacArthur remarked that the division's components stretched across America from coast to coast like a rainbow. Despite its New York roots, during World War I it became a composite division to get 27,000 troops from 26 states to France quickly. The division saw heavy combat on the front lines and had high casualty numbers. In recognition of their sacrifice, the patch was transformed into a half-rainbow. The division participated in six different campaigns in WWI, and in April 1945, it was one of three units that liberated 30,000 prisoners in Dachau.
WWI	82d Airborne Division	The 82d Airborne Division was constituted on August 5, 1917, as the 82d Division. It is nicknamed the "All American Division," because during WWI, members came from all 48 states. It became an airborne division in 1942 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The 82d Airborne's paratroopers conducted five combat jumps during World War II but are best-known for their bravery on D-Day, when 12,000 parachute and glider troops destroyed German supply lines. They fought for 33 days straight. They also participated in Operation MARKET GARDEN, the largest military airborne operation to date, with more than 34,000 paratroopers seizing and securing key bridges and roads in the Netherlands. Five separate Presidential Unit Citations were awarded to elements of the 82d Airborne Division for various actions during the war.

WWII	11th Airborne Division	Constituted on November 12, 1942, the 11th Airborne Division led the way in the Philippines during World War II. This small but mighty division spearheaded an amphibious invasion of Luzon and distinguished themselves during the liberation of Manila, for which they were awarded a Presidential Unit Citation. They earned the nickname “Angels” when they rescued more than 2,000 American civilians detained by the Japanese on Luzon. They now operate in the Arctic, as the Arctic Angels, adapting traditional warfighting to succeed in austere environments.
Vietnam	1st Cavalry Division	Originally constituted on August 20, 1921 as a unit primarily made up of horse cavalry, by 1965, technological progress had transformed the 1st Cavalry Division into the Army’s premier airmobile combat force. They were the first to enter Manila in 1945 to free U.S. Army nurses who had been imprisoned for three years, which earned the 1st Cavalry Division the nickname, “The First Team.” The unit earned a Presidential Unit Citation for its actions at the Battle of Ia Drang during the early days of U.S. combat involvement in the Vietnam War. The battle was the first major ground combat in Vietnam and inspired the move “We Were Soldiers.”
Vietnam	25th Infantry Division	The 25th Infantry Division was constituted on 26 August 1941 and activated at Hawaii’s Schofield Barracks, beginning the division’s long history of service outside the continental United States. Their nickname, “Tropic Lightning,” comes from their work in the Pacific – or tropics – and their initial call sign, “lightning.” They are known for their actions during Operation Junction City and the Tet Offensive during the Vietnam War, when they proved their mettle as some of the U.S. Army’s finest jungle fighters.
Desert Storm	1st Armored Division	Originally constituted on January 16, 1932, as the 7th Cavalry Brigade (Mechanized), the 1st Armored Division was redesignated as such in 1940. It is the oldest, most recognizable armored division in the Army. During Operation DESERT STORM, the 1st Armored Division fought in some of the largest tank battles in U.S. Army history, making good on its nickname “Old Ironsides” as it inflicted massive losses on the Iraqi army while suffering minimal casualties.
Desert Storm	1st Infantry Division	The 1st Infantry Division was originally constituted as the 1st Expeditionary Division on May 24, 1917. “The Big Red One” – named for the large red numeral one on the shoulder patch – left its mark during Operation DESERT STORM. The 1st Infantry Division initiated VII Corps’ offensive by plowing through the Saddam Line and participated in hard fighting during the hundred-hour ground war that followed.
GWOT	3d Infantry Division	The 3d Infantry Division was constituted November 12, 1917, during World War I, the conflict in which it earned the moniker “Rock of the Marne,” for its actions during the Second Battle of the Marne. During Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, the 3d Infantry Division led the charge during the Battle of Baghdad, earning a Presidential Unit Citation in recognition of its indispensable role in toppling the Hussein regime.

GWOT	USASOC	Activated on December 1, 1989, the U.S. Army Special Operations Command has played a crucial role in fighting the Global War on Terrorism. Across the world, seen and unseen, soldiers from the Army's Special Forces, Ranger, Psychological Operations, Civil Affairs, and Special Operations Aviation and Support units have worked to keep America safe.
Future Army	101st Airborne Division (AASLT)	Constituted on July 23, 1918, as the 101st Division and reorganized in 1942 as the 101st Airborne Division, the "Screaming Eagles" served as cutting-edge paratroopers during World War II, fighting in D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge. In 1968, the 101st changed with the times again, exchanging their parachutes for helicopters. This transformation was completed in 1974, when the 101st became the Army's first and only air assault division; the "Screaming Eagles" continue to lead the way as tomorrow's division in today's Army.
Future Army	10th Mountain Division	The 10th Mountain Division's climb to glory began with its constitution as the 10th Light Division on July 10, 1943. It was redesignated a "Mountain Division" the following year and carried out the light infantry mission in northern Italy during World War II. After periods spent inactive and as a standard infantry division, the unit returned to its roots in 1985, when it regained its "Mountain Division" designation. Since then, the "Mountaineers" have proved their mettle as the U.S. Army's premier light fighters.