

# 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

February 1, 2026

## Task Force Shikra - Exercise Sky Shield



### KUWAIT - Udari Range Complex

4th Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division Public Affairs

**Task Force Shikra** (3-4 AHB), 4th Combat Aviation Brigade participates in a live fire with AH-64D Apache attack helicopters during exercise Sky Shield at the Udari Range Complex, Kuwait. Led by Kuwait, exercise Sky Shield is a counter-drone live fire exercise that included participation from the United States, Bahrain, and the United Kingdom. (U.S. Army Photo by Joe Kumzak).



(U.S. Army Photos by Joe Kumzak)

# Around the Army



**January 7, 2026** – Lt. Gen. Christopher LaNeve has been confirmed by the Senate to be the next Army vice chief of staff and receive a fourth star. He will succeed Gen. James J. Mingus, who has been in the role since January 2024. LaNeve is the senior military assistant to the secretary of war, and he previously commanded the Eighth Army in the Republic of Korea.

Gen. Mingus, who is retiring, has held the vice chief position for two years. Before taking this post, Mingus served as the J3, director for operations, and the Director of the Joint Staff in the Pentagon. Prior to that, **Mingus had stints serving as the deputy commander of the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson** and commanding the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg in North Carolina.

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## 4ID History – February Key Events

**4 Feb 1945** – The enemy's outer Siegfried Line defense was penetrated with elements of the 8th and 22nd Infantry Regiments at the same place that the 4th Infantry Division penetrated on 14 September 1944. Veterans reported that they occupied many of the same foxholes they had dug in September 1944.

**9-11 Feb 1969** – The Medal of Honor was earned (posthumously) by CPL Thomas Bennett, medic with B/1-14 INF, for his actions on 9-11 February 1969. He was the only conscientious objector to earn the Medal of Honor in Vietnam. Bennett Medical Clinic at Fort Hood is named after this 4ID MOH recipient.

**15 Feb 1967** – The Medal of Honor was earned (posthumously) by PFC Louis Willett, rifleman with C/1-12 INF.

**16 Feb 1967** – The Medal of Honor was earned (posthumously) by PSG E. R. Smith, platoon sergeant with C/2-8 INF.

**28 Feb 1945** – 4ID attacked to the east from the Prum river, with 8th and 22nd Infantry attacking at 0515, 12th Infantry was division reserve.

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

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## 2026 National Reunion

**National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association**  
**108th National Reunion – August 2-8, 2026**

The 2026 National Reunion will be held at The Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, a multi-faceted destination scenically situated on the Mighty Mississippi River, at 1800 Isle Parkway, Bettendorf, Iowa, easily accessible via I-80, I-74, I-



the event, and after the reservations based on availability.

The Isle Casino Hotel and all Waterfront facilities are linked via indoor, climate-controlled skywalks. Free wireless Internet throughout entire property and hotel towers. A 24-hour executive fitness center heated indoor pool and hot tub, 24-hour nonstop casino gaming action, multiple on-site food outlets, and bars, ample free, open and covered self-parking and free valet parking. Minutes away from popular family attractions, historic points of interest, professional golf courses, artisan breweries and wineries, restaurants, fast food, bars and live entertainment.

**[Click this link for the complete schedule, Hotel and Registration Information.](#)**

2026 National Reunion Information

## 2026 Important Dates

**February 15, 2026** – Deadline to submit copy and information to be included in the 2026 Spring/Summer *Ivy Leaves* magazine.

**April 15, 2026** – Deadline to submit nominations for the 2026 Ralph E. Lingert Service Award.

**May 1, 2026** – Deadline to submit copy and information to be included in the new 2026 Mid-Year *Digital E-Ivy Leaves*.

**June 15, 2026** – Deadline to submit Applications and Patriotic Essays for the 2026 Legacy Educational Scholarships.

**July 6, 2026** – Deadline to Register for the 2026 National Reunion with Armed Forces Reunions, Norfolk, VA.

**July 24, 2026** – Deadline to make Hotel Reservations for the 2026 National Reunion with the Isle Casino Hotel, Bettendorf, Iowa.

## Ivy Matters

**National Officer Elections – All (4) National Elected Offices will be up for election at the 2026 National Reunion.** To include: The National President, the National Senior Vice President, the Vice President–Communications, and the Vice President–Finance. 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.

88 and major state highways and the Quad Cities International Airport (MLI).

**Hotel guest rooms' group rate is \$99/night (\$126.55 inclusive of fee & tax) without breakfast included. "Thank you for your service" 20 percent discount at all Isle food outlets.** The Hotel will offer the group rate up to three days before and after cut-off date, rooms will be accepted based on availability.

We currently have two openings for National Appointed Officers – the **National Vice President-War on Terror** and the **National Secretary** who both would be appointed by the National President, and serve on the Executive Board.

**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* or the *Ivy Calendar* 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 Newsletter* or *E-Ivy Extra*, send the information to [admin@4thinfantry.org](mailto:admin@4thinfantry.org) for consideration. Thank you.

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## Chapter Events

**The Carolinas Chapter** will hold its 2026 Spring Mini-Reunion at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Spartanburg, South Carolina Friday and Saturday, April 24-25, 2026. All 4IDA members and friends are welcome to join us. The Four Points by Sheraton Hotel is located off Interstate I-26 Exit 19B and Business I-85 Exit 2C. Traditional King and (2) Queen Guestrooms are \$109.00/night (w/out Breakfast). Rates do not include taxes (currently 13%). Self-Parking is complimentary. Reservations may be made by individual attendees directly with Marriott reservations at [864-707-4700](tel:864-707-4700) or the direct booking link available on the 4IDA website. **Last Day to Book Hotel Rooms : Wednesday, March 25, 2026.**

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## From The President



Welcome to the February *E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter*. In this months addition, you will find news and happenings from the 4th Infantry Division, the Army, some historical references, a link to the details for the 2026 National Reunion, important 2026 dates to get on your calendar and some *Ivy Matters* to consider.

We are fast approaching the February 15th deadline to submit copy and information to be included in the 2026 Spring/Summer *Ivy Leaves* magazine.

This issue of the *Ivy Leaves* represents a new era as we transition to a new team to publish the printed *Ivy Leaves* magazine. We look

forward to working with the team of Dittmer Design and Intellicor Communications who have been publishing the Annual Calendar for us and are very familiar with the Association. Another change this year will be the addition of a Mid-Year Digital *Ivy Leaves*, setting the stage for more digital communications in the future. Watch for it!

As always, Steadfast & Loyal,  
Rick Adams, National President  
[RJAdams90@charter.net](mailto:RJAdams90@charter.net)

# Resources

[2025 Fall / Winter Ivy Leaves](#)

[Flickr Photo Albums](#)

[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](#)

## National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association

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