



GSDF Journal

The Official Newsletter of the Georgia State Defense Force

January 2007

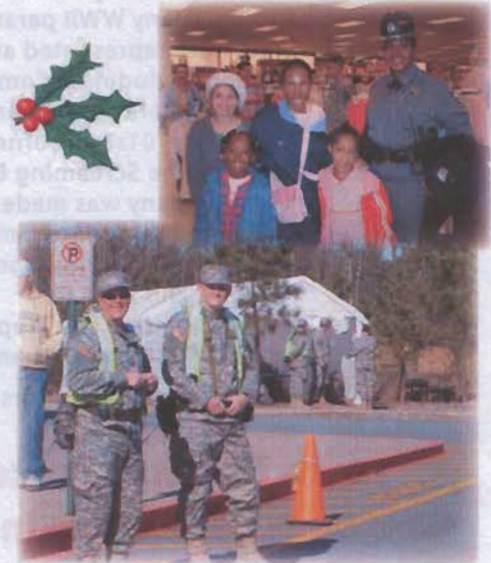
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GSDF Troopers Ring In Spirit of Giving

Members of the Georgia State Defense Force served Georgians over the Christmas season by helping to make sure it was a wonderful holiday for those in need. During December the 1st Battalion of the 1st Brigade supported the Ga. Department of Family and Children's Services "Silent Santa" program for children in foster care. The 1st BN along with personnel from the Boy Scouts Of America Troop 157, and the Civil Air Patrol Unit from the Bartow County Airport, helped shop, package, and deliver toys to homes as far as 100 miles away from Bartow Co. The GSDF helped bring Christmas cheer to nearly 300

homes this year.

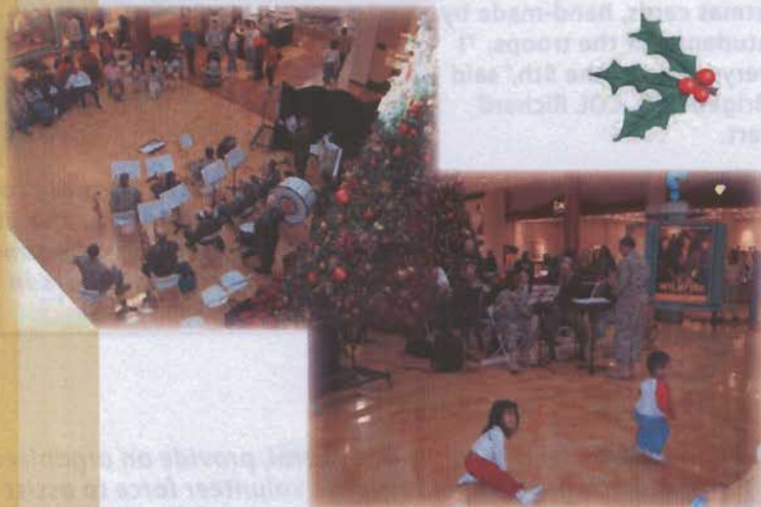
Meanwhile, on Dec. 8th & 9th units of the 1st Brigade along with MEDDET, FAMSEC, and the 911th Support Command supported the Joy Foundation's annual "Shop with a Hero" event at Kohl's Dept. Store in Acworth on Dec. 8th & 9th. During the event, hundreds of children in need get to shop for toys with police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and uniformed military personnel. The GSDF provided crowd and traffic control in conjunction with the Acworth Police Department. The smiles on the children's faces showed what it meant for them to spend the day with a Hero.



Top: A police officer helps make Christmas shopping special for youngsters during the Joy Foundation's 'Shop with a Hero' event. Bottom: Support from the GSDF helps make it all happen.

105th GSDF Band entertains mall holiday shoppers

On Dec. 16th the 105th Georgia State Defense Force Band gave a holiday concert at Stonecrest Mall in Lithonia. Hundreds of shoppers stopped to listen to the GSDF Band performed seasonal



Top: Shoppers enjoy a break from the Mall bustle. Bottom: Young fans groove to the GSDF tunes.

favorites, bringing cheer to what is an otherwise stressful Christmas shopping experience. The Bandmaster, 2LT Tim Anderson, said that "our band's ability to focus the attention of the public, allows us a unique opportunity to recruit those who would have an interest in joining the GSDF.

Dining Out on tap for Feb. 24th

The Annual GSDF Headquarters Dining Out is scheduled to take place at the posh 1818 Club in Duluth, Ga on February 24th. This formal dinner provides State Defense Force personnel an opportunity to meet and dine with Georgia legislators and officials, and review the successes of the past year. For more information on the 2007 Dining Out, please contact LTC Lee Martin at leesandymartin@bellsouth.net

At the 2005 Headquarters Dining Out, CPT Clark Howard of the GSDF PAO presents a plaque to U.S. Rep. Lynn Westmoreland in honor of his support for the GSDF. CPT Howard will once again emcee this year's event.



The GSDF Journal is published by the Headquarters Public Affairs Office of the Georgia State Defence Force. Contact: garry.moon@gasdf.us

GSDF supports "Band of Brothers" Reunion

WWII paratroopers return to Toccoa training ground

On Oct. 14th members of the GSDF's 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade provided crowd and traffic control for the annual "Band of Brothers" military reunion in Toccoa. Many WWII paratroop units were represented at the reunion, including E Company of the 506th Paratroop Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (the Screaming Eagles). Easy Company was made widely known to the public from the epic HBO mini-series, *Band of Brothers*, and from the best-selling book by Stephen Ambrose of the same name. The thousands of visitors

attending the event were treated to demonstrations of parachuting, repelling, and hand-to-hand combat by elite U.S. Army Rangers from the Toccoa-based 5th Ranger Training Battalion.

"The Band of Brothers mission has provided the 3rd Battalion with a great opportunity to serve our community and to honor the men who sacrificed so much to preserve our freedoms," said CPT Bud Siniard, CO of 3rd BN. "This mission gave the 3rd Battalion a tangible way to say 'thank you' to the men of the 101st Airborne Division."



Above: Aviation personnel from Ft. Benning brought their Blackhawk helicopters to Toccoa. Below: Troops in the 3rd BN's TOC plan to ensure the event goes smoothly.

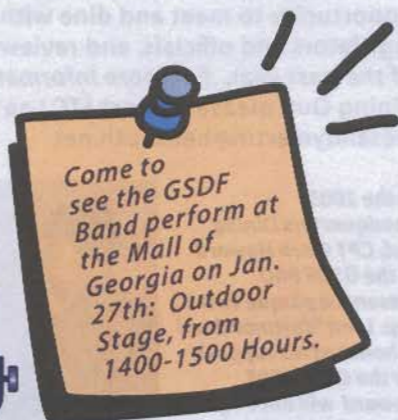
State Defense Force collects goods for troops in Iraq

On Dec. 9th the 5th Brigade participated in the City of Grantville's Calico Christmas parade. At the parade there was a collection set up for items to be sent to our troops in Iraq. The generous troops of the 5th Brigade collected 460 lbs of goods, and over 300 Christmas cards. In addition, over \$300 was donated to cover the cost of shipping the goods

to the troops in Iraq. A very successful mission. The 5th BDE also visited the Grantville Elementary School later in the week, where they were presented with an additional 150 lbs of goods and 200 Christmas cards, hand-made by the students for the troops. "I am very proud of the 5th," said the Brigade CO, COL Richard Lockert.



Troops from the 5th Brigade step proudly for the Grantville Calico Christmas parade. For the event, the 5th BDE collected hundreds of pounds of goods to send to American soldiers in Iraq.



THE GSDF'S MISSION:

When ordered by the Adjutant General, provide an organized, trained, disciplined, rapid response volunteer force to assist state and local government agencies, and civil relief organizations in impending or actual emergencies to assure the welfare and safety of the citizens of Georgia.

The Georgia State Defense Force

"Ready to Serve"

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