

HEADS UP!



E-NEWS FROM THE GEORGIA STATE DEFENSE FORCE

OCTOBER 2005 ~ PUBLISHED BY GSDF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE ~ WWW.GASDF.COM

GSDF again mobilized for Hurricane Rita airlift

By Garry Moon, HQ PAO

"Who *are* you guys?" said a flight crewmember of a C-141 bringing evacuees from Texas just ahead of Hurricane Rita. When told the long line of troops lined up behind his aircraft were volunteers, all the airman could muster was a quiet "Wow".

Georgia State Defense Force "wowed" national, state, and local emergency responders for the second time in less than a month, as the GSDF was mobilized to help with the airlift of evacuees at Dobbins ARB in Marietta, providing litter-bearing and triage service just as had been done for evacuees from Hurricane Katrina only a few weeks earlier.

"Mind-numbing hours manning the JOC/EOC/SOC and years of training in D&C, military courtesy, LZ and air-evacuation management have paid off," said CPT Dan Clarke, EESU Platoon Leader with the GSDF HQ Support Group. "Without your investments of time, professionalism and talent, we never would have been invited to 'come play' at Dobbins," CPT Clarke said after the mission.



GSDF troopers wait their turn to help unload evacuees off a C-141 that flew in from the Texas coast. Many of the Rita evacuees were critical care patients from the area of Beaumont and Port Arthur.

Photo: Garry Moon

State Defense Force helps Falcons game get kicked-off at the Dome

By Garry Moon, HQ PAO

A GSDF Color Guard was given the honor of presenting the Nation's colors in the Georgia Dome at a preseason NFL game between the Atlanta Falcons and the Baltimore Ravens on August 13th. The Color Guard team, commanded by CPT James "Bud" Siniard, presented the colors at mid-field during the National Anthem just before the kickoff. The Falcons, perhaps inspired by the sharp performance of the GSDF Color Guard, went on to win the contest against the Ravens by a score of 16-3.



Above: The GSDF Color Guard team (SSG Jim Foote, OC James Szendel, SSG Mark Shanabrough, and PFC Tyson Bond) during the National Anthem. Below: SSG Larry Long claimed that "No cheerleaders were harmed during the production of these photos."

Photos: Atlanta Falcons, Larry Long



BACK PAGE: AT weekend coming up; Fort Stewart is 'In Focus'

In Focus



In Focus this month: Ft. Stewart/Hunter AAF

By Garry Moon, GSDF HDQ PAO

Some GSDF troopers may not be familiar with Fort Stewart, the venue for the Georgia State Defense Force's Annual Training weekend. Following is some interesting information about Ft. Stewart and Hunter Army Air Field (info from Ft. Stewart Public Affairs):

Ft. Stewart, the largest US Army installation east of the Mississippi River, has been home to the 3rd Infantry Division since 1996. The base traces its history back to 1940, when served as the Army's Anti-Aircraft Artillery Training Center. Later that year it was officially designated as Camp Stewart, in honor of Gen. Daniel Stewart, a Georgian who had fought with Francis Marion during the Revolutionary War.

The base, located near Hinesville, GA, covers 279,270 acres: 39 miles across from east to west, and 19 miles from north to south. Hunter Army Airfield is home to the Army's longest runway on the east coast (11,375 feet) and the Truscott Air Deployment Terminal. Together these assets are capable of deploying units such as the heavy, armored forces of the 3rd I.D. or the elite light fighters of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield's mission is to be the Army's world-class training and military armored power projection combination on the Eastern Seaboard of the United States. This dynamic platform allows military units in the region to deploy rapidly throughout the world.

Many do not realize that Fort Stewart/HAAF is a sportsman's Mecca, with fishing ponds, river landings, and hunting areas that make it one of the finest outdoor recreational areas in Georgia. Fort Stewart's Fish and Wildlife Division conducts an annual children's fishing derby that draws children from all over the area.



To get to Fort Stewart from I-16, get off at Exit 127 (Pembroke/ GA Hwy 119). Turn right on GA Hwy 119 South. Travel approximately 18 miles to the Ft. Stewart gate.

Time to get ready for Annual Training weekend at Fort Stewart

The GSDF's Annual Training weekend is set for November 4th-6th at Fort Stewart/Hunter AAF. The information below is important for all attending this year's AT to be aware of -

The following guidelines and standards of conduct shall apply to all Georgia State Defense Force personnel attending Annual Training at Ft. Stewart during the period 4-6 November 2005. Commanders and Staff Section heads are responsible for ensuring that this information is passed to every member under their supervision before they depart for Ft. Stewart:

- Have a **current and valid Georgia Driver's License and GSDF ID Card** in your possession at all times.
- Have a **copy of your orders** with your name highlighted on an attached list in your possession at all times.
- Do not carry, have in your baggage, in your automobile or otherwise bring a weapon of any type** onto the installation. This applies to all personnel including certified law enforcement officers.
- Rigidly obey the posted speed limits on the installation. **Two miles over can get you a speeding ticket.**
- Ensure that **your uniform is neat and complete** to include all required GSDF nametags and patches, and authorized badges or patches earned in prior active military service.
- Have a **copy of your DD Form 214 or equivalent** in your possession to prove if questioned that you are entitled to wear combat infantry badge, flight or jump wings, submariner's or other badges earned in prior military service to include right shoulder last overseas unit patch worn in combat.
- Bring both beret and field cap, and T/A 50 gear** if you have it available. The field cap will be worn within the NGTC area during training and for some formations. The beret will be worn in transit if in uniform and when engaged in activities on base outside the NGTC area.
- Conduct yourself with military bearing and dignity:** treat others with respect and courtesy at all times. Do not engage in arguments or altercations with installation personnel. Report any untoward incidents to your unit commander at the earliest opportunity.
- Do not under any circumstances consume excessive alcoholic beverages** when or if visiting an on base recreational facility or club.
- Each vehicle should have registration papers and proof of insurance.** Note that this is a Federal installation - even though Georgia no longer requires insurance cards for proof of insurance, this may not apply on Ft. Stewart.

Remember that you are not only representing the Georgia State Defense Force but the Department of Defense of the State of Georgia.

We welcome your comments! Please send letters, story ideas, etc to the Editor:

garry.moon@travelinc.com