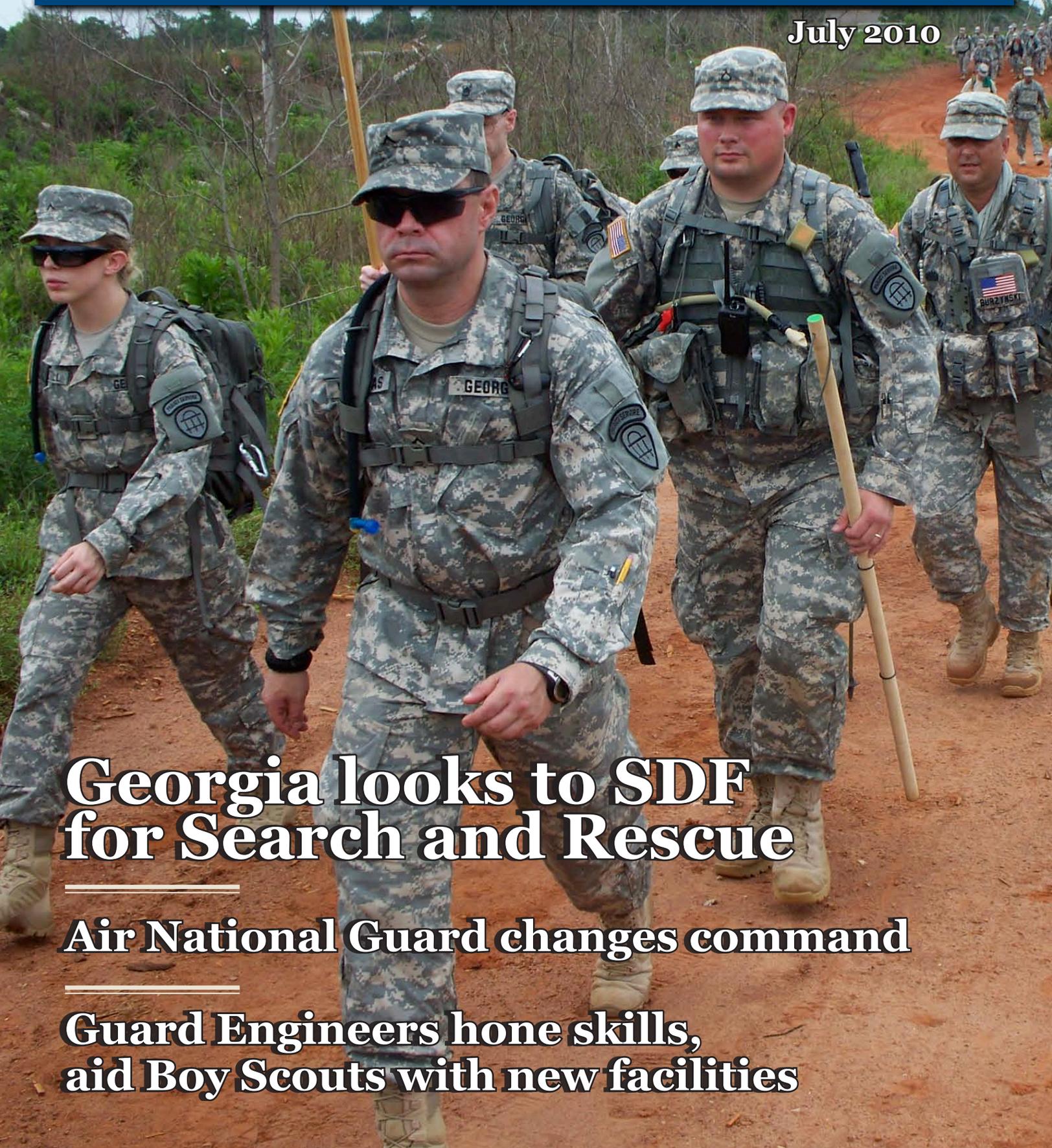


# GEORGIA GUARDSMAN

★ ★ SERVING THE NATIONAL GUARD AND STATE DEFENSE FORCE OF GEORGIA ★ ★

July 2010



## Georgia looks to SDF for Search and Rescue

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Air National Guard changes command

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Guard Engineers hone skills,  
aid Boy Scouts with new facilities



# GEORGIA GUARDSMAN

★★ SERVING THE NATIONAL GUARD AND STATE DEFENSE FORCE OF GEORGIA ★★

**Commander-in-Chief:**  
Gov. Sonny Perdue

**Adjutant General of Georgia:**  
Maj. Gen. William T. Nesbitt

**State Public Affairs Officer:**  
Maj. John H. Alderman IV

**Managing Editor, Layout & Design:**  
Seth G. Stuck

**Media Relations:**  
Lt. Col. (Ret.) Kenneth R. Baldowski

**Operations NCO:**  
Master Sgt. John Kinnaman

**Contributing Ga. DoD Organizations:**  
124th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, Army National Guard Unit Public Affairs Representatives, Air National Guard Wing Public Affairs Representatives, Georgia State Defense Force Public Affairs.

**Cover photo:**  
GSDF Capt. Jeffrey Hatchew

**Editorial Inquiry and Submissions:**  
Seth.G.Stuck@us.army.mil or (678) 569-3663

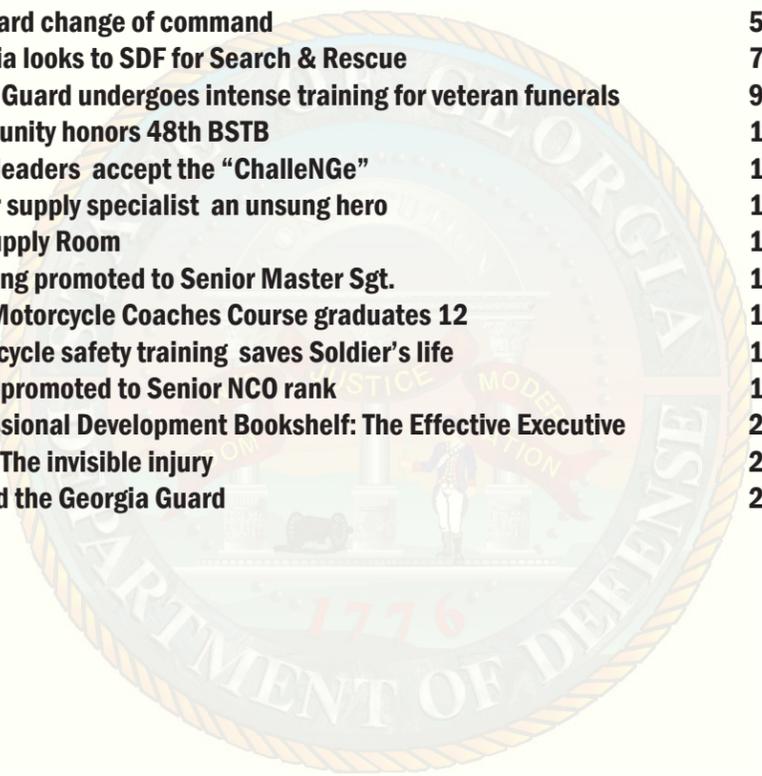
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Up-to-the-minute Ga. DoD news and information can be found at [www.gadod.net](http://www.gadod.net)



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Guard Engineers pack quality and detail into the amphitheater seating going up to the back of the administration building.

## GUARD ENGINEERS HONE SKILLS, AID BOY SCOUTS WITH NEW FACILITIES

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Henry  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

### OBERT E. KNOX BOY SCOUT CAMP, Lincolnton, June 25, 2010

— After constructing a new 400-person amphitheater and four primitive shelters (or “Fred Sheds”) here, Toccoa’s 876th Engineer Company turned over the structures to the Georgia-Carolina Boy Scout Council in a ceremony at the camp administration building.

Work on the project began in early May with the laying of foundations and the leveling of the ground for the amphitheater, and continued this month during the 876th’s two-week annual training that began June 12.

“I cannot adequately express my thanks to you – or the thanks of the more than 8,000 youngsters who make up our council,” said Jeff Shwab, executive director of the Boy Scouts of America Georgia-Carolina Council.

“These youth and the generations of scouts to come may never know your names, but they will know your deeds as they enjoy the fruits of your labors,” he added.

Scouting has been a part of Lt. Col. David Silver’s

family for years. Silver commands Augusta’s 878th Engineer Battalion – the 876th’s parent headquarters.

“There’s nothing better,” he said to the participating Soldiers, “than doing a project such as this and knowing that it’s going to be used for the growth and fulfillment of youth. Be proud of what you’ve done, and be proud that you’ve represented yourselves, your unit and the Army Guard in an outstanding way.”



With his unit’s guidon flying in the breeze out on the amphitheater, Capt. Kevin E. Holley, who commands 876th Engineer Company, explained that there are still pieces of the project underway. Plumbing, flooring and electrical work remains to be completed in a pavilion near the primitive shelters and in a fifth shelter, he said.

“County permit requirements delayed construction of a concrete pad for a ramp area – and for an improved road to that ramp – until the second week of the training,” Holley said. “We plan on coming back between now and October to finish that work.”

He reiterated that the main goal for his Soldiers was to train their engineering skills. The secondary goal, Holley noted, was to help the Georgia-Carolina Council improve on, and add to, the facilities at the Knox Scout Camp.

“They have accomplished both goals with great enthusiasm and outstanding craftsmanship,” Holley concluded with a proud smile.

## ‘BUFFALO’ HERD ASSUMES 116TH ACW COMMAND FROM ‘MOOSE’ MOORE

Story and photos by Wayne Crenshaw  
Public Affairs  
Robins Air Force Base

### RONINS AIR FORCE BASE, Warner Robins, July 19, 2010

— Georgia’s 116th Air Control Wing located at Robins Air Force Base said goodbye to one commander and welcomed a new one in a ceremony last week at the Museum of Aviation.

Following a standing ovation, Brig. Gen. Thomas “Moose” Moore relinquished command of the

2,300-member Wing to Col. Jeffrey “Buffalo” Herd.

“I can’t say enough good things about Team Robins,” said Moore, who is going on to be commander of the 3,000-member Georgia Air National Guard.

“It has been incredible,” said Moore, who departs after four years as commander of the 116th.

Like Moore, Herd is a master navigator with approximately 3,000 hours in a variety of aircraft, including more than 300 combat hours.

In his most recent assignment at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., he commanded the 55th Operations Group, which performs reconnaissance, command and control,

presidential support, and treaty verifications missions. With 11 squadrons and nine aircraft models, it is the largest operations group in the Air Force.

“I am humbled by the opportunity to command what is arguably one of the highest profile wings in the Air Force,” said Herd. “We have the rare opportunity to continue to set the standard for all total-force units in the Air Force.”

The 116th is made up of both Georgia Air National Guard personnel and active-duty Airmen. The unit operates the Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System, or J-STARS.

No stranger to Robins or the J-STARS, Herd previously served with the 93rd Training Squadron and later commanded the 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron in the 116th.

Moore expressed his thanks to all of the Airmen of the 116th who served with him during a period in which the 116th had its highest ever involvement in combat operations.

“I owe you a tremendous debt of gratitude for the sacrifices you guys make,” he said. “You are absolutely awesome and it has been an honor to be your commander.”





# NEW COMMANDER TAKES THE STICK FOR GEORGIA AIR GUARD

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Henry  
Public Affairs Office  
Department of Defense

## ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Warner Robins, July 24, 2010

— More than 200 friends, fellow Airmen and Soldiers, and dignitaries filled the Museum of Aviation’s “Century of Flight” hangar to watch the Georgia Air Guard welcome its new commander and to say farewell to the man who spent the past six years as the organization’s senior leader.

“I receive the command,” said Brig. Gen. Thomas R. Moore, saluting Maj. Gen. Terry Nesbitt, Georgia’s Adjutant General, as Moore formally accepted the position of Georgia Air Guard commander.

To take his new post as the Air Guard commander, Moore had to relinquish command of the 116th Air Control Wing—the Air Force’s premier “blended wing” in which active duty Air Force and Air Guard personnel fly the E8-C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (J-STARS) aircraft.

“He [Moore] has proven his leadership as the 116th’s commander and as commander of the 165th Airlift Wing in Savannah,” Nesbitt said. “His insight made both units two of the top wings of their type nationally in the Air Guard and the active Air Force.

“I know Tom will continue that tradition of success as he steps into the role of Georgia Air Guard commander to lead the Air Guard’s more than 3,000 members,” Nesbitt added.

Moore acknowledged the many challenges ahead in this time of ever-constricting budgets. However, he lauded the fact that the Air Guard has one of the best leadership teams in the nation, adding that he would work with that team to “roll up our sleeves, get in there and get after it.”

“Looking back at the past six years, the Georgia Air Guard has probably gone through the most challenging

time in its 60-year history,” Nesbitt remarked. “General Moore, though, will maintain the Air Guard’s upward momentum, gaining new missions and new units, carrying the organization on to new heights.”

Hammond, who spent 35 years of his life in uniform, ends the career he began as a flight instructor. He then served as a fighter and bomber pilot, having logged more than 3,000 flight hours in T-37 and T-38 trainer jets, the F-15 Eagle and the B-1 Bomber. Hammond has also served in key squadron and wing positions, as the special assistant to the deputy chief of staff for plans and operations at the Pentagon, and as the Air Guard chief of staff before becoming Air Guard commander.

Though Hammond, Nesbitt noted, wants to be remembered as a fighter pilot, the legacy he leaves behind will be embodied in the organization he helped develop and in his example of “service before self” integrity.



“Your aggressive devotion to duty, relentless focus on the targets at hand, and ability to recognize and react to complex situations at a glance, are certainly characteristic traits of a fighter pilot,” Nesbitt said. “And those skills have guided your actions as Air Guard commander and kept you determined to make the organization stronger and better.”

Moore said of Hammond, “I thank you. Paula [Moore’s wife] and I couldn’t have asked for better friends than you and Cindy [Hammond’s wife], and I couldn’t have asked for a better boss. It’s an honor to have served with you.”

Hammond said he’s quite proud of the people he’s served with, and very proud of the fact that the Georgia Air Guard has deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001 without any losses.

“Some may call it luck, but it was the dedication to excellence and untiring commitment to training of the officers and Airmen that made that happen,” he said.

As for Moore, Hammond told his replacement, “I know this organization is getting a great leader, and that you have the temperament and integrity that it takes to lead this unique breed of warriors.”



# GEORGIA LOOKS TO SDF FOR SEARCH & RESCUE

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Henry  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, Marietta, July 17, 2010** – While the Georgia State Defense Force’s (GSDF) primary mission is to support of the Georgia Army and Air Guard, many of its members – through civilian or military training – are qualified in the skill of search and rescue. That’s why Brig. Gen. Jerry Bradford, State Defense Force commander, has mandated that his organization increase the number of SDF personnel qualified in search and rescue (SAR), thereby increasing the number of SAR teams available to local authorities.

GSDF members assisted in more than a dozen searches for missing persons in the past two and a half years. One of these was the second search by Morgan County authorities in 2008 for Iraq war veteran Jason Roark, who remains missing since November 2006. GSDF personnel not only scoured the search area, they ran the operation.

“General Bradford has said he wants to change the mindset of civilian agencies to not just call us [the GSDF]

for support, but to call us first when search and rescue is initiated,” said SDF Maj. Sam Pena, who leads Atlanta’s 911th Support Command.

There are three situations in which Bradford wants to see State Defense Force personnel used, Pena explained. The first would be using the SDF to supplement other agencies, which covers many of the operations in which the SDF has previously participated. The second situation entails running the search area then reporting to local authorities, which SDF personnel did during the Roark search. The third situation for which Bradford would like to see the SDF utilized requires running the entire operation.

“Eventually, the SDF hopes to expand its capabilities to assisting the Guard’s Joint Task Force 781 in its search, evacuation and recovery mission during man-made and natural disasters,” Pena said. “Getting to that stage requires more people and more training.”

That is where schools, like the one held at Forsyth’s Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC), come into play. For the past three months, more than 30 SDF enlisted members and officers have taken on the task of becoming SAR qualified. Worth noting, of course, is the fact that these SDF members are not paid for participating.

“For those who don’t know us, we are the epitome of the ‘all-volunteer force,’” said SDF Pvt. Borbi Brophreh, the newest member of Atlanta-based 1st Medical Company. “Like anything else we do, we do SAR because we want to serve our communities and our state. We want to be a part of something larger than ourselves.”

But not just anyone can do SAR, said 2nd Lt. Tim McNeill, the 911th’s personnel officer and a SAR instructor. Volunteers first have to prove they can handle the physical and mental demands search operations can place on them. They either walk three miles in 45 minutes carrying a 45-pound load; walk two miles in 30 minutes carrying a 30-pound load; or walk one mile in 15 minutes without a load. These “work capacity tests” are based on those used by civilian fire departments to test prospective firefighters.

“Only those who pass the three-mile test are called on for searches in rough, mountainous terrain. Those who pass the two-mile are used for moderate terrain, and those who pass the one-mile are used for light,” McNeill said. “Also, those over 50 years of age must have confirmation from their doctor that they’re physically fit to get into the course.”

Those currently in training now expect to graduate in

late September. To get that diploma, they have to absorb a lot of material. They have to learn what is necessary for staying and surviving in the field for at least three days, search and rescue operations fundamentals, and rappelling. That, McNeill added, is just the short list of subjects.

“It’s quite a lot to learn, especially when doing it one weekend a month,” said Sgt. Thomas Dager, one of the trainees and the NCO-in-charge of the intelligence section for Jackson’s 2nd Battalion, 5th Brigade. Dager is also a former long-range surveillance Soldier who once served with what is now 3rd Squadron, 108th Cavalry – the Army Guard’s version of a Ranger company.

“Sure, it’s a lot of information, but if we’re gonna aid folks who are in distress or immediate danger, we’ve got to do it right,” he said. “Believe me, the course instructors aren’t cutting us any slack. Can’t do it right? Expect not to pass.”

As the Georgia State Defense Force leadership pushes harder to become the people local authorities call on first for search and rescue assets, it’ll continue to push its people harder to become better at SAR operations.

“It’s just that important, said Pvt. Desire Saltkill, a decontamination specialist with 1st Medical Company.



# HONOR GUARD UNDERGOES INTENSE TRAINING FOR VETERAN FUNERALS

*Story and photos by Maj. Craig Heathscott  
Arkansas Army National Guard*

Silently, six Soldiers work in tandem to fold the American flag. Poetically, this red, white and blue symbol of a nation is folded 13 times into a triangle. Carefully, upon the final fold the flag is handed to a steely-eyed Soldier for some final caressing.

The Soldier methodically moves his gloved hands over the flag feeling for imperfections in the fold – nothing but perfection will suffice. His arms criss-cross the flag as he holds it tight against his chest until done. Its white stars upon a blue background are accented against a uniform adorned with its own various ribbons and medals. He stands statuesque in the sweltering Arkansas heat. The only hint of mortality is the perspiration that begins to roll down his seemingly stone face.

The Soldier begins his precision move to hand off the flag. It exchanges hands several times before reaching the head of the casket and enters into the arms of the NCO-in-charge. With a salute rendered, and the delivery complete, the NCOIC stands facing the six figures at attention facing the casket.

Quietly, a voice commands “ready, face” and the six Soldiers turn as if they are one. The NCOIC watches as they depart and fade into the distance. Finally, he is left alone, literally alone, as there is no seventh man on this day – no fallen Soldier. Today is training day for the National Guard’s Honor Guard Training Course at the Professional Education Center (PEC).

On this day, instead of marching over to the ‘next of kin’ and presenting the flag, the NCOIC simply hands it to his instructors, Justin Helton and Tim Ferrell. These dedicated instructors understand the meaning of pride, honor and respect. The two served in the famed Army’s ‘Old Guard’ at Fort Myers, Va., and have participated in the funerals of Presidents Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford.

The course Helton and Ferrell teach is a two-week ‘train-the-trainer’ course covering all aspects of military funeral honors including firing party, transfer of remains, uniform standards, escort missions, drill and ceremony, weapons handling, and military funeral honors history.

Its 16 students find themselves in a classroom consisting of rows of tombstones, an old-fashioned hearse and a casket. Today marks the end this surprisingly exhaustive, yet rewarding, course.

**“WE ARE A REFLECTION OF WHAT THEY LOST.”**

“You’re there to give honor to a fallen Soldier,” said Sgt 1st Class Michael Rios of the New Jersey National Guard, who attended the course. “For me, our presence instills the picture of the veteran that passed away. I believe the next of kin looks at us and sees their loved one; we are a reflection of what they lost.”

An honor guard member must keep high uniform standards at all times.

“I had one family member tell me, ‘my husband wore that uniform,’ and that should drive home that this is one of the most important jobs in the military. Our fallen veterans deserve the proper honors, and my uniform must be up to standards. They risked their life for our freedom, and they deserve the best.”

Another student, Sgt. Chris Canady of the Georgia National Guard, reiterated the statement of his fellow classmate. “During the time that the family is going through a hard time, you are representing the military at the highest standard because you are the last thing they see as far as the military and their loved one. The mental toughness and discipline is pretty intense.”

For Canady, simply attending the course at the PEC was an honor. “Being sent to PEC from Georgia is a privilege, not a right. You must have experience coming into the program as you’re standing in front of two members of the ‘Old Guard’ that are serving as your instructors. Even though I’ve done a lot of funerals, I was very nervous coming to PEC.”

Canady and Rios recalled a week earlier standing at attention for long periods of time during uniform inspections, inspections that could be deemed a failure for wearing uniform accoutrements as little as one-sixteenth of an inch off. And Rios fondly recalls with a smile the many hours spent looking over and pressing his uniform.

**Soldiers face the rigors of a two-week National Guard Honor Guard Training Course at the Professional Education Center at Camp Joseph T. Robinson in North Little Rock, Ark. Graduates of the program are deemed certified trainers and then can go back to their state/territory and provide instruction to fellow Soldiers who will participate in their state Funeral Honors Program.**



## UNIFORMS UNDER A MICROSCOPE

Even the most minute detail cannot be overlooked in this world of exacts. The long hours would pay off for Canady and Rios when their peers graded their uniforms. Standing at the position of attention, they waited patiently as their fellow Soldiers moved a six-inch metal ruler around their uniform, taking measurements that require 20/20 vision just to make out. The creases, overall uniform fit and general appearance are the focus of this block of instruction. Only two small errors are allowed, but fortunately, each individual in this class is a 'go' at this station.

"Literally, you can spend hours creasing your shirt with steam," said Canady, referring to the classroom portion focused on uniforms where steam machines are actually used. "That, along with worrying about errors of one-sixteenth of an inch, requires discipline. Now, take all that in consideration and then stand at the position of attention for long periods of time at the head of a casket, and do it flawlessly. You do it because you love it. You do it out of respect."

Each of these Soldiers brings a different level of experience to the class. At the high end, Canady has participated in over 300 funerals. He's helped lay to rest veterans from the Korean War, World War II and the Pearl Harbor attack.

**111,524:** Funerals that the Army Guard participated in 2009

**53:** Percentage that Guard participated of all DoD funerals

**2005:** Year that National Guard Funeral Honors Program began

**13:** Number of times the flag is folded before its presented to deceased servicemembers's family

**300:** Funerals that Sgt. Chris Canady, Georgia National Guard, took part in last year

**80:** Percentage of all Army funerals Guard participated in last year

**3 to 7:** Rifle party will consist of an odd number of servicemembers within this range

**1862:** Year "Taps" was composed by Union Army's Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield while in camp at Harrison's Landing, Va.

## PROGRAM IN HIGH DEMAND

It was an increase in aging veterans and the passing of public law by Congress that allowed every eligible veteran the right to receive a respectful and dignified tribute that brought the National Guard into funeral honors ceremonies. Along with Veterans Service Organizations, the National Guard was authorized to perform ceremonies in the late 1990s.

The National Guard Funeral Honors Program began in 2005 and is currently active in 52 states and territories. While funding and policy standards are controlled at the national level with the National Guard Bureau and course taught at PEC, the states and territories carry out

the funeral honors.

The need for standardization in training is evident from the fact that over 652,000 veterans died across all of DoD and over 323,000 Army veterans passed away. And while all these vets are authorized military honors funerals, the families do not all make the request.

"The ARNG Funeral Honors Program establishes a direct connection with local communities and state government, and in effect, they take a lot of pride in what they do," said Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Gilbert, Training NCO for the PEC Honor Guard Training Course.

"Our program ensures there is a national standard, and veterans get the respect they deserve. Aside from that, 'Big Army' doesn't have a school that teaches how to conduct military funeral honors, and we participate in 80 percent of all Army funerals."

In total, the Army Guard participated in a staggering 111,524 funerals in 2009 with that number expected to increase substantially this year. In the same year, the National Guard participated in over half (53 percent) of all DoD funerals. The need to have nationally trained standards is understandable.

Considering Guard Soldiers participate in over 80 percent of all Army funerals – active and reserve – and a huge percentage of DoD funerals, the commandant of the PEC understands the importance of this training.

"The reach of this program goes beyond the 54 states and territories when you think about it," said Col. John "Jack" Frost, commandant. "It encompasses a nation, with thousands upon thousands of veterans who have supported them throughout their lifetime."

"It's more than going to class and getting a passing grade and a diploma. I ask you: have you ever seen a classroom environment that can give you chills, instill pride and demand respect all at the same time? Well, that's what Sgt. 1st Class Gilbert, and his team, are challenged with daily, and that's what they deliver in a short amount of time. But much of the kudos must go to the states for sending such highly motivated, experienced Soldiers who make all that possible."





Soldiers from Statesboro's 48th Brigade Special Troops Battalion receive American Legion coins and encased U.S. flags in honor of their return from a yearlong deployment in Afghanistan.

# LOCAL LEADERS ACCEPT THE "CHALLENGE"

Pam Younkens, Honorary Commanders Association Chair, rappels down a 50-foot wall during the group's visit to the Youth Challenge Academy at Ft. Gordon.



Story and photos by Pfc. Ashley Fontenot  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**FT. GORDON, Augusta, July 21, 2010** – When a drill instructor presented a group of professional business, civil and government leaders with the chance to rappel down a 50 foot wall, Honorary Commanders Association Chair Pam Younkens was the first to raise her hand high.

This exercise was just one of the demonstrations that Youth Challenge Academy faculty and cadets put together to show the Honorary Commanders what life is like at the Ft. Gordon campus.

Youth Challenge is a program sponsored by the National Guard that helps at-risk youth, ages 16 to 18, become responsible, productive members of their communities. The program does this by allowing high school dropouts an opportunity to gain a GED or – in some cases – high school credit while living in a structured para-military environment.

Program director Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jan Zimmerman has been at the Ft. Gordon campus since it opened in 1992.

"We are still operating under the same budget that we started with," she said. "It makes it hard, but we have learned how to really manage the money that we do get."

Enter the Honorary Commanders Association.

HCA is an organization based out of Marietta

operating under the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce. For each of the past 28 years, a new "class" of about 20 civilian members of the community are nominated and selected before being paired with a military counterpart. The group's mission is to support the military – especially those like local National Guard and Air Force Reserve units – based in Cobb County.

Although this trip is just one of about a dozen the association takes each year to various military events, Younkens called YCA "the best kept secret in Georgia."

In addition to the rappel tower, YCA students got a chance to show off their public speaking skills by introducing themselves and giving presentations on all aspects of cadet life to the HCA. Cadets and the HCA volunteers then ate side-by-side in the campus mess hall.

To conclude their visit, HCA had the opportunity to present selected cadets with achievement stars, signifying their level of progress toward fulfilling their GED.

"While I truly enjoyed rappelling out of the tower, that was totally eclipsed by the chance to present a young cadet with his final star for completing his high school equivalency," Younkens said.

"This has been an amazing experience; it's inspirational to hear the individual stories of where these young people were before and where they're headed now. The Honorary Commanders have to do what we can within our community to bring more visibility to this program," she added.

## COMMUNITY HONORS 48TH BSTB

Story and photo by Spc. Adam Dean  
124th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
Georgia Army National Guard

**STATESBORO, June 10, 2010** – Georgia Army Guard officials, along with local dignitaries and area residents, honored Soldiers of the 48th Brigade Special Troops Battalion (BSTB) during a Freedom Salute ceremony held at the historic Averitt Center for the Arts.

The Freedom Salute ceremony is designed to publicly acknowledge Army Guardsmen who have returned from combat and those who have supported them.

The BSTB went to Afghanistan with Georgia's 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) in June 2009 to support Operation Enduring Freedom and then returned in late February of this year. The unit's mission was to mentor and train the Afghan National Army and Afghan Police to better serve and protect the Afghan people.

"The BSTB is the team that holds the whole brigade together," said Lt. Col. Tom Bright, the battalion commander. "We had folks everywhere."

The mission of a Brigade Special Troops Battalion is to provide command and control, signal and intelligence

support to various units throughout the area of operations. As such, Bright noted, the battalion members served in all corners of Afghanistan.

Before praising the service of those who returned, the assembly paused to remember and honor Sgt. Brock Chavers, a 48th BSTB Guardsman who made the ultimate sacrifice and lost his life in combat.

State Sen. Jack Hill (District 4) presented the Chavers' family with a framed copy of Senate Resolution 1062, a measure that passed through the Georgia Legislature honoring the life and memory of the fallen hero.

"Sergeant Chavers embodied the spirit of service, working to find meaning in something greater than himself," said Hill.

In addition, the city's American Legion Post No. 90 was on hand to honor the BSTB's service, and to present each of its Soldiers with special coins of appreciation during the ceremony.

After the Soldiers received their honors, Bright recognized the Hill, the American Legion, and other members of the community for their support of the unit throughout its deployment. He also presented them with special coins bearing the BSTB commander's seal.

# SENIOR SUPPLY SPECIALIST AN UNSUNG HERO

Story, photo by Master Sgt. John Kinnaman  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, Marietta, June 29, 2010** – Georgia Army Guard unit supply teams look to the Central Issue Facility at the State Complex in South Atlanta, where Staff Sgt. Olivia Singleton works, for many and sundry supply needs.

Typically, it is the company first sergeant who ensures that Soldiers have the “beans and bullets” they need to do their jobs. However, when it comes to entrenching tools, ammunition pouches and uniforms, the unit supply specialist is “TOP dog.”

“I’m responsible for getting Soldiers equipped,” Singleton said. “If it affects their training or readiness, I equip them.”

As the Army Guard’s senior unit supply specialist – 92 Yankee – Singleton and her staff make every effort to ensure that Georgia’s Guardsmen have the equipment they need. Singleton has been a 92 Yankee for 18 years, and said she has loved every minute.

“I love working supply issues, and I especially love taking care of Soldiers,” she said.

Her affinity for her job becomes evident when walking

into her office. Behind her desk is an enormous file cabinet that holds more than 11,500 equipment hand receipts.

“I have files on everyone in the Georgia Army Guard,” she said. “I go through them all the time, making sure everyone is taken care of according to the CTA 50-900.”

The CTA 50-900 is the Clothing Table Allowance Manual, and is the unit supply specialist’s bible when it comes to clothing and equipment.

With 18 years of supply work under her belt, Singleton noted that she has come across some very interesting stories in the supply world.

“One time, I had this Soldier who was retiring come in to return his gear,” Singleton recalled. “When he dumped his duffle bag out, I saw equipment from around the early 1960’s. When I inquired about the gear, he said it was what had been issued to him when he joined, and he just never wanted to take newer stuff. He even had the original hand receipt for the gear!”

That equipment is now displayed in her office on top of a bookshelf as constant reminder that – when supply specialists don’t do their job – Soldiers can be left with seriously inferior and outdated equipment.

“I like looking up at it,” she said, slowly glancing up over her shoulder. “It reminds me of how valuable unit supply specialists are – and will always be – to the Army, its people and its mission.”

# THE SUPPLY ROOM



Column by Staff Sgt.. Olivia Singleton  
Supply System Analyst  
USPFO CIF

**CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, Marietta, July 10, 2010** – The United State Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) Central Issue Facility (CIF) completed our semi-annual inventory and would like to thank the Georgia State Defense Force for their assistance with the effort.

We are now preparing for the Consolidated G1/3/4 conferences August 23 to 27 at Callaway Gardens. Our goal at the conference will be to assist Supply Sergeants with hands on assistance to update, correct and confirm Soldier clothing records. We are asking all units that have not received their “free issue” field jacket to contact CIF to schedule an appointment for pickup.

Additionally, each month, CIF will endeavor to provide valuable information for supply sergeants through this column in the *Georgia Guardsman*. Our hope is to use the column as a means to inform, educate and assist supply sergeants and their commands around the state. On behalf of the CIF team, we look forward to working with you at the conference. See you there!

For CIF appointments please e-mail CIFGA. The following are CIF contacts: Sgt. 1st Class Caryl Belk, USPFO CIF Supervisor/PBO at (678) 569-6750 ext. 8497, or Staff Sgt. Olivia Singleton, USPFO CIF Supply System Analyst at (678) 569-6749.

# MANNING PROMOTED TO SMSGT

Story by Master Sgt. Bucky Burnsed,  
Combat Readiness Training Center,  
Georgia Air National Guard



**COMBAT READINESS TRAINING CENTER, Savannah, June 29, 2010**—Master Sergeant Bruce Manning recently earned the signal promotion to the senior non-commissioned officer’s rank of Senior Master

Sergeant. Senior Master Sgt. Manning serves as the Services Superintendent for the Combat Readiness Training Center, Georgia Air National Guard. The CRTC is headquartered across the airfield from the Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport.

Manning’s primary duties focus on managing the billeting and dining facility for all military units visiting the CRTC for training. Military units from across the country and from all branches of service regularly visit the CRTC to hone their war-fighting skills, ensuring they are fully prepared for service. It is Manning’s responsibility to ensure all visiting personnel have the necessary provisions required allowing the unit’s critically important training to continue without interruption.

A veteran of 20 years of military service, he recently completed work on his bachelor’s degree in Business Management from St. Leo University. Manning and his family are also involved in their local church and have provided support and participated in local fundraising activities for March of Dimes and Safe Shelter. Manning and his family live in Ellabell, Ga.



“I ESPECIALLY LOVE  
TAKING CARE OF  
SOLDIERS.”

Staff Sgt. Olivia Singleton verifies paperwork and double-checks behind her teammates at the Georgia Army Guard’s Central Issue Facility, where she oversees supplies being issued daily to for more than 11,000 Citizen-Soldiers.



“THERE ISN'T MUCH USE DENYING MOTORCYCLES ARE INHERENTLY DANGEROUS.”

## JOINT MOTORCYCLE COACHES COURSE GRADUATES 12

*Story, photos by Master Sgt. John Kinnaman  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense*

**CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, Marietta, June 28, 2010** – In a joint effort between Dobbins Air Reserve Base, the Army Reserve and the Georgia Army Guard, a coach's course designed to train instructors for the local Motorcycle Riders Course (MRC) has conducted its first class.

“We [the Guard] volunteered to provide coaches to help revamp the motorcycle safety program,” said Maj. Jerry Perry, class coordinator for the Georgia Guard Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

The land for this joint effort was provided by the Army Reserve. The Dobbins Air Reserve base owns the motorcycle safety course area, and the Georgia Guard is providing the certified coaches to run the

safety course. The West Virginia Army National Guard also sent an instructor down to assist in establishing the proactive Motorcycle Safety Program.

“When the Navy left, so did the instructors for the course,” Perry said. “So, we have been without a program since the transfer of facilities here from NAS Atlanta to the Clay National Guard Center.”

The coach's course is designed to train Soldiers who are experienced riders how to pass on their knowledge to others. In order to coach, they must have a clean driving record and already have passed a basic and advanced riders course – taken through private companies – and have been recommended by the Georgia Guard State Safety Officer.

“There isn't much use denying Motorcycles are inherently dangerous. They offer no operator restraint or shielding from external elements or the outside environment whatever they may be. They are significantly smaller than an automobile, making them

at times difficult to see even on a clear day,” said Capt. Andrew Lane, the 48th Brigade's Safety Officer and a State Safety Specialist.

“Most Motorcycles can easily exceed 100 mph, providing almost an irresistible temptation for younger riders and perhaps many others as well. A mistake made when travelling at a speed of just 60 mph can quickly turn deadly,” said Lane.

“We start the coaches' training with academics from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Standards (MSFS),” Perry said. “From there, the perspective coaches must come out and master the riding course to become qualified.”

The participants of the first class, who all successfully passed, will conduct the weekend motorcycle safety courses twice a month at Dobbins. They will augment the remaining one Air Reserve coach who has been handling the program alone, Perry explained. He added that the major commands (MACOMs) also can request coaches

to come to their area.

“If a group of Soldiers cannot make it to Dobbins on a scheduled course weekend, units can request a coach to come to them on an alternate weekend,” Perry added.

The Motorcycle Safety Course is free to all Georgia Soldiers and Airmen, and the Guard is working with the state of Georgia to allow its basic motorcycle course to replace the state's motorcycle drives test for Guardsmen.

“This would allow the Soldiers who successfully complete our course to go to a Georgia Department of Motor Vehicles office with their paperwork and get their license without having to take the state test,” Perry said. “We are hoping this policy can be in place sometime in the next six months.”

For more information about the times and location of the Motorcycle Riders Course, go to [www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil/](http://www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil/) and look for the 2010 Motorcycle Safety Course title in the center of the Website.

## MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TRAINING SAVES SOLDIER'S LIFE

*Story, photos by Master Sgt. John Kinnaman  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense*



**CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, Marietta, July 22, 2010** – If there's anyone who doubts that a motorcycle safety course is worth their time and effort, it certainly isn't Army Guard 1st Lt. Clifton Walker.

“I'm here to tell you that – if it hadn't been for the training I received – I would have been seriously injured, or even ended up dead,” said Walker, the Signal Platoon leader for Macon's 48th Brigade Special

Troops Battalion. When he is not in uniform, Walker is an information technology specialist and video conferencing scheduler for Lockheed Martin.

It was two weeks after having completed the late-

June Motorcycle Safety Course that Walker found himself putting what he had learned to the test.

Walker said he was out riding his 2004 Suzuki GSXR 600 on a Monday, heading north on Riverview Road in Mableton, when he came upon the intersection at Industrial Boulevard. As he came closer to the four-way stop, he began using the “12-second survey method” he'd been taught.

“You visually scan the situation in front of you using a 12-second count,” Walker explained. “That way, the rider – in this case, me – has full ‘situational awareness’ of the road ahead, the weather and the traffic [vehicle and pedestrian].”

As the rider evaluates what he has seen using this method, he formulates how he will react if something happens.

On his left, Walker continued to explain, was a semi-tractor pulling a flatbed trailer loaded with steel beams that had come to a stop on Industrial, but the driver had given no indication he was going to turn. But that's just what he did. The driver looked ahead and then left, but never looked right before moving toward Walker's direction.

“I'm at six-seconds in my survey, and the semi – being as wide as it is – moved into my lane,” Walker

remembered. "I said to myself, 'he's got to see me, I hope he sees me,' but I knew in my heart he didn't."

As the truck made its wide, right turn into his lane, Walker had to decide how to avoid being hit. He knew the best option was to point the bike in the direction of the grass and dirt shoulder.

"I geared down, started braking and stood up like they taught us in class as I hit the shoulder," Walker recalled. "The bike went down, and I was thrown, ending up on my back in the dirt."

Landing on his back and left shoulder, he suffered some bruising and soreness. The full-face helmet he wore kept him from suffering more than a headache and a bit of dizziness.

Damage to his bike, he said, included deep scratches along the bike's left side, a cracked left mirror, a cracked wheel faring, and a cracked fuel tank. His helmet was damaged and his outer jacket was ripped.

Walker re-emphasized that his attendance at

Guard's Motorcycle Safety Course had possibly saved his life. Had he not taken the course, he might have panicked, frozen up and not reacted quickly enough.

"The lieutenant's experience bears out the importance of this training," said Maj. Jerry Perry.

Perry, the full-time operations officer for the Governor's Counterdrug Task Force, is among the 12 new instructors recently added to the Motorcycle Safety Course. He also was one of the instructors who taught the course Walker attended.

"It's nice to know what he learned from us didn't fail him," Perry said. "There's no better testament than a rider getting up and walking away because he listened and learned."

With forts McPherson and Gillem also closing due to BRAC, their respective military and civilian personnel will look to Clay for access to facilities like military clothing sales and commissaries.

*Story by Master Sgt. Bucky Burnsed  
Combat Readiness Training Center  
Georgia Air National Guard*

**COMBAT READINESS TRAINING CENTER, Savannah, July 15, 2010** – Lieutenant Col. David Eaddy, Deputy Director Support for the 165th Airlift Wing, recetly announced the promotion of Technical Sgt. Michael Allard to the Senior NCO rank of Master Sgt.

Master Sgt. Allard serves as the Fleet Manager in Vehicle Maintenance with the 165th Airlift Wing. The 165th Airlift Wing is an element of the Georgia Air National Guard, headquartered at the Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport.

Allard, a military veteran of 24 years, has seen multiple deployments since 9/11 to Norway and Qatar, and he has participated in the Space Shuttle defense mission in New York, Washington and Penn. All of Allard's military service has been in the Georgia Air National Guard.

Allard and his family reside in Guyton, Ga.

# ALLARD PROMOTED TO SENIOR NCO RANK



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOOKSHELF: REVIEWS OF BOOKS THAT TEACH US ABOUT OUR CRAFT

*Story and photo by Maj. John H. Alderman IV  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense*

What can Guardsmen learn from a business executive's handbook written half a century ago? Lots, actually.

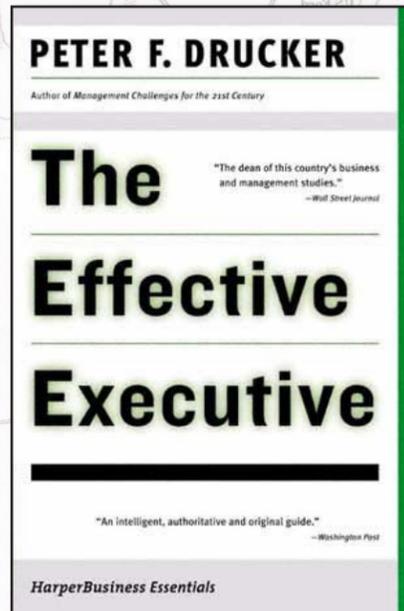
First published in 1967, *The Effective Executive* is business guru Peter F. Drucker's close look at how executives operate and how they can improve themselves in order to improve their organizations. Rather than a focus on managing people, it's really about managing one's self.

Executives, Drucker writes, mainly contribute by affecting their organization's ability to perform and obtain results. By "executive" he generally means business executives. But his working definition – people who are expected to get the right things done – sounds a lot like the basic definition of a "leader."

While it is more obvious that this book would be great for battalion commanders and chiefs of staff, I found its lessons very useful – decisive even – as a Troop Commander, and figure the lessons would apply to thoughtful leaders from squad level, up.

For example, Drucker has a healthy appreciation for decentralized decision-making. Leaders must make decisions, not just carry out orders. Executives must focus their efforts and time on what other people need and can use to make the organization successful. Meetings should be held only for a purpose.

Essentially, executives do two things: provide a



vision and make decisions. And the key is making the right decisions. If executives make decisions that others can make, or that they can make unnecessary by issuing policy, they are wrong, Drucker contends.

Perhaps the best-known example from this book is Drucker's observation that a well-run factory is a quiet factory. If he visited a factory where everything was dramatic, and people were rushing about excitedly making things happen – it would be less well-run than a quiet factory where good planning, solid policies and thorough systems and procedures had made things... quite regular.

"A recurrent crisis," he writes, "should always have been foreseen." So the job of the leader, then, is to anticipate problems and provide training, equipment, systems or decisions to keep problems from developing.

A major takeaway is that, whatever his rank, a leader acts like "top management" when she focuses on what she can do to serve the needs of the entire organization – from whatever position she's in. And that is a lesson we could all do well to keep in mind.

Throughout, the prose is lightened by illustrations and observations from business and the military. After all, military leaders make tough decisions all the time, and the high stakes of our field means we have to get things *more* right *more* often than most business leaders – or we face *more* awful consequences.

It's not the simplest manual on leadership, but it is one of the very best. I first read this book when I was a young lieutenant, and the ideas in it completely changed the way I approach leadership. I wish I had read it sooner.

# PTSD: THE INVISIBLE INJURY

*Story by Lt. Col. (Ret.) Ken Baldowski  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense*

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is the invisible injury. As American Soldiers find themselves fighting under extreme conditions in Iraq and Afghanistan, this disorder, without the telltale appearances of combat injuries, has become as pervasive and as insidious as other combat wounds.

Injuries of war, to include PTSD, change the lives of service members, families and children. This is an invisible injury that can be especially difficult for families because it often results in significant changes of personality and behavior without obvious changes in one's appearance.

Service members with PTSD may display mood swings, or certain environments may trigger responses that do not seem appropriate to the situation. These kinds of events can be especially troubling for children, embarrassing for the family and disorienting to the Soldier. While injuries cannot and should not be compared or judged, invisible injuries, unlike those that are visible (i.e., loss of limb, burns, etc.), do not invite the same level of support from outsiders who may not even realize someone has a medical problem. The isolation caused by invisible injuries like PTSD and other anxiety disorders creates emotional stress for Soldiers and their families.

Many who experience traumatic events experience a brief period of difficulty adjusting and coping. Normally, with time, treatment, and healthy coping methods, such traumatic reactions typically diminish. However, in some cases these symptoms may worsen or last for months or even years. When such symptoms continue and disrupt one's life, treatment can be long and arduous.

Georgia's combat veterans have not been immune to the effects of PTSD. According to recent data, 50 Georgia Guardsmen are currently under continuous care for PTSD. They are either receiving treatment at the VA, civilian, or Military Treatment facilities, and they are currently deemed unfit for duty.

Over 70 cases have recently been referred for treatment as the result of findings from the Post Deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA), which is conducted on returning Soldiers as early as 90 days after

a Soldier returns. PDHRAs are generated when a Soldier responds to a medical or behavioral question in a high-risk manner, according to medical officials, or when a Soldier individually calls in to the PDHRA referral line for help. Commanders can also initiate a Soldier's referral for treatment, should they have reasonable cause to do so.

Receiving treatment as soon as possible after post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms develop may prevent PTSD from becoming a long-term condition. Recent military promotional campaigns encourage Soldiers to watch out for their buddies who might be exhibiting stress-related behavior consistent with PTSD or other mental difficulties by suggesting that to ask for help is both a sign of strength and courage.

"Post-traumatic stress," according to retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Bob Dees, "affects 20 percent of military personnel upon their return from active duty."

A valuable resource for finding help with PTSD, or any of a number of combat related stress issues, is Military One Source. This organization assists Soldiers in obtaining physicians for referrals and also helps Soldiers in getting emergency care.

Soldiers receiving a diagnosis of PTSD can look to a variety of treatment options based on the type of care required. Many Soldiers respond through simple "talk therapy," lasting from once a week to monthly depending on the severity of issues. Other Soldiers only complete a round of three monthly appointments, while others undergo continuous outpatient therapy.

Soldiers must realize that exposure to combat and violence in and of itself does not cause PTSD. What causes it is moderate to intense stress levels induced over long periods of time. That is why a finance Soldier on the forward operating base can get PTSD just like the infantryman kicking in doors.

If the finance Soldier sits around all day for a year terrified that a mortar could take him out, that stress may cause the condition. After enough time in a combat zone, anyone can start showing signs of mental wear and tear. Many Soldiers are afraid that PTSD isn't a treatable injury – but it is. With many soldiers having now served four, five, or even six combat tours, this is a tidal wave in the making. And it is only going to be stopped if leaders at all levels come to grips with the fact that PTSD is a natural part of combat and that mentally fit troops are a force multiplier.



# AROUND THE GEORGIA GUARD

## SUPPORTING THE GNGFSF

JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS, Ellenwood, June 22, 2010 – Air Guard Col. Jay Peno (center-right), Georgia National Guard Family Support Foundation president, accepts a donation of \$9,525.51 on behalf of the Foundation. The money was raised through a charity golf outing held May 24, 2010 at Lane Creek Golf Club in Bishop. “We can’t thank the Army Guard Aviation community enough for hosting this charitable golf event which generated nearly \$10,000 in aid to service members and their families,” Peno said.



## COMMUNITY WELCOMES SOLDIERS HOME

STATESBORO CITY HALL, July 9, 2010 – More than 500 cheering, flag-waving Bulloch County residents braved the evening heat to welcome Headquarters Company and Company A of the 48th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, home from war. These units, like many elements of the brigade, returned home between April and May of this year to Fort Stewart in Hinesville. For the past three months, they have been on leave getting reacquainted with their families and – for many – getting reintegrated with their civilian jobs.



## ATLANTA LOOKS TO AID VETS

ATLANTA, July 26, 2010 – The mayor of Atlanta, Kasim Reed (top left), reaches out to local military leaders for the Atlanta Community Signatory Covenant. Reed invited the commanding general of the Georgia Army National Guard, Brig. Gen. Maria Britt (center), and other military experts from the area to the capitol to discuss how the city can better aid its military veterans. Britt polled commanders and Soldiers from units that operate in the Atlanta area and presented the Mayor with a list of reasonable initiatives that would benefit Soldiers - the most prominent of these being a job fair to help veterans find civilian employment.



## LT. COL. RENE KUHN RECEIVES BRONZE STAR

ATLANTA, June 29, 2010 – Georgia Army Guard Lt. Col. Rene Kuhn, Joint Forces Headquarters deputy personnel officer, is presented the Bronze Star Medal by Maj. Gen. Terry Nesbitt, Georgia’s Adjutant General, during the opening of the 2010 Southeast Regional Inspector General’s Conference. Kuhn received the medal for her exceptional service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as command inspector general for Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix from June 2009 to March 2010.

## TALKING ABOUT FREEDOM

INTERNATIONAL HORSE PARK, Conyers, Ga., July 4, 2010 – Major Gen. Nesbitt, Georgia’s Adjutant General, speaks at an Independence Day celebration at the International Horse Park. “What binds us together as a nation is Freedom, and the promise of Freedom for others. And that freedom only comes at great cost to those willing to fight for it,” said Nesbitt to the crowd of hundreds.



## JACKSON WELCOMES BACK 148TH BSB

JACKSON, June 10, 2010 – Former United States Congressman Mac Collins presents a trophy from the City of Jackson, Ga., to Bravo Company Commander Captain English and 1st Sgt. Rrentz at a welcome home ceremony for Bravo Company, 148th Brigade Support Battalion, 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. Bravo Company has just returned from a one-year tour of duty in Afghanistan. (Photo by Private 1st Class Ted Burzynski, UPAR, 5th Brigade, Georgia State Defense Force.)





# GEORGIA GUARDSMAN

Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense  
1000 Halsey Ave. Bldg. 2  
Marietta, Ga. 30060