



PHOENIX RISING

Georgia State Defense Force
5th Brigade Official Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 8

Commanding Officer - LTC Michael Worthington

August 2010

“So That Others May Live...”

*The Motto of Search and Rescue personnel worldwide.
The mission of the Search and Rescue person is to find those lost
or in distress and bring them out alive.
Soldiers from the Georgia State Defense Force conduct
Search and Rescue Training.*

This Month in Phoenix Rising

- WO1 Chris Clark saves lives
- 5th Brigade Color Guard
- SARspec II Training
- SARspec Journal

Cover: CPL Lau of 911th Support Command
Photo: PFC Ted Burzynski

Clark Saves life at Youth Challenge Academy Graduation

By PFC Ted Burzynski

(Macon, GA) On June 19th, 2010 at the Youth Challenge Academy Graduation in Macon, GA Warrant Officer Chris Clark and Corporal Matthew Mallet provided life-saving support to an attendee who had fallen ill from the heat.

Mr. Clark with the assistance of CPL Mallet delivered life-saving first aid and stabilized her until paramedics could arrive on scene. The volunteer soldiers from the Georgia State Defense Force were the only trained personnel on site that day. The paramedics had to be called in. Without GSDF members like Mr. Clark and CPL Mallet quickly rushing to aid the victim, her condition would have been terminal.

As it turns out the lady had just been released from the hospital that morning and was there to watch a family member graduate. Unfortunately she missed the graduation, but thanks to Mr. Chris Clark she lived.



WO1 Chris Clark assisted by CPL Matthew Mallet delivers life-saving aid during YCA graduation ceremony.
Photo by PFC Ted Burzynski, GSDF



GSDF Search and Rescue Specialist II (SARSPEC II)

By PFC Ted Burzynski

(Forsyth, GA) The Georgia State Defense Forces' Search and Rescue specialist II field training began Friday July 16, 2010 in Forsyth, GA at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC). Where 40 students representing GSDF units from all over the State of Georgia came to undergo the first of three long and arduous weekends of Search and Rescue Specialist Training in the 100-degree Georgia Summer heat.

Over the course of the weekend, the SARSPEC II candidates were given classroom instruction followed by field exercises in survival, field improvisation, SAR safety, knot tying, rappelling and search operations.

The first weekend of training concluded with a field search operation utilizing all of the skills learned to date, which was a resounding success.

Over the next two months, two more weekends of training will culminate in 40 newly trained Search and Rescue Specialists not only receiving their Search and Rescue tab but also fully prepared to serve the citizens of Georgia in their new capacity as Search and Rescue Specialists.

Individual Entry Training



New recruits from Class 07-2010 In-process at IET at GPSTC.

(Forsyth, GA) July, 9, 2010, new recruits from the Georgia State Defense Forces' 5th Brigade began their individual entry training (IET) at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, GA.

The first day of training included lots of paperwork and drill and ceremony. The new recruits were drilled and marched long after dark. This was followed by classroom instruction on military customs and courtesies. The following days and weekends were filled with in depth training in first-aid, life saving, land navigation and survival skills.

Class 07-2010 will complete their training and graduate on August 8th, 2010 in the main auditorium at GPSTC in Forsyth, GA.

Welcome Home Bravo Co. 148th BSB, 48th Brigade GA Army National Guard!



5th Brigade GSDF provides the colors for the Welcome Home parade for B Co. 148th BSB, 48th BDE GA AR NG, Jackson, GA

(Jackson, GA) July 10th 2010. The town of Jackson, GA welcomed home its sons, mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters from a year long deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

To assist in this celebration, members of the Georgia State Defense Forces' 5th Brigade Color Guard marched with the United States and the State of Georgia's Colors preceding Bravo Company, 148th BSB, 48th BDE on the march through town to the square where the festivities began.

The Color Guard was led by SGT Tom Dager, carrying the United States Flag, CPL Glen Uebler carrying the Georgia Flag, with PVT Eric Bryan and PVT Matt Parker at arms. Participating in this ceremony for the GSDF was quite an auspicious occasion. According to SGT Dager, "I am truly honored and proud that we could be here for these guys."



1SG Eddie Dumas CSM for 2nd BN, 5th Brigade GSDF, Master of Ceremonies for the Welcome Home Celebration



*5th Brigade's Color Guard: SGT Tom Dager, CPL Glen Uebler, PVT Eric Bryan, PVT Matt Parker
Photos by PFC Ted Burzynski*

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SSG Eddie Gillham

Interview by PFC Ted Burzynski

Name: Gillham, Edward N.

Rank: SSG/E6 (P)

Where are you from? Marietta, Ga.

Where do you live? Atlanta, Ga.

What do you do in civilian life? Trouble man/Lineman for Georgia Power in Atlanta

Prior Service duty/MOS/unit/locations/overseas duty – brief personal history:

US Army, Active Duty from 1981-1987
20th Engineer Brigade (Combat) (Airborne),
Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada) 1983
545th Ordinance Company, Muenster, Germany
US Army Reserve 1987-1994
718 Engineer Company (CSE) Atlanta, Ga.

Position with the GSDF? NCOIC of 911 Support Command's IET

When did you join the GSDF? October 2008

Why did you join the GSDF? I have heard this from a lot of prior service soldiers coming through IET. "Once you serve, you will always have it in your blood." I think it holds true. I could not go back into the Reserves or National Guard, because I gave my sister a Kidney in 2001 and the transplant doctor would not sign off on the enlistment forms. My son joined the National Guard in 2007 and I found the GSDF and wanted to serve again.

Explain the relative importance of the overall mission of the GSDF? Looking back a year ago, most of the Georgia National Guard were deployed overseas in other countries. With that, the GSDF had to fill their spots in protecting the citizens of Georgia. Even though we are all volunteers and unpaid, we buy our own uniforms and equipment, we can still do just about anything the GaNG can do, with our experienced prior service soldiers and the eager soldiers that want to learn.

Explain the importance of SAR training in the GSDF? I am going to take a quote from the Georgia Constitution; we are "a well trained uniformed force." When SARSPEC (Search and Rescue Specialist) training is complete, the Georgia State Defense Force will be able to put hundreds of trained soldiers in the field to conduct Search and Rescue operations. I cannot think of any other agencies that can put that many people into an operational area within a four hour time frame.

Why are you an instructor for SARSPEC training? The same reason I instruct IET. I like to share my knowledge, also knowing when soldiers leave my block of instruction they go away with clear and precise knowledge that will help them and others for years to come.



SSG Gillham instructs PVT Matt Parker on repelling

What do you instruct at SARSPEC? I am the Primary Instructor on Survival and Improvisations, Assistant Instructor for Rescue (Ropes).

Relate the importance of what you teach to SARSPEC overall? Survival and Improvisations - Teach soldiers how to survive and set out signaling devices from what is carried in their Ready Pack.

In your mind – what is the most important skill learned at SARspec?

Attention to detail. Every detail is important, no matter, how big or small... they all play apart in the big picture. You can't complete the "puzzle" without all the pieces.

What is your career goal with the GSDF? I would ultimately like to be Command Sergeant Major of a unit.

Where would you like to see the GSDF in the next 5, 10 years? My greatest desire is to see the Georgia State Defense Force to be recognized publicly, financially, and politically as part of the Georgia National Guard.

Any Additional comments you would like to add. It's not every day we can bring 33 soldiers from different units and backgrounds together to make one cohesive unit. Take what they have been taught back to their units and share their experiences and knowledge with other soldiers and maybe their loved ones as well. Something they share may save someone's life. I would like to thank each soldier who volunteered to attend this class, it has been hot and sometimes wet, but knowing if called upon, and when I see you, I will know that you are well trained and ready to perform your mission. Good Luck to ALL!

So That Others May Sweat...

My Sarspec Journal

By PFC Ted Burzynski

Week 1 - Friday 16 July 2010

7:30 - I arrived in south parking lot of GPSTC. SSG Damasche was guiding traffic into the Lot. Met SSG Gillham, told me to load my gear into one of the pick up trucks. At the truck I met up with PVT Matt Parker also from 1st BN 5th BDE, we loaded our gear and were taken to the parking lot at the mock village.

We staged our gear into the doghouse warehouse and were assigned squads and platoons. I was assigned to 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, my squad leader is CW2 Lloyd Garrard, and my platoon sergeant is SFC Langley. (CW2 Garrard runs the MEMS qualification course for the SGAUS for Georgia. He assisted me in my MEMS qualification) SFC Langley is a stout, hard charging man, very stern and serious, an ideal drill sergeant. My Platoon Leader is Capt. Hatchew, who currently leads the 911 Support Command's Force Protection Unit. He formerly worked with the JAG office and is an attorney in civilian life. My squad consists of: SSG Baker an ICE agent, SGT Tom Dager, a security director and avid pilot, CPL Willoughby, a very quiet family guy, PFC Rollins, PVT Villegas and myself.

Once we were assigned to squads we were brought into the reception trailer an in processed, where we supplied them with our SARSPEC III certificate, our PT pre-test results and a copy of our orders. Upon check in we picked



SSG Edward Gillham



PFC Ted Burzynski

up our gear and were told set up camp on top of the ridge overlooking the village. So I humped my large rucksack, recon pack and LBV gear up the hill and set up my tent (improved combat shelter). We set our tents up in neat rows of two. I set mine up in between Chief Garrard and SSG Bradley (who brought a tarp and an air mattress – no tent, with heavy rain in the forecast).

Once the camp was set up, we were called to formation and then brought into the instruction trailer (a double-wide) for our orientation briefing by Colonel Dennis Watts and Major Lan Skalla. We were introduced to the Cadre they are: Major Lan Skalla, 1LT Doyle, 2LT Anderson, 2LT McNeill, WO1 Laffair, SSG Gillham, SSG Damasche and SSG Mathews. We were given a briefing on what would be expected of us throughout the course and told that 1/3 would not make it. There were 40 of us looking around to see if we could spot who wasn't going to make it. There were candidates from every walk of life, young, old, big, small, you name it, too hard to judge at this point in the game.

During the meeting, one of my classmates saw my MEMS Qualification badge and asked me how to get into the course. I told him the guy who runs it for Georgia is my squad leader and I would introduce him.

Following the briefing LTC Worthington, our new 5th Brigade commanding officer held a separate meeting with all 5th BDE Personnel who were present – WOW! One hell of a guy – he held no punches. He told us 5th BDE would be the

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sarspec journal cont.-

best, he was tired of hearing about 1st BDE, we would be number 1! This is the kind of leader we have so badly needed for so long – a real leader, a man who will get things done, kick ass and not even worry about taking names.

After the briefing we were released and told to get some sleep. I had a cigarette and found a quiet spot in the stairwell of an abandoned hotel to make my voice notes for the day. Then was off to my tent, I got to my tent and pulled out an MRE, I had not eaten dinner and was starving. Beef stew with vegetables – not bad. I set my mini mag light up like a candle and ate next to my tent.

By now it was 2300 hrs - you would think that after this long day I would be tired, well...did I forget to mention that it was 100 degrees heat index at 11 o'clock? I lay in my tent and poured sweat, could not sleep, crickets, frogs, other soldiers snoring – you name it, it was making noise. I took a couple pictures on my droid posted one on facebook, called my wife; she was leaving the next day to go to Europe for a week on business. Next week would be just the girls and me. Back to the story, forgive me for digressing. It was a hell of a night and only the first of nine. Needless to say, I sweated my balls off all night, and at some point fell asleep.



Major Lan Skalla instructs rappelling to PVT Matt Parker



WO1 William Laflair instructs knot tying

Saturday 17 July 2010

At 0500 I was awoken by the sounds of my classmates up and stirring around. I wiped the sweat off my face and got up ate a cookie from last night's MRE for breakfast. I had slept in my clothes, I figured what the hell, brush my teeth, and fresh layer of deodorant I'll be good to go, used the bathroom, had a smoke and it was time for PT. Yes, PT. stretches, calisthenics, exercises. Not too tough, just good enough to get you warmed up for the day. I guess they don't want to kill off any of us old men just yet.

After PT, went and loaded up my gear and was back on the pad by 0700. Our next event was the pack test. Where we had to lay out all our search and rescue equipment out on a poncho liner for inspection. So, I laid it all out, not in order as I was told, I didn't find my list until my inspector 2LT Anderson started my check. Next time it will be in order. I had everything and maybe went overboard a bit. I was warned only to bring what was necessary, but we all tend to try and bring the creature comforts from home, like nice toilet paper, etc., the only thing that was grossly overstated was my steel cable. The list said braided steel cable, so I got some ¼ inch braided steel cable – ten feet of it. They didn't say how big. Turns out they wanted picture hanging wire to make a snare out of. Here I am ready to pull out truck out of the mud with mine. SSG Bradley had the same thing I did, Tom Dager was smart and didn't bring any, and hence he didn't have to hump it all weekend. All in all it went well, I had everything technically, I will need to repack for next month – only what is on the list and nothing more. Seriously.

Following the pack test we formed up and I was chosen to be one of two compass men for our platoon for the land-nav exercise. I went to SSG Matthews and pointed my compass at the tree he told me to. I told him it was 177 degrees. Right on the money, just like always. We formed up the squad with our runners and both compass men and set out on a head-

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Members of 1st Platoon march out on search ops training

-ing of 137 degrees, which pointed to the corner of a building – damn! Having to circumvent an obstacle within 30 meters. Anyway... we went around the building and re-shot 137, pointed up a ridge, we went around it and re-shot our azimuth one more time, this time it went across the street diagonally up a hill twice as big as the first one. I went up it; Tom Dager was shooting the azimuth behind me, guiding me with the help of Major Skalla sending me hand signals. I got on target and could see what we were going for up in the woods, but they kept telling me to move further. Maybe Tom's compass was off or we missed a couple meters circumventing the obstacles – the second is more likely.

Our object at the heading of 137 degrees was SSG Gillgam and SST Damasche up in the woods with the next training exercise...improvised survival. They had a lean-to made from a tarp and 550 cord and a small fire, with a silver survival blanket strung up in a tree with a safety vest attached. We took off all our gear – did I mention the heat index during all this is 110 degrees – hydrate –hydrate – hydrate, all day long. We sweated all day long, as a matter of fact I stayed wet the entire weekend for the most part. Back to the training - we were instructed on building a hasty shelter, starting a fire with primitive methods, setting up signal devices and digging cat holes. The instructors then proceeded to split 1st Platoon up into 2 squads and sent us off about 50 meters to set up camp; we had 15 minutes to do so. SSG Baker and PFC Rollins set up the fire, I set up the signals, a reflective blanket hung between two tree branches with 550 cord blowing in the wind – was very effective.

The rest of the squad set up the lean-to and dug the cat hole. We then packed it all in and marched back to camp.

We formed up, got in line for chow – MRE's, we got them and went back to our tents to eat. Got to the tent, dropped my gear, took off my blouse and sat in the shade with CPL Lau and SSG Brierly from 911th Support Command. We ate and talked, relaxed and enjoyed the brief moment in the shade.

SFC Langley came and told us to report to the indoor classroom at the trailer at 1300, yes, shade and air conditioning, if only for a while. It didn't help, we deboused when we came in the room – OH My GOD! – the stench, if you can imagine 40+ grown men all in one room with the most hellacious body odor you have ever smelled. I believe it could have knocked you down. I kept my arms down as not to make it any worse for my fellow soldiers sitting on either side of me.

1300 – We all were seated; CSM Ryan gave the class on SAR fitness and physiology. It was a good class, she was very knowledgeable, but was putting me to sleep, I had to get up and walk around and stand in the back of the class 5 or 6 times. I still kept nodding out so was just about everyone else. After an hour or so it was done and we all took a small break before the next class – SAR safety by 1IT Doyle.

Next was the "Ropes Course". Did I say it was hot, HOT, ball bustin hot Georgia Summer day with no relief in site – thank God for water. We got our ropes and moved the pad where we were instructed on the tying of the Swiss seat rappelling harness. Pretty easy, I hadn't tied one in 20 years. I had to make it tighter, one time I pulled it tight and coughed, Tom Dager laughed. We got that done and signed off by Maj. Ping, the CO of 911 Support Command.



SGT Tom Dager enjoys some chow.



Next on the training agenda the knot tying portion of the class, I went to the rope and waited – no instructors came for me, the other students had one or two instructors working with them. Finally I see WO1 Laflair coming across the street I motioned to him – I raised my hands and kind of gave him a what the hell type of motion, he came over and I tied my knots for him, which I already knew, the figure 8, figure 8 on a bend and a double figure 8, a square knot and a bowline knot, pretty easy stuff, I asked him what about the other knots, I had heard we had to learn 12 different knots – he said the rest will come later, they didn't want to overload us with a dozen knots at once. – That was cool with me.

After the knotty portion of the training the Cadre set up four repelling lines coming off the front of the hotel at the end of the pad. From there we all took turns going through the motions of rappelling and belaying on flat ground. By now it was approaching dinnertime. They formed us up and we went to the chow line across the street by the trailer where they gave us an MRE and heater meal breakfast for the next morning. We went to our tents and ate and relaxed for a couple minutes. As always, stripped to our t-shirts and sat for a bit and ate. I had chicken Parmesan with noodles – not too bad, ate my apple cookie and considered saving my blueberry energy bar for breakfast, but I scarfed it down too. It had been a long tiring day and was not over yet...

Again... we rucked up and formed up on the pad and set out marching down the road to the firing range – then it began to rain – oh heaven – talk about happy to be out in the rain. It was nice. We got to the firing range and they sent us into the covered building to drop our gear and de-blouse and wait for the rain to end. We did, I stood out in the rain as

The rain stopped and we headed across the parking lot. Major Skalla had set up the ropes on the hill adjacent to the range with the rappelling ropes tied to his truck and the climbing ropes used to get up the hill tied to two other trucks. We climbed the hill and waited to go. One after another we went off the hill. When my time came, Maj Skalla hooked me up and told me to get in position, so I did -vertical on the hill; apparently he meant just stand there. He told me to go and I went, I rappelled down the hill and ran it out and then belayed the next man coming down. By this time the batteries in my camera had gone dead. – Did I mention I was taking pictures and notes though all this training too. Somebody has to do it, and that's me, PAO for 5th Brigade. I ran across and got my extra batteries out of my pack and went back to the hill. It was getting dark. I took some pictures of the rest of the guys going off, got a couple good ones. It got dark, we all climbed down the hill and formed up and marched out – back to camp.

Got back to camp, they dismissed us and told us to get some sleep. I went and dropped my gear, took off my blouse, fired up a smoke and got some water – did I mention it was hot as hell – even at night – you never stopped sweating. I laid my soaking wet uniform over the top of my tent and ate some cookies from an MRE. I really stunk; I know I had to do something about it. That baby-wipe bath was going to happen tonight. So, I pulled out my clean uniform, socks, t-shirt and underwear put them aside for the next day. Got in my tent stripped down to nothing and baby-wiped myself from head to toe, put on a clean set of underwear and fell asleep.



Sarspec Journl cont.-
Sunday 18July2010

0600 - Sunday morning – the last day for this weekend - thought to myself, “here we go.” I got up and got dressed all nice and clean with a fresh uniform. Looked at my watch it was 0600, everyone else was don on the pad forming up for PT – thanks for the wake-up guys. I didn't even have time to use the bathroom. I just got in formation and started exercising – did that for a while – as soon as we were dismissed I ran to the bathroom at let her go. Now I was ready to start the day.

We went back to camp and got out those heater meals – looked good on the box – what a joke. Powdered eggs – the heater didn't work, I got one from someone else it didn't work either. I finally went and broke open an MRE I had in my pack took out the heater - it worked – powdered eggs, bacon, fruit cup and a can of apple juice. I was thinking to myself today is search operations in the field “I hope this is enough to keep me going,” needless to say I went and filled my cargo pockets with MRE cookies and crackers - just in case. I rucked up and noticed I needed to shave – pulled out my razor and shaved in my canteen cup – that reminds me I need to wash it before I decide to eat out of it again.

We formed up down on the pad and broke for SAR operations training taught by 2LT Anderson. We got to drop our gear and sit on the concrete it was still early so it had not gotten really hot yet – just humid. The search class lasted about an hour; we then broke out to do a line search. We marched out to the edge of camp, then were told to turn around and march back, got back, they said, march back to where you were. JC! Got back to where we were supposed to go the first time and did the line search, stopping every 50 meters to blow our whistles and listed for a response – did this for 150 meters and then Marched back to the trucks. Loaded up and moved out to the bomb range where we would conduct search operations training. God, I wish it would rain, balls hot. Again - thank God for water!

We got out to the bomb range, un-loaded and formed up, marched to the staging area. We were told to stand fast, but we would be the first team out. We got the mission briefing, our first mission was a road search for clues. We rucked up, and headed out in a split column formation down a red clay road, no shade, lots of sunshine and heat, but we also had plenty of water and sweat... about 200 meters down the road, we found our first clue, a child's blue plastic frog toy. We called it in to the TOC and were told to continue mission. We continued another 44 meters down the road, we found our second clue, a red checker in the road, we called it in, I went another meter up the road and stood on the side of a small burm on the side of the road and spotted another checker off the road a couple feet, we called that one in. moved out and another 100 meters or so we found a childs small number die on the side of the road. We called it in and moved out, we got

about 25 meters further and a call came over the radio ordering us back to the staging area. We moved out and marched back.

This gave us time to rest and the other teams to do their road search. Since we were first they probably just had to follow our tracks, that is what I would have done, look for tracks. This mission was very reminiscent of going arrowhead hunting, lots of walking, staring at the ground looking for small objects that don't belong. I guess all that treasure hunting was good training for clue searches. Ten years ago, who would have known? hmn...

As we waited for the other teams to complete the mission, we hydrated, and hydrated, and hydrated. I had a smoke and talked at length with Chief Garrard about various issues concerning the SDF and possible articles to write in the future. The camaraderie this training and these missions create will last a long time. These are my brothers.

When the last team came back in I gathered up all members of 5th Brigade and got a photo of all of us together. I did this for a reason, so that everyone in the picture would stay committed to the training and always be in the picture. Kind of like now that you're in the picture you can't quit. Trust me we were all feeling the heat and exhaustion of the hot Georgia Summer day, we needed all the positive reinforcement we could get.

The next mission would involve each squad taking a sector of the bomb range to do a line search. Since we were first squad we went first and farthest. Hot, sweat, hot, sweat, hydrate, hydrate, hydrate, I swear the water was the only thing keeping us alive, seriously. We marched out in a single column down the road. We marched about a half mile and were told to form a search line and be prepared to move to the south into the field. We were told to watch for snakes and other hazards, didn't see any. We spread out and began the search, about 95 meters into the search we found a baseball, called it in and continued search, about 10 meters further we found a red poker chip, called it in and continued the search. We moved out to the tree line, didn't find anything else and were convinced there was more since we didn't find the lost child we were looking for. We then did the search in reverse back to our starting point, as we got the road, the TOC called in on the radio and called us back to staging area. We formed up and moved out.

We moved down the road to second squad's location. We waited and were called further back down the road to where I think third squad was. I think I heard on the radio they had a heat injury and couldn't move, so we came to them. Command told us all to have seat, drop our gear, we would do our hot wash in the field. We sat and hydrated and hydrated while the command and cadre gave the After Action Report. We all did really well, the mission was a success, we didn't find the missing child, but we found enough clues to let us know a child had been in the area and we were looking in the right place. This was only a training mission, there really wasn't a lost child, if there had been one, and

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Sarspec Journl cont.-

we would have found him or her and thus a successful search and rescue mission.

We rucked up and marched back to the staging area and waited by the trucks for drivers back to camp. SFC Langley told us when we got back to pack up our gear and stage at the campsite for pick-up.

We got back to camp and could see black clouds moving in fast. Now it was a mad dash to un-ass our campsite. They couldn't have planned that any better. I was hauling ass, even after the long hot killer of a search mission, trying to get everything up before the bottom dropped out. I Got the tent and sleeping bag wrapped up and secured in the pack as to stay dry, but that was about it. The rain came pouring in. I was soaked in a matter of minutes. PVT parker asked if i needed any help, I just gave him my plastic tarp and told him to throw it away. I Loaded up my LBV, large ruck on my back and put my recon back on backwards on my front and scooted down the hill to the pad, and got under the awning of the abandoned hotel. It rained and rained and rained. It felt good, refreshing after the long hot weekend we had just endured. We were dismissed and waited for a truck to pick us up and take us to the parking lot. SGT Derucki came along and CPL Willoughby and I threw our wet gear and wet asses in the back of his truck and headed out. It was very surreal, pouring down rain, riding in the back of a pick up truck with our gear getting heavier with every raindrop – which was coming by the thousands. As odd as it sounds, as sore and tired as I was it felt great. Mission accomplished.

PFC Burzynski
1st Bn 5th BDE GSDF
PARATI SERVIRE

Public Affairs Recruiting

WE WANT YOU! to be a Journalist and or

Photographer for the Georgia State Defense Force.

We are currently recruiting personnel who wish to be Unit Public Affairs Representatives for their prospective units. For more information call PFC Burzynski at 706-992-9300 or email at Ted.Burzynski@gasdf.com.

Other News

You can view the Georgia State Defense Force's photo stream at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/gasdf/>

Also look for the GSDF in this months *Guardsmen Magazine*

Next Month in Phoenix Rising

- *SARspec Journal Part II*
- *OPFOR Missions*
- *IET Graduation*

THIS MONTH IN GEORGIA HISTORY

On August 14, 1786, Revolutionary War veteran Austin Dabney became the only African American to be granted land (fifty acres) by the state of Georgia in recognition of his war service.

Although no one is certain who made the initial discovery or when, the first documented evidence of gold in north Georgia was reported in the August 1, 1829, issue of the Milledgeville newspaper Georgia Journal. More than a century later, on August 4, 1958, a caravan of seven mule-drawn covered wagons left Dahlonega with gold to gild the dome of the state capitol in Atlanta.

During the Civil War, Union general William T. Sherman's artillery bombarded Atlanta throughout August 1864, in the last month of the Atlanta Campaign; on August 9 his troops showered 3,000 rounds on the city.

In 1957 civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. launched the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Atlanta. In August 1962, during the Albany Movement, he invited Jackie Robinson to Albany to help raise money to rebuild two burned churches, and that same month Mary Frances Early became the first African American to graduate from the University of Georgia. On August 28, 1963, King gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, and two years later he returned to Washington, D.C., to witness the signing of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Drill / Mission Calendar

August IET: 6-8 August, GPSTC, Forsyth, GA

SLC: 13-15 August, Jackson, GA

1st BN Drill: 14-15 August, Columbus, GA

SARSPEC II: 20-22 July, GPSTC, Forsyth, GA

SLC: 27-29 August, Jackson, GA

September:

SARSPEC II: 17-19 Sept., GPSTC, Forsyth, GA

SLC: 10-12 Sept., GPSTC, Forsyth, GA

SLC: 24-26 Sept., GPSTC, Jackson, GA

October:

SLC: 1-3 Oct, GPSTC, Forsyth, GA

Family Appreciation Day - 16 Oct. TBA

FTX: 16-17 Oct, Fort Stewart, GA

November:

AT: 5-7 Nov, Fort Stewart, GA