



Alabama State Defense Force In The Crosshairs



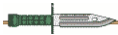
Volume 3, Issue 06

"Remember the Past, Train for the Future"

June 2007

THREAT LEVEL

The country remains at an elevated risk, **Code Yellow**, for terrorist attack



ALSDF State Staff

Commander

MG Charles Rowe

Deputy Commander - Air

BG Ronald G. Noland, Ed D.

Deputy Commander - Army

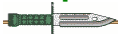
BG John Kervin

Command Sergeant Major

CSM John Blackburn

ASDF Homepage

<http://www.sdf.Alabama.gov/>



3rd Infantry Brigade Staff

Commander

BG Ronald G. Noland

Deputy Commander

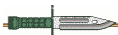
COL Tom Beal

Command Sergeant Major

CSM Walter Ballard

3rd Brigade Homepage

<http://www.alsdf.us/>



304th Infantry Battalion Staff

Commander

COL James Henderson

Executive Officer

MAJ Robert Marsh

Command Sergeant Major

CSM Jeffrey Olson

304th Battalion Homepage

<http://www.alsdfokal.com/>



Commander's Notes

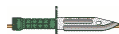
New Companies

With activation of Alpha Company in Dothan and Charlie Company in Enterprise several individuals have been reassigned from the Battalion to the companies. With the activation of the two new companies, several slots have been opened up. We need to redouble our recruiting efforts.



STAFF CALL

Staff Call for June is scheduled for **0700, 02 June 07**. It will be conducted in the Dale County EMA building. Commanders, 1SGs, Staff Officers, Staff NCO's, S-1 Admin Tech and NCO are requested to attend. Any questions, please contact me.



Next Unit Drill/Training

June Training Assembly

02 June 2007 at 0800 hrs

CLASS SCHEDULED

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Refresher

CPT Williams

July Training Assembly

07 July at 0800 hrs

CLASS SCHEDULED

IS-800

The National Response Plan

CPT Heath



From the Desk
of the CSM



Busy Time

Well, another Hurricane Season is upon us. We have been preparing for the season for the past few months and I feel confident we are ready. During all of the training scenarios I have watched each and everyone of you grow more comfortable and confident with your abilities to support the EOC. You have used the training provided and found **"That it does work!, and**

there is a method to the madness”.

Additionally, we are fortunate to have a lot of experienced personnel with Emergency Management backgrounds and Disaster Experience to help and guide us.

When we are preparing for Severe Weather, things get very hectic, very fast, so you must stay (*Rigidly Flexible*) that is when you will be relied on and expected to do the job that you have been trained for. In keeping with that I would like to share some thoughts on our Command Philosophy to help keep us safe during the disaster season and help in everyday life.

The five (5) tenants of Unit Command Philosophy:

COMMON SENSE
TEAMWORK
INTEGRITY
DISCIPLINE
PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

(LEADERSHIP)

All the usual definitions apply to these principles, however special emphasis is placed on them as detailed below:

COMMON SENSE: If you don't know why you are doing something... ***STOP!*** Understand the why and the commander's intent behind the mission you are pursuing.

TEAMWORK: Be honest with your fellow team members / family... ***what*** are your goals — let us all help you reach them together... ***share*** the knowledge, tactics, techniques, and procedures that are successful.

INTEGRITY: Be upfront on the thought processes that lead to a

mistake. Share the information so others may avoid similar mistakes.

DISCIPLINE: Doing what is right even when the right choice may be the more difficult course of action. Soldiers *doing what's right even when no one else is present.*

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY: Taking responsibility at the lowest level possible for identifying a problem and accepting responsibility to get the problem resolved... ***Cradle to Grave responsibility.***

You are “Above the Best, and Second to None”.

3rd Brigade and 304th Battalion Notes

Uniform Patches: Members of the ASDF are not to wear the uniform without the Red ASDF cloth attachment and the red/white, black state shield. Sew-on rank ***“IS NOT”*** authorized IAW ASDF Reg 670-1, dated 4 April 2007. This is a specific order from HQ, Alabama National Guard

Uniform Appearance: The ASDF is a uniformed service; therefore, a neat and well-groomed appearance is mandatory. It is your duty to take pride in your uniform and that of others under your supervision. ***All soldiers must be dressed in the proper uniform with authorized badges, insignia, and patches worn in the prescribed manner. Footwear should be polished, hair neatly trimmed. Beards, unless authorized for medical reasons, are not permitted.*** Members are reminded to wear the Red

ASDF and the State Shield. The State of Alabama Flag is an added uniform patch.

Promotions: Time In Grade is ***NOT*** the only criteria for promotions. To be considered for promotion, a member must have a minimum of unexcused absences (Number to be determined by the classification/promotion board) and participation in several of the units activities such as Armed Forces Day, Veterans Day, Sports, Exercises, Drills, etc.

EXPENSE FORM

Members were given a personal expense form at the monthly UTA. You are requested to maintain this form by listing every expense incurred by you for the CY 2007. When completed and turned in quarterly it will be used to complete the training and expense report for the Battalion. Every expense should be listed, but not limited to uniform purchase, cleaning, repair, sewing, insignia, meals while on duty, mileage, administrative expenses, long distance calls, stamps, food donations, computer expenses, lodging, etc. You are requested to maintain this form on a regular basis. If you did not get a form see CW2 Volkin, S-1 Officer, who is the POC for this project.

Additionally, maintain a copy for your records and it will be easier to produce the end of year expenses for the battalion.

July 7th Drill will be the next time the expense report will be gathered for processing.

Excused Absences: The battalion has implemented an excused absence policy. If you are **NOT** able to attend a UTA then call your Unit Commander, First Sergeant or S-1 Rep. and request an excused absence.

A Company

CPT Heath: (334) 671-8584
E-Mail: nyghtknight@hotmail.com

1SG Dilge: (334) 793-5161
E-Mail: jhdilge@sw.rr.com

C Company

CPT McDaniel: (334) 347-8194
E-Mail: Cco_402@alsdfozkal.com

1SG Franco: (334) 393-9209
E-Mail: afranco2@csc.com

HHC & BN

CW2 Volkin: (334) 774-1158
E-Mail: rvolkin2168@charter.net

CSM Olson: (334) 445-9536
E-Mail: CSM@alsdfozkal.com

**Wear your stripes with pride and honor. You are—
"The Backbone of the
Alabama State Defense Force
(ALSDF)"**

**"NCO's Lead the Way"
"Hooah"**

CSM Olson



**Memor Preteritus,
Syрма pro Posterus**



**The
Chaplain's
Corner**

"What Faith is"

1. Doing the right thing regardless of the consequences and knowing God will turn the ultimate effect to good.
2. Confidence that God is acting for my highest good when He says no to my prayers.
3. Realizing that I am useful to God not in spite of my scars but because of them.
4. Accepting the fact that God knows better than I do what is ultimately good for me.
5. Living with the unexplained.
6. The way to please God.

*Because God Lives, God Bless
Chaplain Lewis*

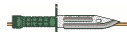
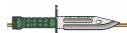


Plate Now!

Is it time to renew your car license plate for the year? Would you like to show pride in being a member of the State Defense Force! Then get a SDF tag for your car. The cost of the tag is just \$50.00 plus the cost of your standard plate. That's just 14 cents a day to show your pride in the ALSDF.

The license plates require **ALSDF Form 7A (Certificate of Application for ALSDF License Plate)** to be completed and signed by the ASDF Commander, or designated Representative. CW2 Volkin has the forms available at the monthly drills. The license plates are on hand at the Dale County Court House for Dale County Only. All other counties still need the form, but the license plates will take 3 – 4 weeks to come into their respective counties.



The BN T-SHIRTS



The Black Bn T-Shirts are in and can be picked up at drill. The shirts are ordered in lots of 12. If you would like to order additional T-Shirts for yourself or someone else, see **CSM Olson**, Bn CSM at the next drill or e-mail him at csm@alsdfozkal.com and let him know the number and size of the shirts that you want.

Join the MEMS Academy program and start earning your MEMS Badge Today. State Guard Association of the United States Military Emergency Management Specialist Academy Qualification Standards and Procedures have changed effective September 11th, 2006. Please read the HB and become familiar with it.

Battalion Members Currently Working on the MEMS Program:

MEMS Flash:

Senior Badge:

1LT Gullede
CSM Olson

Basic Badge:

COL Henderson
MAJ Marsh, MAJ May
CPT McDaniel, 1LT Amore,
CW5 Barker, 1SG Franco,
1SG Dilge, SFC Flynn,
SSG Ash,

NEW PERSONNEL

SGT Robinson, Corey
C Co. Communication Chief

PROMOTIONS

1LT Hooben
to Captain
WO1 Volkin
to Chief Warrant Officer 2
PFC Sommers
to Corporal

ASSIGNMENT CHANGE

1LT Szabo, HHC – Inactive
SGT Bruner, A Co. – Inactive
CPL Sommers, A Co. RTO to A
Co. Team leader

Awards

MSG Wilkenson
ALSDF Achievement Ribbon
SGT Marsh
ALSDF Achievement Ribbon
CPL Andrews
ALSDF Achievement Ribbon

CERT TAB

COL Henderson, MAJ Marsh,
MAJ May, CPT Hooben, CPT
Williams, Chaplain Lewis, CW5
Barker, CW2 Volkin, CSM Olson,
1SG Franco, SSG Ash, SSG
Strickland, SGT Smith

304th Battalion Birthdays

JUNE

1SG Franko, A.
SFC Thomas, W.
SSG Murison, L.

JULY

CPT Claassen
LT Russell
CW5 Barker
SSG Carruthers
SSG Strickland
CPL Fuller



RIBBON / BADGE of the MONTH

This month we
highlight the
**Community Emergency
Response Team (CERT)
Tab**



(ALSDF Reg 672-5)

The **C**ommunity **E**mergency
Response **T**eam (**CERT**) Tab is
worn by ASDF Members

serving on CERT Teams. The
tab will be embroidered, the
background will be OD Green
with the lettering and border in
black. Lettering will read CERT
(for wear on BDU Uniform
ONLY!)

Emergency **M**anagement
Institute **I**ndependent **S**tudy
Program and **CITIZEN**
CORPS.Gov Course Overview

IS-317: Introduction to
Community **E**mergency
Response **T**eams (**CERT**):

This course serves as an
introduction to CERT for those
wanting to complete training or as
a refresher for current team
members. IS-317 has six modules
with topics that include an
Introduction to CERT, Fire
Safety, Hazardous Material and
Terrorist Incidents, Disaster
Medical Operations, and Search
and Rescue. It can be taken by
anyone interested in CERT;
however, to become a CERT
volunteer, one must complete the
classroom training offered by a
local government agency such as

the emergency management
agency, fire or police
departments.

To be eligible for the CERT TAB
the individual must have
successfully completed all
portions of the training program
given by a local government
agency, such as the emergency
management agency, fire or police
department.

1. Emergency Preparedness.
2. Fire Safety.
3. Emergency Medical
Operations (Part 1).
4. Emergency medical Operations
(Part 2).
5. Light Search and Rescue
Operations.
6. CERT Organization.
7. Disaster Psychology.
8. Terrorism and CERT.
9. Course Review and Disaster
Simulation. (Hands-On
Evaluation).

All aspects of the training must be
completed to be awarded the
CERT TAB



NEW! QUESTION
OF THE
MONTH

Former Monroe County
Colonel _____
commanded the garrison at
the Defense of the Alamo?
And Sam Houston had first
won his spurs as a subaltern
at the Battle of Horseshoe
Bend near present day
_____ City?

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S QUESTION

During World War I, the 4th Alabama Infantry Regiment was redesignated to the U.S. _____ Infantry Regiment, _____ Division?

ANSWER:

During World War I, the 4th Alabama Infantry Regiment was redesignated to the U.S. 167th Infantry Regiment, Colonel William P. Screws Commanding, part of the 85th Infantry Brigade, 42nd ("Rainbow") Division, composed of Guardsman from 26 states.

How did you Do?

In Honor of All Who Have Made the Ultimate Sacrifice



and To Those Who Have Been Left To Remember!

We'll Never Forget!!!



Final Inspection

The soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.

"Step forward now, you soldier,
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other
cheek?
To My Church have you been
true?"

The soldier squared his shoulders
And said, "No, Lord, I guess I
ain't.
Because those of us who carry
guns, Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough.
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully
rough.

But I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of
overtime,
When the bills got just too steep.

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.
I know I don't deserve a place,
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here,
Lord,
It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand."

There was a silence all around the
throne,
Where the saints had often trod;

As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

"Step forward now, you soldier,
You've borne your burden well.
Walk peacefully on Heaven's
streets, You've done your time in
Hell"

--Author Unknown--

*It's the Military, not the
reporter, who has given us The
freedom of the press.

*It's the Military, not the poet,
who has given us the Freedom of
Speech.

*It's the Military, not the
politicians, that ensures Our right
to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit
of Happiness.

*It's the Military who salutes the
flag, who serves beneath the flag,
and whose coffin is draped by the
Flag.

Pray for our men and women who
have served and are currently
serving our country, and pray for
those who have given the ultimate
sacrifice for freedom.

**GOD BLESS OUR MILITARY
AND THEIR FAMILIES**



*What happened to the
Signers of the Declaration
of Independence*

*Have you ever wondered what
happened to those men who signed
the Declaration of Independence?*

Fifty-six men from each of the original 13 colonies signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. **Nine** of the signers were immigrants, **two** were brothers and **two** were cousins. **One** was an orphan. The average age of a signer was 45. Benjamin Franklin was the oldest delegate at 70. The youngest was Thomas Lynch Jr. of South Carolina at 27.

Eighteen of the signers were merchants or businessmen, **14** were farmers, and four were doctors. **Twenty-two** were lawyers – although William Hooper of North Carolina was “disbarred” when he spoke out against the king – and **nine** were judges. Stephen Hopkins had been governor of Rhode Island. **Forty-two** signers had served in their colonial legislatures.

John Witherspoon of New Jersey was the only active clergyman to attend. (indeed, he wore his pontificals to the sessions.) Almost all were Protestants. Charles Carroll of Maryland was the lone Roman Catholic.

Seven of the signers were educated at Harvard, **four** at Yale, **four** at William & Mary, and **three** at Princeton. Witherspoon was the president of Princeton, and George Wythe was a professor at William & Mary. His students included Declaration scribe Thomas Jefferson.

Seventeen signers fought in the American Revolution. Thomas Nelson was a colonel in the Second Virginia Regiment and then commanded Virginia military forces at the Battle of Yorktown. William Whipple served with the New Hampshire militia and was a commanding

officer in the Decisive Saratoga Campaign. Oliver Wolcott led the Connecticut Regiments sent for the Defense of New York and commanded a brigade of militia that took part in the defeat of General Burgoyne. Caesar Rodney held the same rank in the Massachusetts militia.

The British captured **five** signers during the war. Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, and Arthur Middleton were captured at the Battle of Charleston in 1780. George Walton was wounded and captured at the Battle of Savannah. Richard Stockton of New Jersey never recovered from his incarceration at the hands of British Loyalists. He died in 1781.

Thomas McKean of Delaware wrote John Adams that he was “hunted like a fox by the enemy – compelled to remove my family five times in a few months.” He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Abraham Clark of New Jersey had **two** of his sons captured by the British during the war.

Eleven signers had their homes and property destroyed. Francis Lewis’s New York home was razed and his wife taken prisoner. John Hart’s farm and mills were destroyed when the British invaded New Jersey, and he died while fleeing capture. Carter Braxton and Nelson both of Virginia, lent large sums of their personal fortunes to support the war effort but were never repaid.

Carter Braxton was a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British

navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Vandals or soldiers or both, looted the properties of Ellery, Clymer, Hall, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

Fifteen of the signers participated in their states’ constitutional conventions, and **six** – Roger Sherman, Robert Morris, Franklin, George Clymer, James Wilson, and George Reed – signed the U.S. Constitution.

After the Revolution, **13** signers went on to become governors. **Eighteen** served in their state legislatures. **Sixteen** became state and federal judges. **Seven** became members of the U.S. House of Representatives. **Six** became U.S. senators. James Wilson and Samuel Chase became Supreme Court Justices. Jefferson, Adams, and Elbridge Gerry each became Vice President. Adams and Jefferson later became President.

Five signers played major roles in the establishment of colleges and universities; Franklin and the University of Pennsylvania; Jefferson and the University of Virginia; Benjamin Rush and Dickinson College; Lewis Morris and New York University; and George Walton and the University of Georgia.

Adams, Jefferson, and Carroll were the longest surviving signers. Adams and Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Carroll was the last signer to die in 1832 at the age of 95.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. There were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: **"For the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."** They gave you and I a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot of what happened in the revolutionary war. We didn't just fight the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government! Perhaps you can now see why our founding fathers had a hatred for standing armies, and allowed through the second amendment for everyone to be armed.

No Signer of the Declaration of Independence was killed outright by the British.



A Brief History Of Rank Insignia

Most of our present rank titles and insignia first came into popular use in Europe during the Middle Ages. For a more

detailed historical perspective of rank insignia, read the [American Forces Press Service article](#).

"Chevron" is an architectural term denoting the rafters of a roof meeting an angle at the upper apex. The chevron in heraldry was employed as a badge of honor to mark the main supporters of the head of the clan or "top of the house" and it came to be used in various forms as an emblem of rank for knights and men-at-arms in feudal days. One legend is that the chevron was awarded to a knight to show he had taken part in capturing a castle, town, or other building, of which the chevron resembled the roofs. The use of the chevron to signify position within the enlisted ranks continues to this day.

- **Private:** *having attained no title of rank, a 'private soldier'.*
- **Corporal:** *influenced by 'corps'; head, chief.*
- **Sergeant:** *servant; attendant upon a knight in the field.*



Our present system of officers' grade insignia began on 18 June 1780 when it was prescribed that Major Generals would wear two stars and Brigadier Generals one star on each epaulette. In 1832, the Colonel's eagle was initiated and in 1836, leaves were adopted for Lieutenant Colonels and Majors, while Captains received two bars and one bar was prescribed for First Lieutenant. Second Lieutenants did not

receive the gold bar until December, 1917.

Warrant Officers were provided with an insignia of identification on May 12, 1921, which also served as their insignia of grade. In 1942, Warrant Officers were graded and there were created a Chief Warrant Officer and a Warrant Officer (Junior Grade), and separate insignia of grade (gold and brown enamel bars) were approved June 14, 1942. A grade of Flight Officer came into being in 1942, and the insignia was prescribed to be identical to Warrant Officer (Junior Grade) except the enamel was blue instead of brown.

Some historical notes regarding the commissioned ranks:

- **Lieutenant:** *an officer representing and exercising powers on behalf of his lord or sovereign.*
- **Captain:** *an officer entrusted with a command or fort under a sovereign or general.*
- **Colonel:** *an officer commanding a 'column' of soldiers and support trains.*

General: *originally meant to be of similar 'birth' or 'class' with a sovereign.*

Currently, the use is to be familiar with all facets of the army, no longer a specialist in one area, a 'general officer'.



ATLANTIC TROPICAL STORM AND HURRICANE NAMES FOR 2007

The 2007 Atlantic Hurricane Season officially begins

June 1 and runs through November 30.

Alabama Hurricane WebSite

<http://hurricane.alabama.gov/>

These names are the same as the ones used in 2001, except for Andrea, Ingrid, and Melissa; those replace Allison, Iris, and Michelle, which have been retired. And this same list, minus any retired names will be used again for the 2013 hurricane season.

Andrea	Sub tropical Storm May 9 - 11 (40 mph winds)	Lorenzo
Barry		Melissa
Chantal (shan-TAHL)		Noel
Dean		Olga
Erin (AIR-in)		Pablo (PA-blow)
Felix (FEEL-ix)		Rebekah
Gabrielle (ga-bree-EL)		Sebastien (Say-BAS-tyan)
Humberto		Tanya (TAHN-ya)
Ingrid		Van
Jerry		Wendy
Karen		

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NOAA defines an average Atlantic Storm season as:

- 6 – 14 named storms
- 4 – 8 hurricanes
- and 1 – 3 major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher)

NOAA predicts above normal 2007 Atlantic hurricane season **13 to 17 Named Storms**
Predicted Experts at the [NOAA Climate Prediction Center](#) are projecting a 75 percent chance that the [Atlantic Hurricane Season](#) will be above normal this year.

2005 was a record season, with 28 named storms, and 15 hurricanes. 4 of those hit the U.S. Coast (including Katrina and Rita). 2006 was a “near-average” season, with 10 named storms, 5 hurricanes. 2 of them were major but none hit the U.S. Coast. Last year, though, El Nino helped calm hurricanes with winds that pulled the storm systems apart.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Hurricane Reconnaissance Organizations

[\(The Hurricane Hunters\)](#)

- [53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron](#)
<http://www.hurricanehunters.com/>
403rd Wing, Air Force Reserve Command
Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi
- [NOAA Aircraft Operations Center](#)
<http://www.aoc.noaa.gov/index.html>
- MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida



The Ad Page



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**All Money Raised Goes
for the Battalion Flags**



BN S-1

WO1

Robert Volkin

**PAC Leads the
Way**

Remember

NCO's

*Sets the Example
for all to Follow!*

CSM Blackburn

Keeping our people safe at

Love, Honor and Country

Maj.

Ronald S. Volkin,

U.S. Army

**On duty in the War Against
Terrorism,**

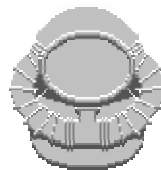
**Wiesbaden,
Germany**



God Bless America



Battalion S-3



MAJ Jeff May



