



ROYAL HUTT RIVER DEFENCE FORCES

AFTER ACTION REPORT



UNIT: Royal Hutt River Military College School of Artillery (RHRMC-SOA)	CONTACT OFFICER: Major-General Sir William B. Speir, Jr., KCOWL, KRO, RCH, SCM, RHRA 8172 Champions Circle, Apt 101 Champions Gate, FL 33896 USA RHRA.Royal-Artillery@Principality-Hutt-River.com
UNIT REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATING: Major-General William B. Speir, Jr.	

ACTIVITY: Artillery School January 2013.	ACTIVITY DATE: 26 January 2013
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ACTIVITY DETAILS:

The Commander of the Royal Hutt River Military College and Chief of the Royal Hutt River Artillery conducted the fifth School of the Piece (Muzzle-Loading Artillery Drills) Training Program as a joint activity between the Royal Hutt River Military College and the Loyal Train of Artillery Chapter of the United States Field Artillery Association (LTAC-USFAA). The national flag of the Principality of Hutt River flew over the school for the entire day.

On 26 January 2013, the fifth LTAC-USFAA sanctioned School of the Piece was taught at Museum of Military History in Kissimmee, Florida with one cannon – the 12lb Mountain Howitzer of the 2nd Florida Light Artillery Battery B. Seven students registered and five students attended the one day class, which covered artillery safety (lecture and demonstration), hands-on rolling proper artillery charges, as well as hands on drilling, including the misfire drill. The students represented the 2nd Florida Light Artillery Battalion, which purchased the cannon for ceremonial and educational activities.

Following registration, the signing of the Hold Harmless agreement and handing out the manuals, the school began at 9:10 AM. After the introductions, the history of the LTAC-USFAA and overview of the course was given. Major-General Speir then provided the history of the Field Artillery and the common types of ordnance used during the War Between the States time period.

After the artillery safety procedures, the range safety zones, and the three-minute rule were presented, Major-General Speir inspected the cannon and limber and completed the safety checklist as part of the safety demonstration. Major-General Speir then presented the gunpowder safety demonstration, which included lighting a live round on the ground to show the force of the gunpowder, and the burn tray demonstration to demonstrate the effects of fire on various uniform fabrics. Due to the school location, the cannon could not be fired, so the vent safety and muzzle safety demonstrations could not be performed.

Major-General Speir then demonstrated the proper way to roll powder charges. This was a hands-on

learning activity as the students were given the opportunity to roll the powder charges that would be used the next weekend at an event the artillery crew was attending. The rest of the day was spent rotating he students through the Artillery Drill and the Misfire Drill until each student had reached a level of proficiency in each position.

Major-General Speir evaluated the student's demonstrated proficiency in each crew position as the students cleaned up the area and returned the cannon to its display position inside the museum. The course Certificates of Completion and Qualification Cards were handed out to the participants. The students were dismissed at 5:20 PM.

The students attending, several of whom were experienced artillerists, picked up the information quickly and did very well for their first time serving on all crew positions for the cannon. While more drilling will be necessary to ensure continued proficiency, Major-General Speir were very pleased with their performance and their commitment to learning how to operate their new cannon properly and safely. The feedback from the school was entirely positive.

ACTIVITY PURPOSE:

Conducting educational activities is a core function of the Royal Hutt River Military College. By providing these training programs, we build closer ties with similar organizations and advance our goals of increasing the general knowledge of and the recognition of the RHRDF and the Principality.

ACTIVITY RESULTS:

This school followed the new instructional program model of teaching individual units one at a time, rather than attempting to schedule and hold larger schools involving multiple units at the same time. The pilots for this instructional program model were very successful, leading to the adoption of this method as the standard for the Florida Schools going forward.

REQUIRED/PLANNED FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY:

Continue planning for additional 2013 schools.