



## ROYAL HUTT RIVER ARMY



### AFTER ACTION REPORT

**UNIT:**

1st North American Royal Guards  
Royal Hutt River Artillery  
Royal School of Artillery

**CONTACT OFFICER:**

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**UNIT REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATING:**

Colonel William B. Speir, Jr.

**ACTIVITY:**

Artillery School 2010.

**ACTIVITY DATE:**

17-18 April 2010

**ACTIVITY DETAILS:**

The Chief of the Royal Hutt River Artillery (and Commander of the Royal School of Artillery) conducted the Second School of the Piece (Muzzle-Loading Artillery Drills) Training Program as a joint activity between the Royal Hutt River Army and the Loyal Train of Artillery Chapter of the United States Field Artillery Association (USFAA).

In mid-April 2010, under partly cloudy to overcast skies, the School was taught at Turkey Lake Park in Orlando, Florida with one cannon – the 3-inch Ordinance Rifle of the Kilcrease Artillery. Sixteen students registered and 15 students attended the two day class, which covered artillery safety (lecture and demonstration), artillery structure and history, artillery ordinance, rolling proper artillery charges, as well as hands on drilling, including the misfire drill. The students represented the Kilcrease Light Artillery, the 1st US Light Artillery, the 1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery, the 2nd Florida Light Artillery, as well as the 2nd Florida Infantry, 5th Florida Infantry, and Hardy's Brigade Cavalry.

The school started each day at 8:30 AM. After the introductions and overview of the course was given in the indoor pavilion, Colonel Speir, Senior Safety Instructor and School Commander, and Lt. Colonel Wahl, who is being trained as an Artillery Safety Instructor, presented topic on the history of Field Artillery, Muzzle-Loading Ordnance, proper ways to roll powder charges, and artillery safety procedures. Next, Lt. Colonel Wahl presented an overview of artillery nomenclature outside. Lt. Colonel Wahl and Colonel Speir then inspected the cannon and limber and completed the safety checklist. The safety demonstration was then presented, which included the burn tray demonstration, lighting a live round on the ground, and firing the cannon with the meat/glove over the vent and the scarecrows in front of the muzzle. After lunch, the By Detail Drill was taught to the students, followed by the Misfire Drill. Drill practice continued for the rest of the afternoon. The first day concluded at 5:50 PM.

On the second day, Lt. Colonel Wahl covered Battery Commands. The students then continued drilling as Colonel Speir and Lt. Colonel Wahl evaluated the student's demonstrated proficiency in each crew position. Critique sheets were filled out, and the course certificates and cards were handed out to the participants. The cannon was loaded on the trailer, and the school ended at 1:00 PM.

The students attending, which were a mix of experienced artillerists, as well as infantry and cavalry soldiers wanting to know more about artillery, generally wished the lecture portion of the class had been shorter so more time could be spent drilling. Many of those attending served on Mountain Howitzers, but since no howitzers were brought to the school, they were unable to learn on their own guns or learn that drill. The students wished for the school to be held more often, which will be worked on.

**ACTIVITY PURPOSE:**

Conducting educational activities is a core function of the Royal Hutt River Artillery and the Royal School of Artillery. 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 RHRA and the Principality.

**ACTIVITY RESULTS:**

The public recognition of the Royal School of Artillery's efforts in producing the Artillery Manuals used in the training program raised the awareness of many of the event participants about the Principality and the RHRA. The event also provided many opportunities to discuss the Principality and the RHRA and our mission in the United States. The good will generated by conducting the event has already secured an request to conduct future, more detailed training evens, where the RHRA can interact with even more students.

**REQUIRED/PLANNED FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY:**

Begin planning for the 2011 school.

**The following are pictures from the event.**



**The Flag of the Principality and the United States**



**Colonel Speir providing instruction**

**THE PRINCIPALITY OF HUTT RIVER**





**Moving the Cannon into Position.**



**Colonel Speir Demonstrates Proper Techniques.**

## **THE PRINCIPALITY OF HUTT RIVER**





**Colonel Speir Answers Questions.**



**Colonel Speir Presents Certificates and Awards.**

## **THE PRINCIPALITY OF HUTT RIVER**