

**The State of South Carolina
Honoring**



**The Golden Anniversary of the
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE GUARD
and
Those Who Served Faithfully
On The Home Front**

**1941 - 1947
11:00 a.m.
March 21, 1991
The State House**

The South Carolina State Guard and the Militia Tradition in South Carolina

The Armed Forces of the State of South Carolina, organized as the Militia, have a long and honorable history extending from the first settlement at Charles Town, on Albemarle Point, in 1670, to the present time. For 320 years, State troops have volunteered to serve in war and peace, defending home, State and Nation upon many occasions and against many enemies, as well as assisting the people of this State in time of disaster and other troubles.

In the early days of the Province of Carolina, the Militia repulsed French and Spanish invasions, attacked St. Augustine in 1706 and won the Yemassee Indian War in 1715. The Militia invaded Spanish Florida once more in 1740 and repulsed frontier Indian attacks from 1716 to 1761, including the Cherokee Indian Wars.

During the American Revolution, the six regular regiments of South Carolina forces (the Continental Line units), raised in 1775, were lost to the British at the fall of Charles Town in 1780. The many South Carolina Militia units which had provided defense for the State from 1775 to 1780 were reformed into three brigades under General Francis Marion, in the Low Country, General Thomas Sumter, in the Midlands, and General Andrew Pickens in the Piedmont. These served until the departure of the British forces in 1782.

Of the Militia units which volunteered in 1807 after the infamous Chesapeake-Leopard Affair, the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston remains as an active organization. Militia volunteered to defend the State again in the War of 1812. In 1846, the glorious Palmetto Regiment was raised from Militia volunteers for the Mexican War and was the first American unit to gain entrance to and raise a flag over the fortress of Chapultepec which led to the capture of Mexico City the following day.

Thousands of Militia volunteered as units and as individuals during the Civil War for Southern Independence, 1861-1865. Six Regiments of State Troops were organized for internal security and did not leave the State. The Militia volunteered in large numbers for the Spanish-American War in 1898 but many units were also retained for security of the State.

Since the early part of this century, the largest part of the Military Forces of South Carolina has been organized as the National Guard. The National Guard has been called upon to leave the State in the service of the Nation on several occasions. During these times, the State has called upon the other Militia component.

During the period 1917 - 1920, the South Carolina Militia Reserve was activated to replace the South Carolina National Guard units serving in France and remained in existence until the National Guard had been reorganized.

The mobilization of the National Guard on the eve of World War II began in September 1940. On March 21, 1941, Governor Burnet R. Maybank signed into law Act Number 54 of the 84th General Assembly of South Carolina, establishing the South Carolina Defense Force. Authorized a strength of 6,553, the ranks had grown to 3,251 within the first 90 days -- by June 30, 1941 -- over five months before Pearl Harbor.

Many of those who served in the "Home Guard" during World War II were over-age for active military service or were still in high school. Many went from service in the State Defense Force to active service; some returned from active service and joined or rejoined the "Home Guard," now called the South Carolina State Guard (since January 1944). The four regiments and one special battalion of this force provided the State with a force required for internal security and for defense of both essential facilities and the coastline. The State Guard was inactivated in 1947, when the National Guard was reactivated, and remained inactive for 34 years.

In 1981, it was determined that the South Carolina State Guard was again needed, and it was reactivated and reorganized as it exists at present. The all-volunteer force has its headquarters in Columbia, at Olympia Armory. As in Revolutionary War times, there are three brigades in the three parts of the State. The 1st Brigade is headquartered in Columbia, the 2nd Brigade in Greenville, and the 3rd Brigade in Charleston. Each town in the State with an Army National Guard armory is authorized at least one South Carolina State Guard company.

Program

- 1030 Hours Military Music.....The Citadel Band
MAJ Herbert L. Day, USMC (Ret)
Director
- 1050 Hours SCSG Honor Guard Takes Position.....CSM Richard G. Soloway SCSG
Commander of Troops
- 1100 Hours Posting of Colors.....SCSG Color Guard
WLI Color Guard
- Welcome.....BG Robert D. Floyd
Commander, 1st Brigade, SCSG
- Invocation.....Chaplain George E. Meetze
Chief Chaplain, SCSG, and
Chaplain, The Senate
- Pledge of Allegiance.....SGM Moses Jackson, Jr., SCSG
- The Star-Spangled Banner.....Dr. Richard Conant
accompanied by The Citadel Band
- Introductions.....BG Robert D. Floyd
- Comments.....MG James A. Lander
Director, SCSG
- Comments.....MG T. Eston Marchant
The Adjutant General
- Principal Address.....The Honorable Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.
Presentation of Streamers Governor and Commander-in-Chief
The State of South Carolina
- America the Beautiful.....Dr. Richard Conant
accompanied by The Citadel Band
- Benediction.....The Reverend Alton Clark
Chaplain, The House of Representatives
- Retire the Colors
- SCSG Honor Guard Marches Off
- All guests are requested to remain in place until the Honor Guard
has marched away from the steps.*



The Honorable Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.
Governor and Commander-in-Chief

Major General T. Eston Marchant
Adjutant General

Major General James A. Lander
Director, State Guard

50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEES

Steering Committee

Brigadier General Robert D. Floyd, Chairman
Brigadier General Earle E. Morris, Jr.
Brigadier General William A. "Dick" Taylor
Chaplain (Colonel) George E. Meetze

Colonel Henry L. DuRant
Lieutenant Colonel Richard J. Grimsley, Sr.
Captain Eugene G. Beckman, Jr.

Office of the Adjutant General Liaison and Support

Colonel Hugh M. McLaurin, III
Colonel William T. Hedgpath
Command Sergeant Major James C. Tabor

Standing Committee Chairmen

Brigadier General George W. Gaspard, Jr. - Coordination
Colonel Edward M. Gripkey - Military Plans and Operations
Brigadier General Herbert J. Walton - Publicity
Brigadier General Dean C. DuBois - Special Invitations
Colonel David S. Taylor - Local Arrangements
Major William J. Price - Displays
Lieutenant Colonel James A. Burgs - Displays
Lieutenant Colonel James W. Creamer, Sr. - Recognition, History & Publicity
Major Edward B. Latimer - Recognition and History
Lieutenant Colonel Norman B. Cox - Finance