



ROYAL HUTT RIVER ARMY



AFTER ACTION REPORT

UNIT:

1st North American Royal Guards

CONTACT OFFICER:

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UNIT REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATING:

Lt. Colonel William B. Speir, Jr.

ACTIVITY:

Humanitarian Aid – Donation to Women’s Shelter

ACTIVITY DATE:

12 May 2007

ACTIVITY DETAILS:

One of the purposes of the Royal Hutt River Army is to provide humanitarian aid within the host countries of each Royal Guard unit. Part of the humanitarian mission of the 1st North American Royal Guards is to help begin breaking the cycle of domestic violence in individual communities. One way of accomplishing this is by working with shelters and other organizations for victims of domestic violence to ensure they have the resources to help victims remain safe and break the cycle of abuse.

Lt. Colonel William B. Speir, Jr., his wife Lee Anne, and their two children are in the process of moving to another part of the country. After the new house was selected, it became clear that a number of pieces of furniture would not be making the move. Lee Anne, a former victim of domestic violence from her first marriage, wanted this excess furniture to be put to a good use. She had spent several months in a woman’s shelter until she was ready to live on her own. The shelter provided a number of furniture and other household items, which had been donated by other former residents of the shelter, to help her quickly establish a new home for herself and her two children. Lee Anne wanted to do the same (this is referred to as “paying it forward”).

Lee Anne has been involved in charitable activities related to local woman’s shelters for a number of years. She contacted one of these shelters to arrange the donation of the excess furniture, and was informed that they had an individual with an immediate need. Lee Anne and this individual met and made arrangements for all of the furniture to be donated to her. This individual arranged for volunteers to help with the loading and unloading of the furniture, while Lt. Colonel Speir obtained a truck to handle transporting the furniture. On 12 May 2007, the furniture was delivered to its new home.

ACTIVITY PURPOSE:

The operational plan for 1st North American Royal Guard’s humanitarian mission identifies a number of activities to be performed. Two of these activities were the focus of this action:

1. Contacting local organizations to identify their needs and challenges.
2. Provide humanitarian aid to individuals in need within the local communities.

ACTIVITY RESULTS:

The 20 items of furniture almost filled this individual's 5-room apartment and will give her the chance to start a new life free from domestic violence. Not only was another former victim of domestic violence assisted, but closer relations between the Speir family and the local women's shelter were formed. This provided an opportunity to discuss the RHRA and the role that the Principality is taking in the elimination of domestic violence.

REQUIRED/PLANNED FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY:

None at this time.