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United States Air Force Auxiliary
Civil Air Patrol
New York Wing — Chaplain Service



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CHIEF MELANCON CHALLENGES NER CHAPLAINS TO TRAIN TO THE HIGHEST LEVELS

N.S. NEWPORT; NEWPORT, R.I. — The needs of the entire Civil Air Patrol, the added challenges of new homeland security taskings and a growing closeness between CAP's Chaplain Service and that of our parent service have combined to force an absolute need for the most highly trained and competent chaplains possible.

Ch., Col., James Melancon, Chief of the Civil Air Patrol Chaplain Service, told chaplains and moral leadership officers attending the 19 - 22 May Northeast Region Chaplain Staff College (NERCSC) that there is a critical need for chaplains and MLOs to train to their absolute highest potential. He told his audience of approximately 30 chaplains and MLOs that there are far too many chaplains and MLOs service-wide who have never

pursued additional senior level professional development training beyond CPPT and Level I.

During a presentation and question and answer session, the chief stressed that the greater number and more varied types of missions performed by the organization militate toward a far greater degree of training and increased

level of professionalism from all members of the Chaplain Service.



Ch., Col., James Melancon addresses students at NERCSC held at NAVSTA Newport 19-22 May 2003.



(Left-Right) Chaps. Van Don Williams, NYWG/HC; Richard Clifford, MAWG/HC; Gordon Cheney, NHWG/HC; and James Melancon, CAPCS/HC.

“There is no reason that our chaplains and MLOs should not strive for and attain — at the least Level II — and absolutely Levels III, IV and V. It is essential for us to provide the best ministry to our personnel and to those in need,” Melancon said.

“Bob Hicks (CAP EXACS) and I had a meeting with Ch., [Maj. Gen. Lorraine Potter (Chief of the USAF Chaplain Service) soon after

I began my tenure as chief. I asked her what connection there was between the Air Force Chaplain Service and ours. Her answer was

most instructive; she said ‘There is no connection.’ . . . Now we have a good relationship and connection and she has included us at the table in a number of important meetings and describes us as a vital part of the Chaplain Service family,” the chief said.

That increased level of connection, however, is presupposed upon the greatest possible level of training and professionalism possessed and exercised by CAP chaplains in the field, he said.

Chap. Melancon confessed that while he had for years resisted the idea of completing the CAP Senior Officer's Course (ECI-0013), he should not have done so. “I never took that course until after I had been selected as the next chief. I took it almost immediately afterward, and I challenge each of you who have not done so to do it as quickly as is possible,” he said.

Further, while professing himself pleased that so many chaplains have completed the chaplains' senior member specialty track courses The CAP Chaplain (CAPP-221) and Chaplains Helping Chaplains CAPP-221-A), he said again that he viewed it as imperative that the vast majority — if not all — chaplains and MLOs should also complete the other training components for all levels and that Chaplain Staff Colleges should be viewed as perennial continuing education opportunities and not just as another block to be filled in along one's way to promotion.

Commenting on CAPCS aid to Air Force and Air Guard chaplains, the chief stressed the need to follow the “Wing Chaplain to Wing Chaplain” protocol (Cont. On Pg. 2)

CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS ADDRESSES NERCSC

designed by Ch. Potter. "There are times, and the number of them is increasing, in which Air Force and Air Guard chaplains are calling upon us for our help. It is essential that we provide them with only the most skilled of our chaplains," Melancon said.

This uniformity and quality of training is best guaranteed when each wing's Wing Chaplain is told of the need for assistance and then delegates the right chaplains for the job, he to the group. Further, the chief said that our chaplain service cannot afford to send out unskilled and/or untrained chaplains who would tarnish not only the new relationship with the parent service, but would also dim our service's reputation and their own.



Ch., Col., James Melancon discusses how Chaplain Service awards are supposed to be administered and awarded each year at wing & region levels.

In other comments, the chief spoke of the need for wing chaplains to submit full rosters of MLO and chaplain wing "awardees of the year," because it is from these initial nominations that all subsequent nominations are made at the regional and national level.

In describing the way the process is regulatorily designed to function, Ch. Melancon said each Wing Chaplain is to submit three awardees' names for the wing awards each year, one each for :

- Wing MLO of the year.
- Wing Squadron Chaplain of the Year.
- Wing Senior Chaplain of the Year.

These awardees for each wing then become the pool of nominees for each slate of region chaplain award winners.

"All too often we have been forced to choose from a diminished pool of nominees because several wings have failed to nominate and select chaplains and MLOs for each of the three categories. This is fundamentally unfair to many chaplains and MLOs who would otherwise be most deserving of these awards, but cannot earn them because no one has nominated or awarded them," he said.

Noting that he has never won the coveted award himself,

Melancon said that it is important and significant enough an award that he would be "almost willing to trade [his] eagles" for the opportunity to be so honored. "But, it won't ever happen for me. So I ask you: Make sure that some truly deserving chaplain's or MLO's award doesn't just slip by," the chief implored wing chaplains who attended the CSC.



NYWG CHAPLAIN SERVICE HAS TWO OF NORTHEAST REGION'S THREE NGB / ICISF TRAINED TRAINERS FOR TERRORISM & DISASTER TRAINED CRISIS RESPONDER

During discussions of NHQ emergency services regulations regarding qualified mission chaplain ratings, it was discovered that New York Wing has two of only three trained trainers in the Northeast Region for the National Guard Bureau's (NGB) new Terrorism & Disaster Trained Crisis Responder program.

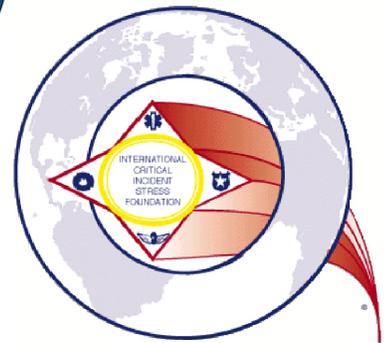
Ch., Maj., Van Don Williams, NYWG/HC, and Ch., Capt., Albert Stuart, NYWG/HCD-N, both received training and were certified TTT for the new joint NGB - International Critical Incident Stress Foundation certified CISM rating after they took the TTT course in Baltimore, MD in August 2002. NER Region Chaplain, Ch., Lt. Col., George Kelly, is the other Trained Trainer for the program after he was trained and certified in Denver, CO last July.

Several other chaplains and MLOs in NYWG are certified as Trained Crisis Responders after having completed the 13 hour course offered to 2002 Chaplain Staff College students.

The program, designed by Ch., Lt. Col., Charles Woods, USAF, Commandant of the Air National Guard's Academy for Innovative Ministry (ANG/AIM) and director of Crisis Intervention for the entire



NGB, is designed to provide psychological "first aid tools and instrumentalities" that enable first-line disaster responders to provide "self-care and buddy care" to themselves and their team-mates during, and in the wake of natural and man-made disasters and crises.



Currently, there are no further TTT training sessions docketed by the NGB and ICISF because no more appropriations have been

(Continued on Pg. 3 - TCR COURSE TO BE OFFERED THIS SUMMER)

TCR COURSES TO BE OFFERED THIS SUMMER

made by congress to expand the training further than it has already been offered. That said, the training for the TCR rating is available to groups of various sizes from TCR-TTT certified trainers. The courses are 13 contact hours, award 1.3 CEUs granted by the University of Maryland at Baltimore and are offered free. The only costs for the training are for the costs of curriculum and certificates and a \$45 flat group registration fee. This fee is calculated and assessed by ICISF for courses registered at least one month in advance. The fee for courses registered with less than one month's advance notice are assessed a \$60 flat group registration fee.

Proposed training courses for the TCR rating offered through the wing's chaplain service have been approved by the NYWG professional development officer. Though dates have not been fixed for the training sessions, two of them are slated for the wing. One will be held at the wing's facilities at Westhampton ANGB on Long Island. The other is tentatively slated for Link Field, NYWG's North HQ and HQ for South Central Group.

This training is strongly recommended for chaplains and MLOs within the wing, as well as for those members with ES ratings who face the likelihood of dealing with crisis situations and/or disaster conditions in the field.

Additional training sessions can be scheduled and registered for interested groups and squadrons throughout the wing.

In the meantime, all personnel should be aware that CISM resources are available through the NYWG Chaplain Service for one-on-one counseling in the event of a crisis or disaster. Several of the wing's chaplains and MLOs are, as mentioned above, certified as Trained Crisis Responders and several others have additional ICISF ratings for CISM-Basic, CISM-Advanced and CISM-Pastoral Crisis Intervention.

If your squadron, group or mission team does not have the capabilities for a CISM response in event of need for such services, these services can be provided by calling Ch., Maj., Van Don Williams, NYWG/HC, at (718)-453-1619.



QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST FOR MISSION CHAPLAIN (101MC) UNDER NEW ES REGIME

The following are the criteria set under CAPR 60-4, Volumes I & II for emergency services rating as a 101MC Mission Chaplain. They are provided here for your information:

MISSION CHAPLAIN — TRAINEE

NUMBER OF REQUIRED TASKS: 2

TASKS:

- Satisfactory Completion of the Current CAP

Chaplains Course

- GES - General Emergency Services

MISSION CHAPLAIN — MISSION CAPABLE

NUMBER OF REQUIRED TASKS: 7

TASKS:

- Demonstrate knowledge of principles and features of ICS
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ICS Organization
- Demonstrate knowledge of incident facilities
- Demonstrate knowledge of incident resources
- Demonstrate knowledge of common responsibilities in ICS
- Demonstrate knowledge of the role of the mission chaplain on SAR / DR missions, including crises ministry skills
- Satisfactory completion of the current Chaplain's Helping Chaplain's Course (221-A)

MISSION CHAPLAIN — ADVANCED TRAINING

NUMBER OF REQUIRED TASKS: 2

TASKS:

- Complete Task L-0001 (Basic Communications Procedures for ES Operations)
- Complete Basic Communications User Training

MISSION CHAPLAIN — EXERCISE PARTICIPATION

NUMBER OF REQUIRED TASKS: 2

TASKS:

- Exercise Participation-Mission Chaplain
- Exercise Participation-Mission Chaplain #2

MISSION CHAPLAIN — UNIT CERTIFICATION

NUMBER OF REQUIRED TASKS: 1

TASKS:

- Unit Certification and Recommendation by a qualified Mission Chaplain evaluator.



NEW YORK WING

2003 GROUP CHAPLAIN ROSTER

Catskill Mountain	—	Ch., Maj., Jim Anderson*** JWAjubilee@aol.com
Central New York	—	Ch., Maj., Ivan Kaszczak ibahkas@att.net
Finger Lakes	—	Ch., Capt., Simon Bancroft Howson*** frsimon@priest.com
Long Island	—	Ch., Lt. Col., William Heine*** whheine@optonline.net
Mid-Eastern	—	Ch., Maj., Ronald Harrison Hbigman01@aol.com
New York City	—	Ch., Maj., Christopher Smith Chaplainsmith@earthlink.net
South Central	—	Ch., Capt., Albert Stuart chaplain_stuart@eznet.net
South Eastern	—	Ch., Capt., Louis Iannone chaplaincaptc@aol.com
Western New York	—	
*** Indicates new group chaplain		

CAP CHAPLAIN SERVICE POLICY IS FOR A SEVEN-YEAR ENDORSEMENT

Based on the work of the Chaplain Service Advisory Council two years ago, the Civil Air Patrol adopted and implemented a recommendation that ecclesiastical endorsements for the CAP chaplaincy be time limited to increments of seven years. Prior to this new policy, there were no time limitations to existing endorsements.

Under that previous regime, clergy who received initial endorsements from their denominational endorsing bodies for appointment as CAP chaplains could keep these single, one-time endorsements for the durations of their ministries with CAP. For example, any clergyperson who became a chaplain in CAP in 1950 would still possess the same valid ecclesiastical 50 years later.

The new policy requires that chaplains contact their endorsing agents prior to the 7-year (84-month) expiration of their endorsements in order for their denominations to insure that their chaplains continue to meet their respective ecclesiastical standards for endorsed clergy.

The new policy course change was taken because of the fundamental recognition that regular contact and interface between endorsers and their chaplains keeps endorsers informed about who officially represents their religious bodies as clergy in CAP. Further, and just as importantly, the policy encourages chaplains to supply endorsers with regular periodic updates about their ministries in and to the Civil Air Patrol.

Practically speaking, CAP chaplains whose endorsements were issued prior to 1993, officially would have had until 31 December 2001 to renew their endorsements. If this has not been done previously, it should be attended to forthwith to insure that no interruption occurs in their status and service as chaplains.

Likewise, any chaplains who received their endorsements prior to 1996 should contact their endorsing agents now and request that their current endorsements may be extended for another seven-year period. When the endorsing agents have completed the requisite DoD Form 2088 (Certificate of Ecclesiastical Endorsement), they may send them directly to the CAP chaplain requesting it, or they to: NHQ CAP, EXACS;

FROM THE NY WING CHAPLAIN'S DESK CH., MAJ., VAN DON WILLIAMS

Greetings NYWG Chaplains and MLOs,

I take this opportunity both to greet you and introduce you to this, our first quarterly newsletter for the CAP Chaplains of New York State.

The New York State Shepherd has the potential to be an incredibly important tool in binding us more closely together and in making us more effective individually and as a wing-wide team. For an organization that places such a high premium on solid communication and information, the importance of this effort cannot be overstated. We need to be informed of each others trials and triumphs, and know that we do not serve all alone in our own little squadron-bubbles.

For these reasons, I would very much like for all chaplains and MLOs to contribute to the newsletter each quarter. Everyone should be made aware of the events, fund raisers and achievements that you and your squadrons have worked on. Send us photos of your events or you in action!

Likewise, if you have any questions or tips about problems you have encountered, let us know about them so we can share those important pieces with other chaplains and MLO's.

Please send all such correspondence to me at:

665 Putnam Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11221-1615

Send all photos, both hard copy and digital photos, to the newsletter editor, Ch., Capt., Albert Stuart, NYWG/HCDN.

His addresses are:

6062 Reading Road (For hard copy photos)
Rock Stream, NY 14878-9715

e-mail: chaplain_stuart@eznet.net

(For jpgs and other digital photos)

Now, lastly, as wing chaplain I take this opportunity to publicly recognize and welcome the following new Chaplains and Moral Leadership Officers to the New York Wing Chaplain Service.

NEW CHAPLAINS & MLOS WELCOME ABOARD!

These are the names and assignments
of our newest members:

Ch., Lt. Col., William Heine	—	Long Island Group
Ch., Capt., Simon Bancroft-Howson	—	Finger Lakes Group
MLO - 2 nd Lt. Amy Anderson	—	NER-NY-173
MLO - 2 nd Lt. Kevin Chalmers	—	NER-NY-273
MLO - 2 nd Lt. Gregory Huck	—	NER-NY-292
MLO - 1 st Lt. Lucy Stamatinos	—	NER-NY-392

