CAP Ministry to New Hampshire’s Citizen – Soldiers and Their Families
Briefing Officer

Chaplain, Captain, Michael Morison, CAP

- Assistant Wing Chaplain, NH Wing
- Assigned to JFHQ - NH State Chaplain, NH National Guard
Citizen - Soldiers

• They are friends, neighbors, co-workers and fellow church members

• Have a “boot in two worlds”
  – 89% of time in community
  – 11% of time in drills and annual training

• Family spends 1% +/- with Guard
Deployment

• Guard units being activated for 15 – 18 months
• Guard units are “boots down” for 12 months
Families –
Suddenly Military

• National Guard Families engage the military family support system
• Guard families primary secure base is their local community and church
• Guard families now have a “boot in two worlds” (their community and the military family)
Emotional Cycle of Deployment

- Predeployment (varies)
- Deployment (1st month)
- Sustainment (“boots down”)
- Re-deployment (last month)
- Reentry & Reintegration (3 - 6 months after deployment)
Sphere of Support

YOU

Family

Support Program & Chaplains Office

Extended Family

Unit Family

Community:
- Church
- School
- Neighbors
- Social Org.

Model developed by Chaplain Morison, CAP
Critical Incident Model

- Deployment is the event (spans the length of deployment)
- Constant background level of stress
- Critical Incidents (injuries, deaths, and other issues) impact daily background stress level
- Long term critical incident model

Model developed by Chaplain Morison, CAP
Soldiers and Marines Experienced

- Were attacked/ambushed: 92.5%
- Saw buddy wounded: 23.9%
- Had hand-to-hand combat: 15.8%
- Caused death of enemy: 55.7%
- Caused death of non-combatant: 20.2%
- Saw bodies/remains: 94.5%
- Knew someone injured/killed: 85.0%
Soldiers and Marines Experienced

- Have handled corpses or human remains: 50+%
- Saw women or children who couldn’t be helped: 75.4%
- Saved soldier or civilian: 20.2%
- Were wounded or injured: 11.6%
- Had “close call,” but were saved by protective gear: 8.6%

Summary: Army Medical Study in NEJM & Published by Boston Globe 7/1/05
CONSEQUENCES

- Increase in the divorce rate
- Increase in alcohol abuse
- Increase in drug abuse
- Increase in spousal abuse
- Increase in child abuse
- Increase in suicide
- Increase in vehicle accidents/death

NH Department of Health & Human Services
Impact of Desert Storm Returnees
New Combat Vets Need Your Help

- Soldiers talking to soldiers
- Need “natural occurring communities”
- Community embraces returning soldiers
Reentry & Reintegration

• With the family
• With the job
• With the community
• With the church
Our Mission:  
No warrior left behind, 
No family left behind
Before Engaging In This Ministry

• Am I willing to see this through to the end?

• Am I willing to work collaboratively with the Family Support Group and Chaplain’s Office?

• Am I willing to participate in the necessary continuing education to understand the issues, needs and to acquire the skills necessary to exercise this ministry?
Finally

- Do I have what it takes to enter into a ministry which deals with complex grief, loss and significant stressor events which strain spouses and families?
NHNG Ministry

- Ministry of Presence
- Servant – Leader
- Co-labor as member of Unit Ministry Team
- Creative Ministry
- Ongoing Learner
Ministry Experience

• It is a demanding ministry spiritually, physically, psychologically and emotionally.

• “This is one of the most demanding, and the most rewarding ministries that I have been involved in.”
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