



JOINT TASK FORCE CIVIL SUPPORT **CHAPLAIN'S RESILIENCY MESSAGE / 1 DEC 2015**

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History Lesson in Resiliency is Applicable Today

The date was December 17, 1777 as troops of our Continental Army set up winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The welfare, supplies, condition and morale of soldiers were at their lowest point of the American Revolutionary War. Recent victories and defeats had stretched the fledgling forces to their limit. The ensuing winter included sickness, death, hunger, cold and hardship. Springtime arrived and with it more supplies approved by Congress, improved training and increased morale. The Continental Army would persevere to win the war, with the aid of international players, leading to the surrender of British General Cornwallis to American Revolutionary General George Washington October 19, 1781 in Yorktown, Virginia.

This true account, in the history of our nation, illustrates the necessity and huge value of being resilient. Let us consider our specific contribution to readiness, relevance, resilience and responsiveness within our force, Joint Task Force – Civil Support. Each of us makes a very significant, positive contribution through our duty position, skills and attitude and quite often by going above and beyond our duty which promotes and fosters resiliency. Each day presents opportunities for us to model patriotism and branch of service values within our joint environment, in motive and action. I ask each of us to consider how our actions support mission within our specialties, sections and task force. Our actions will help shape our force and could make the difference between honor or disparagement and victory or defeat.

Let us stay encouraged in mind/body and spirit, propelled by unwavering faith in our Creator and Savior Who is "...our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble...Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:1, 10a)

Stay Strong!

Pro Deo et Patria,

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