

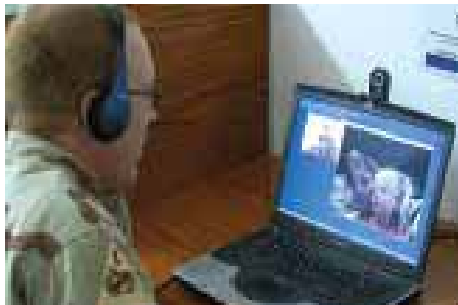
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Soldiers, families enjoy high-tech links thanks to First Command

Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan are hearing the voices and seeing the faces of their families back home at Fort Lewis thanks to some high-tech help from First Command Financial Planning.



Agents in First Command's Lakewood, Wash., office have been helping bring together area military families separated by war by allowing them to use the high-speed Internet service they use in their daily business operations. In a recent story by *The News Tribune*, the local First Command office was credited with providing one of the stateside links to **Freedom Calls Foundation**, a non-profit organization which provides free phone and video conferencing services for soldiers in the Sunni Triangle, north of Baghdad.

The newspaper reported that "the technology also has enabled soldiers to watch graduation ceremonies, talk with lawyers about adoptions and participate in birthdays, holiday celebrations and family reunions. Two soldiers got married during a call arranged by the foundation. Another soldier said good-bye to his dying mother."

To learn more about Freedom Calls Foundation visit www.freedomcalls.org. To contact them by mail: Freedom Calls Foundation; 152 Montague Street, Suite 7; Brooklyn Heights, NY 11201; (718) 797-9154