



## Military family reunites via video conference

Friday, August 11, 2006

By: Bryan Hahn

An Air Force Major stationed in Baghdad interacts with his newborn daughter, just hours after his wife gave birth at Marian Medical Center.

It was all thanks to the Freedom Calls Foundation, a public charity that connects families with their loved ones stationed abroad.

The foundation provides the service to more than 30,000 troops, but this was the first time that public charity got together with Marian Medical to help reunite a military family at Vandenberg.



Video conference allowed Maj. Lance Kawane to share the birth of his daughter with his entire family, despite being all the way in Baghdad.

Baby Lindsay is their third child.

"When I was here, and Grace was in the delivery room, it doesn't change, I was still pacing and panicking, and walking back and forth in my office," said Lance.



Grace Kawane found out about the Freedom Calls Foundation just weeks ago, and she cannot thank the foundation enough for organizing the reunion.

"It's really nice having an experience like this, I really can't put it into words. I'm really happy that I get to see him and talk to him at the same time," said Grace.

The entire family is only about a month away from seeing the Major in real life again.

Lance said his homecoming plans include kissing his entire family and then taking them all out for ice cream.

Grace gave birth to baby Lindsay on Thursday at 3:22 p.m. She weighed nine pounds, 10 ounces.