



Father Meets New Daughter via VTC

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A Marine lance corporal won't be able to hold his daughter for several months, but through technology more associated with business he'll see her before she's 24 hours old.

Lance Cpl. Franklyn Green met his eight-hour-old daughter Caleigh Marie via video conferencing Oct. 5.



Green is currently serving with MTACS-38 unit at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq.

"I can't wait to come home and be a family," said Green to his wife Elizabeth.

The Greens spent nearly an hour catching up learning of the previous 24 hours. Mrs. Green's parents, Tim and Carolyn Meadows were in San Diego for Caliegh's birth and had a chance to see and talk to their son in law.

In addition to meeting their children, forward deployed personnel can use VTC technology to marry, attend parent/teacher conferences and even witness a 4-year-old tie their shoes.

The VTC time donated to the family from FreedomCalls.org.

According to John Harlow of FreedomCalls.org there are between 40-50 new baby VTCs per month nationwide. The Green's VTC is the first of this type for Balboa.

"With today's technology, it's possible for a soldier to spend time with his family after a day on the battlefield," said Harlow.

VTCs are possible through a satellite network and links in the camps in Iraq and Afghanistan. As a non-profit organization, satellite time is funded through donations.

"The VTC lets you see the emotion that doesn't come through a typed email," said Mrs. Green. "But I can't wait to see his face the first time he holds her."

News Courtesy of: MC1(SW) Cindy Gill, NMCSO Public Affairs