



Connecting Those Who Serve . . . With Those Who Care

About Operation Uplink

Around the nation...and around the world...more than two million deployed military personnel and hospitalized veterans struggle with the hardships associated with being far from home. Unfortunately, the cost of long distance telephone calls can create a severe strain on a slender military pay packet or the depleted finances of an older veteran.

Launched in 1996, **Operation Uplink** is an innovative program that provides free pre-paid phone cards to active-duty military personnel and hospitalized veterans. Through the generous support of VFW and Ladies Auxiliary VFW Posts and members, and other caring citizens, **Operation Uplink** has already distributed over 7,000,000 prepaid phone cards – representing more than 105,000,000 minutes of phone time.

Wartime Creates Dramatic Need

Since the events of September 11, 2001, the need for **Operation Uplink** phone cards has risen dramatically. Thousands of troops have been deployed, many for a year or more. Countless phone cards have been distributed to Afghanistan, Iraq and other “hot spots” around the world to ease the pain of separation and keep morale high for America’s defenders.

Responding in Times of Crisis

Reaching home becomes even more critical in times of crisis or emergency. That’s why **Operation Uplink** regularly springs to action to provide **Operation Uplink** phone cards, often at a moment’s notice, during difficult situations. For example, **Operation Uplink** phone cards were distributed after the attack on America (9/11), the accidental bombing in Kuwait (2001), the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole (2000), as well as to wounded troops returning from Iraq and other volatile regions.

Operation Uplink provides an easy way for individuals and organizations to make an immediate difference in the lives of hospitalized veterans and active-duty military personnel.

For more information, contact Linda Ferguson at 816-756-3390 or via email at lferguson@vfw.org, or Visit the **Operation Uplink** website at www.operationuplink.org Or write to **Operation Uplink**
VFW National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111



*“The **Operation Uplink** program is helping thousands of service members keep in touch with their loved ones.”*

President George W. Bush, in an address to veterans’ organization leaders, March 28, 2003

“... this project is a tribute to the many veterans who believed in the principles of freedom and democracy strongly enough to risk their lives in the name of freedom.”

Senator John D. Rockefeller
(D-WV, Committee on Veterans Affairs)

