

# UBBN

## UNION BULLETIN BOARD NETWORK

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December 11, 2004

**W**ith hundreds of state employees or their family members serving in active duty in the military during this holiday season, OCSEA is encouraging its members to help those servicemen and women who are away from their loved ones.



American Red Cross

*recommends the following ways to support the troops:*

### *Project Homelink*

Allows family and friends to record a video message that can be e-mailed and then viewed by military stationed anywhere as long as they have an e-mail address. To send a video message, contact the Red Cross at 614-222-6711 or [homelink@dac.redcross.org](mailto:homelink@dac.redcross.org) to schedule a 15-minute block of time to record the 3-minute message.

### *Help Our Troops Call Home*

Allows people to purchase a 550-Unit Military Exchange Prepaid Phone Card for U.S. troops stationed overseas. Each card costs \$39 and provides more than two hours of call time from call center locations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. Cards can be sent to any service member who is deployed or hospitalized. To order a card, visit <http://thor.aafes.com/scs/default.aspx> or call 800-527-2345.

### *Operation Dear Abby*

Dear Abby, the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of the Navy's LifeLines2000 Services Network program, provides a private and secure online resource that will allow people to send a sailor, Marine, soldier, airman or coast guardsman a holiday greeting or message of support:  
[anyservicemember.navy.mil/About.html](http://anyservicemember.navy.mil/About.html)

### *Gifts from the Homefront*

Allows service members to purchase convenience items as well as necessities at PX and BX facilities around the world. It is a safe alternative to traditional care packages that place unnecessary strain on the military mail system or jeopardize security. Certificates can be purchased from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service by friends and families or groups and addressed to "any service member." To order the certificates, visit the [www.aafes.com/docs/homefront.htm](http://www.aafes.com/docs/homefront.htm) or call 877-770-4438.

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