

## What Can You Do?

There are many people from different countries and organizations that would like to harm Americans and degrade their influence in the world. It's possible, and not unprecedented, for spouses and Family members of U.S. military personnel to be targeted for intelligence collection. This is true in the United States and especially true overseas! So what can you do?

- Be aware of what you are putting on the internet
- Guard your conversations in public
- Do not make yourself a target when your spouse is deployed

Keep your Family, your Soldiers, and the unit safe by keeping the information you know to yourself. You never know who is lurking and gathering information in public places or on the internet.



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## Operations Security (OPSEC)

**It's a Family Affair**



**The  
Army  
Family**

## OPSEC: A New Mindset

Operations Security, also known as OPSEC, is the principle that you, as Army spouses and Family members, should practice when talking about your Soldiers. This means protecting

the information you know about your Soldier and his or her unit.



By forming a new mindset, practicing good OPSEC will become an automatic response. Protecting critical information will become habitual. So what is the new mindset of OPSEC you ask?

- Know what information needs to be protected
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Practice Need-to-Know
- Keep yourself from becoming a target on the internet by limiting details on websites and in chat rooms.
- Shred your personal sensitive information

**Changing the Mindset =  
Good OPSEC**

## It's a Family Affair

As Family members you are part of the Army's OPSEC Team. As part of the military Family, you need to protect information to ensure the safety of all our Soldiers, Civilians, and Contractors. The information that is often used against you is not classified information; it is information that is openly available to anyone who knows where to look and what to ask.

OPSEC is a tool that our adversaries believe in...and one that you, part of the military

Family, also need to understand and integrate into your daily routine. What you don't always realize is how much information you may



be giving away through predictable behavior, casual conversations, daily routines and other means/methods. You must be careful of what you may be revealing in casual conversations in public, discussions on the telephone, Internet, or E-Mail that may relate to military operations and activities, your spouse's schedule, security procedures, etc.

## Families Protecting Soldiers

### Top Ten Things to Protect

- Troop movements and locations
- Future operations or missions
- Readiness issues and numbers
- Specific training and equipment
- Soldier's personal information (addresses, phone numbers, SSN)
- Sensitive documents such as Powers of Attorneys, wills, and Leave and Earnings Statements.
- Tactics, techniques and procedures
- Assignment to special operations type units
- Details about security procedures

