

OPSEC Family Style

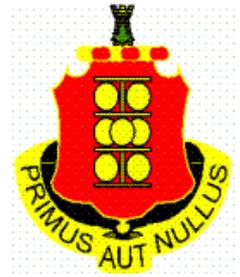
An Introductory Overview for the
Families of Deploying Soldiers





Meet Angela

- Wife, Mother of two, active volunteer on Fort Anywhere.
- She is a very loving spouse, and supportive of her husband, SPC Brown, a member of 1-1 Field Artillery



On rare occasions

At night, Angela will log onto various networking web sites and blogs, to talk to family members and friends from across the country



- Angela's husband is a Specialist in the US Army. He has a regular job on a howitzer crew. To her, his job seems boring and mundane.
- Angela is very careful about using her real name on the internet, and rarely posts anything herself. When she does, she uses her screen name: ArmyWife99

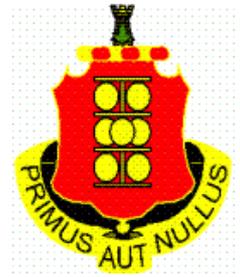


02/13/2006 ArmyWife99 I love that recipe, and so does my husband. Its easy to prepare, which helps since lately he has been coming home late from training.



04/22/2006 ArmyWife99 Hey Denise, your husband is deploying too? So is Mike, he should be leaving sometime in July. He said something about a deployment to Baghdad, but they aren't sure yet.

05/2/2006 ArmyWife99 Today my husband told me about these armored trucks they are driving around in. They are good against IED's or something like that.



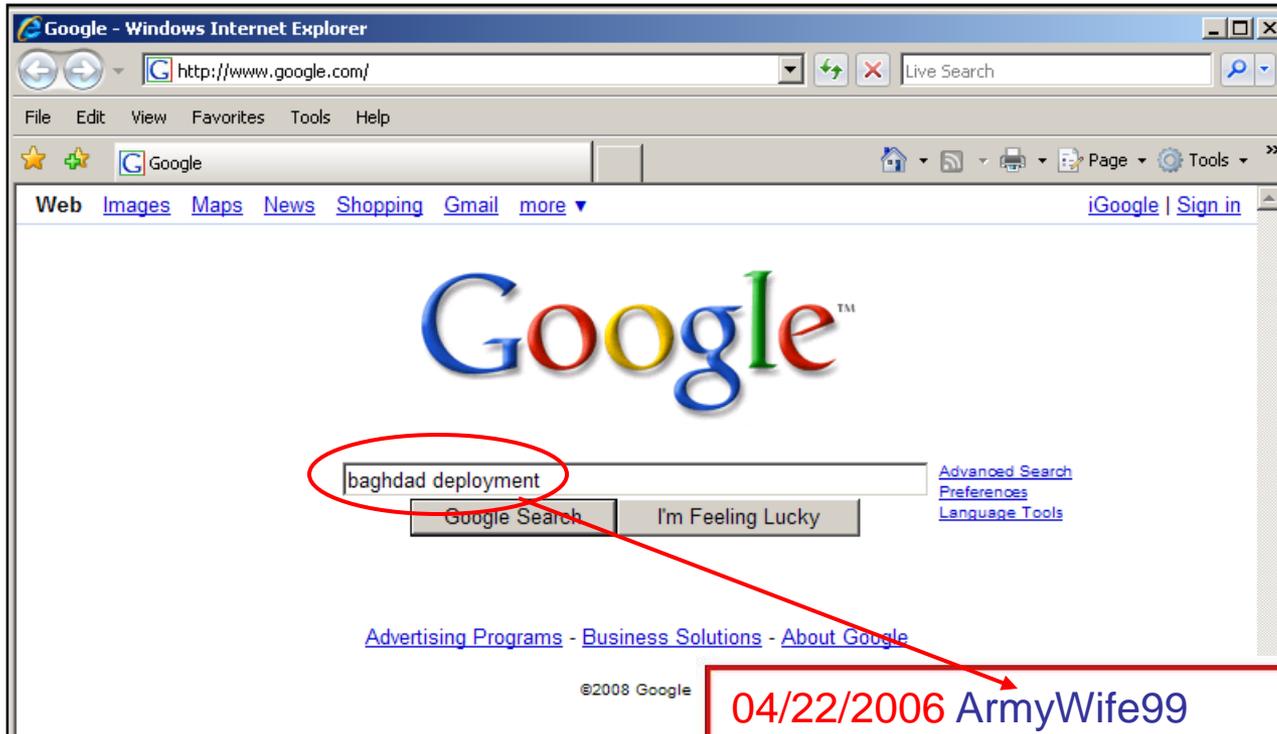
Meet Heidi

- She is 16, and for the last two years her government has been teaching her English
- Heidi has done well, so eight months ago, they started to teach her to use a computer and to search the internet.

Heidi's favorite English word is *Google*

- Just like every day, Heidi is using Google today. Searching for words and phrases from a list her government has given her.
- Heidi knows if she works hard for five years and creates lots of files for her government, they will move her family to a nicer apartment and maybe even send her to some more school.

Today, Heidi found Angela

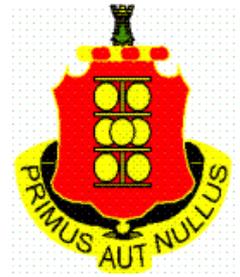


USA-15-4138

04/22/2006 ArmyWife99 Hey Denise, your husband is deploying too? So is Mike, he should be leaving sometime in July. He said something about a deployment to Baghdad, but they aren't sure yet.



The day started out great for Angela



- She had received a call back from the company she interviewed with, asking her to come in for a second interview, all the housework was done before lunch, and she had a wonderful morning playing with her 6-month old daughter.



And then the day went bad



- She received a call from her husband, telling her he was going to be late coming home again. In addition to that, his unit had scheduled training over the weekend coming up for the new armored vehicles they were operating.



It did give her a good reason to get on the internet to vent a little

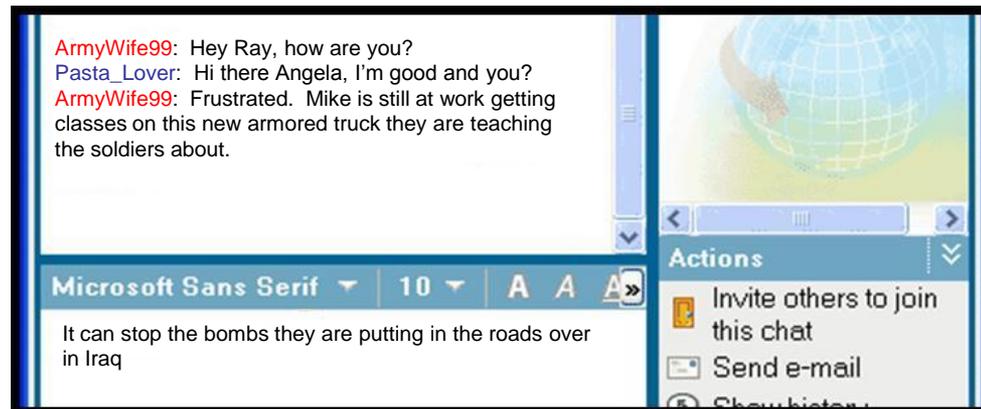


➤ After the phone call, Angela put her daughter down for a nap, and logged onto the internet. She loved chatting with her friends on the internet.

It was a great way to unwind and vent her frustration

The cooking website had a chat room for members to exchange recipe ideas and chat about their day. It was a great way for Angela to swap recipes and make friends.

Angela was still frustrated about her husband working late





Heidi's progress was slow but steady



➤ Her group leader often repeats that the searchers need to be very patient. It may take weeks to find something important, but each petal helps you identify the flower it came from.



Each piece of the puzzle provides a new search opportunity...



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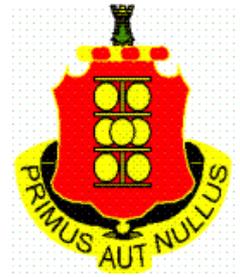
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Heidi followed the information from one website to another



What seemed like unimportant information from one site was the start of the Google search leading to other sites.



[ARMYWIFE99 Recipe Reviewed - Community - Allrecipes](#)

Recipe reviews from **ARMYWIFE99** on Allrecipes. ... Allrecipes Home > Community > Cooks > **ARMYWIFE99**. community. **ARMYWIFE99**. Cook's Profile Name: Angela Brown Favorite Recipes; Lasagna. Reviews ...
[allrecipes.com/Cooks-Profile/Reviews.aspx?userID=1444858 - 79k - Cached - Similar pages](#)
[More results from allrecipes.com »](#)

Even items which are now deleted from web sites can still be searchable within the Google cache. Chat transcripts from internet chat rooms can also be downloaded.



The search results produced even more new sources to follow



Angela Brown Recipe ArmyWife| [Advanced Search](#)
[Preferences](#)
[Language Tools](#)

Google Search I'm Feeling Lucky



[ARMYWIFE99 Chef Creations – Recipes for everyday meals](#)

Recipe reviews from ARMYWIFE99 on Allrecipes ... Allrecipes home > Community > Cooks > ARMYWIFE99. community.
 ARMYWIFE99. Cooks Profile Name: Angela Brown Favorite Dish: Lasagna Phone Number: (785) 555-1212
allrecipes.com/Cooks-Profiles/Reviews.aspx?userID=1444858 – 79k – [Cached](#) – [Similar Pages](#)
[More results from allrecipes.com >>](#)

[YouTube – ArmyWife99's Channel](#)

ArmyWife99. Joined: March 11, 2006. Last Login: 13 hours ago. Videos watched: 100 Hey ArmyWife99 what's going on over here? Someone is gone mad! What? ...
www.youtube.com/user/ArmyWife99 - 97k - [Cached](#) – [Similar Pages](#)

[The Brown Family – Late Night with Emeril](#)

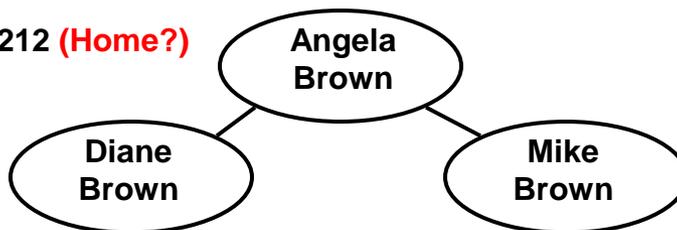
It was a dream come true for Mike and I as we got to sit in on a live taping of the Emeril Show. His lasagna was absolutely the best tasting lasagna I have ever had, better than the recipe I have ...
www.geocities.com/allthebrowns.com/browneremil.htm - 118k - [Cached](#) – [Similar Pages](#)

[www.myspace.com/Dianebrown](#)

MySpace Profile - Diane Brown, 10 years old, Female, Fort Anywhere USA ... My mother Angela Brown is so paranoid, she won't let me stay out ...
www.myspace.com/Dianebrown - 85k - [Cached](#) – [Similar Pages](#)

Angela Brown, (785) 555-1212 (Home?)
 Business website?

Diane Brown, 10, daughter
 MySpace Webpage



- Mike Brown (husband)
- Possible Deployment to Baghdad in July
- New Armored Vehicle



Each New Site Produced More Information



Family and club websites can be used to find new information or confirm data



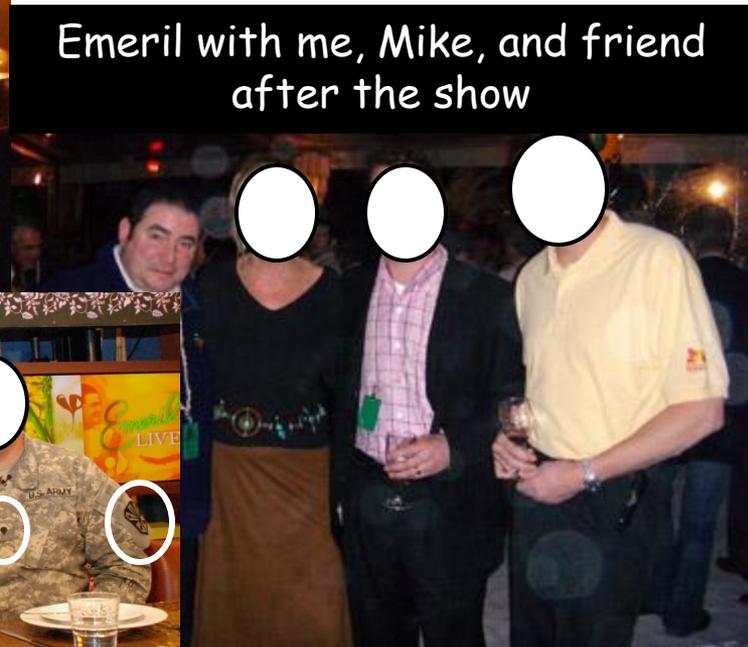
[The Brown Family – Late Night with Emeril](#)

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Me, Mike, and Emeril



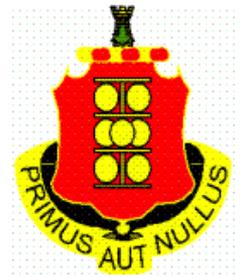
Emeril with me, Mike, and friend after the show



Emeril with Mike (on the right)



The information was all there, on sites Angela had never even visited or posted information to



WhitePages.com™
search. find. connect.

Reverse Phone Number ?

*Phone Number
(785) 555-1212

Search

Fun Fact:
➔ Reverse phone lookups are also known as "criss-cross directories" or "blackpages".

1 Result matching "(785) 555-1212" ?

Angela and Mike Brown
1842 McFarland
Ft Anywhere, USA 77711
(785) 555-1212

Ages: 25-35, Age 25-35

Enlarge Map

Print Send/Save

Driving Directions

View web results & profiles for this person

Find neighbors & home values for this location

Help us improve.
Is this listing accurate?
Yes No

Angela Brown
[View More Records](#)

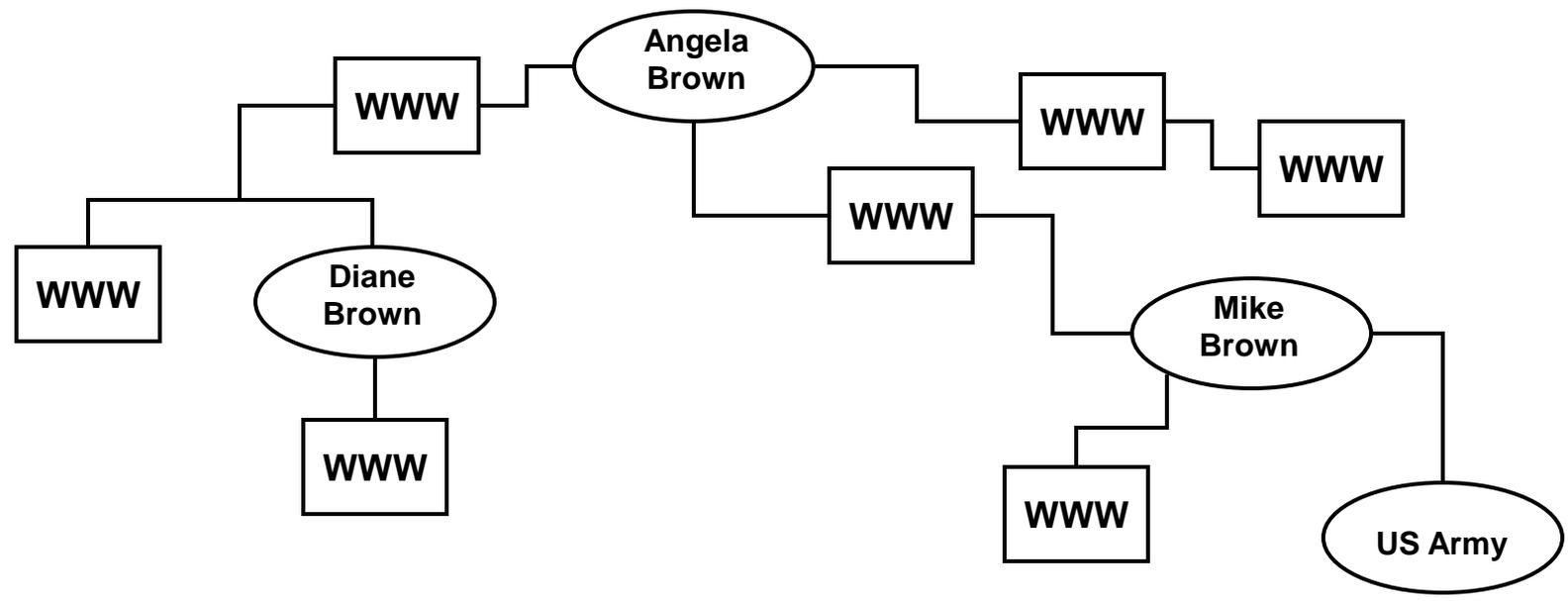
- [Background Records](#)
- [Criminal Records](#)
- [Get Phone Number](#)
- [Court Records](#)
- [Get Home Values](#)
- [Address History](#)

[Not the right person? Try these...](#)

Powered by 1.800.U.S. SEARCH

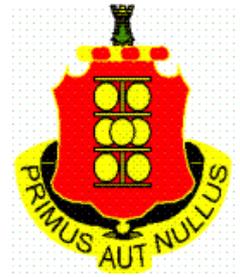


And eventually Heidi was done searching





It was a great day for Heidi



Her leader rewarded Heidi for completing her 200th file. She was allowed to recommend a family member to join her at school. Soon Heidi would have the honor of teaching her 13 year old sister all she learned about computers and Google.



The information about the Browns was now available for use as needed...

USA-15-4138

Angela Marie Brown, Born 1985, Married, Two Children (see family attachment)
1842 McFarland, Ft. Anywhere, USA; Phone (785) 555-1212, cell phone (785) 555-6260
Being Interviewed for Job at WallMark.

Hobbies include cooking, needlepoint, chatting online, music, dancing; drinks alcohol (wine)
Home Mortgage \$122,000, First Bank of Anywhere, account number 123456
Vehicles: 2002 Toyota Corolla (Lic Plate RXC-4501), 1997 Dodge Truck (Lic Plate GUNDUDE)

Husband Mike, Cannon Crewmember, testing Excalibur Round, due to deploy in July 2006,
member of 1-1 FA, 1BCT, 112 Infantry Division, training for combat patrols (see attached
unit worksheet)



In early 2007....



➤ Heidi's government became aware of that a vulnerability existed in the armor plating on American Vehicles used in Iraq. To benefit from this information, they needed to know for sure

Early 2007 marked a difficult time for Angela, who's husband Mike had been deployed for the last 6 months



She tried to busy herself at home by becoming active in a local cooking club.

There were several other spouses and single women and men from the community



The weekly meeting had just ended



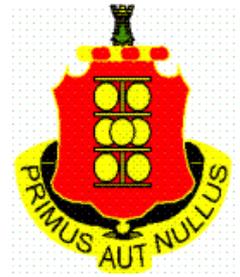
- Angela was helping clean up after the meeting
- Another lady helping clean up had on an Emeril Live T-shirt. She had been to a couple of meetings so far, and it wasn't the first time Angela had seen the woman. She walked over to her.



“So I see you like to kick it up a notch, too?” Angela stated
“Oh yes, his recipes are fabulous. I love his Lasagna most of all,” the woman replied.
“You’re kidding, that’s my favorite too! I actually got to eat some prepared by Emeril himself at a live taping.” Angela said proudly
“You’re so lucky. When I saw the live show he made eggplant parmesan. It was tasty, but not as good as the lasagna.” said the woman, smiling. She introduced herself as Lisa
“That is so neat that you have seen him live too,” Angela said.
“So are you waiting for your husband to come and get you?” asked Lisa.
“No no. Mike is deployed to Iraq. He won’t be home for another few months”, replied Angela, sadly.
“Does he do a lot of combat things, or does he get to stay on his base?” asked Lisa
“I’m sorry, I really can’t say” said Angela
“Oh that is completely ok, I am sorry for asking,” replied Lisa



Lisa insisted on buying coffee



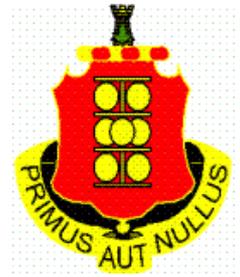
- They talked about cooking and generally about each others work, careful not to talk about Iraq.
- Lisa bought another cup of coffee for the two of them, reminding Angela that her children didn't need to be picked up, and that it was SO nice to talk to someone with similar interests.

I saw on the news the other day how the armor on the American vehicles is very superior and keeps the soldiers very safe.” Lisa mentioned casually. “I do hope your Mike is keeping himself safe.”

“Well between you and me, Mike’s unit got hit with an IED last month. It was something using Infrared or something. Mike told me that there is a spot on the armor that wasn’t doing what it’s supposed to. But don’t worry, he said his unit fixed it by adjusting some plates. He will be just fine.” Angela replied.



Coffee was now over



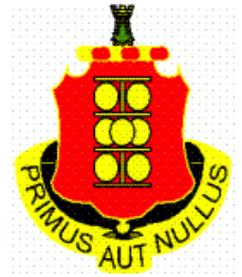
- Lisa was very pleased it had gone so smoothly. She had the confirmation her government needed, and would even be able to contact Angela again if needed.
- She gave Angela her phone number, and said if she ever needed someone to talk to, she would always be there to listen.

Lisa never even had to threaten Angela with the picture in her purse, designed to show Angela how close Lisa's supporters had come to using Angela's family as "motivation"





2007 was a very good year!



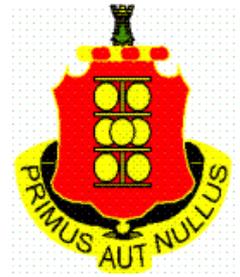
For Angela and her Family

➤ Angela's husband got promoted to Sergeant. He would now be leading squads on patrol in the streets of Baghdad. Angela was very proud of him, but worried about his exposure during the patrols.



For Heidi's Government

➤ Heidi used the information they had developed from Angela about the armor vulnerability to trade with another government, who was very interested in using it against the United States and the Coalition.



- Angela will lie in bed and watch the news tonight, and worry about the life of her husband.
- What will you do the next time all of those security warnings seem like they only apply to someone else?



Five Discussion Topics

The information and scenarios in the preceding self-assessment presentation were all true.
The characters and the vulnerability were the only fiction



“I am no one they care about”



- That may be true for now, but you never know when one on-line posting will bring YOU to their attention.
- Angela was just another name in a file until they needed some inside information about a vehicle. It never occurred to her that an intelligence agency would target her for a piece of information, but they did.

Some things to think about

- Angela had no idea that just confirming that the armor plating was faulty would be enough to hurt or kill. But that one small piece of information was the last piece in the puzzle that the enemy was putting together.
- While Angela thought she was careful, it is difficult to know exactly what an adversary is looking for, and if what you have may be of benefit.



“I don’t have ANY adversaries!”



- Feel like all of this “war” and “terrorist” or “adversary” talk is about someone else?
- Take a quick look at some other groups that use these exact same on-line information gathering techniques.

Some things to think about

- Former girlfriends, boyfriends, divorced spouses.
- Angry neighbors, people you only knew casually.
- Disgruntled co-workers, employees, temporary workers.
- Identity thieves. (Try a Google search on your name.)
- Pedophiles seeking information to convince your children that they should be trusted
- Anyone else who might want a little information about you, even just to know you better than you want them to.



“I’m smarter than the enemy”



- It’s a common feeling. People interviewed often say they know they are smarter than “some guy who is now just sitting in a cave hiding from us.”

- Angela knew she was smarter than any adversary when she used careful expressions like, “I can’t really say”.

Some things to think about

- In addition to small radical groups, our adversaries are some of the largest nations in the world, who are willing to spend BILLIONS of dollars to gain an economic advantage. Information theft is a good investment for them, even if they just trade it for something they want.

- Some of the world’s best intelligence agencies are training young people as experts to go and gather information for them. You are up against the experts!



“I don’t post on the Internet”



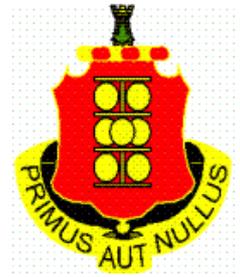
- Not posting may help you somewhat, but it is just one example of how you can come to the attention of someone with bad intentions.
- Another source is unencrypted email messages which are either misrouted, intercepted, or gathered by adversaries on discarded or poorly protected backup discs. Stealing backup discs is a common occurrence. So is dumpster diving.

Some things to think about

- Remember that Angela did not know about all of the information sources that had information about her. She only thought about the sites she dealt with. Most of the others you don’t have control over, but you do have control to encrypt email and post as little “account” information as you can on web sites.



“I don’t have a spouse, so I don’t need to worry”



- Statistically, single Soldiers are worse at being vulnerable to information attacks than family members.
- Every Soldier wants others to see the things they do. They want recognition for the demanding and difficult jobs they do on a daily basis while deployed. This isn’t something limited to just spouses at home, but to the married Soldiers and single Soldiers serving overseas and here in the United States.

Some things to think about

- Often times we post things on the internet or discuss things in open forums without even being aware of the potential dangers involved. Many times what we say is innocuous by itself, but remember, just like individual puzzle pieces mean nothing, when combined, it gives a clear picture.
- Before posting on the internet, decide what exactly needs to be said, and in what detail. People back home will be just as proud and impressed without knowing what route or grid zone you were at.



Don't feel hopeless

Increasing your awareness that you really are a potential target, remembering that being “clever” in a conversation or email is very likely to fail, limiting what you can do on the Internet, and encrypting all email and drive storage you are able to –
Really can make the difference!



Questions?



This briefing was based on the slide presentation “Killing with Keyboards” developed by Raytheon in conjunction with The Boeing company Future Combat Systems