



OP-CON provides resources and relief aid to U.S. Military Chaplains, helping them meet physical and spiritual needs of U.S. soldiers and their families.

CHAPLAIN CORPS FAQ

Why Operation “Constellation”?

It began with a simple question: *What would happen if many people come together in support of our military chaplains?* What if believers in Jesus, in particular, worked together in ecumenism, focusing efforts to assist our chaplains as they guide others with Truth, Love, Hope, and Light?

As you may know, a constellation is a group of stars that appear as a particular formation when seen from any vantage point on earth. The Book of Daniel (12:3) says “those who are wise and lead others to a right standing with God will shine like the stars forever.” Paul writes the Philippians saying we “appear as lights in the world, so hold on to the Word of Life.” No matter where on earth, the called-out-ones of Jesus can network together in God’s love so that “the world will know we are [Jesus’] disciples.” We form, in a sense, a constellation that points to our only Hope - Jesus Christ - and to the glory of God.

What Does OP-CON Do? / Why Help the Chaplain Corps?

You, as our Chaplain Corps, impact the lives of U.S. service members as well as host-country and third-country nationals. You carry the weight of seeing and experiencing physical, mental, and emotional trauma; you are no strangers to the spiritual needs surrounding you, especially as these are intensified in war zones. The task, the call, is daunting.

OP-CON wants chaplains to be encouraged in heart and empowered in ministry. We also desire to educate civilians regarding the role and responsibilities of military chaplains.

We are unique. Unlike many programs supporting our military, *OP-CON* focuses its efforts to the chaplains to support, encourage, and empower you. Your involvement allows people stateside to join in God’s work around the globe through you. The edification and ministry are mutual.

To Whom and Where Are These Items Sent?

OP-CON is constantly communicating with chaplains around the globe to remain apprised of their needs. Should particular resources or items be requested from chaplains, we will certainly let you know.

Items Encouraged for Donation:

- Marriage and Family / Financial pamphlets, information, booklets
- Advent and Lenten Readings

- Hot Sauces (i.e. Chalula, Tabasco, etc; any condiments to provide flavor to food)
- Fruit / Nut Mixes
- Basic Toiletry items (cheaper off-brands are available for purchase on bases but are often poor quality)
- Premium Coffee and Tea
- Hand / Body Warmers
- Flip flops (for showers) and Foot Powder

These items are in short supply; Bibles are often in ample donation from the American Bible Society.

Examples of Shipped Items:

Numerous pounds of premium Well-Bean coffee, The Trinity Forum's *Great Courage* reading collection along with 1100 books (including *The Pilgrim's Progress*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *Lessons From History*), CDs, toiletry items, hand-warmers, hot sauces, snacks, prayer books, NLT / NIV Study Bibles, apologetic materials, and worship guides.

Does OP-CON Send New or Used Reading / Study Materials?

We dissuade donors from sending trade paperback novels. These books are often in numerous supply on bases. We want to send the best to you. Used books are approved if they are relevant. Quality Bibles are encouraged as excellent items for donation. (NLT, NET, NIV, ESV Study Bibles)

Who Purchases and Sends the Items?

Stateside donors purchase items, send donations to our hub, and an OP-CON team will assemble the box according to your needs. Chaplains provide OP-CON with the proper address; no information of yours will be shared with the donor. Your security and safety are our primary concerns.

How Can I Join the OP-CON Chaplain Network?

We would be honored to speak with you and learn how we can help.

Simply email our team for more details: info@op-con.org.

POC: Tim Brink or Philip Shields

OP-CON | P.O. Box 161154 | Boiling Springs, SC 29316

Information can be found via our website: OP-CON.org and on our Facebook page.

“Ministry in an expeditionary setting is exciting and rewarding, but it is also challenging. The environment is austere and resources are often scarce. During my deployment to Afghanistan, Operation Constellation [OP-CON] was a real-life force multiplier, providing some critical resources to enhance my ministry. OP-CON provided the means for me to care for our nation’s warriors in body, mind, and spirit. Their support was essential to accomplishing my mission.”

— Ch, Maj Glen E. Harris Jr., USAF



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