

Tactical NAV: A Combat Veteran's App Saves Ukrainian Family from Russian Forces

Saving Lives? There's an App for That.



Kharkiv, Ukraine Mar 4, 2022 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - On Wednesday, a Ukrainian family was able to escape Russian forces thanks to an app called Tactical NAV, which is a commercially available navigation app on the App Store and Google Play.

Through an email sent to the software's developer, a Ukrainian man named Roman thanked the app maker in a short message that highlighted his family was safe and able to escape the Russian invasion without injury.

"There are members of my family also using your Tactical NAV app to fight back and defend Ukraine. I don't know if you know how important your software has been for us, but we are now safe because of your app. We are grateful, and I thought you would like to know," said the Ukrainian man in his email to the developer.

Tactical NAV was created by former U.S. Army Capt. Jonathan J. Springer when he was deployed to Afghanistan in 2010. The application has been available for more than 11 years, and while the Department of Defense does not endorse it, it's not the first time the app has come to the rescue for users over the years.

"There are no words to express how thankful I am to hear that Roman and his family were able to escape Ukraine safely. But, of course, I'm heartbroken about what is going on in the country. Still, I'm

also very humbled to know that Tactical NAV was able to help in this situation," Springer said.

Initially developed to save military lives, Tactical NAV was able to live up to its promise of being a lifesaver once again. And after leaving the military in 2015, Springer now serves as the CEO of TacNav Systems, which develops and sells Tactical NAV globally.



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