

K-9 Supply Program



OVER THREE YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting seven (7) kennels and twenty-four (24) deployed Air Force and Army teams as of March 15, 2009. March 2009 brings us to three years and seven months of operation for our “Old Dawgs & Pups and K-9 Supply” program. Once again, I’d just like to say thank you to all of you that have supported our awesome programs and especially our troops and their canine partners.

Area of Operation Status - K-9 Teams Arriving in the AOR

We are currently supporting troops at FOB Warrior, Camp Cropper, FOB O’Ryan, and the Joint Base Balad, and Basra, Iraq, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, and Ali Al Salem, Kuwait. In addition, we’ve picked up ten (10) new personnel this month. Here are our new “Pups”:

Joint Base Balad – Iraq: TSgt Joseph Throgmorton – Kennel Master, from the 75th SFS Hill AFB, Utah. He is supported by Mike Diercks (Korat).

Al Udeid Air Base - Qatar: SSgt Brandi Throgmorton & MWD Argo from the 75th SFS Hill AFB, Utah. She is supported by Mike Diercks (Korat).

SSgt Sanford “Gish” Gschwend & MWD Pixi from the 374th SFS Yokota AFB, Japan. This is Gish’s second tour with OD&P – he was supported by Dale & Debbie Burton and Scotty Baker while deployed at FOB Warrior in 2007. He is supported this time by Rick Matott (Ubon).

SSgt Joshua Lewis & MWD Zix from the 354th SFS Eielson AFB, Alaska. He is supported by Dale and Debbie Burton (U-Tapao) and Pete Villarreal (Safeside).

FOB Warrior – Iraq: TSgt Gary Smith & MWD Soma from the 31st SFS Aviano Air Base, Italy, supported by Ernie Childers (Udorn).

SSgt Daniel Wilson & MWD Rico from the 31st SFS Aviano Air Base, Italy, supported by Ernie Childers (Udorn).

SSgt Charles Dalton & MWD Nero 460th SFS Buckley AFB, Colorado, supported by John Risse (Pleiku) and Peggy Finzgar (Friend of K-9).

SSgt Roger Martin & MWD Rico 460th SFS Buckley AFB, Colorado, supported by Jon Hemp (Tan Son Nhut).

Camp Cropper – Iraq: SSgt Chad Ditch & MWD Aaslan from the 37th SFS, Lackland AFB, Texas, supported by Kelly Bateman (Ubon).

Basra, Iraq: We’re waiting on six (6) Army handlers that are heading for Basra, Iraq at the end of the month. Keep you eyes open on this team – we’re going to try something new with them! Doc Hodges (Ubon/Korat) has six handlers that are going through K-9 training with the Kentucky Fish & Wildlife Department that have come on board to help support these handlers. This is going to be a very interesting deployment and the first time we have taken on an Army Kennel. It seems that we have made an impression on someone at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

SSG Raphael Futrell & troops training at Ali Al Salem – Kuwait



SSG Raphael during training with a K-9 hero!



Sarge – You know how much we love camels!



Just some good old fashion “attitude adjustment” training!

Checking out the surroundings at FOB Warrior



Staff Sergeant Joshua Germann, 506th Security Forces Squadron, with MWD Edo – Sure looks like Edo is very interested in something nearby? Good Boy!

Checking out the surroundings at FOB Warrior



Staff Sergeant Roger Martin and MWD Rico stateside at Buckley AFB, Colorado.

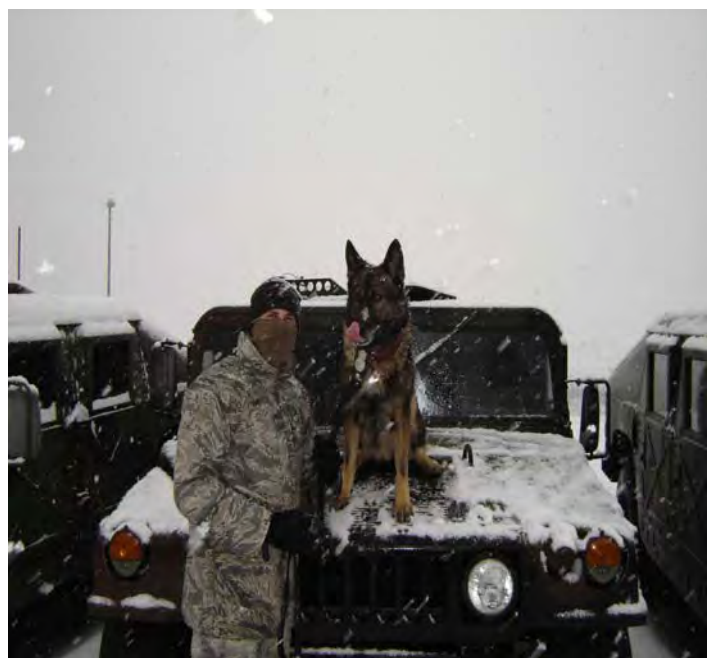
Rico showing just a little “attitude adjustment” at FOB Warrior! We’ve got to work on the photographer’s alignment procedures – but, we know that it’s SSgt Martin on the other end of Rico’s leash. Way to go Rico – we know who wins here! We have heard that Rico last words before this photograph was taken were “Go ahead, send me back to Iraq”!



Al Udeid, Qatar – Pre-Deployment and Training



Staff Sergeants Dennis Luczak & MWD Kris (Left) and German Lechuga & MWD Liska (Right) during training at Al Udeid, Qatar. SSgt Luczak is deployed from Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and SSgt Lechuga is deployed from Hill AFB, Utah.



Staff Sergeant Dennis Luczak & MWD Kris during pre-deployment training at Sembach Air Base, about 45 miles from Ramstein Air Base, Germany before deploying to Qatar. OK, I'm no weather expert – but there is a world of difference between snow and sand the last time I looked it up on the internet! This is Dennis' second tour with us and I have been lucky enough to meet him at Davis-Monthan – he's something else – I'm just trying to figure out "what"! I can tell you though – this team is not used to working out in the snow – you just don't get much of that in Tucson, Arizona.

Joint Base Balad Kennel, Iraq – March 2009

This is our new group of handlers at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. From left to right: SrA Ted Carlson & MWD Dutchy, SSgt Philip Mendoza & MWD Rico, SSgt Angelo Reategui & MWD Tara, SSgt Jeff Mastin & MWD Ffella (Acting Trainer), and Kennel Master TSgt Joe Throgmorton.



Are these guys ready or what? Below: TSgt Joe Throgmorton (left) and SrA Ted Carlson and MWD Dutchy (right) just doing their “thing” during another mission at JBB, Iraq.



Joint Base Balad - Where's the danger?

How about it guys – things don't change that much?

3/13/2009 – Joint Base Balad - Senior Airman Ted Carlson, handler for the 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces, carries Dutchy, his military working dog, during training here, recently. Carlson is currently deployed from Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. Handlers must carry their K-9s if rough or dangerous terrain is present. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Tiffany Trojca) You can monitor the activities at Joint Base Balad by bookmarking: <http://www.balad.afcent.af.mil/>



Joint Base Balad, Iraq – Supplies shipped for new kennel

We're at it again! There is a transition going on at JBB and they needed our help. With the guidance of TSgt Joe Throgmorton, we have purchased and shipped a "boat load" of supplies to help them get settled. We've shipped 12 Guardian Pet Cots, 24 food and water containers (portable types that can be used on missions) and 12 PSI Water Holes. This should help them until their kennels are squared away. More details next month when the equipment arrives in theater.

We would like to thank Dressler's Dog Supplies (Kansas City, Kansas) and Pet Edge, (Topfield, Massachusetts) for their help in getting these supplies out of the warehouse and on the way to the AOR in a hurry – we were treated fantastically!

FLASH! TSgt Joe Throgmorton just advised us that the supplies are on the ground and will be used issued to the troops. The majority of the supplies will be used for patrols – Looks like everything is good to go with our supply channel! Photographs are forthcoming.

A very special thank you goes out to Jennifer Reynolds at Dressler's and Mary Lou Hodsdon at Pet Edge for some VERY SPECIAL pricing and service.

Please take the time to visit www.petedge.com and www.dresslersdog.com when you need supplies for your pets – These are great companies and great people!

Here's a catalog look at the equipment we shipped



Joint Base Balad Kennel, Iraq – March 2009 – On a Mission



Left - TSgt Joe Throgmorton (Hill AFB) takes a defensive position while on patrol. Looks like he has a little company off his right shoulder! Right – SSgt Philip Mendoza & MWD Rico (Moody AFB) join TSgt Throgmorton on patrol with the Tigris River to their back. Do you guys remember those posts that ran down by the river at your base – I sure do! JBB is now becoming what we saw in Southeast Asia – the Air Force has it all – perimeter and interior security – Oh, the good old days!

Camp Cropper, Iraq – A new job!



We just received a note from SSgt John Pillarella that he has assumed the Kennel Master position at Camp Cropper, Iraq. John and MWD Jampy are deployed from Luke AFB, Arizona and are supported by Debbie and Dale Burton and Janice and Bill Cummings. Way to go John!

FOB O’Ryan – It’s party time – Sgt Rose and Folti just got promoted!

Just returning from a “walkabout” at COB Speicher to FOB O’Ryan– Sgt Audra Rose and Folti received some great news – They had been promoted on the first of March – Way to go K-9 team!

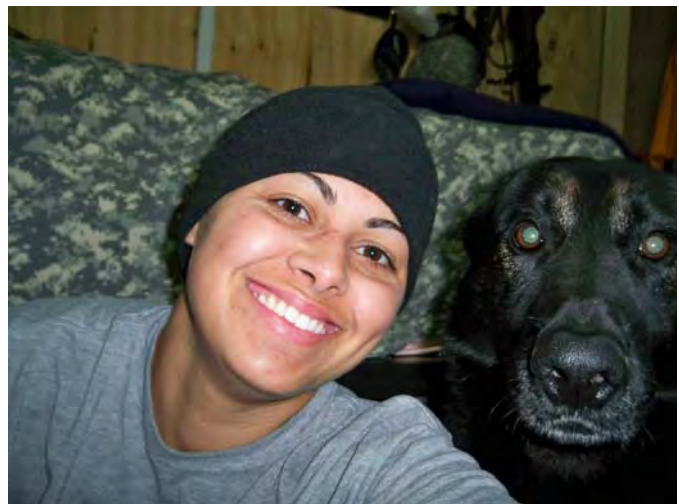
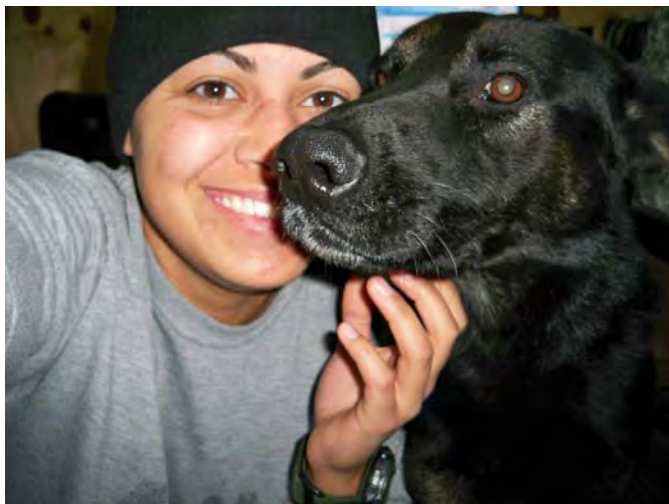
Here’s how the new Staff Sergeant explained the events. “Folti and I were promoted on the 1st. I’ve attached a couple pictures; one of them is the promotion ceremony. Apparently it was a pretty big deal, the 25th Infantry Division SGM came, along with a few other high ranking folks. Since the SGM was there I asked if he would like to be the one to promote Folti and he was more than happy to! :-) I figure most of the people were just there to see Folti get promoted because they’ve never seen it before ;-) The unit I work with gave Folti actual promotion orders and a very nice plaque with a Certificate of Promotion. SSG Rose is supported by Mike Diercks (Korat). If you would like to see SSG Rose and Folti in action – go to: http://www.dvidshub.net/?script=video/video_show.php&id=54395



The Promotion Ceremony



Waiting their turn at the range



Look at that face – I mean look at those faces!

Kentucky Fish & Wildlife Handlers join OD&P

We just recently sent out a call for help to support our new Army kennel that is being deployed at Basra, Iraq, and wouldn't you just know it – “Doc” Hodges (Ubon/Korat) jumped all over it with a great idea, or as he said “Guess I sound like an old Kennel Master, but we would be proud to help.” He continued to say “Even though they are not ex-military, they are dog handlers and damn good ones also.” It sounded just exactly like what we needed to support our Army troops headed for southern Iraq.

The next thing I knew, here came the responses from Doc's troops and they were ready to get to work. Old Dawgs & Pups would like to thank; Tim Pheabus, Rich Mehlbauer, Rich Waite, Dean Kinnard, Lora Lacefield, and Doug “Big Dog” Vaughn, for joining us on our project to support our troops. Way to go Kentucky Fish & Wildlife and thanks again Doc for your leadership.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates!

We just received a message from TSgt Tony Potter who was part of OD&P during his tour at FOB Warrior in September 2007. He was the Staff Sergeant/Trainer with TSgt Jerry Glynn during that tour. He was supported by Kelly Bateman and Ernie Childers. “WOW I have been wondering about you all as well. I am the new Kennel Master for the 822nd SFS (Moody AFB, Georgia). Life has been hectic since I left Kirkuk. I moved to Moody and a few short later I was back in Iraq. Just got back from there in November and I am currently in the process of moving in to a brand new home that I just bought. Gotta' run though I will write you back - sorry for the long time between....” Sure is great to see that Tony made Tech and is doing well in down town Valdosta, Georgia. We are now supporting one of his K-9 teams stationed at FOB Warrior – SSgt Joshua Germann and MWD Edo.

More News concerning OD&P Graduates!

Returning adoptee SSgt Chris Tener, Whiteman AFB, enjoys an afternoon reunion with his Kennel Master TSgt Jon Sarabia at his home in Sadalia, Missouri. SSgt Tener just returned from Ali Al Salem, Kuwait, where he was supported by J. D. Jones (Udorn) during his tour. During the reunion, Chis and Jon compared Leatherman Surges that they have received from OD&P. Jon Sarabia was our ORIGINAL pup and was presented our first Leatherman tool (stainless steel), while SSgt Tener received one of new Leatherman Surges (black oxide).



As Jon said in his e-mail – “See what happens when you give dog handlers cool stuff” – Yep, they just love it and certainly find ways to use it!



Here's this month's update on the K-9 Supply Program

At the time of this report we have **32** members of the “Old Dawgs & Pups” program actively supporting **24** handlers assigned to seven (7) kennels in Southwest Asia.

Our K-9 Supply program has been coordinated and funded by the “Old Dawgs & Pups”. The supporters are members of the VSPA, VDHA, and friends of K-9. A total of 743 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to March 15, 2009. Over **100** “Old Dawgs and Friends” have supported over **138** K-9 personnel via our program. For additional information on the program please go to:

http://www.pbase.com/635thk9/old_dawgs

Please review the photos, press releases, and more about our ongoing programs.

We have purchased and shipped **\$8,278.00** of supplies for the 29 kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate donation, the total is **\$23,180.00!**

Please note that this figure does not include all the goodies some of you have sent directly, or which came from other organizations we've been involved with but who shipped their donations independently. **WAY TO GO K-9 SUPPLY!**

List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

- 138 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (91) Donated by Leatherman) *
- * The Leatherman "Surge" donation is valued at approximately **\$14,902.00**
- 75 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 69 Guardian Pet Beds
- 40 Sponges
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 39 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 34 Kongs
- 22 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 20 * Serac SC Leatherman Flashlights (**\$1,600.00**)
- 20 * E33T "Expanse" Leatherman Knives (**\$1,100.00**)
- 20 * E55 "Expanse" Leatherman Knives (**\$1,100.00**)
- 20 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 20 PSI Water Holes
- 19 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes
- 14 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails
- 10 Muzzles
- 8 K9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pound bags)
- 8 Cooling Wraps
- 8 Cooldanna Cooling Mats
- 8 Sets of Flood Light Bulbs
- 7 Digital Thermometers
- 6 24" Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees
- 5 Classic HG Food Dishes
- 5 Nozzles
- 4 Large Kongs
- 3 100 Foot Water Hoses
- 3 20" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 12" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 5" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 Ceremonial K-9 Badges (Memorial)
- 2 50 Foot Water Hoses
- 2 Spray Bottles & Sprayers
- 2 150 Foot Enclosed Hose Reels
- 1 Drink Mixes & Snacks (Large Box)
- 1 Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)
- 1 Set of four Ruff Wear Bark'n Boots Grip Trex

Note: Some of you may receive this twice. I apologize - it's a data base thing!