

THAILAND DOG HANDLERS

USAF Dog Handlers Who Defended Front-Line Combat Air Bases In Thailand Throughout The Vietnam War

OLD DAWGS and PUPS

Dog Handlers of the Vietnam War Supporting US Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan

Sponsored by Thailand Dog Handlers at combat Air Bases during the Vietnam War



(04/15/11)

OVER FIVE YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!

More than \$65,000 of supplies shipped down range!

<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.asp>

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting six (6) kennels and twenty (20) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of April 15, 2011. April 2011 brings us to five years and seven months of operation for our "Old Dawgs & Pups" 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 deployed down range.

Area of Operation Status - K-9 Teams Arriving/Departing

We are currently supporting troops at Joint Base Balad, Iraq; Bagram Air Base, FOB Wilson, and FOB Azizullah (COP), Afghanistan; and Ali Al Salem, Kuwait; and Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan. We have no new Pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

No one heading home this month!

Pups arriving in the AOR

No new pups arriving this month!



376th AEW/ESFS Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan

Here are a few candid shots from our pups at Manas Transit Center – it's still cold there!

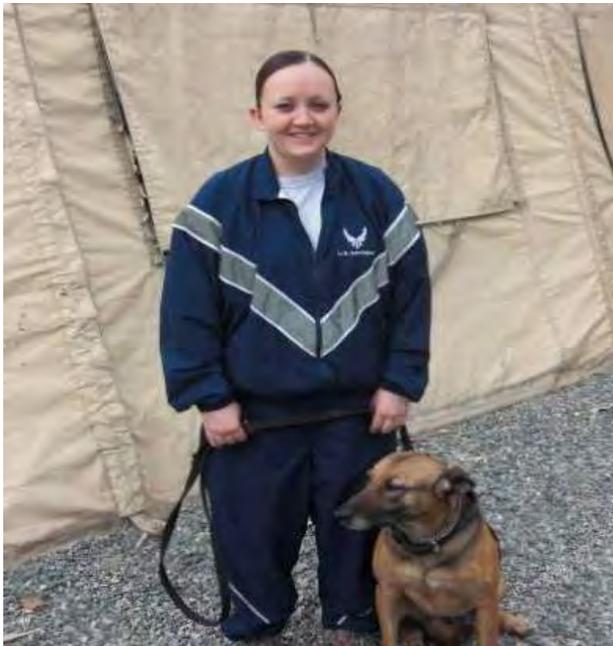
A special thanks goes out to TSgt Drew Esparza for providing these great photographs of our troops at Manas. Drew is deployed from Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao)



**SSgt Paris Carman & MWD Diesel
Deployed from Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
Supported by Larry Zacker (U-Tapao)**



**SSgt Victor Sanez & MWD Astor
Deployed from Beale AFB, CA
Supported by Jon Hemp (Tan Son Nhut)**



**SSgt Jamie Wright & MWD Delly
Deployed from Aviano Air Base, Italy
Supported by Ernie Childers (Udorn & Aviano)**



**SSgt Jeffrey Besserglick & MWD Jacob
Deployed from Holloman AFB, NM
Supported by Skip Davis (48 IPSD)**

FOB Wilson, Afghanistan

SSgt Justin Kitts, deployed from the 56th SFS, Luke AFB, Arizona doesn't spend much time in base camp, but when he does – he certainly likes to throw his weight around! The K-9 crew represented the Air Force pretty well in the FOB Wilson Weight Lifting Completion. We know he's used to throwing around a MWD – but a dead lift of 405 pounds is awesome!



After the fund, he troops moved out on a mission. They took over a remote compound and lived there for a few days. As you can see the conditions were awesome...The cool thing about this mission was that the infantry guys that SSgt Kitts was working with loved Dygno so much that they named the compound Patrol Base Dyngo. Needless to say, SSgt Kitts was extremely honored!

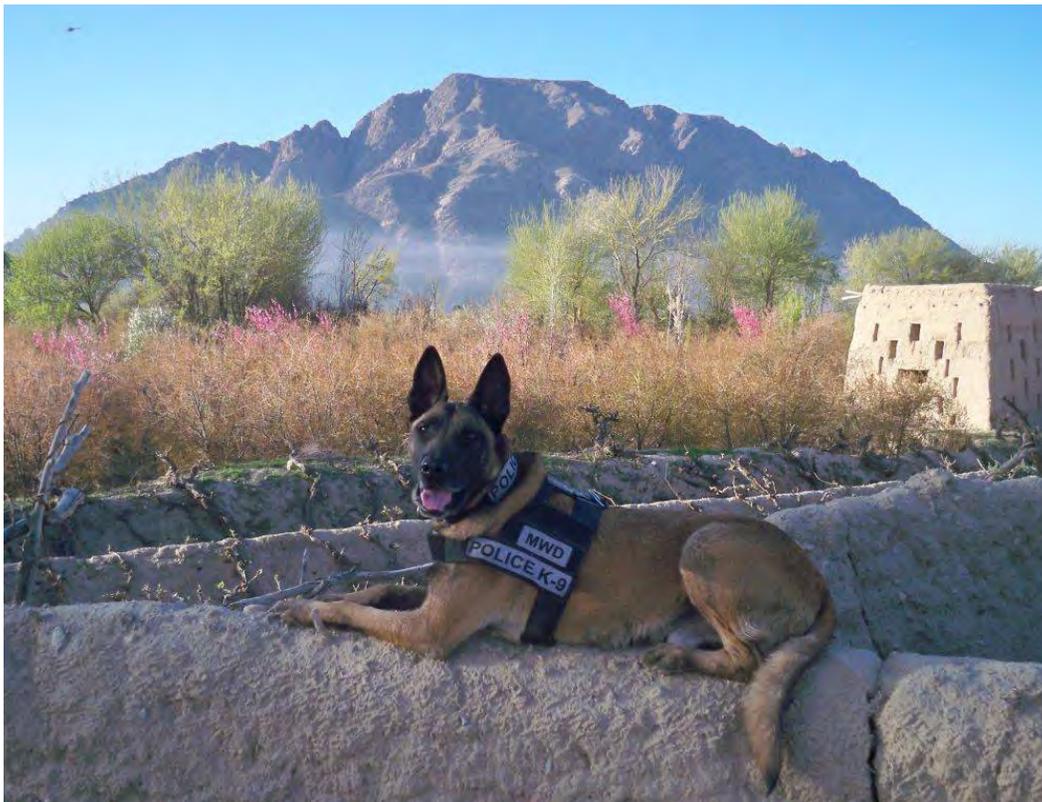


FOB Wilson, Afghanistan – Continued

As you can see - Dyngo is pretty hands on. Here he gets spun up on his route to his next objective. Damn he is a smart dog!!! Must run down leash... (Only a good MWD handler would say that?)



Dyngo just “chillin out” after an early morning Air Assault mission. It is actually kind of beautiful out that early in the morning according to SSgt Kitts.



SSgt Kitts and Dyngo are supported by Patsy Perrotto (NKP)

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait

Military working dogs demonstrate capability at British Embassy

Posted 3/21/2011 Updated 3/21/2011: by Staff Sgt. Patrice Clarke - 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

3/21/2011 - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- The old saying, his bark is worse than his bite is not the case with Military Working Dog Chrach (pronounced Crash). Talk to any of his decoys and they will tell you, Chrach has a bite that demands to be taken seriously.

More than 500 spectators and 200 four-legged friends were on hand to see Chrach's capabilities March 4 when he and his handler, Staff Sgt. Kyle Alltop, 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, put on a Military Working Dog demonstration during the 6th Annual Paws for the Cause Dog Show at the British Embassy Gardens in Southwest Asia.

The team performed two demonstrations during the day-long dog show, which featured categories from best dressed to most adorable, but it was Chrach's obedience and aggression demonstration that was a crowd pleaser. "Chrach loves these types of events," said Sergeant Alltop. "Anytime he can be the star of the show he loves it. He's a great public relations dog. At home station when we are not working we are performing demos."

Chrach, a three-year old German Shephard, spent 90 days in K-9 Boot Camp at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, before being assigned with Sergeant Alltop at the 56th Security Forces Squadron at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. "I picked him up at the airport and we have been a team together ever since," said the Mesa, Arizona native. Chrach uses all of his K-9 boot camp training as well as his on-the-job training during the demonstrations which go from simple obedience to the phases of aggression that handlers and their MWDs go through on a daily basis. With more than 200 other dogs at this particular demonstration as well as the spectators, it was Chrach's ability to listen and respond to Sergeant Alltop's commands that impressed one of the show's judges.

"I was very impressed with the entire demonstration," said Norma Taylor, a judge for the event. "(Chrach) was so focused. On an occasion like this, where there are so many distractions and so many other animals running around, Chrach did an amazing job." To help with the demonstrations, two other MWD handlers from the 386th ESFS attended and acted as decoys for the phases of aggression portion of the demonstration.

"Being a decoy for Chrach or any other MWD is important," said Staff Sgt. Chad McCord, a Kingston, Ohio native, and one of the decoys for the demonstration. "The decoy is one of the most important parts in aggression training, whether using a bite suit or wrap." Sergeant McCord could attest, using the bite suit top or the simple arm wrap to catch, or receive Chrach's bite, does offer some protection, but the bite is still felt.

"Chrach has a very forceful bite," said Sergeant McCord. "Using the suit top instead of the arm wrap gives a little bit more padding when catching any MWD. I felt his bite this time. "When catching Chrach you are always going to walk away with at least one or two bruises; nothing a good handler/decoy can't handle," said Sergeant McCord with a chuckle. The bites and bruises are all part of the job, which Sergeant McCord had wanted to do since first becoming a security forces member.

"I had always enjoyed dogs, but during my time at tech school (at Lackland AFB) I saw other students training to be handlers," he said. "I decided then that the first chance I got, I would become a MWD handler. Three years later, I applied for a slot and was accepted."

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait – British Embassy Demonstration

Staff Sgt. Dontarie Russ, a 386th ESFS MWD handler deployed from the 633rd Security Forces Squadron out of Langley Air Force Base, Va., attended the dog show as a decoy for the MWD demonstration as well. "It felt really great to be a part of this demonstration in front of this very diverse crowd and show what Chrach can do," said Sergeant Russ, a Columbus Ga., native.

After the demonstration, dog show spectators were able to ask questions about Chrach and other MWDs and a wide range of questions were asked concerning Chrach's sleeping area to his play schedule. Though Chrach didn't win "best in show" at this dog show he was certainly a crowd pleaser. "I love doing these types of demonstrations," said Sergeant Alltop. "We get to inform the public about Chrach or any MWDs, capabilities as well as showcase his abilities. What a great event."



Chrach (pronounced Crash), a three-year old German Shephard Military Working Dog, waits with his handler, Staff Sgt. Kyle Alltop, 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, before a MWD demonstration at the 6th Annual Paws for the Cause Dog Show March 4, at the British Embassy Gardens in Southwest Asia. (Photo Courtesy of PAWS)



Staff Sgt. Kyle Alltop, a military working dog handler with the 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, and Military Working Dog Chrach (pronounced Crash), escorts a "suspect" during a military working dog demonstration at the 6th Annual Paws for the Cause Dog Show March 4 at the British Embassy Gardens in Southwest Asia. (Photo courtesy of PAWS)

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait – British Embassy Demonstration



Staff Sgt. Chad McCord, a military working dog handler with the 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, gets taken down by Military Working Dog Chrach (pronounced Crash) during a MWD demonstration March 4. Sergeant McCord played as a decoy during a military working dog demonstration at the 6th Annual Paws for the Cause Dog Show at the British Embassy Gardens. (Photo courtesy of PAWS)

Note: SSgt Kyle Alltop & Chrach are supported by Bob Curnick (NKP) and SSgt Chad McCord is supported by Danny Brusseau (Ubon)

Why do we do it? Is this another undercover mission?



After all these years – things just don't change! SrA Kyle Tredway has prepared MWD Rakker for an undercover mission! OK, tell me the truth – would you recognize Rakker (photograph on the right) if you passed him on the street? You can tell from the photograph on the left that Rakker is ready for this assignment!

This team is deployed from the 22nd SFS, McConnell AFB, Kansas and they are supported by J. D. Jones (Udorn).

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait – Continued



SSgt Chad McCord's MWD Brutus on duty at an ECP at Ali Al Salem
Some one over heard Brutus saying "OK Chad – I got this gate!"

OD&P Gifts arrive at the 386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait



Left: SrA James Campana & SrA Tredway display their gifts from OD&P
Right: SrA Campana takes a closer look at his new Leatherman Surge



Left: SSgt Chad McCord checks out his Surge and his OD&P Challenge coin
Right: SrA Tredway knows that the Leatherman S3 Serac flashlight is a winner right away

OD&P Gifts arrive at the 386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait



**Left: Chrach is wondering “Where’s my stuff”?
Right: “Oh, never mind – I found it”!**

Leatherman Tool Group Donates S3 Serac Flashlights to Old Dawgs & Pups for service Down Range

They’ve done it again!



Thanks in part to our own Leatherman Angel - VSPA Honorary Associate Member Juli Warner, Leatherman has donated another 72 of their amazing tiny – but super powerful – Serac S3 LED flashlights for us to send to our Pups downrange. We’ve had these lights before, and they’ve been extremely well received by the troops. They have three power settings: 7 lumens on low, 43 lumens on medium, and an astounding 100 lumens on high. For comparison, a 6.5-inch long 2AA Mini-Mag flashlight with a bulb puts out 15 lumens, and a 3D Maglite with a bulb puts out about 77 lumens. So this little dude is BRIGHT!

It’s also got a reversible clip on the barrel, so you can have it hang down into a pocket for safe carry, or turn it around with the light clipped on to your hat brim shining forward. At least one of our kennels in the War Zone has adopted this hands-free hat-brim carry style of this great light!

It’s got a hard-anodized aluminum body and stainless steel bezel; it’s water, humidity, corrosion, shock and dog-handler resistant, and includes a 10-year warranty.

Quality tools from quality people – thanks for helping us equip and support our troops down range!

Donation from the Old Dawgs & Pups Website

We'd like to thank Mr. Lee Helle and Ms. Mary Smith for their very generous donation to Old Dawgs & Pups. They were steered our way via Don Poss's announcement and direction to the Old Dawgs & Pups website.

If any one would like to catch any editions of "K-9 Supply" that you might have missed or would like to show others what we are all about – please visit:

<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.asp>

Helping on the Home Front

We' recently received a RFI (Request for Information) from one of our OD&P graduates concerning supplies for his stateside kennel. SSgt Joshua Hicks is now the Kennel Master at the 88th Security Forces Squadron, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, and he was looking for some "pricing information" for kongs for his kennels. SSgt Hicks was deployed from the 822nd SFS, Moody AFB, Georgia, to Kirkuk in January 2005 with MWD Nero.

We knocked around some information and finally one of our "GREAT K-9 FRIENDS", Dixie Whitman from the Military Working Dog Team Support Association (MWDTSA) stepped up and provided the 88th with Kongs, MWDTSA T-Shirts, and other goods for the kennel.

Dixie has supported 17 teams via OD&P, and hundreds of MWD teams via MWDTSA. For more information on MWDTSA go to <http://www.mwdtsa.org/>



Ma'am,

I would just like to thank you again for your generosity. The items you sent have already gone a long way, and every handler (and MWD) are very appreciative. I have attached a group photo so you may put faces to those you have selflessly helped. We really do thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Thanks again - Joshua S. Hicks, SSgt, USAF, Military Working Dog Kennel Master, 88th Security Forces Squadron/S3D, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

In photo Left to Right: SrA Dale/Seth, SSgt Baughman/Nisan, SSgt Gulley/Blecki, SSgt Pritchett/Duco 5(uncooperative), and SSgt Mason/Mbak

Not shown: SSgt Freese/Trainer, SSgt Lee/Ruth(deployed), SSgt Krieger/Arko(leave), and SSgt Hicks/KM.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates

We are sure many of you remember SSgt Chad Ditch from the VSPA Reunion last year in San Antonio, Texas. Kelly Bateman (Ubon) supported Chad during his deployment at Camp Cropper, Iraq. We just heard from him and here are a few photographs of Chad and his new MWD Bbrusier, a two year old Malinois. “Well I hope all is well with you and the family. Wanted to say hello and be safe to all my K-9 brothers and sisters - especially my 820th brothers at Joint Base Balad right now”! As you might notice – Bbrusier has developed a little bit of an attitude with the decoy TSgt Ott! Looks like Bbrusier was on the winning end of this “training issue”!



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

At the time of this report we have **26** members of the “Old Dawgs & Pups” program actively supporting **20** handlers assigned to six (6) 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 **1,401** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to April 15, 2011. Over **324** “Old Dawgs and Friends” have supported **63** kennels and **269** 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 **\$17,677.00** of supplies for the **63** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is **\$65,576.00!**

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

- 247 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (166 Donated by Leatherman) *
* The Leatherman "Surge"/Muts/Flashlights/Knives donation is valued at approximately **\$44,470.00**
- 163 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 105 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 91 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 52 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 40 Sponges
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 40 PSI Water Holes (Dressler's)
- 33 Kygen Port-A-Bowls (Dressler's)
- 25 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 24 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls (Dressler's)
- 24 Rolls 26"x78" 20% Dark Limo Window Tint (Checker Auto Supply)
- 19 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 16 Cooling Vests & Extra Cooling Packs (**Helping Udders - Valued at \$3,420.00**)
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades (Dressler's)
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes (Dressler's)
- 15 Classic HG Food Dishes (Dressler's)
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers (Dressler's)
- 12 Retractable Leashes (Pet Edge)
- 12 Flat Sided Stainless Steel Water Pails (Pet Edge)
- 12 Bucket Clips (Pet Edge)
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails (Dressler's)
- 10 * Leatherman MUT Tools
- 10 Muzzles (Dressler's)
- 10 Heavy Duty Handled Pails - 9 Qt. - (Pet Edge)
- 10 Stainless Steel - 3 Qt Dura-weight Bowls (Pet Edge)
- 10 Helping Udder Reward Toys (Helping Udders)
- 9 Hose Nozzles
- 8 K9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pound bags) (Dressler's)
- 8 Cooling Wraps (Roshgo Corp)
- 8 Cooldanna Cooling Mats (Roshgo Corp)
- 8 Sets of Flood Light Bulbs
- 8 24" Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees
- 7 Digital Thermometers
- 6 Set of four Ruff Wear Bark'n Boots Grip Trex (Ray Allen)
- 6 Retractable Leashes (Dresslers)
- 4 Carabiners
- 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 Hose Reels - Wheels**
- 2 50 Foot Water Hoses**
- 2 Spray Bottles & Sprayers**
- 2 150 Foot Enclosed Hose Reels**
- 2 * Leatherman EOD MUT Tools**
- 1 Large Patrol Harness**
- 1 Medium Patrol Harness**
- 1 Drink Mixes & Snacks (Large Box)**
- 1 Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)**
- 1 Syntek Hidden Sleeve (Ray Allen)**