

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



(01/15/2013)

**OVER SEVEN YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!
MORE THAN 350 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!**

More than \$80,349 of supplies shipped down range!

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

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting seven (7) kennels and twelve (12) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of January 15, 2013. January 2013 brings us to seven years and four month 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 Bagram Air Field, Camp, and FOB Salerno, FOB Masum Ghar, Afghanistan; Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait; and Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia. We have three (3) new Pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Al Udeid, Qatar: SrA Brett Jones & MWD Rex should be back at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma enjoying some well deserved leave with his friends and family.

SSgt Ryan Pe'vey & MWD Mega should be back home at Altus AFB, Oklahoma and getting settled in with his family and friends.

SSgt Christopher Darrow & MWD Tali are packing quickly for his return trip to Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota – man, it's going to cold up there – family and friends will give him a warm welcome.

SSgt Jeremy Hayes & MWD Toki should be back in the warm weather of the gulf states at Keesler AFB, Mississippi enjoying some well deserved leave following their deployment.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: SrA Chad Ditch & MWD Andor deployed from the 22nd SFS, McConnell AFB, Kansas. This is Chad's second tour with OD&P and the team is supported by J. D. Jones (Udorn).

Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan: TSgt Micheal McKinnon, Kennel Master, deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. TSgt McKinnon is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao).

SSgt Joshua Mason & MWD Ruth deployed from the 88th SFS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The team is supported by Bob Curnick (NKP).

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



We'd like to welcome back SrA Chad Ditch, deployed from the 22nd SFS, McConnell AFB, Kansas. This is Chad's second tour and Andor's first with OD&P and the team is supported by J. D. Jones (Udorn).

The top "helo" and the bottom left photographs were taken during the team's RTC training and the bottom right photograph is Andor taking a "moment" somewhere during the trip to the "sand".

FOB Salerno, Afghanistan



MWD Tomy spent some time “bonding” with 1st Sergeant Zamiska (one of Tomy’s favorites in the team) during one of their recent treks up in the mountains. Something tells me that the 1st Sergeant is “holding out” on Tomy – or at least he’s not sharing!!!



MWD Tomy relaxes after returning from a mission. SSgt Dick Lynn would like to express his (an Tomy’s) appreciation for the special present that was sent to them by Cindy Senips, Girl Scout Leader, Troop 2002 & 3012. Tomy loved the giant bone and he really loves sleeping on the bed provided by the scouts. “It’s probably the most comfortable bed in our whole compound” according to SSgt Lynn. Tomy had a great Christmas.

This team is deployed from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington and Steve and Lise Gattis (CRB) support them.

455th ESFS – Bagram Air Field – Afghanistan

We'd like to welcome Kennel Master, TSgt Micheal McKinnon, to our OD&P family. TSgt McKinnon is deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis, Monthan AFB, Arizona and he is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao).

In addition, we'd like to welcome SSgt Joshua Mason & MWD Ruth to our program also. This is SSgt Mason's first deployment with us, but MWD Ruth has been down range with us previously. The team is deployed from the 88th SFS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio and Bob Curnick (NKP) supports them.

These troops just got their feet on the ground and as soon as they get settled in we'll have photos to share.

64th ESFS - Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia

Thailand Handler gifts arrive at the 64th ESFS

SSgt Alexandra Jecha presented our Thailand Handler Gifts to SSgt Daniel Sayarot. As expected, the Leatherman Surges and the new Leatherman M5 Lenser Flashlights lead the way on the "WOW" factor! Each handler also received our signature Thailand Handler coin and patch. Jon Hemp (TSN) supports SSgt Sayarot and SSgt Jecha is supported by Dave Broeker (U-Tapao). Thank you SSgt Jecha for making the presentations and for the photographs.



Other News concerning OD&P Graduates

Colonel Barry R. Cornish, 99th Air Base Wing Commander, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, “Officially” promoted TSgt Tanner Grutz on December 14, 2012. SSgt Tanner had just returned home from Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia, where he was team with MWD Pajk. He was STEP (Stripes for Exceptional Performers) - What a welcoming home present wouldn't you say?



On the right TSgt Grutz is joined by his partner, MWD Pajk. Tanner and Pajk were supported by Karl Niemeyer (NKP). Great job Sarge – Great job! Congratulations from all of us at Old Dawgs & Pups!

TSgt Uilani Bio – Retires at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas

Ernest Childers (Udorn) and Kelly Bateman (Ubon) present TSgt Uilani Bio a Nemo's War Dog Heroes collage for her contributions to the Nemo memorial at JBSA, Texas. More details on the next page.



Other News concerning OD&P Graduates - Continued

Congratulations to TSgt Uilani Bio on her retirement that was celebrated on January 11, 2013, with her friends and fellow handlers at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. “Lani” has been a great friend to our Nemo’s War Dog Heroes Memorial Committee and recently completed a tour as Kennel Master at the 379th ESFS Al Udeid, Qatar where she recruited nine handlers to participate in our OD&P program, while deployed from the 802nd SFS, JBSA. She finished her 20-year career as the Kennel Master at the 802nd SFS, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

We first met “SSgt Bio” and MWD Amber (F608) on November 15, 2005 where she volunteered to serve as a “Honor Guard” when the Nemo’s War Dog Heroes Memorial was dedicated. She was then a handler with the 37th SFS at Lackland AFB. She is a native of Hawaii and a “Dog handler of the world”. Great job Sarge – you certainly left a mark on our career field. She has agreed to serve on the Board of the Nemo’s War Dog Heroes Memorial – she just continues to serve! As it’s stated in her retirement plaque, “K-9 continues to lead the way”.

In addition, she was our host at numerous events that were held during reunions, meetings at Lackland, and sometimes just to talk “dogs” when our handlers visited Joint Base San Antonio. Thanks Sarge for always being there for all of us! Handlers and dogs always came first for TSgt Lani Bio – Bank on it!



Above Left – Retirement plaque for TSgt Bio presented on January 11, 2013.

Above Right – SSgt Bio and MWD Amber (F608) on November 15, 2005 representing the “Military Dog Teams” past, present, and future as part of our “Honor Guard” when the Nemo’s War Dog Heroes Memorial was dedicated. She was then a handler with the 37th SFS at Lackland AFB.

Thank you – MWDTSA



MWDTSA *Military Working Dog Team Support Association, Inc.*

A tax-exempt organization under IRS code section 501(c)(3). All donations are tax-deductible.

<http://www.mwdtsa.org>

Once again, we'd like to extend a **VERY BIG THANK YOU** to Dixie Whitman and everyone associated with the Military Working Dog Team Support Association who has sent holiday packages down range to support our deployed troops. We all know what it's like to be deployed during these holidays and I think our supports shared their holidays with our MWD teams that are deployed – Happy Holidays!

They have sent packages to sixteen of our troops at seven deployed kennels locations in southwest Asia!



SSgt Daniel Sayarot and SSgt Alexandra Jecha, both deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and deployed to Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia, show off some of the items in the MWDTSA Holiday boxes that were shipped to all of our OD&P troops. Looks like these packages were quite the hit for these two handlers.

These boxes were FANTASTIC!

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

At the time of this report we have **10** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **12** 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 **1,752** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to January 15, 2013. "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported **96** kennels and **350** 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 **\$22,221.00** of supplies for the **96** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is **\$80,349.00**

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.

List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

- 294 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (145) Donated by Leatherman
 - * The Leatherman "Surge"/Muts/Flashlights/Knives donation is valued at approximately **\$54,709.00**
- 266 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 205 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 101 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 56 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 50 * Leatherman M5 LED Lenser Flashlights
- 46 Sponges
- 44 PSI Water Holes
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 34 * Leatherman MUT Tools
- 33 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 25 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 24 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls
- 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 -Value \$3,420.00**)
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes
- 15 Classic HG Food Dishes
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers
- 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
- 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 lb)
- 8 Cooling Wraps (Roshgo Corp)
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- 8 **Cooldanna Cooling Mats (Roshgo Corp)**
- 8 **Sets of Flood Light Bulbs**
- 8 **24" Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees**
- 7 **Digital Thermometers**
- 7 **Sets Ruff Wear Bark'n Boots Trex (Ray Allen & Ruff Wear)**
- 7 **Retractable Leashes**
- 4 **Carabiners**
- 4 **5" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes**
- 3 **100 Foot Water Hoses**
- 3 **20" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes**
- 3 **12" 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)**