

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



(05/15/2014)

OVER EIGHT YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!
MORE THAN 400 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!
109 Deployed Military Working Dog Kennels Supported
More than \$92,823.00 of supplies shipped down range!
<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.htm>

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting five (5) kennels and twenty-four (24) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of May 15, 2014. May 2014 brings us to eight years and eight 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 Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait; Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Soto Cano, Honduras. We have four (4) new pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan: SrA Brandon Hinton & MWD Dan are packing their duffle bags and should be heading back to the 377th SFS, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico before our next newsletter.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait: SSgt Dylan Finch & MWD Egon are deployed from the 72nd SFS, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. The team is supported by Jay D. Jones (Udorn).

Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates: SSgt Nicholas Fletcher & MWD Oopey are deployed from the 633rd SFS, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. The team is supported by Tommy Gannon (NKP).

SSgt Jeffrey Hill & MWD Semmi are deployed from Tyndall AFB, Florida. The team is supported by Christi Cryer & Chuck Rogers (TSN).

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: SSgt Alexander Nutting & MWD Dini are deployed from the 23rd SFS, Moody AFB, Georgia. The team is supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK).



386th ESFS Ali Al Salem - “The Rock”, Kuwait

The MWD Section at the 386th ESFS had one great month! They were honored with the Senior NCO of the Month, NCO of the Month, and Team of the Month. From all of us – CONGRATULATIONS!



MSgt Ben Jones is presented the Senior NCO of the Month award by Lt. Col. Matthew Pignataro and CMSgt Dewey Hansford, Commander and Chief, respectively of the 386th ESFS. MSgt Jones is supported by Jon Hemp (TSN). This is how it's done – Leading from the front!



SSgt Jessie Galvan, accompanied by his MWD Ritz, was recognized at the NCO of the Month at Ali Al Salem. Commander, Lt. Col. Matthew Pignataro and Chief Dewey Hansford, made the presentation. SSgt Galvan is deployed from the 72nd SFS, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma and the team is supported by Jim Cox (Bien Hoa).

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem - “The Rock”, Kuwait - Team of the Month



Commander Pignataro and CMSgt Dewey Hansford visited the kennels to present the Team of the Month Award at Al Udeid Air Base, Kuwait.

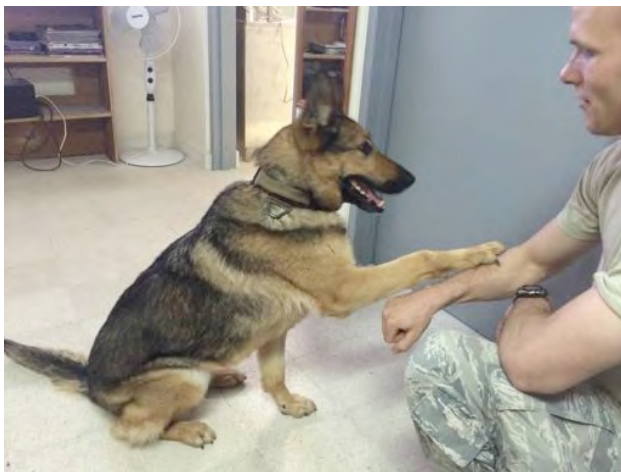
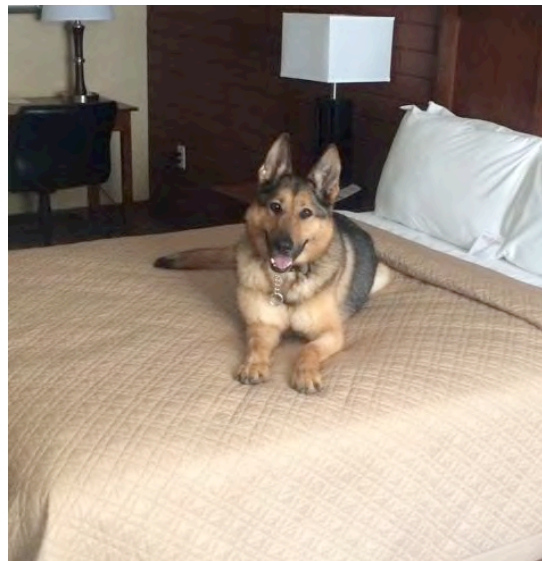
Security Forces Commander, Lt. Col. Matthew Pignataro, SSgt Matthew Helma, SSgt Jesse Galvan, SSgt Jesus Duran, MSgt Robert Garner (Trainer), MSgt Ben Jones (Kennel Master), and CMSgt Dewey Hansford.

Handlers not available for the photograph were; SSgt Mark Bush, SSgt Donald Nachand, SSgt Christopher Stitcher (Wing “Rock Solid Warrior of the month for April), SSgt Justin Jordan, SSgt Dylan Finch, SSgt Laquan Conner, and Mr. Nicholas Ford (Trainer). Congratulations to the entire Section for a job very well done!

379th ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



We just received this photo of the “Flying Dogs of the Deid”! The MWD's name is Iggy and her handler is SSgt Cahall from 436th SFS, Dover AFB, Delaware. Thanks SSgt Anthony Cruz for this great photo!



SSgt Joshua Wise & MWD Gina have recently arrived at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. In the photographs above left and right, the team trained at Creech AFB, Nevada and then shared a room at McGuire AFB, New Jersey before departing for the “sand box”. Below left and right, they share some bonding time before Gina makes it very clear who is on top of “the world” in the exercise area at Al Udeid. The team is deployed from 21st SFS, Peterson AFB, Colorado, and they are supported by Jim Coggins (Takhli).

379th ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar – Continued

SrA Joshua Wise & MWD Gina – Our 400th OD&P Team



SrA Joshua Wise celebrated his fourth year in the Air Force on May 11, 2014. This is his first deployment as a MWD handler. He has been teamed with MWD Gina for eight months. SrA Wise previously served at the 45th SFS, Patrick AFB and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida. They are deployed from the 21st SFS, Peterson AFB, Colorado. MWD Gina is a Patrol/Explosive Detection Dog. Gina was one of the first MWDs to be diagnosed with PTSD. She has been and is currently being treated for the diagnoses and continues to improve. Despite her PTSD, she has great drive and a high desire to do her job each and everyday. SrA Wise strong believes that training and a very strong bonding between himself and Gina has greatly assisted with her growing stronger!

SrA Wise enjoys video games, buying things he “doesn’t need”, and trying to enjoy life! When asked about his tour, he has this to say. “The tour, is going very well, since this is my first deployment it gets a little stressful at times but me and Gina are doing well, we train a lot and I continue to try to learn more from the other handlers around the kennels that have had more time on leash. I also keep in contact with my sponsor Jim Coggins on a regular basis, which is nice to have someone to talk to. I also have had a chance to use the items that I receive from the program. I have used the flashlight for multiple training problems and used the multi-tool to work on a few things around the kennels. So I would just like to say thank you all for the great program and your care package came in handy and made our day. Thank you all so much for the great gifts!”

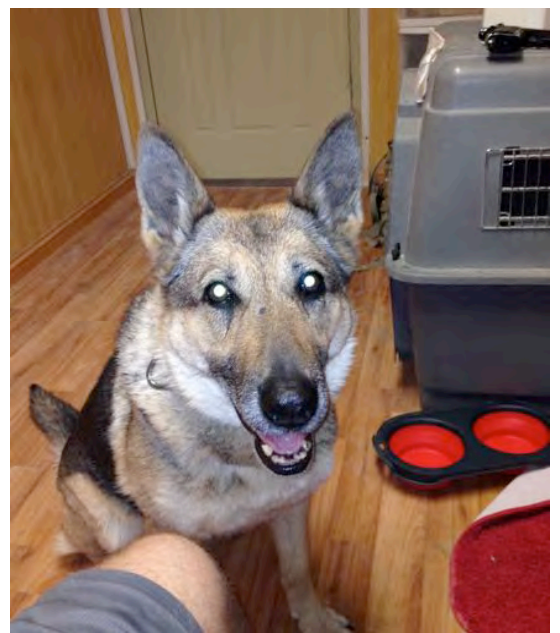
SrA Wise is married to his “beautiful wife, Brandy” who is patiently waiting for him during his deployment.

380th ESFS - Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE)



As a tribute to those who were lost, the survivors, and the injured at last year's Boston Marathon, MWD Mushe shows that he's "Boston Strong"! MWD Mushe is partnered with SSgt Sean McKenna, deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. The team is supported by David Priest (Korat). This is SSgt McKenna's first tour with OD&P and Mushe's third tour with us (Qatar, Afghanistan, and UAE).

4th Infantry Division – Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan



Just before leaving Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan, SSgt Tyler Wiseman and MWD Ema took advantage of the "Sunday night swim" event. One happy dog here guys! On the right the team share a little down time while at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait, before heading home. SSgt Wiseman and MWD Ema are now back home at Goodfellow AFB, Texas. TSgt Justin Kitts (USAFA) supported the team during their recent deployment.

Cano Soto, Honduras



SSgt Bryan Klein & MWD Bruno during a little “bonding time” at Cano Soto. The team is deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and they are supported by Mike Fink (FoK). Are these two “beautiful” mugs or what? OD&P picks Bruno as the best looking on in the photo! This is SSgt Klein’s third tour with OD&P and he has been officially recognized as an “Alpha Dog”. This is also MWD Bruno’s third tour with us – there will be something special for him on his return also!

No explanation needed!



OD&P FUNDRAISER – ONLY A FEW LEFT! ***The New OD&P Challenge Coin, Available for Purchase!***

The image on the enamel side is from a photo of one of our own - it's Air Force Security Police Sgt Alexander Liverano and Sentry Dog Dante 632M on a Takhli RTAFB perimeter post during the war. They both served at Takhli and Nakhon Phanom in 1970-71. It's a 1¾ inch x 3.5mm coin.

How to purchase:

1. Make out a check payable to **Phil Carroll** for the correct amount.
2. Mail it to Phil at **P.O. Box 8, Gladstone, OR 97027**
3. Enclose a note saying how many coins you want, and giving Phil your full name and correct mailing address.
4. The coins will cost you \$20 for the first one, and \$15 for each additional coin on the same order. Feel free to add a donation to that amount if you like, we can put it to very good use.
5. Be quick, we have a limited number available for now.



Alpha Dog Coin and Certificate Presentations



Sponsor John Risse presented TSgt Jason Adams (now Master Sergeant) “Alpha Dog” Coin #15” and an accompanying certificate for his tours and his extra ordinary efforts on behalf of the “Nemo’s War Dog Heroes Memorial” at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. He also assisted in officiating the “Rededication of the Nemo Memorial relocation” on April 25, 2014.

TSgt Adams efforts were instrumental in making the “move” of the memorial to the Security Forces Museum. Jason has been an Old Dawgs & Pups Point of Contact for numerous events at Lackland and has been on the sharp edge of the sword for various MWD projects over the last ten years. John and Carolyn Risse (Pleiku) have sponsored Jason during his deployments to Al Udeid, Qatar (2009) and Al Jaber, Kuwait in 2012.

Alpha Dog Coin and Certificate Presentations - Continued



Lt. Colonel Christopher Neiman, Commander, 509th Security Forces Squadron, presented MSgt Jon Sarabia, “Alpha Dog Coin #1” at his Commanders Call on May 2, 2014 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri.

Then SSgt Jon Sarabia, and his Military Working Dog Basco (E021), were the “FIRST” MWD team supported by the newly created Old Dawgs & Pups during their tour at the 307th AEG/ESFS K-9 section at Ali Air Base, Iraq, from September 2005 to February 2006. SSgt Sarabia and MWD Basco were one of six (6) MWD teams, and two (2) supervisors, that made up the first kennel supported by the Old Dawgs & Pups Program. SSgt Sarabia and MWD Basco were supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao) and Marie Zink (FoK) during their deployment in Iraq.

MSgt Sarabia continued his association with OD&P program after returning from that deployment, and he was instrumental in assisting in establishing the “Nemo's War Dogs Heroes Memorial,” now located at the Security Forces Museum at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. This memorial bridges the history of our career field among the handlers of past, present, and future.

MSgt Sarabia and his family also have actively supported deployed MWD teams downrange after he “left the leash.” Congratulations MSgt Sarabia – Thank you for leading the way and leaving the first foot and paw prints for our program that has now supported more than 400 MWD teams and 109 deployed MWD kennels.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates



TSgt Jason Adams, SSgt David Cope and soon to be retired MWD Fredy, and OD&P sponsor John Risse (Pleiku). SSgt David Cope and Fredy were deployed to Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan in 2013. John and Carolyn Risse completed a “drive by visit to JBSA” to visit with TSgt Adams and SSgt Cope and to assist OD&P in making several presentations. Thanks John and Carolyn for all your continuing efforts!



Left: TSgt Jeremy Fowler and SSgt Stephan Salassi joined Jim Stastny and a group of Vietnam veterans for the monthly “Wash the Wall” event on the mall in Washington, D.C., at zero dark thirty!

Right: TSgt Jason Morton, Jim Stastny (Korat), and SSgt Stephan Salassi celebrated Easter dinner at the Stastny home for a K-9 get together. All of the troops above are stationed at Joint Base Andrews and have been supported by Jim Stastny (Korat).

Congratulations to our newest Master Sergeant!



Congratulations to our newest Master Sergeant – Jason Adams, 802nd SFS, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. Jason has been an integral part of OD&P program and has assisted us in many projects at Lackland! He “sewed on” E-8 stripes on May 1, 2014 – Congratulations from all of us Jason!

Top - MSgt Robert Brinson (802nd NCOIC, Logistics) and Jason’s wife Tina (right) “pin on” the new Master Sergeant stripes at a squadron ceremony on April 30th. CMSgt Alexander Perry checks to make sure the “pinning” was done properly!

Bottom – Colonel James H. Chevallier, Vice Commander, 502nd ABW, presents MSgt Jason Adams with his “Certificate of Promotion), as Tina Adams. MSgt Brinson, and Command Chief, 502nd Air Base Wing, Alexander Perry assist with the presentation.



Feed the Dawgs Project 2014 Schedule

<http://www.thedawgsproject.com>

The *Feed the Dawgs* Project is a culmination of United States Military Vietnam Veterans, Active Duty Military Working Dog Personnel, and patriotic citizens joining together to support and recognize the dedication and patriotism of today's Military Working Dog Teams around the globe. The United States Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, and Navy deploy Military Working Dogs. We feed steak barbecues to active military dog handlers in all branches of United States service as they return from or "ship out" for "deployment" to the front lines on the War on Terror.

2014 brings new adventures for *Feed the Dawgs* – They are expanding to **THREE** regions! Here are the contacts for the regions – if you are interested in participating in an event – just ping the POC and they will put you to work and make sure you share some quality time with the TROOPS!

Southwest Dawgs (CA, AZ, NV, & TX)

Jon Hemp - jmhemp@feedthedawgs.com
<http://thedawgsproject.com>

Rocky Mountain Dawgs (CO, NM, MO, & TX)

Kevin Sonka - kevinsonka@comcast.net
<http://www.rockymountaindawgsproject.org>

Northwest Dawgs Project (NV, UT, ID, & WA)

Frank Wehner – nwdawgs@fcwehner.com
<http://northwestdawgsproject.com>

If you are interested in assisting in one of the projects or need more information about “*Feed the Dawgs*” please contact Jon Hemp at jmhemp@feedthedawgs.com

Here is the Feed the Dawgs upcoming schedule for 2014 – Get Involved!

You can view photos from all of our events on Facebook at "[The Dawgs Project](#)"

16-17 May

Joint Northern Feed Event, Travis AFB, CA

17 May

Buckley AFB, Colorado

7 June

USMC Corporal Max Donahue Memorial, C-Pen

7 June

Mountain Home AFB, Idaho

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

At the time of this report we have **22** members of the “Old Dawgs & Pups” program actively supporting **24** handlers assigned to five (5) kennels in Southwest Asia.

Our K-9 Supply program has been coordinated and funded by the “Old Dawgs & Pups” program volunteers. The supporters are members of the VSPA, VDHA, and friends of K-9. A total of 2,106 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 15, 2005 to May 15, 2014. “Old Dawgs & Friends” have supported **109** kennels and **406** K-9 personnel via our program. For additional information on the program please go to:

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

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

We have purchased and shipped **\$26,389.00** worth of supplies to **109** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and other noted major donations, our program has supplied at total of **\$92,823.00** to deployed Military Working Dog teams. Please note that this total does not reflect all of the “care packages” that have been sent directly by team sponsors and other organizations that we have been so fortunate to be involved with for this program.

Major List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

(For a complete list of supplies shipped contact Bill Cummings)

- 312 Leatherman “Surge” Tools (145 donated by Leatherman)
 - * The Leatherman “Surge”/MUTS/Flashlights/Knives/Toys donation is valued at **\$63,014.00**
- 287 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 266 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Flashlights
- 120 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 102 Alpha Dog Challenge Coins
- 79 * Leatherman MUT Tools
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: e33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 56 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 55 * Leatherman Wave Dog Toys
- 50 * Leatherman M5 LED Lenser Flashlights
- 46 Sponges
- 44 PSI Water Holes
- 44 Retractable Leashes (Pet Edge)
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 33 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 31 Doggles (10 Pairs 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 Classis Long Tooth Undercoat Rakes
- 15 Classic HG Food Dishes
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers
- 12 Flat Sided Stainless Steel Water Pails (Pet Edge)
- 12 Bucket Clips (Pet Edge)
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails
- 10 Muzzles
- 10 Heavy Duty Handled Pails – 9 Quart (Pet Edge)
- 10 Stainless Steel – 3 Quart Dura-weight Bowls (Pet Edge)
- 10 Helping Udders Reward Toys (Helping Udders)
- 9 Hose Nozzles
- 8 K-9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pounds)
- 8 Cooling Wraps (Roshgo Corporation)
- 8 Cooldanna Cooling Mats (Roshgo Corporation)
- 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)
- 6 20”/12” (3 each) Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 4 Carabiners
- 4 5” Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 100-Foot Water Hoses
- 3 Ceremonial K-9 Badges (Memorial)
- 2 Hose Reels – Wheeled Cart
- 2 50-Foot Water Hoses
- 2 Spray Bottles & Sprayers
- 2 130-Foot Enclosed Hose Reels

- 2 * Leatherman EOD MUT Tools**
- 1 Large Patrol Harness**
- 1 Medium Patrol Harness**
- 1 Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)**
- 1 Case Drink Mixes & Snacks**
- 1 Syntek Hidden Sleeve (Ray Allen)**
- 1 Armor Carrier Shoulder Pads**
- 1 Molle Dump Pouch**