

K-9 Supply Program



(12/15/06)

Happy Holidays in the Area of Operation

Well, the holidays are just about upon us and we sure are thinking about our deployed troops all over the globe. We've all been there – the emotions of being away from home for the holidays are different for all of us. We'd just like to take this moment to wish all of you a very special holiday season and we hope you are home soon!

We're still up and running at LSA Diamondback, Manus, Camp Cropper, Camp Bucca, FOB Warrior and Kirkuk. At the time of this report we have 33 members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting 20 handlers at six kennels.

Our "pups" at Camp Lemonier, Africa are in the process of rotating and their e-mail has been discontinued. Hopefully they will make it home for the holidays! We'll never forget the first time we saw the "Sentry Camel" photograph! Thanks for a great job guys – we really enjoyed sharing our stories and companionship with you.

Christmas Package Program - Status

A special "Thank You" goes out to J. D. Jones (Udorn 69-70) for spearheading the "Operation Dog Bone" program that has supplied Christmas packages to the canine companions of our handlers. J.D. sent out four boxes of "bones" to TSgt Rebholz (LSA Diamondback), SSgt Damon Tripp (Manus Air Base), TSgt Brian Hoglen (Kirkuk), and SrA Daniel McClain (FOB Warrior). Here's a comment from one of our pups. "Hi Jay how are you. We got your package yesterday and we all love the toys. Thank you very much for all the support" - SrA Daniel McClain FOB Warrior

We'd like to thank everyone who participated in the program for their efforts. J.D. also provided the McConnell AFB, Wichita, Kansas, with bones for their K-9 Section. Here is a photo of TSgt Richards and MWD Sheryl with her "bone"! Great job J.D.



Outside Donations - Update!

We have received and would like to thank the Leatherman Corporation once again for their generous donation to our programs. Are they a class act or what? Once again we'd like to thank FOP Lodge #43, Boardman, Ohio – and Peggy Finzgar – they sure came through with a generous donation to our program – Hard to beat them COPS!

How about a little information on some of our deployed troops?

Many of you probably remember our “first litter of Pups” from Ali Air Base when we first kicked off the Old Dawgs & Pups/K-9 Supply programs. Our first Kennel Master, TSgt Matt Rebolz, is still with us – serving at LSA Diamondback, Iraq. I've gotten to know Matt very, very well and he's quite the character! Here is a photo of Matt and MWD Ori and they prepare to celebrate the Christmas holiday. Hopefully, Matt and Ori will be rotating soon. I'm not sure if you know it or not, but this was the inspiration for the song K-9 “Jingle Bells”.



More on our Pups at Camp Cropper!

SSgt John Grice is deployed from the 18th SFS, Kadena Air Base, Japan and he calls Spring Hill, Florida, his home – Oh yes, a good ole southern boy! John is teamed up with MWD Hhope during their tour at Camp Cropper. John is paired up with Jim Stastny (Korat) and Virginia Gilliam, one of our original K-9 supporters. MWD Hhope is a product of the DoD “Puppy Program” at Lackland. For information go to: http://www.vspa.com/k9/puppy_program.htm



SSgt Grice & Hhope



SSgt Kimble & Cierney

SSgt Kenneth Kimble is deployed from the 7th SFS, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas and he's a Texan through and through! Ken is teamed with MWD Cierney during his tour at Camp Cropper. He hails from Paris, Texas and he is paired up with Kelly Bateman (Ubon) one of our many great Texas dog handlers.

In the next few months I will do my best to profile more of our handlers from our other kennels.

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

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 **334** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in Iraq from August 21, 2005 to December 15, 2006. Over seventy “Old Dawgs and Friends” have supported over **seventy-three** 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 **\$4,532.00** of supplies for the 15 kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate donation, the total is **\$8,318.00!**

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!**

*** The Leatherman "Surge" donation is valued at approximately \$3,786.00**

- 60 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 49 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (30 Donated by Leatherman) *
- 47 Guardian Pet Beds
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes
- 13 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated)
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers
- 12 Doggles
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails
- 8 K9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pound bags)
- 8 Muzzles
- 8 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 8 Cooling Wraps
- 8 PSI Water Holes
- 8 Cooldanna Cooling Mats
- 8 Sets of Flood Light Bulbs
- 7 Digital Thermometers
- 5 Classic HG Food Dishes
- 4 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls
- 4 Large Kongs
- 3 100' Foot Water Hoses
- 3 Nozzles
- 3 24" Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees
- 3 20" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 12" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 5" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 2 Spray Bottles & Sprayers
- 1 Drink Mixes & Snacks (Large Box)

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