

THAILAND DOG HANDLERS

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

(11/15/09)

OVER FOUR YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting ten (10) kennels and thirty-eight (38) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of November 15, 2009. November 2009 brings us to four years and three 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 deployed down range.

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

We are currently supporting troops at FOB Warrior, Camp Cropper, Joint Base Balad, and FOB Falcon; Camp Tallil/Joint Security Station Attack, Iraq; Bagram, Afghanistan; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan. We have ten (10) new Pups to introduce this month.

Heading home: SrA Frey and MWD Zico are headed stateside so Zico can receive medical treatment at Lackland. SSG Lee Martin, SFC Christopher Oliver, MA2 Bradley Langham, are leaving FOB Delta and heading home! God Speed and welcome home!

Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan: SSgt Lealofi Lealofi & MWD Jack from the 30th SFS, Elmendorf, AFB, AK. This team is supported by Dale and Debbie Burton (U-Tapao).

Camp Tallil/JSS Attack, Iraq: SSgt Justin Aycock & MWD Katya from the 52nd SFS, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. This team is supported by John & Joan Smith (U-Tapao).

FOB Warrior, Iraq: SrA Anthony Richison & MWD Ate (it’s Ate’s second tour with us) from the 49th SFS, Holloman AFB, New Mexico. This team is supported by Holly & Chuck Meaders (U-Tapao)

SSgt Erik Rod & MWD Aron from the 99th SFS, Nellis AFB, Nevada. This team is supported by Patsy Perrotto (NKP).

Joint Base Balad, Iraq: SSgt Matthew Mackenzie & MWD Eukay from the 71st SFS, Vance AFB, Oklahoma. The team is supported by Karly Niemeyer (NKP).

SSgt William Booker & MWD Kebek from the 22nd SFS, McConnell AFB, Kansas. This team is supported by J D Jones (Udorn).

SSgt David Simpson & MWD Robson from 52nd SFS, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. This team is supported by Richard and Joan Gear (NKP).

SSgt Mark Delcambre & MWD Kim from the 42nd SFS, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. This team is supported by Tom Gannon (NKP) and Janet Wise (FoK).

SSgt David Bieck & MWD Marco from the 42nd SFS, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. This team is supported by Donald Shaw (NKP) and Janet Wise (FoK).

SrA Felipe Alvarado & MWD Pile from the 99th SFS, Nellis AFB, Nevada. This team is supported by Jon Hemp (TSN).

Profiles and Photographs of members of Old Dawgs & Pups



Donald Shaw and Dunja at Lackland AFB, Texas

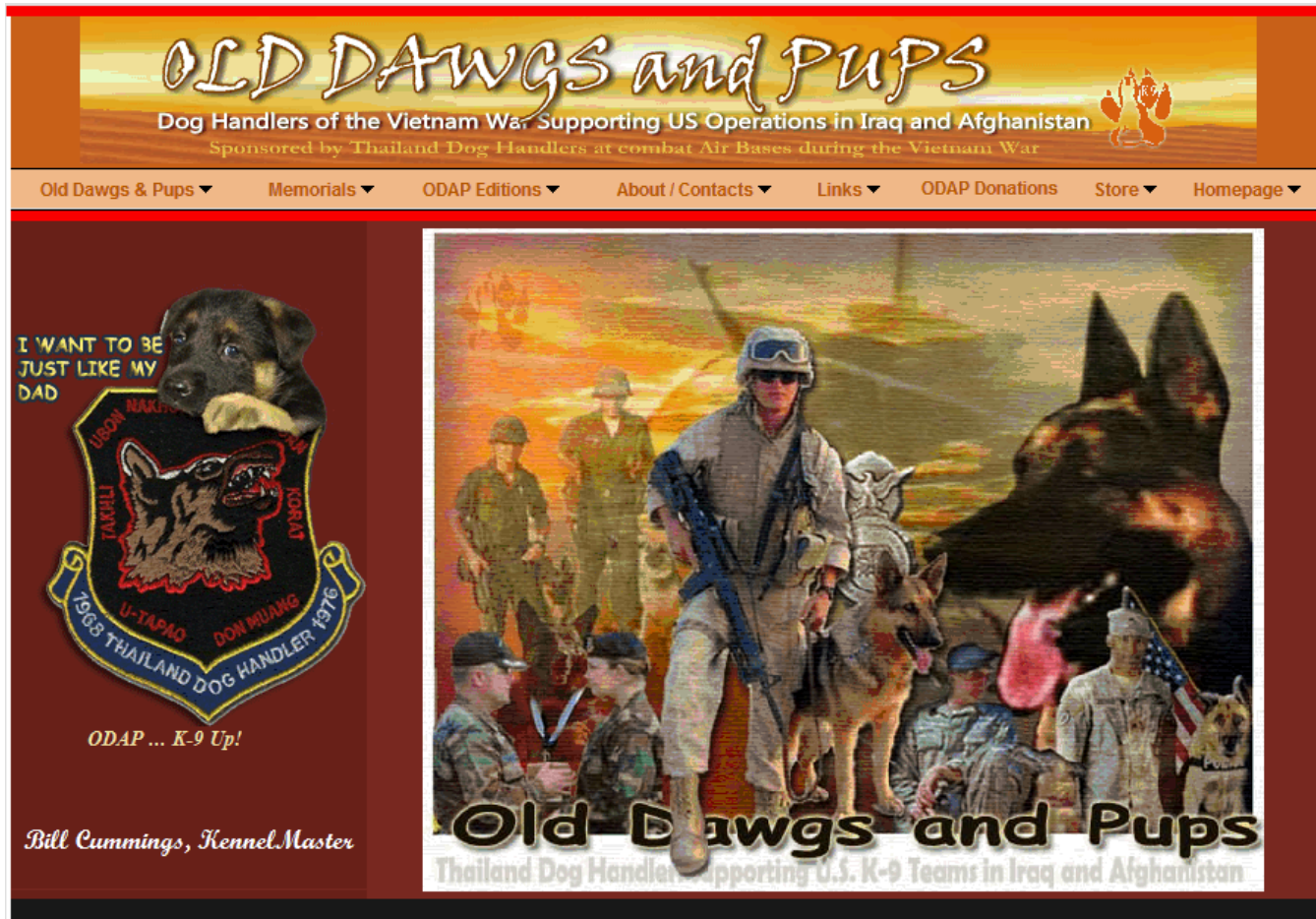
Don and his wife adopted Dunja on July 31, 2009 and from what we hear – they are quite the team! Thanks Don for giving this veteran a great home. Dave is currently paired up with SSgt David Bieck at Joint Base Balad, Iraq



Patsy Perrotto from the “Old 56th SPS” photographed at the VSPA reunion recently held at Luke AFB, Phoenix, Arizona. Patsy was one of seven Nakhon Phanom handlers that visited their home squadron – the Nightfighters! Patsy just completed supporting SSgt Justin Kitts during his recently completed deployment at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. This is the first time they had met following their pairing. Patsy has spent many years “pushing a puppy” since leaving Thailand in the late 70’s. Patsy is currently paired up with SSgt Erik Rod & MWD Aron from the 99th SFS, Nellis AFB, NV

We now have our own WEBPAGE for Old Dawgs & Pups!

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



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

Don & Larry Poss approached us recently and asked if they could create and maintain a dedicated page on War-Stories.com for Old Dawgs & Pups. We spoke at length during the VSPA reunion and between OD&P and the “Poss Boys” – I think we have something that everyone is going to enjoy!

Check it out at <http://www.war-stories.com> - **“Welcome” New Feature - Old Dawgs and Pups!** A new War-Stories main link featuring Newsletters for our Supply of K-9 handlers and MWD teams in Iraq, Afghanistan and other points in the AOR is now available. You can check out the Current and Archive Editions of K-9 Supply – man, I didn’t realize we’ve done that many!

Please bookmark this link so you can watch us build the site and watch us grow! Thanks Don and Larry for another great effort to support our deployed troops and to continue our K-9 traditions.

Don has added a search engine to the two menu pages so visitors can search for a handler or k-9’s name, bases, squadrons, units, or whatever.

Check it out at **<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.asp>**

Type in your name and see everywhere it is mentioned at both War-Stories.com and ODAP PDF files. Don’t forget to bookmark the site so you can check up on the pups as they continue to serve!

332nd ESFS – Joint Base Balad, Iraq

We have new boots and paws on the ground at Joint Base Balad. We've paired up ten K-9 troops from Grand Forks, Holloman, Misawa, Aviano, Goodfellow, Spangdahlem, Maxwell, McConnell, Nellis, and Vance Air Force bases. Our thanks go out to TSgt Mark Ochoa for introducing the new troops to Old Dawgs and Pups! We are looking forward to a great deployment and pairing up our "old troops" with these pups. We have some supplies – ten (10) PSI Water Holes (Dresslers – thank you Jennifer for the extra effort you put in on this one!) and ten (10) Udder Tugs reward toys (Helping Udders – Mikel – You are da' woman!) headed their way as we speak and hopefully photographs will be forthcoming.



"The water holes and toys have arrived. As the handlers rotate into their down days, I will be giving them the items. The toys are really cool, and I'm sure the pups will enjoy same. Well thanks again for your support!" TSgt Mark Ochua – Kennel Master

OK – It's time to go to work! If you don't believe it – just as Natz – SSgt Shiloh Bell's partner at Joint Base Balad. "How come it's always me waiting in the truck?" Come on Sarge – saddle up!



332nd ESFS – Joint Base Balad, Iraq – Continued

Leatherman equipment arrives at Joint Base Balad



MWD Ikka, SSgt Martin Campos' MWD, and SSgt Shiloh Bell show off the new Leatherman equipment that just arrived at Joint Base Balad. It's been a great month in Iraq for Leatherman shipments! SSgt Bell is supported by Ron & Gerry Carlton (Pleiku) and the team is deployed from Holloman AFB, New Mexico. SSgt Campos & Ikka are supported by Gordon Johnston (Takhli)

Patrols at Joint Base Balad



SSgt Mark Delcambre and MWD Kim on patrol outside the wire at Joint Base Balad. The patrols are near the Tigris River area. How about that back up right there for them? I like this deployment posture with a “shotgun” man!

This team is deployed from Maxwell AFB, Alabama and they are supported by Tom Gannon (NKP) and Janet Wise (FoK). SSgt Delcambre is a “Louisiana Man”!

506th ESFS – FOB Warrior, Iraq

SSgt Erik Rod & MWD Ate and SrA Anthony Richison & MWD Aron are now boots on the ground at Warrior. They are supported by Chuck & Holly Meaders (U-Tapao) and Patsy Perrotto, respectively. They have hardly unpacked their gear so we'll give you a little more information on these teams next months. Hopefully we'll have some photographs by then. Welcome to Old Dawgs and Pups Erik and Anthony. Thank you SSgt Eric Wakeland for hooking us up with these two new handlers!

455th ESFS – Bagram, Afghanistan gearing back up!



Pictured above are SSgt Daniel Flores and “Dolla Bill” – is this a great looking dog team or what? The team is supported by Mike Regan (NKP) and they are deployed from Holloman AFB, New Mexico. SSgt Flores hails from Texas.

SSgt Lealofi Lealofi & MWD Jack just arrived at Bagram from the 30th SFS, Elmendorf, AFB, AK. This team is supported by Dale and Debbie Burton (U-Tapao). He's still unpacking!

FOB Falcon – Iraq – Leatherman Tools on the ground at FOB Falcon



SrA Tolbert Jefferies and Rex just received their new Leatherman Surge and knife – Didn't take Tolbert long to put them to use at FOB Falcon. This team is supported by Ken Smerecki (U-Tapao & Pleiku).

Camp Tallil Air Base & Joint Security Station (JSS) Attack – Iraq



It's been a long time, but we now have a team at Camp Tallil Air Base, Iraq. When we first supported this kennel it was Ali Air Base. SSgt Justin Aycock and Katya are deployed from the 52nd SFS, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. Justin and Katya are supported by John & Joan Smith (U-Tapao) – (Note – They have no idea how good of a cook Joan is!) SSgt Aycock and Katya have just been moved to Joint Security Station Attack until further notice. It just never changes – you just can't keep your bags unpacked for long before they send you somewhere!

Manas Air Base – Kyrgyzstan

Kennel Master, SSgt Patrick Meade, contacted us and brought two other Hill AFB troops with him for their first tour with OD&P. SSgt Meade is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao), SSgt Benjamin Vasquez & MWD Erick are supported by Jim Coggins (NKP) and SrA Patrick Lau & MWD Arek are supported by Rich Vivio (U-Tapao).



We just heard from our “gang” at Manas and their Leatherman Surges and equipment have arrived. We understand that the tools arrived in time to repair some fences – way to go Leatherman. Pictured above, left to right are: SrA Patrick Lau & MWD Arek, SSgt Patrick Meade, and SSgt Benjamin Vasquez & MWD Erick. Pictured above right is SSgt Meade presenting Leatherman equipment to SrA Lau. Joe Throgmorton, we know you are proud of these guys!

Al Dahfra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

SrA Manuel Rodriguez (SSgt effective December 1st) & MWD Diesel working the search pits at Al Dahfra Air Base, UAE. The team is deployed from Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and they are supported by Dale and Debbie Burton (U-Tapao).



Diesel in the Trunk!



Diesel under the hood!

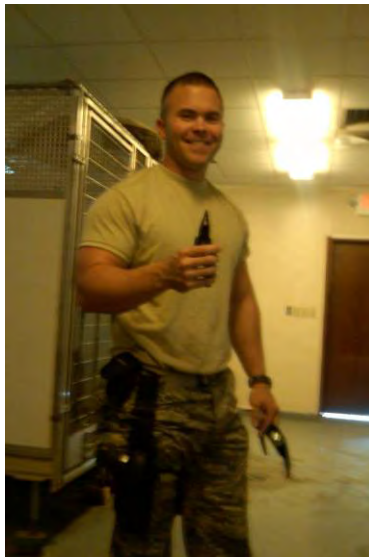


Diesel in a blur!

Man of you saw Diesel in her cooling vest before the team departed Davis-Monthan. I know this team personally, and you are going to have to believe me – this is the “Dynamic Duo” – this team knows how to work. Hence, the captions – “in the trunk, under the hood, and in a blur” – That is Diesel. As I always team Manuel by saying “She sure makes you look good”!

Congratulations SSgt Manuel Rodriguez on your upcoming promotion effective December 1, 2009. Remember, Diesel still out ranks you! Talk “trash” Diesel – tell them what you think!

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



OD&P signature Surges have hit the ground at Qatar! From the looks of the photographs, they are already using these great Leatherman products.

Top: SrA Carrie Dowdy showing off her squeegee fixin' tool! She's Mike Diercks' pup!

Center: SSgt Taylor Rogal just making sure the heat and AC is working right. He is supported by John Risse (Pleiku) and Virginia Gilliam (FoK).

Right: SSgt Kristopher Hall using that new Surge to square things away in the kennels. He is supported by Ernie Childers (Udorn).

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

The handlers at Al Udeid Air Base are having a fundraiser and we have a little of the information right now. Here's the deal:

K-9 T-Shirts are: XL \$16.00, Large \$15.00, and Mediums are \$15.00.

K-9 Challenge Coins are \$7.00

Combo Packs – XL Shirt and Coin is \$21.00 – Combo Packs Large & Medium & Coin is \$20.00

We hope to have more information available – such as a photo of the shirt. As soon as the information becomes available we will put out the contact information to obtain the coins and shirts. Thanks Phil Carroll for saving my butt on these photographs!



Our 200th MWD Dog Team!

We hit a milestone on November 10, 2009 as we paired up our 200th MWD team at FOB Warrior. SSgt Erik Rod & MWD Aron from the 99th SFS, Nellis AFB, Nevada “signed up for a tour with Old Dawgs and Pups as our 200th Military Working Dog team. SSgt Erik Rod & Aron are supported by Patsy Perrotto (NKP).

Who would have thought after answering and e-mail for help with supplies by our first “Pup” – TSgt Jon Sarabia that we would have come this far! Thanks Jon for getting our organization started – or as Jon would say – “I just made the phone call”! We’ve come a long way and we still have some trails to blaze down the road.

Our first Pups at Ali Air Base, September 18, 2005 were:

TSgt Matthew J. Rebholz – Kennel Master, 1st SFS - Langley AFB, VA – (Ben Cox/Don Graham);
SSgt Jassen M. Dongon – Trainer - 1st SFS - Langley AFB, VA (Fred Cobb)
SSgt Jonathan Sarabia/Basco, 509th SFS - Whiteman AFB, MO (Bill Cummings/Marie Zeak)
SSgt Damon J. Tripp/Rexo, 366th SFS - Mountain Home AFB, ID (David Adams/Dave Broeker)
SSgt Carl W. Wolf/Kazan, 1st SFS - Langley AFB, VA (Jim Hannon/Ben Cox)
SSgt Jake Bolton/Kevin, 509th SFS – Whiteman AFB, MO (Gary Logsdon)
SrA Jeffrey M Mastin/Frisko, 4th SFS - Seymour Johnson AFB, NC (Gordon Johnston/ Janet Wise)
Sgt Randy Jensen/Cantor, 89th MP BDE - Ft. Hood, TX (Kelly Bateman/Ernie Childers/Terry Stickland))

MSgt Matt Rebholz has been with us for three tours and SSgt Jeff Mastin has been with us for two tours – Thanks guys for helping us to form and keep Old Dawgs & Pups rolling for four great years

Surges down range!



Thanks to the exhausting efforts of Phil Carroll, we now have shipped our signature “Leatherman Surges” down range to the troops we support at Joint Base Balad, FOB Falcon, Camp Tallil, Joint Security Station Attack, Manas Air Base, and Al Dahfra. The shipments included knives, flashlights, and Surges to fourteen (14) Dog Handlers. Thanks again go out to Leatherman for assisting us in provided these invaluable tools to our deployed handlers.

Old Dawgs & Pup “Signature” Leatherman Surges Available NOW!

Dog Handlers & Friends of K-9 our Old Dawg & Pup “Signature” Leatherman Surges Available NOW - Just like we send down range!



At the VSPA reunion in Phoenix we had a number of guys ask us when they would be able to buy themselves one of the outstanding Leatherman Surge multi-tools that's become our signature gift to active-duty dog handlers down range.

Now is the time. We're getting ready to place another order from Leatherman, to make sure we have enough on hand to keep our warriors supplied as they deploy into the combat zones. This gives us the opportunity to order enough extra to sell to you, also raising a little more money to support this popular program.

The tools come with a black nylon sheath; they're black coated, and you have a choice of plain black with no engraving, or laser-engraving with "Thailand K-9." If you want anything else engraved you'll have to buy the tool then send it back to Leatherman yourself.

E-mail Bill Cummings for an order form if you are interested – they sure make great Christmas presents. **Remember – Orders must be to Bill Cummings NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 20, 2009!**

Send a personal check or money order to Bill Cummings with your order. The cost is \$95 per tool, and that includes the cost of laser engraving and shipping to you.

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

At the time of this report we have **40** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **38** handlers assigned to ten (10) 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 **1,061** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to September 15, 2009. Over **220** "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported **201** 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 **\$11,796.00** of supplies for the **44** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is **\$42,478.00!**

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

- 181 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (125) Donated by Leatherman) *
 - * The Leatherman "Surge"/Flashlights/Knives donation is valued at approximately **\$27,262.00**
- 75 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 75 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 52 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 45 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 40 Sponges
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 39 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 30 Kygen Port-A-Bowls (Dressler's)
- 40 PSI Water Holes (Dressler's)
- 24 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls (Dressler's)
- 24 Rolls 26"x78" 20% Dark Limo Window Tint (Checker Auto Supply)
- 22 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 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 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails (Dressler's)
- 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
5	Set of four Ruff Wear Bark'n Boots Grip Trex (Ray Allen)
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
1	Drink Mixes & Snacks (Large Box)
1	Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)
1	Syntek Hidden Sleeve (Ray Allen)

*** If you receive more than one copy – It's a data base thing!**