

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



(07/15/11)

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 five (5) kennels and fifteen (15) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of July 15, 2011. July 2011 brings us to five years and ten 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. We have two (2) new Pups to introduce this month.

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

We are currently supporting troops at Joint Base Balad, Iraq; Bagram Air Base, FOB ACS-2/Kandahar, Afghanistan; and Ali Al Salem, Kuwait; and Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan. We have one (1) new Pup to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Ali Al Salem, Kuwait: SrA James Campana & MWD Jeck should be in the deep south back home at Little Rock AFB, Arkansas.

Joint Base Balad, Iraq: SSgt Jose Lebron & MWD Kormi should be pulling chocks and heading "deep in the heart of Texas" AKA – Joint Base San Antonio, Texas in the very near future.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Joint Base Balad, Iraq: TSgt Angelo Reategui, Kennel Master, deployed from the 824th BDS, Moody AFB, Georgia. This is TSgt Reategui's second tour with OD&P and he is once again supported by Dixie Whiteman (FoK).

Ali Al Salem, Kuwait: SrA Melissa Schmalhorst & MWD Glen are deployed from, the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan, AFB, Arizona. They are paired with Steve & Lise Gattis (CRB).

Bagram, Afghanistan: TSgt Thomas Henzl, Kennel Master, deployed from the 49th SFS, Holloman AFB, New Mexico, should be "Boots on the Ground" (BOG) any day now and is very excited about OD&P.

We have pups coming into the AOR and we are making contact with them on a daily basis. As soon as they get straight we will have them assigned to our "Old Dawgs".

Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia



This is what a Haboob looks like!

Haboobs are commonly observed throughout the world. This photograph was taken in the AOR recently. Haboob winds are created by the collapse of a thunderstorm. During thunderstorm formations, winds move in a direction opposite to the storm's travel, and they will move from all directions into the storm. When the storm collapses and begins to release precipitation, wind directions reverse, gusting outward from the storm and generally gusting the strongest in the directions of the storm's travel.

In other words – this is one bad ass storm!

FOB ACS-2/Kandahar, Afghanistan:

SSgt Jessica Keller & MWD Oscar are deployed from the 56th SFS, Luke AFB, Arizona. They are supported by Ken Neal (Ubon/Udorn) and Steve & Lise Gattis (CRB).



Above – SSgt Keller & MWD Oscar prepare for an upcoming mission.

Below – Jessie & Oscar share a little down time together.



Super Dogs (Well – They could be!)



OK, we know that things have been just a little “far fetched” since a certain terrorist was located, but these are some of the photographs that we have received since that time. It seems as though they are putting our Military Working Dogs through some pretty intense training for upcoming missions.

They sure have come a long way since our out Sentry and Patrol Dog days – Man, what we could have done with these dogs!!!!!!

OK, you got us – some of these might just be “posed” – remember when we just put hats on dogs? They’ve come a long way since they wore cameos with a woodland pattern!

Daddy's first home!



This photograph really doesn't need an explanation!

SSgt Kyle Alltop recently returned home from his tour at Ali Al Salem, Kuwait, after nearly seven months. It was a special homecoming for SSgt Rachel & Kyle Alltop and their new son, Kaden, who was born during Kyle's deployment.

I'm sure we can only imagine what was going through the Alltop's minds and hearts as the family shared this very, very special moment. It's always great to get home, but to see your son and your family together for the first time just has to be awesome!

Many of us have met the Kyle and Rachel at the VSPA reunion in 2010, Feed the Dawgs events, and recent the dedication of the new 56th Security Forces Squadron kennel dedication in May of 2011. They are a great example of an Air Force family.

Kyle was supported by Bob Curnick (NKP) during his deployment

Welcome home Dad – you did GOOD!

We have new Technical Sergeants!

**Congratulations go out to our pups that were recently promoted to
Technical Sergeant:**



Name	Deployment Location & Year	Sponsors
SSgt David Bieck	Jt. Base Balad, Iraq – 2009	Donald Shaw/Janet Wise
SSgt Gabriel Bravo	Sather AB, Iraq – 2009	Phil Carroll
SSgt Ryan Craig	Bagram, Afghanistan – 2010	Jon Hemp
SSgt Charles Dalton	FOB Warrior, Iraq – 2009	John Risse/Peggy Finzgar
SSgt Aaron DeMarte	Jt. Base Balad, Iraq – 2009	Ernie Childers
SSgt Beau Hansen	Camp Victory, Iraq – 2008	Mike Diercks
SSgt Joshua Harrison	FOB Warrior, Iraq – 2008	Phil Carroll
SSgt David Helmbrecht	Djibouti, Africa – 2006	Don Graham
SSgt Joshua Hicks	Kirkuk, Iraq – 2006	Bill Wigginton/John & Joan Smith/ Fred Prudhomme
SSgt Phillip Kittelson	Camp Cropper, Iraq – 2009	Bill Cummings/Dale/Debbie Burton
SSgt Lealofi Lealofi	Bagram, Afghanistan – 2009	Dale/Debbie Burton
SSgt Dennis Luczak	FOB Warrior, Iraq – 2007	Rick Matott
	Al Udeid AB, Qatar – 2009	Bill Cummings/Dale/Debbie Burton
SSgt Matthew Plunkett	Bagram, Afghanistan – 2010	Chuck Meaders
SSgt Christa Quam	Camp Bucca, Iraq – 2006	Kevin Bradley
SSgt Jerod Schley	FOB Salerno, Afghan – 2010	Larry Zacker
SSgt David Simpson	Jt. Base Balad, Iraq – 2009	Richard Gear
SSgt Clayton Tebbetts	Kirkuk, Iraq (2) – 2005 & 2006	David Clark/Jay D.
Jones/Robertsons	Camp Victory, Iraq – 2008	Scotty Baker/Dixie Whitman
SSgt Brandi Throgmorton	Al Udeid AB, Qatar – 2009 & 2010	Mike Direcks
SSgt Rufus Watson	FOB Warrior, Iraq – 2008	Doug McCoy
SSgt David Wyatt	Manas, Kyrgystan – 2008	Doc Hodges

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates

TSgt Christopher Beavers – Kennel Master FOB Warrior – Spring 2007



I'm now stationed at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in VA. For the last couple of months I've put together the 633 SFS first comprehensive Community Policing Initiative. I've created a 9 person Community Police section within our military family housing area off base. We provide law enforcement and outreach programs to over 3.5K residents. In the last few short months we have established a Neighborhood Watch program for local residents. We regularly assign teams to conduct nightly walks utilizing our cops, residents and local law enforcement that share our jurisdiction. My section has also initiated the DARE Program and Stay Smart Program at our local youth activities center for over 180 kids. We use these programs to educate them on the dangers of drugs, alcohol and sex. We also just get the kids in the class to just get comfortable around us and talk about whatever's on their minds. We've initiated a Citizens Police Academy for residents as well. This is an 8 week program in which citizens are instructed and trained on the things we as cops do and why. It covers things like criminal law, investigations, tactical ops, domestic violence, DUI and narcotic investigations and weapons training. The citizens seem to really enjoy it and get a lot out of the material. The majority of our time and energy though is put into daily law enforcement throughout the area. The residents around here keep us pretty busy!

Once I put on my Master stripe in the next few months, I will likely be moved elsewhere in the squadron. Just can't convince them that we need a MSgt in the kennels here...lol. There's not a day that goes by where I don't miss pushin' puppies. The job satisfaction and camaraderie is unmatched in anything else I've done since leaving K-9 at the end of 2008. I've worked everything from Flight Chief to NCOIC, Police Services to Superintendent of CSS. Nothing even comes close to the time I put in with my dogs and fellow handlers!! I tell every handler I come across to enjoy it while they can, because it will be over before they know it! Things have not been all bad though. In my time since I left Kirkuk in 2007 I've gotten remarried to my lovely wife Amanda, had a son, Miles, who is now 1.5 years old and bought a house. Other than missing K9, life couldn't be better.

**CHRIS A. BEAVERS, TSgt, USAF
NCOIC, Community Policing
633 SFS/S3OCP
Langley AFB, VA 23665**

TSgt Chris Beavers was supported by Ernie Childers (Udorn) & Janet Wise (FoK) during his deployment.

“Dixie” is adopted!

Recently retired MA3 Robert Pennington, who was supported by Dixie Whitman during his many tours at FOB Warrior, Iraq in 2006 and other locations throughout the world, recently adopted a new pup. He was deployed from NAS Mayport, Florida. Many of you may have met Robert and his family in San Antonio last year – he and his family spent some time with us in the hospitality room, along with Dixie Whitman.

Those of you that know Dixie (one of our longest serving supporters of OD&P) know that she is a blonde also! We think this is one of the most honorable compliments that a person can have – having a dog named in your honor.

I have to agree with James – both Dixie’s are beautiful, loyal, and loving to everyone that they meet. Way to go Robert and thanks for honoring Dixie!

One other thing in case you didn’t notice – they are both very - B L O N D E!



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

At the time of this report we have **15** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **15** handlers assigned to five (5) 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 July 15, 2011. Over **330** "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported **66** kennels and **272** 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 **64** 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)**