

Dog Handlers of the Vietnam Was Supporting US Operations in Iraq and Afghan

Sponsored by Thailand Dog Handlers at combat Air Bases during the Vietnam War-

(05/15/2012)

This edition of K-9 Supply is dedicated to the memory of Terry Strickland, United States Air Force Sentry Dog Handler who serviced at the 3rd SPS, Bien Hoa (1967-68), Republic of Vietnam with his K-9 partner King and at the 388th SPS, Korat Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand (1968-69) with his K-9 partner Mr. Misty (X851).



James T. (Terry) Strickland - 27 May 1947 ~ 5 May 2012

As an active member of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program, Terry has actively supported Military Working Dogs teams during their six-month deployments. Terry is a founding member of the Nemo's War Dog Heroes Memorial Committee since it was formed in 2003. Terry has volunteered thousands of hours of his time, along with his personal financial commitments, to the Nemo Memorial. He personally committed to "seed funds" for the memorial and continued to assist in fundraising efforts to complete the memorial at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

Terry spent hundreds of hours researching military documents, assisting in logistic to ensure that the history of our MWD was captured for historical records. Due to his efforts, the memorial stands as constant historical reminder and symbol for all MWD handlers that pass through Lackland as handlers that have previously served, who are serving, and who will serve in this proud military profession. Terry efforts were responsible for obtaining the lost records of the "Dogs of Thailand" and tireless efforts assisting many handlers with being able to obtain those records where no records had previously existed. His tenacity and quest for the history of the "lost dogs" has closed many holes in the hearts of MWD handlers of the Vietnam era.

His commitment and energies for all of the above projects, programs, services stand for an individual that continues to serve his country and his commitment to fellow service veterans.

OVER SIX YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS! MORE THAN 300 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED! More than \$73,000 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 twenty—three (23) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of May 15, 2012. May 2012 brings us to six years and seven 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 FOB Shank, Bagram Air Base, and Kandiar Air Field, Afghanistan; Undisclosed Locations in Southwest Asia, and Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait; and Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa. We have three (3) new Pups to introduce this month

Pups heading home from the AOR

Al Jabbar Air Base, Kuwait – Former Known as Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia: TSgt Micheal Condry, Kennel Master, is heading home to Yakota, Japan. Great Job TSgt Condry!

TSgt Jason Adams, Trainer, is heading back to Joint Base San Antonio and the Texas heat.

SSgt Darryl Alpiche & MWD Dan should be back at Kirtland AFB enjoying New Mexico.

SSgt Roseann Kelly & MWD Tanja are heading back to Mountain Home AFB, Idaho and Tanja should be starting her journey for "Fort Living Room" in the very near future.

SrA Kathy Shih & MWD Luxi should be back home at Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa: PO3 Robert Blanton & MWD Rudy are deployed from Naval Air Station, Mayport, Florida. The team is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao).

FOB Lagman, Afghanistan: SSgt Ted Carlson & MWD Lola are deployed from the 824th BDS, Moody AFB, Georgia. This is Ted's third deployment with OD&P and he is supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK).

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: SSgt Carey Tignor & MWD SZultan are deployed from the 87th SFS, McGuire AFB, New Jersey. The team is supported by John & Joan Smith (U-Tapao).

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar





SSgt Tyrell Richardson & MWD Hugo sharing some time on patrol. Sure isn't hard to see the bond between this team is it? That's a big dog!

MWD Hugo took a moment out of his busy schedule to strike a pose for us! But as you can see from the photograph on the bottom right – Hugo "Has an eye on us"! This team is deployed from the 17th SFS, Goodfellow AFB, Texas and Mike Regan (NKP) from NKP supports them.





56th SFS MWD teams place in Desert Dogs Trials

(by Airman 1st Class Grace Lee)

Four 56th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handlers and their dogs competed in the 10th Annual Desert Dog K-9 Trials in Scottsdale. Of the 68 dog teams competing, the Luke Air Force Base teams were one of only two military units represented at the competition.

While the civilian canine units train regularly on the tests presented at the trials, military units had to put in more than 100 hours to acclimate their dogs to the new challenges. "The trials were set up for law enforcement and in the military we train primarily for deployments, so we had to meld the two together to ensure we were ready to compete," said Staff Sgt. Kyle Alltop, 56th SFS MWD handler.

Aside from their uniforms, what sets the military units apart from their civilian counterparts is the length of the partnership between the trainer and dog.

Alltop explained that the civilians who competed had been partnered with their dogs on average seven to eight years, but military handlers don't have the same continuity.

While 56th SFS MWD handler Staff Sgt. Jessica Keller had been working with Oscar for two years, Alltop had only been with Maxo for four months and Staff Sgt. Lindsay Thompson had been working with Wax for three months. Despite the differences in training and continuity, the MWD handlers stepped it up and placed in several categories.

- Keller placed 5th in Top Dog with Oscar. (Supported by Steve & Lise Gattis's & Ken Neal).
- Alltop placed 5th in the tactical challenge with Maxo. (Supported by Bob Curnick)
- Thompson placed 4th in the explosives challenge with Wax.

Although the handlers enjoy the friendly competition of the Desert Dog Trials, it's also an event that brings the community together and helps the handlers develop a deeper bond with their dogs. "I've been a handler for a little over two years now," Keller said. "Most of my experience has been at Luke. Being able to see what these dogs can do and the teamwork between dog and handler is amazing. I look forward to training with my dog, and every day is different. To be able to compete against the local agencies is an honor.

Maxo, 56th Security Forces Squadron military working dog, reacts after being given the command to stop pursuit by his trainer, Staff Sgt. Kyle Alltop, 56th SFS MWD handler, during the 2012 Desert Dog Trials in Scottsdale, Ariz., April 13 to 15, 2010. MWD teams were participating in the tactical K-9 challenge, which tests the handler's ability to control the dog when the suspect gives up.



355th ESFS – Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan



SSgt Kevin Nelson, along with SSgt Otto Yan and MWD Jaso get together with a team that had recently completed a "dismount" in one of the villages near Bagram, Afghanistan. As you might notice, these guys are "GTG" and are at the point of sword in Afghanistan. We understand that the ESFS Commander joined the team on this OTW mission.

SSgt Yan is supported by Ken Neal (Ubon/Udorn) and Danny Brusseau (Ubon) and SSgt Nelson is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao).



355th ESFS K-9 Section Bagram Air Field - Summer 2012

332nd ESFS – Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait – Formerly known as "Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia" Training Day!



Trainer, TSgt Jason Adams is on the receiving end of Luxi's attack and something tells us that Luxi is going to win! TSgt Adams is deployed from the 802^{nd} SFS, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas and he is supported by John and Carolyn Risse (Pleiku).





Top Left – It's right at this moment that the big dog is going to make it hurt! That's 85 pounds of GS on the end of that sleeve – we know many of your remember this feeling (wasn't it great?).

Top Right – OK, it's time to get this dog off of TSgt Adams. SrA Kathy Shih just wants to make sure that Luxi get's the best end of the training so she give it just a "few extra seconds" to drive home the point of who wins the training session!

SrA Shih is deployed from the 49th SFS, Holloman AFB, New Mexico and the team is supported by Steve & Lise Gattis (CRB). This is SrA Shih's first deployment as a K-9 handler and she did great.

332nd ESFS – Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait – Continued



SSgt Roseann Kelly & MWD Tanja position themselves on a LP/OP (Listening Post/Observation Post) during the final days before they closed the base. As you may have read, Tanja is retiring and hopefully the team can stay together after she is adopted – It had to cross their minds during this time together. It's a special bond that only dog teams have – it's hard to explain isn't it?

Closing the Base

On May 10, 2012, TSgt Micheal Condry, Kennel Master, and TSgt Jason Adams, Trainer at the 332nd ESFS officially closed the doors to the kennel at Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait.

Along with these supervisors, SSgt Darryl Alpiche & MWD Dan, SSgt Roseann Kelly & MWD Tanja, and SrA Kathy Shih & MWD Luxi completed their tours and were just fantastic teams in our Old Dawgs & Pups program. It was a pleasure getting to know these handlers and we sincerely appreciate the job that they accomplished. We are very proud of your service to our country!

It probably wasn't one of the most glamorous tours, but they sure got the job done! Much like our tours in Southeast Asia, the time comes where you have to pack up shop and head home and leave the job to the locals.

Great job -332^{nd} ESFS! Remember, when you deploy next time, and we all know there will be a next time, don't forget us – we'd be honored to support you again in another location throughout the world.

We just have to make a special "Thank You" to TSgt Jason Adams for spreading the word about our program as a "second timer" with us – Jason you did GOOD!

Please make an effort to stay in contact with your sponsors and don't forget to check our website to keep up with your K-9 friends and what's happening in the K-9 world of deployments:

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

Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa – U. S. Navy Kennel





We just adopted our first full "Navy" kennel at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa. We are so honored to have this Navy installation that we are about to burst!!!! TSgt Jason Adams, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas, referred our first adoptee, PO3 Robert Blanton & MWD Rudy to OD&P.





MA3 Jones pulls decoy duty in the photo on the bottom right. Robert and Rudy are deployed from Naval Station Mayport, Florida. To see more information and a video on their duties go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGdOGsOr0xx AFRICOM Now "K-9s stand guard in Africa"

405th ESFS – Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia



TSgt Brandi Throgmorton, Trainer at the 405th ESFS, takes on MWD King during some training. SSgt Gabrielle Ellison, is just making sure that King gets his full bite!

This is Brandi's third deployment with OD&P. She is deployed from the 1st Special Operations Security Forces Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida. Hurlburt Field is one of the kennels that we will visit during the VSPA reunion in Florida in October. If everything goes as planned, we will all get to meet Brandi and to tour her kennel. She is supported once again buy Mike Diercks (Korat).



SSgt Cal Rogers & MWD Fero, deployed from the 78th SFS, Robins AFB, Georgia. The team is supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK)

376th AEW/ESFS – Manas Tranist Center, Kyrgyzstan





Homecomings! Don't you just love them? For the last six months Lise and Steve Gattis (CRB) have supported SSgt Mary Boyer & MWD Tomy during their deployment to Manas Transit Center. We all know that timing is everything and it sure worked this time. Steve and Lise were in Oregon for their son's wedding and SSgt Boyer and Tomy returned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington from their deployment. Steve and Lise drove more that three hours to get the opportunity to meet their "pup". As you can see, it was a great meeting for all concerned. It still looks like Tomy was the "star" of the show





Lise finally allowed Steve to get some "leash time" with Tomy and SSgt Boyer. Rumor has it that Steve has been spending so much time with our K-9 handlers that he's thinking of reenlisting and taking a crack at this "K-9 stuff"!

Thank you Steve and Lise for your commitment to OD&P. Those of us that have had the opportunity to meet our "pups" certainly know the feeling that you and Lise have now – it's just unbelievable to finally get to meet the team that you have supported down range! This is what our program is all about!

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates





Jim Stastny recently visited the 316th SFS kennels at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland. As you can see from the photograph on the right – he brought baked goods and was received very, very warmly! During his visit he was able to finally meet SSgt Joshua Aleprete and his MWD Boy who he had supported at Joint Base Balad, Iraq in 2010. Jim spent the afternoon with the troops and from what we hear – there wasn't much evidence to prove that he had brought food! This is what our program is all about – if you ever have the opportunity to visit one of the pups you have supported – please take advantage of the opportunity – remember it's only a few miles for smiles!

Davis-Monthan AFB Feed the Dawgs Reunion!



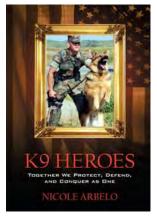
Five pups from Davis-Monthan shared a "beverage" following the 4th Annual Feed the Dawgs event in Tucson, Arizona. Left to Right: SSgt Robert Beaudoin & Celo, SSgt Paris Carman, TSgt Jose Valdez (Kennel Master), TSgt Kurt Lugar, Bill Cummings, and SSgt Ian Porter. Thanks Jon Hemp & Feed the Dawgs family for sponsoring this event and all the others that support our troops!

iTune App supports Old Dawgs & Pups – Please pass along!

A few months ago Jon Sarabia, one of our original pups introduced our OD&P program to Nicole Arbelo. Nicole is the author of K9 Heroes: Together we Protect, Defend, and Conquer as One. After the introduction, and a few hours on the telephone and exchanging e-mails Nicole made the decision to support our program and to learn more about all of us, both our "Pups" and our "Old Dawgs".

PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION ALONG TO YOUR K-9 FRIENDS!

Before we go any further, please show your support by visiting Nicole's website and preview K9 Heroes; www.k9heroes.us/



Nicole advised that a friend of was in the process of publishing a song about our canine heroes and the bonds they shared with their handlers. OK, this was right up our alley!

The song was written and performed by Dru Vocals and it is NOW ON iTUNES! it can be previewed on You Tube at the address below:

Thank you so much to Dru Vocals who sings this AWESOME song.

All the proceeds will go to Old Dawgs and Pups. It's on Itunes under Dru Vocals.

The title is "Come Home" and it is just a fantastic song! HERE IS THE LINK!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2 UPxC7rqCE&feature=youtu.be

Here's the KICKER!

If you go to itunes, the APP can be purchased and downloaded for .99 cents and

ALL PROCEEDS COME TO OLD DAWGS & PUPS!

http://itunes.apple.com/us/album/come-homesingle/id517687728

- Genres: <u>Hip Hop/Rap, Music</u>
- Released: Apr 06, 2012
- 2012 Dru Vocals Recording Studio
- \$0.99

Here's our first review by one of our own – Don Poss: Bill,



You know that I hate rap. But I've got to say that is so very cool and I'm still choking down the lump in my throat. Check it out: http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.asp

Feed the Dawgs Project 2012 Schedule



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. 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.

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 schedule for 2012 – Get Involved!

June	2	Vandenberg AFB – 30 th SFS MWD Section – U. S. Air Force
June	23	MCRD/San Diego Marines – Marine Corps Recruit Depot - U. S. Marines

Corp

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

At the time of this report we have 28 members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting 23 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 1,569 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to May 15, 2012. Over 381 "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported 83 kennels and 314 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 \$19,853.00 of supplies for the 83 kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is \$73,180.00

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

- 267 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (145) Donated by Leatherman)
 - * The Leatherman "Surge"/Muts/Flashlights/Knives donation is valued at approximately \$49,906.00
- 213 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 155 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 100 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- **56** Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 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)
- 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 Sets Ruff Wear Bark'n Boots Trex (Ray Allen)
- 6 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)