



(06/15/2012)

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 five (5) kennels and eighteen (18) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of June 15, 2012. June 2012 brings us to six 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 Bagram Air Base, and FOB Lagman, Afghanistan; Undisclosed Locations in Southwest Asia; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; and Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa. We have two (2) new Pups to introduce this month

Pups heading home from the AOR

Bagram, Afghanistan: SSgt Otto Yan & MWD Jaso should be heading back to Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota by the time this newsletter hits the street.

Al Udeid, Qatar: TSgt Jeremy Fowler, Kennel Master, is now back at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, to enjoy the heat of the Maryland summer. Thanks Sarge for all of your hard work at Al Udeid.

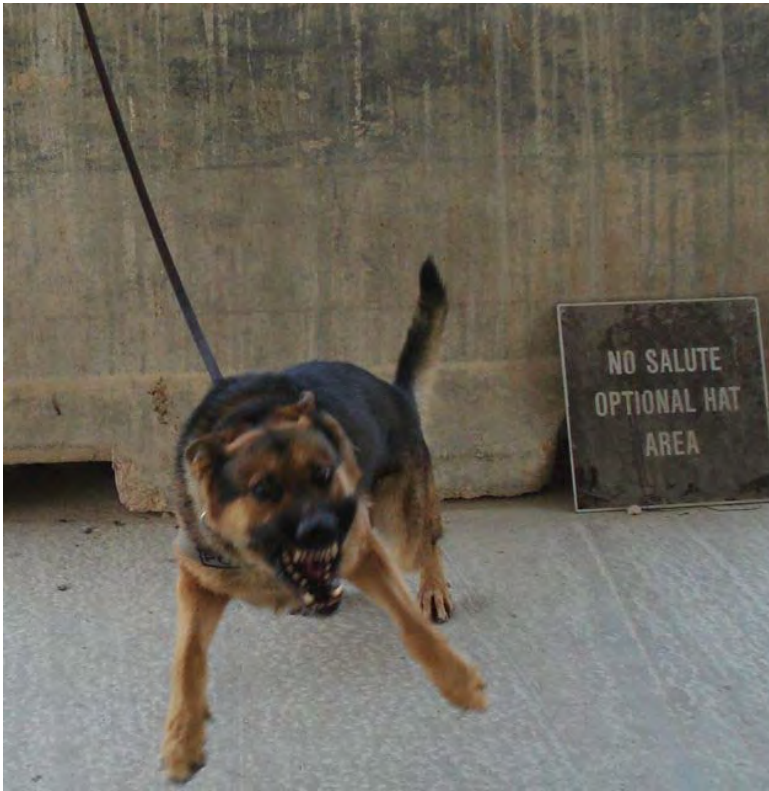
SSgt Kieran Gibson & MWD Ruth should be back at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio by the time this edition hits the street.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: TSgt Uilani Bio, Kennel Master, deployed from the 802nd SFS, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. She is supported by Ernie Childers (Udon) and Kelly Bateman (Ubon). TSgt Bio is a long time friend of ours that has worked extensively with our Nemo War Dog Heroes Memorial at the 802nd Kennel at JBSA. She served as one of the "MWD Team Honor Guards" with here MWD Amber (F608) for the dedication of the Nemo Memorial on November 11, 2005. Welcome aboard Sarge!

SSgt James Campana & MWD Makoy, deployed from the 19th SFS, Little Rock AFB, Arkansas. This is Jame's second tour with us and he is supported by Peggy Finzgar (FoK) and Mike Fink (FoK)

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



MWD Roky was just having issues the morning this photograph was taken and he didn't care who knew it! Then the mail came and Roky and SSgt Billy de Leon received his OD&P signature OD&P Coin, Thailand Handler Patch, Leatherman Surge and Serac S3 flashlight and Roky settled down a little.

We all know what you guys are thinking = this is "our" kinda dog – he's got "Sentry Dog" in his bloodline and we just love it. SSgt Billy de Leon are deployed from the 21st SFS, Peterson AFB, Colorado and they are supported by Jim Coggins (Takhli).

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

PO3 Robert Blanton just received his OD&P signature OD&P Coin, Thailand Handler Patch, Leatherman Surge and Serac S3 flashlight. Rumor has it that he is very pleased with the tool and we've told him to "use the hell out of the tools and to add the coin and patch to his collection".



2012 Department of Defense Military Working Dog Trials

(Excerpts from article by By Senior Airman Scott Saldukas 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs)

The 2012 Department of Defense Military Working Dog Trials came to a close May 5 with the selection of a U.S. Navy handler as “Top Dog” following a grueling three-day competition at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Ekali Brooks, an MWD instructor with the 341st Training Squadron here earned the honor, besting handlers from 42 other teams throughout the DOD.

The competitors came together to test their skills in simulated scenarios included patrolling, and explosives and drug detection in both deployed environments and home station locations.

The competition followed several days of joint training and instruction at the Air Force-led DOD Military Working Dog schoolhouse on Lackland. “It was outstanding from start to finish,” said U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Jessy Eslick, DOD MWD Research and Development Section senior NCO in charge. “The event planning started in December 2011, and many individuals came together as part of a team to put on a great event.” The final round of competition was the Iron Dog event – a demanding six-mile course that tested each team’s endurance and ability to work as one cohesive unit. The event had MWD handlers wearing full combat gear, including a rucksack laden with a 35-pound sandbag. The trek covered terrain that required handlers to carry their canine partners, low crawl with simulated gunfire overhead, and retrieve an unconscious victim from a perilous area. Eslick said. “The dog world is changing every day and we need to stay on top of the new technology and training techniques.” “I have pride in being part of such a special group of individuals who are dedicated to improving every day,” Eslick said. “When the time comes and you’re asked to go out on the front lines, you know that you and your dog are there to save lives. You can’t ask for a greater responsibility than being a dog handler.”



Photo by Robbin Cresswell - U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Joshua Aleprete and his 8-year-old Belgian Malinois, Nero, a patrol and narcotics detection dog, confront Army Staff Sgt. Steven Ramil, a military working dog trainer assigned to the 341st Training Squadron, May 4 during the 2012 Department of Defense K-9 Trials at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Ramil served as a decoy during the Handler Protection/Vehicle Traffic Stop event. Aleprete is assigned to the 11th Security Forces Group, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland. Hosted by the 341st TRS, the four-day event pitted 43 teams from the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps in competition to determine the top military handlers and dogs in the DOD. (SSgt Aleprete was supported by Jim Stastny (Korat) during his 2010 tour at Joint Base Balad)

2012 Department of Defense Military Working Dog Trials - Continued

Information from the trials is still trickling in, but we are very proud to mention that several teams that OD&P have supported participated in the three-day event.

TSgt Justin Kitts and MWD Dyngo take their turn in the trials during the Iron Dog event. Below you can almost hear Justin saying, “He ain’t heavy – he’s my brother” as he carries Dyngo. The team then takes point in a patrol scenario and finally – its party time as the team collects the 2nd Place Award in the “Iron Dog” completion. TSgt Justin Kitts (56th SFS, Luke AFB, Arizona) and Dyngo were supported by Patsy Perrotto (NKP) during their tour at FOB Wilson, Afghanistan in 2010. Phil Carroll (Takhli/NKP) and Patsy Perrotto (NKP) also supported TSgt Kitts at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan in 2009.



As you can see from the photograph below, SSgt Jessie Keller (56th SFS, Luke AFB, Arizona) contributed “above and beyond” as she served as a decoy for one of the events. Those of you that know Jessie understand that the smile on her face in the photograph on the left wasn’t actually “pain” for her – She just “eats this stuff up”! Band-aid – does anyone have a Band-Aid?

Jessie assured us that it was just a “little nip”. Ken Neal (Ubon/Udorn) and Steve & Lise Gattis (CRB) supported Jessie during her 2010 tour in Afghanistan. She’s “Good to Go!”



FOB Lagman, Afghanistan



SSgt Ted Carlson & MWD Lola, deployed from the 820th BDG, Moody AFB, Georgia, strikes a pose at FOB Lagman, Afghanistan. On the right, Kennel Master TSgt Jeremy Burkeen, also deployed from Moody, joined Ted as they showed us FOB Lagman's centerpiece. SSgt Carlson has deployed with OD&P three times and is once again supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK).

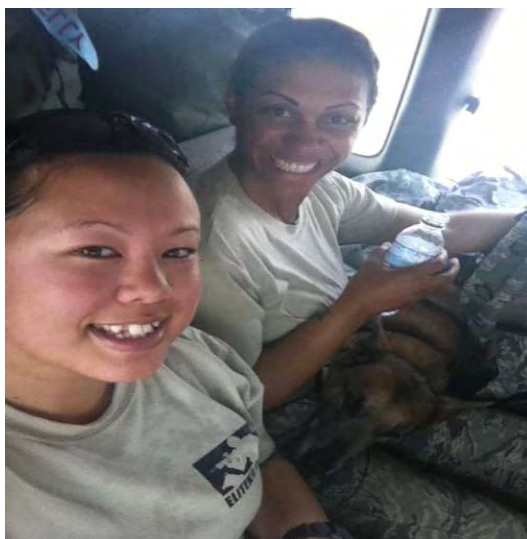


SSgt Ted Carlson & MWD Lola also shows that the MWD kennels are no place to “play around” – Danger – Do Not Enter – means DANGER – DO NOT ENTER!

On the right, Lola has had enough of this “picture stuff”! “OK Ted, we’re out of here – we have work to do”. This is Lola’s first tour with SSgt Carlson, replacing his long time partners Dutchy and Rambo. From what we heard, they work together fantastically. Is that one beautiful black German Shepherd or what? Thanks Ted for sharing your tour with us once again!

332nd ESFS – Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait – Formerly known as “Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia” Closing the Base

On May 11, 2012 after packing up Al Jaber Air Base and headed home. The kennels were cleaned and stripped and the lockers were secured. TSgt Jason Adams advised us that they had “Closed the kennels down, we're in Al Salem waiting for flights. The handler's leave tomorrow, I leave on Thursday. Here are some photos of the kennels right before we locked the building and left the base. I was on the very last chalk to depart the base. One more chapter of this war is now closed!



SrA Kathy Shih, SSgt Roseann Kelly & MWD Tanja are all smiles as they leave Ali Al Salem, Kuwait for the “World”! Do they look like they are ready to get home? You did very well ladies – GREAT JOB!

355th ESFS – Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan



SSgt Bryan Klein & MWD Benny OTW at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. This is Bryan and Benny's second tour with OD&P and they are once again supported by Peggy Finzgar (FoK). The team is deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona.



SSgt Otto Yan's MWD Jaso just catching some rays! Looks like they've made Afghanistan a resort location – Nah, just having some fun. The team is supported by Ken Neal (Ubon/Udorn) and Danny Brusseau (Ubon)

405th ESFS – Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia



Left: SSgt Cal Rogers just received his signature OD&P Coin, Thailand Handler Patch, Leatherman Surge and Serac S3 flashlight. Our third time deplorer and Trainer, TSgt Brandi Throgmorton, did the honors of making the presentation for us. Cal is supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK) and is deployed from the 78th SFS, Robins AFB, Georgia.

Right: You know, sometimes when the AC just isn't working in your tent and you usually work nights – there's nothing like chillin' in the kennel with you MWD! Sounds like a solid plan!



Left & Right: TSgt Brandi Throgmorton just received her gifts from OD&P. This is Brandi's third tour with OD&P and she is supported by Mike Diercks (Korat). For her third deployment gift she received a Leatherman MUT and as you can see, she's already put it to use. We understand that "Supplies" are a little scarce where she is and she has informed us that the Surges and MUTs that the troops have received are like a toolbox in one tool – go anywhere and do anything! Thanks Brandi and we will see you in Florida in October during the VSPA reunion.

Congratulations go out to our pups that were recently selected for promotion to Master Sergeant:



Technical Sergeant	Deployed Location	Year	Sponsor(s)
Rakesk Dewan	Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq	2006	Tommy Cockroft
Andrew Esparza	FOB Warrior, Iraq	2008	Bill Cummings
	Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar	2009	Bill Cummings
	Manas Transit Ctr., Kyrgyzstan	2011	Bill Cummings
Doug Harriman	Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq	2006	Kelly Bateman/Dixie Whitman/Ed Reeves
	Camp Bucca, Iraq	2007	Dixie Whitman
Matthew Hemeon	Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq	2006	Robert Evans
Tim Kaluza	Joint Base Balad, Iraq	2011	Dixie Whitman & Rich Vivio
Kurt Lugar	Camp Bucca, Iraq	2007	Dale Burton & David Adams
	Sather Air Base, Iraq	2011	Dave Broeker
	Joint Base Balad, Iraq	2007	Bill Cummings
Mark Ochoa	FOB Warrior, Iraq	2008	Mike Clunis
Jim Parkis	Al Dhafra Air Base, UAE	2010	Dixie Whitman
	Manas Transit Ctr., Kyrgyzstan	2008	Davis Adams
	Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan	2009	Phil Carroll

**Other News concerning OD&P Graduates
Another New Dawg Handler!**



TSgt Gabe Bravo and his wife, Melissa, welcomed Sophia Bravo to the world in March 2012! Sophia, a beautiful baby girl, weighed in at 5 pounds and 11 ounces and 19 ½ inches in height. Gabe was sponsored by Phil Carroll (Takhli/NKP) during his t012 tour at Sather Air Base, Iraq in 2010. TSgt Bravo is currently the Kennel Master at the 56th SFS, Luke AFB, Arizona.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates - Continued

SSgt Carman Paris and retired MWD Diesel enjoy some family time at “Fort Living Room”. On April 20, 2010 MWD Diesel was “officially” retired following four deployments that included Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia, two tours at Al Dhafra, United Arab Emirates, and a final tour at Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan. As you can see, Diesel has taken to civilian life really well.



At the washing of “the Wall” in May, Jim Stastny was joined by K-9 handlers from Joint Base Andrews in Maryland. Once again, Jim was able to spend some time with SSgt Joshua Aleprete, who he had supported during his tour at Joint Base Balad, Iraq in 2010.



MSgt Pablo Martinez and his family, Roz, Pablo III and Kalani and TSgt Kurt Lugar and his wife Janelle joined the troops for Feed The Dawgs at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona on April 21, 2010. MSgt Pablo Martinez was sponsored by Phil Carroll (Takhli/NKP) and Bill Cummings (U-Tapao) at Kirkuk, Iraq and TSgt Lugar was supported by Dave Broeker (U-Tapao) while deployed to Sather Air Base, Iraq.



Feed the Dawgs Project 2012 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. 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	23	MCRD/San Diego Marines – Marine Corps Recruit Depot - U. S. Marines Corp
July	14	CNRSW/San Diego – U. S. Navy

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

At the time of this report we have **20** members of the “Old Dawgs & Pups” program actively supporting **18** 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 **1,569** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to May 15, 2012. Over **385** “Old Dawgs and Friends” have supported **84** kennels and **316** 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 **84** 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)
- 75 * 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)