

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



(11/15/2012)

**OVER SEVEN YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!
MORE THAN 325 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!**

More than \$80,300 of supplies shipped down range!

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

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting nine (9) kennels and twenty-seven (27) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of November 15, 2012. November 2012 brings us to seven years and two 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 Bagram Air Base, Camp Nathan Smith, and FOB Salerno, FOB Masum Ghar, Afghanistan; Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; and Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan; Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia, and Ali Al Salem, Kuwait. We have two (2) new Pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Al Udeid, Qatar: SSgt Bobbie Ohm & MWD Nero are heading back to the bright lights of Las Vegas and the 99th SFS, Nellis AFB, Nevada.

SSgt Brandon Cummiford & MWD Kato are packing for their trip back to the 19th SFS, Little Rock AFB, Arkansas.

Ali Al Salem: SSgt Kyle Treadway & MWD Don are now back home at McConnell AFB, Kansas.

Manas Transit Center: SSgt Christopher Baughman & MWD Seth have pulled chocks for the 88th SFS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

SSgt Nicki Leber & MWD Arco are heading back to the world and the “cold temperatures” at the 319th SFS, Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota.

SSgt Robert Beaudoin & MWD Celo are heading to the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona.

Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan: TSgt Raymond Castro & MWD Fritz should be enjoying some well-deserved leave at Yokota Air Base, Japan!

Camp Nathan Smith, Afghanistan: TSgt Jason Morton should be back at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland enjoying the “beautiful east coast” weather – just waiting for the snow or Nor’easter to hit by now!

Pups arriving in the AOR

Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia: SSgt Alexandra Jecha & MWD Dexter, deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. They are supported by Dave Broeker (U-Tapao).

Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan: SSgt Ulises Gonzalez deployed from the 377th SFS, Kirtland AFB, Arizona. He is supported by Ernest Childers (Udorn).

376th AEW/ESFS - Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan



Left - SSgt Christopher Baughman & MWD Seth are pulling chocks for the 88th SFS, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Right - SSgt Robert Beaudoin & MWD Celo are heading to the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona.



SSgt Nicki Leber & MWD Arco are heading back to the world and the “cold temperatures” at the 319th SFS, Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota.

FOB Salerno, Afghanistan

SSgt Dick Lynn IV and MWD Tomy are deployed at FOB Salerno, Afghanistan. We're sure most of you know that the work of these teams just never stops. SSgt Lynn and Tomy are shown below during one of their many OTW missions. The hours are endless but these troops just keep on going. Below, Tomy searches for anything that might be of strategic value or harm to the troops on this patrol.



A well deserved break! Tomy takes a brief rest in the shade of SSgt Lynn – It's amazing, you just have to use what you have to rest these teams. It's just another case of a great handler taking care of his partner.



The team is deployed from the 627th SFS, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington and Steve and Lise Gattis (CRB) support them.

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar

“Customers always smile at the 379th Dental Clinic”

By Senior Airman Bryan Swink – 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs – Partial Story from website

10/19/2012 - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- When a toothache strikes or dental emergency develops, it is reassuring to know the 379 Expeditionary Medical Group Dental Clinic, is here to get to the bottom of the pain and ensure the patient is smiling when he or she leaves. In addition to serving military members, this team also ensures our K-9 warriors are taken care of as well. This unique mission is not found at many other clinics in the Air Force. They treat all military working dogs here at the 379th and ensure these warriors receive routine cleanings, tooth extractions and any other dental service needed to keep them in the fight. "Regardless of the circumstances, our main goal is to always save the tooth and provide discomfort relief to all of our patients, humans or K9s," said Bunce. "We wish we could provide everyone a dental cleaning, but because of our limited staff we can only offer that service to our permanent party members, however, if anyone is having a dental issue, we are here for you".

Below Left: Master Sgt. James Bunce, 379th Dental Clinic element chief, inspects the teeth of Rex, 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron military working dog, while his handler, Senior Airman Brett Jones keeps him comfortable Oct. 11, 2012. The 379th Dental Clinic treats all military working dogs here at the 379th and ensures these warriors receive routine cleanings, tooth extractions and any other dental service needed to keep them in the fight. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Swink)



Above Right: Rex, 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron military working dog, is being prepped to have his two front teeth extracted by Lt. Col. Philip Barone, 379th Expeditionary Medical Group dentist Oct. 11, 2012.



Above Right: Rex, 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron military working dog, is being prepped to have his two front teeth extracted by the 379th Dental Clinic staff Oct. 11, 2012. The three-man dental clinic team takes care of the 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron military working dogs and sees approximately 150 service members a month for all dental needs. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Swink)

Camp Nathan Smith, Afghanistan



TSgt Jason Morton, middle, with two of his dog teams at Camp Nathan Smith, Afghanistan. Jason sent this photograph right before he caught a flight home. Yep, that's a "Lab" – we haven't seen many of them but they are used throughout the AOR for IED missions. This was Jason's last OTW mission and he advised us that he had a very successful tour. Welcome home Jason and thanks from OD&P.

Hartz "SPECIAL EDITION" Wounded Warrior Project Military Dog Toy

<http://www.amazon.com/SPECIAL-EDITION-Wounded-Warrior-Military/dp/B00609IH00>



FOB Masum Ghar – Afghanistan

SSgt Travis Dulworth and MWD Dyngo hit the ground running for this mission from FOB Masum Ghar. It looks like Dyngo is saying “ Let’s get this party started” as he led the team from the patrol vehicle.



After completing their portion of the mission, Dyngo takes a position and provides cover for the team on the ground in the photograph on the left. SSgt Dulworth and MWD Dyngo take a moment and are captured in a photograph just for us! These teams are doing great work on the ground in Afghanistan.



This is SSgt Dulworth second tour with OD&P and he is supported by Jay D. Jones (Udorn). The team is deployed from the 56th SFS, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona.

Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia



SSgt Jenny Franco and MWD Ziko participate in a little training at an Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia. Here's a little "sit and watch" followed by a release in the top photographs.

Ziko is retrieved and then makes sure the decoy "behaves" or he could have another little piece of the "Wrath of Ziko". It looks like Ziko is really into the whole training procedures and a "bite is a bite"!

OK, it's been a great day of training, but Ziko has found a better way to take a break. Everyone needs a "Spa day". This is SSgt Franco's second tour with "OD&P" and her first with her new partner Ziko. The team is deployed out of the 1st Special Operations Security Forces Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida, and Steve and Lise Gattis (CRB) support them.

64th ESFS - Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia



SSgt Alexandra Jecha & MWD Dexter have recently arrived at Eskan Village, Saudia Arabia. The team is deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. This is their first tour and they are supported by Dave & Pat Broecker (U-Tapao).



SSgt Alexandra Jecha & MWD Dexter are joined at Eskan Village, Saudia Arabia, by fellow Davis-Monthan AFB kennelmate SSgt Daniel Sayarot & MWD Figo. This is also the team's first deployment together and Jon Hemp (TSN) supports them.

Leatherman M5 Flashlight Donation

The Leatherman Tool Group has done it for us again, this time with a donation of 50 of their fantastic new LED Lenser flashlights - a \$3,000 total value! The four-inch, 4.6-ounce M5 LED flashlight is one of the most economical light sources on the market. This little jewel gives three-plus hours of run time (on high-power) on just one inexpensive and easy to find AA battery. It has three settings; bright basic illumination, strobe for personal defense and low for conserving battery life (up to 4½ hours). It has a shaped reflector AND a carefully crafted lens, giving it incredibly smooth, even coverage whether it's zoomed out for broad area coverage or tightly focused for distance. Zooming this light couldn't be easier; you can go from wide to spot with the flick of a thumb or finger with the same hand that's holding the light.



Thank you AGAIN Leatherman!

Ruffwear.com



We'd like to welcome and to say thank you to our newest supplier, Ruffwear, for the very special pricing and providing a great product from their Ruffwear line – “Bark'n Boots – Grip Trex boots”. MWD Ziko shows off his new boots at an “Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia”. Ziko's handler, SSgt Jennifer Franco advised us that that the boots were just fantastic! A special thank you goes out to Ms. Miora Hundley for her assistance in selecting the right product and for the FANTASTIC pricing for the boots.

Don't forget to check out their products at www.ruffwear.com and www.facebook.com/ruffwear

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates

HEROES DAY Celebrates FIRST RESPONDERS



The UMC (*University Medical Center*) Foundation has joined with *Jack Furrier Tire & Auto Care (JFTC)* for a "**HEROES DAY**" recognition and celebration of the Tucson area's **FIRST RESPONDERS**. First responders include law enforcement personnel, firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Forest Service and other emergency professionals who put themselves on the line every day to help keep us safe.

In this celebration, the UMC Foundation is representing The University of Arizona Medical Center - University Campus *Trauma Center*, the only "**LEVEL I**" Trauma Center in Southern Arizona, which means that it must be able to provide a complete array of specialty-medicine capabilities 24/7-365. It is therefore where our honored first responders bring the overwhelming majority of the injury victims to whom they respond.

This year's Heroes Day celebration will honor four individual first responders, nominated by their organizations' public affairs departments, local health care professionals, or other interested parties, who are being recognized as special "heroes" for their extraordinary responses to traumatic crises or their selfless dedication to public service above and beyond the call of duty. One of this year's "heroes" is SSgt Aaron Escalante, 355th Security Forces Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Arizona.

While stationed in Afghanistan, SSgt Aaron Escalante was called by the Afghan National Army to investigate a compound known to house top Taliban commanders. Without hesitation, he and his Military Working Dog, Mushe, entered the deadly site together. After a thorough assessment, Escalante was able to detect not only the location of hidden explosives but also an intricate web of terrorist activities supported by an arsenal of rockets, grenades and AK-47s. After removing the dangerous materials, the compound was secured and suspended of all terrorist operations. Escalante's heroism and valor proves he is an asset to our military.



SSgt Escalante has deployed with OD&P twice, first in 2010 at Al Udeid AB, Qatar and again in 2011-12, at FOB Shank, Afghanistan. He was supported by Kelly Bateman (Ubon) and Bill Cummings (U-Tabao).

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates – Continued

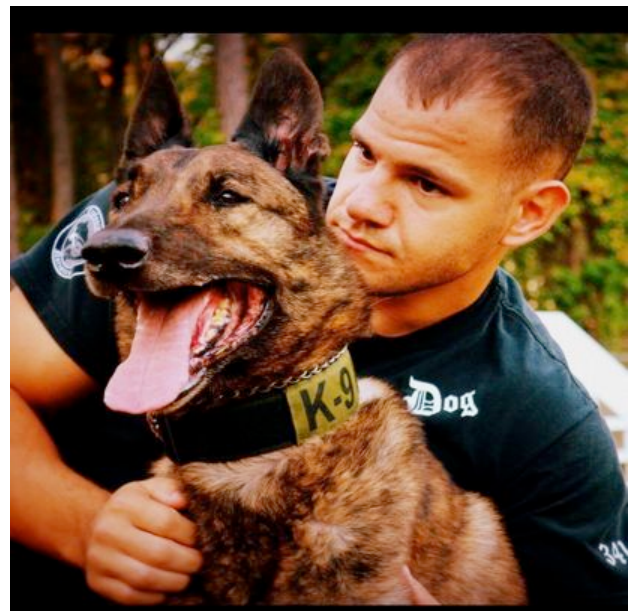
Passing of MWD Carlos (F337)

SSgt John Makripodis' family advised us of the passing of his MWD Carlos (F337) on October 12, 2012. SSgt Makripodis and MWD Carlos were deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan in November of 2011. John Smith (U-Tapao and Dixie Whitman (FoK) supported the team. His wife, Stevi, advised us that MWD Carlos succumbed to cancer and thanked us for "Supporting my husband and his buddy Carlos and keeping their spirits high so he and Carlos could return home to our two children and me".

"Carlos was born in October of 2001 and worked as a MWD for 10 years. He has had 6 Handlers and 8 Deployments to Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Afghanistan. John was his last handler and they were a team for a year and a half. John fed him two grilled steaks for his final meal and our twins, Hayden and Talon who are five, and myself spent his last day playing and I was his last bite before he passed.

John took him to the Cherry Point, North Carolina on 12 October 2012 and they sat under a tree and held him until his last breath.

Below are photographs of SSgt Makripodis, MWD Carlos, OD&P Honor Certificate, and his family.



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!

November	17	Luke AFB – 56 th SFS MWD Section - U. S. Air Force
December	8	Nellis AFB – 99 th SFS MWD Section - U. S. Air Force

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

At the time of this report we have **29** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **26** handlers assigned to nine (9) 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 **1,750** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to November 15, 2012. Over **410** "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported **92** kennels and **343** 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 **\$22,171.00** of supplies for the **92** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is **\$80,300.00**

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.

List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

- 294 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (145) Donated by Leatherman)
 - * The Leatherman "Surge"/Muts/Flashlights/Knives donation is valued at approximately **\$54,709.00**
- 266 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 205 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 100 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 56 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 50 * Leatherman M5 LED Lenser Flashlights
- 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
- 7 Sets Ruff Wear Bark'n Boots Trex (Ray Allen & Ruff Wear)
- 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)