

# 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



(07/15/2013)

**OVER SEVEN YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!**  
**MORE THAN 350 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!**  
***100 Deployed Military Working Dog Kennels Supported***  
**More than \$80,700 of supplies shipped down range!**  
<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.htm>  
**(Please Bookmark our NEW OD&P Website Address)**

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting four (4) kennels and nineteen (19) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of July 15, 2013. July 2013 brings us to seven 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.

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

We are currently supporting troops at Bagram Air Field and Miawand District, Afghanistan; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; and Ali Al Salem, Kuwait. We have six (6) new pups to introduce this month.

### **Pups heading home from the AOR**

**Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan:** Kennel Master, TSgt Adam Leslie is now back on the east coast and enjoying the summer heat and humidity at Langley AFB, Virginia.

SSgt Steven Owen & MWD Tex are enjoying some downtime after returning to Offutt AFB, Nebraska.

**Miawand District, Afghanistan:** SrA Brandon Johnson & MWD Diyi are now back home at the 820<sup>th</sup> SFS, Moody AFB, Georgia, enjoying some of that great east coast “humidity”!

**Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar:** SSgt Thomas Beers and Guyro are picking up boarding passes and are heading home at Peterson AFB, Colorado – how about that “Rocky Mountain High”?

SrA Jared Phillips and Rex are packing for the hill country of Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota.

### **Pups arriving in the AOR**

**Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar:** TSgt Giles Moody & MWD Jackson are deployed from the 27<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Security Forces Squadron, Cannon AFB, New Mexico. Mike Regan (NKP) supports the team.

**Ali Al Salem, Kuwait:** SrA Dustin Cain & MWD Argo are deployed from the 75<sup>th</sup> SFS, Hill AFB, Utah. They are supported by Mike Nelson (Udorn).

## **Pups arriving in the AOR - Continued**

**Ali Al Salem, Kuwait:** SSgt Bernardo Cortes & MWD Rambo are deployed from the 377<sup>th</sup> SFS, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. The team is supported by Christi Cryer (FoK) & Chuck Rogers (TSN).

SrA Jeremy Allen & MWD MMarc are deployed from the 633<sup>rd</sup> SGS, Langley AFB, Virginia. They are supported by Doug McCoy (47<sup>th</sup> IPSD).

**Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan:** SSgt Paris Carman, Trainer, deployed from the 355<sup>th</sup> SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. Bill Cummings (U-Tapao) supports him.

SSgt Daniel Wilson & MWD Dan are deployed from Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. This SSgt Wilson's second tour with OD&P and MWD Dan's second tour with us. SSgt Wilson is once again supported by Ernest Childers (Udorn).

## **379<sup>th</sup> ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar**



SSgt Aaron Escalante and MWD Mushe work out in the training area with visiting MWD handler SSgt Joe Serrano at Al Udeid, Qatar. There certainly appears to be some tension on that leash Sarge!



SSgt Joe Serrano is now on the receiving end of Mushe's training! For those of you keeping score – Mushe 1 – SSgt Serrano 0. It looks like it was a great training session for all involved. SSgt Escalante & MWD Mushe are deployed from the 355<sup>th</sup> SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, and they are supported by Kelly Bateman (Ubon).

## 379<sup>th</sup> ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar – Continued

### Training day continues!



Training day continues as SrA Jared Phillips takes his turn in the suit. It sure looks like he has his hands full of dog during this exercise. SrA Phillips is deployed from the 28<sup>th</sup> SFS, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota and he is supported by Doc Hodges (Ubon/Korat).



OK – it's official, SrA Phillips has all of the MWDs he can handle or at least as many limbs, as he'd like to expose during this exercise. SSgt Matthew Lamarand stands ready to retrieve at least one of the dogs during the attack portion of the exercise. It also looks like those legs might be taking a beating also! This is probably going to "leave a mark".

## 386<sup>th</sup> ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait



SrA Jeremy Allen & MWD Mmarc hitch a ride on a USMC UH53 helicopter – not exactly “first class” accommodations but it sure beats walking! Lets remember – dogs love helicopter rides. On the right, MWD Mmarc dons his “boonie hat” to catch some shade. Almost forgot – dogs also love HATS! SrA Allen and MWD Mmarc are deployed from the 633<sup>rd</sup> SFS, Langley AFB, Virginia and they’re supported by Doug McCoy (47<sup>th</sup> IPSD). Sure looks like “back in the day” doesn’t it Doug?



SrA Allen and MWD Mmarc enjoy some “team time” or as Mmarc would say, “This is even better than a helicopter ride”!

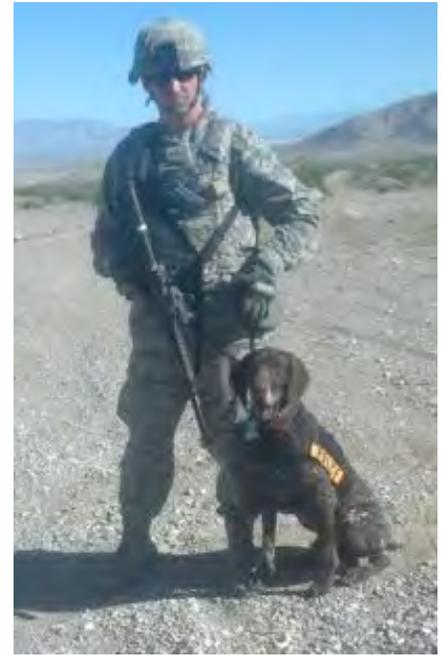
## 386<sup>th</sup> ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait - Continued



SSgt Bernardo Cortes & MWD Rambo, deployed from the 377<sup>th</sup> SFS, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, work out during their training day. As you can clearly see, Rambo is an “old pro” at this gig! Rambo digs in on SrA Dustin Cain in the top right photograph and he stays on the bite in the bottom left photograph.

SSgt Cortes & MWD Rambo are supported by Christi Cryer (FoK) & Chuck Rogers (TSN). SrA Dustin Cain, our decoy in this exercise, is deployed from the 75<sup>th</sup> SFS, Hill AFB, Utah. Dustin supported by Mike Nelson (Udorn). Another great training day guys – way to stay sharp!

## 386<sup>th</sup> ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait - Continued



SSgt Stephen Salassi & MWD Amor share a few “K-9” moments! Above left the team shares a chair. Above middle the teams finished up their search pit duty time. Like the old songs says, “He (Amor) ain’t heavy, he’s my brother”! Great looking dog team – is that a face that could make you very, very happy?

Above right the team is “geared up in battle rattle” at Creech AFB, Nevada prior to their deployment. The team is deployed from the 11<sup>th</sup> SFG, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, and they are supported by Jim Stastny (Korat).

## 455<sup>th</sup> ESFS Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan



Left: SSgt Daniel Wilson & MWD Dan, deployed from the 377<sup>th</sup> SFS, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, and Trainer SSgt Paris Carman complete a search “OTW” in a village outside Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. SSgt Wilson and MWD Dan are supported by Ernest Childers (Udorn).

Right: SSgt Paris Carman, deployed from the 355<sup>th</sup> SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, provides cover for SSgt Daniel Wilson and MWD Dan during a recent mission.

## 455<sup>th</sup> ESFS Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan – Continued



SSgt Daniel Wilson & MWD Dan following the OTW mission that ended with “fantastic” results. Of course, Dan got the “prize” and was awarded with the traditional “Kong for excellence”. Great job Team Dan! Keep up the great work and keep sending these great photographs for us to enjoy.

### Old Dawg spend the day with Pup at Ellsworth AFB

Old Dawg John Risse (Pleiku) and SSgt Otto Yan (Bagram March 2012) shared a day together at the 28<sup>th</sup> SFS MWD Section, Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota on June 21, 2012. SSgt Jacob Brown and MWD Boris and Kennel Master, TSgt Scott Carpenter (Bagram 2009) assisted SSgt Yan, as they put on a “demo” for John and his family during the visit. As you can see – everyone had a great time!

It’s these types of events that just fortify the relationship between Old Dawgs and Pups. Ken Neal (Ubon/Udorn) supported SSgt Yan down range. Donald Shaw (NKP) and Jim Coggins (Takhli) supported TSgt Carpenter during his deployment.



SSgt Otto Yan, Jordyn, Karsen, Carolyn and John Risse and SSgt Brown and MWD Boris, Zade Bennett, and Jack Risse in the front row. Thanks to the 28<sup>th</sup> SFS K-9 Section – Great job!

## Congratulation to our new Technical Sergeants!



<b>Technical Sergeant</b>	<b>Deployed Location</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>
<b>William Booker</b>	<b>Joint Base Balad, Iraq</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Jay Jones</b>
	<b>Ali Al Salem, Kuwait</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Jay Jones</b>
<b>Zachary Burt</b>	<b>Camp Bucca, Iraq</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>John Risse</b>
	<b>Camp Rustamlyah, Iraq</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>John Risse</b>
<b>Daniel Canitz</b>	<b>Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Jim Coggins</b>
<b>Billy DeLeon</b>	<b>Al Udeid, Qatar</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Jim Coggins</b>
<b>Pierre Delgado</b>	<b>Camp Cropper, Iraq</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Hugo Nunez</b>
<b>David Duritsky</b>	<b>Al Udeid, Qatar</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Danny Bowlin</b>
<b>Stephanie Finch</b>	<b>FOB Warrior, Iraq</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>Kelly Bateman</b>
<b>David Garver</b>	<b>Al Dhafra, UAE</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>John Smith</b>
<b>Jesuse Gonzalez</b>	<b>Al Dhafra, UAE</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Bob Van de Reit</b>
<b>Eric Hoffman</b>	<b>Al Dhafra, UAE</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Jay Jones</b>
<b>John Houston</b>	<b>Al Dhafra, UAE</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Dave Broeker</b>
<b>Phillip Mendoza</b>	<b>Joint Base Balad, Iraq</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Whitman/Bateman</b>
	<b>Joint Base Balad, Iraq</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Whitman/Villarreal</b>
<b>Ryan Pe'vey</b>	<b>Al Udeid, Qatar</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Mike Regan</b>

## Other News concerning OD&P Graduates - Continued



TSgt Select Phillip Mendoza enjoys a “Promotion Shot” at the “Dyngo” bar with TSgt Justin Kitts and his sister Amada. “Dozer” and Justin are great friends and have spent many, many K-9 moments together. Both are currently assigned duties at the U. S. A. F. Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Once again Dozer – congratulations from all of us at OD&Ps and keep up the great work – both of you! The “Dyngo Bar” is named in honor of MWD Dyngo currently serving at the 56<sup>th</sup> SFS, Luke AFB, AZ.

Justin - Those are the absolutely nastiest glasses and moustache we’re ever seen - It’s a disguise!

**No explanation needed!**



## Donation Fundraiser, To Be Held By Members of the Thailand Dog Handlers Group

Win one of two unique collections of USAF Air Police and Security Police Shields and Qualification Badges and, Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and, Coast Guard Service Brassards and Shields.

Thailand Dog Handlers attending the Vietnam Security Police Association Reunion will be holding a donation fundraiser for these two rare memorabilia collections in October, in Charleston SC at the VSPA Reunion. You do not have to be present to win one of these incredible collections.

All donated funds raised by this project will go to two proven charitable funds, The USAF Security Forces Museum Foundation <http://securityforcesmuseum.org/> and “The Nemo’s War Dog Hero’s Memorial Project,” <http://635thk9.com/tdhnemo.htm>

If you are not able to attend the reunion you may still donate for a chance to win by sending in your check or money order donation (PLEASE, NO CASH!), to be received by September 20<sup>th</sup>. See details below. After that date we cannot guarantee your chances will be placed into the drawing.

**Thailand Dog Handler Fundraiser Prizes - First Prize: Valued at \$700.00**

- Air Police Shield with blue and white enamel Air Force crest
- Air Police Shield
- Security Police Shield
- Small Size Women’s Security Police Shield
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Shield.
- SP Qualification Badges Original Style

**Second Prize: Valued at \$350.00**

- Armed Forces Police Brassard with a US Coast Guard Security Officer Shield
  - Air Police Brassard with a USAF Security Police Shield
  - Army Military Police Brassard with Military Police Shield
  - US Marine Corps MP Brassard with a US Marine Corps Military Police Shield
  - US Navy Shore Patrol Brassard with a US Navy Police Shield, NTC Sam Diego
- This prize was donated by Jerry Nelson.

For a \$5 donation you will receive 3 chances to win one of the prizes. We are encouraging VSPA members to donate \$20 for 15 chances to win and to support this project. For \$50.00 you will receive 39 chances to win. You do not have to be a VSPA member to donate. **Remember, you DO NOT have to be present to win!** If you mail in a donation, after your donation is received, we will return to you your portion of the ticket and copies of your stub chances that will be placed into the drawing with your name and phone number.

You must provide a return address to receive your copies.

**First Prize Picture**



**Second Prize Picture**



## **Donation Fundraiser, To Be Held By Members of the Thailand Dog Handlers Group**

Send in your check or money order donation (**PLEASE, NO CASH!**), to be received by September 20<sup>th</sup> for the drawing at the VSPA reunion in October.

Again this donation fundraiser is conducted by the Thailand Dog Handlers Group and NOT the VSPA. Send donations with name, return address, and phone number printed clearly on a sheet of paper, make Payable to:

John Homa  
151 CR 556  
Athens, TN 37303

## **Feed the Dawgs Project 2013 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. They feed steak barbecues to active military dog handlers and their family and friends from 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](mailto:jmhemp@feedthedawgs.com)

Here is the Feed the Dawgs upcoming schedule for 2013 – Get Involved!

**You can view photos from all of our events on Facebook at "The Dawgs Project"**

20 July PMO/IMEF Camp Pendleton, CA

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

At the time of this report we have **19** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **19** handlers assigned to four (4) 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 1,753 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to July 15, 2013. "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported 100 kennels and 368 K-9 personnel via our program. For additional information on the program please go to:

**[http://www.pbase.com/635thk9/old\\_dawgs](http://www.pbase.com/635thk9/old_dawgs)**

Please review the photos, press releases, and more about our ongoing programs.

We have purchased and shipped **\$22,628.00** of supplies for the **100** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is **\$80,456.00**

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
- 102 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
- 7 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 - Whee
- 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)