



(10/15/2013)

OVER EIGHT YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!
MORE THAN 380 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!
102 Deployed Military Working Dog Kennels Supported
More than \$86,785.00 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 twenty-two (22) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of October 15, 2013. October 2013 brings us to eight years and one 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 Field, Afghanistan; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; Ali Al Salem, Kuwait; An Undisclosed Location – Southwest Asia. We have four (4) new pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan: SSgt Dan Wilson & MWD Dan are heading home from Bagram to beautiful Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. SSgt Wilson was injured during and an off base incident where he was protecting his K-9 partner – MWD Dan. More information will be available in the November edition. They are both doing well and are going to need some time to heal. Thanks SSgt Wilson for all you have done for our program and making sure that your partner Dan was protected.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia: SSgt Jeremy Rice & MWD Kanjer are deployed from the 96th SFS, Eglin AFB, Florida and they are supported by Ernest Childers (Udorn).

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: SSgt Kyle Shaughnessy & MWD Jagga are deployed from the 628th SFS, Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina and they are Doc Hodges (Ubon/Korat).

Ali Al Salem, Kuwait: TSgt Jason Fields, In-Coming Kennel Master, deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and he is supported by Phil Carroll (Takhli/NKP).

SSgt Ashley Wendler & MWD Nira deployed from the 86th SFS, Ramstein Air Base Germany and they are supported by Bill & Janice Cummings (U-Tapao).

455th ESFS Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan

Team of the Month for the 455th Group



Left to right: SSgt Rafael Rhodes & MWD Nero, SSgt David Cope & MWD Fredy, TSgt Raymond McMahon & NWD Dasty, Kennel Master TSgt Jeremy Burkeen, Trainer SSgt Paris Carman, SSgt Justin Gatti & MWD Rambo, SSgt Kroll & MWD Nadja and SSgt Joshua Fehringer & MWD Candy.

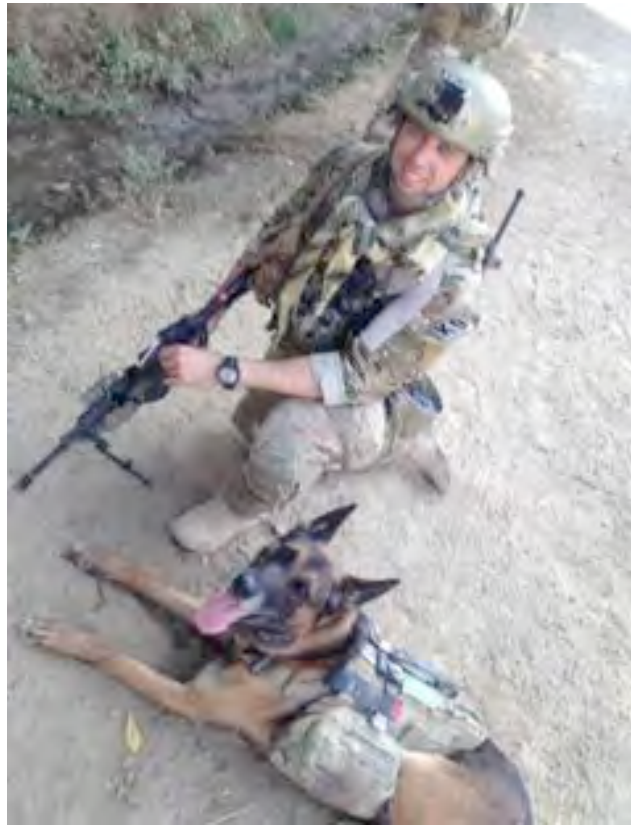
The commanding General stopped by to congratulate the section – it's been a hot time in the AOR! Congratulations from all of us at OD&P – we're very proud of you guys – keep up the great work.

Fallen Hero Honored at Bagram Air Base

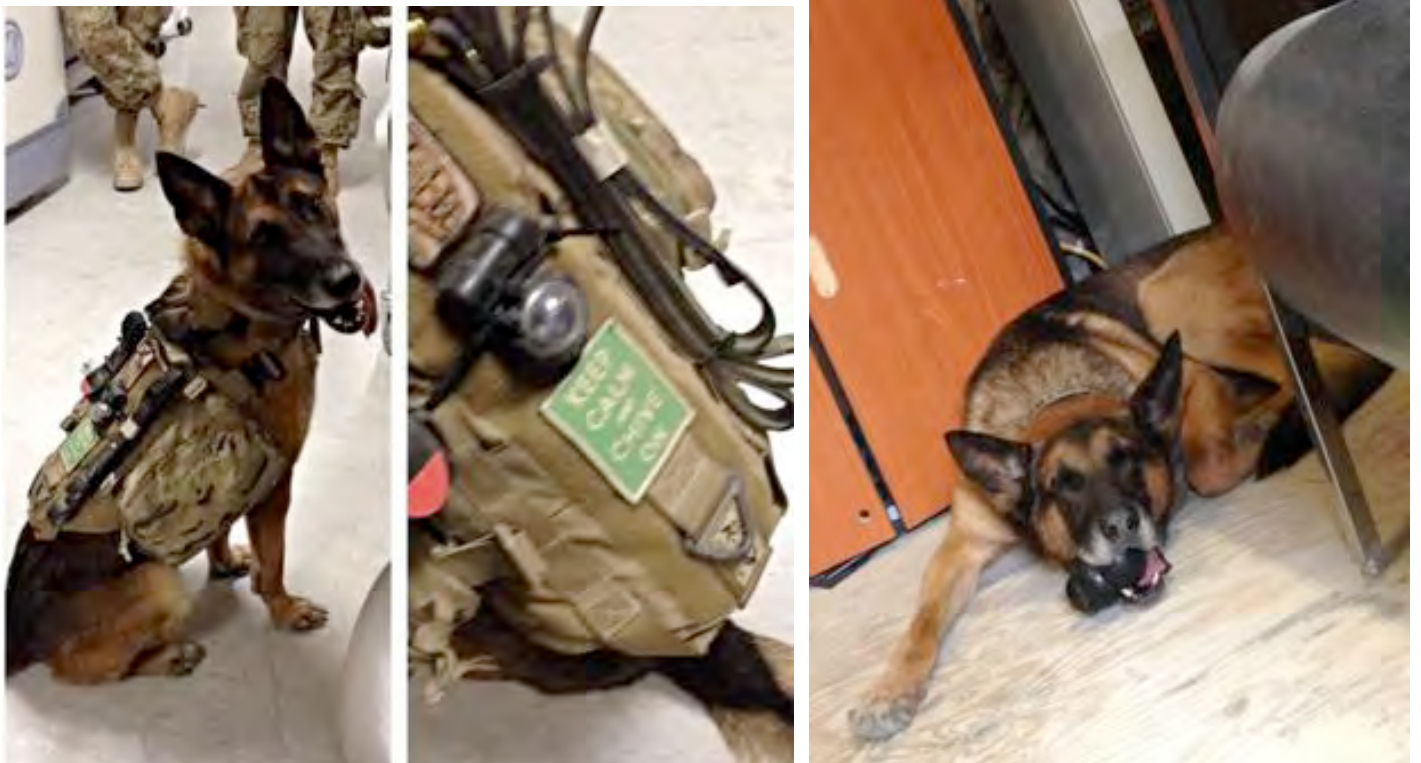


SSgt Justin Gatti, SSgt Joshua Fehringer, and their MWDs Rambo and Candy, respectively, pay their respects to fallen hero U.S.A.F. SSgt Todd K. Lobraico, Jr., killed in action on September 5, 2013, supporting a MWD team mission near Bagram Air Base. SSgt Lobraico was assigned to the 105th SFS, Stewart Air National Guard Base, New York. This was a very sad time for the troops of the 455th ESFS.

455th ESFS Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan – Continued

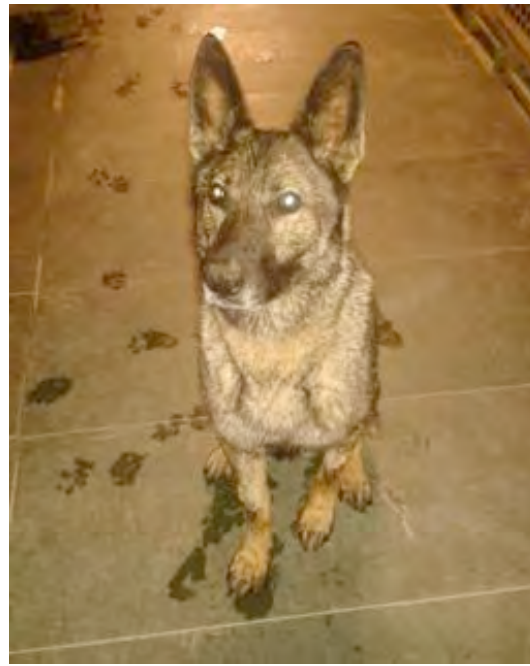
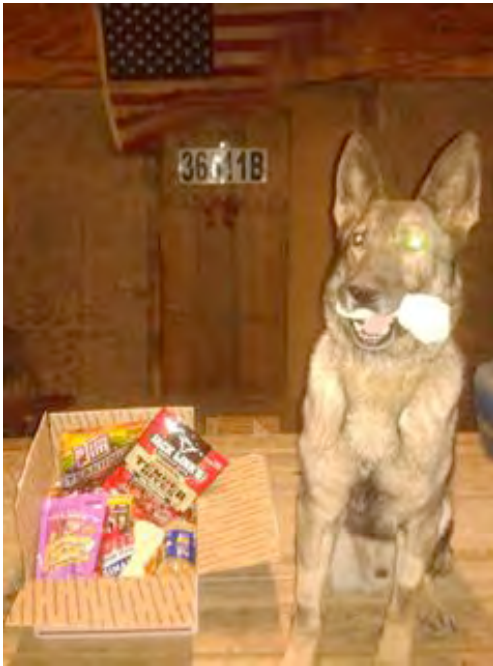


SSgt Justin Gatti and MWD Rambo take a knee for a moment during a patrol near Bagram Air Base.



Check out Rambo's gear above – OK that's load! The phrase on his vest has come to be known as “when life is hard and there is nothing you can do about it but take the next step!” Sums up this situation pretty good doesn't it? On the right – Rambo takes a rare moment to enjoy his kong – relax a moment dude – you deserve it. SSgt Justin Gatti & MWD Rambo are deployed from the 823rd BDS, Moody AFB, Georgia and they are supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK).

455th ESFS Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan – Continued



We just received this message and these photographs from SSgt David Cope and we wanted to pass it along. “I received the care package today and let me just say, Fredy is excited! He loves the bones! I also have some news on Fredy. This past week I took Fredy to the vet because he stopped acting like his jolly old self. A cat scan was conducted and showed he has 2 discs that are bulging and causing him pain. The vet stated Fredy's longer conduct patrol work, or any activities that involve stairs or jumping. We are able to stay the remainder of our tour; however we will only be doing detection work.

The good news is that Fredy has received anti-inflammatory medication and that is working well. Fredy is back to his old (or should I say young) self. We're going to be taking it easy for the next 3 months, and making sure we don't make his back any worse than it is. I will be starting the Disposition paperwork soon and Fredy will be coming home with me after our deployment. In work news, Fredy continues to dominate the AOR with narcotics finds daily! We are almost at 70 finds! Fredy continues to catch Local nationals attempting to breach the fence line almost weekly; he is an awesome scout dog! The team is deployed from the 802nd SFS, Joint Base, San Antonio, Texas and they are supported by John & Carolyn Risse (Pleiku). (Note - He's heading for Fort Living Room – isn't this fantastic?)

455th ESFS Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan – Continued



SSgt Dan Wilson wanted to give a shout out to his fellow USAF troops for their great effort at Bagram Air Field. This is “Reaper 5 - This is the team that did the job they trained for and disrupted Taliban efforts here at Bagram”. The “5” personnel are deployed from 820th BDS, Moody AFB, Georgia. SSgt Wilson and MWD Dan center the photo above. They are supported by Ernest Childers (Udorn).

Role of the Reapers: "At night our objective is primarily [to counter improvised explosive devices and indirect fire attacks], but during the day, we focus on presence patrols and engaging with locals to gauge the atmosphere in the area."

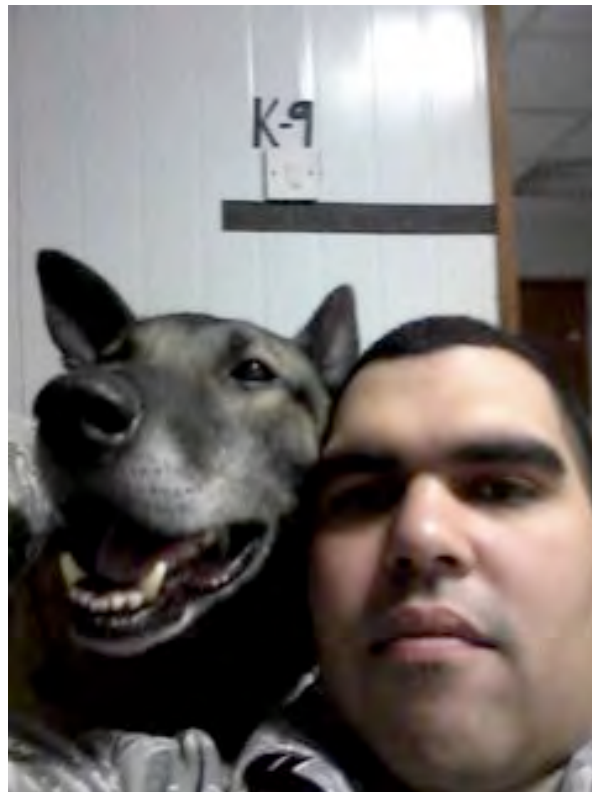
While most people do their best to stay safe by taking cover and waiting for the "all clear," the Reapers gear up and head outside the wire in search of those responsible for the attack. The Reapers are a quick-response team made up of an elite group of airmen from the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron here.

Not only do the Reapers respond to indirect fire attacks, but they also have teams that rotate shifts, traveling outside the wire every day to perform their duties and successfully complete their missions. Twenty hours out of every day, there is at least one Reaper team on duty, working tirelessly to enable air sorties throughout the area of operation from the largest combat and logistical hub and provide stability within the Bagram district.

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait



SSgt Jeremy Allen & MWD Mmarc took a moment to enjoy a little “R&R” – man does this look like fun or what? Sure looks like heavy lifting to me! The veterinary staff at Ali Al Salem went above and beyond and got approval for water therapy for the dogs – this takes care of exercise and helps the dogs to cool off in that desert heat. The team is deployed from the 633rd SFS, Langley AFB, Virginia and they are supported by Doug McCoy (47th IPSD).



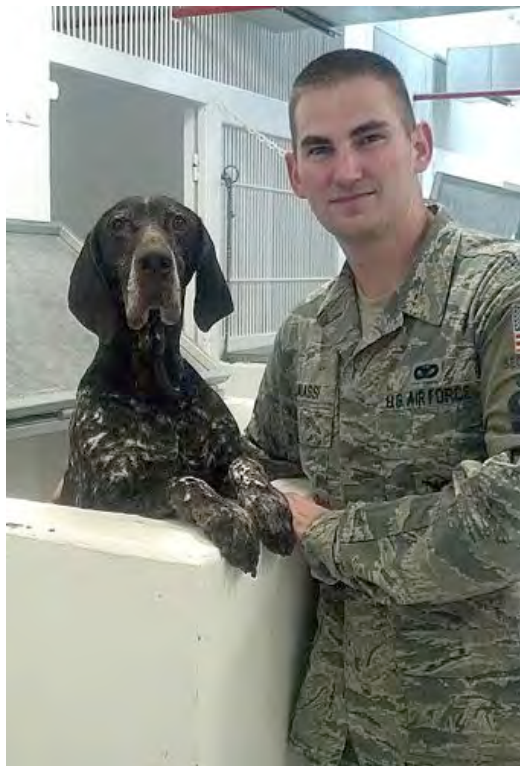
Selfie? OK, we have bonding time at Ali Al Salem, as SSgt Bernardo Cortes and MWD Rambo take advantage of some down time. The team is deployed from the 377th SFS, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico and they are supported by Chuck Rogers (TSN) and his daughter Christi Cryer (FoK).

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem, Kuwait - Continued



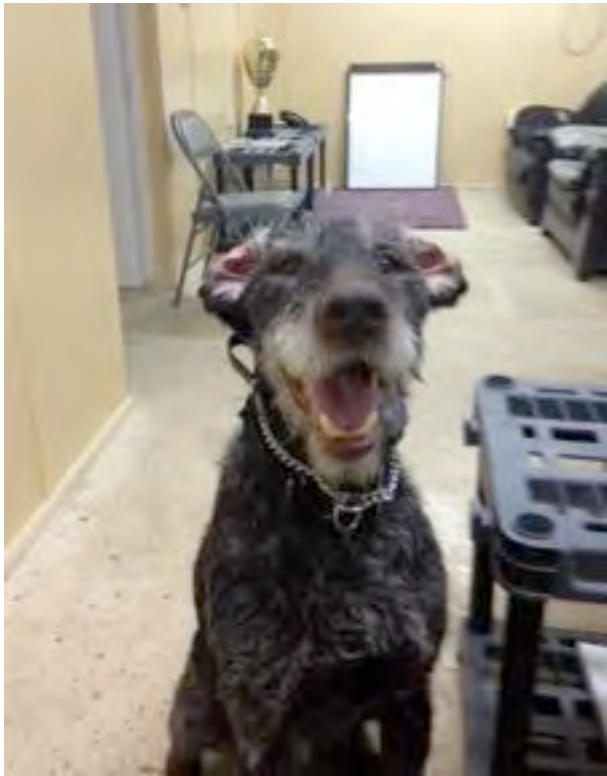
MWD Rambo “getting the job done” at a Search Pit at Ali Al Salem

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



SSgt Stephen Salassi & MWD Amor share a “K-9 moment” for one beautiful photograph. SSgt Salassi has been our “man on the ground” and done a great job recruiting teams for OD&P. Thanks again Sarge – you’ve been on the pointy end of the sword for us and we greatly appreciate it. The team is deployed from the 11th SFG, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, and they are supported by Jim Stastny (Korat).

Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia



OK, we know “war is hell” but we’ve found one MWD that has found a way to take the stress out of a deployment! Many of you may recognize this MWD – Kanjer, who stole the show at our Kennel Tour and “Feed the Dawgs” event at Eglin AFB, Florida in 2012 during the VSPA reunion.

Oh, almost forgot – SSgt Jeremy Rice, Kanjer’s partner, are now deployed to an Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia. Welcome aboard Jeremy and Kanjer – it’s great to have you in our program. The team is deployed from the 96th SFS, Eglin AFB, Florida, and they are supported by Ernest Childers (Udorn).

Incuse you are wondering – this is a German Wire Haired Pointer (GWHP). According to the Internet “The breed is very determined, active and intelligent. Eager to learn and loyal to its family, it needs a handler who is consistent in approach. They like to be occupied and enjoy working for their handler. They are friendly with those they know; powerful and energetic, they can become bored and hard to manage without enough exercise”. SSgt Rice – sounds like you better get moving – NOW!

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates



At the Vietnam Dog Handler Association reunion, October 10th -13th 2013, Bill Cummings had the pleasure of finally getting to meet TSgt Tanner Grutz – Kennel Master at the 99th SFS, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. Tanner was the OD&P “Point of Contact” for our troops that were deployed to Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia in the fall of 2012.

TSgt Grutz provided a kennel tour and spear headed the ground attack for the “Feed the Dawgs” event that was held on Saturday, October 12th – Tanner’s troops and Jon Hemp and his “crew” just out did themselves at this event. Lots of steak, friendship, and of course some “wild K-9 tales” told.

Karl Niemeyer, Nakhom Phanom Royal Thai Air Base (NKP) during his tour, supported TSgt Tanner Grutz.

The VDHA presented association challenge coins to all of the active duty handlers and broke bread and interacted during the event at Nellis – trust me – at great time was had by all.

Old Dawgs & Pups did some “heavy duty recruiting” during the trip to the kennels and we’re looking forward to continuing to support the deployed members of the 99th SFS when they deploy downrange.

Thank you – MWDTSA



MWDTSA *Military Working Dog Team Support Association, Inc.*

A tax-exempt organization under IRS code section 501(c)(3). All donations are tax-deductible.

<http://www.mwdtsa.org>

Once again, we'd like to extend a VERY BIG THANK YOU to Dixie Whitman and everyone associated with the Military Working Dog Team Support Association who have sent MWDTSA "signature" packages down range to support our deployed troops. We all know what it's like to be deployed and care packages from the states sure make your day! Thanks again to everyone at MWDTSA.

No explanation needed!



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

We have winners!

Thailand Dog Handlers attending the Vietnam Security Police Association Reunion completed a very successful donation fundraiser for these two rare memorabilia collections at their reunion held in Charleston, South Carolina at the VSPA Reunion.

The **\$1,700.00** 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>

The major prizes were 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.

First Prize: Valued at \$700.00 (Won by Clifton Gregory – VSPA)

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

Second Prize: Valued at \$350.00 (Won by Tim Sparks – VDHA)

- 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, and a US Navy Shore Patrol Brassard with a US Navy Police Shield, NTC San Diego (Donated by Jerry Nelson).

First Prize Picture



Second Prize Picture



Once again this year John Homa (Korat/U-Tapao) and Ken Neal (Ubon/Udorn) coordinated the fundraiser – Just don’t know how these guys do it. If you run into John or Ken – please make sure you shake their hand – they never stop raising funds for fantastic projects that we all can appreciate and enjoy. Their efforts are tireless – and here’s another question – WHERE do they find all of this great stuff? Something tells me it might come from digging up areas that we’ve walked over the years! Whoa knows? Great job John and Ken – keep up the great work!

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

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"

2 November Luke AFB, AZ
23 November Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC), CA

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

At the time of this report we have **21** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **22** 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 1,939 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to October 15, 2013. "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported 102 kennels and **380** K-9 personnel via our program. For additional information on the program please go to:

http://www.pbases.com/635thk9/old_dawgs

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

We have purchased and shipped **\$24,846.00** of supplies for the **102** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is **\$86,785.00**.

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

- 312 Leatherman “Surge” Tools (145) Donated by Leatherman
 - * The Leatherman “Surge”/Muts/Flashlights/Knives/Toys donation is valued at approximately **\$58,519.00**
- 266 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 205 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 102 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 102 Alpha Dog Challenge Coins
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 56 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 54 * Leatherman MUT Tools
- 50 * Leatherman M5 LED Lenser Flashlights
- 46 Sponges
- 44 PSI Water Holes
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 33 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 31 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 30 * Leatherman Wave Toys
- 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)
- 22 Retractable Leashes (Pet Edge)
- 16 Cooling Vests & Extra Cooling 3acks (**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 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
- 6 20”/12” (3 each) Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 100 Foot Water Hoses
- 3 Ceremonial K-9 Badges (Memorial)
- 2 Hose Reels – Wheeled Cart
- 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)