

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



(04/15/2014)

OVER EIGHT YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!
MORE THAN 400 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!
109 Deployed Military Working Dog Kennels Supported
More than \$92,823.00 of supplies shipped down range!
<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.htm>

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting five (5) kennels and twenty-one (21) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of April 15, 2014. April 2014 brings us to eight years and seven 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 Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar; Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait; Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Soto Cano, Honduras. We have nine (9) new pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan: SSgt Tyler Wiseman & MWD Ema should be back at Goodfellow AFB, Texas enjoying some of that good ole Texas hospitality!

Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates; SSgt James Worley, Kennel Master, is packing to head back to Beale AFB, California.

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: Mr. Mike Kyker, Trainer, will be heading back to “the world” and the Carolina’s before next month’s edition.

Ali Al Salem, Kuwait: SSgt Andrew Montgomery & MWD Diesel are back at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait: SSgt Donald Nachand & MWD Kain are deployed from the 96th SFS, Eglin AFB, Florida. Our newest sponsor Joe Cooper (NKP) supports the team.

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: SSgt Jason Albrecht & MWD Cigan are deployed from the 20th SFS, Shaw AFB, South Carolina. This is SSgt Albrecht’s second tour with OD&P and he is again supported by Doc Hodges (Ubon/Korat).

SSgt Anthony Cruz & MWD Liza are deployed from the 23rd SFS, Moody AFB, Georgia. The team is supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK).

Pups arriving in the AOR - Continued

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: SSgt David Yaronczyk & MWD Ffay are deployed from Scott AFB, Illinois. They are supported by Mike Diercks (Korat).

SSgt Cory Alpage & MWD Ilay are deployed from the 87th SFS, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. The team is supported by Mike Nelson (Udorn).

SSgt Justin Gonzalez & MWD Sjors are deployed from the 28th SFS, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota and they are supported by Rick Matott (Korat).

SrA Joshua Wise & MWD Gina are deployed from the 21st SFS, Peterson AFB, Colorado and they are supported by Jim Coggins (Takhli). *SrA Wise is our 400th supported troop!*

Soto Cano, Honduras: SSgt Brian Klein & MWD Bruno are deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and they are supported by Mike Fink (FoK). This is SSgt Klein's third tour with OD&P – that makes him an “Alpha Dog”!

Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates; SSgt Sean McKenna & Mushe are deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and they are supported by David Priest (Korat).

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem - “The Rock”, Kuwait



SSgt Jesse Galvan & MWD Ritz participated in a recent “retreat” ceremony at Ali Al Salem, Kuwait. What a great honor to have a K-9 team participate in this time-honored tradition. “Retreat is a 122 - second ceremony carried out each day and encompasses decades of Air Force history and American pride. Since 1947, the birth year of the United States Air Force, Airmen have performed retreat ceremonies at the end of every official duty day”.

SSgt Jesse Galvan and MWD Ritz are deployed from the 72nd Security Forces Squadron, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, and the team is supported by Jim Cox (Bien Hoa).

Troops back in the “WORLD”!

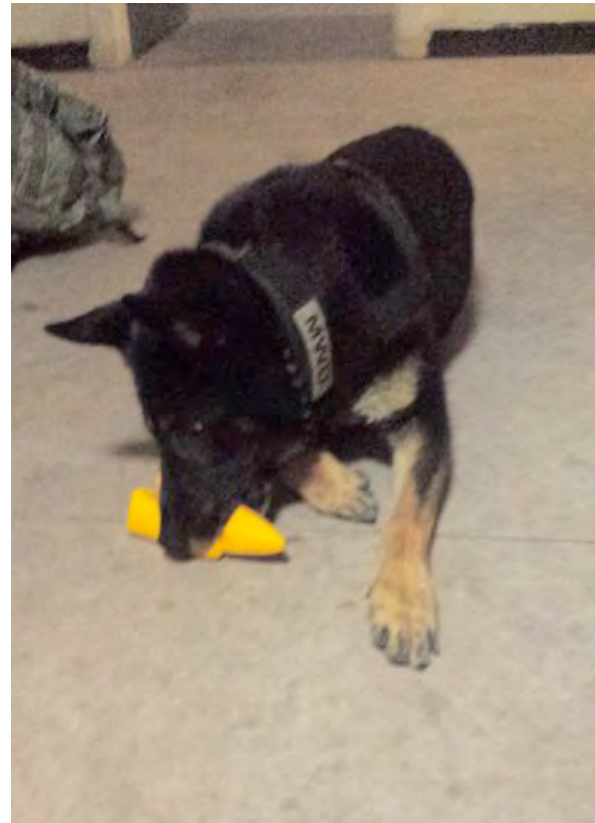
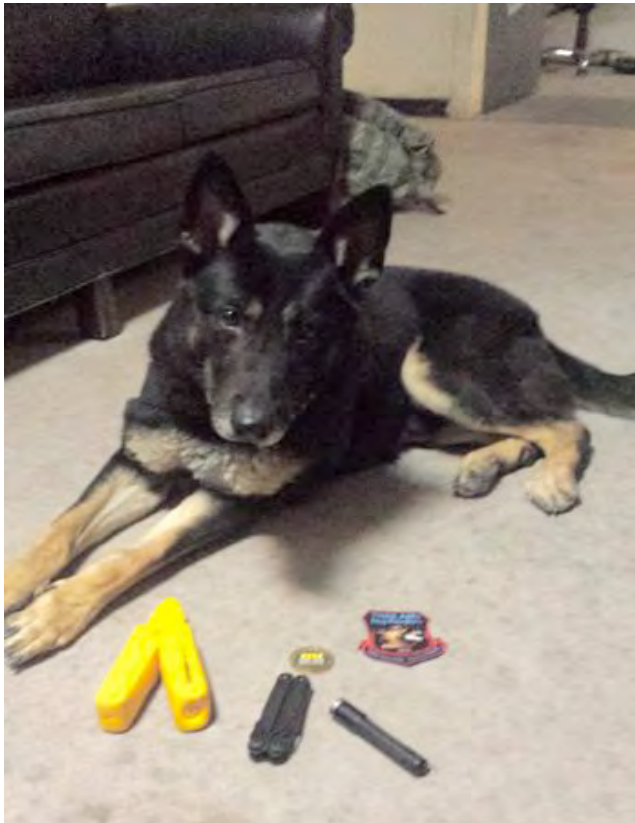


TSgt Jason Fields finally made it back to “the world” and Tucson, Arizona! Bill Cummings was able to meet Jason and his wife at the airport to welcome him home! He was deployed to Ali Al Salem, Kuwait. Great job Jason and welcome home. TSgt Fields was sponsored by an old 355th SFS veteran – Phil Carroll (NKP/Takhli) during his tour.



SSgt Ian Porter and MWD Lana arrived back in Tucson, Arizona just hours before press time! They spent some down time in Germany and are now ready for the desert heat of Arizona. The team was supported by Jim and Nancy Stewart (377th SPS, Tan Son Nhut) during their deployment at Kandahar, Afghanistan. Welcome home Team Lana and great job! Great looking dog team aren't they?

379th ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



SSgt Nicholas Lewis and MWD Body just received their signature Thailand Handler Gifts that included a Leatherman Surge, M5 LED Lenser flashlight, Wave dog toy, a Thailand Challenge coin and Thailand Handler patch. The team is deployed from the 436th SFS, Dover AFB, Delaware, and they are supported by David Priest (Korat). As you can see from the photos on the bottom row, Body wasn't left out and it sure looks like the "Wave Toy" was a big hit! Thanks also to Mike Kyker for the great photographs.

379th ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar – Continued

SSgt Corey Alpage & MWD Ilay (pronounced Ely) have just arrived at the 379th ESFS. From the photographs below, it looks like they are already marking their territory as a team.

Below Ilay “leaves a mark” on the decoy and then remains at the ready for more action if necessary.

The team is deployed from the 28th SFS, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota and they are teamed with Mike Nelson (Udorn) for their deployment.



SSgt Alpage and Ilay share some special bonding time after the exercise. It sure looks like the time together is paying off if you look at that face!



Don't you just love a bigheaded black dog? It looks like Ilay is ready for another round of action.

SSgt Alpage and Mike Nelson are from the same part of the country and this pairing should make for some lasting bonds after the deployment.

When the team was paired up, SSgt Alpage's response to his pairing letter was very pointed. He is up to speed on “our war” and his words about our experiences and his were very well stated. He is looking forward to participating in our program. It sure is nice to hear this attitude from a first time OD&P troop.

He “get's it” and we all know that Mike Nelson will do a great job supporting the team.

379th ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar – Continued



MSgt James Chenoweth shows off his signature Thailand Handler Gifts that included a Leatherman Surge, M5 LED Lenser flashlight, a Thailand Challenge coin, and Thailand Handler patch. MSgt Chenoweth is deployed from the 60th SFS, Travis AFB, California, and Jon Hemp (TSN) supports him. Thanks again to Mike Kyker for the great photographs.

4th Infantry Division – Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan



We just received these photographs of SrA Brandon Hinton and MWD Dan during an Outside the Wire “OTW” mission in Afghanistan. Man, can you believe what this area looks like! NOTHING there looks very inviting to us. The team is deployed from the 377th SFS, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico and Mike Regan (NKP) supports them. Hard to believe the amount of gear that these guys have to tote! Keep up the great work Team Hinton/Dan.

380th ESFS – Al Dhafra, UAE

380thEMDG helps provide care to military working dogs

by Air Force Master Sgt. April Lapetoda - 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

3/18/2014 - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- When a military working dog becomes sick or injured, the entire team - both two-legged and four - feels the effect. The 380th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron's military working dog section recently experienced this not once, but twice.

Military Working Dogs Celo and Max were medically evacuated from the base here during the last few weeks for separate medical conditions. Celo, a 5 year old German shepherd, was being treated for lupus and developed liver problems due to the medication he was taking, said Air Force Lt. Col. Mark Lehman, 380th Expeditionary Medical Group Preventive Health flight commander. Max, an 8-year-old German shepherd, was air evacuated for medical treatment after he developed heart failure and fluid build-up in his abdomen. "(Max) was at the point where his heart wasn't functioning properly," said Lehman, who was a veterinarian and in private practice for nearly five years before joining the Air Force. "We couldn't properly diagnose the underlying cause of his condition, and treating heart failure requires more specialized tests and drugs than what are available to us here." After receiving treatment both military working dogs are now doing better. Max was stabilized, began heart medication and retired from service, said Lehman. Celo is on a new regime of medication and is still in active status.

Though the U.S. Army Public Health Command is the lead to care for all Department of Defense animals, sometimes they are not available and ask other veterinarians to help out, he said. Lehman supports military working dogs here by getting medication for them, providing evaluations, and helping the handlers decide if the illness is serious enough to warrant further testing. As a token of gratitude for the service Lehman provides the military working dogs here, the handlers presented him with a plaque March 17, 2014. "Lt. Col. Lehman on several occasions went out of his way to help us take care of our partners and ensure they received the care they needed," said Air Force Staff Sgt. James Worley, 380 ESFS kennel master. "As a section, presenting him with this plaque is the least we can do to say thank you for all he has done for us. "Being deployed here and not having direct vet support is not an optimal situation, in the event of an emergency having to take the dogs downtown or wait for a medical evacuation with the training we have as handlers can be a little intimidating," he added. "We are used to having direct vet support for anything that happens with our partners so having Lt. Col. Lehman here gave the section a piece of mind that we had access to someone who was veterinarian qualified to help us if need be."



Air Force Staff Sgt. James Worley, 380th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron kennel master, presents a plaque to Air Force Lt. Col. Mark Lehman, 380th Expeditionary Medical Group Preventive Health flight commander, as a token of gratitude for his assistance in care with the military working dogs deployed to the 380 ESFS March 17, 2014. (U.S.A.F. photo by Master Sgt. April Lapetoda/Released)

OD&P FUNDRAISER – ONLY A FEW LEFT! ***The New OD&P Challenge Coin, Available for Purchase!***

The image on the enamel side is from a photo of one of our own - it's Air Force Security Police Sgt Alexander Liverano and Sentry Dog Dante 632M on a Takhli RTAFB perimeter post during the war. They both served at Takhli and Nakhon Phanom in 1970-71. It's a 1¾ inch x 3.5mm coin.

How to purchase:

1. Make out a check payable to **Phil Carroll** for the correct amount.
2. Mail it to Phil at **P.O. Box 8, Gladstone, OR 97027**
3. Enclose a note saying how many coins you want, and giving Phil your full name and correct mailing address.
4. The coins will cost you \$20 for the first one, and \$15 for each additional coin on the same order. Feel free to add a donation to that amount if you like, we can put it to very good use.
5. Be quick, we have a limited number available for now.



Alpha Dog Coins and Certificate Presentations



Lt. Colonel Kathy Jordan, Commander, 18th Security Forces Squadron, presented Kristen Baker Alpha Dog Coin #7 at Kadena Air Base, Japan on March 4, 2014. TSgt Kristen Baker has deployed three times down range with OD&P. She was supported in 2009 at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, at an Undisclosed Location, Southwest Asia in 2010, and in 2012 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. Jim Stastny (Korat) supported Kristen during each deployment. Congratulations Kristen on your service and commitment to OD&P! She is currently the Kennel Master at Kadena and something tells us we haven't seen the last of TSgt Barker – and we'll be glad to have her back in our program. Thank you Colonel Jordan for your continued support of OD&P – and thank you for making this very special presentation to one great troop!

Girl Scout Troops 1541 and 1302 send cookies to our troops!



With the support of GSA Troops 1541 and 1302 (Texas & Oklahoma Plains) more than 100 boxes of Girl Scout cookies have been sent to Al Dhafra Air Base, Al Udeid Air Base, and Ali Al Salem Air Base for our OD&P deployed dog handlers. Cristy Childers, daughter of our own Ernest Childers (Udorn), contacted us concerning make sure that our troops received the “world famous Girl Scout cookies” as part of a GSA program called “Troop to Troop”. Is this a great idea or what? Thank you so much young ladies – thanks for allowing us to be part of this great program!

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates



SSgt Ted Carlson wed the beautiful bride, Katie on March 7, 2014 in Dahlonega, Georgia. SSgt Carlson is one of our “Alpha Dogs” – he has completed three tours with Old Dawgs & Pups and he has been supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK), Greg Gines (Ubon), and Bill Gunter (NKP). We might have the opportunity to congratulate Ted and Katie in the fall at Shreveport at the VSPA reunion. We understand that there may be “additional news for the newlyweds in the near future” – so stand by for incoming!

No explanation needed – “It’s a wrap!”



Sgt Johnny Segovia & Sentry Dog Charlie (2M45) – Takhli Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand (1970)

Feed the Dawgs Project 2014 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 Dogs. 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.

2014 brings new adventures for *Feed the Dawgs* – They are expanding to **THREE** regions! Here are the contacts for the regions – if you are interested in participating in an event – just ping the POC and they will put you to work and make sure you share some quality time with the TROOPS!

Southwest Dawgs (CA, AZ, NV, & TX)

Jon Hemp - jmhemp@feedthedawgs.com
<http://thedawgsproject.com>

Rocky Mountain Dawgs (CO, NM, MO, & TX)

Kevin Sonka - kevinsonka@comcast.net
<http://www.rockymountaindawgsproject.org>

Northwest Dawgs Project (NV, UT, ID, & WA)

Frank Wehner – nwdawgs@fcwehner.com
<http://northwestdawgsproject.com>

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 2014 – Get Involved!

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

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|---|
| 26 | April | Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada |
| 3 | May | Hill AFB, Utah |
| 3 | May | Joint Desert Feed Event (Barstow/Ft. Irwin/WW Det 29/PMO Stumps), CA |
| 4 | May | Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina |
| 16-17 | May | Joint Northern Feed Event, Travis AFB, California |
| 17 | May | Buckley AFB, Colorado |

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 **21** handlers assigned to five (5) kennels in Southwest Asia.

Our K-9 Supply program has been coordinated and funded by the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program volunteers. The supporters are members of the VSPA, VDHA, and friends of K-9. A total of 2,106 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 15, 2005 to April 15, 2014. "Old Dawgs & Friends" have supported **109** kennels and **402** K-9 personnel via our program. For additional information on the program please go to:

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

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

We have purchased and shipped **\$26,389.00** worth of supplies to **109** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and other noted major donations, our program has supplied at total of **\$92,823.00** to deployed Military Working Dog teams. Please note that this total does not reflect all of the "care packages" that have been sent directly by team sponsors and other organizations that we have been so fortunate to be involved with for this program.

Major List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

(For a complete list of supplies shipped contact Bill Cummings)

- 312 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (145 donated by Leatherman)
 - * The Leatherman "Surge"/MUTS/Flashlights/Knives/Toys donation is valued at **\$63,014.00**
- 287 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 266 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Flashlights
- 120 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 102 Alpha Dog Challenge Coins
- 79 * Leatherman MUT Tools
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: e33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 56 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 55 * Leatherman Wave Dog Toys
- 50 * Leatherman M5 LED Lenser Flashlights
- 46 Sponges
- 44 PSI Water Holes
- 44 Retractable Leashes (Pet Edge)
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 33 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 31 Doggles (10 Pairs 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 Classis 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
- 10 Heavy Duty Handled Pails – 9 Quart (Pet Edge)

- 10 **Stainless Steel – 3 Quart Dura-weight Bowls (Pet Edge)**
- 10 **Helping Udders Reward Toys (Helping Udders)**
- 9 **Hose Nozzles**
- 8 **K-9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pounds)**
- 8 **Cooling Wraps (Roshgo Corporation)**
- 8 **Cooldanna Cooling Mats (Roshgo Corporation)**
- 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 **20”/12” (3 each) Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes**
- 4 **Carabiners**
- 4 **5” 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 **130-Foot Enclosed Hose Reels**
- 2 *** Leatherman EOD MUT Tools**
- 1 **Large Patrol Harness**
- 1 **Medium Patrol Harness**
- 1 **Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)**
- 1 **Case Drink Mixes & Snacks**
- 1 **Syntek Hidden Sleeve (Ray Allen)**
- 1 **Armor Carrier Shoulder Pads**
- 1 **Molle Dump Pouch**