

(06/15/2014)

OVER EIGHT YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS! MORE THAN 400 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!

110 Deployed Military Working Dog Kennels Supported

More than \$93,319.00 of supplies shipped down range!

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

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting six (6) kennels and nineteen (19) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of June 15, 2014. June 2014 brings us to eight years and nine 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); An Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia, and Soto Cano, Honduras. We have no new pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Al Udeid Air Base, Oatar: SSgt Nicholas Lewis & MWD Body should be heading back to the beaches near Dover AFB, Delaware before our next issue.

Ali Al Salem, Kuwait: SrA Christopher Stitcher & MWD Sam are heading back to the "deep south" and Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Pups arriving in the AOR

We have no new pups arriving in the AOR this month.

of the over 4,000 that served in Vietnam, When the war was over These dogs were left behind in Vietnam, They were our buddies and we will never forget them.

379th ESFS - Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



Our Thailand Handler "Signature" gifts that included a Leatherman Surge, M5 LED Lenser flashlight, and a Wave dog toy; a Thailand Challenge coin and Thailand Handler patch just arrived at Al Udeid Air Base, Kuwait. SSgt Corey Alpago and MWD Ilay, deployed from 87th SFS, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, show off their gifts. It sure looks like MWD Ilay (pronounced Ely) is really pleased with his "Wave toy" gift! What a beautiful dog – but then again, aren't they ALL?



MWD Ilay, after receiving his gifts is ready to go to work – How about this face for a lover? The team is supported by Mike Nelson (Udorn) during this deployment.

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem - "The Rock", Kuwait

AFCENT Command Chief Shelina Frey for recently visited Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait and the MWD section demonstrated what our K-9 teams bring to the table each and every day. She was impressed!





SSgt Mark Bush catches MWD Arko as SSgt Matthew Helma follows up for the capture! In the photograph on the right, SSgt Dylan Finch is on the receiving end, as MWD Xaruis lets nothing stop him (like a small concrete wall) for the reward of the attack. From what we see – Flight is a beautiful thing!





Above Left & Right: SSgt Mark Bush & MWD Xaruis and SSgt Matthew Helma & MWD Arko share some of those very special "moments" during a break! Sure brings back a lot of memories don't they?





Command Chief Frey and Kennel Master, MSgt Ben Jones, explains the finer points of the MWD capabilities presented by points SSgt LaQuan Conner and MWD Elza during their run of the course.

386th ESFS Ali Al Salem - "The Rock", Kuwait - Continued





Follow the "demo" SSgt LaQuan Conner was "coined" by AFCENT Command Chief Shelina Frey for outstanding professionalism and of course performance! Great job guys – GREAT JOB!

Thailand Handler Gifts arrive at Ali Al Salem Air Base!



Our Thailand Handler "Signature" gifts that included a Leatherman Surge, M5 LED Lenser flashlight, and a Wave dog toy; a Thailand Challenge coin and Thailand Handler patch just arrived at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait. SSgt Dylan Finch & MWD Egon sent us this photograph of their gifts arriving. The team is deployed from the 72nd SFS, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma and are supported by Jay D. Jones (Udorn).

380th ESFS - Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

SSgt Sean McKenna & MWD Mushe, SSgt Hall & MWD Vvadimere, and Kennel Master Michael Ruiz recently conducted a MWD "demo" for the ESFS members at Al Dhafra Air Base. As you can see from the photographs below, it looks like many of them now have a new appreciation for the "bite of the dog".







Questions? Are you sure this is enough padding? I think this might really dumb? This covers WHAT?







This is going to be fun! They have no idea do they Vvadimere? Make sure your fingers are INSIDE!









Comments? This was a really bad idea. I can work with ONE arm. Tool close – Way too close! How do I get my head inside this thing – I think he wants more than my shoulder? A day in the life of a SFS "Demo". From the photos and the comments – it looks like a good time was had by all involved.

380th ESFS - Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates (UAE)



MWD Ares appears to be very pleased with the new supplies that just arrived at Al Dhafra.

We'd like to thank Professional & Palmer's Pharmacies for shipping \$495.81 worth of supplies to our troops at the 380th ESFS MWD Section at Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates. With the help of their patrons we were able to ship 13 Guardian Pet Cots, 10 Retractable leashes, and 20 stainless steel food and water bowls for the personnel and canines at that location. U. S Army Lt. Colonel (Ret.) Domenic Sammarco, and his "friends, patrons, and staff" have been raising funds to assist OUR troops. This is the second major donation sponsored by the patrons of Professional & Palmer Pharmacy







MWD Mushe (SSgt Sean McKenna's partner) MWD Semmi (SSgt Jeffrey Hill's partner), and MWD Vviper show off the new supplies. Pet Edge, and especially Ms. Tiffany Lemelin, did a fantastic job and provided such great customer service and dedication to get this equipment to the "sand box" for us in such a speed of light time! This is one great join effort to assist this kennel in an upcoming operation.

Professional & Palmer's Pharmacy fund supplies at Al Dhafra Air Base, UAE





Above left Susan Anghel, Desiree Hertz, Krupa Patel, and Alma Soto, proudly showing off the display at Professional Pharmacy to promote Old Dawgs & Pups and other programs they support. On the right is the pin that they sell to support our program. The pins are for sale at the pharmacy.

If you would be interested in supporting this program, or would like to purchase one of these pins, please contact Bill Cummings for order information. Thanks again Professional & Palmer pharmacies.

Thailand Handler Gifts arrive at Al Dhafra Air Base, UAE!



Our Thailand Handler "Signature" gifts that included a Leatherman Mut, M5 LED Lenser flashlight, and a Wave dog toy; a Thailand Challenge coin and Thailand Handler patch just arrived at Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates. We hate to ask – but can anyone read that sign for us? We're sure it says keep your hands in your pockets or something very similar! SSgt Sean McKenna & MWD Mushe are deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona; are supported by David Priest (Korat).

Undisclosed Location – Southwest Asia

SSgt Nick Fletcher and MWD Oopey arrived at Al Dhafra Air Base, UAE, from the 633rd SFS, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, in early May. The team unpacked their bags and then immediately "repacked" and forward deployed to an "Undisclosed Location – Southwest Asia". Now, that's racking up those frequent flyer miles! They are now settled in for the rest of their deployment. Tommy Gannon (NKP) supports the team. Here are a few candid shots of the team traveling and then getting settled in.





MWD Oopey takes advantage of a great spot for the trip! "OK, finally – got my Wubba Kong!"





SSgt Nick Fletcher and Oopey just kinda' "enjoying some down time" at their new location. It sure looks like Oopey is ready to get to work after all of this traveling around in Southwest Asia? Great looking dog team aren't they? Years from now, this moment will surface as the team builds on their relationship.

4th Infantry Division – Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan





Sergeant First Class Edgar Arnall, Kennel Master, 4th Infantry Division, U. S. Army, presents SrA Brandon Hinton with the Army Commendation Medal and a Certificate of Appreciation for his actions while deployed with the unit at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan. SrA Hinton is now back at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. Mike Regan (NKP) supported the team during their tour.

Cano Soto, Honduras





SSgt Brian Klein and MWD Bruno just received their signature Thailand Handler gifts that included a Leatherman M5 LED Lenser flashlight and Wave dog toy, a Thailand Challenge coin and Thailand Handler patch. SSgt Klein has deployed with us two previous time and has every gift in are arsenal!

The team is deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, and they are supported by Mike Fink (FoK). As you can see from the photos above, Bruno proves that these Leatherman gifts are "just crazy easy to use"! This dog can find "ANYTHING" – even a great tool toy.

Alpha Dog Coin and Certificate Presentations



Captain Daniel Minnocci, Operations Superintendent, 45th Security Forces Squadron, Patrick AFB, Florida, presents SSgt Kimberly Harting with "Alpha Dog" Certificate and Coin #9 from Old Dawgs & Pups. Kim was deployed with OD&P to FOB Warrior, Iraq with MWD Charlie (2007), Soto Cano, Honduras with MWD Carman (2009), and Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan with MWD Gina (2010). SSgt Harting was supported by David Priest (Korat) and John and Joan Smith (U-Tapao), Steve and Lise Gattis (CRB), Julie Warner (FoK). Congratulations from all of us at Old Dawgs & Pups Kim!

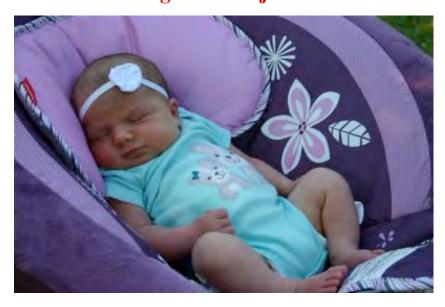
Other News concerning OD&P Graduates Kennelmates reunite at K-9 Trials





TSgt Dan Wilson, MWD Dan, and SSgt Paris Carman reunited recently at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. The "trio" served together at the 455th EBDG, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, in 2013. They got together at Kirtland AFB to participate in a K-9 competition. Twenty-one teams competed in three phases that included obedience and agility and a wide range of distractors. Other areas of concentration in phases two and three included building and open-air searches and officer tactics and the final phase included narcotic and explosive detection. Sergeant Larry Harland and K9 Colt of the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department were awarded Top Dog. It was a great event and two "old friends" shared their skills, experience, and brotherhood.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates - Continued New Dawg handlers just arrived!



We have a new dog handler! It is our pleasure to announce the birth of Amelia Carlson. She was born May 2nd, weighing in at 7 pounds and 10 ounces, at a height of 18.5 inches. She is the daughter of SSgt Ted and Katie Carlson. Mother and daughter are doing very well. To quote here father, "She looks more like Katie every day, and that's a good thing". It sure is hard to argue that point!!!! Congratulations Ted and Katie. Ted has deployed with OD&P three times and has been sponsored by Dixie Whitman (FoK), Bill Gunter (NKP), and Greg Gines (Ubon) during his deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.



MSgt Christopher Beavers and his wife, TSgt Amanda Beavers, just welcomed a new addition to the "Beavers family". Son, Taylor, is beautiful, healthy, and ready to face the adventures of a military family. MSgt Chris Beavers has been involved in our program since his tour as the Kennel Master at the 506th ESFS, FOB Warrior, Iraq, in 2007. Ernest Childers and Janet Wise Eversole sponsored him during his tour with OD&P. Congratulations Chris and Amanda – You guys did GOOD!

Congratulations to our newest Master Sergeants!



Congratulations to our newest Master Sergeant Selects – TSgt Christopher Ebeling, 3rd SFS, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, and TSgt Danielle Russell, 9th SFS, Beale AFB, California. Then Staff Sergeant Ebeling was deployed to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq, in 2006 and was supported by Don Graham (Tuy Hoa).

SSgt/TSgt Danielle Russell was deployed to the Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan in 2008 and again in 2009 at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. She was supported by David Adams (Korat) and Phil Carroll (Takhli & NKP).

No explanation needed!



MWD Xaruis

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 - <u>jmhemp@feedthedawgs.com</u>

http://thedawgsproject.com

Rocky Mountain Dawgs (CO, NM, MO, & TX) Kevin Sonka – <u>kevinsonka@comcast.net</u>

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"

21	June	Joint Coastal Feed Event (Edwards/Vandenberg/Navy Ventura), NBVC, CA
21	June	Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
12	July	San Diego Region Joint Feed Event (MCRD/Miramar/CNRSW), CNRSW, CA
26	July	Kirtland AFB, New Mexico

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 19 handlers assigned to six (6) 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 2,149 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 15, 2005 to June 15, 2014. "Old Dawgs & Friends" have supported 110 kennels and 406 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 \$26,885.00 worth of supplies to 110 kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and other noted major donations, our program has supplied at total of \$93,319.00 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/Tovs donation is valued at \$63,014.00 **Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)** 287 **Thailand Historical Base Patches 266** * Leatherman Serac S3 Flashlights 163 **Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)** 133 **Alpha Dog Challenge Coins 102** * Leatherman MUT Tools **79** * Leatherman Knives (Models: e33T, e55, e55B, e33L) **75 56 Kongs (Assorted sizes)** * Leatherman Wave Dog Toys **55 Retractable Leashes (Pet Edge) 54** 50 * Leatherman M5 LED Lenser Flashlights 46 **Sponges PSI Water Holes** 44 40 **Cleaning/Scouring Pads Kygen Port-A-Bowls 33 Doggles (10 Pairs donated)** 31 **Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls** 24 Rolls 26"x78" 20% Dark Limo Window Tint (Checker Auto Supply) 24 160 oz Stainless Steel Bowls (Pet Edge) 20 **VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)** 19 Cooling Vests & Extra Cooling Packs (Helping Udders – Value \$3,420.00) 16 **Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades** 16 **Classis Long Tooth Undercoat Rakes 16 Classic HG Food Dishes** 15 **12 Coastal Large Slickers** Flat Sided Stainless Steel Water Pails (Pet Edge) 12 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