

K-9 Supply Program



OVER THREE YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting seven (7) kennels and thirty-seven (37) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of June 15, 2009. June 2009 brings us to three years and ten months of operation for our “Old Dawgs & Pups and K-9 Supply” 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. It is my pleasure to announce that this is the largest deployment of troops that our program has sustained since OD&P in August of 2005. Our program now supports Air Force, Army, and Navy K-9 teams – it just keeps getting better!

Area of Operation Status - K-9 Teams Arriving in the AOR

We are currently supporting troops at FOB Warrior, Camp Cropper, FOB O’Ryan, Joint Base Balad, and FOB Delta, Iraq; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, and a new kennel at Bagram, Afghanistan. Here are our nine (9) new “Pups” that have been adopted during late May & June 2009:

Bagram – Afghanistan: TSgt Andrew O’Dell, Kennel Master, from the 355th SFS – Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. He is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao) and Phil Carroll (NKP/Takhli).

TSgt Andrew Bedell – Trainer from the 22nd SFS – McConnell AFB, Kansas. He is supported by Danny Bowlin (Ubon/Udorn) and J. D. Jones (Udorn).

SSgt Justin Kitts & MWD Mayo from the 56th SPS – Luke AFB, Arizona. He is supported by Phil Carroll (NKP/Takhli) and Patsy Perrotto (NKP).

SSgt Scott Carpenter & MWD Kane from the 21st SFS – Peterson AFB, Colorado. He is supported by Donald Shaw (NKP) & Jim Coggins (Takhli).

SSgt Christopher Reynolds & MWD Baiky from the 30th SFS – Vandenberg AFB, California. He is supported by Ron & Gerri Carlton (Pleiku) & Chuck Meaders (U-Tapao).

Camp Cropper – Iraq: SSgt Phillip Kittelson & MWD Oscar from the 56th SPS – Luke AFB, Arizona. He is supported by Dale & Debbie Burton (U-Tapao) & Bill Cummings (U-Tapao).

FOB Delta – Iraq: SFC Christopher Oliver & MWD Sam from the 209th MP Detachment, Ft. Benning, Georgia. He is supported by Rich Waite (KYF&WL) and Tim Pheabus (MDNR).

MA 2 (Master-At-Arms) Bradley Langham & MWD Pluto from the US Naval Base Guam Security Forces. He is supported by Bill Gluth (NKP) and Mike Regan (NKP).

SrA Charles Wilder, II & MWD Rex from the 56th SFS – Luke AFB, Arizona. He is supported by Bill Gunter (NKP) and Tommy Gannon (NKP).

Profiles and Photographs of members of Old Dawgs & Pups

Last month we profiled Doc Hodges and the handlers and dogs from the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Program who are supporting our Army teams at Camp Basra and FOB Delta, Iraq. We would like to continue these introductions so our deployed troops know who they are corresponding to while they are deployed. If anyone would like to send a photograph to us, we will get the information in our “K-9 Supply Report”. I think this is an added value to our monthly report!

Military's Best Friend – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar

Military working dog teams sniff out danger

by Senior Airman Brok McCarthy
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

5/16/2009 - SOUTHWEST ASIA

With thousands of people and vehicles entering and leaving the base on a daily basis, the 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron has a big job ensuring the safety and security of the base and those working here. Unfortunately, humans alone might not be able to detect hidden dangers, but that's where the base's military working dogs come in.

"We maintain a secure operating environment by preventing explosives from coming onto [the base] through the training and utilization of the finest detector dog teams," said Staff Sgt. Ronald Harden, 379th ESFS kennel master. "We search every vehicle that enters the main gate as well as performing walking patrols all over base, providing a deterrent for anyone who might try to attack."

In addition, the dogs are used during building searches and for security of visiting guests. They also occasionally leave base to perform searches at local ports when there is a request from U.S. military or coalition partner units. Prior to deploying, each dog goes through years of training, learning to sniff out various substances. When the dog finds one of these substances, it will signal to the handler with a pre-determined alert response.

"We are the first line of defense for the base," said Senior Airman Phillip Lanzo, 379th ESFS MWD handler, who is deployed from Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash. "It's important to have that dog out there, not only for its detection capabilities, but as a sense of security. When people see the dog, they are less likely to do anything out of the ordinary."

In order to keep the dogs and their handlers as proficient as possible, each military working dog is given tailored optimal training requirements, which are similar to an Airman's on-the-job training record, when they first arrive. Sergeant Harden said he bases the MWD OTRs on what the dog's home station kennel master normally requires.

"Each dog probably gets a good four or six hours of training in a three day cycle on everything they have been trained to do," he said. "Detection is a big thing, that's our bread and butter. A dog is required to have so much detection training per month. "We also do what we call progression training where we try to improve on anything the dog can already perform," he said. "Let's say a dog can jump over a five-foot wall, we try to see if we can get it to jump over a seven-foot wall." In addition to protecting the base, the military working dogs are used to increase the quality of life for servicemembers recovering here from surgery. "We do a lot of volunteer stuff with the in-theater care program," Sergeant Harden said. "We take our dogs over there kind of as a morale booster for them, it helps to put them at ease and talk about their medical conditions with people. It helps set a good environment for them."

Handlers will take working dogs to see patients twice a month, he said. During the visits, they do demonstrations, like apprehending a suspect, as well as more therapeutic activities. Airman Lanzo said being a military working dog handler is one of the best jobs in the Air Force despite how strenuous it can be. "It doesn't get boring, you're not just sitting in a patrol car with someone else for your shift most of the time," he said. "It's a great responsibility as well, because you're responsible for that dog and what happens when you give him an order."

"The use of MWDs saves lives," Sergeant Harden said. "Their senses are a lot stronger than a human's and they can detect something long before a human can. Having them here provides a secure operating environment for the people here on base. There is nothing on this installation that can do what these dogs do ... no human, no machine. Nothing"

Military's Best Friend – Continued



Left - Staff Sgt. Ronald Harden, 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron kennel master, works with Military Working Dog Eesau during aggression training with a tear-resistant bite sleeve here Tuesday. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Andrew Satran)

Middle - Staff Sgt. Ronald Harden, 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron (ESFS) kennel master, works with Eesau, a 379th ESFS working dog, during aggression training with a tear resistant bite sleeve, May 12, 2009, at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. Sergeant Harden helps train the military working dogs and their handlers to work as a team when they are on the job. Sergeant Harden hails from Smyrna, Tenn. and is deployed from Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Andrew Satran/released)

Right - Staff Sgt. German Lechuga, a 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron (ESFS) K-9 handler, runs Liska, a 379th ESFS K-9, through the obedience course, May 13, 2009, at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. The K-9 dog handlers train with their dogs daily, ensuring the confidence and safety in their working relationship. Sergeant Lechuga hails from Hesperia, Calif. and is deployed with Liska from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Andrew Satran/released)

Joint Base Balad Supplies shipped

We just shipped eight (8) rolls of limo grade window tint for the K-9 vehicles at Joint Base Balad. This product is used to deflect some of the Iraqi heat (118 degrees is a temperature that I heard last week) and to shield the occupants from outside observation. Old Dawgs & Pups would like to thank Bob Van de Riet (NKP 71-72) for his generous donation to offset the cost of the supplies. TSgt Joe Throgmorton said the vehicles are “lookin’ good” and “feelin’ fine”! We have been promised photographs of the “pimped up” rides of the K-9 section at JBB.

Leatherman “Surges” have been delivered to SSgt Kristen Smith, SSgt Jared Johnson, SrA Eric Vega, and SrA Robert Elliott at JBB. Thanks also go out to TSgt Joe Throgmorton and SSgt Jeff Mastin for presenting the tools to their newly assigned troops.

Joint Base Balad Kennel, Iraq – Pre-Deployment Training Air Force Phoenix Warrior Training Course

Staff Sgt. Jared Johnson and his military working dog Tino, both from the 43rd Security Forces Squadron at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., participate in a scenario in military operations in urban terrain training for the Air Force Phoenix Warrior Training Course on Feb. 23, 2009, on a range on Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, N.J. Phoenix Warrior is taught by the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center's 421st Combat Training Squadron and prepares security forces Airmen for upcoming deployments. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Staff Sgt. Paul R. Evans) SSgt Johnson is supported by Lonnie Beeson (U-Tapao)



5/16/2009 - JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — Col. Michael Fantini, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group commander, participates in a K-9 demonstration during National Police Week here May 15. The week is celebrated across the U.S. and by security-forces units Air Force-wide to honor those who serve in law enforcement and pay tribute to the men and women who have fallen in the line of duty. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Elizabeth Rissmiller) SSgt Jarred Johnson's MWD Tino takes a bite out of the Group Commander!



More Operational photographs from Joint Base Balad



There “was” something in this hole. Rico “might” have found it before it turned into a bad day! I’ll let you piece it together! SSgt Philip Mendoza and Rico made sure it didn’t go BOOM! This team is supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK) and Kelly Bateman (Ubon)

SrA Eric Vega and MWD Eddy on patrol outside of Joint Base Balad – this team is getting the hang of combat operations gig! This team is supported by Jon Hemp (TSN) & Cathy Mays (FoK)



SSgt Jeff Mastin and MWD Ffella – OK, this is no day at the beach!
This team is supported by Mike Clunis (Safeside)

You just know it's going to be a bad day when.....

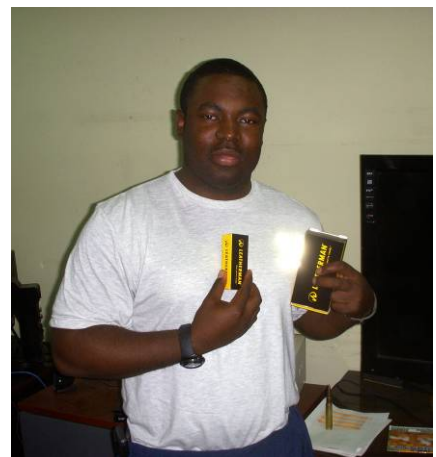


SSgt Jeff Mastin and SrA Elliott made it through an MRAP vehicle accident. They were driving off base on a mission (Joint Base Balad, Iraq) and the road gave away and their MRAP rolled over into a “nasty ass” water canal.

So needless to see they had to water egress out the roof hatch, and we found out Szultan, Elliott’s dog could swim. It was a big mess but the pouch that had my Leatherman in it had ripped open so I thought I lost it in the water. I looked later and everything but my Leatherman had fallen out. So that thing has been through some stuff. I know Elliott still had his after the ordeal as well. So those things are working out great.

Everyone made it out alright thank god, no major injuries. Gunner received a concussion so did the truck commander. They also got a couple bruised ribs and some sore necks but they will be ok. It took about 12 hours to get it out so it ended up being a long day. The photograph at the right is SrA Elliott, MWD Szultan, and SSgt Mastin watching them try to get the truck out. Didn’t think it was going to happen but they did it.

Leatherman tools arrive at Joint Base Balad, Iraq



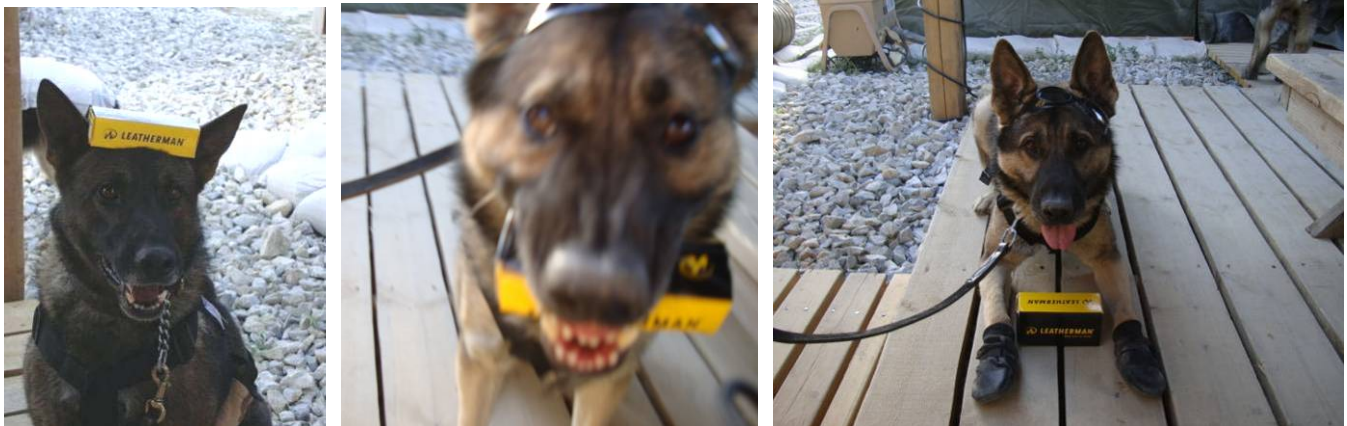
Sra Robert Elliott (deployed from McGuire AFB and support by David Priest (Korat), SSgt Kristen Smith (deployed from McGuire AFB and supported by Jim Stastny (Korat), and SSgt Jared Johnson (deployed from Pope AFB and supported by Lonnie Beeson (U-Tapao) display the new Leatherman equipment that was recently delivered to Joint Base Balad, Iraq. Thanks again Leatherman for all of your assistance to the Old Dawg & Pups program.

455th ESFS establishes new kennel at Bagram, Afghanistan

TSgt Andrew O'Dell, deployed from Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, has the crew at Bagram geared up and ready to go. I can't begin to tell you exactly how much he appreciates the Leatherman equipment and Guardian Pet Cots that we have provided them. Here is an e-mail from TSgt O'Dell:

Today was a great day. As you can see from the pictures, we received the box of Leatherman goods. It was like Christmas as I was passing out the presents. All of the handlers were very excited to receive such great tools that will surely be put to use. The morale-meter was definitely pegged today. We thank you great Americans for all that you do. I will have to retire my Leatherman 'Wave' to be replaced by the new 'Surge' tool. The Wave has surely taken a beating since arriving here. Thanks again to all!!

Here are a few candid photographs of “Christmas at Bagram”!



MWD Kane balances his Surge! MWD Mayo takes a bite and then does a Surge “Demo”



Left – SrA John Spearing & MWD Soyer deployed from the 78th SFS – Robins AFB, Georgia.

Right – SSgt Justin Kitts & MWD Mayo deployed from the 56th SFS – Luke AFB, Arizona - This team is supported by Phil Carroll (NKP/Takhli) and Patsy Perrotto (NKP)

More Christmas in May at Bagram, Afghanistan



Left - SSgt Scott Carpenter & TSgt Andrew O'Dell demonstrating the finer "points" of the Surge! SSgt Carpenter is deployed from the 21st SFS - Peterson AFB, Colorado and is supported by Don Shaw (NKP) and Jim Coggins (Takhli). TSgt O'Dell is deployed from the 355th SFS - Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao) & Phil Carroll (NKP/Takhli)

Right - SSgt Jorge Davila "flosses" with his new equipment. SSgt Davila is deployed from the 36th SFS - Anderson AFB, Guam.



This is "Closed" and this is "Open"! SSgt Christopher Reynolds and TSgt Andrew Bedell show off the "black Surges". SSgt Reynolds is deployed from the 30th SFS - Vandenberg AFB, California and is supported by Ron Carlton (Phu Cat) and Chuck Meaders (U-Tapao). TSgt Andrew Bedell, Trainer/Supervisor is deployed from the 22nd SFS - McConnell AFB, Kansas and is supported by J.D. Jones (Udorn) and Danny Bowlin (Udorn/Ubon)

The “Post Man” on his appointed rounds!



28.5 pounds of Leatherman supplies and kongs head to the postal counter! Yep, that’s him – the “Postman” Phil Carroll (NKP/Takhki) as he pushes out another shipment to Military Working Dog Kennels at Joint Base Balad and Camp Cropper, Iraq, and Bagram, Afghanistan in Southwest Asia.

Trust me; he is only happy when he is sending out supplies to the troops that we support. He even has all of the APO addresses memorized – DAH!

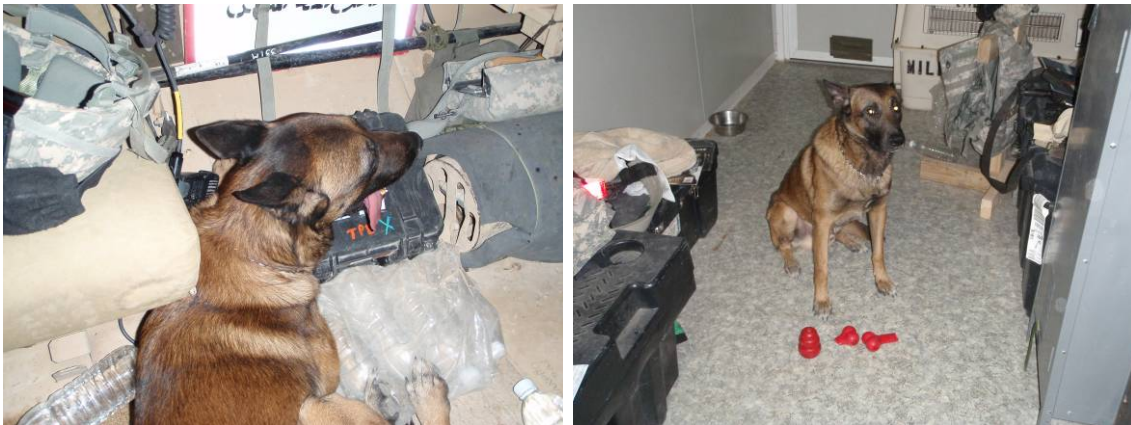
It can only be said that Phil’s heart and soul is dedicated to Old Dawgs & Pups. He is always trying to find and fund new items for the troops; implementing a new system here and there; or just finding ways to make things work just a little easier for us all.

Oh by the way – you should have heard the lady from the Post Office when we asked her to take Phil’s picture – She now knows that she didn’t win first prize in this “Photo Contest”!

FOB Delta – Iraq



SSG Lee Martin, Kennel Master at FOB Delta, Iraq, inside a MRAP vehicle – How about this lighting! SSgt Martin, deployed from the 13th MP Detachment, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, is supported by Scotty Baker (Safeside), Dean Kennard (KYF&WL), and Mary Hall - Rutherford



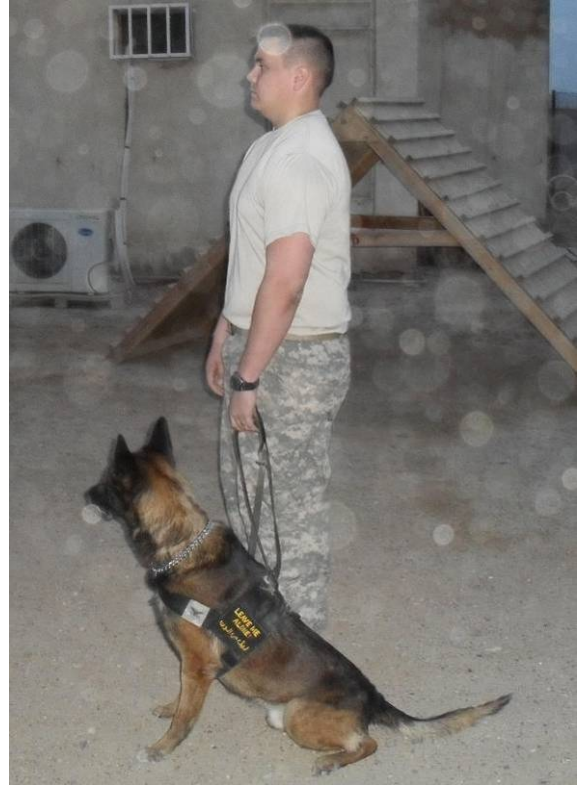
Here's Balto with his new kong and taking a break – that's a happy puppy!



SFC Christopher Oliver & MWD Sam from the 209th MP Detachment, Ft. Benning, Georgia. The team is at FOB Delta. He is supported by Rich Waite (KYF&WL) and Tim Pheabus (MDNR).

Camp Cropper, Iraq

SSgt Phillip Kittleson has replaced SSgt John Pillarella at Camp Cropper, Iraq. It was a manpower thing! One from Luke AFB and one back to Luke AFB! Glad you are headed home John and thanks again for all of your help in last year's Veteran's Day parade in Phoenix. We all enjoyed meeting you very much before you deployed to Camp Cropper.



SSgt Chad Ditch and MWD Aaslan "gettin' some training done" at FOB Camp Cropper. SSgt Ditch is deployed from the 37th SFS - Lackland AFB and is supported by Kelly Bateman (Ubon)



Good Morning Aaslan!

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates! Master Sergeant Promotions

Our boys are doing GOOD! Congratulations are in order for MSgt Matt Rebholz, our first OD&P Kennel Master deployed at the 407th ESFS, Ali Air Base, Iraq. Matt is currently a Flight Chief at the 1st SFS, Langley AFB, Virginia. We must be good luck – Matt is our second Master Sergeant from our program as he joined MSgt (Ret.) Bob Kisner who is now a civilian employed at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar.

In addition, two of our “Pups” from past deployments were selected for Master Sergeant on May 14, 2009. TSgt Jerry Glynn, deployed at FOB Warrior (2007) and currently the KM at Vandenberg AFB, California & TSgt Randy Fontenot, deployed at Manus Air Base, Kyrgyzstan (2008) and currently the KM at the 824th SFS, 820th Air Group, Moody AFB, Georgia. That’s a total of four Master Sergeants (You might say we look good on their resume?) - congratulations guys – we are very, very proud of you!

American Legion, Hurst-Eules-Bedford Post 379 – Bedford, Texas



We were contacted by Commander Phil Rasnck, American Legion, Hurst-Eules-Bedford Post 379, from Bedford, Texas concerning our program. Mike Regan (NKP 1971-72) a member of the Post made our presentation and he must have done a “hellva’ job”. AL Post 379 has very generously presented us with a check in the amount of \$1,000.00. I have made Commander Rasnck and the members of the post a promise – “We will spend it – it will all go down range!” They have formed a committee to review our program and hopefully a partnership will develop to support our deployed troops. Thanks Mike and all of the members of Hurst-Eules-Bedford Texas American Legion. It is great to say that “The eyes of Texas are upon us” – this is going to be great! Stay tuned for more.

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

At the time of this report we have **56** members of the “Old Dawgs & Pups” program actively supporting **37** handlers assigned to seven (7) 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 **846** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to June 15, 2009. Over **215** “Old Dawgs and Friends” have supported **161** 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 **\$10,039.00** of supplies for the 33 kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate donation, the total is **\$33,371.00!**

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. **WAY TO GO K-9 SUPPLY!**

List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

- 166 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (110 Donated by Leatherman) *
* The Leatherman "Surge"/Flashlights/Knives donation is valued at approximately **\$23,332 .00**
- 75 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 75 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 60 * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 52 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 40 Sponges
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 39 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 30 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 22 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 20 Kygen Port-A-Bowls (Dressler's)
- 20 PSI Water Holes (Dressler's)
- 19 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades (Dressler's)
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes (Dressler's)
- 14 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls (Dressler's)
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers (Dressler's)
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails (Dressler's)
- 10 Muzzles (Dressler's)
- 10 Heavy Duty Handled Pails - 9 Qt. - (Pet Edge)
- 10 Stainless Steel - 3 Qt Dura-weight Bowls (Pet Edge)
- 8 K9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pound bags) (Dressler's)
- 8 Rolls 26"x78" 20% Dark Limo Window Tint
- 8 Cooling Wraps
- 8 Cooldanna Cooling Mats
- 8 Sets of Flood Light Bulbs
- 7 Digital Thermometers
- 6 24" Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees
- 5 Classic HG Food Dishes (Dressler's)
- 5 Nozzles
- 3 100 Foot Water Hoses
- 3 20" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 12" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 5" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 Ceremonial K-9 Badges (Memorial)
- 2 50 Foot Water Hoses
- 2 Spray Bottles & Sprayers
- 2 150 Foot Enclosed Hose Reels
- 1 Drink Mixes & Snacks (Large Box)
- 1 Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)
- 1 Set of four Ruff Wear Bark'n Boots Grip Trex
- 1 Syntek Hidden Sleeve (Ray Allen)