

K-9 Supply Program



(02/17/08)

Hello everyone! Well, it looks like our guys at FOB Warrior are preparing to rotate in the near future and that is great news. February 2008 brings us to two years and six months of operation for our “Old Dawgs & Pups and K-9 Supply” programs. 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.

Area of Operation Status

Well - FOB Warrior is now being re-supplied with new handlers. We still have a few of the “old group” that have their bags packed, and I can tell you that they have really appreciated your involvement in the program.

Our new group of handlers are under the command of SSgt Andrew Esparza from Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona. Many of you that attended the VSPA and VDHA reunions in Arizona may remember him well. SSgt Esparza and TSgt Max Talley really put on a couple of great shows for us. He is joined with handlers from Hill, Moody, Nellis, and Holloman Air Force Bases and more to come. We are currently gathering information to be used to team them up with our Old Dawgs & Friends.

It’s getting ready to get really busy for us as we have established footholds at Ali Al Salem (386th ESFS), Kuwait, under the command of TSgt Matt Rebholz from the 1st SFS, Langley AFB, Virginia, with 12 teams serving two locations; Manus Air Base (376th ESFS), Kyrgystan, under the command of TSgt Randy Fontenot from the 824th SFS, Moody AFB, Georgia, with six teams, and Saudi Arabia, with two NCO’s from Davis-Monthan, AFB, Tucson, Arizona.

As you can see – we are going to need most of you to be prepared to be teamed up in within the next month or so. This is one of our largest deployments/pairings since we started Old Dawgs & Pups.

As soon as I get the information on where all of these troops are deployed from stateside, along with their home towns, I will be contacting those in those areas to start the pairing process. So get ready guys – we’re rollin’.

We’ve already had requests for Kongs and “Toilet Paper” – man, it’s a “S^*&()* job” – but someone has to do it! Most of our kennels are in pretty good shape, but of course, we have offered our assistance in helping with items that are outside of their supply lines.

Old Dawgs return home!

On February 11, 2008, two Old Dawgs went home! Phil Carroll and Bill Cummings had the honor of visiting the 355th SFS at Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona, for a “grand tour”. We were fortunate enough to contact TSgt George Roach, who was one of our “Official Sponsors” during the VSPA reunion several years ago. Being the perfect host, TSgt Roach, contacted his Squadron Commander, Major Kit Johnson, and their Operations Officer, Captain Jim Hughes – then the fun began!

Not to be out done by the Tech Sergeant, Major Johnson and Captain Hughes invited us to have breakfast prior to our tour. Man, as many of you know, food is the way to my heart! The Command staff picked up the tab for the meal and of course – Phil and I both worked for food! We took this time to go over the history that we shared with our troops at Davis-Monthan.

Not one to be shy, I took the time to share my experiences at Davis-Monthan during my assignment there from 1967-70 and then returning there after my tour at U-Tapao in 1971. During my tour, the main base tenant was the 390th Missile Wing, supported by the 803rd SPS, SAC. Not to be out done – Phil played the trump card – Phil was assigned to the 355th at Takhli, Thailand, which when deactivated in Thailand was then activated as the 355th at Davis-Monthan. Phil presented the Command Staff with a photograph of him and MWD Charlie/2M45 in front of the 355th K-9 section sign. In addition, Phil presented a photograph of the 355th SPS patch that was worn on fatigues at Takhli. How in the world was I going to compete with that? All I had was an abandoned kennel building just down from the new kennels at D-M.

Of course we exchange challenge coins with our host – to tell you the truth – I’m not sure who was the proudest – it sure was great sharing time and history with these very professional security forces personnel. Rest assured – these guys are doing it right!

We spent five hours visiting CSC, the weapons range, the command building and the beautiful base that is now the new “Davis-Monthan”. We just had a ball – once again D-M, thanks for welcoming home two old “dawg handlers”! Trust me; this squadron will make you proud to say that you were a member of the Air Force security force history.



If any of you ever get the chance to visit the bases where you served and to share your history – please take advantage of that opportunity – you will never forget it. And believe me, the security forces at those bases will welcome the chance to talk about their history.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates!

While Phil and I were at Davis-Monthan we had the opportunity to get to meet SSgt Ryan Wade who had recently returned from his tour at FOB Warrior. During his tour Ryan had been paired with Dale Burton. This is what makes this program so much fun – getting to meet troops that we have supported.



SSgt Ryan Wade, Bill Cummings & MWD Kris
Kris was the star of this show at D-M



Phil Carroll and Kris – Look at the smile
on Phil's face – Kris is the good looking one!



Mighty chomp.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Ronnie Hill

Military working dog Robi lunges to take a bite out of “fleeing suspect” Staff Sgt. Troy Glover during an Airpower Day 2007 demonstration at Osan Air Base, South Korea. Sergeant Glover and Robi are with the 51st Security Forces Squadron. Airman Magazine – January 2008

MWD Robi is assigned to SSgt Damon Tripp – two time Alumni of Old Dawgs & Pups. Damon was in our original group of Pups assigned to Ali Air Base in 2006.

A little more training at FOB Warrior – MWD Urik strikes again!

**Hey – New guys in town and they wanted to play with the puppies!
Urik welcomes the new Commander (Major Rock) and First Sergeant Petrie
“GOOD BOY Urik”!**



Urik one - Commander nothing!



**First Sergeant Petrie – We told you it would “Leave a mark”!
Way to go SSgt Elizabeth Blanchford and MWD Urik**

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 8 handlers in transition at one kennel.

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 394 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in Iraq from August 21, 2005 to February 15, 2008. Over seventy-seven "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported over ninety seven 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 **\$5,903.00** of supplies for the 17 kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate donation, the total is **\$12,097.00!**

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!**

* The Leatherman "Surge" donation is valued at approximately **\$6,194.00**

- 77 Leatherman "Surge" Tools (51 Donated by Leatherman) *
- 60 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 57 Guardian Pet Beds
- 22 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 19 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails
- 8 K9 Bluelight Supplement (2 pound bags)
- 8 Muzzles
- 8 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 8 Cooling Wraps
- 8 PSI Water Holes
- 8 Cooldanna Cooling Mats
- 8 Sets of Flood Light Bulbs
- 7 Digital Thermometers
- 5 Classic HG Food Dishes
- 5 Nozzles
- 4 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls
- 4 Large Kongs
- 3 100 Foot Water Hoses
- 3 24" Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees
- 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
- 1 Drink Mixes & Snacks (Large Box)

Note: Some of you may receive this twice. I apologize - it's a data base thing!