

K-9 Supply Program

THAILAND DOG HANDLERS

USAF Dog Handlers Stationed in Thailand Supporting the Vietnam War

(08/21/07)

Hello everyone! Well, it looks like our guys at FOB Warrior and Camp Bucca are doing well and enjoying our support and I think we are going to have a great relationship with them during their tour.

August 2007 brings us to two years of operation for our “Old Dawgs & Pups/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

We now have three teams on the ground at Camp Bucca and they have been adopted and things appear to be going well. SSgt Doug Harriman, who has been in our program previously, is our contact on the ground. Stay tuned for more happenings at Camp Bucca, Iraq.

We are getting to know our new FOB Warrior teams as they rotate in and out. The new arrivals are Kennel Master TSgt Jerry Glynn and SSgt Tony Potter of Vandenberg AFB who will now head up the kennels at FOB Warrior; along with SrA Kimberly Harting from Langley AFB and SSgt Rojen Richards from Mountain Home AFB. All four have been paired up with Old Dawgs and are rollin’ in the program.

Here are a few shots from FOB Warrior – Do these guys look like they need our help?



SSgt Tony Potter (Trainer) and TSgt Jerry Glynn (Kennel Master) FOB Warrior

The “New Guys in Charge” – There’s a new set of Sheriff’s in town!

Check these guys out – Is there some “devil” in them?

Would they take a dare? Something tells me Vandenberg AFB just isn’t the same without them?



SrA Kimberly Harting, SSgt Rojen Richards, SSgt Guy Gshwend, SrA Michael Marks



SrA Kimberly Harting & MWD Charlie



SSgt Rojen Richards & MWD Tanja

Re-Enlistment news at FOB Warrior

**SSgt Kimberly Harting re-enlisted at FOB Warrior, Iraq on August 21, 2007.
How about that for dedication and service to our country?**



Lt. Mates, Command Force Protection Officer, SSgt Rojen Richards & MWD Tanja, SSgt Kimberly Harting & MWD Charlie, and SSgt Tony Potter, Trainer/Supervisor



SSgt Guy Gshwend & MWD Oren, SrA Robin Campos & MWD Badis, Lt. Mates, Command Force Protection Officer, SSgt Kimberly Harting & MWD Charlie, SSgt Tony Potter, TSgt Jerry Glynn, SSgt Rojen Richards & MWD Tanja, and SSgt Dennis Luczak & MWD Rex (Front)

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates!

TSgt Jason Somers & MSgt Bob Kisner – 820th Moody AFB

Message from TSgt Jason Somers

I have some major news. The 823rd (my old squadron) is scheduled to replace the 822nd in October. Well, they are in need of TSgt squad leaders in a bad way. I volunteered to leave the kennels and deploy with the 823rd to assist in their deployment. It was a hard decision to make, but I needed to branch out from the kennels for career reasons. It saddens me to know I'm leaving K-9 where all my heart is, but I feel I will do well as a squad leader with our young troops.

It gives me great pleasure to advise you that MSgt Bob Kisner will be replacing me as the 820th Kennel Master. This is a win-win situation for all concerned. MSgt Kisner will do a fine job and the kennels won't skip a beat.

BC Note: Of course we hate to see TSgt Somers leave our program (actually, we're not going to let him leave – we're just going to let him go on a Leave of Absence until he decides to be a dog face again), but if it had to happen – it sure is wonderful to welcome back MSgt Bob Kisner. He asked me to remind everyone who went to Moody a few years ago – HE WAS THE GOOD LOOKING ONE THAT WE MET! Seriously, it couldn't have worked out better for us and we've been so fortunate to have met and worked with these two great Kennel Masters.

Good luck Jason and please keep us in the loop with your career.

Bob – well, - GET TO WORK and get those dawgs teams working – great to have you back in the saddle!

Working dog teams train with Army

*by Jerri Huffman – Eielson AFB, Alaska
Special to the Arctic Sentry*

Securing the harness around his partner, Staff Sgt. Ryan Veith gives a reassuring look into his partner's eyes followed by a quick scratch behind the ear. Sergeant Veith's partner is visibly nervous, and the deafening roar overhead isn't helping matters. As the helicopter hovers in place above them, Sergeant Veith is hoisted up into the awaiting helicopter. His teammate Meki quickly follows; mission accomplished for aircrew and military working dog team. Realizing that hoisting Airmen and military working dogs into and out of hovering helicopters can be stressful, Major Jerry Mulhollen, 354th Security Forces Squadron commander, along with military working dog handlers Staff Sergeants Robert Wilson and Scott Stitt set up the inter-service training with help from Army Maj. Heather Serwon.

“The training familiarizes teams with helicopter medical evacuation and insertion operations,” Major Mulhollen said. “The importance of today's joint missions makes being able to train with the Army (before we deploy with them) a vital part to mission success. This exercise is realistic training; however I hope we never have to use it.” Sergeant Veith said he found the training valuable and he was especially proud of Meki's performance and behavior. “This is great joint training for our deployments” Sergeant Veith said. “It was an adrenaline rush and the beating of the rotors above added to the effect.”

Also participating in the training were 354th SFS dog handlers staff sergeants David Gum (waiting in the Blackhawk helicopter as his dog Zix was being lifted as part of the exercise), Blake Hemmann and Jedadiah Schroeder accompanied by MWD's Zix and Ben.

The exercise was training for medical airlift extractions. According to SSgt Gum “It was fun training and the dogs didn’t mind it too much either”.

SSgt David Gum is an Old Dawg & Pup alumnus that we supported during his tour in Africa.



A Ft. Wainwright soldier observes Staff Sgt. Ryan Veith guiding military working dog Zix to an awaiting Blackhawk helicopter during combat insertion and extraction training at Fort Wainwright.

Leatherman Donation

10 surges – amounting to approximately 1,020.00 – this raises the corporate donation to 51 “Surges”, valued at \$6,194.00. Sure makes you want to run out and purchase a Leatherman tool doesn’t it? Juli Warner, you are our “Leatherman Angel”!! We’ve even heard that they were used to fix an air conditioner at the Vet Clinic at FOB Warrior – Way to go PFC Rush!

“In Memorial” & “Air Force – Thailand K-9” Decal Fundraiser

Our fundraiser involving the “In Memorial” and “Air Force – Thailand K-9” decals for the Thailand Dog Handlers and the Old Dawgs & Pups/K-9 Supply ended as a great success. Thank you to everyone who donated to help our Thailand Handlers Website and K-9 Supply / Old Dawgs & Pups Program. A total of \$1,672.00 was donated with \$500.00 going to the site and \$1,172.00 going to K-9 Supply / Old Dawgs & Pups Program. Once again everyone – Thank you so very much and great job!

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

At the time of this report we have 25 members of the “Old Dawgs & Pups” program actively supporting 12 handlers and a Vet Tech at two kennels.

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 371 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in Iraq from August 21, 2005 to August 15, 2007. Over seventy-six “Old Dawgs and Friends” have supported over ninety three 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 **\$5,325.00** of supplies for the 17 kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate donation, the total is **\$11,519.00!**

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)**
- 47 Guardian Pet Beds**
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades**
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes**
- 13 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated)**
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers**
- 22 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)**
- 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**
- 4 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls**
- 4 Large Kongs**
- 3 100' Foot Water Hoses**
- 3 Nozzles**
- 3 24" Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees**
- 3 20" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes**
- 3 12" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes**
- 3 5" Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes**
- 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!