

K-9 Supply Program

THAILAND DOG HANDLERS

USAF Dog Handlers Stationed in Thailand Supporting the Vietnam War

(12/15/07)

Hello everyone! Well, it looks like our guys at FOB Warrior are preparing to rotate in the near future and that is great news. Our Camp Bucca troops are all home and doing well after their deployment. December 2007 brings us to two years and four month 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

Things are pretty quiet now at FOB Warrior as our troops prepare for the holidays and hopefully soon they will be packing their bags and waiting for the “Freedom Bird”. Those of us that have been deployed during this time of year know exactly what they are thinking right now. Lets try to keep them in our thoughts and prayers to get through the remaining days of their deployment.

I’m sure many of you have sent packages or cards to our troops and many others – thanks for thinking about our men and women – I’m sure they greatly appreciate your efforts. Hopefully in the next few months we will be connected with the new arrivals at Warrior and we can get a lot more of our group involved in our pairings.

Christmas at FOB Warrior - 2007



Yep, Santa is making a list and checking it twice – and it looks like MWD Charlie and SrA Kim Harting have been a pretty good dog team at FOB Warrior. Once again, it’s been proven – handlers love to put hats on dogs – WHY DO WE DO THAT? Because we love them!

I’m not sure who is happier – Charlie or Kim? But you can bank on it – Charlie has been a GOOOOOD boy!

The perfect K-9 photograph



SrA Kimberly Harting and MWD Charlie at Sunset – are these fantastic shots or what?



SrA Kimberly Harting and MWD Charlie with a patrol vehicle at FOB Warrior

Leatherman tools, hoses, and cots at FOB Warrior

Here are some photographs of the hoses, Guardian cots and Leatherman tools that we have shipped to FOB Warrior over the last six months. We'd like to thank SrA Kimberly Harting, deployed from Langley AFB, Virginia, for the photographs.

Cots



MWD Charlie on one of the Guardian cots we sent to FOB Warrior

Hoses



One of two 50 foot hoses and nozzles we sent to FOB Warrior. SrA Kimberly Harting is shown here operating the "heavy equipment".

Leatherman Surges



SSgt Sanford Gshwend (Nellis AFB) and SrA Kimberly Harting show off the Leatherman “Surges” that they received during their deployment – Looks like Kim is making a “fashion statement” on the bottom photograph. Trust me – these tools are greatly appreciated. Have you noticed that there is a presence of cold weather uniform gear showing up? Yep, it’s cold there also.

In the works!
We're trying something new!

We now have our first pre-deployment pairing as Charlie Blood (Udorn 70-71) and TSgt Randy Fontenot (824th Moody AFB, Georgia) have kicked off our try at further supporting our deployed troopers. Both Randy and Charlie are Louisiana boys – now this should be something. Stay tuned for more pairing as they become available.

In addition, we have several other groups headed out and when they are on the ground and settled we will be able to start pairing up more teams again really soon. On behalf of the group, we'd like to say "Thank You" to everyone who has supported our teams at FOB Warrior and Camp Bucca. It's been a busy and rough time.

Second MWD from Robin AFB lost in Iraq

For the second time in less than three months a MWD from Robins AFB, Georgia, has lost its life in Iraq. We have been informed that MWD Rexo (E300) died during emergency surgery for kidney stones in Balad, Iraq. Rexo was 7 years old and this was his third deployment, two of which were to Iraq. Rexo was his handler's (SrA Spearing) first dog and they had been training together for six months for this deployment. Needless to say SrA Spearing is taking the loss hard; as would any handler. Please keep this team in your prayers.

The team had only been in country for a week. This information was supplied to Dixie Whitman by TSgt David Barber, Kennel Master, 78th SFS/S3D-MWD, Robins AFB, Georgia.

Anyone wishing to send a card or letter should address the condolence to:

TSgt David Barber/SrA Spearing
78th Security Forces Squadron
Military Working Dog Section
250 Peacekeeper Way
Robins AFB, GA 31098

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

At the time of this report we have 23 members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting 8 handlers and a Vet Tech at one 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 394 pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in Iraq from August 21, 2005 to December 15, 2007. 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!