

VIETNAM
1965-1966



PHOTO JOURNAL Part-II

K-9 Posting * Guardmont * K-9 Interior Posts * K-9 Bomb Dump Posts *
K-9 flight line area * K-9 Marsh Posts * K-9 Railroad Posts * K-9 Runway area Posts

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23rd ABG/AP; 6252nd APS; 35th APS; 366th APS/SPS,
APO for Đà Nẵng Air Base was APO San Francisco, 96337



40. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Growl Pad's Access Control Post. 1965.



11. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Don Poss, wist-wrap due to firing a defective slap-flare. 1965.



12. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Guardmount close up.



41. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Inside the GP Office. Bulletin Board for SOPs and info. A2C Calvin, left, listing to Don Poss (center), trying to snow the A1C with a *shaggy-viet-cong* story. Never got to the punch line—*again*. 1965.

42. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Inside GP Office. Gary Knutson (left) and Don Poss (right) waiting for Guardmount. 1965.



43. left. 44. center. 45. right.

Dà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad:

First, set the timer on my new camera . . . and Second . . . *run for the picture* (and a lifetime memory is born :).

L/R:

Front bench: Horce L. Miller, Don Poss, Tom Baker (RIP -AO, 2007), Patrick Compton.

Rear bench: John Hemmingway. 1965. Notice the K-9 Food Pans hanging in the open screened window?



46. right.
Đà Nẵng AB, K9
Growl Pad: At Ease.
1965.



47. left. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9
Growl Pad: Guardmount post
assignment read-out. Don Poss
(front row, third from left
consulting his new Seiko
Watch). Gary Eberbach (front
row, fourth from left), best bud,
is half asleep on his feet). 1965.

48. below. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9
Growl Pad: Guardmount called
to attention . . . sort of. 1965.





49. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad:

L/R: Don Poss and
Blackie 129X; [Gary Knutson](#)
(RIP-AO 2018) and Eric. 1965.
Both are VSPA Life Members.

50. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad:

A2C [Phil Norwich](#) (RIP-AO Dec
1997). Bandage due to an eye
infection. 1965.





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51. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A2C Gary Knutson loading Eric in K-9 Post Trailer-1. 1965.



52. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A1C Lee R. Miller and Shep, awaiting K-9 Trailer. Wing Tanks stored on Growl Pad grounds. 1965.



53. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: K-9 Truck and Trailer being hosed down and cleaned up. Freedom Hill 327 in background, about five miles west. Firing Range is south at its base. 1965.

54. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Gary Knutson unloads Eric at post assignment. 1965.





55. left. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A2C Hemingway rides to K-9 post in Posting Truck. All K-9 were muzzled for safety. Vicious Sentry Dogs would attack each other and everyone except their handler. 1965.

56. below-center

Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Gary Eberbach (right) walks Bucky to post. , 1965.

57. bottom-right.

Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A2C Patrick Compton humps to post from Guardmount, as K-9 handlers and dogs ride to perimeter posts. 1965.





58. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Posting AP K-9 Trailer-1 awaits hookup to Truck. Note the old bathtub at the corner of the K-9 Office building. Dogs were bathed in the tub. Agent Orange was the fluid used, to kill flea, ticks, and mites picked up on post. No one knew the danger to men and dogs that AO played. 1965.



59. left. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Posting Truck and AP K-9 Trailer carry dogs and handlers to post. Driver circles Air Base Perimeter Road, dropping of K-9 handlers and dogs to assigned posts.

60. below. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A2C Horace L. Miller awaits the cover of night to patrol his huge post. Meanwhile he checks for new plant growth that might later conceal an enemy. 1965.





61. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A1C Al Watts watches Blackie to make sure the new handler, Don Poss, does not screw up Blackie's instructions (poor dog). 1965.

62. below.

Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A1C Al . . . *Well we know who's the brains of that team.* 1965.



63. left.

Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A1C Don Jones rides in K-9 Posting truck. 1965.



64. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: K-9 (out of photo) await pickup from post at daylight. Railroad tracks and tressel (center above) was a very spooky post, with snakes, tall grass, and only lights sparkling in the sky to push the dark away. I used more pop-flares than Puff the Magic Dragon (AC-47). Never saw a train at Đà Nẵng AB. 1965.

65. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Dawn finally arrives. View from Posting Truck passing another K-9 post. **Note radar** in the background. 1965.





66. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: The night is coming and Tom Baker (RIP-AO 2007) and Rex 9F97, ready to quarter 1000-2000 feet posts between old and new under-construction runways. Ammo-Bomb Dump for K-9 Post patrol. Handlers carried two water canteens; one for Sentry Dog, and one for handler. 1965.

67. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Don Poss and Blackie have just completed first-sweep quartering of post west of only active runway field area. Don is wearing a 25 pounds flak-vest designed for WWII bombers. Never wore it again! 1965-1965.





68. top-photo. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: View from K-9 posting truck N/B East-Perimeter road, ready to curve W/B at the Air Base's North-Perimeter. 1965.

69. above-enter. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: View from K-9 posting truck S/B East-Perimeter road. 1965.

70. right. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: View from K-9 posting truck passing trash-dump area, S/B West-Perimeter road. 1965.





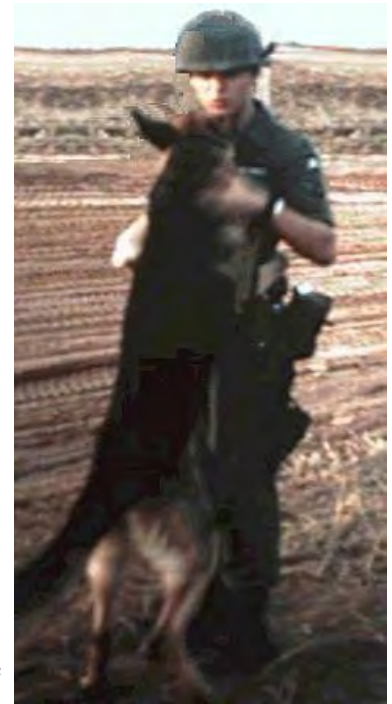
71. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A2C Hemingway (top), A2C Raymond Hickey (center). 1965. Note, Marble Mountain, top-right horizon.

72. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Handlers and Dogs scatter eastward to posts, which could range from 1000-2000 feet long. Across the active runway you can see flight line hangars and buildings. The area immediately in front of the handlers is the under-construction new runway. 1965-1966.





73. *above.* Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: K-9 handlers grab a last-smoke break before entering the Ammo/Bomb Dump to patrol. 1965.



74. *right.* Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Blackie 129X trying to teach Don Poss to dance without stepping on toes/paws. *Lesson One:* Don't open your mouth to laugh unless you want your tonsils polished. 1965.

75. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Don Poss pours Blackie some water from his canteen. Blackie 129X liked to pickup my helmet and carry it (what's a little slobber amongst friends?) 1965.



76. *right.* **Đà Nẵng AB, K-9
Growl Pad:** Close up of Don
Poss and Blackie 129X. 1965.

77. *below.* **Đà Nẵng AB, K-9
Growl Pad:** Before dark, Don
Poss and Blackie 129X conduct
first-sweep of post at East
Ammo-Bomb Dump perimeter
fence. 1965.





78. right. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad:
Blackie 129X mugs for the camera.
A genuine champion pedigree. 1965.

79. below. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad:
Air Base flight line is visible through the
Ammo-Bomb Dump perimeter fence. 1965.





80. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: S/B West-Perimeter Road, approaching Ammo-Bomb Dump entrance road. 1965.

81. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Ammo-Bomb Dump entrance road to Charlie-1 post. 1965.





82. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Here's your Post, barely time for a quick sweep before lights-out-dark. Patrol at night through North end of the Ammo-Bomb Dump could up the pucker-factor. Tall grass everywhere, with a small stream and tall side banks running through. 1965.

83. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Ammo-Bomb Dump post: Night falls along with visibility (see photo 46 above). Tangle brush, elephant grass, scrub brush, trees, and stream are still there--*somewhere* . 1965.



84. *right.* Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: Aircraft Launch and Retrive Zone bunker. Eternal parachure million-candle flares drifting over the giant Air Base.

85. *below.* Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: MARSHLANDS Post, North Perimeter. **Monkey Mountain** is visible through the night's haze, deceptively close, as it lays across the China Sea gulf a few miles.

A1C Al Watts (left) posts A2C Don Poss with Blackie X129, and A1C Gary Eberbach with Bucky.





86. Đà Nẵng Air Base, K-9 Growl Pad: The posted gate SP watches approvingly as the K-9 truck passes, carrying teams of handlers and Sentry Dogs away to post. 1965-1966.

87. Đà Nẵng AB, K-9 Growl Pad: A heavy rain falls, as a F-4 Phantom takes off with afterburners shattering bedrock. K-9 fighting-hole in foreground. 1965.



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