## **ROBOT DOGS** or **K9 MWD/Sentry Dogs** and Handlers of Steel © 2021 by Don Poss

Robot Dogs -- very cool – but,

Will the Robot Dog carry my helmet, lick my face, or strike terror in the heart of sappers in the wire?
Will the Robot Dog block my path refusing to let me walk into a coiled deadly snake?
Will the Robot Dog be extra vigilant when It "thinks" I'm sick?
Will the Robot Dog set at heel while sharing my poncho in a monsoon?
Will the Robot Dog Attack a battalion firing automatic weapons and RPGs, or patrol silently while quartering a post for hours?
Will the Robot Dog understand the guy stepping out of a bunker to take a wiz is not Ho Chi Minh?
Will the Robot Dog obey basic hand commands in the dark? like Sit, Down, Come, Watch, Attack? or fetch

Will the Robot Dog obey basic hand commands in the dark? like Sit, Down, Come, Watch, Attack? or fetch a bone or, an ammo magazine when I desperately need ammo?

Will the Robot Dog run through metal-rain to stand guard over a wounded Airman? or decide to play Spotlight Tag with a cloud?

Will the Robot Dog decide the good-guys are the bad-guys if they're dressed similarly?

Will Robot Dogs save the lives of 10,000 US troops?

Will the Robot Dog willingly give its circuit-board-life to save mine?

Will the Robot Dog's gears freeze with a twig or a *bug* decides to nest in an algorithm?

Will the Robot Dog know what to do when the tech-guy-handler (on the other side of the world working the joystick) stands up for a stretch?

Will the Robot Dog be a friend? or ever think being a Lap-Robot Dog might be fun?

Will the Robot Dog stare intently hoping to lick the peach can? or eat my sandwich when I'm not looking? Will the Robot Dog have any "connection" at all between the tech-handler, or vice-versa, the Robot Dog?

## What about Robot-Airmen?

Will the Robot Airman be worth its C-Rats or MREs?

Will the Robot Airman give away your position if its AI decides IT should stand up?

Will the Robot Airman be like my old Prius and decide IT's no longer what you thought IT was (Robot or car), at the worst moment?

Will the Robot Airman withstand a constant barrage of hacker attacks?

Will the Robot Airman understand or lock'n load after I've cooked in the boiling sun baking down on my head all day and I drum my bottom lip muttering ba ,ba, ba, ba, ba, ba?

Will the Robot Airman's design priority be *save the environment*, or *save my ass* when the Plan goes south and there's no one but me and IT?

Will the Robot Airman start WWIII without me?

Will the Robot Airman want to go home with me when IT retires (ready for scrap) or I'm WIA disabled? Will the Robot Airman go on Leave with me and want to date my girlfriend?

Just say'n ...

Don Poss Blackie 129X, Da Nang 1965-1966