**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, chew rocks, 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 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* nests in its 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 90 pounds Lap Robot Dog might be fun?

Will the Robot Dog understand, or lock’n load, when the day long sun’s fried my brain and I twang my bottom lip, “ba, ba, ba, ba, ba”, to the *Row, Row Your Boat* song?

Will the Robot Dog stare intently hoping to lick m empty peaches can? or gulp down my entire sandwich (again) when I’m not looking? When I have something to eat, my dog eats—what will the Robot Dog do?

When the bad guys Hack the Robot Dog and IT suddenly works for them, will IT give a second’s calculation I once was its hexadecimal (1101 1010 1101) dad who adopted him at Lackland, or he trained me OJT in combat action?

Will the Robot Dog *feel* a real "connection" with its tech-handler at all, or at shift-change the tech flips the switch to hand IT off, without ever looking back?

**What about a Robot-Handler?**

Will the AI be the Robot Dog’s handler? worth its C-Rats or MREs?
Will the Robot Dog give away your position if its AI decides IT should stand and exercise its gears?
Will the AI Handler be like my old hybrid Prius and decide at the worst moment IT's no longer what I thought IT was (Robot, or car)?

Will the AI Handler’s design priority be first to save the whale or hug a tree? and somehow skip the macro to *save my ass* when the Logic goes south, and the herd of enemy and me?
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

**FYI – Robot Dog status**

**Robot Soldier [potential dog handler]** The above *ROBOT DOGS or K9 MWD/Sentry Dogs* was written after watching the very, very impressive video, *New Robot makes Soldiers Obsolete (corridor Digital)*, [see [New Robot Makes Soldiers Obsolete (Corridor Digital) - Bing video](https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Newest+Military+Robot&&view=detail&mid=01F4B59A8D388FF8555A01F4B59A8D388FF8555A&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3DNewest%2BMilitary%2BRobot%26FORM%3DVDMHRS)], BUT—Turns out the video is a spoof FAKE [see:[AMAZING ROBOT SOLDIER - real or fake? - Bing video](https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=robot+dog+video+fake+or+real&qpvt=robot+dog+video+fake+or+real&view=detail&mid=BD5D1F7CE5BF89CD3D84BD5D1F7CE5BF89CD3D84&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Drobot%2Bdog%2Bvideo%2Bfake%2Bor%2Breal%26qpvt%3Drobot%2Bdog%2Bvideo%2Bfake%2Bor%2Breal%26FORM%3DVDRE)] widely posted onlne as gospel.

* **US Air Force (Security Force) Robot Dog program:** Short version—cancelled May 2021 due to bandwidth issues, indicating the Vision 60 are data-linked and can communicate with other systems.
* **New York City, the New York Police Department (NYPD)** cancelled its $74,000 *DigiDog* program after criticism [failure to communicate with] citizens and lawmakers after it was deployed during a domestic dispute call at a Manhattan public housing complex where its present scared citizens.

**Still…** who knows what future Robot Dog may look like--perhaps a more acceptable happy face Pluto? If so, would Robot “Pluto” (sorry Disney) do what a real dog does best?