

EAST MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

APRIL 13, 2001

TO: The Vietnam Dog Handlers assoc.

FROM: Roy E. Wickensor Cysgt USMC (Retired)

I saw a story on war dogs in the Parade Section of the Sunday Rutland Herald on April 1, 2001. It brought back many memories to me of WWII. I was a Marine War Dog Handler with the 23rd Regt, 4th Mar. Div. on Iwo Jima in February/March in 1945. I had a scout dog and he was a 78 lb. Doberman named "Kappy" and he came from Butte, Montana.

I am enclosing a few things that I feel you might find interesting.

I do not know if you have had any contact with PATRICIA A. WILLEN but she would be a great help to you in getting "dog tales" together. There are dog tales that are. Patricia is an archivist at the Marine Corps University Research Center in Quantico, Va. She interviewed on video in September 1999 about Kappy and me. I was also interviewed in September 2000 by Vermont Public Television. I of course talked about War Dogs on Iwo Jima. The documentary came out this past March and it was an hour and one half <sup>long</sup> and was called "Vermonters at War" during WWII. It also covered the home front too, at least those who saw it in Vermont and in some ~~near~~ neighboring states got exposed to war dogs. I am en-

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closing Patricia Mullen's card in case you do not have her address.

There is supposed to be a book out this month or in May on War Dogs, it is written by a Dr. William Putney who was a Platoon Leader with I believe the 1st & 3rd war dog platoons on Guam. The title is "Always Faithful."

Good luck on getting the book out on War Dogs, I hope all goes well.

I did see the Viet-Nam War Dog video on the "Discovery Channel" about the dogs. Most of a WWII dogs were de-trained.

ENCLOSURES (6)

- (1) TOWN & COUNTRY ARTICLE
- (2) WELLSBORO GAZETTE ARTICLE
- (3) 4 MEN & 4 DOGS PHOTO
- (4) I LWO JIMA CAVE PHOTO
- (5) PATRICIA MULLEN'S CARD
- (6) "DOG PATCH" I BELIEVE IT WAS

ISSUED AT FMJF-PAC HEADQUARTERS

ON GUAM DURING SUMMER 1945

Sincerely,  
Ray E. Wilkerson  
Cry Sgt USMC (Retired)

P.S. In Vietnam I was the Company Gunnery of "A" Company, 3rd Engineer Bn 3d Amph Bn, June 1965 - Feb. 1966.