

EAST TIMOR - 19 June 2008. Australian Defence Force's Military Working Dog security team.

The Military Working Dog Operation Cell, based at the Timor-Leste Aviation Group, provides security for Black Hawk helicopters and is on standby at all times for base security. They maintain a constant patrolling program from dusk to dawn with their highly trained four-legged workmates. There are some 750 Australian Defence Force members currently on duty in East Timor. The aim of the Australian contingent, along with the whole International Stabilisation Force, is to assist the Government of East Timor and the United Nations Police in providing a secure environment in which the various groups can peacefully resolve their differences.

Below photos show MWD handler, Gold Coast member, Schutzhund Australia Helper and trial competitor, Ben Geurts.

Photo Right (Date taken: 09 June 2008):
Sundown; Work starts for the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Military Working Dog (MWD) Operation Cell; Security Police (SP) Section providing security for the Australian Army Aviation equipment on the tarmac at Dili Airport in Timor-Leste.



Photo Right (Date taken: 09 June 2008):
The team with teeth: Military Working Dog (MWD) Kaja, with enjoys the attention on the shoulder of his handler Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Security Police (SP) Corporal **Ben Geurts**, 31, from Ipswich, QLD on the tarmac at Dili Airport in Timor-Leste.



Photo Right (Date taken: 09 June 2008):
Royal Australian Air Force Military Working Dog Operation Cell; Security Police (SP) (Left to Right) Sergeant Shane Campbell, with MWD Raven, Leading Air Craftsman (LAC) Steven Pratt with MWD Elmo, Corporal Ben Geurts with MWD Kaja, and Corporal Tricia Reynolds, with MWD Duke.



Photo Right (Date taken: 09 June 2008):
The team with teeth; Sergeant Shane Campbell, with MWD Raven, Leading Air Craftsman (LAC) Steven Pratt with MWD Elmo, Corporal Ben Geurts with MWD Kaja, and Corporal Tricia Reynolds, with MWD Duke.

