

我的老師

從前的訓練主要是由軍警專門訓練工作犬，讓受訓後的犬隻做出對人類有益的事(例如制服敵人、搜索、拯救等);現在的犬隻訓練已經走進了狗主的生活中，隨時隨地都可以把狗狗教好，也不再局限於訓練工作犬了。我很喜歡舊的東西，例如舊街道的照片、香港掌故、街道名的由來、屹立多年的冰室，我都喜歡「八卦」一番，當有機會與行內的前輩傾談時，我便會問問他們從前訓練狗狗究竟是怎樣的?

說到我的老師，他也是訓練軍犬出身的 **trainer**，隸屬美軍第九步兵師，在越戰時他的工作是帶著狗狗走在部隊的前面搜索地雷、炸彈、甚至是敵方埋伏。從前的世界實在難以想像!現在我是拿著 **notebook**、**clicker**、領犬工具上門教狗主，工作完一整天雖然很累，但至少沒有危險;而老師帶著的是槍械和頭盔，還有一隻與他生死相隨的狼狗，隨時都有生命危險，他的練犬世界與我的簡直是天壤之別!

退役了後，老師大可以「食長糧」靠美國政府養，但他卻沒有停下來;後來更開設了訓練學校 **train the trainer**，除了美國本土的學生外，更有日本人、英國人、台灣人，當然還有我這個香港人在此學習 **training**。明年或會到美國看看寵物展覽，到時一定會回去探望老師呢~!

1969 年，靚仔又有型~!



After he joined the U.S. Army in 1968, he went to Fort Benning in Georgia and was introduced to Lobo, a German Shepherd, who was sold to the military for \$1 by his owner because he had bitten five people on the face. Trainers taught Lobo — one of two dogs Jerone worked with — to become a scout to sniff out mines, booby traps and enemy ambushes.

After three months Jerone and Lobo went to the Mekong Delta in Vietnam with the Ninth Infantry Division where he was known as “the dogman.”

“We did everything together, we ate and slept together,” he said. “Our job was to walk 100 feet ahead of a unit of 20 to 100 and make sure the path was free of explosives.”

Lobo died of a disease after six months.

“It devastated me,” Jerone said. “I had to bury him and it took me a while to get over it. I still have a photograph of him.”

老師雖然已變得很肥胖，但訓練狗狗時的反應仍然很敏捷

