## I am a War Dog

Santina Lizzio



High on a hill overlooking the sea, Stands a statue to honour and glorify me. Me and my mates that have all gone before, To help and protect the men of the war.

I am a war dog, I receive no pay, With my keen, sharp senses, I show the way. Many of us come from far and around, Some from death row, some from the pound.

I am a member of the canine pack,
Trained for combat and life on the track.
I serve overseas in those far off lands,
Me and my master working hand in hand.

I lift my head and look across the land, Beside my master, I await his command. Together we watch as we wait in the night, If the enemy comes, we are ready to fight.

In the plantations of Nui Dat I do camp,
The smell print of the VC, to track, as I tramp.
"Seek 'em out boy!" my master does call,
Through the vines of the jungle, together we crawl.

I remember the day we were trapped underground, With military wildfire exploding all around. My master and I packin' death through the fight, Comforting each other till the guns went quiet.

My master's tour of duty has come to an end, Vietnam he will leave, I will lose a good friend. No longer will we trudge through the jungles of war, The canine, the digger, the memory will endure.

Now the years have passed and I patiently wait, For God to receive me through His celestial gate. Where I'll roam in comfort for evermore, He'll keep me safe from the ravages of war.