

Dogs on Duty

Dorothy Patent

1. What is the name of the breed of dog that was part of the raid on Osama Bin Laden?
A Belgian Malinois (MAL_IN_WAH) named Cairo
2. What were war dogs originally used for thousands of years ago?
War dogs were used as weapons of fear, they were used to terrify and disable the enemy.
3. How are Military Working Dogs(MWD) used today?
MWDs help keep soldiers safe by
 1. Finding hidden explosives
 2. Guarding military bases
 3. search ships for explosives
4. What are some special abilities that MWDs have?
 1. They have night vision
 2. They have better hearing than humans
 3. They have a better sense of smell than humans
 4. They want to please their human friends
5. What was the name of the famous World War I American War Dog?
Stubby
6. How were scent dogs used in the Vietnam War?
The dogs sniffed out the tunnel systems that were used to ambush American soldiers. They also alerted their handlers about wired booby traps
7. Where in the US is the main training center for MWDs?
Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas
8. What is the key to a puppy being a successful MWD?
It is important that the puppy has a strong attachment to a particular toy.
9. How are puppies born at Lackland named to make them different from puppies from somewhere else?
They are named with double first letters like Ddaiz.
10. What happens to the puppies that show promise as MWDs for the first 7 months of their lives?
The puppies go to live with foster families. After 7 months, they are brought back and tested. If they don't work out they are adopted out.

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11. What is the special rubber toy called that the puppies are taught to search for?

Kong

12. What are the most intensely trained MWDs called and what are they used for?

They are called SSDs, specialized search dogs. They are used to search for explosives, their handlers get special training too.

13. After the handlers for SSDs show they can work with the dogs, what happens?

Each trainer gets 2 dogs and must pick just one after a month.

14. What is some of the special equipment used by MWDs?

1. doggles – goggles to protect from sand
2. cooling vests for deserts
3. armour used for battle
4. booties to protect from ice and snow

15. What are MWDs mainly used to in Iraq and Afghanistan?

They are used to sniff out IEDs(improvised explosive devices). They are deadly explosives hidden beneath the roads and paths.