



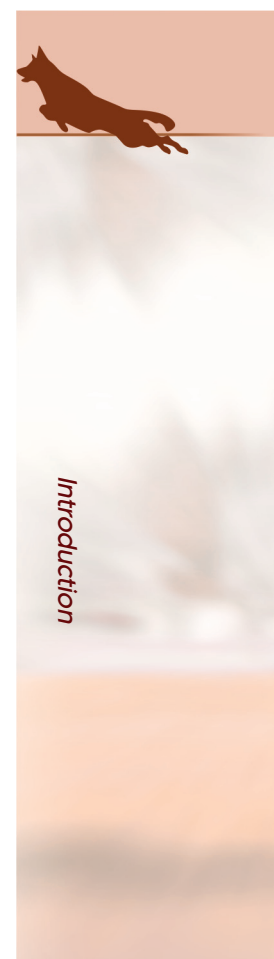
the continent. The French use them in base security roles in their African Protectorates. In Somalia in 1993, MWDs were used by the several UN Forces in the Explosive Detection Dog (EDD) role.

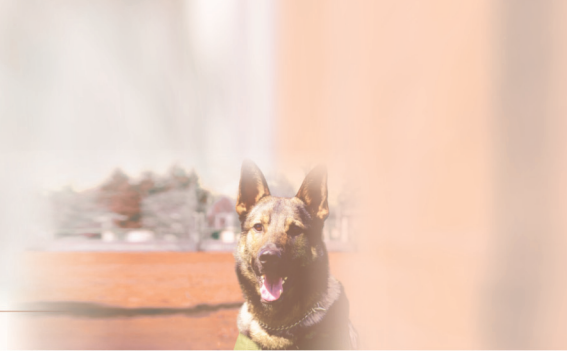
In China, the concept of working dogs dates way back to the times when they were used to crawl into tunnels under the palace for sentry duty and one bark from the dog meant an intruder was approaching. Smaller breeds were used for security and hunting small game. The large war dogs were popular in China, in medieval times but these breeds died out over a period. The Kunming Dog of China, which resembles to an extent with German Shepherd, was created in the 1950s when the Military Dog Training Centre was founded. This centre was shut down in the 1960s, during the Cultural Revolution, and was not reopened until the early 1990s. Before that, some military units had been breeding and training large dogs for security and other military tasks.

Presently, China employs tactical dogs in their army and also in police forces all over the country. These dogs are trained for various roles such as patrolling, scouting, sentry, drug and explosives detection and peacekeeping duties like tracking criminals, etc. The Military Dog Training Centre is located in Beijing and it also acts as a breeding facility for future military canines. Besides using the standard working breeds like the German Shepherd and Belgian Shepherd, Kunming Dog is quickly becoming popular in the dog enthusiast community. Although Chinese are known for eating dog meat, yet the handlers are very attached to their canine partners and the dogs are treated well. Over the last decade, China has increased its force of Military Working Dogs considerably and now has about 10,000 large dogs being used for security, rescue, and detection of explosives and drugs. Paramilitary police units and disaster relief organizations that specialize in rescue operations also use many of these dogs.

In Sri Lanka, Army has been widely using dogs for detection of mines and other explosives in the north and east and optimally utilized their keen senses of smelling in the Eelam War. The Sri Lankan Army employs 75 dogs, for detecting mines, explosives and warning soldiers against ambush. One of its much-loved brave Tracker Dog, Snowy, a golden Labrador of 4 Commando Regiment, was severely injured in grenade attack during a search operation in Kambiliya, Welioya on 15th March, 2008. The brave dog subsequently died and was fondly remembered on 24 May, 2011. A memoir was published under the heading "Much-Loved Snowy, after tireless tasks in humanitarian operations bids farewell to Army". Snowy was honoured with a 'Rana Wickrema Padakkama' (Heroic deeds) medal recognizing his daunting services on the battlefield. The Regimental Headquarters of Commando Regiment at Ganemulla, condoled his death and conducted a befitting funeral and wished him to attain Nirvana.

In India, Army dogs have been used successfully during war and peace. These brave canines along with their handlers proved their mettle in war, low intensity conflicts, counter insurgency operations and natural calamities like earthquakes, avalanches, cloud bursts, tsunami, etc. These dogs are more than companions of soldiers and help in efficient functioning of field forces in various security related tasks with phenomenal capabilities and unprecedented excellence. The performance of these courageous and reliable auxiliaries in various specialized fields as tracking saboteurs, guarding vital installations, explosive and mine detection, narcotic detection, augmenting infantry patrols and saving the precious lives in avalanche





through over 4000 metres, on a “very difficult terrain” on the Western Front, with an important message to a Brigade Headquarters, in less than sixty minutes when all other methods of communicating with the Headquarters had failed.

Mascot Dogs: These dogs were of great psychological comfort to soldiers trapped in the horrors of trench warfare. He did take away, even if for a short time, the horrors they lived through. It is said that Adolf Hitler kept a dog with him in the German trenches. For many soldiers on any of the sides that fought in the trenches, a dog must have reminded them of home comforts. There are two types of military mascots: (a) Those who appear as part of the regiment’s official history and are part of the order of battle with service rank and number. ‘Official’ British Army mascots were entitled to the services of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps as well as quartering and feeding at public expense. (b) There are also mascots whose costs are borne by the regiment or unit itself. The Irish Wolf Hound, for example, is the mascot of the Irish Guards. The first one was given to the regiment in 1902 and they were kept as pets until they became the official mascots in 1961. Although fearsome looking, Wolf Hounds are generally good natured and well-behaved, and thus make perfect regimental mascots. The Irish Guards is the only Guards regiment, presently permitted to have their mascot lead them on parade.

The heroic and hair raising tales of legendary Mascot Dogs in war speak volumes on their bravery, devotion and faithfulness for their masters. Dog named Magrita, a humanitarian dog served with Zouaves of the Guard and carried bandages in a sack hung around his neck and offered the bandages as first aid to the wounded soldiers in the battlefield. Similarly, who would easily believe that Moffino, a companion dog of an Italian corporal, was supposed to have been lost while crossing the Berezina River, travelled from Russia to Italy to reunite with his master a year later at Milan.

Russians utilized Ambulance Dogs in 1904 during Russo-Japanese War. A large number of dogs were used to carry ammunition bags and also as couriers under the line of enemy fire. They even used Sled Dogs to pull light guns, men and supplies. White Samoyeds were used to pull white clad marksmen on sled close to enemy line and in one sector, a team of Sled dogs carried 1239 wounded men from the battlefield and hauled 327 tons of ammunition within five working days. During this period French also used dogs extensively as ammunition carriers.

During World War I, “Stubby” became the most decorated dog in war, winning several medals and even the honorary rank of Sergeant. In 1921, General Blackjack Pershing, the supreme commander of American forces during the war, pinned Stubby with a “Gold Hero Dog Medal” that was commissioned by the Humane Education Society, the forerunner of current Humane Society. He became lifetime member of the Red Cross and YMCA. During the Italian-German invasion of Yugoslavia in 1941, Italians used dogs to guard prisoners of war and vital assets, such as railheads and bridges in the country. During World War II, a trained Sentry Dog named “Chips,” employed with a unit of 3rd American Division, single handedly attacked an enemy machine gun nest manned by four soldiers in a combat situation in Sicily and was awarded “Silver Star and Purple Heart”.

British Army used “Para Dogs” to support their troops in locating mines and booby traps after parachuting in to the enemy territory. One of such dog named “Bing” also known as “Brian” proved his mettle in saving the lives of troops at





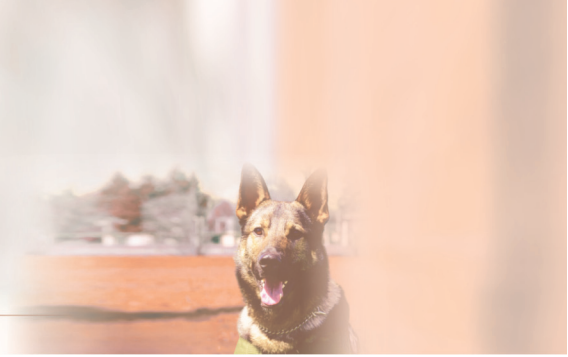
with his paw on young Prince Charles' foot, and Charles I fed him choice morsels of roast beef and breast of capon from the table, he could go invisible and that's how he spied and delved into necromancy").

During Medieval Times, dog handlers were called fewterers and were responsible for their lord's war and hunting dogs. Large Mastiff-type breeds were trained to attack humans and Hound breeds were used as tracker dogs. Use of dogs to guard convoys and caravans was quite prevalent during this period. The dogs were used as messengers by the Army of Fredrick the Great during seven years war from 1756 to 1763. In 1799, Napoleon positioned a large numbers of fighting dogs in front of his reserves and also ordered his troops to station dogs as guardians while occupying Egypt. He used dogs as sentries at the gates of Alexandria in Egypt, for early warning to his troops against attack by the enemy forces.

As Europeans expanded into the New World, so did their dogs. Perhaps the first war dogs in America were those used especially by the Spaniards against Aboriginal Americans, who in turn used dogs for their own purposes, such as guarding the camp or for early warning. Many of the United States' founders saw the effectiveness of dogs in battle and used them whenever they could. Native Aboriginal Americans used dogs for pack and sentry work. The first recorded use of dogs by the United States Army was in 1835 during the Second Seminole War. Thirty-three Cuban-bred Blood Hounds were bought at a cost of several thousand dollars and five handlers were used by the US Army to track the Seminoles and the runaway slaves harbouring in the swamps of western Florida and Louisiana. During the Civil War in United States from 1861 to 1865, dogs were used as messengers, guards and as mascots. As per a heart warming story, a woman named Mrs PfiEFF left her home in Illinois to find the remains of her husband Lt Louis PfiEFF of the 3rd Illinois Infantry, who had died on the battlefield of Shiloh. When she arrived, no one knew for certain the final resting place of her beloved husband. She was undeterred and trekked through the battlefield for clues. Her perseverance was rewarded when she saw her husband's faithful dog, whom he had brought along with him, walking towards her. She embraced the dog who led her and she, knowing the dog's devotion, followed. The dog took her to an unmarked grave of her late husband. She learned later that the dog had stood by the grave for 12 days.

Dogs were used as scouts for Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders' horseback patrols in the dense jungles of Cuba, during the Spanish-American War in 1898. Each of these 'War Dogs' were trained as point scouts. Ambushes by the enemy became near impossible and the lessons learned in Cuba by the US Corps were later proven in many Pacific Island jungles conflict against Japan during World War II and much later in Vietnam. During World War I, America did not have a war dog policy. However, the attack upon Pearl Harbour and the sudden entry of the United States into World War II, greatly stimulated interest in the use of dogs. 25 Marine War Dogs gave their lives liberating Guam in 1944 and many more served as Sentries, Messengers, and Scouts, exploring caves, detecting mines and booby traps, and bringing vital information across the battlefield. A statue was erected in their honour and the inscription on the statue perhaps sums up the efforts of war dogs throughout history. "Given in their memory and on behalf of the surviving men of the 2nd and 3rd Marine War Dogs Platoons, many of whom owe their lives to the bravery and sacrifice of these gallant animals..." Always Faithful "was inspired by the spirit of





particularly in diving or leaping overboard and then scrambling up again by a rope thrown over the side. Leo was the constant attendant on his master on all occasions of bathing. Acton was part of a piratical expedition to Porto Bello in Panama in 1819 headed up by the “Cacique of Poyais” aka the adventurer Sir Gregor M’Gregor. On 30th April, 1819, Acton had been on an out-picket during the night and after returning on 1st May, 1819, he went for bathing. While enjoying this luxury, after the fatigue of the night, the enemy came suddenly. Acton was defenceless, escape was impossible and the enemy bayoneted him in cold blood. His faithful Leo made a vigorous attack on the barbarous miscreants and was severely wounded, in the vain endeavour to defend his master.

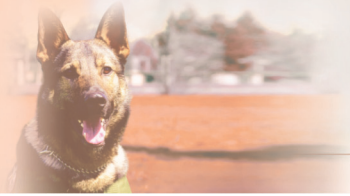
MOUSTACHE

The heroic and hair raising tales of Mascot Dogs in war speak volumes on their bravery, devotion and faithfulness for their masters. This brave dog was the pet of French Grenadiers regiment and took active part in various campaigns during the Napoleon wars. At the Battle of Marengo fought on 14th June, 1800, between French Forces under Napoleon Bonaparte and Austrian Forces, near the city of Alessandria, in Piedmont, Italy, the dog detected an Austrian spy, and thus saved the soldiers from a surprise attack by the enemy. His crowning achievement was at the Battle of Austerlitz fought on 2nd December, 1805, between the French Army and Russo-Austrian Army (Third Coalition), in Moravia, when a young ensign bearing the regimental colours, mortally wounded and surrounded by the enemy, with a dying effort attempted to save the flag by wrapping round his body. Moustache went to rescue and could understand what for the soldier had given his life. He successfully unfolded the strand with his teeth and paws and carrying it in his mouth, brought it back, in triumph to his lines, despite his leg wounded while saving the flag of the regiment. Moustache was awarded a medal of gallantry and his name was placed on the regimental books as a full-fledged soldier drawing rations and pay. This dog was decorated by Le Marechal Jean Lanes (Marshal of the Empire) on the eve of battle of Austerlitz and was entitled to wear a tri-colour collar with a silver medal, engraved on one side “Moustache, a French dog, a brave fighter entitled to respect”. He was presented to the Emperor Napoleon for whom he performed various tricks, including his most famous one, lifting his leg at the mention of the Emperor’s enemies. He followed his battalion when it was ordered to the Peninsula, and at the siege of Badajoz a cannon ball hit Moustache. The bravest dog fell dead on the ground and his comrades buried him where he fell. A stone was put to his memory with one word of tribute: “Brave’ Moustache.”

MOUTON

Mouton was a Poodle who was picked up in Spain in 1808 by a French Regiment and he accompanied the Regiment to Germany the following year. As a Regimental dog, Mouton participated in battle of Aspern-Essling from May 21–22, 1809 and battle of Wagram on July 5–6, 1809 in Austria. After the battle, Mouton followed his Regiment back to Spain in 1810. While en route, Mouton had all four legs frozen and could not walk. He was carried by a sergeant of his regiment on his back. Later, Mouton set off with the regiment for Russia in the spring of 1812, but got lost in Saxony. Subsequently, he recognized an echelon of the Regiment by the uniform, and followed it all the way for participating in more battles.

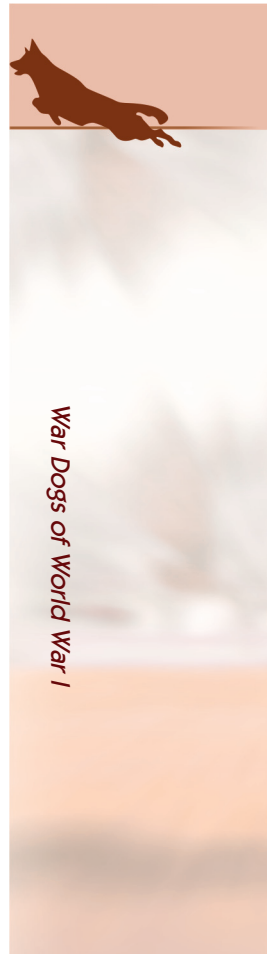




along with them in battle field unofficially. It was typical for soldiers to outfit their dogs with masks made for humans prior to the development of specialized animal masks. Many reporters used sentimental language and editorialized photographs of service animals with their human counterparts.

Of all the Allies during World War I, the French used more dogs and in the most ways. The French War Dog Service was established shortly after the beginning of World War I in 1914, and its success was largely due to the untiring efforts of Sgt Paul Megnin, who later became Chief of the Service. Even though the French Military had used sentry dogs as early as the 18th century, Sgt Megnin still had to overcome the prejudices of commanders who could not be easily convinced to use the dogs tactically in the war zone. The French War Dog Service organized two kennels near Paris and a third in Normandy for the training of dogs and a fourth was being contemplated at the time the Armistice was signed in 1918. As soon as the four-footed defenders had completed their training, the handlers were sent to the school at Satory for an eight-day course in dog handling. During this time they became thoroughly acquainted with the particular animals with which they were to work at the front. Besides using Auxiliary Sentry Dogs, the French also had what they called Enclosure Dogs and training of such dogs lasted from ten days to two weeks. These were simply efficient watch dogs who were set free at night inside an enclosed area, such as a factory yard. Tracker Dogs were trained for at least three months. Pack and Driving Dogs (these were large powerful breeds not qualified for other army work) were used for pulling machine guns, mortar and supply carts and as Pack Dogs. The French Messenger Dogs were divided into two classes, i.e. Estafettes, who were trained to run with a message from one point to another, and the Liaison Dogs, trained to return with an answer to the message.

The French employed Chiens De Brie, large sheep dogs, in sentry duties. During severe winter in 1915, some 400 Sled Dogs mostly Huskies, were brought by France from Canada to operate in deep snow. Heavy winter snows in the Vosges Mountains



French dogs pulling ammunition carriage

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