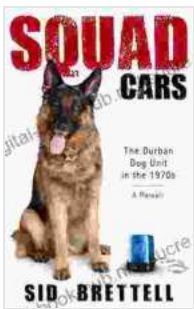


****The Durban Police Dog Unit: A Legacy of Canine Excellence in the 1970s****

The Durban Police Dog Unit, established in 1948, has played a pivotal role in maintaining law and order in the coastal city of Durban, South Africa. During the tumultuous 1970s, the unit faced unprecedented challenges, yet it remained a beacon of canine excellence, contributing significantly to the city's safety and security.



Squad Cars: The Durban Police Dog Unit in the 1970s

by Sid Brettell

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 8246 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 270 pages
Lending : Enabled



Establishment and Early Years

The Durban Police Dog Unit was founded in the aftermath of the Second World War by a group of dedicated police officers who recognized the potential of dogs as valuable partners in crime prevention. The first dogs trained by the unit were German Shepherds, renowned for their intelligence, loyalty, and athleticism. These dogs quickly proved their worth,

becoming indispensable in various policing roles, including tracking, searching, and crowd control.

Training and Selection

The training regimen for Durban Police Dogs was rigorous and demanding. Puppies were carefully selected for their temperament, intelligence, and trainability. They underwent an extensive training program that covered obedience, tracking, and controlled aggression. The dogs were trained to work seamlessly with their human handlers, forming an unbreakable bond of trust and cooperation.

Notable Cases

The Durban Police Dog Unit played a pivotal role in numerous high-profile cases during the 1970s. One notable incident occurred in 1972, when a group of thieves broke into a jewelry store in downtown Durban. Police dogs tracked the suspects to a nearby park, where they apprehended them and recovered the stolen goods.

In another incident, a group of armed robbers held up a bank in the city center. Police dogs were deployed to the scene and quickly cornered the suspects, leading to their arrest without any injuries or casualties.

Public Appreciation

The Durban Police Dog Unit gained widespread public appreciation for its exceptional performance and dedication to duty. The dogs and their handlers were often featured in local media outlets, showcasing their remarkable abilities and the bond they shared.

The unit's success story inspired other police forces in South Africa to establish their own dog units. By the end of the 1970s, the Durban Police Dog Unit had become a model for canine policing nationwide.

Legacy and Impact

The Durban Police Dog Unit's legacy extends far beyond the 1970s. The unit continues to provide invaluable support to the South African Police Service in Durban, playing a vital role in crime prevention, detection, and apprehension.

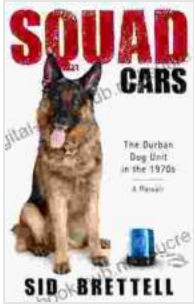
The unit's commitment to excellence has earned it national and international recognition. In 2013, the Durban Police Dog Unit was awarded the prestigious Top Dog Unit Trophy at the International Police Dog Trials held in Germany.

The Durban Police Dog Unit is a testament to the enduring power of the canine-human partnership. Through their unwavering loyalty, exceptional training, and unwavering dedication, the dogs and their handlers have made an immeasurable contribution to the safety and security of the city of Durban for over seven decades.

As the unit continues to serve the community with distinction, the legacy of its canine heroes will undoubtedly endure for generations to come.

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Black and white photograph of a Durban Police Dog posing alongside a male police officer in the 1970s, showcasing the unit's exceptional training and dedication to duty.

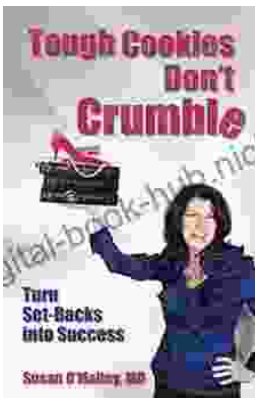


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