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# Dogs On Duty: Soldiers' Best Friends On The Battlefield And Beyond



## Synopsis

When the news of the raid on Osama Bin Laden's compound broke, the SEAL team member that stole the show was a highly trained canine companion. Throughout history, dogs have been key contributors to military units. Dorothy Hinshaw Patent follows man's best friend onto the battlefield, showing readers why dogs are uniquely qualified for the job at hand, how they are trained, how they contribute to missions, and what happens when they retire. With full-color photographs throughout and sidebars featuring heroic canines throughout history, *Dogs on Duty* provides a fascinating look at these exceptional soldiers and companions.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1190L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

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Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 10

## Customer Reviews

Gr 3-6-The invaluable contributions of Military Working Dogs are well documented in this book. Patent discusses their special attributes such as the night vision and sense of smell that help MWDs to keep their human partners safe. The roles they have played in World Wars I and II, in Vietnam, and in Iraq and Afghanistan are highlighted. Brief histories of individual dogs such as Stubby from World War I and Eli in Afghanistan are touchingly told. Present-day training and equipment are also explained. The excellently selected, full-color photos constantly capture these devoted canines selflessly performing their duties and sometimes just offering comfort and affection to their human

counterparts. The author points out that the military continues to classify these dogs as equipment in spite of their unique service, and many were abandoned in Vietnam when the U.S. left the country. Today, more are returning home and being adopted or continuing to serve in other capacities. Their story is impressive and the author has told it well.-Carol Schene, formerly at Taunton Public Schools, MA  
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“Bracing and surprising . . . [a] clear-eyed, smartly organized book.”  
Booklist, starred review on *Dogs on Duty* “This lively, bursting-with-color volume covers the life of the canine forces from puppy to MWD to retirement . . . A sure hit with dog lovers everywhere.”  
Kirkus Reviews, on *Dogs on Duty* “A moving portrayal of the powerful human-canine partnership.”  
Publishers Weekly, on *Dogs on Duty* “Their story is impressive and the author has told it well.”  
School Library Journal, on *Dogs on Duty* “Patent and Muñoz bring to life each step of progress and show how the bandy-legged, shoe-chewing puppy grew and graduated from Canine Good Citizen and obedience classes.”  
School Library Journal, starred review on *Saving Audie* “This polished photo-essay by frequent collaborators Patent and Muñoz will tug at the heartstrings of readers.”  
Publishers Weekly, on *Saving Audie* “Kids who’ve heard about the Michael Vick case will have a natural interest in the dogs involved, and Audie’s a limpid-eyed charmer with a heart-tugging tale.”  
BCCB, on *Saving Audie*  
--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Got this for my 8 year old for Christmas as a read aloud (some of the words and terms are a little advanced for him). He LOVES it, and begs for another chapter. It handles the nonfiction aspect without being too graphic about war, and shows the different/evolving roles our canine friends have in the military. I have found it an interesting read as well, and we have ordered more books on the same subject matter (Stubby the war dog, Balto the bravest dog ever to name two of them) as he seems to enjoy it so much. Took a chance on this one for him, and so glad I did!

This book provided a better view and an understanding of the important role military dogs play - saving lives and supporting the troops. One develops an appreciation and admiration for the canine and human heroes and their strong bond. This book was read to 2nd graders, who then discussed their own dogs and friends/family who have or are serving in the military.

Great book and story. We bought a copy for ourselves and one for the waiting room at our Veterinarian so it can be shared with lots of dog owners and lovers. The stories are so enlightening.

I like the book but I must have not read the description before ordering it. It is great for children or for reading to children. Just the same, I am still happy I ordered it. I wouldn't want this book as a paperback, though. I think I read about one of the dogs (Cairo?) in another book about military books, more of a non-fiction novel).

This is a great nonfiction book that delves into a different aspect of military service and the important roles that dogs play in protecting our soldiers. Our committee placed it on the 2014 ballot.

Read this book with a Reading class. Students found the book to be of high interest. It was a quick read with all of the great pictures. Gave a lot of good information covering the history of dogs in the service.

I bought this book for my grandson and he loved it. He liked it so much that I also bought it for my nephew. The boys are 8 and 9 years old. It is a wonderful book.

This is a fast reading, highly informational book on the wonderful two and four legged heroes that have served us and our country in so many ways throughout history. God bless each and every one of them! I highly recommend this book.

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