



Combat Assault Dog DEVIL

Combat Assault Dog (CAD) DEVIL was born on 14 April 2009 and raised by a civilian breeder until 2010. He was assessed and passed the SASR CAD selection course in mid to late 2010 and posted to 3 Squadron (SQN) SASR with handler Corporal Mark Donaldson VC. DEVIL deployed to Afghanistan with 3 SQN on Special Operations Tactical Group SOTG 15 on 28 February 2011.

DEVIL performed well on this tour and on numerous occasions was responsible for early warning of enemy dispositions, equipment and the apprehension of insurgents. On DEVIL's return to Australia, he was re-teamed with handler Trooper PT. He deployed again to Afghanistan with 3 SQN SASR on SOTG 17, 14 February 2012. DEVIL again performed with distinction and diligence to duty. On numerous occasions, DEVIL apprehended insurgents and provided early warning of enemy dispositions and located enemy equipment.

On 2 July 2012 DEVIL performed outstandingly by providing early detection of an enemy fighting position and immediately moved to interdict the insurgents. A contact ensued between the friendly force element and the insurgents. Devil apprehended an armed insurgent allowing the friendly force to gain awareness of the exact location and strength the enemy fighting position. Unfortunately, DEVIL was engaged by the insurgent at close quarters and he was killed instantly by small arms fire. DEVIL's early detection of the concealed enemy position definitely saved the lives of not only his handler but also the forward scout of the patrol because they were both unaware of the proximity of the enemy position. DEVIL's action revealed the enemy's presence to the patrol which allowed them early detection and accurate location of the enemy and then to successfully engage them without loss to the Australian force.

DEVIL was handled by the following members of the SASR:

- * Corporal Mark Donaldson VC
- * Trooper PT

DEVIL was awarded the following:

- * Canine Operational Service Medal - clasp Afghanistan
- * Canine Service Medal