



### **Combat Assault Dog QUAKE**

Combat Assault Dog (CAD) QUAKE was born early March 2008 within the RAAF puppy programme and mentored by a RAAF handler until 2011. QUAKE was selected for SASR CAD reinforcement cycle in early 2011 and on successful completion posted to 2 SQN SASR. QUAKE was deployed to Afghanistan with 1 SQN SASR on Special Operations Training Group (SOTG) 16 in September 2011 to replace another CAD that had been wounded in action (WIA).

QUAKE performed well on his tour with 1 SQN and on numerous occasions was responsible for the early warning of enemy and apprehension of insurgents. In January 2012, QUAKE was posted to 3 SQN SASR and deployed to Afghanistan with SOTG 17 arriving at Tarin Kowt in February 2012. Again, on numerous occasions QUAKE apprehended insurgents as well as providing early warning of enemy dispositions and equipment.

On 25 June 2012, QUAKE performed outstandingly. On this day he provided early detection of an enemy sentry position. He then immediately acted to interdict an insurgent hidden in a concealed position and during which he was killed in action by small arms fire. He died instantly. However, QUAKE's actions forced the insurgent to reveal his location thereby allowing the remainder of the patrol to close with and kill him. It also forced other enemy soldiers in the immediate vicinity, who had formed a good ambush position, to move. This movement was observed by the SASR Troop and they engaged the enemy killing five of them with no loss to the Australians.

QUAKE was handled by the following members of the SASR:

- Trooper MG
- Lance Corporal JA
- Corporal DB

CAD QUAKE was awarded the following medals:

- Canine Operational Service Medal - clasp Afghanistan
- Canine Service medal