



BOMB-SNIFFING DOGS



by Meish Goldish

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**Consultant: Freddie R. Brasfield
K-9 Search on Site**

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

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Publisher: Kenn Goin

Editorial Director: Adam Siegel

Creative Director: Spencer Brinker

Design: Dawn Beard Creative

Photo Researcher: Picture Perfect Professionals, LLC

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Goldish, Meish.

Bomb-sniffing dogs / by Meish Goldish.

p. cm. — (Dog heroes)

“K-9 search on site.”

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13: 978-1-61772-455-8 (library binding)

ISBN-10: 1-61772-455-6 (library binding)

1. Police dogs—Juvenile literature. 2. Search dogs—Juvenile literature. 3. Detector dogs—Juvenile literature. I. Title.

HV8025.G65 2012

363.325'163—dc23

2011038302

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For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 45 West 21st Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10010. Printed in the United States of America in North Mankato, Minnesota.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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Hidden Dangers

In March 2010, British soldiers in Afghanistan were on **patrol** with a Belgian shepherd named Chocolat. They came to a row of empty shops. Suddenly, the dog walked ahead of the men. He entered one of the stores by himself. Normally, Chocolat would never have left the sight of his **handler**, Private Steve Purdy. When the dog wouldn't come out of the building, Private Purdy knew that Chocolat must have smelled something dangerous inside.

The type of Belgian shepherd dog used to sniff for bombs is called a **Malinois** (mal-uhn-WAH).

Dasty, a Belgian Malinois, patrols a village in Afghanistan.

Soldiers carefully entered the shop. They discovered a huge supply of **explosives** hidden by the enemy. There were enough materials to make more than ten powerful bombs. Thanks to Chocolat, the weapons had been found before they could do any harm. Yet the soldiers now wondered: Were more bombs hidden nearby?



This British soldier and his dog are searching for bombs in Afghanistan.

A Deadly Trap

The soldiers continued to patrol the street. They soon spotted a large homemade bomb in front of another shop. A bomb expert was told to **defuse** it. He was **suspicious**, however. The **device** had been found too easily. He feared it might be wired to other bombs hidden nearby. Were the soldiers being led into a deadly trap?



Soldiers and their bomb-sniffing dog patrol the streets in Afghanistan.

Private Purdy sent Chocolat to sniff out a safe path to the back of the building. After following the bomb-sniffing dog, the soldiers blew open a hole in the back wall. Once inside the building, they could see that many other bombs were hidden in the area around the store. By safely leading the soldiers to the back of the building, Chocolat had once again helped save their lives.

Homemade bombs used to attack an enemy, such as these, are called improvised explosive devices, or IEDs.



Improvised explosive devices are also called roadside bombs.

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About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 200 books for children. His book *Heart-Stopping Roller Coasters* was a Children's Choices Selection in 2011. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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BOMB-SNIFFING DOGS

In March 2010, British soldiers in Afghanistan were on patrol with a Belgian Malinois named Chocolat. When they came to a row of empty shops, the dog entered one of the stores and wouldn't come out. Private Steve Purdy, Chocolat's handler, knew that the dog must have smelled explosives that were hidden inside the building. Would Chocolat be able to find the weapons before they could do any harm? Look inside to find out more about Chocolat and other bomb-sniffing dogs that have risked their lives to save troops from injuries and even death.

Baghdad Pups

Bomb-Sniffing Dogs

Combat-Wounded Dogs

Disaster Search Dogs

Dog Scouts of America

Eco Dogs

Fire Dogs

Guide Dogs

Hollywood Dogs

Medical Detective Dogs

Military Dogs

Pest-Sniffing Dogs

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Service Dogs

Sled Dogs

Snow Search Dogs

Therapy Dogs

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Wilderness Search Dogs

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

www.bearportpublishing.com

ISBN-13: 978-1-61772-455-8



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