

On the use of domesticated animals in war

Soumadeep Ghosh

Kolkata, India

Abstract

In this paper, I describe the use of domesticated animals in war.

Introduction

Domesticated animals like the dog, the horse and the elephant have been used in war since ancient times.

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The Dog

1. The guard dog

Found in homes and households, the guard dog is a faithful provider of domestic security against infiltrators and thieves.

2. The hunter dog

Found in rural areas and outlying cabins, the hunter dog is a faithful provider of security and is trained for hunting missions when food is scarce.

3. The police dog

Found in police stations, the police dog is a faithful provider of security and is trained for both bomb-detection and forensic missions.

Dog implements

1. Standardized dog food

2. Dog collar

3. Dog leash

4. Dog Kevlar vest

5. Dog sledge

The Horse

1. The scout

Housed in homes and stables, the scout is a light and swift horse which can carry one or two riders with light armor and light weaponry. The scout is not trained for battle and is primarily used as a reconnaissance or rescue unit.

2. The light cavalry

Housed in stables, the light cavalry is a light and swift horse with light armor and carries a knight with light armor and light weapons. The light cavalry is trained for riot control and simple missions beyond reconnaissance and rescue including short battles, but not war.

3. The heavy cavalry

Housed in stables, the heavy cavalry is a strong but relatively slower horse with heavy armor and carries a knight with medium armor and medium weapons. The heavy cavalry is trained for short battles and long wars.

Horse implements

1. Standardized horse food

2. Horse shoe

3. Horse saddle

4. Horse stirrup

5. Horse spurs

6. Horse chariot

The Elephant

1. The domestic elephant

Housed in stables, the domestic elephant is a beast of burden. The domestic elephant is not trained for battle and is primarily used as a transport and logistics unit.

2. The war elephant

Housed in separate stables from the domestic elephant, the war elephant is a beast of war. The war elephant is armoured and trained for riot control, short battles and is primarily used for power projection during war.

Elephant implements

1. Standardized elephant food

2. Elephant mahout

Other domesticated animals used in war

There exist other domesticated animals around the world that are sometimes used in war like the camel and the jaguar. However, these animals are found locally. Under the right circumstances, even the bigger cats like the leopard, the tiger and the lion can also be domesticated and trained for war, but they are very difficult to train and hence, rarely seen during war.

I've alluded to them nonetheless to keep a record of their rare use.

The End