

NEWS RELEASE
PLEASE NOTE DATE



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Washington 25, D. C.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**URGENT APPEAL ISSUED FOR DOGS
TO GUARD NATION'S MISSILE SITES**

An urgent appeal to dog owners and raisers for German Shepherds to be trained for sentry duty at Nike and other missile sites was made today by the Department of the Army.

The Army Quartermaster Corps, which procures dogs for both Army and Air Force use, announced last September a requirement for 1,000 dogs, to be procured at the rate of approximately 110 per month. About 300 dogs were purchased during the first 90 days after the initial announcement but the number being offered to the military has fallen off in the past few weeks.

Although this may be due in part to the increasing interest of municipal police forces throughout the country in the use of the same type of dogs for patrol work, Army Quartermaster Corps officials feel it is more likely that the public is not aware of the continuing need of the Army and Air Force for dogs.

High standards are set for military guard dogs. They must meet the following specifications:

Pure-bred German Shepherd; one to three years of age; males preferred; females must be spayed at least 90 days prior to acceptance; minimum height at shoulder, 23 inches, maximum shoulder height, 28 inches; minimum weight 60 pounds, maximum weight 90 pounds; any inconspicuous color, no whites.

Registration is not essential, but animals accepted must be physically and mentally sound and must have typical German Shepherd characteristics. Alertness, aggressiveness and vigor are necessary qualities. Dogs which are noise or gun-shy will not be accepted.

Prices paid are based upon merits of the individual dog with a maximum of \$150.00 paid for an outstanding dog.

Persons interested in selling qualified animals are urged to get in touch with the Office of The Quartermaster General, Installations Division, ATTN: Contracting Officer, Washington 25, D.C., for further information.

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