

# Japanese cops cross-dress for bag snatch dragnet

## 日本警察男扮女裝 欲智擒奪包搶匪



Patrolling in high heels, wigs and designer bags, Japanese black-belt policemen have been cross-dressing in a bid to beat off bag-snatchers, according to a report.

The all-male squad has been **deployed** since last month on night patrols in central Aichi prefecture, wearing skirts and stockings and carrying eye-catching handbags as bait for potential thieves, the *Asahi* daily reported.

So far no **muggers** have been **brought to book** by the unit, the *Asahi* said, and Aichi police declined to comment to AFP on the report. To qualify for the special squad, police have to be young, slim and hold the top rank of a black belt in a martial art such as karate or judo, the report said.

A 26-year-old officer — measuring 1.71m in height and weighing in at a dainty 61kg — expressed pride

in the mission, telling the daily: “It’s cowardly to target women who are weak.”

The operation has not been without its **pitfalls**. Some of the stylish policemen have become targets themselves — of cat-calls and lewd propositions.

One 25-year-old officer said he “panicked” one night when a male driver leaned out of his car window and asked if he wanted to go for a drive. (AFP)

**據**報導，日本黑帶級男警員為了打擊奪包搶匪，穿上高跟鞋、頭戴假髮，手拎名牌包變裝巡邏。

《朝日新聞》報導，這個全由男警組成的專案小組從上個月開始，在愛知縣中部執行夜間巡邏勤務，他們穿上裙子和長統絲襪，拿著顯眼的手提包，引誘奪包賊上鉤。

《朝日新聞》報導，至目前為止，他們還未逮到任何攔路搶匪；愛知縣警方拒絕回應法新社針對該報導的採訪。報導中指出，該專案小組的員警都很年輕、身材苗條，而

且都是空手道或柔道黑帶高手。

一名二十六歲的員警（身高一百七十一公分、體重僅有六十一公斤）表示，能參與這項任務讓他感到很驕傲，他對《朝日新聞》表示：「以柔弱的女性為目標是卑劣的行為。」

這項行動進行以來，員警們難免會碰上一些意想不到的困擾。部份打扮時髦的員警也自身不保，成了登徒子吹口哨和搭訕的目標。

一名二十五歲的員警表示，某晚有一名男性駕駛從車內探出頭來，問他要不要一起去兜風，頓時讓他「不知所措」。

（法新社／翻譯：袁星塵）

Above: Pedestrians cross the intersection in Tokyo’s upscale Ginza shopping district, on Nov. 16, 2009. PHOTO: EPA

上圖：十一月十六日，日本東京高檔商店林立的銀座商圈，行人穿越十字路口。 照片：歐新社

### TODAY’S WORDS

今日單字

- 1. **deploy** /diˈplɔɪ/ v.  
部署 (bu4 shu3) · 調度 (diao4 du4)  
**例:** Fortunately, the parachutist was able to deploy his emergency parachute after his main parachute failed to open.  
(幸運的是，那名跳傘者在主傘打不開後，緊急打開了副傘。)
- 2. **mugger** /ˈmʌɡə/ n.  
攔路搶劫者 (lan2 lu4 qiang3 jie2 zhe3)  
**例:** The police are still trying to catch a mugger who made off with an expensive cellphone outside the subway station.  
(警方還在緝捕一名在地鐵站外搶走昂貴手機的搶匪。)
- 3. **pitfall** /ˈpɪtˌfɔːl/ n.  
隱藏的危險 (yin3 cang2 de5 wei2 xian3) · 易犯的錯誤 (yi4 fan4 de5 cuo4 wu4)  
**例:** There are a lot of pitfalls you’ll need to avoid if you want to do well at university.  
(若你想在大學表現優異，就得避免犯下很多意想不到的錯誤。)

### IDIOM POINT

重要片語

**bring to book**  
繩之以法

If someone is **brought to book**, they are punished. The expression is usually used passively. According to the article, so far no muggers have been **brought to book** by the undercover officers.

Examples: “We are confident that the perpetrators of the robbery will be **brought to book** within a few days,” or “Whoever stole the car will be caught and **brought to book**.”

若說某人被「bring to book」，就表示他們被懲罰。這個片語通常用作被動式。上文中提到，至目前為止，還沒有搶匪被變裝的便衣警員逮捕。

例如：「我們有信心，近日內就會將這批搶匪繩之以法」，或是「無論偷車賊是誰，都會被逮捕並繩之以法」。