



## Jesus the pit bull gets no mercy from cops 美警開槍擊斃「耶穌」

Police in a Washington suburb are in the awkward situation of having to admit they killed "Jesus" — after they shot and killed the Rottweiler-pit bull mix who had attacked its owner.

Police in Rockville, Maryland were called to a house by the owner of Jesus after the 60kg dog became aggressive and **agitated**, the department told AFP.

They managed to catch the animal but searched in vain for sedatives to **subdue** it.

Then they used a Taser device to administer 50,000 volts of electricity to the animal, which would ordinarily provoke instant paralysis, but they soon realized they were **barking up the wrong tree**. "It didn't faze the dog at all," Rockville police chief Terry Treschuk said.

"We tried everything. We just had to make a decision and bring this to an end," he said.

So police shot and killed the dog.

Jesus' owner was hospitalized with bites to the arms, chest and thighs.

Three children who were in the house were evacuated without injuries.

Pit bulls have a reputation for being aggressive, and cases of them turning on their owners are not unknown. According to a 2000 study by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, pit bulls, Rottweilers and associated breeds accounted for over 50% of all human fatalities from dog attacks.

In many **jurisdictions** pit bulls are classified as dangerous dogs, regulating who can own them and how they should be kept.

(AFP WITH STAFF WRITER)

**華** 盛頓郊區的警方現在碰到一個棘手的狀況，他們得承認殺害「耶穌」——他們槍殺了這隻攻擊主人的羅威納與鬥牛犬混種狗。

馬里蘭州洛克威爾警局對法新社表示，員警獲報趕到「耶穌」的飼主家，因為這隻六十公斤重的狗變得很有攻擊性而且焦躁不安。

他們設法要抓住牠，卻找不到鎮定劑制伏牠。

於是他們用泰瑟電擊設備，以五萬伏特的電壓電擊這隻狗，被這樣的電力擊中通常會立刻全身麻痺，但過沒多久他們就發現是在白費力氣。洛克威爾警察局長泰瑞·崔斯查克說：「電擊對這隻狗完全沒用。」

他說：「我們試了各種方法。我們得做出個決定，解決這件事。」

因此，警方射殺了這隻狗。

耶穌的主人因手臂、胸口和大腿都被咬傷而住院治療。

當時在屋內的三名孩童毫髮無傷地被疏散到屋外。

鬥牛犬生性好鬥，攻擊飼主的案例也時有所聞。根據疾病管制中心二〇〇〇年所做的一項研究指出，人類被狗攻擊致死的案例中，五成以上是由鬥牛犬、羅威那犬和其近親所造成。

許多國家和地區都把鬥牛犬歸類為危險犬類，對於飼主的資格和飼養的方式都有所規定。

(法新社/翻譯：袁星豐)

Above: A pit bull is seen at an emergency shelter that has been housing hundreds of dogs seized as part of the largest dog-fighting raid in US history, on Nov. 10, 2009, in St. Louis, Missouri.

PHOTO: AP

上圖：十一月十日，密蘇里州聖路易一間緊急收容所中的一隻鬥牛犬。牠是美國史上最大規模的鬥狗查緝行動中，被查封帶回的上百隻狗中的一隻。

照片：美聯社

### TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

#### 1. **agitated** /'ædʒɪ,tetɪd/ adj.

焦躁不安的 (jiao1 zao4 bu4 an1 de5)

**例**: Prior to the thunderstorm, many of the animals became agitated. (暴風雨來之前，許多動物都會變得焦躁不安。)

#### 2. **subdue** /səb'dju/ v.

制伏 (zhi4 fu2)

**例**: The police were able to subdue a fan who ran onto the stage. (警方制伏了一名衝上台的粉絲。)

#### 3. **jurisdiction** /,dʒʊrɪs'dɪkʃən/ n.

司法轄區 (si1 fa3 xia2 qu1)

**例**: Smoking in public is banned in several jurisdictions. (若干司法管轄區內禁止民眾在公眾場合吸菸。)

### IDIOM POINT 重要片語

#### barking up the wrong tree 白費力氣、搞錯對象

Someone is **barking up the wrong tree** if they are making the wrong choice or have the wrong idea about something. The expression derives from hunting, when dogs were used to chase animals.

Examples: "You're **barking up the wrong tree** if you think I had anything to do with it," or "I was sure that the software was the cause of the problem, but I was **barking up the wrong tree**."

若說某人「bark up the wrong tree」，就表示他們做了錯誤的決定或搞錯事情。這個片語源於打獵時用狗來追逐獵物的情形。

例如：「如果你覺得我和這件事有關，你就大錯特錯了」，或是「我本來很肯定問題就出在那個軟體，結果是我搞錯了」。