

ST 6/12/93 Salty dogs and carnivorous canines

Short Circuits

MAROOCHYDORE, Australia (AP) Fishermen have rescued a dog swimming in the Pacific Ocean more than 6 km off the coast of Queensland state.

One of the rescuers, Tom Pettinger, said Thursday no one knows how the German Shepherd got so far out to sea.

"It was swimming but it was pretty tired. It didn't

want to come near us so we pulled up alongside it and lifted it into the boat," Pettinger said.

Once aboard, the dog headed straight for the cabin and fell asleep.

Customs officials fear the 4-year-old bitch might have fallen overboard from a passing foreign ship on Wednesday and have placed it in quarantine.

Australia has strict laws against the importation of dogs as a means of stopping

the disease rabies which does not exist here.

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WELLINGTON, New Zealand (Reuter) A man bit off the tip of a police dog's ear on Thursday and received a bite in the testicles in return.

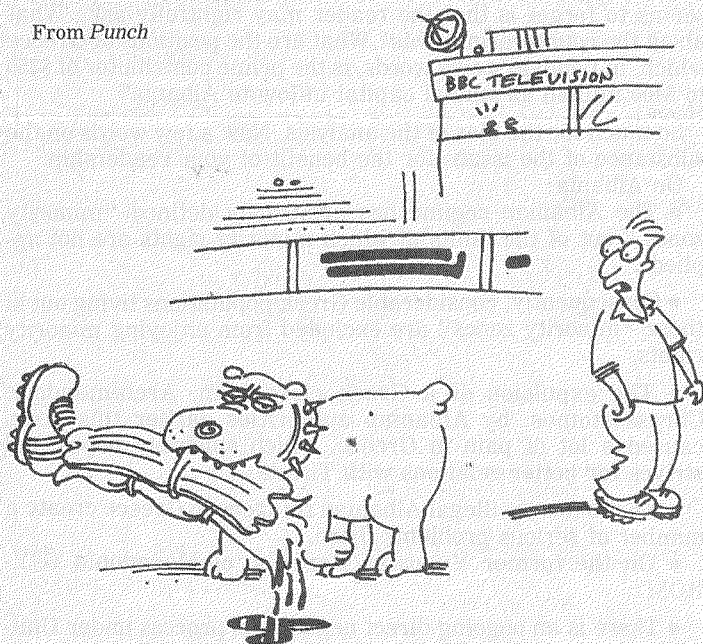
Police dog handler Constable Laurie McNeal said he had sent his dog Tyke into a house in Timaru, in New Zealand's South Island, to disarm a man carrying a gun.

Tyke gripped the man's

arm with his teeth and the offender reacted by biting off part of the dog's ear, McNeal said. Tyke responded by releasing his grip on the arm and biting the man's testicles, ending the one-sided dispute quickly.

Police said Tyke was expected back on full duties shortly. The condition of the man was unknown. The offender has been charged with obstructing police and cruelty to an animal.

From Punch



"Well, Fred, it looks like we've got a slight delay as a pitbull strays on to the pitch."