

From: United States Army Special Operations Command

11/27/2019

Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Freedom of Information Act Request: Conan the gender-neutral dog

Email

Muckrock,

See article at link below; and response from the USSOCOM PAO and let me know if this answer your FOIA request.

<https://www.stripes.com/news/us/mystery-solved-delta-force-dog-conan-is-indeed-a-good-boy-not-girl-1.608822>

Sincerely,

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Mystery solved: Delta Force dog Conan is indeed a good boy, not girl

By STEVE BEYNON | STARS AND STRIPES Published: November 26, 2019

Mystery solved: Delta Force dog Conan is indeed a good boy, not girl



Vice President Mike Pence pets Conan, the U.S. Army dog that participated in the raid that killed ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, in the Rose Garden of the White House, Monday, Nov. 25, 2019, in Washington.

EVAN VUCCI/AP

WASHINGTON — Conan, the warrior dog with the Army's elite Delta Force who was injured in the raid on ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi last month, has been identified as male after a whirlwind of confusion in Washington.

In October, when Trump tweeted a photo of Conan after the raid, the White House wouldn't confirm gender. The question hit critical mass after White House officials gave conflicting information to the press Monday when President Donald Trump awarded the pooch a medal and plaque in a surprise Rose Garden ceremony.

The president used male pronouns to refer to the dog, but White House officials later said Conan is female.

On Tuesday, an official with Special Operations Command confirmed to Stars and Stripes that Conan — a Belgian Malinois who's a veteran of more than 50 combat missions — was indeed a male.

Twitter barked back at the White House confusion. MSNBC tweeted: "Is Conan a male or female dog? The US government can't seem to decide."

What would be an extraneous detail of the historic special operations mission became a pool of misinformation.

Conan had a minor injury during the raid due to exposed wires and has since recovered and is back on duty.

"They are very special dogs," Trump said Monday during Conan's White House visit. "This is the ultimate fighter, the ultimate everything."

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