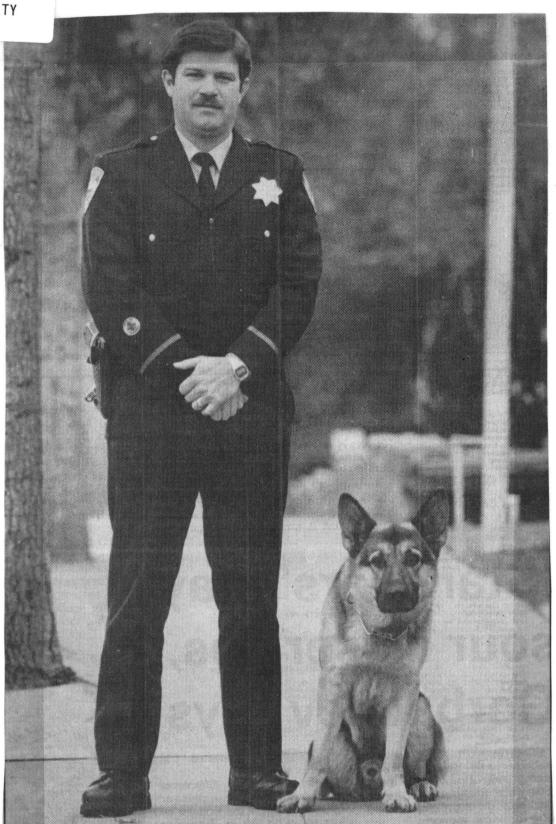
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Officer Carey Lindgren and Orko have trained together for 1,500 hours.

Second canine unit added to Santa Cruz police force

By MARK BERGSTROM

Sentinel Staff Writer

SANTA CRUZ - Santa Cruz Police Officer Carey Lindgren and his German shepherd, Orko, have graduated at the top of their class at the police dog academy in Riverside.

Eleven dogs and handlers participated in the three-week Adlerhorst International Academy at Riverside.

Orko, a 3-year-old male, has now completed almost 1,500 hours of training with Lindgren, a veteran officer

Orko and Lindgren are now on patrol, working a 6 p.m. to 4 a.m. shift. Most major in-progress crime calls occur during those

The new team joins Officer Marv Gangloff and his shepherd, Utz, who have been on patrol for three years.

The two teams rotate calls at other hours so, according to Lt. Chuck Gilbert, a police dog is available at any time to search for lost persons or hunt out burglars in buildings.

To search for a burglar in a large building, like Leask's department store, would take eight officers about three hours, Lindgren said. Orko or Utz can do the same job with only four officers in about a half hour, he

Orko worked the streets for about four months before going to the academy. In that time he made 15 "arrests," most of them burglars, Lindgren said.

In his three years on the police force, Utz has made 68 arrests and has found 23 lost people, according to Gangloff. Gangloff, who trains police dogs for a variety of jurisdictions, gave Orko his initial training.

Orko and Utz have shown their stuff to a number of local schools and service organizations. Gilbert said organizations or schools wishing demonstrations maycall him at the Police Department.