



Bearskins Are for Bears, Not Guards

Did you know it takes the entire skin of one bear to make just one of the Queen's Guards' headpieces? Probably not. Most people think faux fur is already used for these hats, but that is not the case. Black bears are *still* hunted down and shot – or ensnared in painful traps to be killed when a hunter finally comes along – in Canada, and their skins are shipped to Britain to be used in the Queen's Guards' ceremonial hats.

The British government claims to care about animal welfare, yet it supports the suffering of black bears who are slaughtered for their skins. Some bears who escape after being shot die slowly from blood loss or infected wounds. The victims are often bears with nursing cubs, who – unable to survive without their mothers – starve to death.

In the 21st century, there is no excuse for making ceremonial hats from animal skins. Please help convince The Queen to switch to faux fur today.

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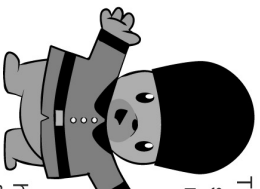
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The British Army has already started using synthetic materials. Fake leopard skin is now worn by drummers in military bands, while some of the smaller "bushby" hats worn by the King's Troop are now made of synthetic material rather than beaver fur.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) claims it has been looking for a faux-fur substitute for bearskins for 20 years. Although modern, animal-free fibres are widely available, the MoD has come up empty-handed. While the MoD's "search" continues, more bears are needlessly killed. **It's time to make our voices heard!**

The British public and tourists must show they don't support this cruel trade.

What You Can Do

Help us remind the Ministry of Defence (MoD) that bears have families, do not deserve to die for a hat, and feel pain and terror when they're hunted. Help us send bearskin hats to Britain's history books, where they belong.

- Urge Queen Elizabeth II, the Ministry of Defence and your MP to adopt a fur-free policy:

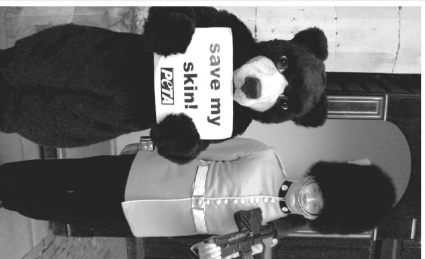
The Private Secretary to Her Majesty The Queen
Buckingham Palace
London SW1A 1AA

The Rt Hon Des Browne, MP
Secretary of State for Defence
Ministry of Defence, Main Building
London SW1A 2HB

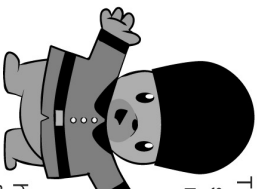
Go to
www.upmystreet.com/commons/
to find your MP's address.

- Never wear any furl! If you wear fur, you are supporting the torture of animals, who feel fear and pain just like the dogs and cats we share our homes with.

- Visit peta2.com to find out about other ways to help animals and to order free stickers and DVDs.



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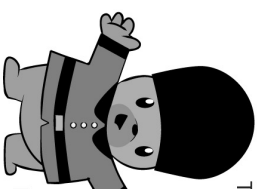
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