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The attack that sparked protest: Postman relives nasty dog bite

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By [Leah Furbert](#)
(News from 2005-09-21 Edition)

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The man whose savage attack by a German shepherd sparked a protest march by postal workers spoke yesterday about the ordeal, which landed him in hospital.

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Larry Hunt, a postal worker for Mangrove Bay Post Office, was delivering mail in the Cook's Hill area of Somerset when he was attacked by the dog last week. The incident prompted fellow postal workers to march on the Cabinet Building on Monday to demand more stringent control over dogs by their owners.

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Two members of the public who came to Mr Hunt's aid were also bitten. Mr Hunt, 56, is now recovering at home and doesn't expect to work again for at least two weeks. He says that the dog had always appeared aggressive when he was delivering the mail. He had even spoken to the dog's owners previously, telling them that if the dog was to break free from its chain, "he would bite somebody".

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Last Tuesday morning, Mr Hunt was doing his deliveries as usual. He said: "The dog normally comes out and barks at me, but it's normally tied up. As I was leaving the residence, backing off on my bike, it came around the corner. I didn't think it was going to keep coming... but when I looked again he was just about on top of me. I tried to get the bike between me and him but he just ran round the bike, by the time I tried to defend myself he had bitten me."

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The dog bite ripped out part of the back of Mr. Hunt's knee, he says. Two neighbours tried to help Mr Hunt and were also bitten. Even when paramedics came, they were unable to get to Mr Hunt until one of the neighbours held the dog back and Mr Hunt could go across to them. Mr Hunt was lucky that no ligaments or tendons in his leg were torn. Still, he had to undergo surgery and spent two days in the hospital.

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Mr Hunt claims there have been at least three similar incidents. This Monday, Bermuda's postal workers marched to and gathered on the steps of the post office with placards to protest. The Postal Service is in the process of putting together a list of problem dogs and owners warning that areas where there is a risk of dog attacks, may have a loss of service.

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