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582798X WOJTEK THE BEAR: Polish War Hero. By Aileen Orr. This is the inspiring true story of a Syrian brown bear who became one of WWII’s most unusual combatants. Originally adopted as a mascot by the Polish Army in Persia, Wojtek, as the bear cub was named, soon took on a new role, carrying heavy mortar rounds for the troops and going on to play his part in the Soviet-Polish border battles of 1940.

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