COP'S WORD

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They are policemen stressed out by their jobs : depressed, alcoholic or suicidal. They come to the "château de Courbat" in France's Touraine region for help. For the first time, a television crew has been given access to film the daily life at this special clinic.
Set up in 1951, this centre is unique in its kind: it is to make up for the shortcomings of the administration that waited until 1999 to organise the first support committees within the National Police. The number of policemen experiencing physical and psychological disorders due to their jobs is increasing. The suicide rate among them is double the rate of the rest of the French population. They suffer from illnesses directly connected to their profession: depression and alcoholism, often accompanied by nicotine addiction and increased use of medication. Who are these burnt out policemen and why did they break down?

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