

# First Hand Account Of The Largest Operation Of The Afghan War



The Afghan War has been one of the most significant conflicts of the 21st century, with numerous operations carried out by various countries involved in an attempt to stabilize the region. Among these operations, one stands out as the largest and most impactful, leaving an indelible mark on the history of the Afghan War.

## **The Prelude**

It all began when intelligence agencies detected a significant insurgent presence in a strategically important province in Afghanistan. The intelligence indicated that a major Taliban stronghold was being used as a base for planning and executing attacks against Afghan and coalition forces. The decision was made to launch a massive operation to neutralize this threat and reclaim control of the province.



## Strike: A First Hand Account of the Largest Operation of the Afghan War

by Gudrun Harrer (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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As preparations for the operation began, troops from multiple nations were gathered, forming a formidable coalition force. This collaborative effort aimed to bring together the best minds and resources to ensure the success of the operation and minimize the risk to the troops involved.

### The Operation Unfolds

The day of the operation finally arrived, marked by an air of anticipation and anxiety among the troops. The plan involved a multi-pronged approach, with ground forces supported by intense airstrikes intended to soften the targets and disrupt enemy lines of communication.

As the forces moved in, they faced fierce resistance from well-entrenched insurgent fighters. The intense combat lasted for days as the troops pushed deeper into enemy territory, engaging in close-quarters combat and utilizing advanced tactics to gain an advantage.

The troops faced numerous challenges, including intricate improvised explosive devices (IEDs) strategically placed to slow their advance. The experience and training of the soldiers were put to the ultimate test as they had to navigate through treacherous terrain while being constantly under fire.

## **The Turning Point**

After days of intense fighting, a decisive turning point in the operation emerged. Intelligence reports indicated that the insurgent leaders, responsible for orchestrating attacks across the region, were hiding in a heavily fortified compound. This discovery provided a new target for the troops, and plans were immediately adjusted to neutralize this high-value target.

The assault on the compound was swift and skillfully executed. Special forces units, renowned for their precision and efficiency, spearheaded the attack. The compound was raided, resulting in the capture of several high-ranking insurgent leaders and the recovery of critical intelligence that would later prove vital in dismantling the insurgent network.

## **The Aftermath**

The success of the operation was a significant blow to the insurgent forces. With key leaders captured and their infrastructure weakened, their ability to carry out coordinated attacks was severely hampered.

The significance of this operation extended beyond its immediate impact. The operation served as a turning point in the overall strategy of the Afghan War. The success of the largest operation boosted morale among the troops and bolstered public confidence in the mission.

Moreover, the operation provided valuable lessons that shaped future operations in the war. The challenges encountered and strategies employed became crucial case studies for military academies and defense institutions seeking to refine their tactics.

## A Lasting Legacy

The largest operation of the Afghan War left an enduring legacy. It showcased the determination and resilience of the troops involved, highlighting their unwavering commitment to bring stability to a war-torn region.

Years have passed, and the landscape of the Afghan War has evolved. However, the lessons learned and the bravery displayed during this operation continue to inspire both current and future generations of military personnel.

The first-hand account of the largest operation of the Afghan War serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by the men and women who served in the conflict. Their bravery and unwavering dedication contributed to the broader goal of creating a secure and stable Afghanistan.



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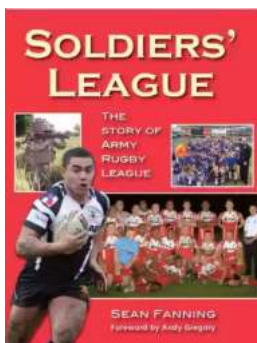
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Until June 2010, the Taliban had never known defeat in its historic homeland of Kandahar. But with the arrival of STRIKE Brigade of the storied 101st Airborne Division, this intractable enemy would be defeated in its historic stronghold and the tide of the Afghanistan War would be changed forever.

In this remarkable firsthand account, STRIKE reveals the successes and sacrifices of this incredible unit as it conducted the largest combined operation of the war in Afghanistan. Army officer Stephen Hummel details how STRIKE cleared, held, and built its way toward victory against an entrenched insurgent force, successfully employing COIN principles against an enemy known for its resiliency and in a country known for its defiance.

A must read for practitioners and non-practitioners alike, STRIKE illustrates why this unit succeeded where others failed and why it was awarded the Army's highest unit honor—the Presidential Unit Citation—for the critical 11 months it spent fighting for Kandahar.



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