

The Paper That Changed The War In Afghanistan

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The War in Afghanistan Analysis

The United States of America has the highest spending force in the world, accounting for over 40% of the world's spending on military. Despite the US President having supreme authority over foreign policy, the Secretary of State is charged with the role of maintaining diplomacy with other states. The Secretary of State, who is a similar position as Foreign Affairs Minister, will consult the President on the policies that define the interests of the United States and the strategies they will use to achieve their goals. Since as early as 1775, the United States of America has been making many very many foreign incursions. Till to date, the US has been still involved in foreign incursions with the highest one being in Mali where they have sent their troops to assist the French in the Operations Serval. The most noticeable foreign involvement by the US is the war on terror. In the recent past, terrorist groups, more so in the Middle East, have posed a major security threat in the world. The global war on terror is used in military to counter the attacks in the United States on the 11th September, 2001. NATO and non-NATO forces united to counter the conflict. The former President of the U.S. Bush was the first person to use this phrase on the 20th September 2001 when he was announcing the intentions of the U.S to counter the events of 9/11 days earlier. Their major targets were Islamic groups, such as al-Qaeda.

The War in Afghanistan

Historical Background of the Conflict

Since 1974, Afghanistan has experienced several coups, but the government always had the support of the people. At the time, the US and the USSR were in the Cold War after the expansion in the US war with Vietnam. The US was interested in making sure that no attempts in military by the USSR failed. They therefore, supported the invasions by financing them. This war was between the Afghanistan forces, led by the Soviet Union, and a multi-national group known as Mujahideen, it lasted from the year 1979 to 1989.

In December 1979, the Soviet Union forces went to Afghanistan to try and bring down the tension in the country. The Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Hafizullah Amin, had tried to suppress the Muslim tradition in the country in a bid to achieve a more civilized Afghanistan causing the Civil war in the nation (Barnhamyer & Palmer, 2004).

When a big number of Muslim leaders were arrested, most of those who left moved to the mo

In the annals of military history, the course of wars has often been altered by a single pivotal moment. In the protracted and complex conflict in Afghanistan, one such moment came in the form of a seemingly innocuous document: The Paper.



One Tribe at a Time: The Paper that Changed the War in Afghanistan by Jim Gant

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2339 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 190 pages
Lending	: Enabled



In 2009, a group of U.S. Army officers, led by Lieutenant Colonel Paul Scharre, embarked on a clandestine mission to gather intelligence on the Afghan insurgency. Their assignment was to delve into the heart of enemy territory and establish a network of informants.

Amidst the challenges and risks of their mission, the officers discovered a pattern. The insurgents were using a specific type of paper, a type not commonly found in Afghanistan, for printing propaganda and operational documents. This paper, the officers realized, was a potential gold mine of information.

With meticulous care, they collected samples of the paper and sent them back to the U.S. for analysis. The results were astonishing. The paper contained a unique watermark that identified the manufacturer: a small, unknown company in Pakistan.

This breakthrough was a game-changer. It revealed a direct link between the Afghan insurgency and a specific entity in Pakistan. The U.S. military and intelligence agencies had long suspected Pakistani support for the insurgency, but this paper provided irrefutable evidence.

Armed with this intelligence, the U.S. government confronted Pakistan and demanded a crackdown on the paper manufacturer. The Pakistani government, under international pressure and the threat of sanctions, complied.

The impact of The Paper was far-reaching. It severed a critical supply line for the Afghan insurgency, disrupting their propaganda efforts and operational capabilities. It also led to increased scrutiny of Pakistan's role in the conflict, forcing them to reassess their support for the insurgents.

The story of The Paper is a testament to the power of intelligence and the ingenuity of those who gather it. It is a reminder that even in the most challenging of circumstances, a small piece of evidence can have profound implications.

In his gripping book, "The Paper That Changed the War in Afghanistan," Lieutenant Colonel Paul Scharre provides a firsthand account of the mission that led to this extraordinary discovery. With vivid detail and expert analysis, he recounts the challenges, risks, and ultimate triumph of the team that unearthed The Paper.

Scharre's book is a must-read for anyone interested in the complexities of modern warfare, the role of intelligence in shaping events, and the stories of those who serve on the front lines of conflict. Its insights are invaluable

to policymakers, military strategists, and anyone seeking to understand the intricate interplay of war and intelligence.

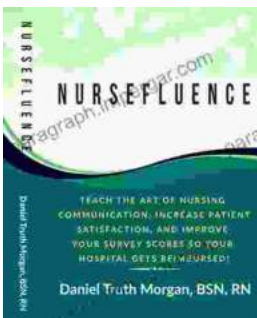
So delve into the pages of "The Paper That Changed the War in Afghanistan" and witness the unfolding of a remarkable story that reshaped the course of a conflict.



One Tribe at a Time: The Paper that Changed the War in Afghanistan by Jim Gant

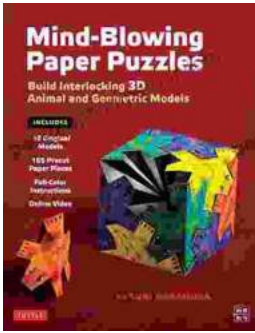
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