

FACT SHEET

THE GOOD FRIDAY BATTLE

The Untold Story of a German Platoon in Afghanistan – and the American Pilots Who Saved Them

BOOK INFORMATION

- **Title:** *The Good Friday Battle*
- **Subtitle:** *The Untold Story of a German Platoon in Afghanistan — and the American Pilots Who Saved Them*
- **Author:** Wolf Gregis
- **English adaptation / translation:** Jeff Montrose
- **Publisher:** Sunbury Press
- **Publication Date:** June 2026
- **Original German Title:** *Das Karfreitagsgefecht*
- **Genre:** Narrative nonfiction / military history
- **Language:** English

EVENT AT A GLANCE

- **Event Date:** April 2, 2010
- **Location:** Isa Khel, Chahar Dara district, Kunduz Province, Afghanistan
- **German Unit Involved:** Elements of the German 1st Infantry Company, including paratroopers from Fallschirmjägerbataillon 373, supported by German mechanized infantry (Panzergrenadiers) operating Marder infantry fighting vehicles
- **Enemy Force:** Taliban / insurgent fighters
- **Estimated Taliban Force:** approximately 100–200 fighters
- **German Casualties:** 3 killed; 5 wounded, including several severely wounded
- **U.S. Air Support:** U.S. F-15 and F-16 fighter aircraft were on station and coordinated through a joint terminal attack controller, but their ability to engage was limited by the tactical situation, Rules of Engagement, and the danger of hitting friendly forces or civilians.

- **U.S. MEDEVAC Role:** U.S. Army Black Hawk MEDEVAC crews, supported by the armed escort helicopter Black Magic 70, flew repeatedly into the contested landing zones under enemy fire to evacuate wounded German soldiers.
- **Ground Support:** German mechanized infantry with Marder infantry fighting vehicles provided the heaviest German firepower available on the ground. At key moments, however, they were themselves engaged and tied down, including near the village of Quatliam and later during the withdrawal and bridge-security phase.

RESEARCH BASIS

The Good Friday Battle is based on:

- 70+ hours of interviews
- 24 participants and eyewitnesses
- combat footage
- operational maps
- official and classified operational material
- personal testimony and battlefield reconstruction

COMPARABLE TITLES

Readers of the following books may be especially interested in *The Good Friday Battle*:

- **Black Hawk Down** — Mark Bowden
- **The Outpost** — Jake Tapper
- **Red Platoon** — Clinton Romesha
- **Dustoff 7-3** — Erik Sabiston

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