



# Wanat: Combat Action in Afghanistan, 2008

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Battle of Wanat ENHANCED EDITION contains a QR code which downloads a free interactive pdf. This document contains access to a VIDEO, REAL GUN CAMS, reports, newspapers, and articles; including ; VIDEO RECREATION THE BATTLE OF WANAT by WASHINGTON POST (VIDEO) INSIDE AN AFGHAN BATTLE GONE WRONG APACHE GUN CAM: Battle of Wanat | Military.com WHAT REALLY HAPPENED AT WANAT | U.S. Naval Institute THE CAPTAIN'S JOURNAL » Battle of Wanat PERSPECTIVES on the Battle of Wanat SOME GUN CAMERA FOOTAGE VIDEO VIDEO BY CNN BATTLE OF WANAT - The Battle of Wanat occurred on July 13, 2008, when about 200 Taliban and al-Qaeda guerrillas attacked NATO troops near Quam, in the Waygal district in Afghanistan's far eastern province of Nuristan. The position was defended primarily by United States Army soldiers of the 2nd Platoon, Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment (Airborne), 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team. The Taliban surrounded the remote base and its observation post, attacking it from Quam and surrounding farmland. They destroyed much of the U.S. heavy munitions, broke through American lines, and entered the main base before being repelled by artillery and aircraft. The United States claimed to have killed at least 21 Taliban fighters for the loss of nine U.S. soldiers killed and 27 wounded, and four Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers wounded. The U.S. deaths were the most in a single battle since the start of U.S. operations in 2001. The Battle of Wanat has been described as the United States's "Black Hawk Down" of the War in Afghanistan, as one of the bloodiest Taliban attacks of the war and one of several attacks on remote outposts. In contrast to previous roadside bombings and haphazard attacks and ambushes, this attack was well-coordinated with fighters from many insurgent groups with an effort that was disciplined and sustained which was able to precisely target key equipment such as a wire-guided missile launcher. In 2008, NATO forces in southeastern Afghanistan deployed sub-company-sized patrols to the Pakistan border to disrupt supplies flowing to the Taliban from the Federally Administered Tribal Regions of Pakistan. They established small patrol bases, which came under regular attack by Taliban forces. Rock Move OPLAN 8-9 July 2008. The result of the move was the establishment of a Coalition outpost at Wanat Proposal for COP at Wanat In June, a small contingent of 48 American and 24 Afghan troops, 72 in total, were operating in and around Wanat, a mountain Quam that was the center of the Waygal District government and about five miles from the coalition military base Camp Blessing. On July 4, a U.S. Army helicopter attacked and killed 17 civilians, including all of the doctors and nurses at a local clinic, infuriating local Afghans. FOB Bella was under attack, indirect fire, intel reports said that the FOB was going to be overrun from within the base as well. The helicopter attack was in response to the indirect fire received from a mortar tube that was being fired from the bed of a Toyota Hilux pick-up. The initial Taliban radio transmissions that were intercepted, reported that the "Big Gun had been hit" (mortar tube) and the commander had been killed. A few hours after the helicopter attacked, with commands and confirmation from Chosen Company commander and the troops in contact confirmed the targets.

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