

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910151699303321
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Titolo	Battlefield Afghanistan // by Mike Ryan
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Stroud, [England] : , : Spellmount, , 2016 2007
ISBN	0-7509-8059-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (217 pages) : illustrations (some color), photographs
Disciplina	958.1047
Soggetti	Afghan War, 2001-
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	<p>From interviews with his numerous contacts among the coalition forces stationed in Afghanistan, Mike Ryan has done what journalists have so far been unable to do. Battlefield Afghanistan is the first thorough-going account of the war in the former Taliban state: not the politics behind the conflict, but the actual situation for the men on the ground. Far from simply 'keeping the peace,' coalition forces in Afghanistan are currently involved in full-scale warfare with both al-Qaeda militants and the forces of the resurgent Taliban. Battlefield Afghanistan tells the real, inside story of the men under fire, based upon first-hand evidence from members of 3 Para, 16 Air Assault Brigade, the Royal Marines and the Special Forces community, together with the views and experiences of the US and French troops. As their accounts indicate, the hostilities faced have proved to be far greater than was anticipated, and the situation in Afghanistan far more serious than the politicians would like the public to realise.</p>