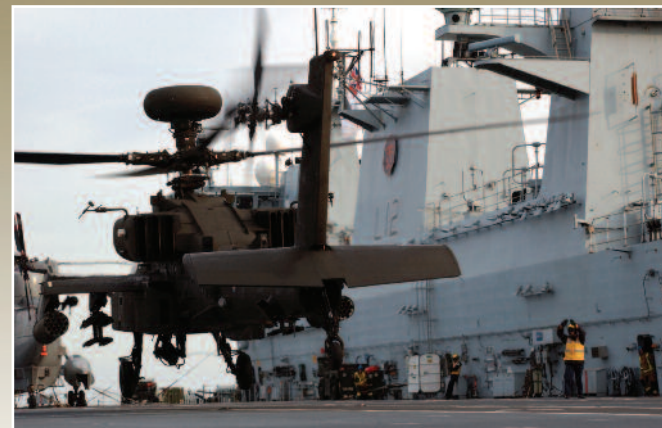




ABOVE: An Apache sits waiting to begin a Combined Air Operations mission (ComAO) with fast jets. Ed flew the Hawk (centre) during FAC training.

RIGHT: Scottie hands over the monacle to Ed before his very first flight on CTT1.

FAR RIGHT: Ed in 'the bag'. Note that black PVC panels cover every window. When the door comes down, it is pitch-black in the cockpit.



LEFT: Ed and his Sqn learning to fly and then fight from HMS *Ocean*. The UK has the only amphibious Apaches in the world.

BELOW: The line-up of the brand new Apaches and those who brought them into service, including Ed's 656 Sqn.





MAIN IMAGE: The Green Zone provides the Taliban with cover to approach the troops then melt away after any contact.

LEFT: Ed's flight ready to lift on Operation Mutay.



ABOVE: A Chinook extracting 3 Para.

BELOW: Patrols Platoon vehicles with JTAC stuck in the irrigation ditch ahead, during Operation Mutay.



LEFT: 30 mm HEDP rounds waiting to reload Ed and Billy on their return.



ABOVE: Having gone back to Now Zad, 'Bitching Betty' screams MISSILE LAUNCH and punches out flares to attract any missiles away from Ed and Billy.

ABOVE: Rockets being fired at dawn into Sangin to protect a Casualty Evacuation (casevac) Chinook whilst it pulls out seriously injured troops.

RIGHT: Ed's flight.



RIGHT: Groundies with a 100lb Hellfire missile.

MAIN IMAGE:
Looking south over
Now Zad town.



LEFT: The first
operational Hellfire.

LS

— Shrine

Clinic
DC

Banana building

Turret



LEFT: Hellfire laser seeker.



ABOVE RIGHT: A
Hellfire slips off the rail.

ABOVE: A Hellfire
being fired in anger.

RIGHT: Damage from a
Hellfire.

