

The Long and Arduous Campaign to Clear the Chinook ZD576 Pilots



Their Greatest Disgrace: The campaign to clear the Chinook ZD576 pilots by David Hill

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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On 2 June 2011, a Royal Air Force Chinook helicopter, ZD576, was shot down by the Taliban in Afghanistan, killing all four British servicemen on board. The subsequent Board of Inquiry (BOI) into the incident found that the pilots were at fault for flying too low and too slowly, and for failing to take evasive action.

However, the families of the victims and many others believe that the BOI was flawed, and that the pilots were not to blame for the crash. They launched a campaign to clear the pilots' names, which ultimately succeeded in overturning the initial findings of the inquiry.

The BOI's Findings

The BOI found that the pilots were at fault for the following:

- Flying too low and too slowly
- Failing to take evasive action
- Not following standard operating procedures

The BOI also found that the Taliban had not used a sophisticated weapon to shoot down the helicopter, but had instead used a simple rocket-propelled grenade (RPG).

The Campaign for Justice

The families of the victims and many others were outraged by the BOI's findings. They believed that the pilots were not to blame for the crash, and that the BOI had whitewashed the truth.

They launched a campaign to clear the pilots' names, which involved:

- Lobbying the government and the Ministry of Defence
- Raising public awareness of the case
- Commissioning their own independent investigation

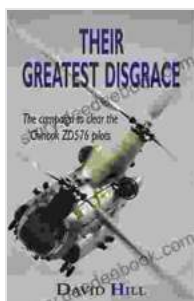
The campaign was successful in overturning the initial findings of the BOI. In 2015, the Defence Secretary announced that the pilots would be posthumously cleared of any blame for the crash.

The Legacy of the Chinook ZD576 Incident

The Chinook ZD576 incident was a tragedy that resulted in the deaths of four brave British servicemen. The subsequent campaign to clear the

names of the pilots involved was a long and arduous one, but it ultimately succeeded in overturning the initial findings of the official inquiry.

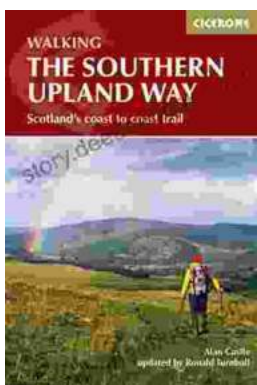
The legacy of the Chinook ZD576 incident is a reminder of the importance of justice and accountability. It is also a reminder of the courage and determination of the families of the victims, who fought tirelessly to clear the names of their loved ones.



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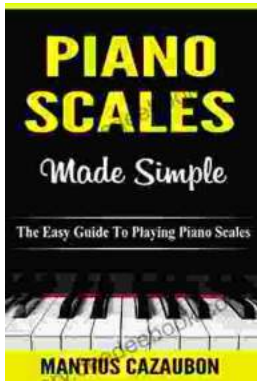
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