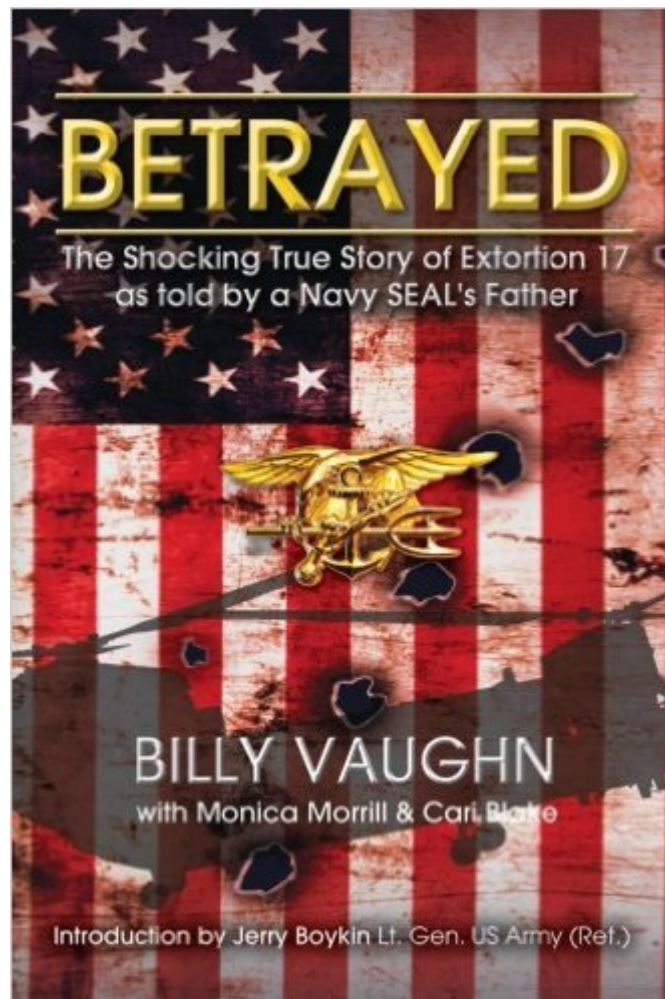


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Betrayed: The Shocking True Story Of Extortion 17 As Told By A Navy SEAL's Father



Synopsis

Before BENGHAZI, There was EXTORTION 17.... August 06, 2011, 2:20 a.m.âOperation Lefty Grove is underway, a highly dangerous mission to take out another high-level Taliban operative, three months after the death of Osama Bin Laden. In the dark of night, twenty-five US Special Ops Forces and a five-man flight crew on board Extortion 17, a CH-47 Chinook helicopter. Seven unidentified Afghan Commandos are allowed to join them. Ground forces have already been engaged in a three-hour exhaustive battle. Extortion 17âs specially trained warriors drop into the Hot Landing Zone to help their fellow warriors. But thereâs a problem: the standard chopper escorts have all been directed elsewhere. Mission directions are unclear. Worse, pre-assault fire to cover the Chinook transporting our brave fighting men is not ordered. On that fateful night, Extortion 17 would never touch down. Taliban fighters fired three rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs) in rapid succession. The first RPG shot below the Chinook, but the second made contact in what the military would later describe as a âone-in-a-million shot.â • The shot struck a rotor blade on the aft (rear) pylon, shearing off ten and a half feet of the blade. The third shot flew above the falling chopper. Within a matter of seconds, the chopper begins to spin violently out of control and then drops vertically into a dry creek bed and is engulfed in a large fireball. There are no survivors. The thirty brave Americans lost that night were more than just warriors. They were husbands, fathers, brothers, and sons. Billy Vaughnâs son, Aaron Carson Vaughn, was one of them. Over the next few months as unsettling information on the tragic incident is released to the families, Billy Vaughn becomes increasingly disturbed. Billy discovers that US military forces are not being led to win battles, but have been sent on a foolâs errand to âwin the hearts and mindsâ • of other nations. He is told that the US Rules of Engagement have prevented our brave defenders from defending themselves. Adding insult to injury, Billy learned that a Muslim Imam was invited by our own US military leaders to âprayâ • over his sonâs dead body. As US war heroes lay in their caskets before their last flight home, the Imam damned Americaâs fallen warriors as âinfidelsâ • who would burn in hell. As US military leaders observed the ceremony at Bagram Air Base, the Imam boasted over the deaths of US heroes with words such as, âThe companions of heaven [Muslims] are the winners.â • Betrayed is a heart rending account in Americaâs history, an engaging story of faith, patriotism, honor, duty and loss. Betrayed is not just the biography of an American military family, it is a crucial, true-life narrative that every American must read and understand about their government and the danger Americaâs military strategy currently poses to all families. Betrayed is a book Billy Vaughn wishes he didnât have to write. But his son is gone and there are still unanswered questions. He needs to know if finding the truth may prevent another

father from standing in his shoes.

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Customer Reviews

Great read about a sad story that should never have happened. A father's story of a larger than life son who was inspired by 9-11 to become a Seal. The tragedy of losing that son in an helo shootdown that should never have happened. The further story of a coverup and deception that's become all too common today. When it seems the coverup and lies can go no further the author unveils another level of corruption and deception. Most disturbing were the notes regarding conversations with senior military officers with line responsibility for special forces in the region (unless control has been delegated to other commanders) What's especially disturbing is that the costly lessons so tragically learned at Desert 1, Somalia and Tarkur Gahr were so casually forgotten by the armchair generals and politicians running the so called war. Desert 1 taught the special forces that their missions demanded both special air assets and pilots. Somalia taught us the hard lessons and high of going to war without taking critical assets (AC-130's), especially when they are left behind for political reasons. Extortion 17 taught us again the highly predictable cost of not using the right equipment, the right pilots and of neutering the AC-130 gunships. The difference between the helos is the difference between your family sedan and a NASCAR racer. It can do things your car can not do. The difference between the guard pilots and the special operations pilots is the difference between a highly skilled chauffeur, perhaps with some defensive driving skills, and the capabilities of an experienced racer.

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