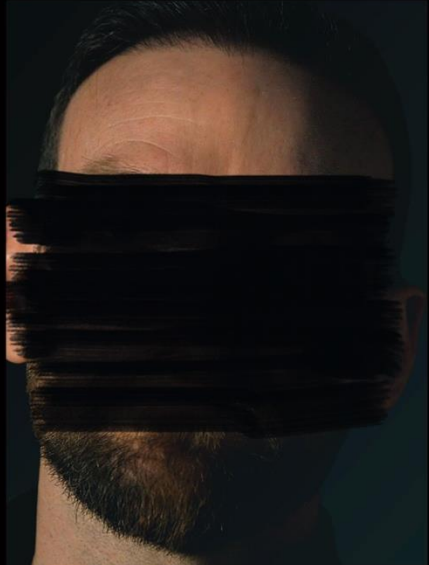




MORE THAN BROTHERS



A FILM BY  
ANDREA VON SIEBENTHAL



# SYNOPSIS

Since the precipitous retreat of the U.S. forces from Afghanistan in 2021 and the subsequent power takeover by the Taliban, the Afghans who helped the Allies are being hunted down and killed.

“More Than Brothers” portrays the personal sacrifices and political engagement of two Green Berets in a race against time to save the Afghans who kept them safe during their deployments as well as two of their Afghan allies whose lives have been completely uprooted since the chaotic withdrawal.

This short documentary is a deeply mournful film that highlights the human cost of political decisions.



# QUOTES

from the protagonists

***"These people fought alongside us, they bled with us, they died alongside us. To leave them out there is just unacceptable."***

"The unstated reality of their service was that they were there to hold the mine detector so that an American didn't have to. Because of the nature of their profession, every NMRG life lost in combat allowed for a Green Beret or EOD Technician to return home."

***"These guys were literally there to take an IED on our behalf. There was an unspoken pact that they would take this risk in exchange for us providing help down the road. That puts a pretty substantial moral burden on our shoulders."***

"It's really hard for me to enjoy life right now... I feel guilty. I am out here in America. I know guys that are hidden in cold dark rooms in Afghanistan praying that the Taliban don't knock on their door and pull them out in the street and kill them."

# WHY NOW?

The topic is extremely timely as many thousands of Afghans who have collaborated with the Allied Forces are being hunted down, tortured and killed by the Taliban regime that took over the country in August of 2021.

Whilst America's longest war has been forgotten by many and its failures thrown under the carpet by the U.S. Government, many (former and current) members of the U.S. Forces stepped up, starting private humanitarian initiatives to bring their former comrades to safety.

The toll this personal engagement takes on those veterans is immeasurable: careers ruined, relationship and financial problems, mental health issues are things they all experienced and continue to deal with.

There is mounting pressure from veteran and human rights organizations and civil society for the US Government to take responsibility for the Afghans who had collaborated with their military and to honor their promise that was to bring them to safety. To date, all initiatives to speed up the process for the Afghan allies to obtain Special Immigration Visas have failed to pass the U.S. Congress.

To get these people and their families to safety is a matter of life and death, and every day counts.

## ANDREA VON SIEBENTHAL

PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, EDITOR

Andrea is a storyteller at heart. A former tv journalist, spokesperson and communicator in the humanitarian realm, she believes that stories have the power to create empathy and thus promote real change.

Born and raised in Switzerland, she has worked extensively in post-conflict areas where she has witnessed the long-term effects of armed conflict first-hand.

The topics of war and its consequences on civilians have always been at the heart of her work. Her desire to shed a light on forgotten conflicts and the human cost of geopolitical decisions continues to inform her documentary projects.

Andrea holds a Master's degree in International Conflict Journalism, a CAS in Press Relations and a certificate in Documentary Filmmaking from the New York Film Academy. Previous productions of hers have won gold awards at both the New York Festivals TV & Film Awards and the Internationale Wirtschaftsfilmtage.



## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Length> 23:30 min

Shooting format> Digital, UHD/ 4K

Audio format> 5.1

Aspect ratio> 16:9

Original languages> English, Dari



## CONTACT

[a.sevenvalley\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:a.sevenvalley@gmail.com)