

#39 U.S. Special Forces on Horseback



U.S. Special Forces soldiers were the first troops to put American boots on the ground in Afghanistan after 9/11.

U.S. Special Forces troops were launched deep into enemy territory in Afghanistan to befriend, recruit, equip, advise and lead their Afghan counterparts to attack the Taliban. Fighting alongside the Afghan Northern Alliance, these soldiers – often riding on horseback because of the rocky terrain – achieved important victories against the Taliban.

The North Alliance was quipped with Russian equipment like the T-34 tank. Russia had long been a secret ally of the Northern Alliance, sending guns and other supplies to the ousted Afghan government since 1996.

(Diorama by James Ortoli)