

Mentoring Task Force 3 (MTF-3) Memorial T-Shirt 2011



This image is NOT the original shirt but is an image created by Sue Smith from the description on the Australian War Memorial website

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C1283206>

History of the Mentoring Task Force 3 (MTF-3) Memorial T Shirt 2011

This t-shirt was commissioned to commemorate the murder of three Australian Regular Army soldiers by a rogue officer of the Afghan National Army on 29 October 2011.

The three Australian soldiers who were killed, Captain Bryce Duffy, Corporal Ashley Birt and Lance Corporal Luke Gavin, were members of the Combined Team Uruzgan and the Mentoring Task Force 3 (MTF-3).

MTF-3's role was to train and mentor members of the Afghan National Army. An Afghan interpreter working with the Australian Defence Force (ADF) was also killed and seven other Australian soldiers were wounded in the incident which occurred during a regular joint ADF/ANA morning parade at Forward Operating Base Pacemaker in Shah Wali Kot located in the southern province of Kandahar.

The rogue ANA officer fired a machine gun into the mixed ADF/ANA personnel assembled and he was killed when other ADF personnel returned fire.

NOTE: The 32 on the front of the shirt represents the number of soldiers killed at that time in 2011. By the end of 2014 when Operation SLIPPER concluded the total number of soldiers killed was 41.