



From: Wing Commander Martin R. Hooker RAF (Retd)

RAF Regiment **Fund**

ROYAL AIR FORCE **Regiment**

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THE AL WAKI PAINTING



Low Resolution Image - Reproduction Prohibited © Stuart Brown & The RAF Regiment.

In August 2007, a patrol of No1 Squadron RAF Regiment was engaged in a furious firefight with approximately 50 Iraqi insurgents in the Al Waki Market in Basrah. For nearly two hours, both sides fought a pitched battle that left at least 16 insurgents dead. However, a heavy price was paid. With one man already wounded in the initial exchange of fire, Leading Aircraftman Martin Beard, his Section's Light-Machine Gunner, was then shot while providing covering fire for his comrades. His Section Commander, Corporal David Hayden, evacuated him over 200 metres - all the while under fierce enemy fire - to medical aid but, unfortunately, Martin Beard had been fatally wounded. While this was going on, Senior Aircraftman Ben Wharton used his 0.5" Heavy Machine Gun to great effect in suppressing enemy fire, but he himself was hit squarely in the chest by a

high-velocity round, which flung him from his vehicle. However, his combat body armour took the full force of the impact and he was unharmed. He remounted his vehicle and re-engaged the enemy. For their exploits and bravery, Corporal Hayden was awarded the Military Cross - the first ever awarded to a RAF airman - and Senior Aircraftman Wharton received a Mention in Despatches.

To commemorate the action, the RAF Regiment commissioned Stuart Brown, a distinguished British military artist, to capture the scene at Al Waki that fateful day. The result is a truly stunning piece of military art, entitled 'Al Waki'. The original painting is in oils and measures 115 x 72cms. High quality reproductions have been commissioned to allow others to enjoy the painting in their own environments. The first version is a full-size Giclée print, printed on canvas, varnished and then framed; from a distance, it is virtually indistinguishable from the original painting and is designed for display in Messes, Clubs and Training Establishments. A half-size version is also available. Also available are Limited Edition lithographs; high quality prints measuring 59 x 42 cms (A2 size), signed by the artist and numbered, with Special Editions also being signed by Corporal Hayden MC and the Commandant General.

The de-luxe Giclée print is available by *special order* only and is framed identically to the original. The cost is £485 (incl VAT, insurance, packaging and carriage within mainland UK). A half-size framed version will cost £350. The prices of other Giclée pictures may be obtained on request from the RAF Regiment Secretary.


The signed and numbered lithographic prints are unframed and come in a cardboard tube ready for mounting. Limited Edition prints are priced at £45, while the Special Edition prints are £55, all incl P&P. The prints will be obtainable through the RAF Regiment Shop at RAF Honington. Pre-ordering of specific numbered copies is available with a 10% deposit, with priority being given to numbered units. All profits will go to the RAF Regiment Fund, with the intention of funding future pictures.

The Order Form is overleaf. For more details, contact the RAF Regiment Secretary or the RAF Regiment Shop at :

RAF Honington
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP31 1EE

Email : rafregtsecretary@honington.raf.mod.uk

[Note: Prices as at 31 Oct 08. E&OE]

Martin Hooker 

ROYAL AIR FORCE **Regiment**

The best RAF Fighters operate on the ground!

AL WAKI PAINTING ORDER FORM

From: Tel:
 Address:

 Postcode: Email:



Please supply the following Al Waki pictures:

Giclée Prints:

Full size, framed as per original: Qty: @ £485 S-Total:
 Half-size 57x36cm, framed: Qty: @ £350 S-Total:

- Notes:*
- 1 - The Giclée print size excludes the frame.
 - 2 - Other sizes available by special order.
 - 3 - Half and other size picture frames are slightly different to the original.
 - 4 - Shipment by carrier and will be notified.

Lithograph Prints (A2/ approx 59 x 42 cms):

Limited Edition (LE), unframed: Qty: @ £45 LE S-Total:
 Special Edition (SE), unframed: Qty: @ £55 SE S-Total:

Note: The Special Edition print may not be available immediately.

LE Copy Number(s) Requested (telephone for availability):

TOTAL:

I enclose a UK Sterling cheque, made payable to **THE RAF REGIMENT FUND**, for the total sum shown. Delivery times for Giclée prints will be advised at the time of ordering. Terms: Payment with order only. The Copyright is retained by the artist and the RAF Regiment; unauthorized reproduction of the print in part or whole is strictly prohibited. E&OE.

Signed : Date :