

Nov. 3, 2023

**NEW ABC NEWS STUDIOS SPECIAL CHRONICLES JOURNALIST BOB WOODRUFF'S
RETURN TO IRAQ TO VISIT THE SITE OF THE ROADSIDE BOMBING THAT ALMOST
TOOK HIS LIFE IN 2006**

**Premiering Just Before Veterans Day, The Special Follows the Longtime ABC News
Correspondent as He Reunites With Iraqi Locals From His Life-Changing Reporting Trip and
Examines the Lessons and Legacy of War**

**'After The Blast: The Will To Survive' Airs on Friday, Nov. 10 (8:00-9:00 p.m. EST), on ABC,
Streaming Next Day on Hulu**



ABC News Studios*

ABC News Studios announced today **“After The Blast: The Will To Survive,”** a new special chronicling ABC News correspondent Bob Woodruff’s emotional journey back to Iraq, where a split-second event changed his life forever. In early 2006, then-anchor Woodruff was reporting in war-torn Iraq when a horrific roadside bombing nearly took his life. He made it home after receiving lifesaving care from the U.S. military, but the attack left him with a traumatic brain injury and an extensive and painstaking recovery.

Now, almost 20 years later, Woodruff returns to the explosion site for the very first time to an area once known as the **“Triangle of Death,”** with his son, Mack, by his side. There, Woodruff reunites with the Iraqis who worked alongside the American troops to help save him as he retraces his 72 hours on

the ground in 2006 and reexamines the implications of this war. Woodruff comes face-to-face with his past, talks candidly about the painful lessons he's learned, and looks ahead to the future as he pursues his post-war mission to ensure no wounded veteran is left behind.

The one-hour network special features interviews with ABC News chief global affairs correspondent **Martha Raddatz**; Woodruff family members, including his wife **Lee Woodruff** and son **Mack Woodruff**, one of the cinematographer who documents the trip back to Iraq; colleagues who were with Woodruff at the time of the explosion, including ABC News sound technician **Magnus Macedo**, former ABC News senior producer **Kate Felsen**, ABC News cameraman **Doug Vogt**, **Army Col. Mike Jason** (retired) and former Iraqi interpreter **Omar Aljaff**; Purple Heart Iraq veterans who were wounded in the war and more.

The hour will also showcase The Bob Woodruff Foundation's annual Stand Up for Heroes benefit, including exclusive footage from the November 2023 event with performances by **Josh Groban**, **Rita Wilson**, **Tracy Morgan**, **Jon Stewart** and **John Mellencamp**. **"After The Blast: The Will To Survive"** airs on **Friday, Nov. 10** (8:00-9:00 p.m. EST), on ABC, next day on [Hulu](#).

"After The Blast: The Will To Survive" is produced by ABC News Studios. Wendy Krantz is executive producer, and David Sloan is senior executive producer. ABC News Studios is led by Mike Kelley, and Reena Mehta is the SVP of Streaming and Digital Content.

About ABC News Studios

ABC News Studios, inspired by ABC News' trusted reporting, is an award-winning, premium news and documentary original production house and commissioning partner of series and specials. ABC News Studios champions untold and authentic stories driving the cultural zeitgeist spanning true-crime, investigations, pop culture and news-adjacent stories. ABC News Studios' original titles include critically acclaimed documentaries **"Pretty Baby: Brooke Shields," "Sound of the Police," "The Lady Bird Diaries"** and **"Aftershock,"** and popular docuseries and documentaries, including **"Killing County," "Wild Crime," "Mormon No More," "The Randall Scandal: Love, Loathing, and Vanderpump"** and **"Jelly Roll: Save Me."**

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