



**TUNNEL RATS VS
THE TALIBAN**
By Jimmy Thomson and
Sandy MacGregor
Allen and Unwin, \$29.99

Vietnam War "tunnel rat"
Colonel Sandy MacGregor
knows his stuff and he and
journalist Jimmy Thomson have
opened the curtain on one of the
least-known stories of the war in
Afghanistan.

Tunnel Rats vs The Taliban
tells the story of the sappers
or combat engineers who are

the unsung heroes of the campaign. These are the soldiers
who travel ahead of convoys scanning with their "wands" for
buried bombs or sending their explosive-detection dogs out
and prodding the ground when the mutts sniff out a dreaded
improvised explosive device (IED).

They are also the men who plunge head first into dark
tunnels or bunkers searching for bombs or weapons hidden
away and often booby trapped by the insurgents.

Sappers are the bravest of the brave and their high casualty
rates mean that many other lives are saved. This book is a
tribute to them.

IAN MCPHEDRAN