

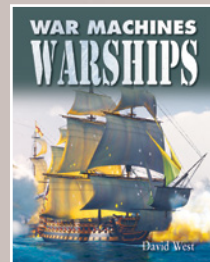
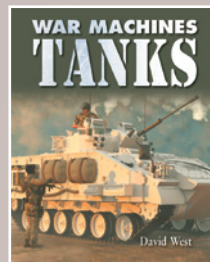
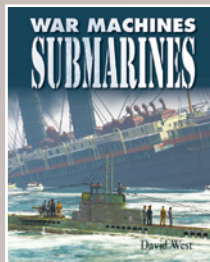
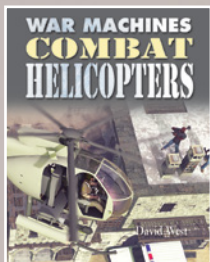
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From Combat Helicopters

Military Helicopters

Helicopters are used by armies, navies, and air forces around the world. During **World War II** (1939–45), they had an important role in search and rescue operations. They were also used in observation and spotting. Later, during the **Korean War** (1950–53), helicopters carried wounded soldiers from the battlefield to field hospitals. It wasn't until the **Vietnam War** (1955–75) that helicopters changed how war was fought. During this conflict, helicopters were designed for special roles. They carried heavy guns to remote places. Some were made specifically for attacking tanks.

Here, two Russian Kamov Ka-52 attack helicopters are on patrol. The pilot and copilot sit side by side in these. This is an unusual arrangement for attack helicopters.

Today, military forces use helicopters for multiple roles, including traditional observation and targeting. They are important for quick troop transport and medical evacuation (medevac). Helicopters also provide close air support (CAS) by attacking enemy troops. They are even important in anti-submarine warfare. Military technology has become so advanced that drone helicopters are now standard for observation as well as bombing missions.

