

Counterterrorism Bookshelf: 20 Books on Terrorism & Counter-Terrorism-Related Subjects

Reviewed by Joshua Sinai

So many books are published on terrorism and counterterrorism-related subjects that it is difficult to catch up on a large backlog of books received for review. In order to reduce this backlog, this column consists of capsule Tables of Contents of 20 books; among these are also several books published less recently, but still meriting attention. Some of the new books will be reviewed in future issues of 'Perspectives on Terrorism' as stand-alone reviews.

Oded Haklai and Neophytos Loizides (Eds.), *Settlers in Contested Lands: Territorial Disputes and Ethnic Conflicts* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2015), 256 pp., US \$ 90.00 [Hardcover], US \$ 30.00 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-0-8047-9650-7.

Table of Contents: Settlers and Conflict Over Contested Territories; the Decisive Path of State Indecisiveness: Israeli Settlers in the West Bank in Comparative Perspective; Moroccan Settlers in Western Sahara: Colonists or Fifth Column?; Settlement, Sovereignty, and Social Engineering: Fascist Settlement Policy Between Nation and Empire; The Indonesian Settlement Project in East Timor; Settlers and State-Building: The Kirkuk Case; Settlers, Immigrants, Colonists: The Three Layers of Settler-Induced Conflict in Sri Lanka; Settlers, Mobilization, and Displacement in Cyprus: Antinomies of Ethnic Conflict and Immigration Politics; Conclusion: The Political Dynamics of Settlement Projects: The Central State-Settler-Native Triangle.

Peter C. Herman, *Unspeakable: Literature and Terrorism from the Gunpowder Plot to 9/11* (New York, NY: Routledge, 2019), 224 pp., US \$ 155.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-0-3672-4900-7.

Table of Contents: Introduction: Speakable/Unspeakable: The Rhetoric of Terrorism; "A Deed Without a Name: "Macbeth, the Gunpowder Plot, and Terrorism; Terrorism in the Nineteenth Century: From the French Revolution to the Stevensons, Greer, James, Conrad, and the Rossetti Sisters; When Terrorism becomes Speakable: Pontecorvo's *The Battle of Algiers* and the Literature of the Troubles; Israel/Palestine: Unspeakability in John le Carré's *The Little Drummer Girl*, Steven Spielberg's *Munich*, and Mohammed Moulessehouli [Yasmina Khadra]'s *The Attack*; "Why Do They Hate Us?": Updike, Hamid, DeLillo; Epilogue: Where Do We Go from Here? Nadeem Aslam, Amy Waldman, and Jodi Picoult.

Jenna Jordan, *Leadership Decapitation: Strategic Targeting of Terrorist Organizations* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2019), 272 pp., US \$ 39.95 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-5036-0824-5.

Table of Contents: Introduction; A Theory of Organizational Resilience; Hypotheses on Leadership Decapitation; Is Leadership Targeting Effective?; Hamas: Bureaucracy, Social Services, and Local Support; the Shining Path: The Organization and Support of a Left-Wing Group; Al-Qaeda: Religious Ideology and Organizational Resilience; Conclusion; Appendix.

Yagil Levy, *Whose Life is Worth More?: Hierarchies of Risk and Death in Contemporary Wars* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2019), 328 pp., US \$ 90.00 [Hardcover], US \$ 30.00 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-1-5036-1033-0.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Determinants of the Death Hierarchy; How to Identify Variations in Risk Transfer; Risking One's Own Soldiers in Jenin and Basra; Passive Force Protection in Iraq and Gaza; Strategic Transfer of Risk in the Kosovo War; Tactical Transfer of Risk in Fallujah and Gaza; Re-Risking One's Own Soldiers in the Surge in Iraq and Afghanistan; Conclusion.

Paul Shemella (Ed.), *Global Responses to Maritime Violence: Cooperation and Collective Action* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2016), 344 pp., US \$ 90.00 [Hardcover], US \$ 30.00 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-0-8047-9841-9.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Part I: Examining Maritime Violence; Maritime Terrorism: An Evolving Threat; Terrorist Targeting; Armed Maritime Crime; Part II: Riding the Storm; Integrated Strategies Against Maritime Violence; Assessing Maritime Governance; Global Port Security; Maritime Domain Awareness; The Role of Institutional Leadership; The Maritime Legal Framework; Managing Legal Framework; Managing Maritime Incidents; Part III: Case Studies; Defeating the Sea Tigers of LTTE; Suppressing Piracy in the Strait of Malacca; Maritime Violence in the Sulu Sea; Maritime Crime in the Gulf of Guinea; Yemen: The Case for a Coast Guard; Conclusion.

Noah Weisbord, *The Crime of Aggression: The Quest for Justice in an Age of Drones, Cyberattacks, Insurgents, and Autocrats* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2019), 272 pp., US \$ 35.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-0-6911-6987-3.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Is Law Dead?; Timeslip: Invasion of the Crimea, Collapse of the League of Nations; the Nuremberg Avant-Garde Moment; Cold War *Jus ad Bellum*: Law of Force vs. Rule of Law; Nuremberg Renaissance: The 1990s; The Crime of Aggression: From Rome to Kampala; Judging Wars; Sci-fi Warfare; You're Under Arrest, Mr. President; Activation.

Radicalization and Religious Extremism

Tahir Abbas, *Islamophobia and Radicalisation* (London, England, UK: Hurst Publishers/New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2019), 246 pp., US \$ 55.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-0-1900-8341-0.

Table of Contents: Chronology; Preface; Race and the Imagined Community; The Racism of the Radical Right; Muslim Origins and Destinations; Framing Muslims; Islamophobia as New Racism; Islamism *Redux*; Multicultural Radicalisms; Far-Right Versus Islamist Extremism; Plugged into the Rage; Vanquishing False Idols; Tomorrow Belongs to Those ...; The Postcolonial Subject's Discontent; Fear and Loathing at the End of History; In Conclusion; Epilogue: Rumi's Corner.

Phil Gurski, *When Religion Kills: How Extremists Justify Violence Through Faith* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2019), 181 pp., US \$ 40.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-6263-7848-3.

Table of Contents: Religion as a Springboard for Violence; Buddhist Extremism; Christian Extremism; Hindu Extremism; Islamic Extremism; Jewish Extremism; Sikh Extremism; When Religion Kills.

Afghanistan, Jihadism, al Qaida, ISIS and the Taliban

Antonio Giustozzi, *The Taliban at War: 2001-2018* (London, England, UK/New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2019), 336 pp., US \$ 65.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-0-1900-9239-9.

Table of Contents: Introduction; The Collapse of the Emirate and the Early Regrouping, 2002-4; The Apogaeum of the Quetta Shura, 2005-9; The Emergence of Alternative Centres of Power to Quetta; The Crisis of the Quetta Shura 2009-13; The Taliban's Tactical Adaptation; Organisational Adaptation; The Troubled Comeback of the Quetta Shura 2014-; Conclusion: The Impossible Centralisation of an Anti-Centralist Movement; Epilogue.

Thomas H. Johnson and Barry Scott Zellen (Eds.), *Culture, Conflict, and Counterinsurgency* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2014), 304 pp., US \$ 50.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-0-8047-8595-2.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Part I: Culture and Conflict: From Theory to Methodology; Incorporating Cultural Intelligence into Joint Intelligence: Cultural Intelligence and Ethnographic Intelligence Theory; The Use of Evolutionary Theory in Modelling Culture and Cultural Conflict; Employing Data Fusion in Cultural Analysis and COIN in Tribal Social Systems; Part II: Culture and Conflict: From Methodology to Practice: Lessons From Afghanistan; Weapons of the Not So Weak in Afghanistan: Pashtun Agrarian Structure and Tribal Organization; Religious Figures, Insurgency, and Jihad in Southern Afghanistan; The Durand Line: Tribal Politics and Pakistan-Afghanistan Relations; The Manoeuvre Company in Afghanistan: Establishing Counterinsurgency Priorities at the District Level; Developing an IO Environmental Assessment in Khost Province, Afghanistan: Information Operations at Provincial Reconstruction Team Khost in 2008; Implementing a Balanced Counterinsurgency Strategy in Northern Afghanistan, May 2007-July 2008; Conclusion.

Azadeh Moaveni, *Guest House for Young Widows: Among the Women of ISIS* (New York, NY: Random House, 2019), 352 pp., US \$ 28.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-0-3991-7975-4.

Table of Contents: Prologue: Between Seasons; Part I: Inheritance of Thorns; Part II: Gone Girls; Part III: Over and Out; Part IV: Citizens of the Abode of Islam; Part V: Love, Mourn, Repeat; Epilogue. - The book's five parts profile and trace the evolution of militant activities of selected European women, who had joined ISIS from around 2007 to 2017.

Tobie Nathan, *Wandering Souls* (Medford, MA: Polity, 2019), 200 pp., US \$ 64.95 [Hardcover], US \$ 22.95 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-1-5095-3496-8.

Table of Contents: Prologue; Secularity and the War of the Gods; The Veil and the War of the Gods; The Veil as Membrane; Filiation and Affiliation; Conversion and Initiation; Apocalypse; Hashish and Assassins; Terror; Abandoned Children are Political Beings; The Foreigners of Migrant Children; Generations; Epilogue.

Steven Stalinsky, *American Traitor: The Rise and Fall of Al-Qaeda's U.S.-Born Leader Adam Gadahn* (Washington, DC: MEMRI Books, 2017), 496 pp., US \$ 35.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-0-9678-4803-7.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Timeline; Childhood and Teenage years; Family; Conversion to Islam; Terrorist Connections I: Osama bin Laden, Ayman Al-Zawahiri and Others; Rise as Al-Qaeda's Translator, U.S. Interpreter and Online Jihadist Extraordinaire; Emergence of As-Sahab: Videos Released between 2004-14; The Abbottabad Letters: Providing Proof of Adam Gadahn's Importance to Al-Qaeda and its Leadership; Terrorist Connections II: Samir Khan and *Inspire* Magazine – 2010-13; the U.S. Government Case Against Adam Gadahn; Adam's Family React to His Joining Al-Qaeda; Adam Gadahn: Captured or Killed? Or Conspiracy?; Conclusion; Epilogue: Second Edition of AQIS *Resurgence* Magazine Features Posthumously Released In-Depth Interview with Adam Gadahn; Appendix.

Africa

Morten Bøås and Kevin C. Dunn (Eds.), *Africa's Insurgents: Navigating an Evolving Landscape* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2017), 285 pp., US \$ 29.95 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-6263-7624-3.

Table of Contents: The Evolving Landscape of African Insurgencies; Radicalized Youth: Oppositional Poses and Positions; Gendered Dynamics of Armed Insurgencies; Secessionist Conflicts and New States; Central African Republic: Rebellion and International Intervention; Democratic Republic of Congo: The Democratization of Militarized Politics; Kenya: Al Shabaab's Regional Campaign; Mali: Islam, Arms, and Money; Nigeria: The Adaptability of the Boko Haram Rebellion; Somalia: Al Shabaab and the Accidental Jihadists; South Sudan: Violence as Politics; Uganda: The Longevity of the Lord's Resistance Army; Africa's Insurgents in Comparative Perspective.

United Kingdom

Daniel Finn, *One Man's Terrorist: A Political History of the IRA* (New York, NY: Verso, 2019), 288 pp., US \$ 26.95 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-7866-3688-1.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Fish Through a Desert; Points of No Return; Law and Disorder; the Year of Civil Resistance; Roads Not Taken; the Broad Front; War by Other Means; Down a Few Rungs; Endgame; Epilogue: Towards the Republic?

Steve Hewitt, *The British War on Terror: Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism on the Home Front Since 9/11* (New York, NY: Continuum, 2008), 184 pp., US \$ 150.00 [Hardcover], US \$ 22.95 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-0-8264-9900-4.

Table of Contents: Introduction; The Historical Context; 'The Rules of the Game are Changing': From 9/11 to 7/7; Terrorism in the UK; 'It Turned Out Wrongly': Counter-terrorism, Part 1; Losing 'Hearts and Minds': Counter-terrorism, Part 2; Conclusion: 7/7s not 9/11s.

United States

Joseph D. Celeski, *The Green Berets in the Land of a Million Elephants: U.S. Army Special Warfare and the Secret War in Laos 1959-74* (Havertown, PA: Casemate Publishers, 2019), 400 pages, US \$ 32.95 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-6120-0665-9.

Table of Contents: Introduction: Army Special Warfare and the War in Laos; Part I: Background; Fighting in the Land of a Million Elephants; Part II: American Military Assistance; *Hotfoot*: Army Special Forces Deploy to Laos; *Hotfoot* to *White Star*: Rotation IV and the Transition to Combat; Part III: Operation *White Star*: Green Berets at War; Operation *Momentum*: *White Star* Begins; Unconventional Warfare; *White Star* Rotation V: The Ineffective Ceasefire; *White Star* Rotation VI: "Fighting While Talking": Expansion of Combat Missions; Operation *Pincushion*: The Kha Tribal Guerrilla Program; The Thakhek, Se Bang Fai River, and Mahaxay Campaign Operations in the MR-III Panhandle; *White Star* Foreign Internal Defense (FID) Activities: Schools, Academies, and Proficiency Courses; 1962: *White Star* Rotations VI & VII and the SOF Withdrawal from Laos; Part IV: U.S. Army Special Forces in Laos, 1964-1974; Special Forces in Laos 1964-1974: Project 404; Special Forces in Laos 1966-1974: The Enabler: the 46th Special Forces Company (Independent); Epilogue: Legacy and Lessons Learned.

George C. Lovewine, *Outsourcing the Global War on Terrorism: Private Military Companies and American Intervention in Iraq and Afghanistan* (New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), 266 pp., US \$ 99.99 [Hardcover], US \$ 79.99 [Paperback], ISBN: 978-1-3494-7635-0.

Table of Contents: Introduction; The Impact of the Department of Defense's Use of Private Security Companies on US Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan; Analysis of the Effects of Private Security Companies on US Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan; The Impact of the Department of Defense's use of Private Military Companies on US Efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan; Analysis of the Effects of Private Military Companies on US efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan; Conclusion. Appendix 1: US Military and Policy Objectives in Afghanistan; Appendix 2: US Military and Policy Objectives in Iraq: Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn; Appendix 3: DoD Policy and Guidelines – Contingency Contracting; Glossary.

Maria Ryan, *Full Spectrum Dominance: Irregular Warfare and the War on Terror* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2019), 328 pages, US \$ 60.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-5036-0990-0.

Table of Contents: Introduction; 9/11 and the Early Seeds of Irregular Warfare; The Philippines and the War on Terror in Sub-Saharan Africa; Terrorism and the "Great Game" in Georgia and the Caspian Basin; Irregular Warfare at the Pentagon, 2004-2008; State, USAID, and the Interagency Mobilization; Irregular Warfare with Restraint: The Obama Years; Conclusion.

Darren E. Tromblay, *Spying: Assessing US Domestic Intelligence Since 9/11* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2019), 245 pp., US \$ 85.00 [Hardcover], ISBN: 978-1-6263-7780-6.

Table of Contents: The US Intelligence Enterprise; Emergence of a Domestically Oriented Intelligence Enterprise; Crisis and Competition; The Vision of the FBI After 9/11; Reorganizing the Bureau; The FBI's Human Capital Issues; The Intelligence Enterprise at the Department of Homeland Security; DHS Intelligence Analysis; The Roles of Other Agencies; Federally Driven Fusion; Fusion and Confusion at the Subfederal Level; Lessons Observed (if Not Learned).

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