Counterterrorism Bookshelf: 28 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 monographs and edited volumes received for review. In order to deal with this backlog, this column of capsule reviews consists of short single paragraph overviews and Tables of Contents of 28 books, including 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. The books are listed topically.

**Terrorism – General**


The contributors to this volume (which is a revised and updated edition of a 2006 volume) apply a highly interesting, comprehensive and multidisciplinary, functional and regional approach to examining the types, characteristics and threats posed by insurgent movements around the world and the response measures employed in countering them. The case studies include Albanian Liberation Armies, religious extremists in India’s Punjab and Northeast, the Sri Lankan LTTE, insurgencies in Indonesia, the Lebanese Hizballah, and al Qaida. What is especially important about the functional and regional chapters is that they highlight the factors and conditions involved in the life cycles and phases of insurgent campaigns, such as how to assess the legitimacy of insurgencies, classifying the moral justifications for an insurgency’s proclaimed grievances, objectives and activities, and the components, challenges and timings for effective intervention by third parties for conflict resolution to take place, including consolidating a peace process in the post-conflict phase. Dr. Gunaratna is head of the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) and professor of security studies at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Dr. Schnabel was a senior fellow in the Research Division of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Switzerland; currently he is with the Berghof Foundation in Germany.

*Table of Contents:* Introduction; The Challenge of Contemporary Insurgencies; Part One: Classification of Insurgencies; Ethnic Terrorism and Insurgencies; Religious Insurgencies; Ideological Insurgencies; The Internet – A Force Multiplier for Modern Insurgencies; Part Two: Insurgencies in Europe, Asia and the Middle East: Experiences, Lessons and Recommendations; Insurgencies in the Balkans: Albanian Liberation Armies; India – The Defeat of Religious Extremist Terror in Punjab; Conflict to Co-option? Experiences of Dealing with the Insurgencies in India’s Northeast; The Tamil Tigers of Sri Lanka; Democratization versus Violence – Terrorist and Insurgent Challenges to Indonesia; Hezbollah; Al-Qaeda al-Jihad – A Global Insurgency in the Early 21st Century; Conclusion; Meeting the Challenge of Contemporary Insurgencies.


The contributors to this volume discuss innovative ways to employ alternative analyses in the discipline of terrorism and counterterrorism studies. This is done by exploring gaps in the discipline and how addressing them can contribute to upgraded understanding of these issues. Some of the identified gaps include the way female terrorism is studied, the need to address the root causes of inter-group conflict, understanding the
behaviors of terrorist group members, and how to address radicalization into terrorism at its early stages. Several alternative theoretical frameworks are proposed, such as multi-pronged approaches that target a group’s leadership, mid-level operatives, criminal enterprises and psychological vulnerabilities, and drawing on the organizational and behavioral sciences to analyze how terrorist groups operate. Both editors are Lecturers in Global Security Studies, John’s Hopkins University.

Table of Contents: Gaps in the Study of Terrorism; Terrorist Criminal Enterprises; Lessons from the Demise of the Abu Nidal Organization; Reverse Use of Organizational Development Theory: A Unique Methodology for Analyzing and Disrupting Terrorist Organizations; Securing the Heartland: An Integrative Approach; The Challenge of Intelligence Analysis for Terrorism: A Simulation; Mass mediated Misconceptions of Female Terrorists; Strategies to Counter Violent Extremism; Terrorism’s Root Causes: Presenting Alternatives to Counter-Terrorism Strategies Not Justification for Terrorism; Evaluating the Social Conditions Encouraging Hypermasculinity That Lead to Joining and Engaging in Terrorist Groups; Zuhd: The Role of Asceticism in Islamist Extremism.

Radicalization and Countering Violent Extremism


The contributors to this edited volume apply a multidisciplinary behavioral sciences approach to examine the threat of violent extremism, with a primary focus on East Asia. To examine this issue, the authors draw on the disciplines of psychology, sociology, history, political science, technology and communications. Some of the questions explored include how law enforcement agencies can learn from past attacks to prepare to respond to future attacks, and what are best practices in countering violent extremism, such as Singapore’s psychological, social, and religious rehabilitation programs. One of this volume’s unique social science features is the introductory chapter’s table that lists the research questions and their corresponding relevant chapters – a feature that is rarely included in comparable edited volumes to guide the contributors’ analyses. These and other features make this volume an important contribution to the literature on the behavioral science components of violent extremism and the measures required in response. Dr. Khader is Director of the Home Team Behavioural Sciences Centre (HTBSC), under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), and Chief Police Psychologist. Dr. Neo is Principal Behavioural Sciences Research Analyst with the HTBSC at the MHA. Dr. Tan is a Senior Researcher with the HTBSC. Mr. Cheong is a Research Fellow at the National Security Studies Programme (NSSP), S. Rajaratham School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. Mr. Chin is Senior Psychologist at the HTBSC, and Senior Psychologist with the Police Psychological Services Division.

Table of Contents: Learning from Violent Extremist Attacks: An Introduction; LEARNING TO DEAL WITH VIOLENT EXTREMISTS; Section 1: Insights from Regional Violent Extremist Developments; Terrorist Attacks in Indonesia: Insights for Practitioners and Policymakers; Confronting the Threat of an ISIS Province in Mindanao; Insights for Practitioners and Policymakers from the Marawi Siege, May-October 2017; Section 2: Insights for the Identification of Violent Extremists; Threat Assessment of Violent Extremism: Considerations and Applications; Leveraging Smart Technology for Better Counter-Terrorism Intelligence; A Common Framework for Pre-Radicalisation Indicators; Five Things to know about Assessment Tools for Violent Extremism; Lone Wolf Violent Extremism and Mental Illness: Learning Lessons from an Asian Perspective; Section 3: Insights for Community Level Interventions; The 4M Strategy of Combating Violent Extremism: An Analysis; Bystander Interventions to Prevent Radicalisation; The Inseparable Brothers-in-Arms: Understanding the Instrumentality of Violent Extremism in Strengthening Intergroup Conflict; Engaging Youths in Counter-Violent Extremism (CVE) Initiatives; Section 4: Insights for Dealing with
At-Risk Population; At-Risk and Radicalised Singaporean Youths: Themes Observed and Considerations for a Youth-Centric Rehabilitation Framework; Understanding Intergroup Contact on Terrorist Prisoners in Indonesia; In the Search of Home: Tackling Support for ISIS Ideology Among Ordinary People; LEARNING TO RESPOND TO VIOLENT EXTREMIST ATTACKS; Section 5: Strategies to Build Resilience; Preparing for the Day After Terror: Five Things to Do to Build National Resilience; Psychological First Aid: Addressing Worldwide Challenges for Implementation in an Asian Context; Responding to a Violent Extremist Attack: Insights from the 2016 Orlando Shooting Incident; Against the Norm: The Act of Helping During Violent Extremist Attacks; Section 6: Strategies to Build Cyber Psychological Resilience; Managing Social Media in the Event of a Terror Attack; Media Effects within the Context of Violent Extremism in the Post-9/11 Era; Social Media in Response after an Attack: Perspectives from the Jakarta Bombings; Fake News After a Terror Attack: Psychological Vulnerabilities Exploited by Fake News Creators; Section 7: Strategies to Build Emergency Preparedness; Emergency Preparedness Towards Terror Attacks in Singapore; The Looming, the Creeping, and the Black Swan: Modern Crises and Recommendations for Building Resilience; Striking the Right Balance in Relation to Target Hardening; Risk and Crisis Management during a Major Terror Attack: Singapore’s Approach; Section 8: Strategies to Build Communal Harmony; The Effects of Religious Fundamentalism on Communal Harmony; How Can Right-Wing Extremism Exacerbate Islamophobia After a Jihadi Attack? Insights from Europe; Islamophobia and its Aftermath: Strategies to Manage Islamophobia.


An authoritative, concise yet comprehensive account of the radicalization pathways into terrorism by two leading academic experts on this subject. Also discussed are the nature of terrorism and the individuals who become terrorists, whether as lone actors or as part of groups, and how to prevent radicalization into terrorism and promote disengagement from terrorism. The volume's 13 parts and accompanying short chapters are written in an easily understandable and engaging format, making this an ideal resource for courses on terrorism and counterterrorism. Dr. Moskalenko, a psychologist, has collaborated with Dr. McCauley, Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Bryn Mawr College, on numerous articles and books.


Religious Violence


The contributors to this highly authoritative two-volume encyclopedic handbook present objective and insightful overviews of the extremist components of the world’s religions, including how members of some particular faiths are prosecuted, as well as the religious justifications and terrorist-type violent acts committed
by members of other religious faiths. As a reference handbook, the entries provide excerpts from primary source documents, with each entry concluding with cross-references and suggestions for further reading. The second volume concludes with an extensive bibliography of resources for further study. The editor is professor of religious studies at Youngstown State University, Ohio.

Table of Contents: Volume One: Preface; Introduction: The Legacy of Religion and Violence; Timeline; African Religion; Buddhism; Chinese Religion; Christianity; Hinduism; Islam. Volume Two: Jainism; Judaism; New Religious Movements; Sikhism; State Violence; About the Editor and Contributors.

**Psychology of Terrorism**


The contributors to this handbook comprehensively examine the Terror Management Theory (TMT). As explained in the first chapter on “A Consideration of Three Critical Hypotheses,” TMT asserts that “the knowledge of one’s own mortality is problematic because it conflicts with a basic drive to stay alive that humans share with all other living organisms. Knowing that one is destined to die, coupled with a drive for continued life, thus creates a potential for existential terror that other animals likely do not possess” (p. 2). Concerns about one’s mortality also apply to terrorism. As explained by the chapter “Meaning-Making, Communication, and Terror Management Processes,” by Claude H. Miller and Zach B. Massey, news of terrorist attacks are likely to “increase people’s support for national leaders using firm, reassuring but polarizing simple forms of dichotomizing rhetoric (e.g., ‘you’re either with us or with the terrorists’)” (p. 598). As a result, “interethnic discord likely represents a more intractable source of existential anxiety, which may resist more benign forms of worldview bolstering” (p. 598). For counter-terrorism analysts, the theory of TMT thus provides an important insight in explaining the underpinnings of societal conflict. For this and other reasons, this handbook is an indispensable resource in understanding some of the causes of terrorism and the measures required to mitigate it from a psychological perspective. Dr. Routledge is a professor at North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota, and Dr. Vess is a professor at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

**Females and Terrorism**


An interesting and conceptually innovative account of the various roles of females in insurgent groups around the world, especially why some groups deploy them in combat for strategic purposes, such as a propaganda tool, while others utilize them in other non-combat roles. The author’s examination draws on a dataset of female fighters in more than 250 rebel organizations which is summarized in one of the book’s appendices. One of the
author's findings is that religious fundamentalist rebels generally oppose employing females in combat roles. The author is an associate professor in the School of Politics and Global Studies at Arizona State University.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Why Rebels Mobilize Women for War; The Strategic Implications of Female Fighters; Female Combatants in Three Civil Wars; Empirical Evaluation of Female Combatant Prevalence; Empirical Evaluation of the Effects of Female Combatants; Conclusion: Understanding Women's Participation in Armed Resistance; Appendix A: Version History; Appendix B: Examples of Coding Narratives from WARD; Appendix C: Survey Wording and Instrument.

Terrorism and the Internet


With cyberspace's Internet of Things (IoT) a significant criminal and terrorism threat arena, and with states also using cyber weapons to target their adversaries' critical infrastructure, the contributors to this volume examine the motivations, cyber tools, and tactics behind these various actors' cyber attacks and the protective measures that can be utilized against them. The volume's contributors are practitioner experts in conducting digital investigations to counter cyber crime and cyber-terrorism, making the handbook an indispensable reference resource on these issues. Dr. Akhgar is Professor of Informatics and Director of the Centre of Excellence in Terrorism, Resilience, Intelligence and Organised Crime Research (CENTRIC), Sheffield Hallam University, UK. Mr. Staniforth, of the West Yorkshire Police, UK, is Detective Inspector and Advisory Board Member and Senior Research Fellow at CENTRIC. Ms. Bosco, of the University of Milan, Italy, is Project Officer on Cyberspace and Cybersecurity, Emerging Crimes Unit, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

Table of Contents: Foreword; Preface; Cyberspace: The New Frontier for Policing?; Definitions of Cyber Terrorism; New and Emerging Threats of Cyber Crime and Terrorism; Police Investigation Processes: Practical Tools and Techniques for Tackling Cyber Crimes; Cyber-Specifications: Capturing User Requirements for Cyber-Security Investigations; High-Tech Investigations of Cyber-Crime; Seizing, Imaging, and Analyzing Digital Evidence: Step-by-Step Guidelines; Digital Forensics Education, Training and Awareness; Understanding the Situational Awareness in Cybercrimes: Case Studies; Terrorist Use of the Internet; ICT as a Protection Against Child Exploitation; Cybercrime Classification and Characteristics; Cyber Terrorism: Case Studies; Social Media and Big Data; Social Media and Its Role for LEAs: Review and Application; The Rise of Cyber Liability Insurance; Responding to Cyber Crime and Cyber Terrorism – Botnets an Insidious Threat; Evolution of TETRA Through the Integration with a Number of Communication Platforms to Support Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR).


The contributors to this volume provide an overview of terrorist threats in cyberspace and the tools and technologies to utilize in countering them. Although the volume was published some 15 years ago (when its findings were considered groundbreaking), the contributors' insights continue to be relevant in the current era, as they discuss the use of technologies such as data mining to detect the presence and activities of terrorists, including funding, on the Internet. Many of the chapters are technical in nature, which researchers on these topics will find useful in providing an underpinning to the technologies that are being used today. At the time of the volume's publication, Dr. Last was a professor at Ben Gurion University, Israel, and Dr. Kandel was a professor at the University of South Florida, U.S.

This book examines cyberterrorism response measures in terms of the national and international legal conventions and legislation established to protect the digital infrastructure and cyber-based information of populations, corporations and governments. It also discusses some of the challenges facing international organizations in defining cyberterrorism, which is one of the first steps in countering this threat. These issues are also examined in a series of case studies of attempts to enforce provisions of such legal conventions and legislation in various jurisdictions, from initial infringement to eventual prosecution. The author proposes that once an attacker is identified, the best means to prosecute cyberterrorism under universal jurisdiction is to establish a multilateral criminal law convention that will obligate member states to prosecute or extradite offenders through the ‘aut dedere aui judicare’ principle of the treaty binding the state parties of the convention (p. 327). The author is Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Law, University of Malaya.

*Maritime Terrorism*


An interesting account of the magnitude of the threats presented by maritime piracy and terrorism, including the author’s formulation of a comprehensive strategy to counter these threats. This counter strategy is based on what the author terms a partner-oriented approach that leverages other countries’ maritime services’ capabilities. The author is an analyst at the Center for Naval Analyses, Alexandria, Virginia.

*Counterterrorism – Financial*


This important volume examines the application of the processes of non-binding ‘soft laws’ in the field of countering terrorist financing (CTF) and the degree of United Nations’ member-states compliance with these...
norms. Specifically, the author’s objective is to examine whether “high rates of compliance” in CTF can be achieved by such non-binding norms in the form of ‘soft law’ instruments. These non-binding norms are applied to several country cases to identify their impact and effectiveness in CTF. The author is Lecturer in Law at Macquarie University, Australia.

Table of Contents: List of Figures; List of Tables; List of Primary Acronyms Used; Introduction; The Importance of Countering Terrorist Financing; Binding and Non-Binding Norms in Countering Terrorist Financing; Examining the Level of Implementation; Examining the Level of Compliance; Features of the Regime That Have Led to Its High Levels of Compliance; Conclusion; Appendix A: Matrix of Comparison Including Impossible Combinations; Appendix B: Rating Compliance With FATF Recommendations; Appendix C: List of FATF Members (as of July 2019); Appendix D: List of FSRBs; Appendix E: List of FATF Observers.

Counterterrorism - Intelligence

The contributors to this volume examine all the components involved in the application of strategic intelligence in governments’ management of national security threats. The threats include asymmetric challenges by sub-state groups, border and maritime threats, weapons of mass destruction; cyber warfare; and cybercrime. Both Dr. Akhgar and Dr. Yates are professors at Sheffield Hallam University, UK.

Table of Contents: Foreword; Introduction: Strategy Formation in a Globalized and Networked Age - A Review of the Concept and its Definition; Section One: National Security Strategies and Issues; Securing the State: Strategic Responses for an Interdependent World; We Have Met the Enemy and They Are Us: Insider Threat and Its Challenge to National Security; An Age of Asymmetric Challenges - 4th Generation Warfare at Sea; Port and Border Security: The First and Last Line of National Security Defense; Section Two: The Public, Communication, Risk, and National Security; Risk Communication, Risk Perception and Behavior as Foundations of Effective National Security Practices; Promoting Public Resilience against Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism; From Local to Global: Community-based Policing and National Security; The Role of Social Media in Crisis: A European Holistic Approach to the Adoption of Online and Mobile Communications in Crisis Response and Search and Rescue Efforts; Emerging Technologies and the Human Rights Challenge of Rapidly Expanding State Surveillance Capacities; Section Three: Technologies, Information, and Knowledge for National Security; User Requirements and Training Needs within Security Applications: Methods for Capture and Communication; Exploring the Crisis Management/Knowledge Management Nexus; A Semantic Approach to Security Policy Reasoning; The ATHENA Project: Using Formal Concept Analysis to Facilitate the Actions of Responders in a Crisis Situation; Exploiting Intelligence for National Security; Re-thinking Standardization for Interagency Information Sharing; Section Four: Future Threats and Cyber Security; Securing Cyberspace: Strategic Responses for a Digital Age; National Cyber Defense Strategy; From Cyber Terrorism to State Actors’ Covert Cyber Operations; Cyber Security Countermeasures to Combat Cyber Terrorism; Developing a Model to Reduce and/or Prevent Cybercrime Victimization among the User Individuals; Conclusion: National Security in the Networked Society.


This authoritative and comprehensive handbook covers all the issues involved in conducting systematic security risk analyses and surveys in determining risks against a spectrum of threats such as terrorism, criminal fraud, natural disasters, and proprietary information theft. Also covered are issues such as templates for conducting cost/benefit analysis, crime prediction, response planning, and business impact analysis, including recovering
from disasters to achieve continuity of business operations. Both authors are veteran security and law enforcement practitioners.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Part 1. The Treatment and Analysis of Risk; Risk; Vulnerability and Threat Identification; Risk Measurement; Quantifying and Prioritizing Loss Potential; Cost/Benefit Analysis; Other Risk Analysis Methodologies; The Security Survey: An Overview; Management Audit Techniques and the Preliminary Survey; The Survey Report; Crime Prediction; Determining Insurance Requirements; Part 2. Emergency Management and Business Continuity; Emergency Management – A Brief Introduction; Mitigation and Preparedness; Response Planning; Business Impact Analysis; Business Continuity Planning; Plan Documentation; Crisis Management Planning for Kidnap, Ransom, and Extortion; Monitoring Safeguards; The Security Consultant; Appendix A. Security Survey Work Sheets; Appendix B. Sample Kidnap and Ransom Contingency Plan; Appendix C. Security Systems Specifications.


This is an excellent and highly innovative textbook and reference resource on the components involved in managing intelligence operations. The author, a former U.S. Army intelligence officer, draws on his extensive military experience, and, later, his career as a developer of courses on intelligence in the private sector and academia, to introduce the reader to significant concepts associated with intelligence as well as the primary focus of intelligence, i.e., the threat. To examine these issues, the volume covers the four components involved in intelligence operations, i.e., the data, tools, people, and then processes, with the various operational and analytic processes examined in greater detail. Significant analytic methodologies and tools are discussed, such as data mining and visualization tools. In applying the intelligence component to counterterrorism, the author discusses the components involved in analyzing threat (e.g., how to define the threat, threat motivations, analyzing and mapping threat groups, profiling threats, including profiling group leaders, organizational structures, methods of operation, analyzing the strengths, capabilities, and vulnerabilities of threat actors, and targeting the threat actors). Especially useful are the numerous tables and figures that illustrate each chapter’s discussion. As a textbook, each chapter begins with a statement of learning objectives and concludes with a summary, key summary points, and discussion questions. This textbook is recommended for courses that focus on the intelligence components in counterterrorism, as well as for counterterrorism practitioners, with its presentation of analytic methodologies useful as job aids. The author is Associate Vice President for Strategic Relations in intelligence, national and homeland security and cyber security at American Military University.

Table of Contents: Foreword; The Art, Science, and Business of Intelligence; Competitors, Adversaries, and Enemies; The Once and Future Intelligence Community; Intelligence Operations and Centers; Data and Information; Data Mining and Visualization Tools; Intelligence People; Intelligence Processes—The Intelligence Operations Process; Intelligence Processes—Preliminary Analysis; Detailed Analysis and Threat Profiling; Delivering Intelligence; Intelligence Design—Supporting Operations.


This handbook is one of the finest, most original, and innovative applications of a proprietary software-based tool to conduct root cause analysis. In the case of counterterrorism, in particular, with academic and public policy analysts highlighting the need to uncover the root causes of terrorist insurgencies, this tool is ideal in systematically conducting such analysis in a way that can be replicated by others, making it possible for the discipline to reach a higher level of empirical and evidence-based social science. To conduct root cause
analysis, the authors explain the nature of their Root Cause Analysis (RCA) system and how it can be applied proactively to prevent failures from occurring – in this case, a terrorist insurgency – and how by hierarchically decomposing it into its component elements, solutions can be generated in a systematic way to resolve a conflict's underlying causes. The authors are owners and executives of the Reliability Center, Inc. (RCI), in Hopewell, Virginia.

*Table of Contents:*
Foreword; Preface; How to Read This Text; Introduction/Reflections; Introduction to the PROACT Root Cause Analysis (RCA); Introduction to the Field of Root Cause Analysis; Creating the Environment for RCA to Succeed: The Reliability Performance Process (TRPP); Failure Classification; Opportunity Analysis: “Mindfulness”; Asset Performance Management Systems (APMS): Automating the Opportunity Analysis Process; Preserving Event Data; Ordering the Analysis Team; Analyzing the Data: Introducing the PROACT Logic Tree; Communicating Findings and Recommendations; Tracking for Bottom-Line Results; The Role of Human Error in Root Cause Analysis: Understanding Human Behavior; Do Human Performance “Learning Teams” Make RCA Obsolete?; Is There a Direct Correlation between Reliability and Safety?; Automating Root Cause Analysis: Introducing PROACTOnDemand; Case Histories.


This is an important and useful practitioner-based handbook about the components and analytic and quantitative tools involved in managing the risk associated with a spectrum of threats. As the author explains, it provides "a methodology for risk mitigation in the form of controls, methods, and performance criteria that is applicable to any security risk management problem" (p. 243). The risk posed by terrorism is also discussed, with one of the examples the threat from terrorist in the form of a fission- or fusion-type nuclear device. The chapters are accompanied by numerous figures and tables that illustrate their discussion and provide the tools that readers can apply to assessing how to manage risk. Each chapter concludes with a useful summary. The author is a veteran security professional in the corporate sector.

*Table of Contents:*
Foreword; Preface; PART I: THE STRUCTURE OF SECURITY RISK; Security Threats and Risk; The Fundamentals of Security Risk Measurements; Risk Measurements and Security Programs; PART II: MEASURING AND MITIGATING SECURITY RISK; Measuring the Likelihood Component of Security Risk; Measuring the Vulnerability Component of Security Risk; Mitigating Security Risk: Reducing Vulnerability; Epilogue;

**Counterterrorism – Military**


The contributors to this fascinating edited volume discuss significant issues associated with unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs/ also known as drones), including their multifaceted roles in modern warfare and civilian sectors, such as agriculture. The spectrum of different types of short-range and long-range drones are examined, such as Predators, Reapers, Scan Eagles, and numerous other pilotless aircraft, with many of them deployed in counterterrorism. Also examined are the legal and ethical issues involved in the deployment of drones in warfare. The editor is retired U.S. Navy logistics officer who has taught at the U.S. Naval War College in Rhode Island.

*Table of Contents:*
Foreword by Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Unmanned Systems) Francis I. Kelley, Jr.; A Robot's Family Tree: An Introduction and Brief History of Unmanned Systems; Drones: the Science

Global Jihad


This is the first in-depth, extensively researched, and comprehensive biography of Abdallah Azzam, the Palestinian cleric who led the mobilization of Arab fighters to Afghanistan in the 1980s as part of the internationalization of the jihadi movement against the Soviet occupation of the country. Azzam was killed in mysterious circumstances in 1989 in Peshawar, Pakistan, with Usama bin Laden then emerging as the jihadi movement's paramount leader, but with Azzam remaining an influential jihadi ideologue, with his book Join the Caravan becoming a classic of jihadi literature. To examine these issues, the author explores several lines of inquiry: the basic facts of Azzam's biography, the sources of his influence, the mechanisms of the Arab mobilization to Afghanistan, and the magnitude of Azzam's contribution. To tell Azzam's story, the author, a fluent speaker in Arabic and expert on Islamic culture, drew on previously untapped primary sources, and travels to Afghanistan and other Muslim countries where he conducted numerous interviews with people who knew Azzam or, as the author writes, “observed the Afghan war up close”. This extensively sourced volume is accompanied by a website, www.azzambook.net, which contains links to most of the primary and secondary sources cited in the book. The author is a Senior Research Fellow at the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI) and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Oslo, Norway.

Table of Contents: Timeline; List of Maps; List of Illustrations; List of Table and Figure; Introduction; Prologue; Palestinian; Brother; Fighter; Scholar; Vagabond; Writer; Pioneer; Diplomat; Manager; Recruiter; Ideologue; Mujahid; Resident; Enemy; Martyr; Icon; Conclusion; Note on Sources; Overview of Abdallah Azzam’s Works.


This is a well-researched and well-written account of Anwar al-Awlaki, who was born in Las Cruces, New Mexico, in 1971 to parents from Yemen, and, after rising to prominence as a radical imam, left the U.S. for Yemen, where he became the leading ideologue of al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). He acquired a wide following among jihadist adherents, particularly in the United States and Britain, for his charisma and ability to “translate jihad into English.” He was killed by an American drone strike on September 30, 2011, together with Samir Khan, his protégé, an American of Pakistani origins who had joined him in Yemen and was the “publisher” of Inspire, AQAP’s popular magazine. In addition to this account of al-Awlaki’s trajectory into becoming a leading jihadi ideologue, what also makes this book especially noteworthy is the author's account of al-Awlaki’s American and British disciples such as Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab (who attempted the “Christmas Day” 2009 airline bombing), Nidal Hasan, Zachary Adam Chesser, and Jesse Morton. In the conclusion, the author observes that al-Awlaki’s assassination had “robbed the global jihad movement of one of its most important Western assets,” but that his preachings had enabled the Islamic State to “draw upon a milieu of jihadist sympathizers already ideologically primed” by him, thereby earning him “a place alongside [the
jihadist movement’s – [JS] other renowned martyrs” (p. 274). Dr. Melleagrou-Hitchens is Lecturer in Terrorism and Radicalisation at King’s College London and Research Director of the Program on Extremism at George Washington University, in Washington, DC.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Part One: The Making of a Global Jihadist Leader: From America to Yemen; Awlaki and Activist Salafism; Awlaki and Salafi-Jihadism: Theory and Praxis; “And Inspire the Believers…”; Part Two: Awlaki’s Disciples; Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab; Nidal Hasan; Zachary Adam Chesser; Awlaki and the Islamic State in the West; Conclusion.

White Supremacists


This is one of the few accounts to extensively research the history, extremist ideology, and activities of the American white supremacist movement and its paramilitary components. According to the author, the movement was consolidated in the 1970s and 1980s, particularly over their sense of betrayal over America’s withdrawal from the Vietnam War, and their support for several notorious far-right extremists, such as the 11-day standoff against federal authorities by the far-right extremist Randy Weaver in 1992 in Ruby Ridge, Idaho, the Branch Davidians cult’s 51-day standoff between its members and federal agents at their compound in Waco, Texas, between February and April, 1993, and Timothy McVeigh’s bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995. Although the author’s account ends with the Oklahoma City bombing, this movement was further solidified by the election of Barack Obama as President in 2008, and was consolidated during President Donald Trump’s administration. As the author points out, this movement is not monolithic, but a conglomeration of far-right militant groups such as the Klansmen, neo-Nazis, skinheads, radical tax protestors, and white separatists. Hopefully, the author will update her account to the contemporary period when this movement has become more powerful than ever before in America and European countries where its counterparts operate, as well. The author is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Chicago.

Table of Contents: Introduction; Part I: Formation; The Vietnam War Story; Building the Underground; A Unified Movement; Mercenaries and Paramilitary Praxis; Part II: The War Comes Home; The Revolutionary Turn; Weapons of War; Race War and White Women; Part III: Appocalypse; Ruby Ridge, Waco, and Militarized Policing; The Bombing of Oklahoma City; Epilogue.

Africa


This is an excellent overview of the history, motivations, and current activities of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), which has conducted terrorist attacks for some 30 years in the central African nations of Uganda, Southern Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic. What makes this volume especially noteworthy is the authors’ utilization of primary sources and interviews with individuals familiar with the LRA which were generated by their field work in the region. Dr. Dolnik is a Czech Republic-based independent specialist on terrorism, hostage and kidnap response. Dr. Butime is an independent research on conflict and security issues.
Table of Contents: Preface; Emergence of the Conflict in Northern Uganda; Mystification of the Conflict in Northern Uganda; Regionalization of the LRA Insurgency; De-Escalation of the LRA Insurgency; Modus Operandi of LRA I; Modus Operandi of LRA II; Longevity and Termination of the LRA Insurgency; Conclusion.


This is the third and final 'stand-alone' personal and highly revealing account by a former Second-in-Command of C Squadron SAS's (Special Air Service) operations during the Cold War, on behalf of the Rhodesian, British, and Portuguese governments (at the time) against the insurgents in Angola and Mozambique. The author's account is updated with the C Squadron disbanded in 1980, with many of its members joining the South African special forces. By 1986, its relations with the South African government deteriorated, leading to the break-up of the SAS teams and their dispersal worldwide. After emigrating to New Zealand in 1990, the author died in September 2019.

Table of Contents: Author's Notes and Acknowledgements; Profiles; C Squadron SAS; Rebuilding; Escape and Evasion; Getting the Boot; The Ghosts of Angola; Haunting the MPLA; Relentless Pursuit; The Anguish of an SAS General; The British Reply to General Wall's Letter; A Tribute to General Peter Walls; South Africa's Zimbabwe Flop; Renamo Gather Steam; The Assassination of Samora Machel?; The Grahams of Burnley.


This is a well-analyzed account of the history, ideological underpinnings, strategic objectives, tactics, and current activities of the Somali al-Shabaab and Nigerian Boko Haram terrorist groups. Effective countermeasures, the author proposes, need to understand these groups' strategic objectives in order to “more successfully respond to tactical violence in ways that both protect our immediate interests and address the actors’ long-term strategic goals” (p. 169). The author is a professor at Al Ain Men's College, United Arab Emirates.

Table of Contents: Preface; Strategic Studies; From Bin Laden to Baghdadi; Strategic Terrorism; Somalia: The Teeth of a Lion; The Strategic Terrorism of al-Shabaab; Nigeria: A Fight between Grasshoppers; Boko Haram; The Future of Terrorism and the Role of Strategic Theory.


An important and interesting account by a veteran military journalist of Portugal's counterinsurgency campaigns in its West African colonies in Angola, Mozambique, and Portuguese Guinea (later called Guinea-Bissau, with the guerrilla insurgent groups in those countries backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba. In the conclusion, the author lists the factors that led to Portugal's poorly managed counterinsurgency campaigns in West Africa, including the insight that “no political solution to the problem was either found or sought” (p. 172), and that Portugal's dictator Antonio de Oliveira Salazar was a “real disaster” who had bankrupted his country to the point that it could no longer hold on to its African colonies (p. 174). This volume's numerous insights about the components of effective counterinsurgency also apply to the current management of counterinsurgencies in Afghanistan and elsewhere. The Appendix provides an insightful question and answer exchange between the author and a Portuguese journalist about Portugal's counterinsurgency campaigns in Africa. The author is a South African-based veteran military journalist who has authored numerous books and articles about military affairs.
Table of Contents: Prologue; Introduction; Build-up to the Conflict; Fuel to the Fire; Death of a Brave Soldier; West African Bush Base; Jungle Patrol; The Country and the War; A Luta Continual; Principal Adversaries: Cabral and Spinola; War in the Air; Cuban and Soviet Involvement; Landmines and Other Weapons of War; Operations Green Sea and Tridente; Casualties of War; What did Lisbon do Wrong?; Appendix: Q and A Session on Portugal’s African Wars.

United States


This reference guide provides military service students, from the U.S. and overseas, who attend the Joint Special Operations University (JSOU) courses, an overview of how the U.S. Government’s interagency programs address the elements of national power in terms of combating terrorism and counterinsurgency, hard and soft power, and the governmental agencies that manage these issues. The chapters are accompanied by numerous figures, tables, checklists, and reference resources.

Table of Contents: Foreword; Introduction; SOF, the Elements of National Power, and the Interagency Process; Threats, Intelligence, and the Intelligence Community; Defense, Diplomacy, and Development; Overseas Interagency Structures; Beyond the U.S. Government Interagency Community; Countering and Combating Terrorism; Interagency Evolution: Past and Future; Appendix A. List of Organizations and Programs; Appendix B. Ranks of Foreign Service, Military, Civil Service, and NATO Officials; Appendix C. Interagency-Related Definitions; Appendix D. U.S. Government Interagency and Other Abbreviations/Acronyms.


This is a fascinating insider’s account by a former U.S. Army Special Forces officer of the origins of the American Special Operations Forces (SOF), through the prism of Operation Eagle Claw, the failed attempt to rescue fifty-two Americans held hostage in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in November 1979. With the author involved in the rescue operation, he vividly describes the government and military officials and forces involved in the operation, including the reasons for its failure. The book’s final part describes in great detail how the lessons learned from the aborted rescue mission led the U.S. Government to ultimately establish the US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), which was headquartered in Tampa, Florida, and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC), both of which continue to manage the U.S. special operations military community to this day. The appendices include a chronology of the history of U.S. Special Operations and a chronology of Operation Eagle Claw. Following his retirement from military service with the rank of Colonel, the author became a consultant on defense issues to major corporations.

Keith Nightingale, then a major, was Deputy Operations Officer and the junior member of Joint Task Force Eagle Claw, commanded by Major General James Vaught. Based on Nightingale’s detailed diary, Phoenix Rising vividly describes the personalities involved, the issues they faced, and the actions they took, from the conception of the operation to its hair-raising launch and execution. His historically significant post-analysis of Eagle Claw gives unparalleled insight into how a very dedicated group of people from the Chief of Staff of the Army to lower-ranking personnel subjugated personal ambition to grow the forces necessary to address the emerging terrorist threat - a threat which the majority of uniformed leadership and their political masters denied in 1979. The Special Operations capability of the United States today is the ultimate proof of their success.

This is the second volume of the author’s comprehensive and extensively detailed four-volume overview of the origins and evolution of the United States’ Government’s approach to counterterrorism from the Dwight Eisenhower through the Donald Trump administrations. This second volume covers the years from the Ronald Reagan to the George H.W. Bush presidencies (1980 – 1992) – which the author characterizes as encompassing “Some of the most important changes in the international terrorist threat and the U.S. response to it…” (p. xxxix) The author adds that it was during this phase that “the U.S. confronted, for the first and only time, all four anti-American terrorism strains overseas – left-wing, secular Palestinian, state-sponsored, and Islamic revolutionary” (p. xxxix). The author observes that this phase led the U.S. Government to strengthen its anti-terrorism/counter-terrorism programs, especially in the Departments of State, Defense, Treasury and Justice, which also led to major interest in analyzing terrorism in academia, public policy research institutes, and the private sector, which is attested by the explosion of publications on these issues, including the inauguration of new journals devoted to these issues. It was during the presidency of George H.W. Bush, however, that the extremist Rabbi Meir Kahane was assassinated in New York City, in November 1990, by a jihadist terrorist, Al-Sayyid Abdulazziz Nossair, which, the author notes was “not suspected at the time [to be – JS] a harbinger of future jihadist terrorist actions in the U.S.” (p. xliv). The author is a retired U.S. Government terrorism analyst in the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Diplomatic Security Threat Analysis Group/Division, giving this volume a unique insider’s authoritative perspective.


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