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KEY=WAR - SIDNEY DALE

WHY WE LOST

A GENERAL'S INSIDE ACCOUNT OF THE IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN WARS

[Houghton Mifflin Harcourt](#) A three-star general offers an insider account of the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, explaining how garbled intelligence, poor decision making, and no clear understanding of the enemy resulted in the failure of both missions.

LOSING SMALL WARS

BRITISH MILITARY FAILURE IN THE 9/11 WARS

[Yale University Press](#) This new edition of Frank Ledwidge's eye-opening analysis of British involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan unpicks the causes and enormous costs of military failure. Updated throughout, and with fresh chapters assessing and enumerating the overall military performance since 2011—including Libya, ISIS, and the Chilcot findings—Ledwidge shows how lessons continue to go unlearned. "A brave and important book; essential reading for anyone wanting insights into the dysfunction within the British military today, and the consequences this has on the lives of innocent civilians caught up in war."—Times Literary Supplement

WHY WE LOST

A GENERAL'S INSIDE ACCOUNT OF THE IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN WARS

[HMH](#) A commander's "compelling" behind-the-scenes view of the United States at war after 9/11, from high-level strategy to combat on the ground (*The Wall Street Journal*). Over his thirty-five year career, Daniel P. Bolger rose through the ranks of the army infantry to become a three-star general, commanding in both Afghanistan and Iraq. Perhaps more than anyone else, he was witness to the full extent of these wars, from September 11th to withdrawal from the region. Not only did Bolger participate in top-level planning and strategy meetings, he also regularly carried a rifle alongside soldiers in combat actions. Writing with hard-won experience and unflinching honesty, Bolger argues that while we lost in Iraq and Afghanistan, we did not have to. Intelligence was garbled. Key decision makers were blinded by spreadsheets or theories. And we never really understood our enemy. *Why We Lost* is a timely, forceful, and compulsively readable account from a fresh and authoritative perspective, "filled with heartfelt stories of soldiers and Marines in firefights and close combat. It weighs in mightily to the ongoing debate over how the United States should wage war" (*The Washington Post*).

HOW WARS ARE WON AND LOST

VULNERABILITY AND MILITARY POWER

[ABC-CLIO](#) Interviews and data drawn from the author's personal experiences as a U.S. Army officer Six case study chapters on U.S. conflicts where military superiority alone was not the decisive factor in the outcome (the Philippines, World War II, Vietnam, Yugoslavia, Iraq, and Afghanistan)

DEFEAT

WHY THEY LOST IRAQ

[I. B. Tauris](#) As the dreadful reality of the coalition's defeat in Iraq begins to sink in, one question dominates Washington and London: Why? In this controversial new book, Jonathan Steele provides a stark and arresting answer: Bush and Blair were defeated from the day they decided to occupy the country. Steele describes the centuries of humiliation that have scarred the Iraqi national psyche, creating a powerful and deeply felt nationalism and spreading cultural landmines along the road to winning Baghdad. Steele shows for the first time how the invasion and occupation were perceived by ordinary Iraqis, whose feelings and experiences were completely ignored by Western policymakers. The result of such arrogance, Steele demonstrates, was a failure that will forever resonate with such dark chapters of American and British history as the Vietnam War and the Suez Canal crisis. Blending vivid reportage, informed analysis, and sweeping historical narrative, "Defeat" is the definitive post-mortem on this pivotal catastrophe.

PAX AMERICANA!

THE WAR THAT LOST IRAQ ITS FREEDOM

Whither Freedom? And Whose Freedom Is It Anyway? What Gives The Powerful, The Right To Flex Their Military Muscle In Defiance Of Duly Established International Law? Is The Democratic World Now Expected To Pick Up The Pieces In Iraq? And Is Iraq Only The First In A Long List Of Nations That Will Be Brought To Heel? What Of The Ravaged Iraqi Nation And The Scars-Physical And Psychological-That Have Been Inflicted Upon An Innocent Populace, Proud Possessors Of A Civilizational Heritage That Pre-Dates The Modern West By A Few Thousand Years? These Questions And The Issues That Emanate From The Anglo-American War On Iraq Are Dealt In This Book, Pax Americana : The War That Lost Iraq Its Freedom. It Is Meant To Provoke-Debate. The Positions Taken In The Pieces Here Are Clearly Identifiable As Cogent, Liberal Arguments, Based On Law, Against An Unjust War. Whether One Supports Them Or Opposes Them, Neither Professional Commentators Nor Laymen Can Ignore Them. Provided The Aim Is A Deeper Understanding Of The Issues That Have Led To The War On Iraq And Are Threatening To Change The Basis On Which Nations Conduct Their Relations With Each Other.

WAR AND HEALTH

THE MEDICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE WARS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

[NYU Press](#) Provides a detailed look at how war affects human life and health far beyond the battlefield Since 2010, a team of activists, social scientists, and physicians have monitored the lives lost as a result of the US wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan through an initiative called the Costs of War Project. Unlike most studies of war casualties, this research looks beyond lives lost in violence to consider those who have died as a result of illness, injuries, and malnutrition that would not have occurred had the war not taken place. Incredibly, the Cost of War Project has found that, of the more than 1,000,000 lives lost in the recent US wars, a minimum of 800,000 died not from violence, but from indirect causes. War and Health offers a critical examination of these indirect casualties, examining health outcomes on the battlefield and elsewhere—in hospitals, homes, and refugee camps—both during combat and in the years following, as communities struggle to live normal lives despite decimated social services, lack of access to medical care, ongoing illness and disability, malnutrition, loss of infrastructure, and increased substance abuse. The volume considers the effect of the war on both civilians and on US service members, in war zones—where healthcare systems have been destroyed by long-term conflict—and in the United States, where healthcare is highly developed. Ultimately, it draws much-needed attention to the far-reaching health consequences of the recent US wars, and argues that we cannot go to war—and remain at war—without understanding the catastrophic effect war has on the entire ecosystem of human health.

HOW AMERICA LOST IRAQ

[Tarcher](#) A reporter for Pacifica Radio charges the Bush administration with mishandling the war in Iraq, explaining how the U.S. has compromised its early victories and goodwill among the Iraqi people with the Fallujah bombing campaign and by causing unnecessary civilian casualties through a failure to provide promised life necessities. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

IN CONFLICT

IRAQ WAR VETERANS SPEAK OUT ON DUTY, LOSS, AND THE FIGHT TO STAY ALIVE

[Polipoint Press](#) An intimate exploration of the Iraqi War through the personal stories of twenty-five veterans from all American military branches represents a range of backgrounds and viewpoints as presented from hospitals, homes, bases, and shelters.

IRAQ

A LOST WAR

[Springer](#) Iraq: A Lost War deals with the impact of September 11th on the occupation of Iraq and the U.S. declaration of war on international terrorism. It investigates whether war in Iraq was morally justified and whether coalition forces capturing and hanging its president were morally and legally acceptable internationally.

I LOST MY LOVE IN BAGHDAD

A MODERN WAR STORY

[Melbourne Univ. Publishing](#) The much-anticipated book by first time author Michael Hastings which was sold by the Wylie agency in a very high-profile deal to Scribner in the USA. MUP is proud to have acquired the ANZ rights to I Lost My Love in Baghdad. In January 2007, Andi Parhamovich was killed in Baghdad. She was a 28-year-old American aid worker whose car had been ambushed in one of Baghdad's worst neighbourhoods. Andi was also engaged to the author, Newsweek's Iraqi correspondent Michael Hastings. Hastings charts the ups and downs of their relationship, a modern love story played out against the ultra-violent backdrop of Iraq. From the day they met in New York to her tragic killing, it is a story that tries to answer questions about our involvement in the war in Iraq. This is Michael Hastings' scathing, savage picture of a hopeless war gone horribly wrong.

LOST COPY

THE ENDLESS WARS: IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

[Australian Scholarly Publishing](#) "We, his friends, never knew if it was suicide or not but the reality was Tor [Norwegian journalist Torgeir Norling], who had shared so many dangers, hardships and fear, with us was gone. Tor was a journalist's journalist. I had covered East Timor with him in the late nineties. Like me he had gone on to cover Iraq, Afghanistan, Aceh, Sri Lanka and Burma. The conflicts that dominated our generation of journalists. There were not many of us doing that over and over again ..." The working title of this memoir by celebrated Australian war correspondent John Martinkus was Endless Jihad; the future of these recent wars stretches far beyond sight. We know they will bear hard on us and on generations to come, but attention wanders and fresh copy from the battlefield is too often "lost" ...

ANATOMY OF VICTORY

WHY THE UNITED STATES TRIUMPHED IN WORLD WAR II, FOUGHT TO A STALEMATE IN KOREA, LOST IN VIETNAM, AND FAILED IN IRAQ

[Rowman & Littlefield](#) This groundbreaking book provides the first systematic comparison of America's modern wars and why they were won or lost. John D. Caldwell uses the World War II victory as the historical benchmark for evaluating the success and failure of later conflicts. Unlike WWII, the Korean, Vietnam, and Iraqi Wars were limited, but they required enormous national commitments, produced no lasting victories, and generated bitter political controversies. Caldwell comprehensively examines these four wars through the lens of a strategic architecture to explain how and why their outcomes were so dramatically different. He defines a strategic architecture as an interlinked set of continually evolving policies, strategies, and operations by which combatant states work toward a desired end. Policy defines the high-level goals a nation seeks to achieve once it initiates a conflict or finds itself drawn into one. Policy makers direct a broad course of action and strive to control the initiative. When they make decisions, they have to respond to unforeseen conditions to guide and determine future decisions. Effective leaders are skilled at organizing constituencies they need to succeed and communicating to them convincingly. Strategy means employing whatever resources are available to achieve policy goals in situations that are dynamic as conflicts change quickly over time. Operations are the actions that occur when politicians, soldiers, and diplomats execute plans. A strategic architecture, Caldwell argues, is thus not a static blueprint but a dynamic vision of how a state can succeed or fail in a conflict.

WHY WE'RE LOSING THE WAR ON TERROR

[John Wiley & Sons](#) The war on terror is a lost cause. As the war heads towards its second decade, American security policy is in disarray - the Iraq War is a disaster, Afghanistan is deeply insecure and the al-Qaida movement remains as potent as ever with new generations of leaders coming to the fore. Well over 100,000 civilians have died in Iraq and Afghanistan, many tens of thousands have been detained without trial, and torture, prisoner abuse and rendition have sullied the reputation of the United States and its coalition partners. *Why We're Losing the War on Terror* examines the reasons for the failure, focusing on American political and military attitudes, the impact of 9/11, the fallacy of a New American Century, the role of oil and, above all, the consummate failure to go beyond a narrow western view of the world. More significantly, it argues that the disaster of the war may have a huge if unexpected bonus. Its very failure will make it possible to completely re-think western attitudes to global security, moving towards a sustainable policy that will be much more effective in addressing the real threats to global security - the widening socio-economic divide and climate change.

THE SAVIOR GENERALS

HOW FIVE GREAT COMMANDERS SAVED WARS THAT WERE LOST - FROM ANCIENT GREECE TO IRAQ

[Bloomsbury Publishing USA](#) Stirring portraits of five commanders whose dynamic leadership changed the course of war and history.

THE OCCUPATION OF IRAQ

WINNING THE WAR, LOSING THE PEACE

[Yale University Press](#) Involved for over thirty years in the politics of Iraq, Ali A. Allawi was a long-time opposition leader against the Baathist regime. In the post-Saddam years he has held important government positions and participated in crucial national decisions and events. In this book, the former Minister of Defense and Finance draws on his unique personal experience, extensive relationships with members of the main political groups and parties in Iraq, and deep understanding of the history and society of his country to answer the baffling questions that persist about its current crises. What really led the United States to invade Iraq, and why have events failed to unfold as planned? The Occupation of Iraq examines what the United States did and didn't know at the time of the invasion, the reasons for the confused and contradictory policies that were enacted, and the emergence of the Iraqi political class during the difficult transition process. The book tracks the growth of the insurgency and illuminates the complex relationships among Sunnis, Shias, and Kurds. Bringing the discussion forward to the reconfiguration of political forces in 2006, Allawi provides in these pages the clearest view to date of the modern history of Iraq and the invasion that changed its course in unpredicted ways.

WINTER SOLDIER: IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS OF THE OCCUPATION

[Haymarket Books](#) "The only way this war is going to end is if the American people truly understand what we have done in their name."—Kelly Dougherty, executive director of Iraq Veterans Against the War In spring 2008, inspired by the Vietnam-era Winter Soldier hearings, Iraq Veterans Against the War gathered veterans to expose war crimes in Afghanistan and Iraq. Here are the powerful words, images, and documents of this historic gathering, which show the reality of life in Afghanistan and Iraq. Iraq Veterans Against the War argues that well-publicized incidents of American brutality like the Abu Ghraib prison scandal and the massacre of an entire family of Iraqis in the town of Haditha are not the isolated incidents perpetrated by "a few bad apples," as many politicians and military leaders have claimed. They are part of a pattern, the group says, of "an increasingly bloody occupation." "Here is the war as it should be reported, seeing the pain, refusing to sanitize an unprovoked attack that has killed over one million people. All over America are victims who have returned from this conflict with hideous wounds -- wounds that turn the lives of the entire family upside down. And the American people are not seeing this. Until now. "Winter Soldier, an enormously important project of Iraq Veterans Against the War, cuts this debacle to the bone, exposing details hard to come by and even harder to believe. This is must reading for patriots who have already begun the effort to insure that this never happens again." --Phil Donahue "Winter Soldier makes us feel the pain and despair endured by those who serve in a military stretched to the breaking point by stop-loss policies, multiple combat tours, and a war where the goals and the enemies keep shifting ... [and] also make[s] us admire the unbreakable idealism and hope of those men and women who still believe that by speaking out they can make things better both for themselves and for those who come after them."--San Francisco Chronicle Formed in the aftermath of the US invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan, Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW) was founded in 2004 to give those who have served in the military since September 11, 2001, a way to come together and speak out against an unjust, illegal, and unwinnable war. Today, IVAW has over seven hundred members in forty-nine states, Washington, DC, Canada, and on military bases overseas. Aaron Glantz is an independent journalist who has covered the Iraq War from the front lines. He is the author of *How America Lost Iraq* (Tarcher) and a forthcoming book on the Iraq War from the University of California Press. Anthony Swofford is the author of *Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles*.

BLOOD MONEY

WASTED BILLIONS, LOST LIVES, AND CORPORATE GREED IN IRAQ

[Hachette UK](#) An investigative reporter pens an explosive indictment of how the Bush Administration wasted billions in Iraq through sweetheart deals to G.O.P. supporters, outrageous contracts to corrupt companies, and absurdly naive assumptions.

WAR TRIALS

INVESTIGATION OF A SOLDIER AND THE TRAUMA OF IRAQ

[Pen and Sword Military](#) War Trials tells the gripping and in-depth true story of a British soldier's role in the drowning of an Iraqi teenager in May 2003, the devastating investigation and resulting court martial. This narrative non-fiction tracks the soldier's life from tight-knit broken family home in Merseyside through deadly urban conflict in the Middle East, to a different battle fought against PTSD while he awaited a military tribunal back in the UK. The military court case in 2006 marked the first of its kind relating to the Iraq war and a case that opened the flood gates of multiple investigations and inquiries into the conduct of soldiers overseas. Based upon rigorous new research, this book's untold personal story

explores the horrors of battle and the chaos of a post-war city and a young soldier's struggle against depression, suicide attempts and deep sense of being let down by the army he sought to serve. This soldier would eventually endure numerous investigations and face the threat of the International Criminal Court for war crimes but these are the shocking events that started it all. It is the compelling story of a contentious military campaign with little preparation for the disastrous fall out; the soldiers pushed to the limit who maintained a wall of a silence after doing the unthinkable; and a floating body of dead child who came to symbolize a generation lost to war.

THEY FOUGHT FOR EACH OTHER

THE TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY OF THE HARDEST HIT UNIT IN IRAQ

[St. Martin's Griffin](#) Based on "Blood Brothers," the award-nominated series that ran in Army Times, this is the remarkable story of a courageous military unit that sacrificed their lives to change Adhamiya, Iraq from a lawless town where insurgents roamed freely, to a safe and secure neighborhood. Army Times writer Kelly Kennedy was embedded with Charlie Company in 2007, went on patrol with the soldiers and spent hours in combat support hospitals, leading to this riveting chronicle of an Army battalion that lost 31 soldiers in Iraq. During that period, one soldier threw himself on a grenade to save his friends, a well-liked first sergeant shot himself to death in front of his troops, and a platoon staged a mutiny. The men of Charlie 1-26 would earn at least 95 combat awards, including one soldier who would go home with three Purple Hearts and a lost dream. This is a timeless story of men at war and a heartbreaking account of American sacrifice in Iraq.

AMBUSH ALLEY

THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY BATTLE OF THE IRAQ WAR

[Presidio Press](#) March 23, 2003: U.S. Marines from the Task Force Tarawa are caught up in one of the most unexpected battles of the Iraq War. What started off as a routine maneuver to secure two key bridges in the town of Nasiriyah in southern Iraq degenerated into a nightmarish twenty-four-hour urban clash in which eighteen young Marines lost their lives and more than thirty-five others were wounded. It was the single heaviest loss suffered by the U.S. military during the initial combat phase of the war. On that fateful day, Marines came across the burned-out remains of a U.S. Army convoy that had been ambushed by Saddam Hussein's forces outside Nasiriyah. In an attempt to rescue the missing soldiers and seize the bridges before the Iraqis could destroy them, the Marines decided to advance their attack on the city by twenty-four hours. What happened next is a gripping and gruesome tale of military blunders, tragedy, and heroism. Huge M1 tanks leading the attack were rendered ineffective when they became mired in an open sewer. Then a company of Marines took a wrong turn and ended up on a deadly stretch of road where their armored personal carriers were hit by devastating rocket-propelled grenade fire. USAF planes called in for fire support play their own part in the unfolding cataclysm when they accidentally strafed the vehicles. The attempt to rescue the dead and dying stranded in "ambush alley" only drew more Marines into the slaughter. This was not a battle of modern technology, but a brutal close-quarter urban knife fight that tested the Marines' resolve and training to the limit. At the heart of the drama were the fifty or so young Marines, most of whom had never been to war, who were embroiled in a battle of epic proportions from which neither their commanders nor the technological might of the U.S. military could save them. With a novelist's gift for pace and tension, Tim Pritchard brilliantly captures the chaos, panic, and courage of the fight for Nasiriyah, bringing back in full force the day that a perfunctory task turned into a battle for survival. "Ambush Alley" is a gut-wrenching account of unadulterated terror that's hard to read yet impossible to put down. London-based journalist and filmmaker Tim Pritchard, who was embedded with US troops during the initial stages of the American-led invasion of Iraq, paints a compelling picture of one of the costliest battles of the Iraq war that will at turns anger, horrify, and sadden, regardless of one's political views." --The Boston Globe

REFLECTIONS ON THE WAR OF THE WILLING

[iUniverse](#) A plethora of politicians, military leaders and think-tank intellectuals have written books about their experience with the Bush Administration. But what about the rest of us? What were we thinking as America marched off to war against Iraq? Fred Rounds, the author of War of the Willing, is one of us. In January, 2003, Rounds carefully began to follow the news as the United States fumbled its way into a disastrous war. Taken from worldwide media sources his journal contains a record not only of the incredible day-by-day antics of our politicians, but also the agonizing struggles, frustrations, and sense of powerlessness that became for the author the root of an obsession. If we can learn anything from the last eight years of the Bush Administration, then let it be the fact that the government does not have any privileged channel of information unavailable to its constituents. Either the government had the wrong information or it misused what it did have. Democrats and Republicans alike got caught up in the war fervor. Along with millions of others who were thrust into a powerless "focus group" of protesters, Rounds illustrates how freedom of speech means nothing if no one in government listens. Thoughtful and well-informed Americans were simply denied a voice. America not only lost its voice; it lost a generation to a pointless war in Iraq.

AWAKENING VICTORY

HOW IRAQI TRIBES AND AMERICAN TROOPS RECLAIMED AL ANBAR AND DEFEATED AL QAEDA IN IRAQ

[Casemate](#) In August 2006, many senior U.S. officials thought America had lost the war in Iraq, as the senior U.S. Marine Corps intelligence officer there wrote that control of al Anbar Province, the seat of the raging Sunni insurgency, was irrevocably lost to the insurgents. During that time, there were over 100 attacks per day against U.S. military and Iraqi forces in al Anbar, and al Qaeda in Iraq had planted their flag in the provincial capital, Ramadi, declaring it the capital of their new Islamic State of Iraq. In January 2007, as a spearhead of the newly decided OSurge, the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armored Regiment deployed to Ramadi as part of the 3rd Infantry Division, the first regular Army unit to deploy to Iraq for a third time. The battalion and its parent brigade went to work in a campaign that will be seen as the D-Day of the Global War on Terror. Starting by clearing al Qaeda from the city of Ramadi and replacing them with legitimate locally raised and trained Iraqi police while simultaneously fostering the tribal movement known as the Awakening Councils the brigade began to have tremendous success. By April 2007, attacks within Ramadi went from twenty per day to one or two per week. By mid-summer 2007, attacks in the entire province were down 90 percent from 2006. Furthermore, the Awakening had swept through the rest of Iraq, leading to the best security situation seen since 2003. The 3rd Battalion, 69th Armored, was the only battalion to participate in this campaign from start to finish. Moreover, many of the US successes came directly from this unit's work. Awakening Victory tells the story of this incredible campaign through the eyes of the commander of the 3rd Battalion, who was right in the thick of the fight. The book also provides a description of the Iraqi insurgency particularly al Qaeda in Iraq that offers the depth and texture which are currently lacking in most Americans' perceptions of the war. It describes the battalion's actions, including incidents previously unknown to the public, but it is not merely another blood-and-guts war story. The author uses the actions of his battalion to describe a paradigm shift that occurred, while in a totally foreign culture, yet allowed for a move from a war of bombs and bullets to one of partnership and ideas. The author, Lt. Col. Michael E. Silverman (ret) is a political scientist and historian by education and has extensive experience in both warfare and Middle Eastern affairs, including a tour as an advisor to a Saudi Arabian infantry battalion in Riyadh. Silverman served a two-year detail to the Central Intelligence Agency at their Langley headquarters between his last two tours in Iraq. There he was privy to the Director's Weekly Iraq Briefing, a working group that discussed issues on the war, many of which ultimately found their way into the President's Daily Briefing. Well-versed in international affairs and world religions, he writes with the authority of someone who has both been blown-up by an IED and helped to shape US strategic policy for the Global War on Terror. In this book he describes, from the very front line, the exact turning point where the United States turned a supposedly failed war into a possibly enduring success.

WEEKEND WARRIOR

A TERRITORIAL SOLDIER'S WAR IN IRAQ

[Random House](#) Kevin J. Mervin was one of over 2,000 British Territorial Army soldiers called up to fight in the Iraq War in February 2003. Based on a diary kept throughout his tour of duty, the author's personal account of the conflict illustrates what it was like for a 'part-timer' to fight alongside the regular army. Weekend Warrior chronicles the difficulties and traumas Mervin and his colleagues endured while carrying out their work, including situations in which they literally had to fight for their lives. The author also describes how he and his companions dealt with the horrific sights, sounds and realities of war. Thrust unexpectedly into the middle of a dangerous conflict, Mervin's memoirs relate not only the fear and excitement he experienced but also his sadness at the scenes of poverty he witnessed and his anger towards the media, which, he feels, reported the conflict to the world with an anti-war bias. On his return home, Mervin faced further challenges when he lost his job because of his call-up and he also received criticism from an often hostile public. Weekend Warrior paints a startlingly vivid picture of fear and confusion on the front line and highlights the problems faced by those lucky enough to return home.

THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR

[Harvard University Press](#) From 1980 to 1988 Iran and Iraq fought the longest conventional war of the century. It included tragic slaughter of child soldiers, use of chemical weapons, striking of civilian shipping, and destruction of cities. Pierre Razoux offers an unflinching look at a conflict seared into the region's collective memory but little understood in the West.

WHY COUNTERINSURGENCY FAILS

THE US IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

[Springer](#) This book examines why the U.S. counterinsurgency campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan have failed and presents a solution for future counterinsurgency campaigns that was developed and tested in Afghanistan in the hope that it will spark a conversation that will shape the next counterinsurgency war to U.S. advantage. The author argues that both development assistance and counterinsurgency campaigns - which often go hand in hand - overwhelm weak states with too much money, too many projects, and too many consultants, leading to weaker rather than stronger governments. The solution proposed, was initially developed by David Petraeus but never effectively implemented. Using an insider's perspective, this volume explains the details of this solution and the problem with its mis-implementation in Afghanistan.

THE BEST WAR EVER

LIES, DAMNED LIES, AND THE MESS IN IRAQ

Penguin The war in Iraq may be remembered as the point at which the propaganda model perfected in the twentieth century stopped working: the world is too complex, information is too plentiful, and-as events in Iraq reveal- propaganda makes bad policy. The Best War Ever is about a war that was devised in fantasy and lost in delusion. It highlights the futility of lying to oneself and others in matters of life and death. And it offers lessons to the current generation so that, at least in our time, this never happens again. As the team of Rampton and Stauber show in their first new book since President Bush's reelection, the White House seems to have fooled no one as much as itself in the march toward a needless (from a security perspective) war in Iraq. As the authors argue, one of the most tragic consequences of the Bush administration's reliance on propaganda is its disdain for realistic planning in matters of war. Repeatedly, when faced with predictions of problems, U.S. policymakers dismissed the warnings of Iraq experts, choosing instead to promulgate its version of the war through conservative media outlets and PR campaigns. The result has been too few troops on the ground to maintain security; failure to anticipate the insurgency; and oblivious disregard, even contempt, for critics in either party who attempted to assess the human and economic costs of the war. Even now that withdrawal seems imminent, however, the administration and its allies continue their cover-ups: downplaying civilian deaths and military injuries; employing marketing buzzwords like "victory" repeatedly to shore up public opinion; and botched attempts, through third-party PR firms, at creating phony news. The Bush administration entered Iraq believing that its moral, technological, and military superiority would ensure victory abroad, and that its mastery of the politics would win support at home. Instead, it found a morass of problems that do not lend themselves to moralistic, technological, or propaganda-based solutions.

THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR

CHAOS IN A VACUUM

ABC-CLIO This book is a major reinterpretation of the Iran-Iraq War and is a source for reexamining the U.S. involvement in the Gulf. Pelletiere demonstrates that the war was not a standoff in which Iraq finally won a grinding war of attrition through luck, persistence, and the use of poison gas. Instead, Iraq planned the last campaign almost two years prior to its unfolding. [The Iraqis] trained extensively and expended enormous sums of money to make their effort succeed. What won for them was their superior fighting prowess and greater commitment. Gas--if it was used at all--played only a minor part in the victory.' Pelletiere concludes that the key to understanding the war is the Extraordinary Congress of the Ba'th Party held in July 1986. It was there that the initial planning for the final campaign was done, and this campaign is what decided the fate of the conflict. The study centers around the last Iraqi campaign, which Pelletiere argues was based upon World War II blitzkrieg tactics, but he also treats the background, the politics, and the history of the conflict, and analyzes the significance of the war to the Middle East and to the position of the United States there.

IRAQ - BEYOND "MISSION ACCOMPLISHED"

WINNING THE UNWINNABLE INSURGENT WAR IN IRAQ

CreateSpace This book was written in Baghdad by John W. Crockett, a veteran of three branches of service, not a journalist looking for a story. He details what's gone right in the war in Iraq where so many have focused on what's gone wrong. The war in Iraq was once thought to be a hopelessly lost cause. Protesters and political activists demanded the troops be brought home while the counterinsurgency was barely gaining momentum. As violence increased, the Coalition, led by General Petraeus, was often compared to the Vietnam War, but the time for making those comparisons is long past as the Coalition and the Government of Iraq turned a lost cause into a winning endeavor. The insurgent war in Iraq was billed by the press as a lost cause with no chance for victory. Journalists dubbed the Surge the "So-Called Surge" before they even had an inkling what the Surge was meant to accomplish, let alone put into action. Now, those critics are silent and eating their words after the effects of the Surge have been realized. The cause of an insurgency can't be summed up in a fifteen-second sound bite and countering an insurgency takes time. It's not something that's accomplished over night. The Coalition's leadership knew that and put a plan into place that brought about positive change in a country where many thought no change was possible. Crockett's first-hand account of the successful strategies employed by the Coalition and by the Government of Iraq that turned the war around is a refreshing change of perspective when so many books and articles have focused on the failings of the Coalition, comparing the war in Iraq to Vietnam and mis-applying quotes of famous strategists from history. Crockett's account of the events is a positively-biased view of our nation's military and the militaries of our allies. In this insightful book, he makes no pretense of giving a fair account of the events that transpired before and during his time in Iraq.

THE RIGHT WAY TO LOSE A WAR

AMERICA IN AN AGE OF UNWINNABLE CONFLICTS

Hachette UK Why has America stopped winning wars? For nearly a century, up until the end of World War II in 1945, America enjoyed a Golden Age of decisive military triumphs. And then suddenly, we stopped winning wars. The decades since have been a Dark Age of failures and stalemates-in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan-exposing our inability to change course after battlefield setbacks. In this provocative book, award-winning scholar Dominic Tierney reveals how the United States has struggled to adapt to the new era of intractable guerrilla conflicts. As a result, most major American wars have turned into military fiascos. And when battlefield disaster strikes, Washington is unable to disengage from the quagmire, with grave consequences for thousands of U.S. troops and our allies. But there is a better way. Drawing on interviews with dozens of top generals and policymakers, Tierney shows how we can use three key steps--surge, talk, and leave--to stem the tide of losses and withdraw from unsuccessful campaigns without compromising our core values and interests. Weaving together compelling stories of military catastrophe and heroism, this is an unprecedented, timely, and essential guidebook for our new era of unwinnable conflicts. The Right Way to Lose a War illuminates not only how Washington can handle the toughest crisis of all--battlefield failure--but also how America can once again return to the path of victory.

ANALYSING WHY THE USA SO CALLED LOST AS PER US GENERAL BOLGER IN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ

JOURNAL OF BOOK REVIEWS

General Bolger in authors note states his basic premise about the book as below: -- Outwardly bombastic and blunt, this statement has serious basic analytical flaws. Guerrilla wars cannot be won . They cannot also be lost . A guerrilla war is always a state of mind and both sides in a guerrilla war can claim victory or concede defeat. So much for our authors bluntness or truthfulness. May be he was being truthful but his definition of the " truth" was confused or flawed. Bolger defines his role in Afghanistan and Iraq and sum of his experiences as below: -- Bolger defines the specific US failure as below: -- As one who closely observed the US Afghan war, I would respectfully differ. US failure was coming to the wrong place and following the wrong higher strategy framed in Washington DC and not flawed military leadership. Bolgers reasoning is also flawed when he makes te statement below: -- Afghan war as well as Iraq wars firstly were "unjust wars", about which Bolger has nothing to say. Secondly US highest level political leadership was confused and this was the core reason for US so called failure in both Afghanistan and Iraq. There are defects in Bolgers thinking when e makes the statement below: -- The central issue is that the system in USA is based on winning the next elections. As nations degrade, they stop producing statesmen. Instead they produce political con men with short term agendas of winning the next elections. Thus the extension of wars to years and decades to which Bolger refers. Bolgers melodramatical descriptions as on page 14 are interesting but unrealistic: -- He compares US Iraq war of 1990 with Iran Iraq war, while the two wars had simply no comparison. The USA was fighting a mickey mouse foe in Iraq in 1991 which the USA was massively dominating with excessive technological and material superiority, so here Bolgers melodramatics are massive exaggerations. I served in Pakistan Armys tank corps where we had the misfortune to have tanks almost similar to T 72s whose designs were so flawed that a tank which fired a main gun round could not see where his round went, simply because so much dust was kicked by the tank and the tanks height was so low. Russian T series tanks were about 1 metre lower in height than US M series tanks and this made seeing where the Russian tanks main gun round went impossible. Gunnery wise there was simply no comparison between M Series American tanks and T series Iraqi tanks.

THE WAR COMES HOME

WASHINGTON'S BATTLE AGAINST AMERICA'S VETERANS

Univ of California Press The War Comes Home is the first book to systematically document the U.S. government's neglect of soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Aaron Glantz, who reported extensively from Iraq during the first three years of this war and has been reporting on the plight of veterans ever since, levels a devastating indictment against the Bush administration for its bald neglect of soldiers and its disingenuous renegeing on their benefits. Glantz interviewed more than one hundred recent war veterans, and here he intersperses their haunting first-person accounts with investigations into specific concerns, such as the scandal at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. This timely book does more than provide us with a personal connection to those whose service has cost them so dearly. It compels us to confront how America treats its veterans and to consider what kind of nation deifies its soldiers and then casts them off as damaged goods.

THE IRAQ WAR ENCYCLOPEDIA

ABC-CLIO This reference work is an ideal resource for anyone interested in better understanding the controversial Iraq War. It treats the war in its entirety, covering politics, religion, and history, as well as military issues.

THE DAY AFTER

WHY AMERICA WINS THE WAR BUT LOSES THE PEACE

Cornell University Press Since 9/11, why have we won smashing battlefield victories only to botch nearly everything that comes next? In the opening phases of war in Afghanistan, Iraq,

and Libya, we mopped the floor with our enemies. But in short order, things went horribly wrong. We soon discovered we had no coherent plan to manage the "day after." The ensuing debacles had truly staggering consequences—many thousands of lives lost, trillions of dollars squandered, and the apparent discrediting of our foreign policy establishment. This helped set the stage for an extraordinary historical moment in which America's role in the world, along with our commitment to democracy at home and abroad, have become subject to growing doubt. With the benefit of hindsight, can we discern what went wrong? Why have we had such great difficulty planning for the aftermath of war? In *The Day After*, Brendan Gallagher—an Army lieutenant colonel with multiple combat tours to Iraq and Afghanistan, and a Princeton Ph.D.—seeks to tackle this vital question. Gallagher argues there is a tension between our desire to create a new democracy and our competing desire to pull out as soon as possible. Our leaders often strive to accomplish both to keep everyone happy. But by avoiding the tough underlying decisions, it fosters an incoherent strategy. This makes chaos more likely. *The Day After* draws on new interviews with dozens of civilian and military officials, ranging from US cabinet secretaries to four-star generals. It also sheds light on how, in Kosovo, we lowered our postwar aims to quietly achieve a surprising partial success. Striking at the heart of what went wrong in our recent wars, and what we should do about it, Gallagher asks whether we will learn from our mistakes, or provoke even more disasters? Human lives, money, elections, and America's place in the world may hinge on the answer.

BODY COUNT

THE WAR ON TERROR AND CIVILIAN DEATHS IN IRAQ

Lily Hamourtziadou's important analysis of the scale and causes of civilian deaths in Iraq since the US-led coalition's 2003 invasion sheds new light on the War on Terror. From early fighting to the departure and return of troops and the rise of ISIS, she tracks the cost of conflict and constructs an insightful human security approach to war.

WAR

[The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc](#) The public's perception of war changed drastically following the Vietnam War, as it was the first time the American public encountered an endless stream of graphic coverage of military conflict abroad. Still, the public often seems divided on the necessity of military engagement for defense or to promote regional stability and the tolls of war: loss, destruction, and veterans requiring lifelong care. These articles document changing attitudes toward war, compiling New York Times coverage as far back as the Civil War and continuing through twenty-first-century conflicts, including those in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria.

RUSSIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (GRU) DAILY REPORTS ON THE IRAQ WAR

UNIQUE AND TRUTHFUL DAILY ACCOUNT OF THE COURSE OF WAR AND THE IRAQI RESISTANCE DURING THE FIRST 23 DAYS (MARCH 17-APRIL 8) UNTIL AMERICAN PRESSURES STOPPED THIS SERVICE

THE IRAQ WAR

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 2003-2011

[Pen and Sword](#) The Iraq War is a visual record of the American-led Operation Iraqi Freedom of 2003, which resulted in the dramatic overthrow of dictator Saddam Hussein. In a striking sequence of photographs Anthony Tucker-Jones shows how this was achieved by the American and British armed forces in a lightning campaign of just two weeks. But the photographs also show the disastrous aftermath when the swift victory was undermined by the outbreak of the Iraqi insurgency - in the Shia south, in Baghdad and the Sunni Triangle, and in Fallujah where two ferocious battles were fought. The author, who is an expert on the Iraqi armed forces and has written extensively on the Iran-Iraq War and the Gulf War, gives a fascinating insight into the Iraqi army and air force and into the multitude of weapons systems Saddam purchased from around the world. He also looks at the failures on the American and British side - the flaws in the tactics that were used, the poor performance of some of the armoured fighting vehicles and at the reformed Iraqi armed forces who have now taken responsibility for security in the country. The Iraq War is a vivid photographic introduction to a conflict that has only just passed into history.

DARK VICTORY

AMERICA'S SECOND WAR AGAINST IRAQ

[Naval Inst Press](#) A prominent national security analyst provides a critical examination of the origins, objectives, conduct, and consequences of the U.S. war against Iraq in this major new study. Focusing on the intersection of world politics, U.S. foreign policy, and the invasion and occupation of Iraq, Jeffrey Record presents a full-scale policy analysis of the war and its aftermath. As he looks at the political and strategic legacies of the 1991 Gulf War, the impact of 9/11 and neo-conservative ideology on the George W. Bush White House, and the formulation of the Bush Doctrine on the use of force, he assesses rather than describes, judges rather than recites facts. He decries the Bush administration's threat conflation of Saddam Hussein's Iraq and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda, and calls U.S. plans inadequate to meet postwar challenges in Iraq. With the support of convincing evidence, the author concludes that America's war against Iraq was both unnecessary and damaging to long-term U.S. security interests. He argues that there was no threatening Saddam-Osama connection and that even if Iraq had the weapons of mass destruction that the Bush administration believed necessitated war, it could have been readily deterred from using them, just as it had been in 1991. Record faults the administration for preventive, unilateralist policies that alienated friends and allies, weakened international institutions important to the United States, and saddled America with costly, open-ended occupation of an Arab heartland. He contends that far from being a major victory against terrorism, the war provided Islamic jihadists an expanded recruiting base and a new front of operations against Americans. Such a solid, thought-provoking study merits attention.

THE AFGHANISTAN PAPERS

A SECRET HISTORY OF THE WAR

[Simon and Schuster](#) A Washington Post Best Book of 2021 The #1 New York Times bestselling investigative story of how three successive presidents and their military commanders deceived the public year after year about America's longest war, foreshadowing the Taliban's recapture of Afghanistan, by Washington Post reporter and three-time Pulitzer Prize finalist Craig Whitlock. Unlike the wars in Vietnam and Iraq, the US invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 had near-unanimous public support. At first, the goals were straightforward and clear: defeat al-Qaeda and prevent a repeat of 9/11. Yet soon after the United States and its allies removed the Taliban from power, the mission veered off course and US officials lost sight of their original objectives. Distracted by the war in Iraq, the US military became mired in an unwinnable guerrilla conflict in a country it did not understand. But no president wanted to admit failure, especially in a war that began as a just cause. Instead, the Bush, Obama, and Trump administrations sent more and more troops to Afghanistan and repeatedly said they were making progress, even though they knew there was no realistic prospect for an outright victory. Just as the Pentagon Papers changed the public's understanding of Vietnam, *The Afghanistan Papers* contains "fast-paced and vivid" (The New York Times Book Review) revelation after revelation from people who played a direct role in the war from leaders in the White House and the Pentagon to soldiers and aid workers on the front lines. In unvarnished language, they admit that the US government's strategies were a mess, that the nation-building project was a colossal failure, and that drugs and corruption gained a stranglehold over their allies in the Afghan government. All told, the account is based on interviews with more than 1,000 people who knew that the US government was presenting a distorted, and sometimes entirely fabricated, version of the facts on the ground. Documents unearthed by The Washington Post reveal that President Bush didn't know the name of his Afghanistan war commander—and didn't want to meet with him. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld admitted that he had "no visibility into who the bad guys are." His successor, Robert Gates, said: "We didn't know jack shit about al-Qaeda." *The Afghanistan Papers* is a "searing indictment of the deceit, blunders, and hubris of senior military and civilian officials" (Tom Bowman, NRP Pentagon Correspondent) that will supercharge a long-overdue reckoning over what went wrong and forever change the way the conflict is remembered.