



**U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE LIBRARY**  
**SUGGESTED MILITARY READING LIST**

**Compiled by Virginia C. Shope**

**February 2009**

An annual publication of the Library, this listing consists of notable books published during the last three years. These books deal with topics of interest to U.S. Army War College students and are of special value in their specific subject areas. You will find other professional military reading lists on our web page at <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/library/RecReadList08.pdf> and in a special binder shelved in the Library's reading room. For more information, please phone (717) 245-4280 or email [USAWC.LibraryR@us.army.mil](mailto:USAWC.LibraryR@us.army.mil).

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**Atkinson, Rick. *The Day of Battle: The War in Sicily and Italy, 1943-1944*. New York: Holt, 2007. 791pp. (D763 .I8A85 2007)**

This is the second volume of Atkinson's trilogy about the liberation of Europe in World War II, which began with his Pulitzer Prize winning *An Army at Dawn*, published in 2002. Library also has sound recording.

**Bacevich, Andrew J. *The Limits of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism*. New York: Metropolitan Books, 2008. 206pp. (JK271 .B11 2008)**

"*The Limits of Power* identifies a triple crisis facing America today: the economy, in remarkable disarray, can no longer be fixed by relying on expansion abroad; the government, transformed by an imperial presidency, is a democracy in form only; the nation's involvement in endless wars, driven by a deep infatuation with military power, has been a catastrophe for the body politic."

**Boot, Max. *War Made New: Technology, Warfare, and the Course of History, 1500 to Today*. New York: Gotham Books, 2006. 624pp. (D214 .B667 2006)**

"Boot argues that the past five centuries of history have been marked not by gradual change in how we fight but instead by four revolutions in military technology – and that the nations who have successfully mastered these revolutions have gained the power to redraw the map of the world."

**Bremer, L. Paul, with Malcolm McConnell. *My Year in Iraq: The Struggle to Build a Future of Hope*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006. 417pp. (DS79.769 .B62 2006)**

This memoir of Bremer's fourteen months as America's proconsul in Iraq gives an insider's perspective on the period following the collapse of Saddam Hussein's regime. Library also has sound recording.

**Bremmer, Ian. *The J Curve: A New Way to Understand Why Nations Rise and Fall*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006. 306pp. (JC489 .B62 2006)**

"The J curve is a visual tool that allows us to see at a glance why some crucial countries are in crisis and unstable while others are prosperous and politically solid."

**Carroll, James. *House of War: The Pentagon and the Disastrous Rise of American Power*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2006. 657pp. (UA23 .C17 2006)**

Carroll chronicles the Pentagon, "the most powerful institution in America", and how it has changed the United States. Library also has sound recording.

**Carter, Jimmy. *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006. 264pp. (DS119.7 .C16 2006)**

Former President Carter, bestselling author and Nobel Peace Prize winner, shares his knowledge of the conflict's history and suggests a blueprint for peace.

**Chomsky, Noam. *Failed States: The Abuse of Power and the Assault on Democracy*. New York: Metropolitan Books/Holt, 2006. 311pp. (E902 .C36 2006)**

In this sequel to his bestselling *Hegemony or Survival*, Chomsky criticizes the United States for claiming to reshape other nations while its own democratic institutions are in crisis and "its policies and practices recklessly place the world on the brink of nuclear and environmental disaster". Library also has sound recording.

**Cordesman, Anthony H., with Patrick Baetjer. *Iraqi Security Forces: A Strategy for Success*. Westport: Praeger Security International, 2006. 410pp. (DS79.769 .C67 2006)**

Cordesman, who holds the Burke Chair in Strategy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, analyzes the war in Iraq and presents a plan for nation-building and stability. Includes a helpful chronology of events.

**Dobbins, James, et al. *The Beginner's Guide to Nation-Building*. Santa Monica: RAND National Security Research Division, 2007. 284pp. (JZ6300 .D51 2007)**

"James Dobbins, one of the leading practitioners of the art, offers a set of clear, simple prescriptions for helping to build a stable peace in the wake of conflict and disorder." – Kofi A. Annan, United Nations Secretary-General. This title is also available online at [http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2007/RAND\\_MG557.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2007/RAND_MG557.pdf).

**Donnelly, Thomas, and Frederick W. Kagan. *Ground Truth: The Future of U.S. Land Power*. Washington, DC: AEI Press, 2008. 164pp. (UA23 .D55 2008)**

Donnelly and Kagan pose five questions for policymakers: What is the strategic role of American ground forces? What missions will these forces undertake in the future? What is the nature of land warfare in the twenty-first century? What qualities are necessary to succeed on the battlefields of the Long War? What is the ideal size and configuration of the force – and how much will it cost? This title is also available online at [http://www.aei.org/docLib/20080523\\_GroundTruth.pdf](http://www.aei.org/docLib/20080523_GroundTruth.pdf).

**Echevarria, Antulio J., II. *Clausewitz and Contemporary War*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007. 210pp. (U102 .C65E13 2007)**

Winner of the 2008 Colonel John J. Madigan, III U.S. Army War College Staff and Faculty Published Writing Competition.

**Faust, Drew Gilpin. *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*. New York: Knopf, 2008. 346pp. (E468.9 .F17 2008)**

Explores the effect the Civil War's enormous death toll had on transforming American society and the way it looked at and handled death.

**Filkins, Dexter. *The Forever War*. New York: Knopf, 2008. 368pp. (DS79.76 .F34 2008)**

Filkins, a prizewinning New York Times correspondent, chronicles a remarkable chain of events that begins with the rise of the Taliban in the 1990s, continues with the attacks of 9/11, and moves on to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

**Friedman, Thomas L. *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution – And How It Can Renew America*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008. 438pp. (GE197 .F63 2008)**

Friedman's bestseller *The World Is Flat* has helped millions of readers to see globalization in a new way. Now the author brings a fresh outlook to the crises of destabilizing climate change and rising competition for energy.

**Friedman, Thomas L. *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*, updated and expanded ed. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006. 600pp. (JZ1318 .F63 2006)**

New York Times columnist Friedman uses "flat" in the sense of a global "level playing field" where technology and other significant trends and events are reshaping lives, business, and politics. This updated and expanded edition includes more than a hundred pages of fresh reporting and commentary. Library also has sound recording.

**Fukuyama, Francis, ed. *Nation-Building: Beyond Afghanistan and Iraq*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006. 262pp. (JZ6300 .N17 2006)**

Contributors from Hoover Institution, RAND, Carnegie Foundation for International Peace, Ford Foundation, and other institutions assess United States nation-building efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Gaffney, Frank J., et al. *War Footing: Ten Steps America Must Take to Prevail in the War for the Free World*. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2006. 301pp. (UA23 .W161 2006)**

Gaffney, other analysts, academics, and commentators look at the crisis of global terror and offer ideas about how we should fight back.

**Galula, David, with a foreword by John A. Nagl. *Counterinsurgency Warfare: Theory and Practice*. Westport: Praeger Security International, 2006. 106pp. (U240 .G32 2006)**

First published in 1964, this new printing is as relevant as it was 40 years ago – providing a template for the defeat of today's insurgents and terrorists. This title is also available online for USAWC students, staff, and faculty via [Praeger Security International](#).

**Gerges, Fawaz A. *Journey of the Jihadist: Inside Muslim Militancy*. Orlando: Harcourt, 2006. 312pp. (BP190.5 .T47G26 2006)**

Drawing on primary Arabic sources and interviews with jihadists, Middle Eastern scholar and media commentator Gerges takes us into the mindset of these "holy warriors" to explain the world as they see it.

**Gladwell, Malcolm. *Outliers: The Story of Success*. New York: Little, Brown, 2008. 309pp. (BF637 .S8G41 2008)**

Gladwell takes the reader on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers" – the best and the brightest, the most famous, and the most successful – by looking at their culture, family, generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing.

**Goffee, Rob, and Gareth Jones. *Why Should Anyone Be Led by You? What It Takes to Be an Authentic Leader*. Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2006. 244pp. (HD57.7 .G663 2006)**

Goffee and Jones show how authentic leaders, those who display their true selves, nurture relationships with followers by: "highlighting their strengths while revealing human weaknesses, maintaining their individuality while conforming enough to hold the organization together, and establishing intimacy with followers while keeping enough distance to command respect".

**Gole, Henry G., with a foreword by William A. Stofft. *General William E. DePuy: Preparing the Army for Modern War*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2008. 364pp. (U53 .D46G54 2008)**

Gole "mined secondary and primary sources, including DePuy's personal papers and extensive archival material, and he interviewed peers, subordinates, family members, and close observers to describe and analyze DePuy's unique contributions to the Army and nation."

**Gordon, Michael R., and Bernard E. Trainor. *Cobra II: The Inside Story of the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq*. New York: Pantheon Books, 2006. 603pp. (DS79.76 .G57 2006)**

Written by Michael Gordon, New York Times chief military correspondent, and Lieutenant General Bernard Trainor, USMC (Ret.), this book is an authoritative, detailed account of how Operation Iraqi Freedom was planned and fought. Library also has sound recording.

**Gray, Colin S. *War, Peace and International Relations: An Introduction to Strategic History*. New York: Routledge, 2007. 306pp. (U21.2 .G619 2007)**

Well-known strategist, Colin Gray, covers all the major wars of the past two centuries, including chapters on irregular warfare and terrorism.

**Halberstam, David. *The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War*. New York: Hyperion, 2007. 719pp. (DS919 .H35 2007)**

Pulitzer-winning historian Halberstam first decided to write this book more than thirty years ago and it took him nearly ten years. With remarkable detail, he provides a full narrative of the political decisions and miscalculations on both sides. At the heart of the book are the stories of the soldiers on the front lines. Library also has sound recording.

**Johnson, David E. *Learning Large Lessons: The Evolving Roles of Ground Power and Air Power in the Post-Cold War Era*, new updated ed. Santa Monica: RAND, 2007. 235pp. (UA23 .J521 2007)**

Johnson analyzes United States ground and air power in post-Cold War conflicts in Iraq (1991), Bosnia (1995), Kosovo (1999), Afghanistan (2001), and Iraq (2003). This title is also available online at [http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2007/RAND\\_MG405-1.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2007/RAND_MG405-1.pdf).

**Kagan, Frederick W. *Finding the Target: The Transformation of American Military Policy*. New York: Encounter Books, 2006. 443pp. (UA23 .K13 2006)**

Resident Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, Frederick W. Kagan makes the case that "over-reliance on high-tech solutions ignores the basic purpose of war: the use of force to achieve political objectives".

**Kagan, Robert. *Dangerous Nation*. New York: Knopf, 2006. 527pp. (E183.7 .K13 2006)**

Kagan examines America's foreign policy from its earliest days to the dawn of the twentieth century.

**Kan, Paul Rexton, with a foreword by Moisés Naím. *Drugs and Contemporary Warfare*. Washington, DC: Potomac Books, 2009. 193pp. (HV5840 .D44K15 2009)**

Interdisciplinary in its approach, *Drugs and Contemporary Warfare* investigates the convergence of drugs and modern warfare, the violent actors involved in the drug trade, the drugs they produce and distribute, and how these drugs enter into battlefield conflicts.

**Kohut, Andrew, and Bruce Stokes, with a foreword by Madeleine K. Albright. *America against the World: How We Are Different and Why We Are Disliked*. New York: Times Books, 2006. 259pp. (E169.12 .K53 2006)**

Kohut, director of the Pew Research Center, and NPR commentator Stokes present results of global opinion surveys involving more than 91,000 respondents in fifty nations.

**Lewis, Richard D. *When Cultures Collide: Leading across Cultures*, 3d ed. Boston: Nicholas Brealey International, 2006. 599pp. (HD62.4 .L28 2006)**

Cross-cultural expert and international businessman, Lewis covers more than sixty countries and every major region in the world in this updated and expanded third edition, which gives leaders and managers strategies to deal with differences and work across diverse cultures.

**Linn, Brian McAllister.** *The Echo of Battle: The Army's Way of War.* Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2007. 312pp. (UA25 .L34 2007)

"Linn addresses how the U.S. Army has regarded its main business, which is preparing for regular warfare. In doing so, he makes the important point that key debates over missions and doctrines are apt to take place in peacetime, when there is a chance not only to reflect on past wars but also to ponder the next."

**Mansoor, Peter R, with a foreword by Donald Kagan and Frederick Kagan.** *Baghdad at Sunrise: A Brigade Commander's War in Iraq.* New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008. 365pp. (DS79.76 .M15 2008)

The author, a brigade commander in Baghdad in 2003-2004, "presents an unparalleled record of what happened after U.S. forces seized Baghdad in the Spring of 2003."

**Marston, Daniel, and Carter Malkasian, eds.** *Counterinsurgency in Modern Warfare.* New York: Osprey, 2008. 304pp. (U241 .C57 2008)

Each contributor, an expert in his field, discusses in depth the conduct and outcomes of operations across the globe, including the Arab-Israeli conflict, Afghanistan and Iraq, and draws out the lessons to be learned from them.

**Martel, William C.** *Victory in War: Foundations of Modern Military Policy.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007. 436pp. (UA11 .M16 2007)

"This book explores historical definitions of victory, how victory has evolved, and how it has been implemented in war." Case studies include the U.S. military interventions in Panama, Libya, the Persian Gulf, Bosnia and Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

**Metz, Steven, with a foreword by Colin S. Gray.** *Iraq & the Evolution of American Strategy.* Washington, DC: Potomac Books, 2008. 262pp. (E183.8 .I57M27 2008)

Examines the ways in which the Gulf War, the WMD standoff, the Iraq War, and the ongoing occupation have driven broader changes in U.S. national security policy and military strategy.

**Murphy, Bill, Jr.** *In a Time of War: The Proud and Perilous Journey of West Point's Class of 2002.* New York: Holt, 2008. 365pp. (U410 .M1M86 2008)

Murphy follows members of West Point's class of 2002, the first in a generation to graduate during wartime, from graduation to fighting on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Murray, Williamson, and Richard Hart Sinnreich, eds.** *The Past as Prologue: The Importance of History to the Military Profession.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006. 287pp. (U27 .P28 2006)

"Exploring the usefulness of the study of history for contemporary military strategists, this volume illustrates the great importance of military history while simultaneously revealing the challenges of applying the past to the present."

**Raddatz, Martha. *The Long Road Home: A Story of War and Family*. New York: Putnam, 2007. 310pp. (DS79.76 .R11 2007)**

"What distinguishes *The Long Road Home* from other war books is that Raddatz seamlessly shifts from the troops in the crossfire to the anxious souls who stand watch over the loneliest post in any conflict: the spouses, parents and children on the home front."

**Record, Jeffrey. *Beating Goliath: Why Insurgencies Win*. Washington, DC: Potomac Books, 2007. 180pp. (D431 .R43 2007)**

*Beating Goliath* "examines the phenomenon of victories by the weak over the strong – more specifically, insurgencies that succeeded against great powers. Jeffrey Record reviews eleven insurgent wars from 1775 to the present and determines why the seemingly weaker side won."

**Ricks, Thomas E. *Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq*. New York: Penguin Press, 2006. 482pp. (DS79.76 .R31 2006)**

Drawing on extensive cooperation from his network of military contacts and thousands of pages of official documents, Washington Post's senior Pentagon correspondent Ricks gives his account of the American planning for and conduct of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Library also has sound recording.

**Ricks, Thomas E. *The Gamble: General David Petraeus and the American Military Adventure in Iraq, 2006-2008*. New York: Penguin Press, 2009. 394pp.**

Ricks, who covered the military for the Washington Post from 2000 to 2008, takes up the story where he left off in *Fiasco*. The story of General David Petraeus and the American military, *The Gamble* reveals that many high-level officials were opposed to the 2003 invasion. Library also has sound recording.

**Robinson, Linda. *Tell Me How This Ends: General David Petraeus and the Search for a Way Out of Iraq*. New York: PublicAffairs, 2008. 411pp. (DS79.76 .R51 2008)**

Robinson provides an intimate, on-the-ground account of the Iraq War, and of General David Petraeus's effort to reverse its course. Having traveled to Iraq frequently since the war began – with extensive access to General Petraeus, his officers, and troops along the war's front lines, Robinson brings insight to the story of this conflict.

**Senge, Peter M. *The Fifth Discipline: The Art and Practice of the Learning Organization*, rev. and updated. New York: Doubleday/Currency, 2006. 445pp. (HD58.9 .S46 2006)**

This revised edition of Senge's bestselling classic, *The Fifth Discipline*, is based on fifteen years of experience in putting the book's ideas into practice.

**Shultz, Richard H., Jr., and Andrea J. Dew. *Insurgents, Terrorists, and Militias: The Warriors of Contemporary Combat*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2006. 316pp. (U240 .S37 2006)**

Shultz and Dew "describe the reasons nongovernment combatants wage war, and the nontraditional approaches those combatants use". To defeat them, the authors argue, governments must learn about the cultures and traditions of these groups, instead of depending on firepower alone.

**Singer, Peter Warren. *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the Twenty-first Century*. New York: Penguin Press, 2009. 499pp. (UG450 .S35 2009)**

Singer reveals how science fiction is fast becoming reality on the battlefield, changing not just how wars are fought, but also the politics, economics, laws, and ethics that surround war itself.

**Smith, Rupert. *The Utility of Force: The Art of War in the Modern World*. New York: Knopf, 2007. 430pp. (U21.2 .S53 2007)**

Retired British General Rupert Smith "draws on his vast experience as a commander in the 1991 Gulf War, in Bosnia, Kosovo and Northern Ireland, to give us a probing analysis of modern war and to call for radically new military thinking".

**Suskind, Ron. *The One Percent Doctrine: Deep Inside America's Pursuit of Its Enemies since 9/11*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006. 367pp. (HV6432 .S77 2006)**

In this "troubling portrait" of the war on terror, bestselling author Suskind gives a detailed account of United States counterterrorism efforts. Library also has sound recording.

**U.S. Department of the Army, with a foreword by David H. Petraeus and James F. Amos. *Counterinsurgency. Field Manual 3-24*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Army, 15 December 2006. 1 vol. (Mil Pubs FM 3-24)**

Conrad Crane, Director, U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, lead author. This title is also available online at <http://usacac.army.mil/cac/repository/materials/coin-fm3-24.pdf>. Later published as *The U.S. Army-Marine Corps Counterinsurgency Field Manual*, University of Chicago Press, 2007. (U241 .U79 2007)

**Woodward, Bob. *State of Denial*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006. 560pp. (E903.3 .W662 2006)**

In Woodward's third book on the Bush administration, no one "fares especially well". Library also has sound recording.

**Woodward, Bob. *The War Within: A Secret White House History, 2006-2008*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2008. 487pp. (E902 .W553 2008)**

Woodward's fourth book about the Bush presidency at war declassifies the secrets of America's political and military involvement in Iraq. Woodward once again pulls back the curtain on Washington to reveal the inner workings of a government at war.