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978-1-107-02608-7 - Hybrid Warfare: Fighting Complex Opponents from the Ancient World to the Present

Edited by Williamson Murray and Peter R. Mansoor

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Hybrid Warfare

Fighting Complex Opponents from the Ancient World to the Present

Hybrid warfare has been an integral part of the historical landscape since the ancient world, but only recently have analysts – incorrectly – categorized these conflicts as unique. Great powers throughout history have confronted opponents who used a combination of regular and irregular forces to negate the advantage of the great powers' superior conventional military strength. As this study shows, hybrid wars are labor-intensive and long-term affairs; they are difficult struggles that defy the domestic logic of opinion polls and election cycles. Hybrid wars are also the most likely conflicts of the twenty-first century; competitors may use hybrid forces to wear down America's military capabilities in extended campaigns of exhaustion. Nine historical examples of hybrid warfare, from ancient Rome to the modern world, provide readers with context by clarifying the various aspects of these conflicts and examining how great powers have dealt with them in the past.

Williamson Murray is Professor Emeritus of History at The Ohio State University. At present, he is a defense consultant and commentator on historical and military subjects in Washington, DC. He is the author of *War, Strategy, and Military Effectiveness* and *Military Adaptation in War* (both Cambridge, 2011). He is co-editor of numerous books of military and international history, including *The Shaping of Grand Strategy* (with Richard Hart Sinnreich and James Lacey, Cambridge, 2011), *The Making of Peace* (with James Lacey, Cambridge, 2008), *The Past as Prologue* (with Richard Hart Sinnreich, Cambridge, 2006), *The Dynamics of Military Revolution, 1300–2050* (with MacGregor Knox, Cambridge, 2001), *Military Innovation in the Inter-war Period* (with Allan R. Millett, Cambridge, 1996), and *The Making of Strategy* (with Alvin Bernstein and MacGregor Knox, Cambridge, 1994).

Peter R. Mansoor is the General Raymond E. Mason, Jr., Chair of Military History at The Ohio State University. He assumed this position in 2008 after a 26-year career in the United States Army that culminated in his service in Iraq as the executive officer to General David Petraeus, the commanding general of Multi-National Force – Iraq. He is the author of *The GI Offensive in Europe: The Triumph of American Infantry Divisions, 1941–1945*, which was awarded the Society for Military History's distinguished book award and the Army Historical Society's distinguished book award in 2000. He also wrote a memoir titled *Baghdad at Sunrise: A Brigade Commander's War in Iraq* (2008), which was awarded the Ohioana Library Association's distinguished book award.

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*Fighting Complex Opponents from the
Ancient World to the Present*

Edited by

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