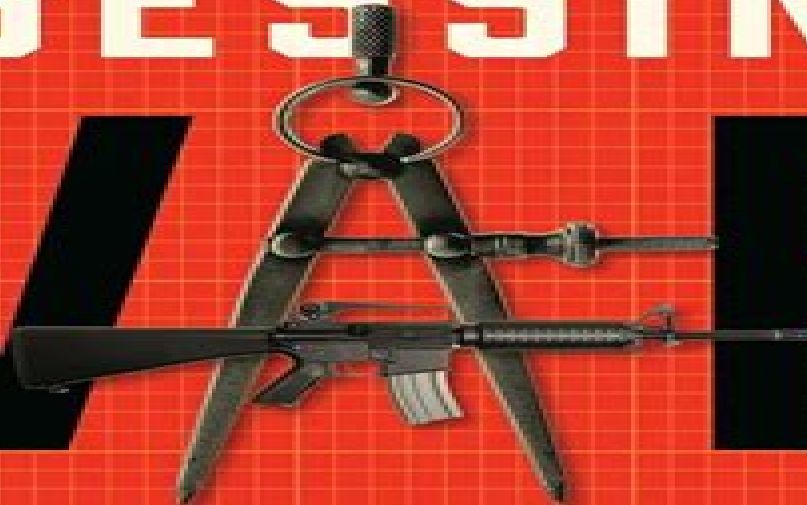


FOREWORD BY GEN. GEORGE W. CASEY JR. (USA, RET.)

ASSESSING WAR

A graphic of a surveying compass and a rifle superimposed over the word 'WAR'. The compass is positioned vertically, with its ring at the top and its legs spread wide. A rifle is positioned horizontally, with its barrel pointing to the right and its stock to the left. The rifle's magazine and trigger guard are visible. The entire graphic is centered over the word 'WAR'.

THE CHALLENGE OF MEASURING
SUCCESS AND FAILURE

Leo J. Blanken, Hy Rothstein, and Jason J. Lepore
EDITORS

Assessing War The Challenge Of Measuring Success And Failure

Tim Kucharzewski



Assessing War The Challenge Of Measuring Success And Failure:

Assessing War Leo J. Blanken, Hy Rothstein, Jason J. Lepore, 2015-12-15 Today's protracted asymmetrical conflicts confuse efforts to measure progress often inviting politics and wishful thinking to replace objective evaluation In *Assessing War* military historians social scientists and military officers explore how observers have analyzed the trajectory of war in American conflicts from the Seven Years War through the war in Afghanistan Drawing on decades of acquired expertise the contributors examine wartime assessment in both theory and practice and through alternative dimensions of assessment such as justice and proportionality the war of ideas and economics This group of distinguished authors grapples with both conventional and irregular wars and emerging aspects of conflict such as cyberwar and nation building that add to the complexities of the modern threat environment The volume ends with recommendations for practitioners on best approaches while offering sobering conclusions about the challenges of assessing war without politicization or self delusion Covering conflicts from the eighteenth century to today *Assessing War* blends focused advice and a uniquely broad set of case studies to ponder vital questions about warfare's past and its future The book includes a foreword by Gen George W Casey Jr USA Ret former chief of staff of the US Army and former commander Multi National Force Iraq *Just War Theory and Likelihood of Success* Eric Patterson, Robert J. Joustra, 2025-11-25 This book analyzes the concept of likelihood of success in just war thinking and argues that if the concept should be retained it must be reconsidered within the overall whole of the tradition of just war The concept of likelihood of success has stood out as particularly troublesome to thinkers and practitioners in the just war tradition The idea while related to the other categories of just war such as proportionality and military necessity can at times be confused with being an absolute rather than a co belligerent criterion within the broader just war canon With such an abstraction justice can be collapsed into a kind of pragmatic calculation favoring the powerful and virtually invalidating insurrection rebellion or resistance This volume brings together scholars and experts from across the tradition to reconsider and reconceptualize the likelihood of success It analyzes this concept not only in light of the war in Ukraine and the war in Gaza but also in historical cases such as Thermopylae or the Russo Finnish Winter War It also examines how we categorize and calculate the likelihood of success and what after all we mean by success Further the volume considers how close or far from the target we should get or expect to get before claiming that a war is unjust or immoral and raises the issue of the destructiveness caused by defenders themselves This book will be of interest to students of just war theory military ethics statecraft and international relations generally *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* Azhar Unwala, Zachary Burdette, 2016-01-19 This fifth edition in the International Engagement on Cyber series focuses on securing critical infrastructure The centrality of critical infrastructure in the Obama administration's recent cybersecurity initiatives demonstrates the timeliness of this topic for greater review and scholarly input In this manner articles in this issue uncover the role and extent of international law and norms public private cooperation as well as novel

ways of conceptualizing security in efforts to improve critical infrastructure cybersecurity Other pieces provide case studies on the telecommunications power and energy sectors to generate an in depth understanding of specific responses to security concerns in different infrastructure areas Additional contributions examine regulatory activities in cyberspace the potential value of cryptocurrency the evolution of cloud computing cybersecurity in Brazil as well as the integration of cyber in the military strategies of Russia China and the United States The diversity of these topics demonstrates the Journal s continued commitment to pursuing the myriad facets that compromise the field of cyber Please note this special issue is not included in the subscription to the journal

Withdrawal Gregory A. Daddis, 2017-09-01 A better war Over the last two decades this term has become synonymous with US strategy during the Vietnam War s final years The narrative is enticingly simple appealing to many audiences After the disastrous results of the 1968 Tet offensive in which Hanoi s forces demonstrated the failures of American strategy popular history tells of a new American military commander who emerged in South Vietnam and with inspired leadership and a new approach turned around a long stalemated conflict In fact so successful was General Creighton Abrams in commanding US forces that according to the better war myth the United States had actually achieved victory by mid 1970 A new general with a new strategy had delivered only to see his victory abandoned by weak kneed politicians in Washington DC who turned their backs on the US armed forces and their South Vietnamese allies In a bold new interpretation of America s final years in Vietnam acclaimed historian Gregory A Daddis disproves these longstanding myths Withdrawal is a groundbreaking reassessment that tells a far different story of the Vietnam War Daddis convincingly argues that the entire US effort in South Vietnam was incapable of reversing the downward trends of a complicated Vietnamese conflict that by 1968 had turned into a political military stalemate Despite a new articulation of strategy Abrams s approach could not materially alter a war no longer vital to US national security or global dominance Once the Nixon White House made the political decision to withdraw from Southeast Asia Abrams s military strategy was unable to change either the course or outcome of a decades long Vietnamese civil war In a riveting sequel to his celebrated Westmoreland s War Daddis demonstrates he is one of the nation s leading scholars on the Vietnam War Withdrawal will be a standard work for years to come

War on the Ballot Andrew Payne, 2023-07-18 Winner 2024 Richard E Neustadt Book Prize American Politics Group Political Studies Association The president of the United States is at once holder of the highest elected office and commander in chief of the armed forces How do upcoming elections influence presidents behavior during wartime How do presidents balance perceptions of the national interest with personal political interests War on the Ballot examines how electoral politics shaped presidential decisions on military and diplomatic strategy during the wars in Korea Vietnam and Iraq Drawing on a wealth of declassified documents and interviews with senior officials and military officers Andrew Payne reveals the surprisingly large role played by political considerations during conflicts He demonstrates how the exigencies of the electoral cycle drove leaders to miss opportunities to limit the human and financial costs of each war gain strategic advantage or sue

for peace sometimes making critical decisions with striking disregard for the consequences on the ground Payne emphasizes the importance of electoral pressures throughout the full course of a conflict not just around the initial decision to intervene He shows how electoral constraints operate across different phases of the political calendar going beyond the period immediately preceding a presidential election Offering a systematic analysis of the relationship between electoral politics and wartime decision making this book raises crucial questions about democratic accountability in foreign policy

Confronting Cyber Risk Gregory J. Falco, Eric Rosenbach, 2022 Using real world examples from SolarWinds to the Colonial Pipeline attack *Confronting Cyber Risk* provides CEOs and cyber newcomers alike with a cutting edge strategy to mitigate an organization's operational reputational and litigational risk to malicious cyberattacks in an evolving cyber risk landscape

Into the Void James D. Kiras, Martijn Kitzen, 2024-06-06 The moment in the sun for special operations sometimes appears to have passed seemingly eclipsed by preparations for potential conflict under the guise of great power competition combined with failure in Afghanistan Yet the war in Ukraine serves as a reminder that special operations play an even greater role today before during and presumably after conflict The challenge remains dealing with current irregular and hybrid threats at the same time as preparing for an uncertain future as threats and technologies evolve at a dizzying pace Focusing too much on the future of conventional warfare creates a void in national security discussions related to special operations This book seeks to fill that gap drawing on the expertise of scholars and practitioners in the field from the Indo Pacific Europe and the United States to answer what if anything special operations can or should seek to do and how The contributors explore such topics as proxies non state special forces capabilities innovation and transformation artificial intelligence and special operations in space and cyberspace These chapters are united by their analysis that special operations will have future strategic and operational value for allies and adversaries alike provided that difficult choices are made in the present

How the United States Would Fight China Franz-Stefan Gady, 2025-11 This is a detailed analysis of how the United States intends to fight a war against the People's Republic of China and why it risks strategic defeat based on its doctrine force structure and general way of war Franz Stefan Gady contends that the US military's current approach to a potential war over Taiwan is flawed relying heavily both on achieving rapid information superiority and on a decisive victory This is unlikely to succeed and may increase the risk of nuclear escalation between the world's only genuine superpowers A US China war would more likely be characterized by prolonged attrition across multiple domains cyber space air sea and land a conflict for which America's military and society are ill prepared The US also lacks a viable blueprint the military forces or the industrial capacity for a long war of attrition This deficiency stems from a military culture prioritizing advanced technology over mass and the lack of political will or public readiness for the sacrifices such a conflict would require Gady's research and analysis both of the highest order reveal the significant risk of strategic defeat for the United States in a potential conflict with China whether in the 2020s or 2030s

Wars and the World Tim Kucharzewski, 2024-06-19 This

book offers a descriptive analysis of the Soviet Russian wars in Afghanistan Chechnya and Georgia as well as an in depth exploration of the ways in which these wars are framed in the collective consciousness created by global popular culture Russian and Western modalities of remembrance have been and remain engaged in a world war that takes place not exclusively but intensively on the level of popular culture The action reaction dynamic confrontational narratives and othering between the two camps never ceased The Cold War in many ways and contrary to the views of many others who hoped for the end of history never really ended Ending War Chiara De Franco, Anders Engberg-Pedersen, Martin Mennecke, 2021-11-29 Ending War A Dialogue across Disciplines examines how wars end from a multidisciplinary perspective and includes enquiries into the politics of war the laws of war and the military and intellectual history of war In recent years the changes in the character of contemporary warfare have created uncertainties across different disciplines about how to identify and conceptualise the end of war A whole constellation of questions arises from such uncertainties How do philosophers define ethical responsibilities in bello and post bellum if the boundary between war and peace is ever so blurred How do strategists define their objectives if the teleology of action becomes uncertain How do historians bracket the known endings of war and delve into the arguments that preceded them Which answers can international law provide for the ending of wars and which challenges remain or have recently arisen This volume addresses these questions and enables both an understanding of how the end as a concept informs the understanding of war in international relations in international law and in history as well as a reconsideration of the nature of scientific method in the field of war studies as such The chapters in this book were originally published as a special issue of The Journal of Strategic Studies

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