



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3d ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT
FORT CARSON, COLORADO 80913



AFZC-R-RCO

1 November 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR Brave Rifles Leaders

SUBJECT: Brave Rifles Reading List for Operation Iraqi Freedom

1. US, Coalition, and Iraqi forces are conducting counterinsurgency operations in Iraq. While the fundamentals of cavalry combat operations clearly apply to fighting in Iraq, counterinsurgency operations demand that leaders possess a very broad base of knowledge and understand how military operations effect the political situation. Religious, ethnic, and social dynamics make the situation in Iraq particularly complex. Leaders must understand those dynamics and how our presence and actions affect them. The enemy's use of urban and restrictive terrain and his ability to blend into the civilian population demand that leaders become expert in MOUT, civil-military operations, combined operations with Iraqi forces, and the development of tactical intelligence. This reading list is meant to guide self study and serve as a basis for professional reading programs at the squadron and troop levels. The knowledge gained from reading, thinking about, and discussing this material will permit leaders to better prepare their troopers for combat and assist leaders in taking the initiative when they encounter complex situations in Iraq.

2. **Doctrine and TTPS:** We possess a solid doctrinal foundation for operations in Iraq. Leaders must be familiar with our doctrine and our Standard Operating Procedures. Our SOPs prescribe techniques and reports to be used throughout the Regimental battle group. SOPs allow for standardized execution of critical mission essential tasks in order to facilitate cooperation between units and to promote the mutual confidence and dependability that is necessary to fighting units. Uniform execution of certain tasks and battle drills add speed and coordination to our actions in training and in combat. Doctrinal knowledge and SOPs cannot replace common sense or the leader's ability to adapt and seize the initiative through aggressive action. They do give leaders a baseline for common action.

The Canon: What all Leaders Must Read and Understand

- a. Brave Rifles and Standard Troop/Company/Battery TACSOPs (To be published in Aug)
- b. Brave Rifles Lessons Learned (To be published in Aug)
- c. FM 3-90 selected chapters
- b. [FM 3-06 \(formerly 90-10\) Urban Operations](#) (Jun 03)
- c. [FM 3-06.11 Combined Arms Operations in Urban Terrain](#)
(Feb 02)

- d. FM 90-10-1 Infantrymen's Guide to Combat in Built Up Areas
- d. [FM 3-07 \(formerly FM 100-20\) Stability Operations & Support Operations](#) (Feb 03)
- e. Cavalry Operations from 17-95 to 17-98
- f. FM 3-21.71 Mechanized Infantry Platoon and Squad Operations
- g. FM 7-8 Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad
- g. [FM 31-20-3 Foreign Internal Defense TTPs](#)
- h. [FM 3-05.201 SF Unconventional Warfare Operations](#)
- i. FM 34-52 Interrogation Handbook
- j. [FM 190-8 EPWs, Retained Personnel, Civilian Internees and Other Detainees](#)
- j. [JP 3-57 Joint Doctrine for Civil-Military Operations](#) (Feb 01)

Recommendations for Additional Reading

- a. [FM 90-8 \(FM 3-07.11\) Counterinsurgency Operations](#) (1986)
- b. [Small Wars Manual](#)
- c. [FMFM 8-2 Counterinsurgency Operations](#) (1980)

3. **TTPs and Lessons Learned Websites:** All training must reflect a leader's vision of war and the leader must base that vision on his/her experiences and the experiences of others. Brave Rifles Leaders will periodically visit the following web sites to keep their vision of war current, identify critical tasks to train, and modify training conditions to prepare our troopers for operations in Iraq. Leaders will also receive periodic intelligence briefings.

- a. [Center for Army Lessons Learned](#)
 - i. [Handbook 03-04 Small Unit Leader's Guide to Urban Operations](#)
- b. [Companycommand.com](#)
- c. [USMC small wars website](#)
- d. [82nd CQB Training](#)
- e. [CGSOC IED Brief](#)

4. **Counterinsurgency History and Theory:** Although the situation in Iraq is unique and dynamic, historical experiences can help us ask the right questions about the situation, take a critical view of our operations, anticipate difficulties, and recognize opportunities.

a. *Insurgency and Terrorism: Inside Modern Revolutionary Warfare* by Bard O'neill.

O'neill provides a framework for analyzing insurgency operations: its goals, strategies, factors that influence insurgents. This is a good book to read first in insurgency studies.

b. *Modern Insurgencies and Counter-insurgencies* by Ian F. W. Beckett.

Modern Insurgencies and Counter-Insurgencies explores how unconventional warfare tactics have opposed past and present governments all over the world, from eighteenth-century guerrilla warfare to the urban terrorism of today.

c. *Small Wars: Their Principles and Practice* by Colonel C.E. Callwell.

First published in 1896, *Small Wars* analyzes the Western experience in imperial conquests. Many of the lessons Callwell emphasizes can be applied to the COIN operations today.

d. *Guerrilla Strategies* by Gerard Chaliand.

This is an anthology of short essays on revolutionary warfare and counterinsurgency.

e. *Counterinsurgency Lessons From Malaya and Vietnam: Learning to Eat Soup with a Knife* by John Nagl.

MAJ Nagl compares Britain's conflict in Malay with the US counterinsurgency operation in Vietnam. Nagl argues that Britain's military had an organization that allowed it to learn from its mistakes and eventually defeat the communist guerillas in Malaya.

f. *The Philippine War 1899-1902* by Brian McAllister Linn.

This book provides a study of Army counterinsurgency operations the Philippines.

g. *The Savage Wars of Peace* by Max Boot.

Boot gives accounts of America's lesser-known, small wars.

h. *On Point: The US Army in Operation Iraqi Freedom* by OIF Study Group.

This book provides lessons learned and explains many of the operations in Iraq.

i. *Block by Block: The Challenges of Urban Operations* by William G. Robertson CGSC.

This is an anthology that begins with a general overview of urban operations from ancient times to the midpoint of the twentieth century.

j. *America and Guerilla Warfare* by Anthony James Joes.

This is a comparative study of America's involvement with guerilla war.

k. *A Savage War of Peace* by Alistair Horn.

This book provides abundant information about the Mediterranean conflict, religion, geography, and politics that affected it.

Articles

a. [Insurgent Groups In Chechnya](#) (Military Review) (Nov 03)

c. [Ashes to Ashes extract](#) (Andrade) (1990)

d. [Back to the Street Without Joy: Counterinsurgency Lessons from Vietnam and other Small Wars](#) (Parameters) (Sum 04)

e. [Iraq and Vietnam: Differences, Similarities, and Insights](#) [Focus on the sections dealing with the history of Iraq] (SSI) (May 04)

f. [Relearning Counterinsurgency Warfare](#) (Parameters) (Spring 04)

g. *An Introduction to the Tactics and Technique of Small Wars* (Marine Corps Gazette)

5. **Arab and Islamic Culture and History:** Our ability to interact effectively with the Iraqi population and partner with those who want to build a peaceful and prosperous future for their children will depend in large measure on our sensitivity to and respect for cultural and religious differences.

a. *A History of the Arab Peoples* by Albert Hourani.

Hourani covers 12 centuries of Arab history. This book is comprehensive and detailed.

b. *The Arab Mind* by Raphael Patai.

A classic in the field of Arab studies. This book gives very insight observations into the complex and volatile society of the Arab nations. The author portrays the Arabs too stereotypically and may over generalize.

c. *The Arabs in History* by Benard Lewis.

This is a fairly short book that covers Arab history from the Queen of Sheba to the early 1980s.

d. *Islam: A Short History* by Karen Armstrong.

This is a quick and easy read on the history of Islam.

e. *The Crisis of Islam: Holy War and Unholy Terror* by Bernard Lewis.

Articles

a. [*The Great Revolt: The 1919-1920 Insurrections Against the British in Mesopotamia*](#) (Daniel Barnard).

6. **Iraqi Culture and History**: Much of what Iraq is experiencing today is a result of the Iraqi peoples' unique culture and history. An understanding of Iraqi culture and history can help us to prevent unintended consequences of our actions, anticipate reactions to political and military developments, and communicate better with the Iraqi people.

a. *Iraq Since 1958: From Revolution to Dictatorship* by Marion Farouk-Sluglett, Peter Sluglett

This book deals with Iraq from the fall of the monarchy through Saddam Hussein's rule.

b. *A History of Iraq* by Charles Tripp.

A solid, comprehensive history of Iraq.

c. *Modern History of Iraq* by Phebe Marr.

Marr places in historical perspective the multiple crises and upheavals that afflict contemporary Iraq. The book focuses on several important themes: the search for national identity in a multi-ethnic, multi-religious state; the struggle to achieve economic development and modernity in a traditional society; and the political dynamics that have led to the current dire situation in Iraq.

d. *Inside Iraq: The History, the People, and the Modern Conflicts of the World's Least Understood Land* by John Miller, Aaron Kenedi, and David Rose.

This book is a collection of 15 essays from leading academics concerning the controversies surrounding Iraq and the Hussein regime.

e. *Iraq: The Brandt Travel Guide* by Karen Dabrowska.

This is a good reference concerning Iraq.

Articles and Websites

a. [CIA Fact book on Iraq](#)

b. [Iraq's Past, Present & Future](#) (F&P) (Edwards) (2003)

c. [Iraq's Unruly Century](#) (Smithsonian) (Kandell) (May 03)

7. **Iraq Ethnicities and Sects:** Once of the greatest threats to instability in Iraq is the possibility of ethnic and sectarian violence. The following books and articles permit an understanding of the history, motivations, and interactions among the Kurds, Sunni Arabs, and Shia Arabs of Iraq.

a. *The Shi'is of Iraq* by Yitzah Nakash.

The Shi'is of Iraq provides a comprehensive history of Iraq's majority group and its turbulent relations with the ruling Sunni minority.

b. *A People Without a Country: The Kurds and Kurdistan* by Gerard Chaliand.

Chaliand focuses on the tragic history of the Kurds in northern Iraq.

c. *Iraqi Kurds: The Past, Present and Future* by Kerim Yildiz and Tom Blass.

This book explores the issues facing the Kurdish population of Iraq in the aftermath of the war and the ongoing occupation.

Articles

a. [Iraq's Oppressed Majority](#) (Smithsonian) (Cockburn) (Dec 03)

b. [The Shi'ites and the Future of Iraq](#) (Foreign Affairs) (Nakash) (Aug 03)

8. **Insurgency, Counterinsurgency, and Ethnic/Sectarian Violence in Iraq:** The Shi'is majority, Sunnis, and Kurds are the major ethnic groups in Iraq. There is potential for violence between these groups as each jockey for power.

a. [The United States and Iraq's Shi'ite Clergy: Partners or Adversaries?](#) (SSI) (Feb 04)

b. [Insurgency and Counterinsurgency in Iraq](#) (Hashim) (Jun 04)

c. [The Advent of Net War Revisited](#) (RAND) (n.d.)

d. [Insurgency and Counterinsurgency in Iraq](#) (RAND) (Hoffman) (Jun 04)

e. [Regional Implications of Shi'a Revival in Iraq](#) (WQ) (Nasr) (Summer 04)

f. [Insurgency & Counterinsurgency in Iraq](#) (WQ) (Metz) (Win 03)

9. **Urban Combat:** During OIF III 3d ACR will operate in the densely populated areas in MNC Central South. We will conduct most of our operations in the Urban environment.

a. *Black Hawk Down* by Mark Bowden.

b. *Russia's Chechen Wars 1994-2000: Lessons from Urban Combat* by Olga Oliker.

c. *City Fights: Selected Histories of Urban Combat from World War II to Vietnam* by John Antal.

Articles

- a. [Urban Warfare: Options, Problems, and the Future](#) (MIT) (Jan 99)
- b. Lessons in Urban Combat (Infantry) (Geibel) (Nov/Dec 95)
- c. Critical Analysis on the Defeat of Task Force Ranger
- d. US Forces Somalia AAR

10. **Psychological/Ethical Dimensions of Combat:** Initial reports show that one in six soldiers returning from OIF and OEF are showing symptoms of combat trauma. Studies show that soldiers suffer greater combat stress in an urban environment than in a conventional environment. Therefore, leaders must put careful thought into their OPTEMPO. As far as the ethical dimensions of combat, leaders must prevent their troopers from performing illegal, immoral acts in combat. Abu Gharayb showed the impact of a few soldiers doing the wrong thing. West Point's Behavioral Science and Leadership Department will provide our Regiment with material that should help our leaders with this subject. In the meantime, here are some books and articles that should help us better understand the psychological/ethical dimensions of combat.

- a. *Achilles in Vietnam: Combat Trauma and the Undoing of Character* by Dr. Jonathan Shay.
- b. *Acts of War: The Behavior of Men in Battle* by Richard Holmes.

Articles and Websites

- a. [A Revolution in Military Ethics](#) (Parameters) (1996)
- b. [Military Ethics Websites](#)

Provides case studies and articles concerning ethics in the combat zone.

11. The POC for this reading list is CPT Bill Song at DSN 526-9416.

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