Supplemental Reading for Majors and Lieutenant Colonels Deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan

History/ General Area Studies:


2. Regarding Afghanistan, the most up-to-date work is Sir Martin Ewans, *Afghanistan: A New History*


6. *Iraq: An Introduction to the Country and the People*, Marine Corps Institute, 2004


14. Center for Strategic and International Studies
Washington-based think tank, which issues periodic research, reports, including on insurgency, Iraq, and the general Middle East.

15. U.S. Institute of Peace: Focus on Iraq
URL: [http://www.usip.org/iraq/](http://www.usip.org/iraq/)
U.S. government-funded think tank’s website, provide Iraq-related resources and reports.

16. International Crisis Group
http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=1266&l=1
Independent think tank, which produces analyses of crisis areas—in this case of Iraq and Afghanistan.

### Stability/ Interagency Studies:


Examines war termination options in Iraq.


11. Jt Pub 3-57 (Civ-Mil Ops)

12. FM 3-07 (US Army SASO doctrine)

13. Other Useful Joint and Service Pubs:

   - JP 3-07.1 (JTTP for FID. The MOOTW doctrine (3-07) is also helpful, but not a TTP)
   - FM 3-06 (Urban Ops)
   - FM 3-07.21 (the Army's tactical manual for COIN, and **very, very good**)
   - FM 31-20-3 (Army TTP manual for FID)
   - FM 90-8 ("counter-guerrilla" ops)
   - FMFM 8-2 ("counter-insurgency" ops, which is not the same as counter-guerrilla ops)

   Also highly recommend a new Joint SOF University pub by Joe Celeski: *Operationalizing COIN* (JSOU Report 05-2)

**Terrorism/ Counterinsurgency:**

**Tier One**


2. James Corum and Wray Johnson, *Airpower in Small Wars* (the only book on the subject of aviation in COIN of any worth and currently being used by 1 MEF in planning for their return to al-Anbar: the intro chapter and chs. 5, 7, and 10 are must reads; the others can be passed over)

3. Bard O'Neill, *Insurgency and Terrorism* (a simple framework for analyzing insurgencies, using Jominian technique to achieve a Clausewitzian result)


URL: [http://fpc.state.gov/c4763.htm](http://fpc.state.gov/c4763.htm)

**Tier Two**

1. Frank Kitson, *Low Intensity Operations* (the modern British outlook on the subject)


3. Thomas Marks, *Maoist Insurgency Since Vietnam* (how to understand the origins and development of an insurgent movement, and their "operational art")

4. Andrew Molnar, et. al., *Human Factors Considerations of Undergrounds in Insurgencies* (Vietnam-era but still useful look at why people join insurgencies)

6. Wray R. Johnson, *Vietnam and American Doctrine for Small Wars* (explains why we do so badly at this business of small wars)

7. Gérard Chaliand, *Guerrilla Strategies: An Historical Anthology from the Long March to Afghanistan* (nice, concise history) [a nice substitute for this book would be John Ellis, *From the Barrel of a Gun: A History of Guerrilla, Revolutionary and Counter-Insurgency Warfare, from the Romans to the Present* (a short, easy to read history)]

8. Roger Trinquier, *Modern Warfare: A French View of Counterinsurgency* (still useful: examines the structure of clandestine groups and how to turn the tables on them using their TTPs)

9. John Akehurst, *We Won a War* (the successful British effort in Oman and good insight into the relationship between COIN and counter-guerrilla ops)

**Middle East Culture:**

**Tier One**


2. Strategic Studies Institute, *The United States and Iraq’s Shiite Clergy: Partners or Adversaries?*


**Tier Two**

1. Philip Hitti, *Makers of Arab History* (1968) (It's short and very good)


3. Peter Mansfield, *The Arabs* (a newer and equally straightforward history)