

# The First Casualty

The TurningThe Political ArmyAmerica's War MachineCreating Business MagicShared DifferencesFirst CasualtyThe First CasualtyCases Decided in the Court of SessionShooting the MessengerThe First CasualtySaint Bartholomew's Hospital reportsThe Medical Times and GazetteWar Diary of 354th InfantryPeace and WarThe Journal of Jurisprudence and Scottish Law MagazineThe Rise of Our East African Empire: Sketch of early history of Uganda, and position of affairs on arrival there ; Preliminary work in Uganda ; Difficulties in Uganda ; War against Mohammedans, and tour in Buddu ; Buddu to Salt Lake ; Salt Lake to Kavalli's ; Kavalli's to Fort Lorne ; Fort Lorne to Fort Grant ; Fort Grant to Kampala ; Uganda under Captain Williams. Situation at end of 1891, and up to eve of the war ; The fighting in Uganda ; Situation in Uganda during the war ; Events subsequent to the war ; Peace concluded with the Wa-Fransa ; Settlement of the country ; Mohammedans repatriated. Peace throughout Uganda ; Close of my administration in Uganda. March to Kikuyu ; Kikuyu to England. The "Uganda question" ; Retention of Uganda ; Origin of the "British sphere," and methods of dealing with it ; Administration past and future ; Appendix II: Letter from Mgr. Hirth to Captain Willaims, dated 14th July 1891 ; Appendix III: Orders for administration of Witu ; Appendix IV: Notes on the small physical mapsNo Shining ArmorThe LancetHistory of the 7th (City of London) Battalion the London Regiment ...2nd Battalion 4th Bombay Grenadiers (King Edward's Own) Formerly the 102nd King Edward's Own Grenadiers Andrew E. Hunt Thomas Crosbie James McCartney David Morey Diane Carson Toby Harnden Phillip Knightley Scotland. Court of Session Paul Moorcraft Phillip Knightley John F. McGrath Dennis Okerstrom Sir Frederick Dealtry Lugard Otto J. Lehrack C. Digby Planck James Thomas Gorman The Turning The Political Army America's War Machine Creating Business Magic Shared Differences First Casualty The First Casualty Cases Decided in the Court of Session Shooting the Messenger The First Casualty Saint Bartholomew's Hospital reports The Medical Times and Gazette War Diary of 354th Infantry Peace and War The Journal of Jurisprudence and Scottish Law Magazine The Rise of Our East African Empire: Sketch of early history of Uganda, and position of affairs on arrival there ; Preliminary work in Uganda ; Difficulties in Uganda ; War against Mohammedans, and tour in Buddu ; Buddu to Salt Lake ; Salt Lake to Kavalli's ; Kavalli's to Fort Lorne ; Fort Lorne to Fort Grant ; Fort Grant to Kampala ; Uganda under Captain Williams. Situation at end of 1891, and up to eve of the war ; The fighting in Uganda ; Situation in Uganda during the war ; Events subsequent to the war ; Peace concluded with the Wa-Fransa ; Settlement of the country ; Mohammedans repatriated. Peace throughout Uganda ; Close of my administration in Uganda. March to Kikuyu ; Kikuyu to England. The

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the anti vietnam war movement in the united states is perhaps best remembered for its young counterculture student protesters however the vietnam war was the first conflict in american history in which a substantial number of military personnel actively protested the war while it was in progress in the turning andrew hunt reclaims the history of the vietnam veterans against the war vvaw an organization that transformed the antiwar movement by placing vietnam veterans in the forefront of the nationwide struggle to end the war misunderstood by both authorities and radicals alike vvaw members were mostly young men who had served in vietnam and returned profoundly disillusioned with the rationale for the war and with american conduct in southeast asia angry impassioned and uncompromisingly militant the vvaw that hunt chronicles in this first history of the organization posed a formidable threat to america s vietnam policy and further contributed to the sense that the nation was under siege from within based on extensive interviews and in depth primary research including recently declassified government files the turning is a vivid history of the men who risked censures stigma even imprisonment for a cause they believed to be an extended tour of duty

since world war ii the u s military has taken a keen interest in shaping press coverage and through it public perception and democratic oversight of the armed forces after misjudging the domestic political landscape during the vietnam war army leaders embraced media management recognizing that control over information had become central to how wars are fought even as the army presented itself as a scrupulously apolitical organization its leaders strove to reshape their political environment through public relations this book tells the story of the u s army s deepening involvement in media management over six decades and offers new ways to understand the military as a political actor thomas crosbie examines how the army gradually transformed its relationship with the civilian government and the public by engaging with the press he traces army media management from its origins as an ad hoc task to its professionalization and formalization alongside the army s rise as a political force its precipitous fall in the vietnam war era and its renewed ascent after learning key lessons from the experience of vietnam the political army draws on the records of army leaders archives of major public affairs figures and organizations and extensive interviews with war correspondents public affairs officers and senior army staff demonstrating how the u s army

gained at great expense potent political sway this book provides a theoretically rich account of military politics and what it means for democracy

a veteran washington reporter reveals how years of military slanted domestic and foreign policy have turned the u s into a perpetual war machine when president dwight d eisenhower prepared to leave the white house in 1961 he did so with an ominous message for the american people about the disastrous rise of the military industrial complex fifty years later the complex has morphed into a virtually unstoppable war machine one that dictates u s economic and foreign policy in a direct and substantial way based on his experiences as an award winning washington based reporter covering national security james mccartney presents a compelling history from the cold war to present day that shows that the problem is far worse and far more wide reaching than anything eisenhower could have imagined big military has become too big to fail and has grown to envelope the nation s political cultural and intellectual institutions these centers of power and influence including the now complicit white house and congress have a vested interest in preparing and waging unnecessary wars the authors persuasively argue that not one foreign intervention in the past 50 years has made us or the world safer with additions by molly sinclair mccartney a fellow journalist with 30 years of experience america s war machine provides the context for today s national security state and explains what can be done about it

three experts from the worlds of magic and business strategy share the secrets to conjuring innovation and shattering expectations your organization may employ hundreds even thousands you may be experiencing growth and hitting your revenue targets but unless you are creating magic for your customers like disney apple and amazon you are not the innovation leader you need to be in today s marketplace in creating business magic a corporate strategist a former acting cia director and a world renowned magician share their secrets to success each chapter opens with a legendary magic act from harry houdini to pen and teller and explores how the same principles and techniques can be deployed to create a fertile environment for disruptive innovation and propel a company light years ahead of the competition the authors illuminate the power of perception ways to innovate to think out of the box break down conceptual barriers and finally bring out the magician inside all of us from the introduction by david copperfield

this timely volume addresses those who teach and study multicultural topics rather than offering a band aid approach to curricular offerings the contributors demonstrate inclusive innovative ways to integrate multicultural issues and media into existing courses in struggling for america s soul a search for some common ground in the multicultural debate lester friedman leads off the volume with an analysis of the value and necessity of multicultural approaches for today s students and for society at large the essays that follow provide a wealth of material for organizing courses including week by week syllabi detailing specific

writing assignments bibliographical information on readings and sources for films and videos the contributors who teach at institutions ranging from community colleges through major research universities describe their experiences teaching students of various ages backgrounds and interests shared differences will be of value to all who use media as a tool in their teaching whether in history literature or the social sciences as well as to those who teach film and video production

gripping a terrific action narrative max hastings reads like a tom clancy thriller yet every word is true this is modern warfare close up and raw andrew roberts bestselling and orwell prize winning author toby harnden tells the gripping and incredible story of the six day battle that began the war in afghanistan and how it set the scene for twenty years of conflict the west is in shock al qaeda has struck the us on 9 11 and thousands are dead within weeks uk special forces enter the fray in afghanistan alongside the cia s team alpha and us troops victory is swift but fragile hundreds of jihadists surrender and two operatives from team alpha enter qala i jangi the fort of war to interrogate them the prisoners revolt one cia man falls and the other is trapped inside the fort seven members of the sbs elite british special forces volunteer for the rescue force and race into danger and the unknown the six day battle that follows proves to be one of the bloodiest of the afghanistan war as the sbs and their american comrades face an enemy determined to die in the mud citadel superbly researched first casualty is based on unprecedented access to the cia sbs and us special forces orwell prize winning author toby harnden recounts the gripping story of that first battle in afghanistan and how the haunting foretelling it contained unreliable allies ethnic rivalries suicide attacks and errant bombs was ignored fueling the twenty year conflict to come

the first casualty when war comes is truth said american senator hiram johnson in 1917 in his gripping now classic history of war journalism phillip knightley shows just how right johnson was from william howard russell who described the appalling conditions of the crimean war in the times of london to the ranks of reporters photographers and cameramen who captured the realities of war in vietnam the first casualty tells a fascinating story of heroism and collusion censorship and suppression since vietnam knightley reveals governments have become much more adept at managing the media as highlighted in chapters on the falklands war the gulf war and the conflict between nato and serbia over kosovo and in a new chapter on the post 9 11 wars in afghanistan and iraq knightley details even greater degrees of government manipulation and media complicity as evidenced by the embedding of reporters in military units and the uncritical openly patriotic coverage of these conflicts the age of the war correspondent as hero he concludes appears to be over fully updated the first casualty remains required reading for anyone concerned about freedom of the press journalistic responsibility and the nature of modern warfare

wars have dominated politics since history began in the modern era most of what the media

reports on foreign conflicts comes from a small band of war correspondents as the furore over the iraq afghan and now the libyan wars demonstrates western governments and militaries often collude to keep their voters in the dark about the causes and the conduct of wars waged in their name in this entertaining and unspun account of modern war reporting the authors ask whether the media itself drives democracies to war or does it serve to constrain evil ignorant and messianic leaders are the heirs of william howard russell the first modern war reporter watchdogs or lapdogs in the age of wikileaks and corrupt media empires what is the political impact of war correspondents are they the heroes or harlots of their profession

explores repressive political and military influences upon and the truthfulness of the coverage of wars of the past one hundred twenty years by reporters around the world amazon com

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