



Intelligence and National Security >

Volume 30, 2015 - [Issue 4](#)

245 | 0
Views | CrossRef citations to date | Altmetric

Book Reviews

Takedown: Inside the Hunt for Al Qaeda

Will Fripp

Pages 595-597 | Published online: 01 May 2014

Cite this article <https://doi.org/10.1080/02684527.2014.913392>

Check for updates

Sample our
Politics & International
Relations Journals

>> [Sign in here](#) to start your access
to the latest two volumes for 14 days



Full Article

Figures & data

Citations

Metrics

Reprints & Permissions

Read this article

Share

In chapter 9, 'Generations', the author advances the view that the heated dispute between the White House and the Kremlin over Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba seemed to suggest that a third world war seemed in prospect. He focuses on Cuba and the Vietnam War which, he argues cogently, dominated the foreign policy of the USA during the 1960s. The next fascinating chapter entitled 'Tommys' takes as its theme the array of literature published from the 1960s onwards devoted to some aspect of the First World War over which the author clearly has an impressive mastery. Some of the works discussed were published in Australia. The final chapter entitled 'Remembrance' engagingly reviews attitudes to the 1914–18 conflict in the light of post-1989 events and trends, the ending of the Cold War – the fall of the Berlin wall, the demise of the Soviet Union, far-reaching changes in the foreign policy of the USA. 'In the West', argues David Reynolds, 'especially America, it seemed that the thawing of communist repression had simply revived historic nationalisms frozen during the Cold War – confirming a rather Wilsonian sense of the perpetually feuding Old World' (p.394). Again relevant literature is analysed as is media coverage and the convention of various commemorative events. The author's conclusions are well brought together in a succinct section entitled 'Long shadow'.

This is a well-written book, well-illustrated, and an excellent purchase for the general reader, although someone with a wider knowledge of history will find the second part more generally engaging and challenging than the first. The volume is not based on original, archival research, but rather on compendious reading of current and recent research in this most popular academic area. Reynolds has constructed a series of arguments about both the short-term and long-term consequences of the 1914–18 war that is refreshing in the variety of viewpoints which it discusses and especially the way in which a thoughtful historian views the changing perspectives over time as well as different national perceptions of the apparently 'same' events. Overall, this is an excellent book, well written and researched, adding a very interesting dimension to the long term effect World War 1 had on Europe and the wider world. No doubt a spate of both academic and more popular works on the Great War awaits us. A century on from 1914, there is no end to the fighting and the writing. The remembering is over – they are all dead – but the remembrance has hardly yet begun.

J. GRAHAM JONES © 2014

*Former Head of the Welsh Political Archive
National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth*

Email: j.87jones@btinternet.com

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02684527.2014.900265>

Philip Mudd, *Takedown: Inside the Hunt for Al Qaeda* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013). Pp.216. US\$36.19. Hb. ISBN 978-0812244960.

In *Takedown: Inside the Hunt for Al Qaeda*, Philip Mudd calls the battle against Al Qaeda 'the campaign of my generation' (p.xv). He takes great pride in having

Notes

¹ Vice President Cheney also received a personal daily briefing, and 'was among the most forceful questioners of intelligence analysts'. Cheney's personal briefing package specifically included a second section with responses to his previous questions. John L. Helgeson. *Getting to Know the President: Intelligence Briefings of Presidential Candidates, 1952–2004*. (Washington, DC: Central Intelligence Agency 2012) p.160.

Log in via your institution

> [Access through your institution](#)

Log in to Taylor & Francis Online

> [Log in](#)

Restore content access

> [Restore content access for purchases made as guest](#)


Purchase options *

[Save for later](#)

PDF download + Online access

- 48 hours access to article PDF & online version
- Article PDF can be downloaded
- Article PDF can be printed


EUR 48.00

 Add to
cart

Issue Purchase

- 30 days online access to complete issue
- Article PDFs can be downloaded
- Article PDFs can be printed

EUR 260.00

 Add to
cart

* Local tax will be added as applicable

Related Research

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by

Information for

[Authors](#)
[R&D professionals](#)
[Editors](#)
[Librarians](#)
[Societies](#)

Opportunities

[Reprints and e-prints](#)
[Advertising solutions](#)
[Accelerated publication](#)
[Corporate access solutions](#)

Open access

[Overview](#)
[Open journals](#)
[Open Select](#)
[Dove Medical Press](#)
[F1000Research](#)

Help and information

[Help and contact](#)
[Newsroom](#)
[All journals](#)
[Books](#)

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email


 [Sign me up](#)



Copyright © 2026 Informa UK Limited [Privacy policy](#)

[Cookies](#) [Terms & conditions](#) [Accessibility](#)

Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG

 Taylor and Francis
Group