GLOSSARY

Many additional terms are defined [in brackets] throughout this book.

A-10	A highly maneuverable U.S. Air Force close-air support aircraft used primarily to support ground forces; nicknamed the "Warthog"
Abu Ghraib	A U.Scontrolled prison east of Baghdad; it was subjected to intense scrutiny after evidence of prisoner abuse surfaced
Aerovac	Aeromedical evacuation
AH-64 / Apache	U.S. attack helicopter
Aide-de-camp	A subordinate military officer acting as a confidential assistant, usually to a general officer or admiral
AK-47	Russian automatic rifle, a Kalashnikov
Al Asad	An air force base in al-Anbar province, Iraq
Anaconda	A large combat operation in Afghanistan involving approximately 2,000 troops
Apache	See AH-64
AQAM	Al-Qaeda associated militants
Ba'ath Party (also Ba'th)	Arab political party advocating socialism and formation of a single Arab nation
Balad	Iraqi city, approximately fifty miles north of Baghdad
Basra	Iraqi city near the union of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers
Berm	A fortification, often made of dirt or debris
Black Hawk	See UH-60
Bradley	A U.S. mechanized infantry combat vehicle
Breach	To penetrate or create a gap, such as in a wall or a berm
C-5	A large transport U.S. aircraft (also known as Galaxies)
C-17	A U.S. Air Force military aircraft (also known as Globemasters) capable of carrying large amounts of equipment, supplies, or troops
C-130	A Hercules aircraft capable of operating from rough dirt airstrips

Camp Duke	A military base near Najaf, Iraq
Camp Leatherneck	A U.S. Marine camp in Helmand Province, Afghanistan
Camp Liberty	A large military base south of Baghdad, Iraq, previously one of Saddam Hussein's palaces
CH-47 / Chinook	U.S. Army cargo helicopter
Coalition Provisional Authority	A transitional political government in Iraq organized under the auspices of United Nations resolutions but primarily administered by U.S. officials
СОР	Combat Outpost
СРА	See Coalition Provisional Authority
Deploy / Deployment	To be assigned for duty outside of the United States, generally refers to overseas assignments
Desert Shield / Desert Storm	See Gulf War
Diyala Province	A province in eastern Iraq
DoD	U.S. Department of Defense
F-15	A versatile U.S. fighter aircraft
Fallujah	Iraqi city involved in several conflicts with U.S. and Coalition forces
Firebase	A small military camp from which direct and indirect fire (artillery, rocket, and mortar) can be directed against enemy forces
Flak Vest	An outer vest worn to protect against shrapnel; also known as a flak jacket
FOB	Forward Operating Base
Fort Benning	A large U.S. Army post in Georgia
Fort Bliss	A U.S. Army installation located near El Paso, Texas
Fort Bragg	A U.S. Army installation located in North Carolina, west of Fayetteville
Fort Hood	A large U.S. military post named after Confederate General John Bell Hood located near Killeen, Texas
Governorate	A separate government or administrative unit, especially in the Middle East
Gulf War	A U.Sled war waged by thirty-five nations to remove Iraq from occupying Kuwait. The Gulf War (August 2, 1990, to February 28, 1991) had two phases: (1) Operation Desert Shield (August 2, 1990, to January 17, 1991), a coalition troop buildup to defend Saudi Arabia and subsequently attack, and (2) Operation Desert Storm (January 17, 1991, to February 28, 1991), a codename for the combat phase.

Helmand Province	A province in southern Afghanistan
HHC	Headquarters and headquarters company
Hīt	Iraqi town; near Ramadi.
HMMWV / HUMMER / HUMVEE	High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle; nicknames include Hummer and Humvee
IED	Improvised explosive device
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
JAG	Judge Advocate General, military legal staff
Jalalabad	A town in eastern Afghanistan
Jamila	A Shiʿite district in Baghdad, Iraq
Judge Advocate	Military lawyer
Kabul	Capital of Afghanistan
Kamdesh	Afghan district in Nuristan Province
Kandahar	City in southeastern Afghanistan
KC-10	One of the few jet aircraft in the world configured to haul military cargo, conduct aerial refueling missions, and transport personnel
Kiowa	See OH-58D
Klicks	Military slang for kilometers
Kurdistan	A region in northern Iraq and eastern Turkey primarily inhabited by Kurdish peoples
LTC	Army abbreviation for lieutenant colonel
M1	U.S. main battle tank, also known as an Abrams
M16	A 5.56 mm-caliber, gas-operated, clip-fed assault rifle, first used by U.S. troops during the Vietnam War
M203	Grenade-launching attachment to various personal weapons, such as assault rifles
M3P	A single barrel .50-caliber machine gun
M4 Carbines	An automatic or semi-automatic, shoulder-fired, magazine-fed, air-cooled weapon with a collapsible stock
Marez (FOB)	A forward operating base near Mosul airfield in Iraq
Maverick	A laser-guided missile

MIA	Missing in action
Mosul	A city located on the Tigris River in northern Iraq
MP	Military Police
MRE	Meal, Ready-to-Eat
MSR	Main Supply Routes
Najaf	A city in central Iraq; south of Baghdad
Nangarhar	A province in eastern Afghanistan
Nuristan	A province in eastern Afghanistan
0A-10	See A-10
OEF	Operation Enduring Freedom
OH-58D / Kiowa	A U.S. attack helicopter
OIF	Operation Iraqi Freedom
Operation Desert Shield	See Gulf War
Operation Desert Storm	See Gulf War
Operation Enduring Freedom	"Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) is a multinational coalition military operation initiated in October 2001 to counter terrorism and bring security to Afghanistan in collaboration with Afghan forces. OEF operations led to the collapse of the Taliban regime and helped bring a measure of security and stability to Afghanistan for the first time in a generation. Operation Enduring Freedom involves troops from over 20 nations" ("Operation Enduring Freedom," U.S. Department of State Archive).
Operation Iraqi Freedom	The "Iraq War, also called Second Persian Gulf War (2003–11), conflict in Iraq that consisted of two phases. The first of these was a brief, conventionally fought war in March–April 2003, in which a combined force of troops from the United States and Great Britain (with smaller contingents from several other countries) invaded Iraq and rapidly defeated Iraqi military and paramilitary forces. It was followed by a longer second phase in which a U.Sled occupation of Iraq was opposed by an insurgency. After violence began to decline in 2007, the United States gradually reduced its military presence in Iraq, formally completing its withdrawal in December 2011" (Encyclopedia Britannica Online, s.v. "Iraq War").
Operation Just Cause	A December 1989 U.S. military operation in which the U.S. invaded Panama with the primary purpose of deposing Manuel Noriega, the military dictator
Ordnance	Military supplies such as weapons, ammunition, equipment, vehicles, etc.
Patriot Roll	A green wool Army blanket

Patrol Base / PB	A squad or platoon site intended to be occupied for an extended period
POW	Prisoner of war
Ramadi	A city in central Iraq
Riyadh	Capital of Saudi Arabia
RPG	Rocket-propelled grenade; a shoulder-launched weapon
Sadr City	A large district in Baghdad
Safwan	A town in southeastern Iraq; the site of cease-fire talks between U.S. General Norman Schwartzkopf and Iraqi military leaders
Scud	A series of tactical ballistic missiles built and exported by the Soviet Union
SFC	Sergeant first class
SGT	Sergeant; a noncommissioned officer
Shia / Shiʻite	A major branch of Islam
Sitrep	A situation report
Sortie	One combat aircraft on a single mission
Strafe Pass	An attack of machine-gun or cannon fire from a low-flying aircraft
Sunni	A major branch of Islam
T-72	A second-generation Soviet main battle tank
The Wire	Military slang for a defensive perimeter
Theater	An area of the world involved in a war. The "theater of war" includes the entire region that may become involved in a war, such as the Middle East. The "theater of operations" refers to areas where war is actively being fought, such as Afghanistan.
Tikrit	A city in north-central Iraq
UH-60 / Black Hawk	A U.S. Army multipurpose utility helicopter
Uruzgan Province	A province in central Afghanistan
Wadi	A valley, gully, or streambed that remains dry except during the rainy season
Walter Reed	A military medical center in Bethesda, Maryland
Warhorse (FOB)	A forward operating base near Baquba Airfield in Iraq
Warrior Forge	A U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) exercise that every cadet must successfully complete prior to being commissioned as an officer
ХО	Executive officer

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