

# The First Casualty

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the most comprehensive j accuse of journalism as propaganda in the english language ought to be read by every young reporter and by those who retain pride in our craft of truth telling not matter how unpopular or unpalatable the truth john pilger from the preface to the new edition the first casualty when war comes is truth said american senator hiram johnson in 1917 and 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 times 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 myth making and propaganda since vietnam knightley finds governments have become much more adept at managing the media and in new chapters on the falklands the gulf war and the former yugoslavia he concludes that the war correspondent s role as a seeker of truth is now in jeopardy from reviews of the first edition this book may make us all a little more free to talk about and find the truth garry wills new york times book review disturbing even

dismaying yet also in its painful way enormously entertaining new yorker

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

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

in the twenty first century globalization poses major challenges to the key players in u s domestic politics challenges similar to many that americans have faced from abroad since the nation s founding but it is only in recent decades that links have been drawn between the study of american political development and international

relations even now emphasis falls primarily on how domestic politics affects the world arena this book redresses the imbalance ten leading scholars explore how over the past two centuries the changing positions of the united states in the world economy and in the international political order have shaped u s political institutions and domestic politics ira katznelson aristide r zolberg and robert o keohane demonstrate the central role that efforts to contend with foreign military and economic competition played in forming the major institutions of u s government from the framing of the constitution through the civil war martin shefter theda skocpol writing with ziad munson andrew karch and bayliss camp ronald rogowski and judith goldstein show how the nation s political institutions were transformed by problems of war and trade the u s subsequently faced aaron l friedberg bartholomew h sparrow and peter a gourevitch conclude the volume by analyzing how international conflicts during and after the cold war influenced governmental institutions and domestic politics in the united states over the past fifty years shaped by war and trade sets the agenda for further exploration of a topic whose discussion is long overdue

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

a work of formidable imaginative scope daily telegraph the first casualty when war comes is truth flanders june 1917 a british officer and celebrated poet is shot dead he is killed not by german fire but while recuperating from shell shock well behind the lines a young english soldier is arrested and although he protests his innocence charged with his murder douglas kingsley is a conscientious objector previously a detective with the london police now imprisoned for his beliefs he is released and sent to france in order to secure a conviction forced to conduct his investigations amidst the hell of the third battle of ypres kingsley soon discovers that both the evidence and the witnesses he needs are quite literally disappearing into the mud that surrounds him ben elton s tenth novel is a gut wrenching historical drama which explores some fundamental questions what is murder what is justice in the face of unimaginable daily slaughter and where is the honour in saving a man from the gallows if he is only to be returned to die in a suicidal battle

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

the first world war appears as a fault line in britain s twentieth century history between august 1914 and november 1918 the titanic struggle against imperial germany and her allies consumed more people more money and more resources than any other conflict britain had hitherto experienced for the first time it opened up a home front that stretched into all parts of the british polity society and culture touching the lives of every citizen regardless of age gender and class even vegetables were grown in the gardens of buckingham palace britain and world war one throws attention on these civilians who fought the war on the home front harnessing recent scholarship and drawing on original documents oral testimony and historical texts this book casts a fresh look over different aspects of british society during the four long years of war it revisits the early war enthusiasm and the making of kitchener s new armies the emotive debates over conscription the relationships between politics government and popular opinion women working in wartime industries the popular experience of war and the question of social change the book also explores areas of wartime britain overlooked by recent histories including the impact of the war on rural society the mobilization of industry and the importance of technology as well as exploring responses to air raids food and housing shortages the challenges to traditional social and sexual mores and wartime culture britain and world war one is an essential book for all students and interested lay readers of the first world war

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

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

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