



IN THE GRAVEYARD OF EMPIRES

America's War in Afghanistan



SETH G. JONES



W. W. NORTON & COMPANY

New York London

C

CONTENTS

List of Maps and Graphs ix

Chronology xi

Introduction xix

1. Descent into Violence 3
2. The Mujahideen Era 23
3. Uncivil War 41
4. The Rise of the Taliban 52
5. Al Qa'ida's Strategic Alliance 69
6. Operation Enduring Freedom 86
7. Light Footprint 109
8. Early Successes 134
9. The Logic of Insurgency 151
10. Collapse of Law and Order 163
11. A Growing Cancer 183
12. The Perfect Storm 203
13. A Three-Front War 223
14. National Caveats 238

15. The Water Must Boil 256
 16. Al Qa'ida: A Force Multiplier 279
 17. In the Eye of the Storm 296
 18. Back to the Future 313
-
- Acknowledgments 327
- Notes 331
- Index 401