Terrorism and Counterintelligence: How Terrorist Groups Elude Detection (Columbia Studies in Terrorism and Irregular Warfare) eBook: Mobley, Blake: Amazon.co.uk: Kindle Store

Protecting information, identifying undercover agents, and operating clandestinely—efforts known as counterintelligence—have been at the heart of strategies to combat terrorism. Yet despite the numerous programs designed and adopted by national and international governments, terrorist organizations continue to elude detection and to exploit intelligence failures. How do these groups adapt and counter measures? In the first book to address these issues, former FBI counterterrorism and international spycraft expert Fred Burton takes an in-depth look at the strategies, tactics, and techniques of counterintelligence as they pertain to the global war on terrorism.

In this hard-hitting memoir, Fred Burton, a key figure in international counterterrorism and domestic spycraft, emerges as the ultimate front-line soldier and trusted advisor in the fight against Islamic State, al Qaeda, and other terrorist organizations around the world. He reflects on the 9/11 terrorist attacks, while also providing a compelling examination of the ongoing threat to national security, including recent terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels, as well as the events in the United States.

Since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, critics have charged that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, while collecting information and analyzing terrorist threats, failed to realize the manifestations of terrorist plots. Burton shows how slowly the FBI, CIA, and Department of Homeland Security developed an understanding of the global threat of terrorism. He describes the intense struggle to track down and bring to justice Muslim Brotherhood leader Abu Hamza, and to capture Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, mastermind of the September 11 attacks. He describes the FBI's struggle with Libyans and Iraqis as it grappled with Iraq's post-invasion and its connections with terrorism. Since September 11, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has become a counterintelligence agency; it is now at the forefront of efforts to prevent terrorism.

This book is essential reading for those interested in the current threat of terrorism, the history of counterintelligence and counterterrorism, and the ethical questions that pertain to the new world order. Burton provides insights into the efforts of the FBI and other intelligence agencies, as well as grappling with the challenges of terrorism and the need for effective government strategies.