



The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict

By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal

Download now

Read Online →

The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal

In the not-too-distant future, an American military commander is preparing to take charge of counterinsurgency operations in the Narabad Province of remote and mountainous Khanastan, an impoverished region scarred by war and ruled by diverse religious and tribal communities. As part of his preparations, he enters a stunningly real conflict-mapping simulation that allows him to see the results of his on-the-ground decisions within hours.

What he learns shocks him.

His initial efforts to take control of the situation--by establishing a secure forward operating base, pressuring the local population to support his soldiers, providing armed escorts to government leaders, and taking the fight to the enemy--lead to chaos, increasing the danger to his troops and making the insurgents more numerous and deadly. He consults with his two mentors, a battlehardened war fighter and a provocative devil's advocate, then rewinds the scenario and tries again. And again. But whatever he does falls short of effective counterinsurgency, leading to more violence and to consequences he never expected. He grows frustrated, unsure if he and his soldiers can do anything at all to defeat the enemy and claim victory. It's only when he discards obsolete strategies and old measures of success and formulates a nontraditional--and more cold-blooded--approach that his efforts gain traction and the insurgency starts to weaken. He begins to see that effective counterinsurgency demands a new way of thinking. And a new way of fighting.

In the tradition of military classics such as *The Defence of Duffer's Drift*, this powerful parable illustrates the urgent need for military leaders to rethink how they fight contemporary conflicts. It reads like a thriller, with a cast of vivid characters, even as it puts forward a bold approach to effective counterinsurgency operations and makes a compelling case for change.

An innovative tool for developing in peacetime the mental agility and adaptability our leaders need to be successful in combat.

 [**Download** The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Lead ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Le ...pdf](#)

 [Download The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Lead ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Le ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online **The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict** By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal

Editorial Review

"Chris Kolenda is a tactical genius and strategic thinker . . . [with] an unparalleled understanding of counterinsurgency principles, he is one of our foremost COIN experts. (David H. Petraeus 2010-09-01)

"This hugely engaging book draws us into the perplexing and deadly world of the counterinsurgent . . . an essential parable for our times." (Theo Farrell *Department of War Studies, King's College* 2012-06-15)

"An innovative strategic thinker and operator, Kolenda uniquely combines the ability to develop insightful and practical approaches to the vexing strategic problems in Afghanistan." (Stanley A McChrystal, 2010-07-01)

"Col. Chris Kolenda won international renown for fighting this fight for real . . . [now] he passes on the lessons he learned in the crucible of combat to the next generation of counterinsurgents." (John A. Nagl *Department of History, U.S. Naval Academy* 2012-05-21)

"An extraordinarily useful account of the complexity, ambiguity, and uncertainty of counterinsurgency operations. His combination of theory and anecdotes make *The Counterinsurgency Challenge* a powerful and convincing read." (Seth G. Jones, author of *Hunting in the Shadows: The Pursuit of al Qa'ida Since 9/11* 2012-06-26)

"No one understands counterinsurgency in places such as Afghanistan better than Kolenda." (Michael O'Hanlon *Brookings Institution* 2012-06-03)

About the Author
Christopher D. Kolenda is a retired U.S. Army colonel who served three tours of duty in Afghanistan. As a task force commander in 2007-08, in Kunar and Nuristan provinces, his unit pioneered an innovative approach to counterinsurgency incorporating armed diplomacy, conflict resolution, and both violent and non-violent leverage that broke apart the insurgency, turned the population against the enemy, and dramatically improved the levels of security and governance in that volatile region. Since then he has shaped every critical strategic review for Afghanistan and Pakistan since 2009, led the team that drafted the McChrystal assessment and ISAF strategy, penned the 2009 ISAF counterinsurgency guidance, and influenced myriad other strategic and tactical initiatives that have set conditions for success in Afghanistan.

Kolenda is the editor and coauthor of *Leadership: The Warrior's Art* and has published numerous articles in professional journals. Users Review

From reader reviews:
Jodi Saldana: The book *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Why must we leave the great thing like a book *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict*? A number of you have a different opinion about book. But one aim this book can give many information for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer using your book. Knowledge or info that you take for that, it is possible to give for each other; it is possible to share all of these. Book *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* has simple shape however, you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can seem the enormous world by start and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

Lillian Owensby: Here thing why that *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* are different and reliable to be yours. First of all studying a book is good nonetheless it depends in the content from it which is the content is as yummy as food or not. The *Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* giving you

information deeper and in different ways, you can find any reserve out there but there is no book that similar with *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict*. It gives you thrill examining journey, its open up your own eyes about the thing this happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your approach home by train. For anyone who is having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* in e-book can be your alternative.

Pearl Moore: The ability that you get from *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* may be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to comprehend but *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* giving you buzz feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in specific way that can be understood by anyone who read the idea because the author of this book is well-known enough. That book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We advise you for having this kind of *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* instantly.

Charles Sizemore: Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the publication untitled *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* can be very good book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Download and Read Online *The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict* By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal #K0ZR2W5LA38

Read The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal for online ebook The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal Free PDF download, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal books to read online. Online The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal ebook PDF download The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal Doc The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal Mobipocket The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal EPub K0ZR2W5LA38: The Counterinsurgency Challenge: A Parable of Leadership and Decision Making in Modern Conflict By Christopher D. Kolenda, Stanley A. General McChrystal