

attention, processing, and behavior; and the effect of other variables of interest on attention, processing, and behavior.¹⁵

We then drew on the conclusions to inform our assessment of U.S. operations against al Qa'ida.

Outline of This Book

Chapter Two examines the universe of terrorist groups between 1968 and 2006 and asks, How have terrorist groups ended? Among those that have ended, did they end because a state's police or military forces defeated them? Did they end because they achieved victory? Or did they end for other reasons? This chapter looks at the 648 terrorist groups that existed between 1968 and 2006 and examines how groups ended.

Chapters Three, Four, and Five report a series of case studies. We used several criteria to select cases. First, we selected cases in which a terrorist group ended, so that we could examine the process in more detail. What policies were adopted? Were there other factors that contributed to the end of the group? Second, we wanted to examine some of the major reasons that groups end, especially politics, policing, and military force. Third, we wanted to analyze cases from different geographic regions. Consequently, Chapter Three examines the process of politics that led to the end of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional, or FMLN) in El Salvador. Chapter Four assesses the impact of policing on the end of Aum Shinrikyo in Japan, especially after the 1995 Tokyo subway attacks. And Chapter Five explores the impact of military force on al Qa'ida in Iraq.

Chapters Six and Seven turn to al Qa'ida. Chapter Six argues that al Qa'ida has been involved in more terrorist attacks in a wider

¹⁵ Alexander L. George and Timothy J. McKeown, "Case Studies and Theories of Organizational Decision Making," in Robert F. Coulam and Richard A. Smith, *Advances in Information Processing in Organizations: A Research Annual*, Vol. 2, Greenwich, Conn.: JAI Press, 1985, pp. 21–58, p. 35.