CONTENTS

List of illustrations  page vii
List of maps  ix
Preface and acknowledgments  xi

1 A “happy combination of clemency with firmness”: the small wars prologue  1

2 The road from Sedan  41

3 The paroxysms of imperial might in the shadow of the Great War  79

4 From Tipperary to Tel Aviv: British counterinsurgency in the World War II era  123

5 From small wars to la guerre subversive: the radicalization and collapse of French counterinsurgency  153

6 Vietnam, counterinsurgency, and the American way of war  201

7 “A conspiracy of heroes”: revolution and counterinsurgency in Latin America  224

8 Building the “most successful counterinsurgency school”: COIN as the British way of war  246

9 Britain’s Thirty Years’ War in Northern Ireland  268
Contents

10 Vietnam with a happy ending: Iraq and “the surge”  289
11 Conclusion  318

Notes  347
Select bibliography  400
Index  417