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978-1-107-04414-2 - American Grand Strategy in the Mediterranean During World War II

Andrew Buchanan

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American Grand Strategy in the Mediterranean during World War II

This book offers a thorough reinterpretation of U.S. engagement with the Mediterranean during World War II. Andrew Buchanan argues that the United States, far from being a reluctant participant in a “peripheral” theater, had substantial grand-strategic interests in the region. By the end of the war, the Mediterranean was effectively an American lake, with the United States enjoying a predominant position resting on military, political, and economic interests and assets extending from North Africa, via Italy, Spain, France, and the Balkans, to the Middle East. This book examines the multilayered processes by which this hegemonic position was assembled and consolidated. It discusses the changing character of the Anglo-American alliance, the establishment of postwar spheres of influence, the nature of presidential leadership, and the common interest of all the leaders of the “Grand Alliance” in blocking the development of social revolutions emerging from the chaos of war, occupation, and economic breakdown.

Andrew Buchanan is a Lecturer in the Department of History at the University of Vermont. He received his PhD and MA in History from Rutgers University, and earned his BA in Modern History from Oxford University. Buchanan teaches American history, global history, and military history. He has published articles on the diplomatic, military, and cultural history of World War II in the *Journal of Contemporary History*, *Diplomacy and Statecraft*, *Journal of Transatlantic Studies*, and *Global War Studies*.

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To Angus and Brenda Buchanan

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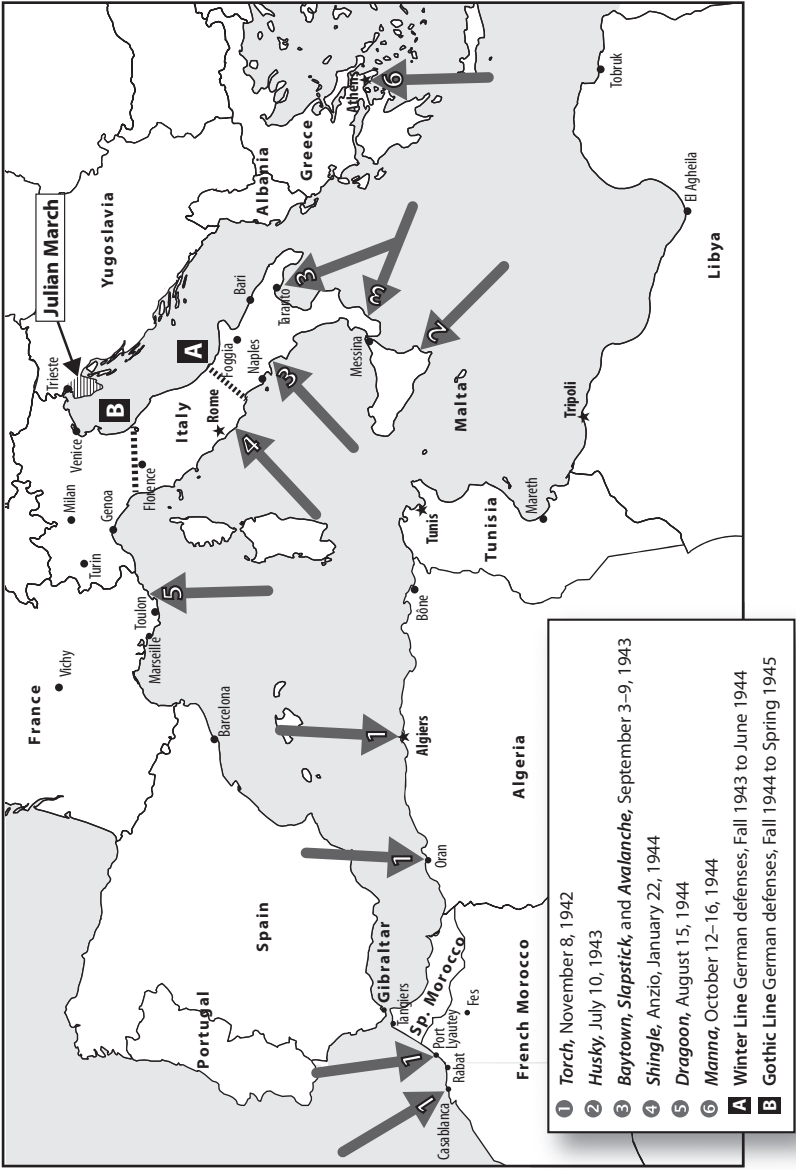
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MAP 1. Map of the Mediterranean showing major Allied landings, 1942–1945
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MAP 2. Map of the Mediterranean
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