

## **The melting point**

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Note sur le contenu : How it all began : alarms and excursions Central command Confronting Iran Finishing Baghdadi Soleimani Aftermath The summer of our discontent Drawing down the long war in Afghanistan Long December Cleansing the temple : the new team The noose tightens in Afghanistan An inconvenient truth : reality intrudes in Afghanistan No safety or surprise : the end in Afghanistan Accountability Iran, Iraq, and Syria Considering Phlebas

Résumé ou extrait : "This book is a first-person account of my seven years serving at the pinnacle of the United States military. As a four-star officer, I commanded United States Central Command during the most significant three years in the history of the modern Middle East."

"As the Commander of U.S. Central Command, General Frank McKenzie oversaw some of the most important - and controversial operations in modern U.S. military history. He had direct operational responsibility for the strikes on Qassem Soleimani and two successive leaders of ISIS, the many months of deterrence operations against Iran and its proxies, and the methodical drawdown in Iraq. He directed the noncombatant evacuation operation in Afghanistan, and our final withdrawal from that tortured

country. The Melting Point has three themes. The first one is the importance of the primacy of civilian control of the military. It has become a widely perceived truth that this control has been eroded over the past few years. General McKenzie doesn't believe that to be the case, and he speaks with some authority on the matter arguing that the civ-mil relationship isn't perfect or frictionless, but it doesn't have to be, and probably shouldn't be. It is, however, more durable than many believe, and is supported and embraced by the military to a degree that some critics do not choose to recognize. The second theme is the uniqueness of being a combatant commander. Combatant commanders participate in the development of policy, although as junior partners. They are also responsible for the execution of policy once civilian leaders have formulated their decision, a unique position, and very different than the role of a service chief, or even the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. None of these officers are in the chain of command, and they have no ultimate, mortal responsibility or authority for execution. Only the combatant commander stands astride the boundary of decision-making and execution. Finally, the third theme that McKenzie argues is that leaders matter, and the decisions they make have a profound effect on what happens on the battlefield. McKenzie provides an honest assessment of his time in command-describing decisions that were sound, as well as some outcomes he wishes were different. He offers a vivid portrait of leadership in action in one of the most volatile regions of the world." (jaquette)

Sujet - Nom de personne : McKenzie, Kenneth F. (19..-....)

Sujet - Collectivité : Etats-Unis Army. Command and general staff college.

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