CONTENTS

List of illustrations xiii
Notes on contributors xiv
Preface and acknowledgements xvii

1 Introduction: the problem of victory and defeat in modern war 1
JAN ANGSTROM

PART I
The nature of victory and defeat in modern war 11

2 Defining postwar victory 13
ROBERT MANDEL

3 In the eye of the beholder: victory and defeat in US military operations 46
DOMINIC JOHNSON AND DOMINIC TIERNEY

4 Victory, counter-insurgency and Iraq 77
IAN F.W. BECKETT

5 The United States perspective on victory in the war on terrorism 94
JAN ANGSTROM
PART II
Explaining victory and defeat in modern war 115

6 Paradoxes of the strategy of terrorism 117
ISABELLE DUYVESTEYN

7 How to lose a war on terror: a comparative analysis of a counterinsurgency success and failure 142
IVAN ARREGUÍN-TOFT

8 The origins and implications of Western counterinsurgency failures 168
GIL MEROM

9 Toppling the Taliban in Afghanistan 187
STEPHEN BIDDLE

10 Culture and the outcome of military intervention: developing some hypotheses 206
KERSTI LARSDOTTER

11 Understanding victory and defeat: some conclusions 224
ISABELLE DUYVESTEYN

Index 235