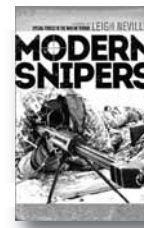


# *Modern snipers*

by Leigh Neville

Osprey Publishing: Oxford; 2016; 336 pp.; ISBN 9781472815347 (hardcover); RRP \$27.99



*Modern Snipers* is an informative account of sniping in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The years since 9/11 have seen major changes in the way snipers are employed on the modern battlefield, alongside an incredibly rapid evolution in their weapons, equipment and training.

This book covers the 14 years of near-constant warfare, documenting where, when and how snipers have been deployed; their rifles, optics and their ancillary equipment such as laser range finders; their training and tactics and accounts of real-life operations involving sniper teams.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have reaffirmed the importance of snipers in both conventional and unconventional warfare, and this book covers these developments in depth, as well as looking at the role of the sniper in police and counter-terrorism environments. Movies such as *Jarhead* and *American Sniper* have popularised modern sniping and *Modern Snipers* provides a more in-depth examination.

*Modern Snipers* contains many colour photographs, a list of abbreviations, end notes for each chapter and an index. The book includes a modern history of sniping, background on sniper rifles and the modern sniper, and sniping case-studies from Afghanistan and Iraq. There are two appendices, a list of references and an interview with John McPhee – a former United States Special Operations sniper.

Leigh Neville is an Australian who has written a number of books on both modern conventional military units and special operations forces serving in Afghanistan and Iraq, their weapons and their vehicles, including six titles for Osprey with several more in development. He has also consulted on military topics for several wargame companies and television documentary makers.

*Modern Snipers* is well written, informative and will appeal to those who enjoy learning about contemporary combat tactics.

**Marcus Fielding**