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Sommario/riassunto

Mercenaries have always had a poor press. Theirs is one of the world's oldest professions, but the very word has profoundly negative connotations of infidelity and ruthlessness. But were they so different from soldiers? Why, in any case, were they so omnipresent in the warfare of the medieval and early modern period? What kind of men became mercenaries and where did they come from? These are some of the questions which the essays in this volume address. Contributors are: Richard Abels, Bernard Bachrach, David Bachrach, Adrian Bell, Charles Bowlus, David Crouch, Guido Dall'Oro, Kelly Devries, Sven Ekdahl, John Hosler, John Law, Alan Murray, Stephen Morillo, Laura Napran, Eljas Oksanen, Carlos Andrez Gonzalez Paz, Ciaran Og O'Reilly, Muriósa Prendergast, Nicolas Prouteau, John Pryor, Ifor Rowlands, Spencer Smith.
