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Sommario/riassunto	The author discusses how a new and dangerous dynamic, a private military organization called the Zetas, has been inserted into the already crowded Mexican and Western Hemisphere security arena. The Zetas were originally organized and staffed by former members (deserters) from the Mexican Army's veteran elite Airborne Special Forces Group (GAFES). The author contends that the Zetas are better trained, equipped, motivated, and experienced in irregular warfare than the Mexican police and army. This monograph intends to promote a relevant response to the problem of the "guerrillas next door" to the United States.