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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- TABLE OF CONTENTS -- Opening Thoughts -- Preface -- Maps -- Introduction -- 1. Land, People, and Culture -- 2. The Struggle for Independence, Modernization, and Development -- 3. The Saur "Revolution" and the Soviet-Afghan War, 1978-1989 -- 4. Civil War and Advent of the Taliban -- Civil Wars: 1992-1996 -- The Rule of the Taliban -- 5. 9/11 and the War Against the Taliban Government -- 6. Insurgency: Theory and Practice -- 7. The Second War Against the Taliban and the Struggle to Rebuild Afghanistan -- What Went Wrong in Afghanistan? -- Explaining the Lack of Progress -- 8. The Surge -- 9. A Current Assessment and Contending Options -- The International Dimension -- Options for the Future -- A Fourth Option: Reconciliation (and Its Obstacles) -- 10. Conclusion -- Suggestions for Further Reading -- About the Author -- Reviews.