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Titolo	Outsourced empire : how militias, mercenaries, and contractors support US statecraft // Andrew Thomson
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Nota di contenuto	US imperial statecraft and para-institutional forces -- Covert regime change in the early Cold War : "power moves involved in the overthrow of an unfriendly government" -- Counterinsurgent statecraft : militias, mercenaries, and contractors -- Reagan, low-intensity conflict, and the expansion of para-institutional statecraft -- Continuity after the Cold War and the consolidation of para-institutional complexes -- The War on Terror, irregular warfare, and the global projection of force.
Sommario/riassunto	Rethinks the history of US imperialism, from the Cold War to today, to reveal how paramilitaries, militias, mercenaries, private armies, and contractors have always been central to US-sponsored insurgencies and US counterinsurgent statecraft. Examining a broad range of events from the Bay of Pigs to the occupation of Iraq, and from the Soviet-Afghan war to the ongoing conflict in Syria, Thomson offers an analysis of the evolution of US support for various para-institutional actors or non-state armed forces. He demonstrates how and why militias, mercenaries, and private military companies have increasingly formed a

central part of US imperial strategies designed to influence political and economic conditions abroad. Drawing on declassified documents including military training manuals, CIA communiques, and national security documents, Thomson reveals new evidence that helps us understand these institutions and their collective role in maintaining global order. --From publisher description.
